Pope’s appeal for peace in Iraq: ‘Stop these crimes’

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope Francis condemned the actions of Islamic State militants in Iraq, saying that persecuting Christians and other minorities “seriously offends God and seriously offends humanity.”

“One cannot generate hatred in God’s name,” he said on Aug. 10. “One cannot make war in God’s name!”

After reciting the Angelus, Pope Francis asked tens of thousands of people gathered in St. Peter’s Square to join him for a moment of silent prayer for peace in Iraq, and for the tens of thousands of people forced from their homes in northeastern Iraq as fighters from the Islamic State tried to increase the territory under their control.

“The news from Iraq leaves us incredulous and appalled,” Pope Francis said. “Thousands of people, including many Christians, have been chased from their homes in a brutal way; children die of thirst and hunger during the flight; women are kidnapped; people are massacred; violence of every kind; destruction everywhere.”

The pope also used Twitter to appeal for peace and for the protection of innocent civilians. Instead of one daily general message about faith on his @Pontifex account, Pope Francis sent three tweets each day on Aug. 8-10 urging people to join him in prayer.

At the Angelus, he also called on the international community and Iraq’s beleaguered government to “stop these crimes” and reestablish law and order.

Pope Francis thanked “those who, with courage, are bringing aid to these brothers and sisters of ours” and told people he was sending Cardinal Fernando Filoni as his Pope’s appeal for peace in Iraq: ‘Stop these crimes’

Sister’s ultimatum leads to memorable experience in Africa for Catholic teachers

By John Shaughnessy

The stories of how the four Catholic teachers from Indianapolis were serenaded and given flowers by admirers in the African country of Uganda will come later.

Yet right now, Nancy Meyer is sharing the smile-worthy story of how the teachers’ journey this summer began with an ultimatum from one sister to another.

Ever since her older sister—Sherry Meyer—moved to Uganda in 1991 and reestablished the Daughters of Charity’s base there, Nancy Meyer considered the African country’s needs as her own.

But when Sherry sent a message in early May, telling Nancy that the community was starting a new school in northern Uganda, Nancy knew she had to return to Africa.

Sister’s ultimatum leads to memorable experience in Africa for Catholic teachers

Caritas official: Emotional toll in Gaza is worse than conflict’s physical damage

AMMAN, Jordan (CNS)—The head of Caritas in Jerusalem expressed grave concern for the Gaza Strip’s residents with fighting once again erupting between Israel and Hamas.

Father Raed Abu Shalia, president of Caritas Jerusalem, said the physical damage caused by the intensive aerial bombardments of Gaza’s decrepit infrastructure will require years of rebuilding, but he said the spiritual and emotional impact of the death and destruction will take much longer to heal.

“I am very angry and surprised that they renewed the fighting. One month was more than enough. We hope it will end,” Father Abu Shalia told Catholic News Service in a phone interview from Jerusalem on Aug. 8.

He said humanitarian organizations were only just beginning to reach people desperately in need of aid, water, food and shelter during a 72-hour cease-fire in early August.

Caritas official: Emotional toll in Gaza is worse than conflict’s physical damage

Palestinians sit outside their destroyed house in Gaza, which witnesses said was hit by heavy Israeli shelling and air strikes during an offensive on Aug. 7. Father Raed Abu Shalia, president of Caritas Jerusalem, which is operating in Gaza, has expressed grave concern for the coastal strip’s residents with fighting once again erupting between Israel and Hamas. (CNS photo/Mohammed Salem, Reuters)
TEACHERS
continued from page 1

to serve as a lay missionary in the Diocese of Anau. Nancy Meyer had traveled five times to visit her. But she also did the line in the sand after her visit in 2010.

“I had always enjoyed going and visiting, but I had seen the area. So I told Sherry, ‘I’m not coming back until you give me something to do,’” Nancy recalls with a smile.

That’s when Sherry issued her own challenge to Nancy.

North-South Africa is among the poorest places in the world,” Sherry says. “Visitors find it difficult to come and not do something. I understood this desire, but the practicalities of making it work are daunting. Language and cultural differences make short-term interactions difficult to pull off. I did a lot of thinking and consulting and finally proposed that Nancy consider putting together a workshop, inviting other teachers to join her and raising the money needed to fund the workshop.”

It all sounded good to Nancy, except for one concern.

Facing challenges at every turn
Nancy has never been comfortable about fundraising. So she enlisted the help of her longtime friend and fellow teacher, Sharon Ancelet. The two 1970 graduates of Roncalli High School in Indianapolis developed a plan to raise $3,600—$60 each for the 60 African teachers who couldn’t afford to attend the workshop otherwise.

Along the way, they also enlisted two more teachers to help with the fundraising and the workshop, both with family ties. Nancy’s and Sherry’s sister, Lynn Baumann, joined the team. So did Sherry’s daughter, Erin Ancelet.

Together, they represent about 120 years of teaching. Together, they raised more than $100,000.

Together, they made their journey to Uganda for three weeks during July. They also shared a common impression when they saw firsthand the shocking conditions that their African counterparts face as they teach.

“There were more than 100 children in a class, and the only supplies they had were a chalkboard and chalk,” recalls Sharon Ancelet, a member of St. Francis and Clare Parish who teaches in Uganda during an interview for radio station Radio Pacis. (Submitted photo)

Sharon Ancelet adds, “At the very end of the workshop, this one lady went out and got these four flowers. [They came with the message] ‘Friends are like flowers, beautiful flowers.’ They said our names and gave us the flowers.”

The touches of appreciation are what Sherry Meyer has learned to expect in her 23 years in Uganda, where one of her ministries is as the station manager of Radio Pacis. With the slogan, “Peace of Christ for all,” the station provides news, music and catechesis in English and in several African languages.

“Visitors always say they are overwhelmed by the warmth and joy they find in the Ugandian people,” Sherry says. “That same is true for me. Ugandans are teaching me to live in the reality of our total dependence on God, and to treasure the gift of one another. Living in that way does bring joy.”

Sherry also says that both the experiences and the entire experience have left their mark on the Indianapolis teachers.

“It just gives me a bigger perspective,” says Erin Ancelet. “Southport High School has a lot of refugees from other countries—Burma, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, India. It’s given me a perspective on some of the conditions that they faced.”

That surprised them.

Sharon Ancelet adds, “We were teaching methods to get the kids to really think and truly understand. We used games and songs.”

They also gave the African teachers tote bags filled with school supplies that had been bought with the extra money from the fundraising efforts: scissors, notebooks, glue, maps, pencils, pens.

Each tote bag displayed the saying, “A teacher takes a hand, opens a mind, touches a heart.”

Two scenes showed just how much the Indianapolis teachers touched the hearts of the African teachers.

Treasuring the gift of one another
One day, we were walking home from the workshop, and there was a group of men who were participants,” Baumann recalls. “One of them had a guitar. We spoke with them for a few minutes and Sharon asked, ‘Do you play this guitar?’”

They spontaneously started singing for us, and their harmony was terrific.”

Sharon Ancelet adds, “Do you play this guitar?”

That’s when Sherry issued her own challenge to Nancy.

Sherry Ancelet says. “I also remember when we went to a rural church for Mass. We didn’t understand a word of what was said, but there was the universality of the service. And the music was so inspiring.”

For Nancy Meyer, the experience fit the essence of her 40 years as a Catholic school teacher.

“I teach in a Catholic school where service to others is an important part of what we do. It wasn’t a religious workshop, but it was a way of sharing my faith and sharing my talents with other people.”

It all made the ultimate she gave her sister—and the challenge her sister gave her—worthwhile.

“It was really more rewarding than I even thought it would be,” she says.

“It was such a wonderful experience.”

As a new school year begins, The Criterion plans to add another dimension to our coverage of Catholic education in the archdiocese.

We hope to feature an article highlighting the success stories of Catholic schools—by sharing a list of the most recent volunteer, academic, spiritual and athletic efforts and accomplishments of students, teachers and staff from across the archdiocese. Seeking to make this endeavor as broad and complete as possible, The Criterion will need to rely upon Catholic school communities to share their success stories with us. Send short summaries—and photos—of your school’s success stories to assistant editor John Shaughnessy by e-mail at jshaughnessy@archindy.org or by mail in care of The Criterion, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202. Please include the contact person for your school’s success stories and a phone number where he or she can be reached.

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\textbf{ Criterion looking for your help to share success stories in schools} As a new school year begins, The Criterion plans to add another dimension to our coverage of Catholic education in the archdiocese. We hope to feature an article highlighting the success stories of Catholic schools—by sharing a list of the most recent volunteer, academic, spiritual and athletic efforts and accomplishments of students, teachers and staff from across the archdiocese. Seeking to make this endeavor as broad and complete as possible, The Criterion will need to rely upon Catholic school communities to share their success stories with us. Send short summaries—and photos—of your school’s success stories to assistant editor John Shaughnessy by e-mail at jshaughnessy@archindy.org or by mail in care of The Criterion, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202. Please include the contact person for your school’s success stories and a phone number where he or she can be reached.
First black priests in U.S. ‘opened door for rest of us,’ says Indianapolis pastor

MOBILE, Ala. (CNS)—Black Catholic bishops, priests, deacons and religious brothers who gathered in Mobile at the 50th anniversary celebration of the 80th anniversary of the first class of black priests who were educated and ordained in the U.S.

In 1893, Father Uncles was part of a small group that took an eight-day weekend retreat which lay people try to become more effective Christian leaders through piety, study and action.

The retreat includes 15 talks, some by lay people and others by priests, who bear personal witness to Christ’s presence in daily life. The goal for Cursillistas—a name for a Cursillo retreat participant—is to take what they have learned during a three-day retreat and evangelize in the world on “the fourth day.”

We are called to stand sentinel

Celebrating the commitment of the Cursillists, Bishop Doherty talked in his homily about how Christians are called to stand “sentinel,” and be at the ready to serve and witness for Christ. He encouraged the congregation to pray to recognize the moments when God signals to us in life, and also to pray that we adequately perceive God’s intentions for us.

He also instructed listeners to call upon God for strength to do that which they are called to do, and for peace with what they can’t control. He stated that they can constantly improve in their roles to stand guard as they mature in their faith journeys.

Bishop Doherty also spoke of the courageous example of St. Teresa, Benedicta of the Cross, a true Catholic sentinel, whose feast day was observed on Aug. 9.

The power of witness

The Reuzenaars, who are members of St. Lawrence Parish in Lafayette in the Lafayette Diocese, sat near the front of the church, so they were unaware that the church had swollen with many Cursillistas filling pews behind them.

“At Communion, I saw the numbers of people come to receive the Lord in the Eucharist,” said Rob Reuzenaar. “It was one of those precious moments when I felt God’s presence and was filled with such joy.”

Reuzenaar explained his special appreciation for the Cursillo: “It’s a gift to hear Catholic lay people witness to how Christ has worked in their lives. They talk about how God saw them through crises, addiction and rough spots in life, and that’s not necessarily something you always find at church. Truly connecting with others on their faith walks makes this movement especially empowering for Catholics.”

Father Glenn O’Connor, who serves as co-spiritual director of the Central Indiana Cursillo Community with Father Mike McKinney of the Lafayette Diocese, agrees that the Cursillo weekend is empowering.

“Cursillists return to their parishes with a renewed excitement in their faith,” said Father O’Connor, also the pastor of St. Susanna Parish. “And it’s particularly special for priests to see their parishioners excited about their faith.”

The day’s festivities continued with a luncheon and talks by multiple Cursillistas from each decade. A Saturday vigil Mass was concelebrated later in the day by several Cursillista priests, followed by dinner and “Ultralyra,” a Spanish term for “evangeline.”

At any point in the day, Rob Reuzenaar could catch a smile. “We thank God for seeing this celebration come to fruition, he said.

The Central Indiana Cursillo Community offers four retreats each year, with two in the spring and two in the fall. The upcoming Fall Men’s Cursillo is scheduled for Sept. 4-7 at SonRise Retreat Center in Anderson. The Women’s Fall Cursillo will also be held in Anderson a few weeks later from Sept. 25-28.

For more information about the 7th Annual St. Vincent de Paul® WALK Saturday, September 27, 2014

Please join us for this fun and charitable event as we help heighten national awareness of the challenges faced by the nation’s poor and raise significant funds for our valuable services. All funds raised locally will be used locally.

Location: Washington Park, 3130 E. 30th Street
Time: Registration 9 AM, walk/run starts at 10 AM
Downtown Bloomington, 1-mile route
Register: Go to www.indysvdpwalk.org to register or to help one of the four neediest SVdP conferences support this city by donating to “Virtual Vibes”

FRIENDS OF THE POOR* WALK

Fr. Kenneth Taylor

For more information contact the Director of Development, Patti Lamb, 812-337-4200

Sponsored by: All funds raised locally will be used locally. Go to www.indysvdpwalk.org to register

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Friends of the Poor*
Sharing the gift of prayer both locally and globally

Continued deadly fighting between Hamas and Israel. The Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) forcing non-Muslims to literally run for their lives in northern Iraq. A potential growing Ebola outbreak in West Africa. Continued high tensions between Ukraine and Russia. It seems no matter where we turn in the world, there is a reason to pray for humankind.

And those prayers are needed here in the United States, too.

We know about the humanitarian crisis involving unaccompanied minors coming to our country from mainly El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, and the impasse in Congress—which is now on its summer recess—to address this situation. President Barack Obama has no other purpose than mocking the Catholic faith, which is asking local Catholics “to counteract this challenge to faith and decency through prayer and penance.”

We can join in those prayers, too. He has called for a united campaign of prayer, procession and Benediction in response to the planned black mass played a part in changing minds and correcting hearts.

Archbishop Coakley, who has made his concerns known to Oklahoma City officials about “the misuse of a publicly supported facility for an event which has no other purpose than mocking the Catholic faith,” is asking local Catholics “to counteract this challenge to faith and decency through prayer and penance.”

The planned event had drawn wide criticism from religious leaders, including Boston Cardinal Sean P. O’Malley, as well as students, alumna and faculty at Harvard.

But something that may not make national headlines in secular media outlets in the next moment is another attack on the Catholic Church.

As reported by Catholic News Service, Archbishop Paul S. Coakley has asked Catholics to offer prayer and penance to prevent a Satanic group from holding a “black mass” on Sept. 21 at the Civic Center Music Hall in Oklahoma City.

“Even though tickets are being sold for this event as if it were merely some sort of dark entertainment, this Satanic ritual is deadly serious. It is a blasphemous and obscene invasion of the Catholic Mass,” said the Oklahoma City archbishop.

“Using a consecrated host obtained illicitly from a Catholic church and desecrating it in the vilest ways imaginable, the practitioners offer it in sacrifice to Satan,” he said. “This terrible sacrilege is a deliberate attack on the Catholic Mass as well as the foundational beliefs of all Christians.”

This isn’t the first time the Catholic Church has been attacked and, sadly, it probably won’t be the last. Late-night TV hosts such as Bill Maher and others do it on a regular basis. And in May, a Harvard University student group’s plan to conduct a satanic ritual black mass on campus brought a public outcry, which led to its formal cancellation and an apparently impromptu off-campus version of the event, as well as a well-attended alternative Catholic holy hour.

The archbishop also asked parishes to protect itself from extinction.

In Mideast conflict, Israel is trying to protect itself from extinction.

In his Aug. 8 “Be our Guest” column in The Criterion, writer Stephen Kent makes an impassioned plea to end the Hamas-Israel conflict, but fails to mention several pertinent facts:

1. This recent escalation of a longstanding conflict started when Hamas kidnapped and murdered three innocent Israeli teenagers.

2. Hamas is a terrorist group whose official charter calls for the annihilation of Israel. Israel is constantly under siege in the Mideast, and has the right and obligation to defend itself.

3. Hamas has admitted to using civilians as human shields. This leads directly to the deaths of their own people. It also has been shown that Hamas stores weapons in schools, mosques and hospitals (the ones that are bombed).

The materials that the terrorists have used to build the tunnels into Israel were made from materials that Israel provided to Palestinians for the expressed purposes of building schools and housing (a humanitarian cause).

Kant says, “the cavalier disregard of life by both sides for what is important purposes is truly astounding.”

What is more astounding is that he could design a moral equivalency to the purposes and actions of the brutal terrorist group Hamas, and Israel, a country trying to protect itself from extinction.

Dr. Stephen O’Neil Indianapolis

Church must lead the way in treatment of gays and lesbians

I am continuously troubled and disheartened by the mixed messages being sent to gay and lesbian people from the Catholic Church. Especially since I think people of other faiths often follow our Church’s lead on this issue.

In his Aug. 8 “Be our Guest” column, the archbishop also asked parishes “to counteract this challenge to faith and decency through prayer and penance.”

We know about the humanitarian crisis involving unaccompanied minors coming to our country from mainly El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, and the impasse in Congress—which is now on its summer recess—to address this situation. President Barack Obama has asked Catholics to offer prayer and continue through the feast of the Lord, which was on Aug. 6, to the feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord, which was on Aug. 6, and through the feast of the Archangels, on Sept. 29.

The archbishop also asked parishes in his archdiocese to hold a eucharistic Holy Hour with Benediction between Aug. 15, the feast of the Assumption, and Sept. 21.

Prayer is one of the greatest gifts we can share with others in need.

Whether it’s Christians halfway around the world being asked to renounce their faith or die, or Catholics fighting to keep our faith from being mocked by a Satanic group, we can offer petitions for our brethren in need.

And we must always remember, we don’t pray for others because they are Catholic. We pray for them because we are Catholic.

—Mike Krokos

Letters to the Editor

We must bring God back into schools and public places, writer says

During these past months, there have been many murders, domestic violence incidents and various other crimes in our city, including the murder and shooting of police officers.

It seems to be buffing and shocking us all the political officials and many of our citizens. Why are you surprised?

When parents no longer teach their children about God or right from wrong, and the very mention of God is forbidden in schools and other public places, what do you expect?

No amount of money to pour into the public coffers to expand so-called education will solve our problem, no matter how many “genuises” you produce. Believe it or not, there is a loving God in our midst. Since we think we know it all and don’t need God, he has backed off at our request to let us do what we want.

We are now reaping the consequences. Congratulations on our great failure.

Another contributing factor is pouring out of Hollywood with all their films, movies, pornography and other filthy programs with no restraints. With all these evils floating around and mixed in all is the killing of unborn babies.

How long do you think God will tolerate all of this? Where are the parents? Where are the ministers, priests and other religious leaders to speak out and teach about the importance to the children and their adult congregations?

Until God is brought back and laws are corrected according to his laws, you are wasting your time, and there are consequences.

Ruth Gramann Indianapolis
Visiting the imprisoned offers the healing and hope of our Lord

During the past year and a half, I have been asking the question, “Where is the Holy Spirit calling us to open doors here in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis?” I am convinced that one of the things we are called to do is to proclaim God’s mercy to all who are in need of forgiveness and healing.

God’s mercy is expressed concretely in the corporal works of mercy—feeding the hungry and giving drink to the thirsty, to clothe the naked and shelter the homeless, to visit the sick and imprisoned, and to bury the dead. We call these “works of mercy” because they reflect in very practical ways God’s life-giving love and compassion for all his children. The final three corporal works of mercy—to visit the sick and imprisoned, and to bury the dead—challenge us to move out of our comfort zones in ways that are very specific and, very often, unpleasant. Few of us enjoy being with sick people or prisoners, and our culture encourages us to deny death—to keep it out of sight and out of mind. God’s mercy calls us to overcome our aversion to illness and death, and to forgive those who have sinned against us.

St. John Paul II showed us how to practice works of mercy. He visited in prison the man who tried to kill him. He welcomed the sick and infirm—including victims of every kind of disease.

Pope Francis has also demonstrated his commitment to the corporal works of mercy. Remember last year when he broke with tradition and decided to wash the feet of inmates at the juvenile detention center of Casal del Marmo, in Rome on Holy Thursday? Then a year later, he washed feet at the Don Gnocchi Center, a home for the elderly and disabled in Rome. By making these powerful gestures, the Holy Father took something that had become remote and ritualized and brought it back to the original, startling context of Jesus, the Lord and Master, washing the feet of his disciples and commanding us to do likewise.

Where is the Holy Spirit opening a door for us here? One very real possibility is in the area of prison ministry. In Indiana, there are 23 state prisons for adults and six juvenile correctional facilities. We also have two federal prisons—one maximum security and one medium security, both located in Terre Haute. Nearly 30,000 people (mostly adult males) are in our state prisons, and more than 3,000 adults (all men) are incarcerated in our federal prisons.

I recently celebrated Mass at the Indiana Women’s Prison on the west side of Indianapolis. More than 400 women are incarcerated in this facility, and many are classified as having “special needs” such as mental illness and pregnancy. Ages range from juveniles sentenced as adults to the elderly. The Indiana Women’s Prison also houses Indiana’s only death row for women, but thanks be to God, no woman is currently sentenced to death in our state.

I’m deeply grateful to the priests, deacons and lay people who minister to the needs of prisoners at the Indiana Women’s Prison and all of the prisons in our archdiocese. They truly are angels of mercy. They do not judge. (The courts have already passed society’s judgment on the men, women and children who are being held in Indiana’s prisons.) Instead, they offer the comfort, hope and forgiveness of Jesus Christ, who loves us all in spite of our sins. Through this particular corporal work of mercy—visiting the imprisoned—the healing and hope of our Lord is generously shared with those who need it most.

Pope Francis challenges all of us to resist the powerful urge to ignore these sisters and brothers in prison. It’s true they are out of sight and out of mind to most of us, but that itself can be a serious problem. How can we carry on the work of the Lord if we are unwilling to wash the feet of those who are on the margins of society far removed from our homes, our neighborhoods and our parish communities? Jesus did not shy away from sinners. He reached out to them, healed them and loved them. Like it or not, he told us that we must do the same.

As we undertake the important work of pastoral planning, I will be encouraging us to “dig deeper” into this particular corporate work of mercy. By the grace of the Holy Spirit, may we find ways to open new doors as we reach out to those who are most in need of God’s love and mercy—both now and when they return to society. ♦

Visit to a prison

E n el transcurso del año y medio que he venido planteando la interrogante: ¿Qué oportunidad nos brinda el Espíritu Santo en la Arquidiócesis de Indianapolis? Estoy convencido de que uno de nuestros llamados es a proclamar la misericordia de Dios a todos aquel que necesita perdón y consuelo.

La misericordia de Dios se expresa concretamente en las obras corporales de misericordia: alimentar al hambriento y dar de beber al sediento, vestir al desnudo y dar albergue al indigente; visitar a los enfermos y a los prisioneros, y dar sepultura a los muertos. Estas “obras de misericordia” porque revelan de maneras muy prácticas el amor de Dios que infunde vida y su compasión revelan de maneras muy prácticas el amor de Dios que infunde vida y su compasión.

El papa Francisco también ha demostrado su compromiso con las obras corporales de misericordia. “Recordan el año pasado cuando rompió con la tradición del Jueves Santo y decidió lavarle los pies a los presos del centro de detención juvenil de Casal del Marmo, en Roma? Un año más tarde, lavó pies en el Centro Don Gnocchi, un hogar para ancianos y discapacitados en Roma. Mediante estos poderosos gestos el Santo Padre transformó algo que se había convertido en una práctica remota y ritualizada, y la devolvió al impactante contexto original de Jesús, el Señor y Maestro, quien lavó los pies de sus discípulos y nos ordenó que hicieramos lo mismo.

¿Qué oportunidad nos está presentando el Espíritu Santo aquí? Una posibilidad muy real es en el campo de la pastoral, los alentaré para que compartan generosamente el consuelo y la esperanza del Señor con quienes más lo necesitan.

El papa Francisco nos desafía a resistir el poderoso impulso de ignorar a nuestros hermanos y hermanas prisioneros. Es cierto que están fuera de nuestra vista y de los corazones de muchos de nosotros, pero esto en sí mismo puede llegar a ser un gran problema. ¿Cómo podemos seguir adelante con la obra del Señor si no estamos dispuestos a lavarles los pies aquellos a los que se encuentran al margen de la sociedad, alejados de nuestros hogares, barrios y comunidades parroquiales? Jesús no se apartó de los pecadores; se acercaba a ellos, los sanaba y los amaba. Nos guste o no, nos dijo que debemos hacer lo mismo.

A medida que emprendemos la importante labor de la planificación pastoral, los alentaré para que profundicemos en esta obra corporal de misericordia específicamente. Que por la gracia del Espíritu Santo podamos crear nuevas oportunidades al acercarnos a los que más necesitan del amor y la misericordia de Dios, tanto en este momento como cuando se reincorporen a la sociedad. ♦

Traducido por: Daniela Guanipa

Rejoice in the Lord

ARCHBISHOP/ARZOBISPO JOSEPH W. TObIN

Visitar a los prisioneros brinda el consuelo y la esperanza de Nuestro Señor

A medida que emprendemos la obra corporal de misericordia específica—visitar a los presos—se comparte generosamente el consuelo y la esperanza de nuestro Señor con quienes más lo necesitan.

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**August 15**

Northside Knights of Columbus, 17104 Springmill Road, Indianapolis. Catholic Business Exchange, Mass, breakfast and program. “The Joy of Being Yelled At” presented by Bryan Neale, NR, Referee, 6:30-10 a.m., Mass 5:30 p.m., 15 members, $21 non-members, breakfast included. Reservations and information: www.catholicbusinessexchange.org

**August 16**

St. Michael the Archangel Church, 3354 W. 30th St., Indianapolis. Helpers of God’s Precious Infants, Mass and Devine Mercy Chaplet, 8:30 a.m., followed by prayer at a local abortion center, and arrive at the church for those who wish to remain. 

**August 20**

St. Joseph University Parish, 113 S. 36th St., Indianapolis. Divine Mercy Chaplet and Pro-Life Mass, church, 4:30 p.m.; Mass 5:15 p.m.; pro-life ministry meeting 6:30 p.m. Information: Connie Ketchell, trimn102@yahoo.com or 812-665-6551.

Hovel at the Moon, 20 E. Georgia St., Indianapolis. Theology on Tap, Catholic singer/songwriter P.J. Anderson speaks on his journey of faith, free, ages 21-35, 7 p.m., arrive early to order food. Information: 317-592-4067.

**August 21**

St. Joseph Parish, 1375 S. Michigan Ave., Indianapolis. Third Thursday Adoration, interceding for women experiencing crisis pregnancy, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., with Mass at 5:45 p.m.

**August 21-23**


**August 22-23**

Prince of Peace Parish Community Festival at 113 S. 36th St., Indianapolis. Fest 6:30 p.m., food, games, music, movie, $1 adults, $0.50 children, under 21 free. Information: 317-257-2266.

St. Maria Goretti Church, 1704 Springmill Road, Westfield (Lafayette Diocese). Born2Run 5K Run/Walk, registration 8 a.m. or online at www.onegreensquare.com Born2Run. Run/Walk 10 a.m., kids’ games 8:30-11 a.m.; $22 for Run/Walk, $16.75 for Kids’ Fun Run. Information: 317-825-4166.

St. John the Evangelist Parish, 126 W. Georgia St., Indianapolis. Faithful Citizens Rosary procession, Mass, 12:10 p.m., procession following Mass, confirmation, faithfulcitizens2016@gmail.com

**August 23-24**

St. Mary Parish Festival held at St. Mary’s School, 1331 E. Hunter Robbins Way, Greenwood. Parish Festival, Mass, 4-11 p.m., festival 5 p.m.-midnight. Sun, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., food, games, lake safe, music, Sun. fried chicken dinner 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Information: 317-663-8437.

**August 24**

St. Paul Campus of All Saints Parish, 9788 N. DeArmond Road, New Albany. All Saints Parish Ladies Holy Hot Breakfast Buffet, 6 to 11 a.m., 7:30 a.m.-noon, free-will donations accepted. Information: 812-623-2349.

St. Christopher Parish, 5301 W. 16th St., Indianapolis. Old Testament study, 20 sessions looking at Old Testament history, geography and theology, presented by former Marian University theology professor Lois Janzen. Tuesdays 7 p.m. $300 for all 20 sessions, no prior study necessary, all welcome. Information: registration: Lois Janzen, 317-241-9169.

**August 25-27**

St. Monica Parish, 6311 N. Michigan Road, Indianapolis. The St. Monica Feast Day Festival, international food and entertainment, games, $1. Information: 317-253-2193.

**August 26**

St. Mary Parish, 1331 E. Hunter Robbins Way, Greenwood. Parish Festival, Mass, 4-11 p.m., festival 5 p.m.-midnight. Sun, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., food, games, lake safe, music, Sun. fried chicken dinner 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Information: 317-663-8437.

**August 29**

St. Paul Hermitage, 501 N. Beulah Grove. Ave Maria Guild Rummage Sale, 8 a.m. -3 p.m., Information: 317-888-7625.

Slovenian National Home, 217 W. 100 St., Indianapolis. Polka Jam, live music, donation spaghetti buffet, being covered dish to share, free-admission, 5 p.m.-close. Information: 317-632-0619 or slovenianyimag@ymail.com

Holy Spirt Church, 7243 E. 10th St., Indianapolis. Serra Club Mass for Vocations, 8:30 a.m. All invited to Mass, to pray for vocations and learn about the Serra Club. Information: 317-450-1182.

SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St. Indianapolis. Charismatic Mass, praise and worship, 7 a.m., Mass 7:30 p.m. Information: 317-466-0705.

**Call-out for artists to present at SS. Francis and Clare Parish festival**

SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi Parish, 5091 Olive Branch Road in Greenwood, is looking for artists to present at its Art in the Park and Art After Dark events during their fall festival on Sept. 27. Art in the Park is an outdoor event running from noon-6 p.m., and Art After Dark is an indoor/outdoor event running from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. on Aug. 21.

The festival committee is seeking exhibitors with handmade crafts, including oil paintings, water color, pen/ink drawings, photography, pottery, handmade beads, jewelry and wood art. A 10-foot by 10-foot area for a booth is $30 for Art in the Park and $50 for Art After Dark, which includes lighting. Registration is available online at www.onegreensquare.com or contact Aunt Sally at 317-253-4678.

For further information, contact Joni LeBeau at 317-236-1475 or jlebeau@archindy.org.

**Substance Addictions Ministry looking for volunteers to expand its works**

The Substance Addictions Ministry (SAM), supported by the Office of Pro-Life and Family Life at the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, serves as a bridge to God’s grace and healing by providing understanding, acceptance, support, information and referral to anyone seeking help because their lives are impacted by addiction.

SAM is holding an organizational meeting at 4-30 p.m. on Sept. 11 at the Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., in Indianapolis, to plan for expansion of this ministry to all of the deaneries in the archdiocese.

If you have a heart for those suffering from or impacted by addiction, and you are interested in volunteering for this ministry, please come to the organizational meeting.

For further information, contact Joni LeBeau at 317-236-1475 or jlebeau@archindy.org.

**‘Friends of the Poor®’ Walk on Sept. 27 will raise funds for Society of St. Vincent de Paul**

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will host its annual national “Friends of the Poor®” Walk at Washington Park, 3130 E. 50th St. in Indianapolis, on the morning of Sept. 27.

The walk benefits the society’s healthy choice food pantry, warehouse, travel funds for the Poor, and many parish and churches of the Indianapolis council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, which is entirely operated by volunteer efforts.

The walk consists of a one-mile trail through Washington Park across from the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry. Participants raise money by seeking pledges from donors, given via cash or check, or via credit card through a secure website. Check-in and turning in of pledges begin at 9 a.m. outside of Washington Park’s Commonwealth Center.

The walk/run begins at 10 a.m., when participants can choose to walk or run a one-mile loop from one-three times. The event will end with tea and cake.

Registration instructions and other forms are available by logging on to www.Indywalk4svdp.org and clicking on “2014 Walk/Run Registration Information and Forms” in the upper right. Online registration is available at any time, allowing the participant to send e-mails soliciting donations.

Walk-ups are welcome on the day of the event for a minimum $25 donation.

For more information, log on to indywalk4svdp.org, e-mail info@indywalk4svdp.org or call Natalie at 317-455-8009.

Jennifer McClure, left, Judy Pittman and Nancy Ciskowski, all members of St. Jude the Apostle Parish in Spencer, pose on July 12 at the outreach booth their parish hosted at the Owen County Fair from July 6-13. Owen County has a small population of Catholics, so the parish began a process a year ago to learn about apologetics—how to defend the Catholic faith. Father Daniel Maher, parish pastor, gave monthly presentations to prepare parishioners for the fair booth to enable volunteers to answer questions from those of other faiths, and to help them reach the unchurched as well as Catholics who left the Church. Volunteers at the fair reported that many people came to the booth with questions and/or to express a desire to come back to the Church. (Photograph courtesy John A. Crispin)
Anderson says Knights’ efforts follow pope’s call to help world’s poor

ORLANDO, Fla. (CNS)—As an international fraternal organization, the Knights of Columbus is uniquely able to follow Pope Francis’ witness of “love for the sick, the suffering and the poor,” said Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson.

That “extraordinary witness” and the pope’s admonition to all to cast aside indifference have “captured the imagination of the world,” he said on Aug. 5 at the opening business session of the Knights’ 132nd Supreme Convention in Orlando.

“As Knights of Columbus, we are well-positioned to respond,” said Anderson.

He made the remarks in a lengthy annual report detailing the organization’s accomplishments and initiatives in 2013. The Aug. 5-7 convention celebrated a year in which the organization reported an all-time record for charitable giving—more than $170 million and more than 70.5 million hours of service to charitable causes in the United States and elsewhere, the Knights are active.

Response to unexpected tragedies played a large role in members’ activities last year, according to Anderson, while the Knights continued their support within their communities for the Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids and Food for Families initiatives; programs for those with intellectual disabilities; blood drives; and partnerships with Habitat for Humanity, Special Olympics and the American Wheelchair Mission.

Knights were part of relief efforts following two natural disasters in the Philippines: tornadoes in Moore, Okla.; floods in Alberta, Canada; the factory explosion in West, Texas; and the Boston Marathon bombing.

Anderson noted the year also saw the Knights continue their support for the victims of Hurricane Sandy, the October 2012 super storm, and for the people of Newtown, Connecticut, as they recovered from the late 2012 school shooting that left 20 children and seven adults dead.

“Charity has been at the heart of the Knights’ mission for the past 132 years,” said Anderson. “Whether with funds or service, and whether quietly helping someone overcome a personal tragedy or assisting in the aftermath of a widely known humanitarian disaster, the outpouring of charity by our members produces meaningful results, especially by helping to bring peace of mind to those who find themselves in incredibly difficult situations.”

Anderson also noted:

• Quebec led all Knights of Columbus jurisdictions with charitable donations of more than $11 million.
• Record membership overall, including a new state benchmark of more than 100,000 members, in Texas.
• Growth of membership and volunteer hours in the United States, Canada, Mexico, Central Europe and Asia.
• A new family program in advance of next year’s World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia.

Anderson made special mention of the establishment of the first Knights of Columbus council in South Korea, a nation with 5.5 million Catholics and which he said is “beginning to emerge as an important new mission field.”

He noted the Knights have their own council in South Korea as well.

Anderson made special mention of the establishment of the first Knights of Columbus council in South Korea, a nation with 5.5 million Catholics and which he described as the fastest growing Catholic community in the world.

He noted Pope Francis’ trip to South Korea on Aug. 14-18, saying that visit and a papal trip to the Philippines in January “will play a significant role in the future of the Knights of Columbus.”

With regard to the federal Affordable Care Act, Anderson said the Health and Human Services mandate that most Catholic employers provide contraceptive coverage “cannot be fixed and it must be repealed.”

He pointed to the U.S. Supreme Court’s Hobby Lobby decision this summer, which said closely held for-profit companies could be exempted from some requirements of the federal health care law because of the owners’ religious beliefs.

He said the Knights hope the high court will follow that ruling with one “to protect the religious liberties of entities such as the Little Sisters of the Poor,” who are challenging the process required to be exempted from the mandate.

“What are we to tell our children: that government has become the final arbiter of conscience?” That the voice of government must always have the last word?” he asked.

Anderson said that while some politicians try to divide the American people on social issues, the Knights’ polling “has found great unity among Americans,” even on abortion. “An issue often considered the most divisive.”

“A majority of Americans believe life begins at conception, and more than six in 10 think abortion is morally wrong. And, perhaps most importantly, more than eight in 10 Americans say that laws can protect both the well-being of a woman and the life of her unborn child,” he said.

Nearly 90 archbishops and bishops—including 11 cardinals—were expected to join approximately 2,000 Knights and family members for the convention.

The theme of this year’s conference was “You Will All Be Brothers: Our Vocation to Fraternity.”
POPE continued from page 7

personal envoy to Iraq.
Cardinal Filoni, a former nuncio to Iraq and current prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, met the pope privately on the evening of Aug. 10 to receive instructions for the mission and a financial contribution “for the urgent needs” of the victims, according to Vatican Press Office Father Federico Lombardi, the Vatican spokesman.

The cardinal told CTV, the Vatican television center, that he had the impression Pope Francis “would like to go himself to be with these poor people. He entrusted this mission to me precisely so that I would make his abstraction, his profound love,” clear to the people.

The Vatican said on Aug. 11 that the cardinal was expected to leave Rome on Aug. 12 and visit Baghdad as well as Iraqi Kurdistan, where many of those displaced by the Islamic State are seeking shelter.

Archdiocesan parishes asked to pray for peace in northern Iraq

In light of the dire situation in northern Iraq, Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin has asked all parishes in central and southern Indiana to include the following prayer in the prayers of the faithful at all Masses on the weekend of Aug. 16-17.

“For all who are suffering in the Middle East, and especially for the Christians and other religious minorities in northern Iraq, that God may send them the gift of peace and protect them from all persecution and violence, we pray to the Lord.”

This united prayer of the Church in central and southern Indiana comes at the invitation of Bishop Richard E. Pates of Des Moines, Iowa, chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on International Justice and Peace, and Patriarch Louis Raphael Sako, Chaldean Catholic Patriarch of Iraq, to make Sunday, Aug. 17 as a day of prayer across the U.S. for the Church in northern Iraq and for all persecuted people of faith there.

Children flee violence from forces loyal to the Islamic State in Sinjar, Iraq, on Aug. 10. Islamic State militants have killed at least 500 Yazidi ethnic minorities, an Iraqi human rights minister said.

(Vatican News, Aug. 11)

Time to act: Church teaches duty to intervene to prevent genocide

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis has echoed a century of papal pleas: “No more war!” But referring to the outrageous violations of human rights taking place in northeastern Iraq, he also begged: “Stop these crimes!”

The Catholic Church for millennia has taught that war must be a last resort to resolve problems. But it continues to recognize the right of people to defend themselves and, particularly since the pontificate of St. John Paul II, the Church has taught that the international community has an obligation to intervene — with force, if necessary — to defend the lives of innocent people at risk of genocide.

“When all other means have been exhausted to save human beings, the international community must act. This can include disarming the aggressor,” said Archbishop Silvano Tomasi, the Vatican representative to U.N. agencies in Geneva.

The duty to defend the innocent explains how Pope Francis can appeal for peace and, at the same time, his obligation to intervene — with force, if necessary — to defend the lives of innocent people at risk of genocide.

Given the brutality of the terrorists, Archbishop Lingua’s comments were in line with papal statements and Catholic social teaching.

Archbishop Tomasi told Catholic News Service on Aug. 11 that Pope Francis “has a clear orientation and precise guidelines for what is internationally recognized. All other means — dialogue, negotiations — for protecting the innocent must be exhausted and regional assistance for those whose rights are being trampled must be provided,” he said in a telephone interview.

The Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church states: “The international community as a whole has the moral obligation to intervene on behalf of those groups whose very survival is threatened or whose basic human rights are seriously violated. As members of an international community, states cannot remain indifferent; on the contrary, if necessary means prove ineffective, it is legitimate and even obligatory to take concrete measures to disarm the aggressor” (#506).

St. John Paul gave one of his clearest explanations of the limits of humanitarian intervention in his message for World Peace Day 2000.

“Crimes against humanity cannot be considered an internal affair of a nation,” he wrote. “When a civilian population risks being overcome by the attacks of an unjust aggressor and political efforts and nonviolent defense prove to be of no avail, it is legitimate and even obligatory to take concrete measures to disarm the aggressor. These measures, however, must be limited in time and precise in their aims.

“As war raged in Bosnia-Herzegovina in the early 1990s and ‘ethnic cleansing’ became a household word, Pope John Paul told diplomats accredited to the Vatican that the ‘principles of state sovereignty and non-interference in their internal affairs, which continue to have value, nevertheless cannot be a shield behind which torture and assassins can hide.’

“Speaking specifically about northeastern Iraq today, Archbishop Tomasi said, ‘the point of departure for any reflection on the current situation should be the victims. We must help those who are being killed, whose homes are being burned, whose children are being targeted. This is not a religious issue, it is not a matter of Christians defending Christians, but it is a call for the defense of human beings by all human beings,’ the archbishop said.

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August 14-16, 2014

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BINGO Fri.-Sat.
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August 16
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Catered Dinner
Prime Rib and Oven Roasted Turkey
with all the sides
$10 Adults - $6 Kids 10 and Under
5:30 pm — Evening Mass

Nativity Fit 5K Run/Walk (9:00 am)
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SPRED summer retreat: ‘It’s a pure, honest joy’

By Natalie Hoefer

BEECH GROVE—The room was quiet. Thirteen easels with blank canvases stood on the tables. The stillness was broken as the participants strolled in, talkative and chatty after lunch.

The painting instructor, Katie Sahm, greeted them.

“Some of you may remember me from last year,” she began, followed by a chorus of “Oh, yes!” and “I do!” and “I was here last year!”

“Did you know that every flower has a meaning?” Sahm asked, receiving responses of amazement and wonder.

“Well, today we’re going to paint a hibiscus flower. The hibiscus means either ‘delicate beauty’ or ‘one with God.’ So when you take this [painting] home, whenever you look at this big flower, you’re going to think of God, because God is who brings us joy.”

“Joy” was the theme of the adult Special Religious Development (SPRED) “Hallelujah Luau” retreat, where the blank canvases soon blossomed with cheery yellow and red flowers.

With hugs, giggles, laughs and joking in abundance, that joy was especially present in those attending the retreat. The participants were members (referred to as “friends”) of SPRED programs for those ages 18 and older with special needs in several parishes of the archdiocese.

“They’re so faith-filled,” said Mary Roeisinger, a SPRED catechist at St. Pius X Parish, who helped with the retreat. “There’s a love you feel in seeing God in all of these special people that we welcome each year. You don’t get this anywhere else.”

Nicole McConnell has been involved in SPRED since its inception at St. Malachi Parish in Brownsburg 15 years ago.

“We are all a family together sharing the faith. It’s so joyous, I can’t even tell you.

That joy shone from the eyes of participant John Lorton, a member of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis, as he spoke of his experience on this, his 10th SPRED retreat.

“It’s been awesome,” he said. “I love the camaraderie. These are nice people who are all here for one reason—God.

“My favorite part so far has been the sand cross,” Lorton said of one of the crafts offered during the retreat. “At the cross part, it has a heart, and I did the heart part in purple sand because I know purple is the color of Easter.”

In addition to the cross craft and the flower painting to symbolize God as the source of joy, the participants enjoyed one more project that revolved around faith—making a “handmade” cloth.

“It’s got all their handprints on it,” Roeisinger explained of the white cotton sheet. They will incorporate the cloth in future SPRED events.

When all is said and done, Jeffries hopes the participants “walk away feeling a little bit of that joy and hope, and feel more able to spread that joy.”

That hope seemed to be coming to fruition in Lorton.

“My heart is just full,” he said.

(For more information on Special Religious Development, log on to www.archindy.org/oce then click on "Catechesis for Persons with Special Needs" on the left, or contact Erin Jeffries at jeffries@archindy.org, or by phone at 317-236-1448 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1448. Keep up with SPRED news on their Facebook page, “Archdiocese of Indianapolis Special Needs.”)
ACCRA, Ghana (CNS)—As the World Health Organization declared an international public health emergency in West Africa, Ghana’s bishops urged their government to be extra vigilant in screening people who enter the country by sea.

To avoid Ebola spreading from other West African countries to Ghana, officials at all entry points “should be alert and well-equipped to screen people,” so they can “isolate and deal with possible cases,” the Ghana Catholic Bishops’ Conference said in an Aug. 7 statement signed by its president, Bishop Joseph Osei-Bonsu of Konongo-Mampong.

Also, in an effort to curtail the spread of Ebola, the archdioceses of Lagos and Abuja instructed their priests to suspend all forms of physical contact during Mass, including the traditional sign of peace.

“Taking into consideration the fact that this rite is optional, we shall henceforth omit it, i.e., not invite people to offer the sign of peace. When you get to this rite, skip it,” Lagos Archbishop Alfred Adewale Martins said in a statement on Aug. 10.

He said while holy water could be used in homes and offices, the fonts at church entrances should be emptied. He also encouraged the use of gloves when counting money from Mass collections.

Archbishop Martins advised priests to use extra care when visiting the sick, especially when administering the sacrament of anointing of the sick.

The archdiocese also advised them “to avoid physical contact when giving out holy Communion.”

Cardinal John Onorutemu Onayekan of Abuja, Nigeria, told journalists on Aug. 10 that the Church was taking necessary precautionary steps to avoid the spread of the disease.

"Among those being treated for the disease was a 75-year-old Spanish priest, evacuated from Liberia to Madrid.

Symptoms of the disease, which has no known cure, include vomiting, diarrhea and internal and external bleeding. The fatality rate of the current outbreak is around 60 percent.

Ghana’s bishops said they were particularly concerned about fishermen who have been to affected countries, return to Ghana through its harbors and go “straight to their families and communities without any proper screening.”

This “poses a real danger not only to the families of such people but to the entire nation, and we call on the government to help address this situation,” the bishops said.

They urged the government to set up centers in hospitals and clinics around the country that are equipped to manage cases of Ebola, as well as to provide protective gear to staff in these centers.

“Additionally, we think that some compensatory package should be instituted for those who attend to Ebola patients to encourage and motivate them to offer the best possible care to such patients,” they said.

As Ebola deaths rise, Africa’s bishops urging, taking action

Noting that a nationwide information and education campaign is urgently needed, the bishops appealed to all priests, religious and other Church leaders to distribute information on prevention, transmission and treatment of the disease.

“Health personnel should be approached to lead this exercise” in churches, they said.

The bishops also warned against panic.

“While it is absolutely important for everyone to help prevent this deadly disease from entering our country, it serves no useful purpose to suspect every little symptom as signs of Ebola. Thin, far from helping in the fight against the disease, rather creates confusion, fear and panic,” they said.

The World Health Organization declared an international public health emergency in West Africa on Aug. 8 as the death toll neared 1,000. Most deaths were in Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia, but two people have died in Nigeria, and more than 130 people were quarantined there because of suspected contact with the virus.

Ghana’s bishops have urged their government to be extra vigilant in screening people who enter the country by sea, including fishermen who return to their families.

Liberian children are encouraged to wash their hands as part of an Ebola sensitization program in Monrovia, Liberia, on Aug. 5. The death toll from the Ebola outbreak in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone has risen to near 1,000, the World Health Organization said on Aug. 8. (AP photo)
CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS)—

The aisle is paved with stone from an ancient Roman road, the apse is made of carefully trimmed evergreen bushes; the columns are tall, this cypress trees; and the nave is a lily pond, complete with gold fish.

Welcoming visitors to "our outdoor church" in Castel Gandolfo, Osvaldo Gianoli explains, "it has always been a place of prayer for the popes."

Thanks to a very rainy July, damp and dark woods separate the area—normally known as the Garden of the Little Madonna—from the expertly groomed Boulevard of the Oaks in the gardens of the papal villas at Castel Gandolfo.

So far, Pope Francis has resisted joining the list of popes who have taken temporary residence in Castel Gandolfo, praying and reciting the rosary in the garden 13 miles south of Rome.

In the meantime, Gianoli said, the pope "strongly desired that [the villas] be opened as a sign of sharing something unique, a common good, and so wanted this opening to share the gardens with the public."

Gianoli, who was named director of the papal villas at Castel Gandolfo in December, has the challenge of fulfilling Pope Francis' mandate to welcome the public while at the same time preserving the historic gardens and ensuring they can fulfill their main purpose: as a place of quiet relaxation for the pope and his top aides.

The papal property at Castel Gandolfo extends over 135 acres—compared to the 108.7 acres of Vatican City—and includes 17 acres of formal gardens, three residences and a working farm.

The formal Italian gardens, planted in the 1930s, are a meticulously maintained historic, artistic and botanical treasure, Gianoli said. The emphasis on symmetry and geometric topiary—the hedges are carefully trimmed into geometric shapes—is one of the main buildings to the outdoors.

The other treasure on the property is the historic sections of the papal villas in Castel Gandolfo, Italy, that Pope Francis ordered to be open to the public.

"These places are important to us because they are places where the popes have come to pray. It is a place of peace, tranquility and serenity."

—Osvaldo Gianoli, director of the papal villas at Castel Gandolfo

Pope Urban VIII spent his vacation there, as he had done as a cardinal. Many popes never visited or could not—particularly in the years after the fall of the papal states and before a treaty was signed with Italy. When the Lateran Pacts were signed in 1929, the Vatican’s ownership was recognized and work began on making the formal gardens “as you see them today,” Gianoli said.

At different times in history, the gardens played important roles. The most dramatic was during the Second World War. “In 1944, the villas were a refuge for anyone who wanted to come. In that period, with the advance of the Allies after the Anzio landing,” he said, there were an estimated 12,000 people hosted by Pope Pius XII here. In fact, Pope Pius made his private bedroom available as an obstetrics ward; 35 babies were born here."

More recently, television stations across the globe showed the villas when Pope Benedict XVI decided to spend the last hours of his papacy in Castel Gandolfo, flying there by helicopter from the Vatican on Feb. 28, 2013. A month later, the newly elected Pope Francis made his first visit to the villas, spending several hours with Pope Benedict.

"These places are important to us because they are places where the popes have come to pray,” Gianoli said. "It is a place of peace, tranquility and serenity."

(Reservations are obligatory for the garden tour and are handled online through the Vatican Museums at www.museivaticani.va/3_EN/pages/MV_Home.html)
Spirituality for Today

**Fr. John Catoir**

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Catholic Education Outreach/ Gina Fleming

**Catechists to focus on ‘Our Future, Our Families’ during 2014-2015 program year**

Welcome to the 2014-15 program year for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. "Our Future, Our Families" is highlighted for another year! This year’s theme, “Our Future, Our Families’”—Another highlight of the gathering included a presentation by Father Eric Augenstein, director of the Vocations Office for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. Father Augenstein shared a kindergarten through 12th grade online curriculum program to assist in teaching youth about vocations. These teaching modules are being purchased through the Vocations Outreach grant. He would allow all schools, faith formation programs, and youth ministry programs to use the resources. "Our Future, Our Families’ is a wonderful way to sustain and grow our future as a Catholic Church." 

Spirituality for Today

**Fr. John Catoir**

**Fall back on the Gospel and trust God in life's most trying moments**

Life is a test. When tragedies hit, all of the explanations for why bad things happen are our own. We are encouraged to trust in the Gospel and believe in God's love even during trying circumstances. Our faith is like when times are tough. Stop being a burden to others. Patients and doctors can accept that death is a natural part of life. They can work together to enhance “Our Future” as an archdiocese.

Catholic Education Outreach/ Gina Fleming

**Catechists to focus on ‘Our Future, Our Families’ during 2014-2015 program year**

Welcome to the 2014-15 program year for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. "Our Future, Our Families" is highlighted for another year! This year’s theme, “Our Future, Our Families’”—Another highlight of the gathering included a presentation by Father Eric Augenstein, director of the Vocations Office for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. Father Augenstein shared a kindergarten through 12th grade online curriculum program to assist in teaching youth about vocations. These teaching modules are being purchased through the Vocations Outreach grant. He would allow all schools, faith formation programs, and youth ministry programs to use the resources. "Our Future, Our Families’ is a wonderful way to sustain and grow our future as a Catholic Church.” 

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The third section of the Book of Isaiah provides this week’s Mass with its first reading: “Understanding this part of Isaiah requires some knowledge of the cultural context of the time. Life for the Jews had changed very much from what it was when David or Solomon was king. Neighboring states had swept into, and across, the two Hebrew kingdoms that had come to compose the political structures of the Holy Land. The two kingdoms forever were defeated and extinguished. Untold numbers of Jews had been killed or had died in the process. Others had taken to Babylon, the capital of the great Babylonian empire.

At last, Babylonia itself was subdued. The descendants of the first Jews taken to Babylon returned home, but they easily became disillusioned. Living was much more pluralistic than it had been centuries earlier. The Jews who at this time of the section this Isaiah was written lived indeed amid religious and ethnic diversity. So “foreigners” were in many places, and they were “foreign” in several important respects.

Apprently from this reading, some of these “foreigners” embraced the ancient Hebrew religion. As God’s Chosen People, the Jews were expected, certainly by their prophets and because of their own covenant with God, to observe all required by the Hebrew religion. But with the presence of pagans, the old support of bonding and commonality were gone. St. Paul’s Epistle to the Romans provides the second reading. Throughout Christian history, the great Apostle Paul has been remembered especially for his outreach to Gentiles, to persons not of Jewish birth or religion. His efforts in this regard, and similarly avid efforts by his disciples and by others, meant that by the time this section of Isaiah was written it had been centuries earlier. The Jews at first reading the prophets and because of their own covenant with God, to observe all required by the Hebrew religion. But with the presence of pagans, the old support of bonding and commonality were gone. St. Paul’s Epistle to the Romans provides the second reading. Throughout Christian history, the great Apostle Paul has been remembered especially for his outreach to Gentiles, to persons not of Jewish birth or religion. His efforts in this regard, and similarly avid efforts by his disciples and by others, meant that by the time this section of Isaiah was written it had been centuries earlier. The Jews at this time of this section this Isaiah was written lived indeed amid religious and ethnic diversity. So “foreigners” were in many places, and they were “foreign” in several important respects.

Apple.

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Apple.

Q

Recently, I read in the Gospel of Matthew where Jesus said, “Just as Jonah was in the belly of the whale for three days and three nights, so will the Son of Man be in the belly of the Earth for three days and three nights” (Mt 12:40). But we believe that Christ died on Good Friday afternoon and rose on Easter Sunday morning, which is only two days. Can you please explain the discrepancy, or am I misapplying the Gospel passage?”

A

The common belief of Christians since the earliest centuries has been that Jesus died and was buried on Good Friday afternoon and rose from the dead before dawn on Easter Sunday morning. When the Qumran manuscript of the time this section of Isaiah was written lived indeed amid religious and ethnic diversity. So “foreigners” were in many places, and they were “foreign” in several important respects.

Apple.
Register today for the St.Vincent Cancer Walk! 100% of the proceeds support the patients at St.Vincent.

Join us for the St.Vincent Cancer Walk on Saturday, September 20, at Lions Park in Zionsville. You can choose to participate in the 3-mile family walk, or the 10-mile challenge walk. And, you’ll be happy to know that the funds raised from this event provide programs and services to support cancer patients and their families.

Register today by visiting StVincentCancerWalk.org.

T H E  S P I R I T  O F  C A R I N G®

Refugee World Cup

Players from Cameroon and Mali battle for the ball during the Refugee World Cup in Sao Paulo, Brazil, on Aug. 3. The soccer tournament was an initiative of Caritas in the Archdiocese of Sao Paulo, the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, the Red Cross and other U.N. agencies and private entities. (CNS photo/harry Horovitz Aparecido)

Pope says memorize the beatitudes

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Christians should memorize not only the Ten Commandments but also the beatitudes, which Jesus taught as the path to true happiness, Pope Francis said.

“At his weekly general audience on Aug. 6, the pope said he was so serious about the need for Christians to know the text of the beatitudes from Matthew 5:3-12—and the Ten Commandments but also the beatitudes, which Jesus taught as the path to true happiness, Pope Francis said.

“The beatitudes are not only ‘the path God indicates as his response to the desire for happiness present in each person and the perfection of the [Ten] Commandments,’ he said. They also are ‘a portrait of Jesus and his way of life.’

“In addition to showing people the path to true happiness, the pope said, Jesus gave ‘us the protocol according to which we will be judged.’

“At the end of the world, we will be judged,” he said. “And what will the questions be that the judge will ask?” They are listed in Matthew 25: 35-36. Did you feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, care for the sick and visit the prisoner?

“Today, your task is to read the fifth chapter of Matthew where the beatitudes are, and also to read the 25th chapter where the questions are that we will be asked on judgment day,” he said.

Register today for the St.Vincent Cancer Walk!

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.


HILTON, Mary E., 89, St. Mary of the Assumption, Columbus, July 29. Mother of Allen and Matthew. Great-grandmother of two.


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Rest in peace


HILTON, Mary E., 89, St. Mary of the Assumption, Columbus, July 29. Mother of Allen and Matthew. Great-grandmother of two.


RUDISILL, Patricia (Griffin), 72, Mark the Evangelist, Indianapolis, Aug. 2. Mother of Michael and Timothy Rudisill. Sister of Katherine Burtel and Robert Griffin. Great-grandmother of five.


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THE SPIRIT OF CARING®

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What was in the news on August 14, 1964? Pope Paul issues his first encyclical

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 August 14, 1964, issue of The Criterion:

- Pope Paul VI's first encyclical encourages 'dialogue between Church and modern world'

"CASTELGANDOLFO, Italy—The unique role of the Church as God's means of saving all mankind and the importance of man's recognition of this role formed the core of the first encyclical of Pope Paul VI's reign. The encyclical, called 'Ecclesiastum Suum' from the opening Latin words of the almost 15,000-word document, was released to the world on August 10 but was dated August 6, the feast of the Transfiguration of Christ. In addition to a detailed study of the nature of the Church as God's means of saving mankind, the encyclical also contained a denunciation of all efforts that called it 'the most serious problem of our time.'

- For all eight grades: Catholic schools adopt 'new math' approach

"The revolutionary 'modern mathematics' concept, the subject of four years of experimentation in archdiocesan schools, will be adopted in all eight elementary grades of Catholic schools throughout the archdiocese this fall. In announcing the new program, Msgr. James P. Galvin, archdiocesan superintendent of schools, stated that 'real intensive study has proceeded the decision which is regarded as a major education breakthrough in this area. He said that modern mathematics 'should prove to be a good tool' in the teaching of mathematics in the elementary grades.'

- Pope cites relevance of Blessed Sacrament

Secretariats realigned by Holy See

- Chancery announces clergy assignments

St. Augustine's fund campaign near $1.8 million

- "Selfish" capitalism rapped by Pope Paul

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- Pope cites relevance of Blessed Sacrament

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- New organs installed in National Shrine

- St. Augustine's fund campaign near $1.8 million

- "Selfish" capitalism rapped by Pope Paul

- New book includes hymn by Luther

- The Little Sisters voice their thanks

- Coordinating Youth Ministry

- Bishop to appear on TV program

(Read all these stories from our August 14, 1964, issue by logging on to www.CriterionOnline.com.)

On 60th anniversary, Sister Demetria Smith offers heartfelt thank you by John Shaugnessy

For anyone who knows Sister Demetria Smith, it’s not surprising how she wants to celebrate her 60 years of religious life today. She wants to thank all the people throughout the archdiocese who helped her support the mission efforts of the New Catholic Church in Africa.

“It’s nice to hear that there are others who want to thank you,” says Sister Demetria, an Indianapolis native who is a member of the Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Africa and a retired mission educator for the archdiocese.

“The archdiocese has been a plus. Parish website: www.saintlawrence.net

For more information, contact the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, 502 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46222, or call 317-236-1000 and ask for Local 1548。“
WASHINGTON (CNS)—World War I was dubbed “the Great War” because of the near-global scale of the fighting. Some called it “the World War,” and many had thought it was “the war to end all wars.” But its status as World War I was just 21 years after it ended.

It was 100 years ago, on July 28, 1914, that World War I began in earnest. The United States didn’t enter into the war until 1917, playing a decisive role in its outcome, but U.S. Catholics were watching and worrying long before the nation—what was for many of them their adopted homeland—entered the hostilities.

Catholics accounted for about 16 percent of the U.S. population at the war’s outset. Their numbers and proportion had grown because of immigration from many of the European nations and territories engaged in the conflict.

“There was a lot of anti-Catholic feeling in the country before the war, based on the large amount of Catholic immigrants coming into the country,” said W. John Shepherd, an associate archivist at American Catholic Research Center at The Catholic University of America in Washington, where he has worked for the past 25 years.

“I think the war was very important to Catholics in the U.S. and people everywhere. They saw themselves and the rest of the country—anybody who’s paying attention—that they could be devout Catholics and loyal patriots,” Shepherd said.

There are as many stories in war as there are participants. One participant was Robert O’Connell, a Connecticut lad who was one of Gen. John Pershing’s Doughboys after training at Washington Barracks—now Fort McNair—and shipping “over there.”

Once in Europe, he asked his kin to write, “but don’t expect me to write much. Censor is nuisance.” In October 1917, O’Connell said, “Some of the boys must have expected to begin killing Germans the week after they enlisted, and are disgusted with the Army.”

Combat came soon enough. In July 1918, he was wounded. O’Connell, after being examined, was ordered to walk to a cave to get fixed up. “Cave was almost a mile away in the mountain by then,” he wrote. “When you get this, I’ll be back with the company again, but I’ll have had the taste of death: a little hole less than half an inch deep.”

Another story—like O’Connell’s, found in Catholic University’s “World War I archives”—is that of Adm. William Benson, the highest-ranking Catholic in the armed forces during the war. Born a Methodist in Georgia, he embraced his wife’s Catholic faith after marrying. Benson never saw any combat during his military career. He became chief of naval operations, a post created by Congress for a July 31, 1918, photo at Camp Zachary Taylor in St. Mary’s County, Maryland, to educate American Catholics in the training camps and the battlesfields, and those soldiers were every bit of deserving of spiritual care as their Protestant counterparts. Working with the Jewish Welfare Board, the YMCA and other organizations, the bishops joined in a “United War Work” campaign to support the war effort and get Americans to buy war bonds. After the war’s end, these organizations coalesced into the United Service Organization, or the USO, which supports the U.S. military both at home and overseas.

After the armistice was signed on Nov. 11, 1918, a National Catholic War Council was founded to support, especially with the German atrocities against the Church in Belgium, the execution of as many as 13 priests,” Shepherd told Catholic News Service.

For a Church with a long-held war theory, it took war for the Catholic Church and its members to move more into the American mainstream.

“However, it was an easy war for them to support, especially with the German atrocities against the Church in Belgium, the execution of as many as 13 priests,” Shepherd told Catholic News Service.

“The war effort, the war issues, the war related activities in the church,” he said. To that end, the National Catholic Welfare Council was founded to support U.S. military efforts and oversee war-related activities in the Church.

It was not the first attempt by the U.S. bishops to inject themselves into the national conversation. The U.S. bishops had held plenary councils in 1852, 1866 and 1884, in part to deal with nativist backlash to the ongoing waves of Irish immigration.

But with the Great War, there were Catholics in the training camps and the battlesfields, and those soldiers were every bit of deserving of spiritual care as their Protestant counterparts. Working with the Jewish Welfare Board, the YMCA and other organizations, the bishops joined in a “United War Work” campaign to support the war effort and get Americans to buy war bonds. After the war’s end, these organizations coalesced into the United Service Organization, or the USO, which supports the U.S. military both at home and overseas.

The National Catholic Welfare Council was no longer needed. However, then-Father John Burke, a Paulist, who for years before World War I had envisioned some kind of entity for the U.S. bishops to make their voice heard on temporal as well as spiritual matters, convinced the bishops to look beyond war to peace. And thus was born the National Catholic Welfare Council.

Two American cardinals were strongly opposed to this council. William O’Connell of Boston and Dennis Dougherty of Philadelphia. They feared a nationwide body would usurp the bishops’ authority in general, and theirs specifically.

The U.S. cardinals a novel approach. Pope Pius XI, to suppress the NCWC in February 1922. But after Bishop Joseph Schrems of Cleveland, Moq. Burke and their supporters successfully argued their case to the pope and the curia, the suppression order was lifted that July. The name change was changed from “Council” to “Conference.”

The National Catholic Welfare Conference (NCWC) was the precursor to today’s U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The U.S. model was later adopted by other nations’ bishops as a way to lead the Catholic faith and suggest policy to governments, according to Douglas A. Swanson, a professor at National University in San Diego, who has written on U.S. Catholic history. “By 1934,” Swanson told CNS, “the hierarchies of Austria, England and Spain had founded organizations patterned on NCWC.”

Canada’s bishops had tried to do the same as early as 1928, but was forbidden to do so by the Vatican, he noted. “The Canadian Catholic Conference was finally organized in 1943,” he said.

Above, overseas women war workers of the National Catholic War Council pose for an undated photo during World War I. These women clubs in European Allied nations to assist military service members and the local citizens during World War I. (CNS photo/courtesy American Catholic History Research Center)