The Criterion
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Week after quake, trucks of aid begin reaching remote areas of Nepal

KATHMANDU, Nepal (CNS)—Truckloads of relief material organized by Church charities began moving across Nepal a week after the Himalayan nation was rocked by a magnitude-7.8 earthquake on April 25.

“I am glad that much-needed aid is finally beginning to reach remote areas,” Greg Auberry, Catholic Relief Services’ (CRS) regional director for East and South Asia, told Catholic News Service on May 4.

Auberry had just returned to Kathmandu from Gorkha—just 85 miles from the capital but five hours of rough mountain drive—where CRS and Caritas Nepal staff had distributed relief material like tarps, dry rations, hygiene items and water purification tablets.

“Given the mountainous terrain, getting relief supplies to even the most convenient locations for people to collect them is not easy. It took CRS several hours with small tractors—one getting stuck—to get the tarpaulins and household supplies to the village of Bukrang near Gorkha,” said Auberry, who oversaw relief distribution in the region on May 3.

“People walked miles to come,” he added. Nine days after the quake, the Nepal government revised the death toll to more than 7,200 killed and 14,300 injured, while thousands remain missing.

Father Pius Perumana, Caritas Nepal director, told CNS that besides the CRS contingent, officials of a dozen national Caritas affiliates like CAFOD, Cordaid and Caritas of nearly a dozen countries had reached Nepal to augment the Church relief effort.

“While relief material is being sent to different remote areas, our teams also have gone to the worst-hit areas. We are working there as much as we can,” Auberry said.

Sisters of St. Benedict offer powerful experience of community through prayer, work and hospitality

Sr. Juliann Babcock, O.S.B.

WAKE UP THE WORLD! 150 Year of Consecrated Life

(Founder’s note: The Church’s Year of Consecrated Life began in late November and will conclude on Feb. 2, 2016. During this time, The Criterion will publish a series of articles featuring the life and history of each of the religious communities based in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. This is the second article in that series.)

By Michaela Raffin

Sisters of St. Benedict

Sr. Juliann Babcock, O.S.B.

My father, like some elderly people can, had given to every organization that mailed him something,” Sister Anne recalled. “I would take these solicitations and put them in a bag and think, ‘I will contact the places when I have a chance,’ and I didn’t know when that was going to happen. However, a couple of the sisters that knew about this took that bag, and then one by one contacted those places.

This is the second article in that series.

By John Shaughnessy

Catholic Charities Indianapolis presented four individuals with Spirit of Service Awards during an April 30 dinner in Indianapolis. Award recipients, seated from left, are Franciscan Sister Norma Rocklage, Zach Smith and Gene Hawkins. Standing, from left, are featured speaker Jack Doyle, Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin and award winner Steve Rasmussen. (Photo by Rich Clark)

By John Shaughnessy

The memory of scoring his first touchdown in the National Football League is one that Indianapolis Colts’ tight end Jack Doyle will never forget, especially considering what happened in all the excitement that followed the score by the 2008 graduate of Cathedral High School in Indianapolis.

After catching the pass from quarterback Andrew Luck and diving across the goal line during the first game of the 2015 season, Doyle lost his grip on the ball amid the celebration with his teammates.

“I come to find out later that the ball somehow made it back to the sideline,” Doyle told the audience at the archdiocese’s Spirit of Service Awards Dinner in Indianapolis on April 30. “I never knew how it got back there until I heard the story that [All-Pro wide receiver] Reggie Wayne told the audience at the archdiocese’s Spirit of Service Awards Dinner in Indianapolis on April 30.

Doyle shared that story during a question-and-answer session directed by his close friend, his teammate and his fellow Catholic—Joe Reitz. Sitting on stage in front of 600 people in the Indiana Roof Ballroom in Indianapolis, the two Colts engaged in the kind of fun, free-wheeling, humorous exchange of stories, thoughts and good-natured jabs that mark the friendship of two guys who share a love of football, family and faith.  

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Sr. Juliann Babcock, O.S.B.

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The joy of being Catholic

By John Shaughnessy

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Sisters of St. Benedict offer powerful experience of...
This strong sense of community life is central to the Benedictine Sisters at Our Lady of Grace. Their charm is that of monastic life, and they live according to the values of prayer, work and hospitality established by St. Benedict.

“For us, I think what’s unique is community life,” said Benedictine Sister Juliann Babcock, the monastery’s current prioress. “Benedict’s idea was that you lived in common, and then you went out and ministered to the people according to the needs that were there.”

In 1953, Archbishop Paul C. Schulte recognized the need for a home for the aged in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. At the same time, the Benedictine Monastery Immaculate Conception in Ferdinand, Ind., in the Evansville Diocese, had grown to an unsustainably small size and was looking to establish another community in Indianapolis.

“I had a new laundry number, and it was 385,” said Sister Phyllis Gronotte, a founding member of Our Lady of Grace Monastery who became a Benedictine in Ferdinand. “We were getting close to 400. There just wasn’t room for that many people.”

After consulting with Archabbess Schulte, the decision was made to establish a community of Benedicitines that would manage a home for the aged in Beech Grove. Construction began on a piece of property that the archdiocese owned and had given to the sisters. Little by little, the Ferdinand sisters began coming to Beech Grove.

“We had sort of a pioneer spirit. You know you moved up here, and you worked together, and you got things done,” said Sister Phyllis. “It was exciting just to be part of something that was beginning.”

The home for the aged was named St. Paul Hermitage in honor of Archabbess Schulte’s patron saint, Paul the Hermit. The sisters also built a secondary school for young women attached to the monastery. Our Lady of Grace Academy, a boarding high school for girls, opened in 1956. In addition to the Hermitage and the academy, the sisters have continued various ministries throughout the Indianapolis metropolitan area.

“We have a variety of works because we weren’t founded for a particular work,” said Sister Juliann. “Our ministries are varied. There are people in schools and parishes, health care—librarians, pharmacists.”

In 1978, Our Lady of Grace Academy closed after 22 years of operation because of declining enrollment. The building was transformed into the Benedict Inn Retreat & Conference Center, which holds retreats and religious education programs year-round and continues to be a large ministry of the sisters.

Throughout its many ministries and activities, the purpose of the Benedictines is clear as the words carved on the entrance of the monastery: Seek God. Our Lady of Grace Monastery. It’s also an environment where visitors are welcomed with Benedictine hospitality by the sisters.

“Hospitality, that’s a very important Benedictine value, the way we share God’s love with others, the way that we offer hospitality to others,” said Sister Anne. “We offer space for them to come where they can feel connected to God. Our hospitality to each other is really that mutual love that allows that presence of Jesus to be apparent among us. And as we live that, people can feel that when they come in.”

(For more information about the Sisters of St. Benedict at Our Lady of Grace Monastery visit www.benedictine.com.)

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This photograph, circa 1963-64, shows the first group of Benedictine sisters who came from Ferdinand, Ind., to Beech Grove, and the first formation class that entered in Our Lady of Grace Monastery in Beech Grove. The sisters in formation are seated in the front row. (Submitted photos)

Fundraisers to benefit foundation that supports children who have lost a parent

The family of Nathan Trapuzzano has established The Nathan Trapuzzano Memorial Foundation to honor the life of the 18-year-old newlywed father-to-be who was murdered on April 1, 2014, near his home in Indianapolis.

The foundation’s purpose is to provide financial relief and support to children who have lost a parent.

Two fundraisers in May in central Indiana will benefit the new foundation.

The second annual NateWalk Benefit Ride will begin at 10 a.m. on May 16 at Heavy’s Bar & Grill in Camby and kickstands up at noon. On May 17, NateWalk is scheduled to start at 1 p.m. at Edna Balz Lacy Park in Indianapolis. Activities will include a memorial walk, auction, 50/50 raffle, food, vendors, live music and games.

Online registration and donation forms are available at www.thenathanfoundation.org/get-involved.html.
Graduations set for 12 Catholic high schools in archdiocese

By John Shaughnessy

As another school year comes to a close, 1,351 students are preparing to graduate this spring at Catholic high schools across the archdiocese.

For the graduates and their families, it’s a time to look back and forward with a mixture of pride, relief, nostalgia and celebration.

“The high school experience in our Catholic schools reaches far beyond course completion and mere attendance,” Fleming says. “In our Catholic schools, students actively participate in a faith-filled journey that prepares them for college, career and heaven.

“With a significant focus on living the Gospel of Jesus Christ every day, our students are encouraged to develop a personal relationship with God through prayer, sacred Scripture and the community, and seeking to encounter the Lord in all aspects of their lives.”

It’s also a time to appreciate the immense dedication of our teachers, and the positive attitude and school leaders that students witness that prepares them for college, career and heaven.

Here is a listing—related information for the 12 Catholic high schools—of benefactors, and the positive attitude and school leaders that students witness that prepares them for college, career and heaven.

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Bishop Chatard High School
Indianapolis has a graduating class of 165 seniors.

• The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 6:30 p.m. on May 21 at the school.

• The graduation ceremony will be at 6:30 p.m. on May 22 at the school.

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Cathedral High School in Indianapolis has a graduating class of 96 seniors.

• The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 10 a.m. on May 16 at the school.

• The graduation ceremony will be at 1 p.m. on May 17 at Chaminade College Hall at Butler University in Indianapolis.

• There are six class valedictorians:
  - Ryelle Capps, the daughter of Dinesh and Christella Castellino.
  - Nelson Conth is the son of the swarthy, talented, athletic, and a role model for the students themselves.
  - Maria Elena Kempf is the daughter of George and Anna Kempf of St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis.
  - Joseph LaMagia is the son of Joseph and Mary LaMagia of Holy Spirit Parish in Indianapolis.
  - Natalie Jacobson is the daughter of Jon Jacobson and Julie Carpenter of Holy Spirit Parish in Fishers.
  - In the LaFayette Diocese.

• Mary Ellen Kempf is the daughter of George and Anna Kempf of St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis.

• There are four class salutatorians:
  - Andrea Atorve is the daughter of Charles and Horatene Atorve of Holy Spirit Parish in Fishers.
  - In the LaFayette Diocese.

• Madison Dolan is the daughter of Mark and Denise Dolan of St. Michael Parish in Greenwood.

• Kevin and Veronica Kelly.

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Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School in Indianapolis has a graduating class of 179 seniors.

• The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 10:30 a.m. on May 31 at the school.

• The graduation ceremony will be at 4 p.m. on May 31 at Clovers Memorial Hall at Butler University in Indianapolis.

• The archbishop will be represented at the graduation by Msgr. McCoy, assistant superintendent of Catholic schools.

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Cathedral High School in Indianapolis has a graduating class of 123 seniors.

• The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 7 p.m. on May 28 at St. Malachi Church in Brownsburg.

• The graduation ceremony will be at 7 p.m. on May 29 at the school.

• The class valedictorian is Luke Schepers, the son of Mark and Vicki Schepers of St. Malachi Parish in Brownsburg.

• The salutatorian is AnnieLease Legge, the daughter of Michael and Christina Legge of St. Christopher Parish in Indianapolis.

• The archbishop will be represented at the graduation by Fleming.

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Cathedral High School in Indianapolis has a graduating class of 96 seniors.

• The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 7 p.m. on May 21 at Holy Spirit Church in Indianapolis.

• The graduation ceremony will be at 7 p.m. on May 22 at the school.

• The class valedictorians are Robert Leszekiewicz, the son of Bobby and Beth Leszekiewicz of St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower) Parish in Indianapolis.

• The class salutatorians are Cassandra Rorer, the daughter of Marla and Luke Rorer of Sacred Heart Parish in Indianapolis.

• The archbishop will be represented at the graduation by Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin.

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

• The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 5:45 p.m. on May 21 at Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Church in Indianapolis.

• The graduation ceremony will be immediately after the Baccalaureate Mass in the church.

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Oldenburg Academy of the Immaculate Conception in Oldenburg has a graduating class of 49 seniors.

• The graduation ceremony will be at 1 p.m. on July 7 at the Church of the Sisters of St. Francis in Oldenburg.

• Three students are in contention for valedictorian and salutatorian honors as the school year draws to a close.

• Luke Wukusick is the son of Pete and Marleena Wukusick.

• Brooke Stumpf is the daughter of Patrick and Mary Wukusick of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Oldenburg.

• Matthew Hurn is the son of Robert and Autumn Hurn of St. Louis Parish in Batesville.

• The archdiocese will be represented by McCoy during a Senior Mass and Awards Day luncheon at the school on May 15.

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Our Lady of Providence Jr/Sr. High School in Clarksville has a graduating class of 113 seniors.

• The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 7 p.m. on May 29 at St. Mary-of-the-Knobs Church in Floyd County.

• The graduation ceremony will begin at 5 p.m. on May 31 at the school.

• The class valedictorian is Ryan Mueller, the son of Patrick and Mary Mueller of St. Anthony of Padua Parish in

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Msgr. John M. Wright, priest who served as Navy chaplain for 30 years, dies

By Sean Gallagher

Msgr. John M. Wright, a retired priest of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and U.S. Navy chaplain, died on April 11 at his home at Nazareth House, a Catholic retirement facility in Indianapolis. Msgr. Wright was baptized the following year during the Archabbey Church of Our Lady of Einsiedeln in Switzerland.

During his 30 years in the Navy, he served in Vietnam, on a merchant ship in the Mediterranean Sea, and at Navy installations in Arthington, Va., Honolulu, Norfolk, Va., and Orlando, Fl.

In 1967, Msgr. Wright began his service as a chaplain in the U.S. Navy.

While he was a chaplain, he ministered to hundreds of marines, many of whom were wounded, and it increased my faith. I knew that what I was doing was very important,” Msgr. Wright said.

After his father died unexpectedly of a heart attack at age 71, Msgr. Wright received into the full communion of the Church in 1948 at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Indianapolis. Msgr. Wright was baptised the following year on Dec. 1, 1948, at the Church of the Incarnation in Indianapolis.

“After two years at Cathedral High School in Indianapolis, Msgr. Wright became a seminarian for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and entered the formation at the seminary of St. Meinrad High School in St. Meinrad,” Msgr. Wright said.

He graduated from the former Saint Meinrad College in St. Meinrad in 1958, and completed his priestly formation at the Theological College of the Catholic University of America in Washington. He was ordained a priest by Archbishop Joseph D. Schulte on May 6, 1962, at the Archdiocese of Our Lady of Emissinled in St. Meinrad.

He celebrated his first Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Church on May 13, 1962.

Msgr. Wright’s first pastoral assignment was as assistant pastor of St. Paul Church and as a teacher at Bishop Chatard High School, both in Indianapolis, serving at both from 1962-65. He then served as assistant pastor of Holy Spirit Parish, serving at Father Thomas Seccina Memorial High School, both in Indianapolis, from 1965-67.

In 1967, Msgr. Wright began his service as a chaplain in the U.S. Navy.

During his 30 years in the Navy, he served on a merchant ship in the Mediterranean Sea, and at Navy installations in Arthington, Va., Honolulu, Norfolk, Va., and Orlando, Fl.

In 1967, Msgr. John Paul II named Msgr. Wright a prelate of honor, which was ritually conferred upon him on Feb. 19, 1995, at S.S. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis.

After retiring from the Navy in 1997, Msgr. Wright settled in San Diego where he provided pastoral care and sacramental assistance at parishes in the San Diego Diocese.

Surviving is Msgr. Wright’s sister, Josephine Althea of Highland Ranch, Calif.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202; or the San Diego Diocese, P.O. Box 85728, San Diego, CA 92186-5728; Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology, 200 Hill Drive, St. Meinrad, IN 47777; and his niece and nephew, 4764 Copeland Circle, Unit 102, Highland Ranch, CA 90126.

Scott Hoyland, class co-sALUTATORIAN, is pictured with school president Joan Hurley after receiving his diploma at Our Lady of Providence Jr/Sr. High School in Clarksville on June 1, 2014. (Photo by Steve Koepfer)
May we never lose hope

On April 30, Pope Francis “tweeted” a simple message: “Amid so many problems, even grave, may we not lose hope in the infinite mercy of God.” This is a powerful message. It affirms the reality of evil in the world, and the grave sinfulness that distorts God’s plan for humanity and for creation itself. But it also reminds us that no matter how great the sin, God’s mercy is infinitely greater.

The beheading and massacre of Christians that the world has witnessed at the hands of ISIS is not a new phenomenon. Brutal martyrdom is a constant 2,000 years of Christian history. Think of St. Jean de Brebeuf and the other Jesuits missionaries who preached the Gospel to native peoples in Canada in the 17th century. Their stories are horrifying but at the same time hopeful.

As described in Magnificent magazine in an article on April 23, “In 1649, the warlike Iroquois tribe captured Father Jean de Brébeuf, who had been numbered among the soldiers of the U.S. Army. One of his staff members had been accused of having previously belonged to a legal organization with communist ties. After McCarthy doggedly pursued his questioning, Welch replied in frustration, ‘Let us not assassinate this lad further. Senator, you’ve done enough. Have you no sense of decency, sir? At long last, have you no sense of decency?’ That question—‘Have you no sense of decency, sir?’—seemed to open the eyes of the general public to see that, in McCarthy, the emperor had no clothes. People who had earlier bought into the ‘red scare’ now saw McCarthy’s hearings for what they really were, a demagogic attempt to ruin people’s reputations for his own political gain. Welch’s role in McCarthy’s quick downfall came to mind recently when I read a column by Damon Linker in The Week regarding the way in which many advocates of redefining marriage to include couples of the same sex seek to demonize their opponents and shun them from society.

Linker, who supports redefining marriage, spent his commentary on the reaction to a Washington Post article about Ryan Anderson, a prominent defender of marriage defined exclusively as between one man and one woman. Anderson is an alumnus of a Quaker elementary and high school in Pennsylvania, a fact which was highlighted in the article.

Matthew Micicche, the head of the school, posted a link to the article on the school’s Facebook page to highlight the accomplishments of one of its graduates. Within a day, however, the link was taken down after many people connected to the school had vociferously expressed the offense they had taken simply because of the posting of the link. Micicche later acknowledged in another Facebook post, which was itself later deleted but which Anderson later posted elsewhere—that simply linking to an article about Anderson and his marriage advocacy was wholly unacceptable.

Linker argued in his column that it is one thing to reject long-held religious marriage, but that “relegating them to the category of the least justifiable prejudice is something else entirely.” It’s reckless to break so quickly with the past and jump so easily to moral condemnation.

Linker also asked if those who seek to have marriage redefined “really want to win by stamping out dissent and driving into the ground every person who holds a contrary position? Apparently many of them do.

Now it’ll be upfront and say that I believe with the Church that marriage is of the dying. I will stand between my Father and the dying person not as a just judge but as a merciful Savior” (#1541). “At the hour of their death, I defend as my own glory every soul that will say the chaplet, or others say it for the dying person, the pardon is the same” (811).

Our Lord told St. Faustina to “speak the truth, even if it means to let all mankind recognize my unfathomable mercy. It is a sign of the end times; after it will come the day of justice. While there is still time, let them have recourse to the font of mercy” (#848).

Divine mercy is about the many graces that our Lord is giving us in this time of human history. We need to utilize these graces to the fullest extent.

Let’s consider the graces of Divine Mercy to fullest extent, reader says

I would like to make some comments on Divine Mercy.

According to the Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska, our Lord told St. Faustina, “I desire that the first Sunday after Easter be the Feast of Mercy. Tell the whole world of my great mercy; that whoever approaches the fount of life on this day will be granted complete remission of sins and punishment” (#290-300). Our Lord is granting us many great graces with his Divine Mercy.

Our Lord gave St. Faustina the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. He states that “when they say the chaplet in the presence of God our Father, and the angelic hosts, and the Mother of God and all the heavenly choirs, and in the presence of the good, blessed dead, the powers of hell will tremble at hearing the repetition of the chaplet.”

Like pope, leaders must demonstrate moral courage in fight against evil

In the May 1 issue of The Criterion, Editorial Emeritus John F. Fink wrote in the editorial about Pope Francis’ speaking out and recognizing the mass murder of Armenian Christians by Ottoman Turks which started 100 years ago this April.

This was the first genocide of the 20th century, which was followed by many more leading to the deaths of tens of millions of innocents. Pope Francis has shown a courage that is lacking in our presidents. Both President Barack H. Obama and President George W. Bush have failed to recognize the Armenian slaughter as genocide, despite both men referring to it as such when running for office. The reason is thought to be strategic to avoid “offending” Turkey which was a major supplier of oil and gas to the US. The US needed Turkey’s cooperation to move beyond our “comfort zones” toward the Middle East in recent days, every problem, even grave, may we not lose hope in the infinite mercy of God.

May we never lose hope
La alegría pasccual emana del amor

"As the Father loves me, so also love you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete. This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

You are my friends if you do what I command you" (Jn 15:9-10).

The key to love is self-sacrifice, surrendering my will to the will of God. That's why Jesus tells us, "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." (Jn 15:13). The ultimate form of sacrificial love is to surrender our very lives for the lives of others. "This I command you," the Lord tells all who would follow him, "love one another" (Jn 15:17).

There are paradoxes here. Joy comes from sacrifice. Love results from keeping God's commandments, obeying his laws. This is not our contemporary point of view. We prefer to think that joy comes from the satisfaction of human desires. And we seek love by casting off all restraints, and embracing the freedom to do as we please. This is not the way to "complete joy," or to an authentic experience of love. In fact, self-centeredness, our natural inclination to pursue those things that we both need and want, can only take us so far. Complete happiness must come from transcending our own needs and desires in order to respond to the needs of others.

Jesus Francis tells us this moving beyond our comfort zone, the borders of self-interest, to reach "the peripheries," or the margins, of human society. Jesus teaches us by his words and his example that only those who are able to love in selfless and courageous ways can experience true joy. All during the Easter season, we proclaim our joy. This is what the resurrection of Jesus is all about. By keeping his father's commandment, the Son of God showed us the way to "lay down one's life for one's friends." In other words, he showed us how to willingly sacrifice our own needs and wants for the good of others and, so, make our joy complete.

He didn't say it would be easy—or painless—but he promised that if we follow him, we will find the satisfaction of our deepest hopes and desires. We will "remain in [his] love," which means we will become one with God, the source of all love and joy.

What does this teaching mean for us, practically speaking? Quite simply, it means that looking out for number one, protecting our turf, and pursuing our own interests at the expense of others, is a dead end. That road leads to loneliness, self-pity and resentment. It does not lead to joy. Or genuine love.

The road to joy is the one that requires us to put God first, and to sacrifice even legitimate desires for the good of others. This is the road followed by Jesus himself, by his Blessed Mother and by all the saints.

It's a very wide and diverse road (even if it is sometimes described as "the narrow way") because every person who follows this way does so according to his or her own gifts and historical circumstances. The way St. Alphonsus Liguori denied himself in order to follow Jesus was different from the path taken by many other saints, but each found joy by exchanging self-interest for the good of others.

"No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." (Jn 15:13). Pope Francis frequently reminds us that there are countless saints and martyrs throughout history, and even today, who have accepted this teaching as the answer to all our searching for the meaning of life.

This Easter season, let’s find ways not only to deny our own interests out of love for God and our neighbor. Let’s find joy beyond our comfort zones, as Jesus did, "in the peripheries." 

Traducido por: Daniela Guanipa
May 8
Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish, Priests Hall, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis.
Pro-life ministry and the sanctity of Life
Committee of St. John the Evangelist Parish, Pro-life film, “Reprostitution.” 6:30-8:30 p.m.; admission is free, simple support will be accepted. Registration: 317-408-0526 or houston@rrlindy.net.

May 9
St. Luke the Evangelist Church, 7575 Holiday Drive, Indianapolis
Indianapolis Regional Conference of Priests of Men (MMP), Mass noon, Cenacle following Mass. Father Charles Becker presiding, bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Information: 317-709-6095.

SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi Church, 3354 W. 30th St., Indianapolis.
Mass in French, 1 p.m.; information: ucafadi2014@gmail.com or 317-523-4195.

St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower Church), 4720 E. 13th St., Indianapolis. Class of ’63 monthly gathering, 6 p.m. Mass, optional dinner afterward. Information: 317-406-6996.

May 10
St. Michael the Archangel Church, 3334 W. 30th St., Indianapolis
Mass, 10 a.m., $10 students and younger free. Advance tickets available by calling Sodexo at 812-535-4285 or at the Sisters of Providence’s Providence Lung Gift store. Information: 812-535-4285 or ProcCenter!

May 12
St. Special Needs. 51 N. 17th Ave., Beech Grove. Are Maria Guild, meeting, 12:30 p.m. Information: 317-887-7625 or vigilims@indomail.com.

Plum Creek Golf Club, 19261 W. 146th St., Carmel. Ind. (Diocese of Lafayette) Catholic Radio, golf outing, $125 per person or $450 foursome. Information: 317-775-6600 or CatholicRadioIndy.com.

May 13
St. Sisters of St. Francis, 22143 Mass St., Oldenburg.
Our Lady of Fatima Shrine, May devotions, 6:30 p.m. Information: 812-933-6460.

Bridgewater Club, 3355 E. 161st St., St. Elizabethtown Parish, Carmel. (Diocese of Lafayette) Women’s Club, spring luncheon and style show, “We Are Looking Good This Spring,” 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Information: 813-778-1600 or CatholicRadioIndy.com.

May 14-16
St. Jude, 125 E. Broadway St., Shelbyville
Parish festival, food vendors, rides, children’s games, beer/wine tent, raffles for cash prizes and gift cards. Thurs. 5-10 p.m.; with Mass at 5 p.m. and fish fry at 6 p.m.; Fri. 5-11 p.m. with pork chop dinner at 6 p.m.; Sat. 12:30-10 p.m. with pulled pork barbecue dinner after 4 p.m. Mass. Information: 812-544-5108.

May 15
Northside Knights of Columbus Hall, 2200 E.
71st St., Indianapolis.

VIPS

But and Mary (Anst) Galbo, members of Holy Spirit Parish in Indianapolis, will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary on May 9.
They were married on May 9, 1945, at Holy Cross Church in Indianapolis.
They are the parents of four children: Mary Margaret Evans, Janie Landon, Jim and Joe Galbo. They also have seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.
The couple will renew their wedding vows on June 20, during the wedding of their youngest granddaughter at Holy Cross Church in Indianapolis.

Former St. Mary Academy invites faculty and alumnae to all-class reunion on June 13
The St. Mary Academy Alumnae Association is planning an all-class reunion for faculty and alumnae to be held at The Arrium, 3143 E. Thompson Road, in Indianapolis on June 13.
Registration begins at 11 a.m., followed by lunch at 12:30 p.m.
For any faculty or alumna who have not received a save-the-date card and/or an invitation and would like more information, please contact Maggie (Pella) Zapien at 317-755-7276 or by e-mail at mmzapfe@gmail.com, or Alice (Brackney) Mader at alicedenman448@yahoo.com.

Saint Mary-of-the-Woods offers Taizé prayer service on May 22
A brunch for students of the former St. Agnes Academy in Indianapolis— an all-women college preparatory high school located downtown Indianapolis until it merged with Ladyschool in 1965—will be held at the Riviera Club, 5640 N. Illinois St., in Indianapolis at noon on June 17.
The brunch will be preceded by Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St., in Indianapolis at 10:30 a.m.
Every year, the brunch honors graduating classes of distinction.
For this year’s brunch, the honored classes are 1945, 1955 and 1965.
Any attendees of St. Agnes, even those who are not a St. Agnes graduate, are welcome. Bring your yearbooks, class pictures and other memorabilia to share. The cost is $20 per person. Reservations are required, and would be appreciated at least five days prior to the event. Send a check, including maiden name and graduation year, to Pat Douglass, 7550 N. Pennsylvania Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46240.
For more information, call Pat at 317-340-7550, or send an e-mail to padouglass@padlaw.net.

Retreats and Programs
(Four complete list of retreats as reported in The Criterion, visit www.thecriterion.org/calendar.)

May 9
Pat Douglass, 7550 N. Pennsylvania Ave., Indianapolis.
Retreats and Programs— The Criterion, 307-727-8400. Please contact Maggie (Pella) Zapien at 317-755-7276 or by e-mail at mmzapfe@gmail.com, or Alice (Brackney) Mader at alicedenman448@yahoo.com.

May 22
A hospitality room will be available for parents. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and activities begin at 7 p.m. Desserts will be provided.

May 23
Catholic Business Exchange, 317-851-8344 or ksahm@archindy.org.

May 24
Knights of Columbus, 415 E. South St., Shelbyville
Fried chicken dinner, includes mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, bread, dessert and drink. 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., $10, meal available for eat-in and carry-out. Information: 317-398-9914.

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The prayer is quiet and reflective, peaceful and joyful. The prayer space is lit by candlelight. The services are held on the second Tuesday of each month.
The prayer service is free, but donations are accepted. Each month, donations gathered during the Taizé service are given to various organizations. The donations gathered for May will go to the Happiness Bag, a non-profit United Way agency that offers recreational and educational opportunities for children and adults with mental and/or physical disabilities.
For more information, call 812-535-2525 or log on to TaizeProvCenter.org.

Fundraisers for Life
In this April 9 photo, members of Roncalli High School’s Pro-Life Club and school principal Chuck Weisenbach present a check for $12,000 to Priscilla Kamrath, director of community relations for St. Elizabeth Coleman Pregnancy and Adoption Services in Indianapolis. The students and faculty of the south side Indianapolis archdiocesan high school raised the funds during their Lenten Almsgiving Project, a seniors versus Faculty basketball game, and the math department’s sale of Pi Day T-shirts. Pictured in this photo are junior Haley Petier, left; junior Liam Hosty; Chuck Weisenbach; Priscilla Kamrath; sophomores bicla Atch; sophomores Courtney Smith; and moderator of the Pro-Life Club Scott Boyle. (Submitted photo by Tony Marks)
Mideast’s future depends on dialogue, development, Vatican official says

OXFORD, England (CNS)—As the European Union (EU) announced tough measures to curb the flow of migrants and refugees across the Mediterranean Sea, Catholic aid groups urged more humanitarian response.

“We’re disappointed by the EU’s proposals—although changes have been promised to stop people dying on their journey, these policies are insufficient,” said Karolina Babicka, an advocacy officer with Caritas Europe. “Catholic agencies like ours have worried the EU for years about this crisis, but its advocacy partners haven’t responded seriously.”

She told Catholic News Service that EU governments were “at least partly responsible” for conditions in Libya and other countries, because of past interventions, and should be doing more to deter refugee flights by promoting stable development in their countries.

On April 23, the European Union announced measures to deter boat refugees. It said it would strengthen sea patrols by its Frontex border agency and destroy human traffickers’ boats, as well as increase the speed at which it processed asylum applications. It also announced a pilot project on migrant resettlement.

But Archbishop Silvano Tomasi, the Vatican’s representative at the United Nations in Geneva, said priority should be given to “rescuing young human life,” rather than “economic questions or immediate state interests.”

“Europe needs to return to normal methods of control,” Archbishop Tomasi was quoted as saying by France’s Catholic La Croix on April 21. “The European Council doesn’t deal with this problem in a radically new way, there’ll be a risk of merely leaving things as they are.”

In addition to needing more diplomatic efforts and development, more also must be done to stop the traffic in human beings, he said.

The region’s Christians, who are experiencing increasing hardship and persecution in the area, are an important presence in the Middle East and Central Asia. “From this perspective, the role of the family and laypeople in general is very important,” he said, emphasizing that greater formation in Church teaching is needed so they can “take on responsibilities in the fields of politics and economics.”

While the lay faithful in every nation must be active in their communities and government, the archbishop said, the very difficult situation in the Middle East means there must be “seen as a unique vocation.”

This is why Christians “must be encouraged to stay,” and the Church must offer all kinds of support, including spiritual and economic.

Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the U.S. bishops’ relief and development agency, has been working to support the Catholic Church in the Middle East so it can improve and expand the services it offers those fleeing the violence and insecurity in Syria, Iraq and elsewhere.

We support the Church and its institutions, like schools and clinics, so they can play a bigger role in society,” and help rebuild their country and assist those in need, said Kevin Hartigan, CRS regional director for the Middle East and Central Asia.

It is important that people not see Christians as helpless victims; “the Church is not shuffled up in a corner,” hiding in fear of it courageously present and offers an enormous amount of assistance considering its small size, he told Catholic News Service by phone from Baltimore on April 29.

The Church “has always played a huge role, especially in civic leadership,” education and health care, and now, during a time of such great need, it has been taking the lead and proving “its continued relevance,” he said.

The solidarity between communities is very strong, there is a lot of mutual support and protection, especially between displaced Christians and the Yazidi religious minority in northern Iraq, for example, he said.
Ghost of Service honorees help ‘transform the world’

continued from page 1

SERVICE

Page 8

three sisters “in the right way.”

Doyle to “talk about the role faith

related to half of them.”

who is a member of Our Lady of

Charities Indianapolis.

a moment when Reitz poked fun

difference without two major realities.

the staff and volunteers of Catholic Charities Indianapolis,

And having the generosity

they serve.

And having the generosity

of people

we hear the stories of people

they serve.

Rick Hackelmeier, exemplified ‘the courage to venture.’

It’s a spirit that continues to overflow from Sister Norma

from being able to do that.”

In response, Doyle looked at

Hempstead, N.Y. It’s his way of giving back.

Bishop said the agency’s staff members and

increase the state’s minimum wage of $7.25 an hour.

Theresa Hackelmeier, exemplified ‘the courage to venture.’

members and services that develop the full potential of individuals

in interfaith efforts to improve the lives of

He sold his business and its real estate to buy a 50-year-old house.

Throne, He’s like the boss. I

of building a home.

the theme of this year’s Spirit of Service Awards Dinner, “Changing

Lives, Influencing the Future.” Reitz asked Doyle, “Who has

changed your life and influenced you?”

“Your faith strengthens my

‘Your faith strengthens my

the parish council, and the executive director of the parish’s

Spirit of Service monochrome helps transform the world

By John Schoffness

Reflecting on a year when 62,000 people were helped by the staff and volunteers of Catholic Charities Indianapolis.

David Bethuram said the agency couldn’t begin to make a difference without two major realities.

和服务, helped at the school’s day care center, and

able to do that.”

Reitz followed with another question that was connected to the theme of this year’s Spirit of Service Awards Dinner, “Changing Lives, Influencing the Future.” Reitz asked Doyle, “Who has changed your life and influenced you?”

“Your faith strengthens my

We seem to follow Jesus, not just admire him, because

He has served on the inclusiveness committee and

He Hawkins has followed that example with amazing dedication, devotion and service.

At 13, his life changed when his orthopedic doctor

Since he was born, 18-year-old Zach Smith has been

challenged by a physical condition that has made him rely

on one leg, he is able to walk and run.

That idea became a non-profit organization called

of property and buildings.

in the supermarket.

At 13, his life changed when his orthopedic doctor

That focus on making a difference is evident in the

four individuals who received this year’s Spirit of Service Award during the dinner.

Consider the young life of Zach Smith, who was honored with his Spirit of Service Award.

A ‘sense of peace and fulfillment’

Sacred Sisters of Nazareth.

to Casie Williford, his college

of his football career. (Photo by Rich Clark)

rehabbed. Another four houses are being rehabbed.

She’s followed that path in her own life. Starting in

35, she taught for three years at St. Mary School in North Vernon. From 1965 until 1974, she served at Marian

The archbishop referred to the pastoral letter that the Catholic bishops of the five dioceses of Indiana published earlier this year, “Poverty at the Crossroads: The Church’s Response to Poverty in Indiana.”

“In the first part of the pastoral letter, what we’re inviting people
to do, is to come to the ’teach them the right way’ section of this question for Doyle. ‘How do you know about you, but one thing that

gets me nervous when I read the Gospel is that Jesus isn’t going out

to be with the great generosity of our

pastoral letter as “the beginning

out to people who feel they have

no hope, that they’re feeling left

behind, that there’s no way out.”

The archbishop views the pastoral letter “as the beginning of a

service to others.”

I’ve always equated my faith being one of service to others.”

‘I just like helping people’

Steve Rasmussen also knows what it means to give his heart to helping others.

For 37 years, he dedicated his life to serving others as an Indianapolis firefighter. The Spirit of Service Award recipient

2014 as a game-show host.” Reitz asked Doyle a series of serious and often thought-provoking questions about his life, his faith and his football career. (Photo by Rich Clark)

It’s a spirit that continues to overflow from Sister Norma

Sarah Rasmussen, who tracked the tracking the Rasmussens’ work with the homeless, with Katie and her grandmother.

Joel Reitz shared a human moment during the Spirit of Service Awards Dinner on April 30 in Indianapolis.

Rick Hackelmeier, exemplified ‘the courage to venture.’

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What was in the news on May 7, 1965? Protests against a downtown Indianapolis highway, and accusations of immorality among Selma protesters

By Brandon A. Evans

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

Here are some of the items found in the May 7, 1965, issue of The Criterion:

• Pope Paul urges prayer for world peace
• Freedom statement seen brotherhood aid
• United Nations office opened by NCWC
• Easter a week late
• 187 Catholics win Merit scholarships
• Papal diplomat gets cease fire in Latin nation

• ACCW parley features vital issues, elections
• Radio-TV Foundation launched
• 'She's not the type'
• Pope adds six to Bible Commission
• Vatican, World Council name dialogue members
• St. Meinrad monks to observe jubilees
• United Nations office opened by NCWC
• Easter a week late
• 187 Catholics win Merit scholarships
• Papal diplomat gets cease fire in Latin nation

The archdiocese will be represented at the graduation by Annette “Mickey” Lentz, chancellor.

St. Joseph Sister Monique Niraula joins two other women in packing relief material for earthquake victims at Assumption Catholic Church in Lalitpur, Nepal, on May 1. (CNS photo/Atik Ahkoo) "What was in the news on May 7, 1965? Protests against a downtown Indianapolis highway, and accusations of immorality among Selma protesters"
Generations of love at heart of families’ stories

Phyllis Fieber says she has never shied away from asking God for special requests in her life.

And every once in a while, she believes that God blesses her with a wonderful gift she didn’t request.

That was her belief on Feb. 15 when she found one envelope from a box of 350 empty ones—that had a Valentine for me from my husband, on the day after Valentine’s Day. Yes, I did thank God. And I did cry. I think of my husband every day."

Thoughts of love, faith and a father

The image of an outstretched hand from one person to another can evoke different feelings and responses.

For Mary Jean Wethington, that image always leads to intertwined thoughts of love, faith and her father, William Booble.

“I am 69 years old, and I still call him Daddy,” says Wethington, a member of All Saints Parish in Dearborn County. "I always remark that I learned the Catholic faith knowing between my parents. But every time we were seated during Mass, Daddy would pause for a moment, then determinedly stretch out his huge right hand into my lap and wait for me to place my little girl’s hand into his."

"The warmth of love by Daddy was consistently conveyed as my tiny child’s hand—nestled within my father’s strong hand—soaked up the love every time we, as the gathered assembly, sat down at Mass.”

Wethington also remembers how her parents’ faith reached another level after Vatican II.

"Everything changed for both my parents at age 70,” she recalls. "Daddy now held in both hands a missalette and watched with great pride as Momma assumed her new place in the sanctuary as a lector. Then, as I gazed at him leaving our pew, Daddy reverently took his place, with folded hands, as an extraordinary "

Phyllis Fieber

"I pulled the one envelope—from a box of 350 empty ones—that had a Valentine for me from my husband, on the day after Valentine’s Day. Yes, I did thank God. And I did cry. I think of my husband every day."

—Phyllis Fieber

By John Shaughnessy

Joseph and Judy Hagedorn
dughter Theresa.

"She was having severe abdominal pain," her father says. “All the high-tech medical procedures found nothing. A senior surgeon at Jasper Memorial Hospital took a look at the results and ordered surgery. He found a twisted gut, with gangrene, ready to burst. He removed about 10 to 12 inches of intestines. After her recovery, the surgeon told Theresa, “You were saved by the grace of God.”

Today, she is healthy, feisty and enjoying her granddaughter.”

"Through all those tests, Hagedorn says he has always relied on the Serenity Prayer, asking God to give him “the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference.”

"I also believe,” he says, “that God gives meaning and purpose to human life.”

(Has faith made a difference in your family’s life? Has it deepened your relationships as a parent, a grandparent, a sibling, a son or a daughter? Do you have rituals and experiences of faith that have helped to make your family more Christ-centered? If so, we’d like to hear about it. Please send your responses and your stories to assistant editor John Shaughnessy by e-mail at js@archindy.org or by mail in care of The Criterion, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202. Please include your parish and a daytime phone number where you can be reached.)

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Faith

May is a month to honor Mary and all women in the Church

By Daniel S. Mulhall

A few years ago, a survey was conducted around the world of parents of young children. The survey asked these parents what qualities they would like their children to have when they grew up.

The researchers were surprised to learn that in every country and culture, parents wanted their children to grow up having the same types of positive qualities: holiness, integrity, courage, religiosity and the like.

As the researchers reported, no parent said they wanted their children to be liars or cheats. The researchers did find wide divergence over what methods parents would use to raise their children to have the qualities they named.

What this research illustrates is that people everywhere have an ideal for what makes a fully authentic human being. Similarly, if you ask people what qualities they love about their mothers or fathers, you would probably generate answers suggesting the ideal mother or father: kind, generous, encouraging, strict, etc. We have an ideal in mind when we speak of a good mother or father, and all parents are judged against that ideal.

Mary, the mother of Jesus, has been recognized and honored from the very beginning. Mary is the role model for every woman, especially when it comes to the joyful news of the Gospel.

In the Church, Mary's role as the Mother of God through women.

Pope Francis continues to speak of the important role that all women have, especially when it comes to the joyful news of the Gospel. "A world where women are not in the forefront of efforts to honor her, might we have missed an important lesson by not looking at her as a perfect in the process. But in these efforts to honor her above all other women, making her our ideal, we have seen that the Church offers Mary as Christ's first disciple or as the image of the perfect disciple, maybe it would help if we saw those titles through the lens of ordinary women. Mary's life was lived by accepting the will of God and the mystery that God had in mind for her.

As Pope Francis recently said, Mary's faith was special because she lived it out every day. She engaged in conversation continuously with God. She understood the world through the gift of the Holy Spirit. Mary's faith, Pope Francis said, was "nourished by her experience as a mother and by her close relationship with her son."

While emphasizing the special role Mary plays in the Church, Pope Francis continues to speak of the important role that all women have, especially when it comes to the joyful news of the Gospel. He said, "If we want to understand the world with different eyes, to feel the most creative, most patient, most tender things with the heart. It is through our mothers, the pope says, that most people are introduced to the faith. When we honor Mary throughout May, let's also honor the gifts that all women bring to the Church and how we come to know and experience the saving love of God through women.

Let us give thanks for everyone who says "yes" to God's invitation, for those who bring forth new life and especially for those who, like Mary, share the gift of faith with the rest of us.

(Daniel S. Mulhall is a catechist. He lives in Laurel, Maryland.)

Mary is a spiritual mother who tenderly cares for all the faithful

By Marge Fenelon

We remember our mothers because they gave us life. They nurtured us within their wombs, cared for us as infants and did what they could to get us to where we are now. Without them, many of us wouldn't be here.

As Catholics, however, we have another mother who is important. Mary isn't just a mother. She is the ideal mother, the ideal woman, but also the ideal for all the faithful to live up to when it comes to grace, obedience and strength.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says that "by her complete adherence to the Father's will, so has Son's redemptive work and to every prompting of the Holy Spirit, the Virgin Mary is the Church's model of faith and charity" (#967). It continues and says that she is a "pre-eminent and wholly unique member of the Church" (#967).

The catechism also says that "her role in relation to the Church and to all humanity goes still further," and we have to look at how "in a wholly singular way she cooperated by her obedience, faith, hope and burning charity in the Savior's work of restoring supernatural life to souls" (#968).

That's a lot to live up to.

But we have to keep ourselves from being kept from looking up to Mary because she sets forth an ideal that seems almost impossible to reach. Look at her unconditional yes to the archangel Gabriel, look at how she became truly, and in a very human way, everlastingly, our mother on a profoundly spiritual level. Can we act with trusting faith and perhaps accept God's will instead of being upset that our plans didn't work out the way we wanted? Can we give our entire being to another? Are we capable with the help of God's grace of helping to nourish the faith of others?

We can embark on Mary's human journey of giving our consent to accept God's will, to help nourish the faith of others and to serve, with charity, those who need of us.

The catechism continues: "This motherhood of Mary in the order of grace continues uninterruptedly from the consent which she24

Let us give thanks for everyone who says "yes" to God's invitation, for those who bring forth new life and especially for those who, like Mary, share the gift of faith with the rest of us.

(Marge Fenelon is a freelance writer from Milwaukee and author of Imitating Mary: Ten Marian Virtues for the Modern Mom.)

Members of the Cenacolo Community from St. Augustine, Fla., perform a living Stations of the Cross at the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Hanceville, Ala., on March 20. The Church teaches that Mary cares for all the faithful like she cared for Jesus her son. (CNS photo/Mary D. Dillard, One Voice)

Pope Francis touches the original statue of Our Lady of Fatima after entrusting the world to Mary at the end of a Mass in her honor in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican on Oct. 13, 2013. The pontiff has encouraged the faithful to be devoted to Mary and value her humanity. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)
**George Kane**

Early Church: The importance of St. Paul

(From the Editor Emeritus) 

A series about the early Church absolutely must include something about St. Paul because the Church as we know it wouldn’t exist if he hadn’t labored against such formidable and horrendous obstacles and sorrows, for 34 years, literally. St. Paul and not his successors revisited his churches in Greece and along the coast of Galatia. He returned to Jerusalem to take a collection for the Church there, but ended a life two years later. The Roman government then shipped him to Rome, where he spent another two years unknown and unregarded. When he was freed, he seemed to have gone to Spain but that mission would only succeed to have failed: he couldn’t speak the Latin that was spoken there; he spoke Greek. He revisited Spain on another occasion but returned to Rome during Nero’s persecution and was beheaded. Most readers really can’t appreciate the length of time it took for things to happen during Paul’s lifetime. Paul traveled great distances by foot when going west, or by ship when headed east because of prevailing winds. He couldn’t travel much of anywhere during winters, so he always had to plan where he would spend those months. He endured great hardships, some of which he wrote about: “Far more imprisonments, far worse beatings, and numerous floggings with death. Five times at the hands of the Jews I was flogged minus one. Three times, I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked. I passed a night and a day on the deep.” (2 Cor 11:22-25) Paul kept in touch with his communities and with his collaborators—Timothy, Tertullian, Aquila, Priscilla—by writing letters, sometimes from prison. Of course, those letters took months to travel because of the length of time it took for things to happen during Paul’s lifetime. Paul, although four of them may have been forged by his disciples, but we learn how constantly he had to defend his teachings about the way he was teaching the Church. His opponents were Jewish Christians who insisted, even after the Council of Jerusalem, that converts to Christianity had to be circumcised and observe Jewish laws. He could be tough at times, at one point even saying about those who insisted on circumcision, “Would that those who are upsetting you might also castrate themselves!” (Gal 5:12).

Ultimately, of course, his views prevailed, but it was a mighty struggle that we modern-day Christians need to understand and appreciate.

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**Cynthia Dewes**

Believe me, mothering is not an exact science

The first sentence I wrote many years ago for this column was, “Sentimental motherhood need not interest us.” It still doesn’t. Time and experience have proven the truth of that opinion to me.

By “sentimental motherhood” I mean that stereotypes sugary version of being a mother. The good mother is that kind of mother in ads or soap operas or novels who is too nice to be believable. She never lets you see her hair or embarrasses her kids. My question is, do such mothers really exist?

Maybe I’ve only seen bad examples of motherhood or something. My mom, whom I love fiercely to this day, was not your typical gentlewoman. She could lose her temper and swear once in a while, Connie was an elderly black woman wearing an old-fashioned duster coat. She had a kind of mother in ads or soap operas or novels who is too nice to be believable. She never lets you see her hair or embarrasses her kids. My question is, do such mothers really exist?

Maybe I’ve only seen bad examples of motherhood or something. My mom, whom I love fiercely to this day, was not your typical gentlewoman. She could lose her temper and swear once in a while. She knew exactly who my mom had been and the smile a big smile. We sang the song my mom had mentioned earlier, and the smile grew bigger. We sang it to the end and finished, she said quietly, “Before I met you, I thought nobody cared about me...” It feels so good to know that somebody cares.”

When God gave that amazingly accurate image of Connie and song to my mom, he didn’t do it to advance some big important project that would change things for the better. My mom was just doing her job—letting poetry in. She was just a young mother job description would say. The day I won the prize of a King Kong statue came in handy when I was trying to win for a tug at a party they held at Purdue. According to sentimental motherhood, I’ve probably done it all wrong. But whatever we do, if we love our kids and let them know it, they probably won’t hold anything against us!

(Cynthia Dewes, a member of St. Paul the Apostle Parish in Greencastle, is a regular columnist for The Criterion.)

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**George Kane**

Seeing how God never tires of finding out to us

Every day before the missionaries go out, we spend an hour in prayer asking God’s forgiveness for our failures—ours and my mom’s. I love intensely that description of my mother our friend’s life. Truly, as my mom would have said, had we mentioned earlier, and the smile grew bigger. We sang it to the end and finished, she said quietly, “Before I met you, I thought nobody cared about me...” It feels so good to know that somebody cares.”

When God gave that amazingly accurate image of Connie and song to my mom, he didn’t do it to advance some big important project that would change things for the better. My mom was just doing her job—letting poetry in. She was just a young mother job description would say. The day I won the prize of a King Kong statue came in handy when I was trying to win for a tug at a party they held at Purdue. According to sentimental motherhood, I’ve probably done it all wrong. But whatever we do, if we love our kids and let them know it, they probably won’t hold anything against us!

(Cynthia Dewes, a member of St. Paul the Apostle Parish in Greencastle, is a regular columnist for The Criterion.)

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**Christina Capecci**

Answering God’s call: A rising 30 Under 30 honororecycles

On Sunday night, the e-mail landed in Mike Foss’ inbox. He had been named to Forbes ‘30 Under 30,’ the business magazine’s annual list of young stars younger than 30. Mike Foss, the soccer player from Indianapolis, is the kid who had been homeschooled through 12th grade. This sent evidence that homeschooling actually works.

One of the questions asked on the first Monday of January, inquiring minds began lobbing questions at Mike’s mom, Elizabeth. How did she do it? What curriculum had she used? What colleges did she recommend? Was the exact formula of devotions, multivitamins and Mozart?

“Y’all,” she wrote on her blog that Friday. “I don’t have a clue.”

But interested, the mother of nine reflected on her news-making firstborn, a 26-year-old Catholic. “Michael learned his most important lessons at home,” she wrote. “I really did cook the meal. His daily repertoire on Twitter? Totally sounds like banter among my brothers. My brother Salvatore, who is much better known as Jim, Elizabeth wrote. “Iron sharpens iron.”

She credited her husband, a sports broadcaster and media executive, with the dual role of helping his mom, who was the “primary caregiver,” and his wife, who was the “primary caregiver.”

My mom was a hard-working mom, my Aunt Midge was still another kind of mom. The story was, she’d been a chorus mom and my aunt were both hands-on parents in their way. They both had my uncle, and she still had that dramatic voice, and a 30-inch computer monitor with an iPad and a computer-aided, and she was a serious contender in the frenetic homeschool—why do things like everyone else?—and the freedom to customize his audience.

That’s the way to be educated by the paper’s main website. During a coffee-fueled period of eight months, he hired 10 people, observed some 20 web domains, and got married.

“God never tires of finding out to us.”

Twenty Something/  Christina Capecci

(Christina Capecci is a freelance writer from Invey Grove Heights, Mnn., and the editor of SisterStory.org)
A Mother’s Love to Behold
By Thomas J. Rillo

God’s benevolent love is like no other to behold. His unconditional love that really has no equal. Except a mother’s love of family accepted as a role God puts his great love into mothers’ souls ever regal.

God’s immense love never fails nor does it ever falter. A mother’s love is similar and full of sacrifice. A mother’s love is for life in every moment. It is a mystery of creation that is God’s gift from above.

Nothing can destroy a mother’s love nor can it take it away. Only God’s love and of His Son can match a mother’s love. A mother’s love is a pure and unselfish each and every day. It is a mystery of creation that is God’s gift from above.

On this day we pay homage to all mothers who endure every day. They are wondrous evidence of God’s benevolent guiding hand. In imitation of His only begotten son they never let us lose our way. Mothers are God’s gift of love though some can scarcely understand.

Thomas J. Rillo is a member of St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Bloomington and a Benedictine Oblate of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad.

Catholics who are divorced but not remarried can still receive sacraments

It will be good for you to pass this information on to your friend; there is a common belief that a failed marriage by itself (apart from a second marriage) separates one from the community of the Church and the grace of the sacraments. That is not necessarily true—a spouse might be relatively blameless in the collapse of a marriage and (may and should) continue to receive the sacraments.

Q: I read recently that, during the consecration at Mass, the blessed Sacrament is most present to us—and that if we have a special prayer request, that would be the best time to make it. Can you tell me if that is correct, or is there a more appropriate time? (Missouri)

A: It is true that when the words of consecration are pronounced by the priest, Jesus himself becomes present on the altar under the appearance of bread and wine. This makes that moment, of course, a common belief that a failed marriage by itself (apart from a second marriage) separates one from the community of the Church and the grace of the sacraments. That is not necessarily true—a spouse might be relatively blameless in the collapse of a marriage and (may and should) continue to receive the sacraments.

Q: I have read your column, and you seem to make appropriate clarifications. Here is the situation of my friend, who lives in the Philippines. By the way, divorce is not legal in the Philippines. Some time ago, she was married in a Catholic Church wedding; that marriage has now been annulled civilly, but not yet by the Church. She later married a different man in a civil wedding, and that second marriage is now in the process of civil annulment. I am only concerned about her standing in the Church. In the Church’s eyes, is she still married to her first husband? Does this mean that she has two husbands at the same time? And finally, can she receive Communion in the Catholic Church? (City of origin withheld)

Fr. Kenneth Doyle at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 40 Hopewell St., Albany, N.Y. 12208"

Readers may submit prose or poetry for faith column

The Criterion invites readers to submit original prose or poetry relating to faith and experiences of prayer or possible publication in the “My Journey to God” column. Seasonal reflections also are appreciated. Please include name, address, parish and telephone number with submission.

Send material for consideration to “My Journey to God,” The Criterion, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202 or e-mail to thecf@criterion.org.

Sunday Readings
Sunday, May 10, 2015

• 1 John 4:7-10
• John 15:9-17

The Acts of the Apostles once again provides the first reading for a weekend in the Easter season. In this reading, the Apostle Peter enters the house of Cornelius, who falls to his knees to give homage to the messenger from God. Graciously, Peter lifts Cornelius to his feet and insists that he has no partiality among persons of various ethnic and national backgrounds because God has no such partiality.

At the moment of this testimony of faith and true discipleship, the Holy Spirit descends into the group present, including the gentiles. Peter says that anyone so prompted by the Spirit cannot be denied baptism by water. To set the stage for this reading, Cornelius was not Jewish. He was a gentile. Moreover, he was a Roman, a representative of the detested occupying pagan power. His associates were gentiles. Despite all this, Peter entered the home of Cornelius, unbelievable for a devout Jew such as Peter. But he went anyway, insisting that all should have access to God and that God welcomes all. Finally, God, in the Holy Spirit, comes into the hearts of all. The Spirit is with Peter. At last, Peter brings all into the company of faith by baptizing them. The First Epistle of St. John is the source of the second reading. It is a moving passage that offers an especially moving passage that offers an especially moving passage that offers an especially moving passage that offers an especially moving passage that offers an especially moving passage that offers an especially moving passage that offers an especially moving passage that offers an especially moving passage that offers an especially moving passage. It is possible because strength and insight come to any true believer from the Holy Spirit. It is insight that brings peace and joy. It reaches out in compassion and service.

And it comes to anyone who earnestly seeks God, even if they are tempted by sin. Strength is found in God’s love. We are called as disciples to bear this love to others.

Fr. Kenneth Doyle at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 40 Hopewell St., Albany, N.Y. 12208.

Daily Readings

Monday, May 11
Acts 16:11-15
Psalm 149:1b-6a, 9b
John 15:26-16:4a

Tuesday, May 12
Acts 16:22-33
Psalm 138:1-3, 7c-8
John 16:5-11

Wednesday, May 13
Acts 17:15-22, 18:1
Psalm 148:1-2, 11-14
John 16:12-15

Thursday, May 14
Acts 1:1-11, 15-17, 20-26
Psalm 113:1-8
John 15:9-17

Friday, May 15
St. Isidore
Acts 18:9-18
Psalm 47:2-7
John 16:20-23

Saturday, May 16
Acts 18:23-28
Psalm 47:2-3, 8-10
John 16:23-28

Sunday, May 17
The Ascension of the Lord
Acts 1:1-11
Psalm 47:2-3, 6-9
Ephesians 1:17-23
or Ephesians 4:1-13
or Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13
Mark 16:15-20

The Criterion Friday, May 8, 2015

The Ascension of the Lord
Acts 1:1-11
Psalm 47:2-3, 6-9
Ephesians 1:17-23
or Ephesians 4:1-13
or Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13
Mark 16:15-20

Wednesday, May 13
Our Lady of Fatima
Acts 17:15, 22-18:1
Psalm 148:1-2, 11-14
John 16:12-15
Sister Mary Ann Walsh, woman of faith, writer, spokeswoman, dies at 68 after battle with cancer

ALBANY, N.Y. (CNS)—Sister Mary Ann Walsh, who went from hometown schoolteacher to Vatican correspondent, lived out her drive to be a writer even in her last days. She died on April 28 in her home town of McKownville, N.Y., after a battle with cancer.

Sister Mary Ann, 68, had stepped down last summer from her role of 21 years in media relations for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), the last six years as director. Just as she began a transition to a new job at a Catholic news agency, she received an invitation—writing for America magazine as the Jesuit publication’s U.S. Church correspondent—she learned that she had fast-growing metastatic cancer, and moved home to the motherhouse in Albany where she had entered the Sisters of Mercy 50 years earlier.

Over the next nine months as her health declined, Sister Mary Ann wrote obliquely about her own impending death, such as in a piece about the “understated sanctum of anointing of the sick shortly after she hosted a gathering of friends as she received the sacrament herself.”

Her articles included observations about journalism, politics, civility in society, the effects of youth sports schedules on families that attend church, and many other topics. In her last blog post, published on March 9, Sister Mary Ann tackled the topic of the need for mercy, as Pope Francis declared a jubilee year of mercy beginning in December.

In interviews with Catholic News Service and for the Sisters of Mercy, she talked frankly about the progression of her cancer and the inevitability of its outcome, though never complaining, and always with appreciation for the outpouring of support she was getting.

As word spread of her death, tributes were effusive from people who knew and worked with Sister Mary Ann.

Reporters, colleagues and bishops praised her deep faith, her determination, her trial-blazing as a woman and a nun and her abiding friendship.

In addition to being a good friend and gifted writer, said Susan Gibbs, a public relations professional who was formerly spokeswoman for the Archdiocese of Washington, Sister Mary Ann “helped break the marble ceiling for women in the Church.”

Archbishop John Wester, bishop of Salt Lake City, who will become archbishop of Santa Fe, N.M., in June, visited Sister Mary Ann in March, presenting her with the St. Francis de Sales Award, the highest honor given by the Catholic Press Association. He is chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on Communications.

Archbishop Wester said she had “the deepest respect for her integrity and her love for the Church. She was a clear thinker who could write persuasively and in a captivating manner.”

Like many others, he commented on her “clever wit” and her ability to “read people’s hearts with ease.”

Sister Mary Ann was born in Albany on Feb. 25, 1947, the only daughter of Irish immigrants. After attending local Catholic schools staffed by the Sisters of Mercy, she entered the order as a 17-year-old. She earned degrees in English at the College of St. Rose in Albany and began teaching elementary and then high school.

She went on to become a Vatican correspondent for Catholic News Service and then its media editor. In those roles, she traveled the world with Pope John Paul II and sat down for interviews with movie stars, including Raul Julia, Georgette Harkmann and Bruce Willis.

“Rome taught me how to cover Hollywood,” she told CNS in interviews in January. “They’re both compulsive bureaucrats.”

Her career path led her to the media relations staff of the USCCB, where she managed arrangements for press coverage of World Youth Day in Denver in 1993, for several other visits to the U.S. by John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI, and for the ins and outs of news about the U.S. Church from the sex abuse crisis to the annual meetings of the U.S. bishops.

Cardinal J. Francis Stafford, retired archbishop of Denver, who was there at the time of World Youth Day, said in a note to CNS that he was impressed by her quick grasp of the potential of the event, especially “of the human and spiritual attractiveness of Pope John Paul II among young people. On both counts, she was among the early few I felt that the pope and Sister Mary Ann were kindred spirits. They were both hopeful for the future.”

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Blessed are the peacemakers

Women dance on March 28 during a conference on peacebuilding in Abyei, a contested area between Sudan and South Sudan, so they are launching new efforts to make peace between the two ethnic groups that claim the isolated region.


ZUTTARELLI, Mary Catherine. 100, St. Vincent de Paul, Bedford. April 20. Mother of Sarah Bryant, Mary Louise Morgan, James and Ralph Zutttrell. Half-sister of Theresa Carter. Grandmother of seven. Great-grandmother of nine. †
By Mike Krokos

Linda Hegeman calls herself the “hello lady,” greeting people coming to the Catholic Charities’ Crisis Office in Indianapolis looking for assistance. While her cheerful demeanor provides a welcoming atmosphere, she says she enjoys the interaction and “wouldn’t trade that job for anything.”

“She’s a wonderful volunteer,” says Hegeman, who has been a Crisis Office volunteer for five years. “The work is so simple, but it’s so sincere,” she continues. “They minister to me. There’s not that a day someone doesn’t come through that I don’t really pray about or pray with for the rest of the week, because in some way they’ve touched me and I have touched them—and sometimes it’s more than one person. … What I’ve learned is it’s a very mutual feeling of giving.”

Hegeman, a member of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in Indianapolis, was among the Catholic Charities’ program volunteers honored during a dinner on April 13 at the Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center in Indianapolis.

The clients, Hegeman says, truly appreciate the gifts of food, clothing, financial assistance and other resources that Catholic Charities provides them, and she says assisting brothers and sisters in need adds to her life. “I’m getting pleasure from the experience of actually meeting and helping those I would never meet and help in any other way,” she says. “It’s a great opportunity. If everyone knew what a wonderful opportunity [this is], there’d be lines out the door to volunteer.”

“Just a wonderful, wonderful opportunity to do something,” she adds, “and it gives me a balance to my life that nothing else could.”

Michael Ioka sees his volunteer efforts as a way to assist his brothers and sisters in need as well.

The new RSVP (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program) volunteer, Ioka says, “I happened to see one young man and his wife, and they were extremely concerned about St. Vincent de Paul,” and that spurred him on to help.

“I thought I would give back,” says Ioka, who survived a civil war in Liberia and knows the challenges that refugees of conflict face. “You didn’t know where you were going to eat during the day,” says Ioka of the tumultuous time in the West African country.

“There are so many possibilities for victims of war,” says Ioka, who became a U.S. citizen in 2006. Ioka’s wife, Linda, says her husband, who suffered a stroke in November of 2013, was eager to volunteer at the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

“He just wanted to give back so much. It’s his way of saying ‘thank you,’” she says, “instead of ‘give me something,’ I want to give back.”

Catholic Charities’ program volunteers are a committed group who take the Gospel mandate of love of neighbor to heart, noted David Bethurum, agency director of Catholic Charities Indianapolis during an address to the volunteers.

“We have over 1,000 people every week who volunteer through our programs,” he said. “And they have an impact on what we do.”

According to Bethurum, the agency depends so much on volunteers that there is a monetary value to their efforts.

“In kind, in volunteer services, is close to $100,000 a year for us, so thank you so much for all that you do in line with that,” he noted.

Volunteers’ efforts are much more valuable than money, Bethurum continued.

“You’re valuable because you decide to give of your time and talent to what we do,” he said, “so we’re here to recognize your volunteerism, but also to recognize the sympathy of commitment to what you do.”

Volunteering and serving others is a form of discipleship, Bethurum added, and when done with complete “by being in relationship with others, to be able to give back, being able to go beyond just being able to say that ‘I’m doing something,’ [but to say] ‘I’m doing something to help others,’ that I’m a part of something larger than myself.”

(To learn more about volunteer efforts with Catholic Charities, please visit its website, www.archindy.org/catholic/indiana.)

Volunteers at Catholic Charities epitomize love of neighbor

Notre Dame awards Knights of Columbus Vitae Medal

The Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture, located at 1400 N. Meridian St. in Indianapolis, honored during a dinner on April 13 at the Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center in Indianapolis are, front row, Karen Boyer, left, (10 years); Florene Harrington (10 years); Linda Hegeman (five years); and Fran Doye (10 years). Second row: Richard Moore (10 years); David Bethurum, agency director of Catholic Charities Indianapolis; Jim Schutter (five years); and Ed Doyle (10 years). Not pictured is Jane Koller, who was recognized for five years of volunteer service. (Photo by Mike Krokos)

Notre Dame, Ind. (CNS)—Praised for their “heroic and tireless efforts” to affirm a culture of life, the Knights of Columbus received the Notre Dame awards Knights of Columbus Evangelium Vitae Medal.

The medal, and its $10,000 prize, has been awarded annually since 2011 by the Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture to honor individuals or organizations for outstanding work affirming and defending the sanctity of human life. It is named for St. Pope John Paul II’s 1995 encyclical “The Gospel of Life.”

Anderson said the prize money would be donated to Notre Dame’s Charles E. Rice Fellowship program. The fund is named for the late law professor that Anderson described as a good friend and “tireless advocate for life.”

The Knights’ leader urged participants at the award banquet to take bold action in efforts for “a new evangelization of American freedom,” and stressed that Catholic institutions must be allowed to fulfill their mission of treating each human person with dignity.

“The free exercise of religion must be preserved,” he said. “For the autonomy of our religious institutions is not extrinsic to the missionary nature of Christianity; rather it is essential to it.”

Among those recognized for years of service during the Catholic Charities’ volunteer dinner on April 13 at the Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center in Indianapolis are, front row, Karen Boyer, left, (10 years); Florene Harrington (10 years); Linda Hegeman (five years); and Fran Doye (10 years). Second row: Richard Moore (10 years); David Bethurum, agency director of Catholic Charities Indianapolis; Jim Schutter (five years); and Ed Doyle (10 years). Not pictured is Jane Koller, who was recognized for five years of volunteer service. (Photo by Mike Krokos)
Pope defies Blessed Junipero, prays for missionary zeal

Pope Francis kisses a relic of Blessed Junipero Serra presented by Archbishop Jose H. Gomez of Los Angeles at the conclusion of Mass celebrated at the Pontifical North American College in Rome on May 2. It was the first papal visit to the U.S. seminary since 1980. At the end of Mass, Pope Francis said the visit to the seminary was “a beautiful and meaningful introduction to my apostolic visit to the United States of America.” (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

PHILADELPHIA (CNS)—For the past year, the question most often heard by Donna Criley Farrell, executive director of the World Meeting of Families, was “How can I help?”

Now there is an answer and a way anyone can lend a hand to the four-day congress and to welcome the visit of Pope Francis to Philadelphia in September.

The registration for volunteers is now open at the World Meeting of Families 2015 website www.worldmeeting2015.org

Interested in helping at World Meeting of Families? Volunteer

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An image of Blessed Junipero Serra, right, is seen as Pope Francis celebrates Mass at the Pontifical North American College in Rome on May 2. It was the first papal visit to the U.S. seminary since 1980. At the end of Mass, Pope Francis said the visit to the seminary was “a beautiful and meaningful introduction to my apostolic visit to the United States of America.” (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

Volunteer

Visiting the Pontifical North American College, the U.S. seminary in Rome, Pope Francis insisted Blessed Junipero fits into a host of saints who shaped the history and culture of the Americas, particularly by spreading Christianity, caring for the poor and defending the oppressed.

The pope’s “Mass on May 2 with 250 seminarians from more than 100 U.S. dioceses, including the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, as well as Australia and Canada, the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and the Knights of Columbus. Although the college is on the Janiculum Hill overlooking the Vatican, Pope Francis’ was the first papal visit to the campus since 1980, when St. John Paul II visited.

Pope Francis is scheduled to canonize Blessed Junipero, an 18th-century Spanish missionary to California, during his September trip to the United States.

“This meeting at your college and around the eucharistic table is a beautiful and meaningful introduction to my apostolic trip to the United States of America,” he told the students, staff, bishops and cardinals at the Mass.

Giving his homily in Italian, Pope Francis noted how Spanish missionaries in the 16th century had reached the Gospel across what is now the southern and southwestern United States from Florida to California. “This was long before the pilgrims of the Mayflower reached the North Atlantic coast,” he noted.

Pope Francis noted that the qualities of the canonization of Blessed Junipero are shared by a system that destroyed native cultures and that he abused Native Americans at his missions, Pope Francis said Blessed Junipero, like other Catholic missionaries in the Americas, “defended the indigenous peoples against abuses by the colonizers.”

He thanked the Franciscan missionary as “Fra Junipero,”—“Fra” is a shortened Italian word for “brother”—Pope Francis said Spaniards were Spaniards with a purpose, with a desire to share the Gospel with the indigenous peoples of the Americas.

The pope praised the Franciscan missionary as “Our Lady of Guadalupe, Fra Junipero” and all the American saints. †

The pope said, “Such zeal excites us, it challenges us!”

People study the lives and works of the missionaries, he said. They look at their strengths and, unfortunately, especially their “weaknesses and their shortcomings.”

“But I wonder if today we are able to respond with the same generosity and courage to the call of God, who invites us to leave everything in order to worship him, to follow him, to rediscover him in the face of the poor, to proclaim him to those who have not known Christ and, therefore, have not experienced ‘the embrace of his mercy,’” the pope said.

The witness of Blessed Junipero, he said, is a call for all Catholics to get personally involved in missionary activity across the Americas, motivated by “the joy of the Gospel.”

Referring to Blessed Junipero as “one of the founding fathers of the United States”—his settlements that grew into some of the major cities of what is now the state of California—Pope Francis said the Franciscan is a reminder of the important role the Spanish had and their descendants continue to have in the U.S. Catholic community.

Blessed Junipero is part of a long line of holy men and women who preached and lived the Gospel of charity in the Americas he said, listing two dozen male and female saints who ministered everywhere from Canada to Chile. He included the indigenous “humble workers in the vineyard of the Lord, like Juan Diego and Kateri Tekakwitha,” as well as “martyrs like Roque Gonzalez [a Jesuit killed in Brazil in 1628], Miguel Pro [a Mexican Jesuit killed in 1927] and Oscar Arnulfo Romero,” the assassinated archbishop of San Salvador, who is scheduled to be beatified on May 23.

“THERE HAS BEEN HOLINESS IN AMERICA—much holiness,” Pope Francis said. “May a powerful gust of holiness sweep through all the Americas during the coming extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy.”

Pope Francis, the first pope from the Americas, prayed that “the life of our continent may be rooted even more deeply in the Gospel it has received; [and] that Christ may be ever more present in the faith of the indigenous families, peoples and nations, for the greater glory of God. We pray, too, that this glory may be manifested in a new spirit of brotherhood, solidarity, peace and justice, with a preferential and concrete love for the poor,” he said.

As is customary, Pope Francis asked the congregation at the college to pray with him, and he entrusted his July trip to South America and his September trip to Cuba and the United States to the protection of “Our Lady of Guadalupe, Fra Junipero and all the American saints.” †

The meeting runs from Sept. 22-25 at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia.

The papal events following the congress are expected to include a visit from Pope Francis to the Festival of Families on Sept. 26, and the large outdoor Mass on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway that he is expected to celebrate for up to 1.5 million people in Philadelphia.

Some 10,000 volunteers will be needed at the congress and to welcome Pope Francis to the Philadelphia area. Tasks include giving directions to visitors, welcoming them to Philadelphia International Airport and the Festival of Families site, uniformed people at the National Constitution Center and the Liberty Bell, and even acting as “digital diplomats,” volunteers posting all manner of information on social media platforms.

“Whatever your talent, whatever your passion, there is a role for you,” Farrell said during a news conference on April 27 announcing the call for volunteers.

She encouraged people to bring “all the pride and hospitality that we know exist here” to support September’s events that will be remembered for years to come, “just as we talk of the visit of Pope John Paul II—now saint—36 years ago in Philadelphia.”

Security is a major concern for event organizers, so volunteers will be screened through a criminal background check. After visitors register their personal information initially on the website, they will receive a confirmation e-mail. Farrell emphasized the importance of waiting for a second e-mail message, after 24 to 48 hours, for confirmation that they have been accepted for volunteer duty.

Volunteers will also be invited to indicate specific preferences for service, or talents that would be better served in one role over another. For instance, a person with the skills to translate a foreign language or a person with artistic abilities may be assigned to serve in those roles.

All of the volunteers for the effort will be recognizable in unique and colorful uniforms to be supplied by Aramark Corp.

The Philadelphia-based food services giant is one of a contingent of companies that will provide volunteer support.

Others included Independence Blue Cross and Campbell Soup.

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