Blessed Romero ‘another brilliant star’ belonging to Church of Americas

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (CNS)—Some thought this day would never arrive.
Others hoped, and some always knew it would.

On May 23, the Catholic Church beatified Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero y Galdamez, of El Salvador, who was assassinated in 1980 while celebrating Mass, just a day after pleading and ordering soldiers to stop killing innocent civilians.

“Blessed Romero is another brilliant star that belongs to the sanctity of the Church of the Americas,” said Cardinal Angelo Amato, head of the Vatican’s Congregation for Saints’ Causes, during the ceremony in San Salvador. “And thanks be to God, there are many.”

While those who persecuted him have died or are in obscurity, “the memory of Romero continues to live in the poor and the marginalized,” Cardinal Amato said.

His homilies often pleaded for better conditions for the poor, for a stop to the escalating violence in the country, and for brotherhood among those whose divisions ultimately led to a 12-year conflict.

He is not a symbol of division but one of faith with his life.”

Deacon Adam Ahern believes it’s the most dangerous question a person can ask.

It’s a question he asked himself in 2006, during his seventh year in the U.S. Army—a time when he served in communications in the White House Situation Room as then-President George W. Bush and his advisors met to deal with crises around the nation and the world.

At the time, he was trying to make a decision about his future, including whether he should re-enlist and do a tour of duty in Iraq or Afghanistan, where he had previously served. He was also involved in a romantic relationship. And there were re-occurring thoughts of the priesthood—a path he first considered in high school. With all those possibilities, he asked the question that he considers so dangerous:

“What do you want for my life, God?”

“It’s the most dangerous question you can ask in your life because if you ask it meaningfully, he answers it.” Deacon Ahern says. “And when he answers it, and you know he’s answered it clearly, you have to accept it.

“I heard this voice inside my head, ‘Go, be my priest.’ What do you do but obey? It was the voice of God.”

As Deacon Ahern prepares to be ordained a priest on June 6, it would be easy to think that it’s all been a smooth, seamless journey since he heard that answer in 2006. Instead, the reality has been different. It would take another eight years before Deacon Ahern fully accepted God’s answer. Yet when that moment finally came, everyone who witnessed it considered it unforgettable.

‘I’ll go wherever you lead me’ —Deacon Adam Ahern is all smiles as he gives a tour through the chapel at Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis, the setting where he first had the opportunity to test his call to the priesthood. (Photo by John Shaughnessy)

‘Most dangerous question’ leads former soldier Deacon Adam Ahern to embrace life as a priest

SoulCore

Tragedy and devotion to Mary lead to creation of rosary-based exercise, page 7

After 175 years, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College decides to enroll men in undergraduate programs

By Natalie Hofer

‘We rely on Providence, and we believe Providence is leading us in this direction.’ —Dottie King, president of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College

For 175 years, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College in St. Mary-of-the-Woods, just west of Terre Haute, has been fulfilling its mission to “empower students to think critically, engage in lifelong leadership, and effect positive change in a spirit of service and social responsibility.”

To date, that mission has involved only female students in the college’s undergraduate programs.

That fact changed on May 19 when the college announced its decision to become a co-educational institution. Beginning with the fall semester, men will be accepted as commuter students in the college’s on-campus undergraduate programs, and as residential students in the fall of 2016.

“I think the straightforward, obvious reason [for the decision] is under-enrollment in our women’s program,” said Dottie King, president of the college.

“This isn’t a recent phenomenon. It’s gone on since 1970. In recent years, it’s been really challenging for us from a budgetary point of view.”

The recent decision came about after a year of deliberation by the college’s board of trustees as they weighed different options to address the decreasing accounts.
Defend the right to life, defend it from attacks on dignity, Pope Francis says

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—The Catholic defense of human life from conception to natural death includes doing everything possible to prevent women from facing the violence and injustice that are attacks on human dignity, Pope Francis said.

“When we defend the right to life, we do so in order that each life—from conception to its natural end—may be a dignified life, one free from violence, one free from violation of poverty and persecution,” the pope wrote in a message to a conference of Catholic women’s groups.

Representatives of the World Union of Catholic Women’s Organizations and the World Women’s Alliance for Life and Family met in Rome on May 22-24 to strategize on their input for the drafting of the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals which should be finalized by member states in September.

In his message, Pope Francis said it was important for the United Nations to hear the contributions of “so many women and men committed to the defense and promotion of life and to the struggle against the poverty, slavery and injustices” that, unfortunately, affect too many people in the world.

In the West, he said, women face discrimination at work, often are forced to choose between family and work obligations, and too often face violence in “their lives as fiancées, wives, mothers, sisters and grandmothers.”

In developing countries, he said, “women bear the heaviest burden.” They walk miles to collect water, are more likely to die in childbirth, face kidnapping, rape and forced marriages. In some countries, the pope said, they “even are denied the right life just because they are female,” and so are victims of sex-selection abortions.

Recognizing the women’s groups’ “commitment to the defense of the dignity of women and the promotion of their rights,” Pope Francis asked them to always “let yourselves be guided by a spirit of humanity and compassion in the service of others.”

The world needs “the immeasurable gifts of women, whose efforts enrich the whole of society,” the pope said.

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Pope Francis
All the deaths and all the devastation that happened were so hard. But God could have rocked the foundation of faith and resolve that Dr. Christine Groves has held in her 34 years of life.

In fact, the April 25th earthquake in Nepal that killed more than 8,400 people and injured nearly 16,000 people has given Groves a chance to be faithful to this opportunity. Groves was able to focus on rehab. I want to heal people physically without addressing their spiritual needs, we really miss out on a lot of what people need," she says. "Physical health gives us function. Faith gives us hope and purpose."

Groves credits the foundation of her faith to “growing up in an incredibly family,” and to the influence of the north side Indianapolis Catholic community that began with her education at Christ the King School and continued at Bishop Chatard High School. The connection of faith and medicine in her life strengthened during short-term overseas trips to Honduras, Uganda, Niger West Africa and the Republic of Congo. "I spent a month there during my residency," she says about the Congo. “That’s when I really felt God was confirming a long-term commitment for me overseas. I learned that it takes a lifetime to understand a language and a culture to make a difference.”

That’s why she has spent much of her first year in Nepal trying to master the language so her communication skills can match her commitment level. Plus, there have been a fair share of adventures. In March, I visited a remote clinic that my team has been building in the Himalayas. You can either take a helicopter there or hike four days in the mountains. I helicoptered in and hiked out. I was there with a physical therapist, and we visited disabled women in their homes. It was amazing to see how we could help them. That was a real gift."

Having what she calls “the coolest job in the world” has also helped Groves to make the most of the great faith she has and the little resources she has.

“One gentleman I saw had an old spinal cord injury. He came to the clinic several months after it happened. He could use his arms, but not his hands. So he needed people to feed him. We used duct tape, PCP pipe, a metal spoon and an old bike tire to make an adaptive spoon for him."

It made him independent. Every time I was able to feed him, I could just see this shift in his mindset—swiching from feeling limited to thinking more creatively, thinking about what he could do to make his life better.”

"Always remember to keep hope alive!"

The devastating injuries that people have suffered in the earthquakes present a far larger challenge—one that Groves is willing to accept. "The World Health Organization recently developed a rehabilitation sub-committee because there are so many earthquake-related injuries," she says. "There’s a much greater need for rehab in Nepal, especially for spinal cord injuries. When I head back, I’ll be working in a spinal cord hospital."

She is also certain of her connection with the Christians in Nepal.

“It’s a really unified community. Unlike here, where I feel religion can often be separated from the rest of life, in Nepal it’s part of their identity in every way. For Christians in Nepal, they face a lot of isolation from the rest of the community. So Christians are very unified. They treat one another as family. It’s a beautiful picture of the body of Christ.”

Groves’ parents understand her desire to combine her faith with her medical ability to help in Nepal—even as their concern for her is always in their minds. I worry for her safety always, but she’s in God’s hands,” says her mother, Beth Groves. “I think this is what she was made for. It’s a gift. I don’t think there’s any place in the world that needs her expertise right now as much as Kathmandu. She’ll be dealing with long-term rehab and pain. And I think she can get through a lot of trouble. Whenever we have friends in a desperate situation, Christine says, ‘Always remember to keep hope alive.’”

That hope lives in Christine. easy, but it’s been wonderful. In Nepal, I’ve been able to walk with people through hard times. And I’ve been able to mentor young Nepali doctors who are Christian, which is a great gift. Being in a place that puts me out of my comfort zone has deepened my faith in God. I really believe God is totally in control of the details of our lives, and personally involved in those details. He’s put me there I supposed to be.”

Earthquakes strengthen doctor’s resolve to continue mission work in Nepal

By John Shaughnessy

In Nepal, there was a team I was supposed to be on but I had to cancel. I’ve never been far from that. But I’ve been able to keep my planned return there on June 3—has never been far from my mind. Dr. Christine Groves, who grew up in Christ the King Parish in Indianapolis, poses with a patient, left, that she helped, and his son. Groves is in the midst of committing at least three years of her life to use her medical skills in physical rehabilitation to care for people in the impoverished Asian country of Nepal. (Submitted photo)

“Always remember to keep hope alive!” Dr. Christine Groves, a 1998 graduate of Bishop Chatard High School in Indianapolis, stands by the helicopter that flew her to a remote clinic in the Himalayas Mountains of Nepal in March 2015. (Submitted photo)
Christanity vs. sexual revolution

In case you haven’t noticed, we’re in the middle of a war between Christianity and the sexual revolution. It has been going on since the 1960s with the development of oral contraceptives, which allowed women to engage in sexual activities with less fear of becoming pregnant.

In more recent years, of course, the emphasis of those who want license to do anything sexual has switched to homosexuality. Advocates who want to change the definition of marriage want more than just legalization of “marriage” between people of the same gender. They want approval of the homosexual lifestyle.

It’s surprising that gay activists haven’t protested “Dancing with the Stars” because on that program a man and a woman dance together instead of two women or two men (although some dances do include three people together).

As gay activist Mitchell Gold told New York Times columnist Frank Bruni, Church leaders must be forced “to take homosexuality off the sin list.” How will they be able to do that? Perhaps by changing them with “hate speech.”

Of course, Christian churches don’t “hate” homosexuals any more than they hate heterosexuals. As the Indiana Catholic bishops said in a statement during the brouhaha over the state’s Religious Freedom Restoration Act, “The Catholic Church is convinced that every human being is created in the image of God. As such, each and every person deserves to be treated with dignity and respect.”

But Christianity has also taught from its earliest existence that certain sexual acts are sinful, whether performed by heterossexuals or homosexuals. And it will continue to do so despite efforts to force it to take those acts off the sin list.

Fornication is on that sin list, too, despite the wish of teenagers and young adults from time immemorial that it wasn’t. The difference today is that most of those young people have given into the sexual revolution, and have decided that fornication really isn’t a sin.

So it can explain the fact that many couples these days live together before getting married, if, indeed, they ever do get married? We’ve seen the spread of the “hook-up” lifestyle on college campuses wherein students have sex without any kind of commitment. There are debates in magazines read by young women over whether it’s “proper” to have sex on a first date.

Our secular society has decided for itself that there’s nothing sinful about any kind of sexual activity as long as it’s consensual. Meanwhile, our churches will continue to teach that sex outside of marriage is sinful and that marriage between people of the same gender is impossible.

It’s undoubtedly more difficult these days for young people to obey those teachings. Early marriages that were common 60 years ago don’t happen as often today. If young people bother to get married, it happens after they’ve completed their educations and have good jobs. It’s understandable that those with higher education tend to marry at a higher age than those don’t go to college and beyond.

However, the Catholic Church has always been ready for that, too. It has always been composed of sinners, which is why Jesus gave the Apostles and their successors the power to forgive sins. So we have the sacrament of reconciliation, or confession. Those who succumb to temptation, whether they’re homosexual or heterosexual in nature, can be reconciled with God and the Church by going to confession.

The trouble is, most of our secular media are busy convincing young people that there’s nothing sinful about any consensual sex acts. Look at how vigorously they were trying to defeat the Religious Freedom Restoration Act here in Indiana because there was an unfounded fear that it could be used to discriminate against gays.

Christianity will continue to fight against sexual libertinism just as it has fought against the legalization of abortion and against being forced to pay for contraception, abortifacients and sterilization. Coming up quickly will be questions about what it means to be male or female with many people changing their genders.

Those on the side of the sexual revolution would like to see changes in the doctrines of the Church concerning sexual sins, but that’s not going to happen. There might, though, be more emphasis on the Church’s teachings regarding mercy toward sinners.

—John F. Fink

Making Sense of Bioethics
Fr. Tad Pocholzcyk

What is VSED, and why should it matter to us?

More than 20 years ago, Dr. David Eddy, writing in the Journal of the American Medical Association, described how his mother, though not suffering from a terminal illness, chose to end her life through VSED (voluntarily stopping eating and drinking).

She was “very capable, very self-sufficient, and very content.”

When she began to be affected by mental ailments, including rectal prolapse, she talked with her physician-son about “how she could end her life gracefully.”

When she asked him, “Can I stop eating?” he told her that if it was really her intention to end her life, she could also stop drinking because “without water, no one, not even the healthiest, can live more than a few days.”

After a family bash celebrating her 85th birthday, she “relished her last piece of chocolate, and then stopped eating and drinking.” She died of dehydration six days later, with her son arranging for pain medications to be administered during her final days and hours.

Choosing not to eat or drink can be packaged as a noble and well-intentioned way to avoid intense pain and suffering, but VSED ultimately represents a flawed way to treat the pain of dying. It subtly draws us into the mistake of treating the objective good of our life as if it were an evil to be quelled or extinguished. We have a moral duty to preserve and protect our life, and to use ordinary means of doing so. Suicide, even by starvation and dehydration, is still suicide and is never morally acceptable.

For some critically ill patients, continuing efforts to ingest food and liquids may cause significant complications, including severe nausea, vomiting or complete inability to eat or drink. Such claims, however, remain highly controversial and strain credibility.

Perseverance is an essential virtue to accomplish a significant task in life. But this virtue isn’t tested that much when the task, which might have seemed difficult at first, ends up being fairly easy.

That’s what you could say happened when Indy Car driver Juan Pablo Montoya won the Indianapolis 500 in 2000. While the 2015 Indianapolis 500 has often been a hard-fought battle, Montoya made the race in 2000 look like a walk in the park.

He led 167 of the race’s 200 laps, and won by more than two seconds. On lap 197, the time, Montoya, a native of Colombia, was a 7-time-year-old-race car driver. He easily won the Indy 500 in his IndyCar, with great race car drivers failed to drive the victory’s milk despite striving so hard for it throughout their careers.

Montoya promptly left Indy Car racing after his first year for greener pastures in Formula One in Europe, and later in NASCAR. He only returned to Indy Car last year.

He started in the middle of the field for the 2015 Indianapolis 500 run on May 24. Early in the race, his car was damaged when struck by another driver. His car’s entire rear wing needed to be replaced, and he fell back to 30th place.

But by halfway through the race, Montoya had worked his way up through the field and was running with the leaders. Montoya, 15 laps of this year’s Indy 500 were some of the most competitive ever seen. Montoya, Will Power and Scott Dixon have passed each other for the lead.

Montoya passed Power for the lead on lap 179 and was barely able to hold him off for the victory, winning by one-tenth of a second after only leading nine laps all afternoon.

This year’s victory was very different than Montoya’s win in 2000. It tested his patience and endurance.

Maybe that’s why this win seemed more sweet to him than his first. “When you go through everything, you start to understand what it means to win here,” said Montoya after the race, as reported by the Indianapolis Star.

Perhaps the perseverance that Montoya showed helped him win.

Reflection
Sean Gallagher

Persevere through life’s trials with God’s help to be victorious in the new Jerusalem

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Our doubts do not excuse us from carrying on Christ’s work

“When they all saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted” (Mt 28:17).

Our Lord has shared with us all the power in heaven and on Earth. He has been given to me” (Mt 28:18), the risen Lord tells them. “Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations” (Mt 28:19). The disciples are commissioned by the Lord to do impossible things in his name. They are empowered by the Holy Spirit to baptize in the name of the Most Holy Trinity, the one God who in his very nature is a perfect communion of loving persons. By this power—and not by our own efforts—the Eleven are able to preach the Good News, to heal the sick and unsettled, to forgive sins, and to touch the minds and hearts of men and women from every region of the world. Trinity Sunday calls attention to the mystery of God’s inner life, to the unity in diversity that is at the heart of all being. But those who wish to follow Jesus (including you and me) are not permitted to engage in a lot of idle speculation. We have work to do. We must move beyond our comfort zones, as Pope Francis reminds us regularly. We must break down the walls that separate us from those who are different from us, from those whose actions and lifestyles are unacceptable to us, and from those who reject our beliefs and values. By what authority, and with what resources, do we share our faith with “all nations”? How can we who have our own questions and doubts speak the truth to those who see things very differently than we do? By ourselves, it is impossible, but with God’s help all things are possible. By opening our hearts to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we can share in the power that has been given to Jesus by his Father in heaven. By accepting our baptismal responsibility to make disciples of all nations, we can proclaim the Gospel in our own lives through our words and our actions. We can bring Christ to others, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and we can teach our sisters and brothers—here at home and even in foreign lands—to observe all that the Lord has commanded.

The Trinitarian God is a great mystery that we will never fully understand, but we don’t have to comprehend God’s nature to help carry out his work. As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are empowered to teach in spite of our doubts, to heal in spite of our own wounds, and to transform cultures in spite of the resistance we encounter at every turn. “And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age” (Mt 28:20b). We are not expected to do Christ’s work all by ourselves. We is with us always. And we’re not expected to accomplish great things through our own efforts. Our Lord has shared with us all power in heaven and on Earth. He has commissioned us to transform the world by the power of his grace. He stands with us—closer to us than we are to ourselves—as we work to make all things new, in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. 

Evangélico el próximo domingo (la Solemnidad de la Santísima Trinidad) nos recuerda que los once apóstoles a quienes les fue confiada la responsabilidad de hacer “discípulos de todas las naciones” (Mt 28:19), no eran superhéroes. Eran simplemente seres humanos débiles y sencillos que pudieron obrar milagros y hacer cosas extraordinarias gracias al poder de Dios. El Evangélico según San Mateo nos dice que los apóstoles fueron a una montaña en Galilea en respuesta a las instrucciones de Jesús. San Mateo nos cuenta que, cuando vieron a Jesús resucitado, lo adoraron; pero también dudaron. Al igual que para muchos de nosotros, su fe era incierta. Al verlo, le profesaron su amor, cariño y lo homenajearon, pero aún tenían sus dudas. ¿Acaso este es verdaderamente el hombre que conocíamos y amamos, o se trata de la ilusión de ver cumplido un anhelo, una suerte de autoengaño colectivo? Jesús no los dejó regodearse en la incertidumbre sino que les asigna una misión. No se trata de una misión común, al contrario, es una tarea que excede con creces lo que normalmente se esperaría de este grupo encabezado por tímidos seguidores, incluso en las mejores circunstancias. ¿Cómo es posible que este grupo de discípulos sin formación, sin experiencia y llenos de dudas pudiera llegar a transformar el mundo? ¿Con qué poder y con qué recursos podrán hacer estos improbables apóstoles y evangelistas enseñar el Evangelio por todo el mundo? “Se me ha dado toda autoridad en el cielo y en la tierra” (Mt 28:18), les dice el Señor resucitado. “Por tanto, vayan y hagan discípulos de todas las naciones” (Mt 28:19). El Señor les encarga a los discípulos que lleven a cabo actos imposibles en su nombre: El Espíritu Santo nos faculta para bautizar en el nombre de la Santísima Trinidad, el Dios único cuya propia naturaleza representa la comunión perfecta de personas amorosas. Es mediante este poder, y no por sus propios esfuerzos, que los 11 son capaces de predicar la Buena Nueva, sanar a los enfermos y a los desahuciados, perdonar los pecados y llegar a las mentes y los corazones de hombres y mujeres de todas las religiones que pueblan la Tierra.

El domingo de la Santísima Trinidad pone de manifiesto el misterio de la vida interior de Dios, la unión en la diversidad que es la esencia de todos los seres vivos. Pero todos los que desean seguir a Jesús—incluyéndolo a usted y a mí—no deben esperar a que sus vecinos y seguidores vacíen. Tenemos mucho por hacer. Debemos salernos de nuestra comodidad, tal como nos lo recuerda a menudo el papa Francisco. Debemos derramar los muros que nos separan de aquellos que son distintos de nosotros, de aquellos cuyas acciones y valores son diferentes. ¿Con qué poder y con qué recursos podemos compartir nuestra fe con “todas las naciones”? ¿Cómo es posible que una persona que ven el mundo de una manera distinta a nosotros, cuando nosotros mismos tenemos interrogantes y dudas? Por nuestra cuenta, resulta imposible, pero con la ayuda de Dios, todo es posible. Al abrir nuestros corazones para recibir los dones del Espíritu Santo, podemos participar de la autoridad que el Padre celestial le ha entregado a Jesús. Al aceptar nuestra responsabilidad bautismal de hacer discípulos de todas las personas, proclamamos el Evangelio en nuestra vida cotidiana, mediante nuestras palabras y nuestras acciones. Podemos llevar a Cristo al prójimo, bautizándolos en el nombre del Padre, y del Hijo y del Espíritu Santo, y podemos enseñar a nuestros hermanos y hermanas, tanto en nuestras casas como en el extranjero, a obedecer los mandamientos del Señor. La Trinidad de Dios es un gran misterio que jamás llegaremos a comprender a cabalidad, pero no tenemos que entender la naturaleza de Dios para llevar adelante su obra. Como discípulos de Jesús, estamos facultados para enseñar incluso a pesar de nuestras dudas, para sanar a pesar de llevar nuestras propias heridas y para transformar culturas pese a la resistencia que encontramos a cada paso. “Y les aseguro que estaré con ustedes siempre, hasta el fin del mundo” (Mt 28:20). No se espera que nosotros solos realicemos la obra de Cristo. Él está siempre con nosotros, y no se espera que lleven a cabo grandes obras pasándose únicamente en nuestros esfuerzos. El Señor ha compartido con nosotros todo el poder del cielo y de la Tierra; nos ha encargado transformar el mundo mediante el poder de su gracia. Él nos acompaña, incluso más íntimamente que nosotros mismos, nuestras esfuerzos por llevar adelante esta renovación: en el nombre del Padre, del Hijo y del Espíritu Santo. Amen. 

Traducido por: Daniela Guarnipa

La duda no nos exime de proseguir con la obra de Cristo

“Cuando lo vieron, lo adoraron; pero algunos dudaban” (Mt 28:17).

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Information: 317-888-7625 or 317-846-3475 or info@olgreenwood.org.

June 9
St. Paul Hermitage, 501 N. 17th Ave., Beech Grove. Ave Maria Guild, guest day luncheon, noon Information: 317-888-7625 or vlfemme@gmail.com.

St. Andrew School Class 4052 E. 38th St., Indianapolis. June 7
All Saints Parish, 335 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis. 5:45 p.m., exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by First Friday Adoration for 2015 Jeep Wrangler or $20,000. three drawings for 2000. Information: www.bblfdls.org.

June 6

Helpers of God’s Precious Infants Prayer Vigil, Terrace Haven, 7:30 a.m. Mass at the Carmelite Monastery on 59 Allemand, 9:25 a.m. parking on Ohio Blvd., 9:30 a.m. assembly on sidewalk in front of Planted Parenthood at 30 S. 3rd. for prayers. 10 a.m. travel to St. Patrick Adoration Chapel at 1807 Poplar St. for Divine Mercy Chaplet, completed around 10:30 a.m.

June 5
St. Andrew Church, 15519 N. State Road 545, Fields. Celebration of 150th anniversary of church building, festivities start 3 p.m. Central time on June 5, end with Mass 4 p.m. Central time on June 6, live music, food, beer garden, kids’ activities, corn hole tournament, raffle for $50 for the series, 6-7:30 p.m., $15 per session

Session one
Series: Alpaca Training
“Educational Summer Series: Alpaca Training and Handling,” session one of four, ages 10 and above, 6:30-7:30 p.m., $15 per session or 50% for the series, Information: 812-533-2592 or ProCenter.org.

June 4

June 3
St. Andrew School Class 4052 E. 38th St., Indianapolis. June 11
St. Mark the Evangelist Parish, Cenacle (house on parish ground), Indianapolis. Hope and Healing Survivors of Suicide support group, 7 p.m. Information: 317-951-8344.

St. Anthony of Padua School, 4052 E. 38th St., Indianapolis. June 12
Young Adult Fall Discernment Retreat: 9:30 a.m., July 19.

Retreats and Programs
June 12-13

(For a complete list of retreats as reported to The Criterion, log on to www.archindy.org/retreats/)

Sisters of Providence providing accepting Providence Associate applications through June 30
The Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods in St. Mary-of-the-Woods are accepting Providence Associate applications until June 30. Providence Associates are women and men of faith who enter into a deeper relationship with the Sisters of Providence, and help carry the mission of love, mercy and justice to the world through their everyday lives.

New Albany Deanery Catholic Youth Ministries hosting reunion cruise on June 20
As part of its celebration of serving young Catholic adults in southern Indiana for 50 years, the New Albany Deanery Catholic Youth Ministries will host a reunion cruise on the Belle of Louisville on June 20. Boarding time is 8 a.m., and the cruise is from 6:30-9:30 p.m. The cruise will include a “Dance through the Decades,” with music from the 1950s through today. The cost is $20 per person, with a charge of no more than $100 per family. Registration is available at www.pvyouth.org.

For more information, call 812-923-8355.

May 29
Benedict Inn Retreat & Conference Center, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove. 2nd Spiritual Direction Internship Alumni Picnic, Benedictine Sister Julie Swetlik, facilitator. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Information: 317-786-7581 or www.benedictinn.org.

June 3
Archbishop O’Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Solo Seniors, educational, charitable and social singles, 50 and over, single, separated, widowed or divorced. New members welcome: 6:30 p.m. Information: 317-243-0777.

Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, White Violet Center, 1 Sisters of Providence. “Educational Summer Series: Alpaca Training and Handling,” session one of four, ages 10 and above, 6:30-7:30 p.m., $15 per session or 50% for the series, Information: 317-888-2661 or info@alpcreep.org.

St. Lawrence Church, 6941 E. 46th St., Indianapolis. Charismatic Mass, praise and worship, 7 p.m., Mass and healing prayer, 7:30 p.m.

June 5
Marian University chapel, 3200 Cold Spring Road, Indianapolis. Lumen Del Catholic Business Group, Mass and monthly meeting. 6:30-8:30 a.m., breakfast, $15 per person. Information: 317-353-4344 or lumen.del@comcast.net.

Our Lady of the Greenwood Church, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. First Friday celebration of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Mass, 5:45 p.m., exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, following Mass until 10 p.m. sacrament of reconciliation available. Information: 317-888-2661 or info@alpcreep.org.

Sisters of Providence Associates, at 317-250-3294 or ssiefert@oldenburgosf.com.

June 6

Helpers of God’s Precious Infants Prayer Vigil, Terrace Haven, 7:30 a.m. Mass at the Carmelite Monastery on 59 Allemand, 9:25 a.m. parking on Ohio Blvd., 9:30 a.m. assembly on sidewalk in front of Planted Parenthood at 30 S. 3rd. for prayers. 10 a.m. travel to St. Patrick Adoration Chapel at 1807 Poplar St. for Divine Mercy Chaplet, completed around 10:30 a.m.

June 7
St. Andrew the Apostle Parish, 4052 E. 38th St., Indianapolis. St. Andrew School Class of 1965 50th anniversary, 10 a.m., light breakfast reception following Mass. Information: 317-924-1093 or twbereser@gmail.com.

Riveria Club, 5640 N. Illinois St., Indianapolis. St. Agnes Alumnae Brunche, noon, $20, Mass before at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Branch reservation required Send check, including maiden name and graduation year, to Pat Douglas, 7550 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis, IN 46240. Information: Padouglass@padlaw.net.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Parish Hall, 14598 Oakridge Road, Carmel, Ind. (Diocese of Lafayette). “A Summit of Joy and Life,” Gabriel Project, Eileen Harman, presenter, noon, lunch and program, no charge. Information: 317-846-3475 or alphanuns1951@gmail.com.

June 8

June 9
St. Paul Hermitage, 501 N. 17th Ave., Beech Grove. Ave Maria Guild, guest day luncheon, noon Information: 317-888-7625 or vlfemme@gmail.com.

May 29
Benedict Inn Retreat & Conference Center, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove. 2nd Spiritual Direction Internship Alumni Picnic, Benedictine Sister Julie Swetlik, facilitator. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Information: 317-786-7581 or www.benedictinn.org.
Tragedy, devotion to Mary lead to creation of rosary-based exercise

By Natalie Hooter

The flames of the candles flickered in the middle of the rosary on the floor as Deanne Scariano and about 30 other SoulCore participants stretched on their mats, the sounds of soft music enhancing the silence.

“The first Joyful mystery is the Annunciation,” said instructor Denise Miller. “A fruit of this mystery is humility.”

Scariano and the others listened as Miller read Scripture and a reflection on the virtue of humility before leading the participants through strength-building positions and for each Hail Mary of the decade.

“SoulCore was borne out of a series of trials that followed Scariano’s parents living in an apartment and found both her father and brother both were struggling with alcoholism, and Michael became addicted to drugs.”

“Through all of the trials, my mom was so clear that God called us to stay in the apartment and find our way,” Scariano said, choking back tears.

“I asked Deanne to design the workout,” Scariano said. “Through the Holy Spirit, together with the Blessed Mother, the vision of SoulCore was born.”

“Most exercise disciplines are about the exercise, and you might get spiritual benefit from that process,” Miller explained. “But the focus of SoulCore is the prayers of the rosary. The physical movement enhances the prayer.”

“SoulCore is its own movement”

SoulCore is a rosary-based, core-strengthening exercise that takes participants through the Hail Mary of the rosary and “spiritual” to describe their experience.

“SoulCore really is its own movement,” Miller explained. “It’s a response to any other practices, but a ‘yes’ to something clearly inspired by the Holy Spirit.”

“SoulCore evening at Fatima Retreat House”

Women hold a position through the recitation of a Hail Mary while doing SoulCore—a rosary-based, core-strengthening exercise—at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House in Indianapolis on April 29.

(Photos by Natalie Hooter)

Colleen Scariano, right, listens as Deanne Miller explains the concept of SoulCore to approximately 30 women who came to Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House in Indianapolis on April 29 to learn about the rosary-based, core-strengthening exercise and the story of how it was developed. Scariano and Miller are the creators of SoulCore.

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Archbishop Romero knew “how to guide, defend and protect his flock, remaining faithful to the Gospel and in communion with the whole Church,” the pope said in his message. “His ministry was distinguished by a particular attention to the poor and marginalized. And at the time of his death, while celebrating the holy sacrifice, love and reconciliation, he received the grace to be fully identified with the one who gave his life for his sheep.”

The event, at the square of the Divine Savior of the World in the capital city of San Salvador, saw the attendance of four Latin American presidents and six cardinals including: Oscar Andres Rodriguez Maradiaga, of Honduras; Leopoldo Brenes, of Nicaragua; Jaime Ortega, of Cuba; Jose Luis Lacunza, of Panama; Roger Mahony, of the U.S.; and Italian Cardinal Amato, as well as Italian Cardinal Tarcisio Paglia, postulator of Archbishop Romero’s cause.

Their excitement couldn’t have been greater than that of those like Father Estefan Turcios, pastor of El Salvador’s St. Anthony of Padua Church in Soyapango and national director of the Pontifical Mission Societies in El Salvador. Both El Salvador’s conflict. Father Turcios was imprisoned for defending the rights of the poor. Archbishop Romero helped free him.

“The college moved in 2016. (Photo courtesy of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College)”, the college made an announcement on May 19 since 1924. The college has been home to students of the up until recently all-female college program became co-ed in 2005.

“Men is not something entirely new to the college. Open to women until now, King points out that educating women has already is and has been “San Romero,” or “St. Romero of the Americas.”

Father Juan J. Navarro, of Maracaibo, Venezuela, said “In February, Pope Francis signed the decree recognizing Archbishop Romero as a martyr, a person killed “in hatred of the faith,” which meant there is no need to prove a miracle for beatification. But three decades after his assassination, Pope Benedict XVI cleared the archbishop’s sainthood cause. In December 1990, Pope John Paul II declared Romero a saint, a move that lasted from 1971 until 1974, or 1974 until 1975, some of whom had buried. But there have been some positive responses. King said that one alumna from the 1960s made a sizable donation after hearing the news, commenting that she felt more hope for the college than she had felt in a long time.

“The best way to honor him, she said, is to work for peace and justice in El Salvador, and in other parts of the world afflicted by poverty, war, violence, oppression and economic injustice.”

“Plus, she noted, “Our traditional campus has already had enrollment. “We looked at our heritage,” King said. “We looked at what we want to be and how to get there.”

“We seek the inclusion and advancement of our mission. We’ve been proud of the fact that we’ve educated women for the future, and we’re excited to educate men and women about women’s roles and women’s leadership, and creating a curriculum that creates a conversation and better collaboration between men and women.”

While the on-campus degree programs have only been open to women until now, King points out that educating men is not something entirely new to the college. The graduate programs added in 1984 have been co-educational from the start, and the college’s distance programs have been co-ed since 2005.

All of it is leading us in this direction. It’s exciting to see what our Lord to ordain for the future of our institution.’ ”

The decision was made with an eye toward increasing enrollment by more than accepting male applicants to the college’s on-campus undergraduate programs.

“The [decision] was as much about the 98 percent of women who would not look at us, as it was about men,” said King, referring to a national statistic cited in the press release announcing the change. “We are interested in male students, but also in the 98 percent of women who will now consider us because we’re co-ed.”

The board of trustees is hopeful that Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College will have results like those of Wilson College in Chambersburg, Pa.

Similar in size and composition to Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, the formerly all-female college made the decision to accept men to its on-campus undergraduate programs in 2013.

Johnson’s 2017, they’re projecting their largest freshman class in 40 years.”

While King doesn’t see drastic change happening immediately on the campus, an implementation team went up by 21 percent the first year and by 45 percent the second year,” said King. “This year, they’re projecting their largest freshman class in 40 years.”

Plus, she noted, “Our traditional campus has already had the possibility of having males in the classroom. “We could have professors take classes if they attended Indiana State University or Rose-Hulman [Institute of Technology]. Sons of current employees or men in [our] distance education programs could take classes per semester on campus. Men pursuing a certificate program that didn’t lead to a degree could take on-campus classes. In those ways, we have already been co-educational.”

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“With that team, we will ensure that the change in our campus is slow and deliberate.”

King added that response to the news has been “I want this team to focus on two things in particular, as well as any other things they deem necessary,” she said. “First, how will we maintain that important mission to empower and educate women to reach their full potential. And second, how do we do that while still openly being accepting of the value men will bring to the campus.”

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MAY GOD BLESS
the class of 2015

Samuel Paul Allen
Rachel Frances Allen
Mackenzie Alexandra Annee
Spencer Robert Antos
Samuel Lance Atkins
Brian William Ball
Joseph Allen Barnes
Matthew Jon Bates
Sharon Elise Benjamin
Gabriella Rose Benko
Christopher Glenn Bill
Jack Dillon Blake
Alexander Robert Juergen Bluedsoe
Joseph Paul Bormann II
Kathryn Grace Bowes
Andrew Martin Breitbach
Maureen Louise Brogan
Brian Wood Brothers
Ryan Thomas Bujna
Marlin Dana Bunnell
Kelly Ann Burger
Grace Elizabeth Burns
Ashleigh Ann Burton
Cora Leigh Butrum
James Callahan
Jacqueline Marie Carnaghi
Sean Patrick Casey
Grace Ellen Christoff
Gregory Earl Clark
William Randall Collier
Lauren Rachael Collins
Noah Michael Croddy
Colleen Marie Curry
Caitlin Colleen Daniels
Margaret Patrice Dietrick
Rebecca Ann Doyle
Madeline Joseph Dunn
Grace Elizabeth Dury
Alec Austin Eckert
Molly Carrington Egan
Lucy Marie Esgruber
Kendall Nicole Engelert
Nicholas James Estes
Mary Claire Fagan
Chloe Marie Faul
Caroline Patricia Ferguson
Max Edward Fillmearth
Ryan Patrick FitzGerald
Sydney Ellen Foster
David Francis Gage
Colleen Marie Gamache
Matthew Thomas Gozdecki
Kahla Marie-Mendez Grable
Lindsay Madison Grant
Mitchell James Groves

BRIAN BALL
Valedictorian
St. Luke School & Parish

GABRIELLA BENKO
Salutatorian
St. Luke School & Parish

Congratulations Graduates
What was in the news on May 28, 1965? Unity talks, the morality of war, and an all-time record in giving to the missions.

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 28, 1965, issue of The Criterion:

• Top level unity body holds first session
• Right-to-work laws and Catholic clergy
• Daring, dedication urged of graduates
• Spanish priest elected head of Jesuit Order
• St. Pius X cops overall trophy in girls' track
• How to see the pope
• The 1965 camping season!
• The bishops comment: Council is seen giving laity expanded role

The transformation and the challenge Deacon Ahern believes there’s a lesson for all people in his journey that started

Deacon Adam Ahern incenses the congregation during the chrism Mass on March 31 at St. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis. Deacons Ahern, Michael Keucher and Andrew Syberg will be ordained to the priesthood on the cathedral on June 6. (Criterion photo by Sean Gallagher)

Deacon Adam Ahern

• Age: 34
• Father: Msgr. Marian and Karl Ahern
• Home Parish: St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Morris
• College: Marian University in Indianapolis

Deacon Ahern has already made plans to serve in that role. Part of his assignment in the archdiocese includes serving as a chaplain for the Indiana National Guard. He is scheduled to be commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army National Guard on Aug. 19.

The military is all about serving a greater purpose—defending our brothers, defending our country,” Deacon Ahern says. “And what does Christ say? ‘No greater love is there than to lay down your life for your brother’ (Jn 15:13). That’s what our service members do for their brothers and sisters. That’s what Christ asks us to do. That’s how I envision my life—laying down my life for my brothers, my contemporaries.”

The most dangerous question has been answered with a personal conviction. “You know, when you do it, you do it with love, do it with happiness,” he says. “There are going to be times when you’re frustrated, sad, upset. But underneath it all, there has always been that love, that joy.”

(For more information about a vocation to the priesthood in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, log on to www.HearGodsCall.com.)

This week’s edition of The Criterion features an interview with Deacon Adam Ahern, a priest from the Archdiocese of Indianapolis who will be ordained to the priesthood on June 6. The interview provides insight into the challenges and opportunities that Deacon Ahern faces in his new role.

The interview covers a range of topics, including Deacon Ahern’s background, his religious vocation, and his experiences serving in the military. It also highlights the importance of faith and love in his life and work.

Deacon Ahern is a member of the Society of the Divine Word, a religious order that works in mission and education. He has served in a variety of capacities, including as a high school teacher and a military chaplain.

In the interview, Deacon Ahern reflects on the challenges he faces as a priest, including the importance of prayer, the need for compassion and empathy, and the role of leadership in guiding and inspiring others.

Deacon Ahern’s journey to the priesthood is one of transformation and self-discovery. He describes his vocation as something he couldn’t control, but that he embraced wholeheartedly.

He draws on his experiences in the military as a source of strength and inspiration. His time in the Army taught him the importance of discipline, commitment, and sacrifice, and he carries these lessons with him in his work as a priest.

The interview concludes with Deacon Ahern’s reflections on the future of the Church and its role in society. He emphasizes the importance of education and service, and he highlights the need for reconciliation and cooperation in our divided world.

By understanding the challenges and opportunities that Deacon Ahern faces, we can gain a deeper appreciation for the role of the priest in our society. The interview provides a glimpse into the life of a priest, and it offers insights into the ongoing work of the Church in service to the world.
Disaster Response Logistics Center in North Vernon blessed for use

By Leslie Lynch
Special to The Criterion

NORTH VERNON—In the aftermath of the tornado that devasted southern Indiana in March of 2012, the need for a logistics center to assist in disaster response surfaced. The archdiocese had met on May 2 in the newly completed Catholic Charities Disaster Response Logistics Center in North Vernon was blessed during a special ceremony.

“Equipment had been donated over the years and was stored all around the archdiocese,” said David Siler, executive director of the archdiocese’s Secretariat for Catholic Charities. “Having a place to consolidate gave us the opportunity to do an inventory.”

The $93,000 facility, of which 40 feet by 80 feet was produced in January of 2014. Since then to film a Spanish DVD or translate our DVDs into Spanish,” said Miller.

“While I wish I could say this was my vision when I took this position years ago, I can’t take the credit,” he admitted. “The idea evolved.”

He attributed much of the credit to Jane Crady, coordinator of disaster preparedness and response for Catholic Charities in the archdiocese. She was instrumental in leading the archdiocesan disaster relief efforts after floods impacted central Indiana in 2008 and tornadoes devastated southern Indiana in March of 2012.

Crady learned firsthand about disaster relief when the Holy Spirit nudged her to move to Wisconsin, in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Crady took on the daunting task of organizing relief and rebuilding efforts in the small town, then returned to Indiana. Father Steve Schaftlein, who was pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish in Henryville at the time the tornadoes ravaged the small town in 2012, witnessed the tremendous help offered by the archdiocese’s disaster response team.

“The most vulnerable rise to the top in situations like this, the uninsured or uninsured, the poor, those who need help in accessing these services available to them because of language or other barriers,” he said.

“The mission of this ministry of Catholic Charities—providing a caring Christian presence in the aftermath of disaster—adds another dimension: staying until they are no longer needed. They remained in Henryville for two years, providing advocacy and coordinating volunteers and donations until the goal of rebuilding had been completed.

In another unique collaboration, Crady has partnered with the state chapter of the Knights of Columbus to create a disaster response network in Lanesville, state director for the Knights of Columbus, is actively recruiting members and coordinating trainings to form early response and long-term recovery teams.

“I really enjoy it!”

“SoulCore helps me refocus after a long day or work,” said Miller. “The reflections are different, the scriptures may vary, and there are different fruits and virtues for each decade.”

Meanwhile, the two are on the road conducting instructor retreats, the most recent being in Michigan and Pennsylvania.

Instructor-led classes are currently held at parishes and other locations in the Lafayette and Fort Wayne-South Bend dioceses, and in Guts Mills and Highland Heights in Ohio.

Turning suffering into joy

The first location where the SoulCore classes were—and still are—taught in the renovated garage over which the apartment was located on the Scariono’s property, the one in which her father and brother died.

“That has gone from being a place of death to a place of life,” said Scariano.

“Each class is never the same,” said Miller. “The reflections are different, the scriptures may vary, and there are different fruits and virtues for each decade.”

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The conversion of the garage to a workshop studio created “so much more healing than I knew was needed. It’s a visible sign that God can take great suffering and bring new life and joy. Like the Scripture says, he can ‘make all things new’” (Rev. 21:5).

A Mass was celebrated in the studio to consecrate and bless the space. Afterward, Scariano plugged her iPod into the sound system, and the family danced with joy. “It reminded me of the Scripture, ‘I will turn your sorrow into dancing’ (Ps. 30:11),” she said.

“We can now accept large donations of materials in this building. In the past, we’ve had to decline those items for lack of space.”

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—David Siler, executive director of the archdiocese’s Secretariat for Catholic Charities.
The answer was to offer two special Masses—a Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass in the fall specifically for those celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary, along with their families, plus an Archdiocesan Marriage Celebration for all married couples in the spring, with special acknowledgement of those celebrating 60 years or more of marriage as has been done in the past.

This will create an opportunity to gather the entire Church of central and southern Indiana together to observe God’s plan for a long and joyful marriage vocation,” says Seibert.

The Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass will be celebrated on Aug. 23 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, with Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin serving as the principal celebrant. Archbishop Tobin will celebrate the first annual Archdiocesan Marriage Celebration Mass on April 24, 2016, at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral. More information about the Mass will be publicized closer to the date.

A reception at the Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center will follow each Mass.

Rebecca Niemerg, director of the Office of Pro Life and Family Life, is excited about the change.

“We hope that these celebrations will create a greater witness to the beauty of marriage,” she said. “We want them to stand as a strong example of the persevering love of God that shines through marriage.”

Over the past couple of years, and especially last year, we had to turn families away because we ran out of space at the cathedral and Assembly Hall,” admits Scott Seibert, archdiocesan coordinator of marriage and family enrichment.

The situation made the staff of the archdiocese’s Office of Pro Life and Family Life ask two questions, he says: “First, how do we better honor marriage across the archdiocese? Second, how do we better acknowledge the beautiful witnesses of those who have been married 50, 60 and 70-plus years?”

The solution was offered to the archdiocese’s Office of Pro Life and Family Life. Seibert acknowledged two factors:

“The first factor is the desire to celebrate the 50th anniversary, and a separate Mass to honor all married couples, with special recognition given to those married for 60 or more years. (Plus photo by Natalie Hoffer)

A couple holds hands during the Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis on Sept. 21, 2014. The growing number of marriages in the archdiocese lasting 50 or more years—plus the desire to recognize all marriages—led the archdiocesan Office of Pro Life and Family Life to focus the annual Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass on those celebrating their 50th anniversary, and a separate Mass to honor all married couples, with special recognition given to those married for 60 or more years. (Plus photo by Natalie Hoffer)

Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass, second liturgy will ‘better honor marriage’

By Natalie Hoffer

For the last few years, the annual Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass has left SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis bursting at its marbled seams. In attendance at last year’s Mass were 76 couples celebrating 50 years of marriage, 61 couples married for 51-59 years and 43 couples married for 60 years or more, plus family members.

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VATICAN CITY (CNS)—The power of the Holy Spirit transforms people into bold witnesses of the Gospel, who reach out to others, exercise charity and live in harmony with creation, Pope Francis said.

Celebrating Pentecost Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica and reciting the Regina Coeli on Pentecost Sunday, Pope Francis said Blessed Stefani “served the Kenyan people with joy, mercy and compassion.” (CNS photo/Noor Khamis, Reuters)

When the Spirit came upon the disciples, Pope Francis told people in the square, “they were completely transformed. Fear was replaced by courage, closure gave way to proclamation and every doubt was driven away by faith full of love.”

The day’s first reading, Acts 2:1-11, recounts how people from every land heard the disciples speaking in their own languages, the pope said. “The Church was not born isolated, it was born universal—one, catholic—with a precise identity, open to all.”

The good news of salvation proclaimed by the disciples was meant for the whole world, he said.

“Mother Church does not close the door in anyone’s face,” he said. “Not even the biggest sinner’s.”

The tongue of fire resting on the head of each disciple as a sign of the Holy Spirit was “the flame of love that burns away all harmlessness; it was the language of the Gospel that crosses every border humans make and touches the hearts of the multitude without distinction of language, race or nationality.”

Today, just as on Pentecost, the pope said, the Holy Spirit is poured out on the Church and on every follower of Jesus “so that we would leave behind our mediocrity and being closed off, and rather communicate to the whole world the merciful love of the Lord.”

Pope Francis urged Christians to model their lives on the two people beatified on May 23: Archbishop Oscar Romero of San Salvador and Italian Consolata Sister Irene Stefani, who worked and died in Kenya.

“Referring to Blessed Romero as a ‘zealous pastor,’ Pope Francis said that following Jesus’ example, he chose to be in the midst of his people, especially the poor and oppressed, even at the cost of his life.”

Blessed Stefani, he said, “served the Kenyan people with joy, mercy and tender compassion.”

“May the heroic example of these blessed ones give rise in each of us to the deep desire to witness to the Gospel with courage and self-sacrifice.”

In his homily at the Pentecost Mass that morning, Pope Francis said the Scriptures assure Christians that the Holy Spirit continues to be at work in the Church and in the world doing what Jesus promised the Spirit would do: “he guides us into all the truth, he renews the face of the Earth, and he gives us his fruits.”

“Filled with the Holy Spirit, the disciples went from being confused about Jesus’ death and afraid to speak and afraid of being arrested, to being bold announcers of salvation in Jesus, the pope said.

“The Spirit made them understand that ‘the death of Jesus was not his defeat, but rather the ultimate expression of God’s love, a love that, in the resurrection, conquers death and exalts Jesus as the living one, the Lord, the redeemer of mankind, the Lord of history and of the world.’”

At the same time, the pope said, the Spirit is the one who renew the Earth and can renew people’s relationship with it.”
Marian University is pleased to announce that, thanks to Robert H. McKinney, Marian University is creating the Robert H. McKinney Chair of International Programs. Mr. McKinney’s generous gift will increase opportunities for current and future Marian University students to study abroad, as well as attract international students to our campus on Indianapolis’ west side.

This magnanimous gift joins the list of other recently endowed chairs including:

- Rosemary and Jerry Semler Endowed Chair in Medical Ethics, through the generosity of OneAmerica
- Anthony J. Kriech Endowed Chair in Chemistry, through the generosity of The Fehsenfeld Family
- Sarah and John C. Lechleiter Endowed Chair in Chemistry, through the generosity of Dr. and Mrs. John C. Lechleiter
- Sister Mary Rose Stockton Dean of Mathematics and Sciences, through the generosity of an anonymous donor

Last month, we were blessed to receive a gift from St. Vincent that will help ensure Marian University’s ability to provide leaders in health care through our College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Leighton School of Nursing.

Thank you to Robert H. McKinney and all of our generous donors, for allowing us to continue our mission of preparing leaders for service to the world in the areas of health care, science, business, education, ministry, and public service.
Archbishop Gomez reflects on Dorothy Day’s treasured legacy

FORT WAYNE, Ind. (CNS)—Saying it was for the Church that Dorothy Day was a saint, Los Angeles Archbishop Jose H. Gomez told a conference on May 14 that Dorothy Day was a saint, Los Angeles Archbishop Jose H. Gomez told a conference on May 14.

New York’s Bowery in the midst of the Great Depression in 1933.

“She walked with the great saints of the Church, like Francis of Assisi, John of the Cross, Catherine of Siena and many others,” Archbishop Gomez said, noting he was not an authority on Day.

“Shees were her constant companions. She once said she spent her days in conversation with Jesus and the saints of the Church.”

“Wanted to think and live like a saint,” he added. “I believe that what she has left us is a saint’s vision of our times and our society.”

The archbishop’s address was part of a three-day conference, “Dorothy Day and the Church: Past, Present and Future,” and was one of several events marking the 125th anniversary of the University of St. Francis in Fort Wayne. The May 13-15 conference was co-sponsored by Our Sunday Visitor.

Day, a journalist, social activist and devout Catholic convert, became known for her social justice campaigns in defense of poor, hungry, homeless and marginalized people. The Catholic Worker Movement continues to combine direct aid for the poor and homeless with nonviolent direct action on their behalf.

She served as editor of The Catholic Worker newspaper from 1933 until her death in 1980 at age 83.

Archbishop Gomez said that the “บาท” of Day’s life reads like a saint.

In order to live in this society, the “ohan” society which we are, we need to strive to live in a close relationship with Jesus Christ,” Archbishop Gomez said.

The early 21st century is a time when men and women must be messengers and disciples and practice heroic charity, he explained.

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—Archbishop Jose H. Gomez

‘Positio’ for Father Peyton now with Congregation for Saints’ Causes

EASTON, Mass. (CNS)—Presentation of the “posizio,” or official position paper, on the life and holiness of Father Patrick Peyton to a Vatican congregation is the synthesis of a 6,000-page document that was four years in the making, and is the synthesis of a 6,000-page report completed by theologians in the Archdiocese of Baltimore and 34 other dioceses around the world.

“We are very pleased to see progress in Father Peyton’s case,” said Holy Cross Father Wilfred Raymond. “Many people regularly tell me we need a ‘saint for families,’’ and that Father Peyton is the appropriate candidate.”

Father Peyton came to the United States from Ireland in 1928 when he was 19. Ordained in 1941, he was the founder of Holy Cross Family Ministries, which includes Family Rosary, Family Theater Productions, Father Peyton Family Institute and Family Rosary International.

His ministry produced more than 600 radio and television programs and 10,000 broadcasts. The priest also conducted rosary crusades for millions of people in dozens of countries.

Father Raymond, president of Holy Cross Family Ministries, delivered the “posizio” to the Vatican Congregation for Saints’ Causes on April 21. Joining him were Andrea Ambrosia of Rome and Holy Cross Father David S. Marcham of North Easton, who are, respectively, postulator and vice postulator of Father Peyton’s cause. Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle of Manila, Philippines, was there as well.

“We honor Father Peyton’s memory by bringing families together to pray, especially the rosary,” Father Raymond added in his statement. “We continue to fulfill his vision by sharing his strong belief with families around the world that the family that prays together stays together.”

Father Peyton died in 1992 and is buried in Easton. His sainthood cause was opened in June 2004 in the Diocese of Fall River, Mass. It was moved from that diocese to the Baltimore Archdiocese by the Vatican, citing the archdiocese’s experience with other saintliness causes.

Father Peyton was known worldwide as “The Rosary Priest.” He had two especially famous mottoes: “The family that prays together stays together,” and “A world at prayer is a world at peace.” †
Faith

How will the 21st-century’s early decades be remembered at the turn of the next one?

Pope Francis apparently hopes our times might be remembered for refocusing human attention on God’s presence in the world. The pope urgently wants people to discover that God is never distant but always near.

In proclaiming the extraordinary Holy Year of Mercy that begins on Dec. 8, Pope Francis spoke in one breath of God’s nearness and mercy.

“God, he states, “will always be the one who is close, present, close, provident, holy and merciful.”

The Holy Spirit serves as an advocate to save believers from sin

By Daniel S. Mulhall

Some of the most popular TV series in the U.S. have taken place in make-believe courtrooms. Think of “Perry Mason” in the 1950s and 1960s or “Law & Order” in recent times.

Some of the episodes feature an innocent person who is doomed to be found guilty of some dastardly deed, only to have his or her lawyer pull off a last-minute save. Lawyers are advocates, people who speak for others in a court of law.

Interesting enough, the Holy Spirit also is referred to as an Advocate. Jesus uses the word “Advocate” in St. John’s Gospel (Jn 14:16, 14:17). While the original Greek word “Parakletos” is sometimes translated as “Comforter” or “Counselor,” most translators of the Gospels use “Advocate,” which reflects the Greek usage of the word—one who speaks for a client in a court of law.

The New Testament passage that gives us the clearest understanding of the word’s meaning is found in the First Letter of John. In this passage the word “Parakletos” is applied to Jesus: “But if anyone does sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous One” (Jn 2:1). Here, Jesus is seen as pleading our case with the Father, arguing that we deserve mercy and that One” (1 Jn 2:1). Here, Jesus is seen as pleading our case with the Father, arguing that we deserve mercy and that

The Holy Spirit serves as an advocate to save believers from sin

Katalina Bonilla is confirmed by Father John Deramo during a Pentecost Sunday Mass at St. Brigid Church in Westminster, N.Y.

The Holy Spirit was sent to believers by God to be close to them, and as an advocate to save them from their sins.

(CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz, Long Island Catholic)

The Holy Spirit serves as an advocate to save believers from sin

By David Gibson

The Holy Spirit leads Catholics to show God’s mercy to world

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(CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz, Long Island Catholic)
Effie Caldarola

For the Journey/

From the Editor Emeritus/

Anencletus). The historian Eusebius says in his Second Letter to Timothy, Paul sent that he served in it from 66 to 78. Linus about most of our first popes. Even the fourth and seventh popes, four men who and they declined because, each one told that he is "not worthy of the name of prophet."

Cletus' full name was Anacletus (or Anencletus). The historian Eusebius says that he died in the 12th year of the reign of Emperor Domitian, which was 91. There's a tradition that he appointed 25 presbyters for St. Peter's tomb and created the instrument of St. Peter's tomb, but we don't know that for sure.

We know more about Clement, pope from 91 to 101. He wrote one and possibly a second letter to the Church in Corinth, Greek, where dissension had broken out and some priests had been deposed, setting out the principle on which the orderly succession of bishops and deacons rests and tracing it back to Jesus. The letter is the first instance of the Church in Rome intervening in the affairs of another Church. Parts of the first letter are still read in the Office of Readings, part of the Liturgy of the Hours.

One of my favorite churches in Rome, the Basilica of St. Clement, is almost certainly built on the site of Pope Clement's home. Within walking distance of both the Coliseum and St. John Lateran Cathedral, there are three levels: the present basilica built in the 11th century over a fourth-century basilica, which was built over the 6th century basilica, which was built over the 3rd century basilica, which was built on the site of St. Clement. It appears to have been later used sometime in the 3rd century for worship in the pagan cult of Mithra before the fourth-century basilica dedicated to Clement was built over it. This was, however, destroyed during the 19th century after being an anchor tied around his neck. Then, supposedly, Sts. Cyril and Methodius found his body seven centuries later and translated it (the formal Church term for moving it), and the anchor, to Rome in 868. We believe he has to have been cathedrals but churches dedicated to St. Clement also have an unique somewhere around.

Although we don't know much about the specific duties of these early popes, we do know that they led the first Christians in Rome during a time of persecution. They were the center of clandestine Christian worship. It appears to have been later used sometime in the 3rd century.
**Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity**

**Msgr. Owen E Campion**

**Sunday Readings**

**Sunday, May 31, 2015**

- Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40
- Romans 8:14-17
- Matthew 28:16-20

The Book of Deuteronomy provides this feast’s first reading. Deuteronomy is among the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Old Testament. These books form for Jews the basic revelation by God. This reading describes an instruction given by Moses to the Hebrew people as they wandered across the Sinai Peninsula, fleeing Egypt where they had been slaves, and in search of the prosperous land that God had promised them.

In this reading, Moses tells the people that God had created everything, God had spoken to them. God is in heaven. Finally, Moses said that the people must obey God’s commandments. Each statement is powerful in its implications. They reveal God. God reveals himself through them. God freely revealed himself to humans as their Creator, had related to them, and had set the standards for people’s relationship with him.

For the second reading this weekend, the Church presents a passage from St. Paul’s Epistle to the Romans. By the time Paul wrote this letter to the Christians of Rome, the reality of God, certainly as the Church presents a passage from the Old Testament figures, is more than creatures or possessions. We are God’s children, heirs to God’s eternal life, and one with Jesus, the Son of God and Savior.

The Church makes these reassuring points. It tells us about God. It tells us about ourselves.

It tells us that God loves us. How? By giving us the Lord Jesus as our Redeemer. God loves us by giving us bearers of the divine word, such as Moses and Paul.

God loves us by giving us the Apostles. They were more than humans who simply had the opportunity to meet Jesus and to learn from Jesus. Jesus prepared them to go into the world to give us the words of salvation, words by which to live.

Their tradition, indeed their presence, endures among us. It continues in their successors, the bishops, and in the Church guided by the bishops.

In these lessons, the Church is frank. God is everything. He alone gives life and everything. Nothing else is lasting, secure or real. God loves us. He reveals the most intimate detail of his divine life to us, the Trinity, that we might truly know him. He reaches out to us, Jesus reaches to us and meets us in the Apostles.

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**Question Corner**

Fr. Kenneth Doyle

"My Journey to God"

Old Testament figures are not saints, but still considered holy men and women

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**Daily Readings**

**Monday, June 1**

- St. Justin Martyr
- Tobit 1:3, 22b-8
- Psalm 112:1b-2, 3b-6
- Mark 12:1-12

**Tuesday, June 2**

- St. Marcellinus, martyr
- St. Peter, martyr
- Tobit 2:8-14
- Psalm 112:1-2, 7-9
- Mark 12:13-17

**Wednesday, June 3**

- St. Charles Lwanga and companions, martyrs
- Tobit 3:1-1a, 16-17a
- Psalm 23:2-3b, 6, 7bc, 8
- Mark 12:18-27

**Thursday, June 4**

- Tobit 6:10-17, 7bde, 19-7:9
- Psalm 128:1-5
- Mark 12:28-34

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**My Journey to God**

Where Hope is Found

By Natalie Hofer

Where does hope begin
When troubles settle in, when jobs are lost and money is tight, when failures seem to abound?

Where does hope find life
When loved ones pass away, when a child waiting to be born never sees the light of day?

Where does hope find hope
When the news is full of dread, when a child waiting to be born never sees the light of day?

Hope is found upon your knees
Where does hope begin
When troubles settle in, when jobs are lost and money is tight, when failures seem to abound?

Hope is found upon your knees
When eyes fixed upon the cross, where life is born from tragic death, and gain is made of life forever.

Hope is found when each unites
His will with God’s above—Whose will is good and just and right, Whose will is purest love.

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**Readers may submit prose or poetry for faith column**

The Criterion invites readers to submit original prose or poetry relating to faith or experiences of prayer for possible publication in the “My Journey to God” column.

Seasonal reflections also are appreciated. Please include name, address, parish and telephone number with submissions.

Send material for consideration to “My Journey to God,” The Criterion, 1424 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202 or e-mail to nhoefer@archindy.org.
natives of the archdiocese or included here, unless they are sisters and brothers are Order priests and religious.


LINDSAL, Marci Noon. May 6. Great-grandfather of 23. Father of Mary Henrietta Sheehan was born on Sept. 2, 1933. She earned a bachelor’s degree in education for 29 years in schools in Illinois, California, Indiana and Texas. She later ministered to older citizens in retirement communities in California and Indiana. In 2014, she moved to the motherhouse where she dedicated herself entirely to prayer.

In the archdiocese, Sister Loretta Maureen Gansser served at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods retirement community in Georgetown, Ind., from 2005-13. Memorial gifts may be sent to the Sisters of Providence, 1 Sisters of Providence Road, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, St. Mary-of-the-Woods, IN 47876.


Providence Sister Loretta Maureen Gansser served in education for 31 years and in senior care

Providence Sister Loretta Maureen Gansser died on May 17 at Mother Theodore Hall at St. Mary-of-the-Woods. She was 85.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on May 21 at the Church of the Immaculate Conception at the motherhouse. Burial followed at the sisters’ cemetery.

Frances Helen Gansser was born on May 7, 1930, in Missouri Valley, Iowa. She entered the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods on Jan 21, 1949, and professed final vows on Aug. 15, 1958.

Sister Loretta Maureen earned a bachelor’s degree at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and a master’s degree at Dominican University in San Rafael, Calif.

During her 66 years as a member of the Providence Sisters, Sister Loretta Maureen served in education for 31 years in schools in California, Illinois, Indiana and Texas. She later ministered to older citizens in retirement communities in California and Indiana. In 2014, she moved to the motherhouse where she dedicated herself entirely to prayer.

In the archdiocese, Sister Loretta Maureen Gansser served at St. Patrick Church in Terra Haute from 1957-58 and at the former St. Catherine of Sienna School in Indianapolis from 1958-60. She ministered on the infant care staff at the motherhouse from 1974-75 and at the Guerin Woods retirement community in Georgetown, Ind., from 2005-13. Memorial gifts may be sent to the Sisters of Providence, 1 Sisters of Providence Road, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, St. Mary-of-the-Woods, IN 47876.

Providence Sister Dolores Linhart ministered in Catholic schools and as a counselor

Providence Sister Dolores Linhart died on May 6 at Mother Theodore Hall at St. Mary-of-the-Woods. She was 88.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on May 9 at the Church of the Immaculate Conception at the motherhouse. Burial followed at the sisters’ cemetery.

Dolores Anna Linhart was born on May 5, 1927, in Chicago. She entered the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods on Jan 5, 1946, and professed final vows on Aug. 15, 1953.

Sister Dolores earned a bachelor’s degree from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College in St. Mary-of-the-Woods and a master’s degree from Marquette University in Milwaukee. During her 69 years as a member of the Providence Sisters, Sister Dolores Maureen served in education for 29 years in schools in Illinois and Indiana. She then served for 25 years in counselling, primarily career counseling in Illinois. In 2007, she retired to the motherhouse and dedicated herself entirely to prayer.

In the archdiocese, Sister Dolores served in Indianapolis at the former St. Ann School from 1948-50, the former St. Anthony School from 1955-55 and the former St. Joseph School from 1959-63. Surviving is a brother, Robert Linhart of Mount Prospect, Ill.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Sisters of Providence, 1 Sisters of Providence Road, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, St. Mary-of-the-Woods, IN 47876.

Ursuline Sister Thelma Sheehan was in religious life for 87 years, taught in Catholic school in Madison

Ursuline Sister Thelma Sheehan died on May 11 at Mercy Sacred Heart nursing home in Louisville. She was 92.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on May 15 at the Mother House chapel for the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville. Burial followed at St. Michael Church in Louisville in a section designated for the Ursuline Sisters.

Mary Henrietta Sheehan was born on Sept. 1, 1912, in Louisville. She entered the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville on Aug. 15, 1928, and professed final vows on Sept. 2, 1933. She earned a bachelor’s degree in education from the former Ursuline College in Louisville.

During 87 years as a member of the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville, Sister Thelma ministered as an educator for decades in Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, Nebraska and West Virginia. In the archdiocese, she taught at the former St. Michael School in Madison from 1948-49.

From 1984-94, Sister Thelma was the archdiocesan postulant of the Ursuline Motherhouse and continued volunteering after that until 2005 when she retired and dedicated herself to prayer. She is survived by several nieces and nephews.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Ursuline Sisters, Mission Advancement Office, 3105 Lexington Road, Louisville, KY 40206.
Franciscans elect U.S. Father Michael Perry to six-year term as superior

ASSISI, Italy (CNS)—Delegates to the general chapter of the Franciscans elected U.S. Franciscan Father Michael Perry to a six-year term as head of the order after he had served in the role for two years.

A native of Indianapolis, Father Michael grew up in Holy Cross Parish and graduated from Roncalli High School. He had served in the role for two years.

The Franciscans’ general chapter was meeting on May 10-6 June 7 in Assisi. According to information posted on a special general chapter website, the work included a long discussion about the financial situation of the Franciscan headquarters in Rome, as well as financial activity and oversight in every Franciscan community worldwide.

In December, Father Michael announced that an investigation of the books of the headquarters concluded that “inefficient and ineffective budgetary oversight” and “questionable financial activities plunged the headquarters into significant debt and an extremely serious financial situation.”

According to the Vatican yearbook, the Order of Friars Minor—the formal name of the Franciscan order led by Father Michael—has 14,046 members, of whom 9,508 are priests.

Before being elected to finish Archbishop Rodriguez Carballo’s term, Father Michael had served as the order’s vicar general.

In 2008, less than a year before his election as vicar general, Father Michael was elected provincial of the Franciscans’ St. Louis-based Sacred Heart Province.

He spent 10 years as a pastor, teacher and development director for Franciscan programs in Congo.

Father Michael holds a doctorate in religious anthropology, a master’s of divinity degree in priestly formation, and a bachelor’s degree in history and philosophy. He entered the Franciscans in 1977 and was ordained a priest in 1984.

By its nature, VSED appears to be defined by the intent to cause death by forgoing the most basic requirements to conserve human life.

Intentionally engaging in such damaging and self-destructive behaviors, by foisting dehydration and starvation onto our mortal frames to such an extent that our earthly existence, can never represent an ordered kind of human choice.

(Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience at Yale University and has done much research work at Harvard University. He is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Mass., and serves as director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.ncbcenter.org.)

PACHOLCZYK

GALLAGHER

continued from page 4

needed to endure many challenging years in NASCAR and the battles of this year’s Indy 500 also helped him put the important things of life into proper perspective. After Montoya drank the winner’s milk in Victory Circle at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway last Sunday, he didn’t pour it over his head or splatter it on his pit crew, as winners have done in the past. Instead, he passed the bottle on to his young children celebrating next to his car.

When we persevere through this life, we’ll be able to echo Montoya’s words—but with so much more experience behind them. Our grace-inspired perseverance will have helped us to keep the faith throughout all of life’s trials in order to run the race set before us so as to win it.

Thankfully, anyone can win the race of our faith. We don’t need to belong to a well-funded race team or worry that we’ll fall short despite our best efforts, like so many Indy Car drivers of the past. God’s grace will fuel our victory, it’s guaranteed and we’re free to take it. Our victory circle will be much more sweet than the jubilation that overflowed from Montoya, his family and teammates last Sunday. For, with all due respect to Indiana’s dairy farmers, we won’t drink milk but the new, rich wine of the wedding feast of the Lamb in the new Jerusalem.

(Sean Gallagher is a reporter for The Criterion, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.)

Catholic Church
Congratulations, class of 2015!

Cathedral graduates earned more than $34.5 million in awards and scholarships!