Music teacher discovers her true voice in soaring cathedral and God’s whispers

By John Shaughnessy

On one level, Jennifer Brandon’s faith journey is connected to her travels around the world, visiting and writing about the great cathedrals that people have created to honor God. On another level, her path to a deeper relationship with God has come in far less grand settings—in quiet moments when this Indianapolis singer, music teacher and mother of two belives God is whispering to her.

One of her most memorable “God whispers” moments occurred on the first pilgrimage she made to the Chartres Cathedral in northern France in 2015. Starting in Paris with her fellow pilgrims, Brandon walked and carried her backpack for three days through the fields and forests of France on the way to the town of Chartres.

“One of the most special musical experiences of my life happened on the road, on the third day of walking,” recalls Brandon, the music teacher at St. Matthew the Apostle School in Indianapolis, visited as part of her travels for a book she is co-authoring, Places of Light: The Gift of Cathedrals to the World. (Submitted photo)

Parish’s miscarriage ministry aims to help people through grief and promote sanctity of life

By Jennifer Lindberg

GREENSBURG—Like many women suffering a miscarriage for the first time, Rebecca Harpring was uncertain what resources were available to her and her family to bury their baby.

Harpring and her husband Chris, members of St. Mary Parish in Greensburg, want to make it easier for other mothers and fathers who find themselves in the same situation. The Harpring lost two babies to miscarriage in 2016—Agnes Marie and Andrew Paul. While they were able to bury the babies in a family plot, there was still a lot to figure out.

One of the most special musical experiences of my life happened on the road, on the third day of walking,” recalls Brandon, the music teacher at St. Matthew the Apostle School in Indianapolis. “We had walked into a small country church, and as soon as we got inside, the heavens opened up with rain. We sat in silence for a while, and then I felt moved to sing. I sang ‘Great Is Thy Faithfulness.’

“[I] felt a sense of aliveness. It comes from the freedom to inhabit the moment. Singing is the gift I’ve been given. It’s my joy to share that. To sing in a worshipful place is such a privilege. (Submitted photos)

Supreme Court allows fetal burials, rejects abortion limits in Indiana

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The U.S. Supreme Court weighed in on two different aspects of Indiana abortion laws on May 28. It upheld a state law—reversing an appeals court ruling—that requires abortion providers to bury or cremate fetal remains. It also refused to take up a challenge to a block of the state law that would prevent women from obtaining abortions based on the gender, race or a potential diagnosis of Down syndrome of the fetus.

“We’re pleased that they did rule in favor of one part of it—recognizing the dignity of the fetus and proper disposal is important part of the sacredness of life—and disappointed, of course, that [the court] is not dealing with the question of abortion based on sex, race or disability,” said Glenn Tebbe, executive director of the Indiana Catholic Conference, the public policy arm of the state’s bishops.

“At least one is a step in the right direction,” Tebbe said, noting “fetal life is life and should be treated in a respectful or proper way.

The court’s three-page decision, issued without oral arguments, was unsigned. It said its decision to uphold the law concerning the disposal of fetal remains “does not impair our cases applying the undue burden test to abortion regulations” nor does it involve a challenge that the law “imposes an undue burden on a woman’s right to obtain an abortion.”

The court said the state has “a legitimate interest in proper disposal of fetal remains,” referring to a 1983 court decision, Akron v. Akron Center for Reproductive Health, Inc. The justices voted 7-2 to uphold the fetal remains aspect of the state’s law, with Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sonia Sotomayor dissenting.

The court also examined the appellate court’s ruling which struck down a provision in the state law that prevented women from obtaining abortions because of Down syndrome of the fetus. (Submitted photos)
Official Appointments

Effective July 3, 2019

Pastors Retiring


Rev. Clement T. Davis, St. Bartholomew Parish, Columbus, and remaining as senior associate pastor and offering sacramental assistance, Holy Trinity Parish, Edinburgh.

Rev. H. Michael Hildebrand, St. Mary’s-of-the-Knobs Parish, Floyd County.


Rev. George Joseph Nangachvettill, St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Fortville.

From Administrator to Pastor

Rev. James M. Brockmeier, St. Mary (Immaculate Conception) Parish, Rovuvile.

Rev. Douglas A. Hunter, St. Roch Parish, Indianapolis, and chaplain coordinator for Roncalli High School, also in Indianapolis.

Pastor or Administrator New Appointments

Rev. Stephen D. Donahue, from pastor of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Aurora, to pastor of St. Michael Parish, Cannelton and St. Pius V Parish, Troy.

Rev. Dennis M. Duvelius, from pastor of St. Paul Parish, Tell City and St. Mark Parish, Perry County, to pastor of St. John the Apostle Parish, Blawington and St. Jude the Apostle Parish, Spencer.

Rev. Todd M. Goodson, from pastor of St. Monica Parish, Indianapolis, to pastor of Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, Greenwood.


Rev. Douglas W. Marcotte, from pastor of Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, both in Jeffersonville, to pastor of St. Simon the Apostle Parish, Indianapolis.

Rev. William G. Marks, from pastor of St. Mark the Evangelist Parish, Indianapolis, to pastor of St. Mary-of-the-Knobs Parish, Floyd County.

Rev. Peter A. Marshall, from director of spiritual formation, St. Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology, St. Meinrad, to pastor, St. Jude Parish, Indianapolis, and director of continuing education for priests.

Rev. John P. McCasin, from pastor of St. Simon the Apostle Parish, Indianapolis, to pastor, St. Monica Parish, Indianapolis.

Rev. Benjamin D. Syberg, pastor of St. Lawrence Parish, Lawrenceburg, to pastor of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Aurora, and continuing as pastor, St. Lawrence Parish, Lawrenceburg.

Rev. Christopher Wadeton, from pastor of St. Philip Neri Parish, Indianapolis, to pastor, St. Bartholomew Parish, Columbus, and sacramental minister, Holy Trinity Parish, Edinburgh.

New Administrators

Rev. Jeffrey L. Dufresne, from associate pastor of St. Monica Parish, Indianapolis, and chaplain coordinator, Cardinal Ritter Junior/Senior High School, also in Indianapolis, to administrator, St. Philip Neri Parish, Indianapolis.


Rev. Matthew H. Tucei, from associate pastor of St. Barnabas Parish and Catholic chaplain, University of Indianapolis, both in Indianapolis, to administrator of Most Sacred Heart of Jesus and St. Augustine parishes, Jeffersonville.

Rev. Timothy M. Wiysickalla, from completing a licentiate in canon law in Rome to administrator, St. Mark the Evangelist Parish, Indianapolis, and part-time Metropolitan Tribunal Defender of the Bond.

Associate Pastors

Rev. Timothy DeCrane, being ordained to the priesthood on June 1, 2019, to associate pastor, St. Monica Parish, Indianapolis, and chaplain coordinator, Cardinal Ritter Junior/Senior High School, also in Indianapolis.

Rev. Vincent Gillmore, being ordained to the priesthood on June 1, 2019, to associate pastor, St. Mary of the Greenwood Parish, Greenwood.

Rev. Santhosh Yohannan, associate pastor of St. Simon the Apostle Parish, Indianapolis, to associate pastor, St. Louis Parish, Batesville, and sacramental minister, St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Milan.

Other Assignments

Rev. Stanley L. Pondo, JCD, pastor of St. Louis Parish, Batesville, to continuing as pastor of St. Louis Parish, Batesville, and sacramental minister, St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Milan.

Rev. Msgr. Anthony L. Volz, from pastor of St. Barnabas Parish, Indianapolis, to staff member of Bishop Simon Brutt College Seminary, Indianapolis.

Rev. Wilfred E. Day, administrator of St. John the Baptist Parish, Starlight appointed to an additional one-year term.

Rev. Thomas E. Clegg, pastor of St. John Paul II Parish, Sellersburg, appointed to a second six-year term.

Rev. William E. Halih, pastor of St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Decatur County, appointed to a second six-year term.

Rev. C. Ryan McCarthy, pastor of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish, Indianapolis, appointed to a second six-year term.

Very Rev. Michael E. O’Mara, V.F., pastor of St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish, Indianapolis, appointed to a second six-year term and continuing as Dean of the West Deanery.

Sister Gail Trippett, C.S.L., from temporary parish life coordinator, Holy Angels and St. Rita parishes, both in Indianapolis, to continuing as parish life coordinator.

Very Rev. Joseph Moriarty, rector of Bishop Simon Brutt College Seminary, Indianapolis, to providing sacramental minister for Holy Angels and St. Rita parishes, both in Indianapolis, and continuing as rector of Bishop Simon Brutt College Seminary.

Rev. Andrew W. Syberg, formation staff, Bishop Simon Brutt College Seminary, Indianapolis, to sacramental minister for Holy Angels and St. Rita parishes, both in Indianapolis, and coordinating the assistance of other priests on staff at Bishop Simon Brutt College Seminary when needed.

(The appointments are from the office of the Most Rev. Charles J. Thompson, Archbishop of Indianapolis.)

May 31 – June 16, 2019

Cardinal Ritter High School graduation, Indianapolis.

June 1 – 10 a.m.

Priesthood ordinations of transitional Deacons Timothy DeCrane and Vincent Gillmore, at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, Indianapolis.

June 2 – 3 p.m.

Confirmation of youths of Our Lady of the Springs Parish in French Lick; St. John the Apostle Parish in Bloomington; St. Jude the Apostle Parish in Spencer; St. Martin of Tours Parish in Martinsville; St. Mary Parish in Mitchell, St. Paul Catholic Center in Bloomington; and St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Bedford; at St. John the Apostle Parish

June 4 – 11 a.m.

Catechetical leaders’ Mass and celebration, St. Agnes Church, Nashville.

June 4 – 7 p.m.

Confirmation of youths of St. Matthew the Apostle and St. Lawrence parishes, both in Indianapolis, at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral.
Bishop says book on abuse crisis written from ‘pastor’s heart’

LOS ANGELES (CNS)—Auxiliary Bishop Robert E. Barron of Los Angeles said his new book addressing the Church’s sexual abuse crisis and urging Catholics to “stay and fight for the body of Christ” comes from his “pastor’s heart.”

“It is simply my statement coming out of my whole life as a Catholic—33 years as a priest, almost four years as a bishop,” he said in a podcast posted on YouTube on May 13, the release date of his book, “Letter to a Suffering Church: A Bishop Speaks on the Sexual Abuse Crisis.”

“It was my pastor’s heart that wanted to say something to the people of God,” added the bishop.

The book was published by Word on Fire Catholic Ministries, which was founded by Bishop Barron. He gave an overview of the 125-page book in the podcast with Brandon Vogt, Word on Fire’s content director.

In both the podcast and the book’s preface, Bishop Barron repeatedly emphasized he is speaking for himself and that the new volume is not an official statement of the U.S. bishops.

It is his attempt, he explained, to respond to the pastoral needs of Catholics demoralized by the abuse crisis and who are grieving over what it is doing to the Church.

He said he wants to give them encouragement and hope and show “that there is a clear path forward for us today.”

Bishop Barron said that as a 12-year volunteer with the Los Angeles Archdiocese’s regional bishop for the Santa Barbara area, he has seen firsthand the grief of many Catholics over the abuse scandal. In the wake of the scandal over former Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick last summer and fall, as he visited parishes in his region, many people “came up to me not so much in anger but in deep grief, I would say, with tears in their eyes, in grief over the Church.”

“The book, the letter is my attempt to respond to that pastoral need—so it is not more or less than that,” he added.

There are five chapters titled: “The Devil’s Masterpiece,” “Light from Scripture,” “We Have Been Here Before,” “Why Should We Stay?” and “The Way Forward.” There is a concluding section followed by a “Prayer for a Suffering Church.”

In the podcast, Vogt tells viewers that Word on Fire’s goal “is to get this book out to as many Catholics as possible, and to do that we’re trying to make it as cost effective as possible.”

U.S. residents can get one copy for free by going to the website wordoffireshow.com/podcast. Recipients must order shipping and handling. The site also has instructions for a digital download for those outside of the United States.

Vogt added that parishes and Catholic groups that order 20 or more copies can get them for $1 apiece with free shipping.

Other resources include a parish “launch kit,” an FAQ for priests and parish leaders and a parish “launch kit,” an FAQ for priests and parish leaders and a five-part video series by Bishop Barron.

All profits from the sale of the book will be given to charities that support victims of sexual abuse.

The book and podcast are responses to a recent Gallup poll revealing that 37 percent of Catholics are considering leaving the Church due to the sexual abuse crisis, Bishop Barron said in the podcast that it “broke my heart … but there is never a good reason to leave the Church.”

“I understand emotionally, I understand why people feel deep frustration. I feel it,” he said, “but there’s never a good reason to absent oneself from the font of grace, to leave the mystical [body] of Jesus [no matter] how badly Church people behave or how grave the sin is on the part of Church people.”

Bishop Barron said his letter to a Suffering Church offers a theological, spiritual and biblical perspective on the crisis, and is an addition to what has already been written about the psychological, sociological, legal and various other aspects of the crisis.

“I have written this book for my fellow Catholics who feel, understandably, demoralized, scandalized, angry beyond words and ready to quit,” he said in the preface. “What I finally urge my brothers and sisters in the Church do to is to stay and fight—and to do so on behalf of themselves and their families, but especially on behalf of those who have suffered so grievously at the hands of wicked men.”

He added: “My prayer is that these reflections might encourage Catholics who are attempting to navigate today in very choppy waters.”

Wanted: Your nominations for Excellence in Catechesis award

Would you like to nominate a parish catechetical leader for an award? The archdiocesan Office of Catechesis has a streamlined nomination process that makes it easy to do.

The Excellence in Catechesis honor has been awarded by the Office of Catechesis since 1996. Previous award winners still active in catechetical ministry include Mary Jo Thomas-Day, Cynthia Flaten, Dolores Snyder, Barbara Black, Kim Sprague, Julie Haney and Anita Navarra.

To nominate someone for 2019, take a few minutes to provide brief answers to the questions below:

—How do your nominee’s efforts help parishioners grow as disciples of Jesus, experiencing intimacy with him and enjoying participation in his holy, Catholic Church?

—In what ways does your nominee’s ministry encourage parishioners to bridge the gap that can be present between knowledge of our faith and practicing it in everyday life—making religion a way of life and a virtue that benefits communities?

—Providing meaningful experiences of formation for catechists helps bring about excellence—by God’s grace! How does your nominee encourage and motivate those who teach the faith with ongoing affirmation in the form of certification, recognition and commissioning?

Brief answers to two or three sentences—are sufficient to let us know the reasons you are nominating your parish catechetical leader. If you’d like to provide additional information, feel free to do so.

Please include the name of the nominee; his or her parish; your name; and the best way of contacting you. Each nomination is due by June 30 and can be faxed to 317-592-4032.

If your nomination is selected, an FAQ for priests and parish staff, and a five-part video series by Bishop Barron.

Nomination are due by June 30 and can be faxed to 317-592-4032. They can also be mailed to Ken Ogorek, c/o Archdiocese of Indianapolis, 1400 N. Meridian St. Indianapolis, IN, 46202, or replies can be e-mailed to kogorek@archindy.org.

As of May 17, 2019, we are at 84% of goal!

Plan more faith-centered activities for our youth

Connect with more college students in Catholic student centers across the state

Plan more faith-centered activities for our youth

Connect with more college students in Catholic student centers across the state

Thanks to the generosity of nearly 15,000 generous donors, we are at 84% of goal!

How are these gifts going to used?

TOGETHER WE WILL

Feed, clothe and shelter the poor

Provide more scholarships to students who want to attend Catholic school

Educate more seminarians at Bishop Simon Brant School of Theology

Connect with more young college students at Catholic student centers across the state

Thanks to the generosity of nearly 15,000 generous donors, we are at 84% of goal!

How are these gifts going to used?

TOGETHER WE WILL

Feed, clothe and shelter the poor

Provide more scholarships to students who want to attend Catholic school

Educate more seminarians at Bishop Simon Brant School of Theology

Connect with more young college students at Catholic student centers across the state

Thanks to the generosity of nearly 15,000 generous donors, we are at 84% of goal!

How are these gifts going to used?

TOGETHER WE WILL

Feed, clothe and shelter the poor

Provide more scholarships to students who want to attend Catholic school

Educate more seminarians at Bishop Simon Brant School of Theology

Connect with more young college students at Catholic student centers across the state

Thanks to the generosity of nearly 15,000 generous donors, we are at 84% of goal!

How are these gifts going to used?

TOGETHER WE WILL

Feed, clothe and shelter the poor

Provide more scholarships to students who want to attend Catholic school

Educate more seminarians at Bishop Simon Brant School of Theology

Connect with more young college students at Catholic student centers across the state

Thanks to the generosity of nearly 15,000 generous donors, we are at 84% of goal!

How are these gifts going to used?

TOGETHER WE WILL

Feed, clothe and shelter the poor

Provide more scholarships to students who want to attend Catholic school

Educate more seminarians at Bishop Simon Brant School of Theology

Connect with more young college students at Catholic student centers across the state

Thanks to the generosity of nearly 15,000 generous donors, we are at 84% of goal!

How are these gifts going to used?

TOGETHER WE WILL

Feed, clothe and shelter the poor

Provide more scholarships to students who want to attend Catholic school

Educate more seminarians at Bishop Simon Brant School of Theology

Connect with more young college students at Catholic student centers across the state

Thanks to the generosity of nearly 15,000 generous donors, we are at 84% of goal!

How are these gifts going to used?

TOGETHER WE WILL

Feed, clothe and shelter the poor

Provide more scholarships to students who want to attend Catholic school

Educate more seminarians at Bishop Simon Brant School of Theology

Connect with more young college students at Catholic student centers across the state

Thanks to the generosity of nearly 15,000 generous donors, we are at 84% of goal!

How are these gifts going to used?

TOGETHER WE WILL

Feed, clothe and shelter the poor

Provide more scholarships to students who want to attend Catholic school

Educate more seminarians at Bishop Simon Brant School of Theology

Connect with more young college students at Catholic student centers across the state

Thanks to the generosity of nearly 15,000 generous donors, we are at 84% of goal!

How are these gifts going to used?

TOGETHER WE WILL

Feed, clothe and shelter the poor

Provide more scholarships to students who want to attend Catholic school

Educate more seminarians at Bishop Simon Brant School of Theology

Connect with more young college students at Catholic student centers across the state

Thanks to the generosity of nearly 15,000 generous donors, we are at 84% of goal!

How are these gifts going to used?

TOGETHER WE WILL

Feed, clothe and shelter the poor

Provide more scholarships to students who want to attend Catholic school

Educate more seminarians at Bishop Simon Brant School of Theology

Connect with more young college students at Catholic student centers across the state

Thanks to the generosity of nearly 15,000 generous donors, we are at 84% of goal!

How are these gifts going to used?
Got stress? The Bible just might be your remedy

The resources we have available on our journey of faith are endless. We can peruse the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the Catholic Encyclopedia, book on saints and by saints, and so many other resources as we try and become more Christlike while living out our life’s vocation. But maybe some of us—and maybe even more of us that we’d like to admit—have forgotten about the greatest book available for us on our faith journey: the Bible.

Stop and think about it: there’s surely one in your home; and we see them in churches, adoration chapels, and thanks to Gideons International, in many hotels when we make those out-of-town trips for business or pleasure.

But does that book play a central role in our lives—as in taking the time to open it up, read it and reflect on God’s word—beyond the readings shared at daily or weekly Mass? If it doesn’t, maybe it should. And if it did, maybe it would assist us in more ways than we thought.

According to a recent survey, the Bible was a huge benefit to women who thought possible. Would assist us in more ways than we maybe it should. And if it did, maybe it would be your remedy.

The program impacted participants’ lives in other ways, too. Ninety-one percent of women reported they are either somewhat or significantly able to better manage stress, and 94 percent indicated that they are somewhat or significantly more patient with others. “The Walking with Purpose Bible study has taught me that God wants me to live a joyful life, to live strengthened, to not be stressed,” said one respondent. “That has greatly impacted my personal life; I am a happier, more grateful person and I can keep the stress in my life in perspective.”

Another commented that “the friendships and bonds created among the women of our community are directly attributable to Walking with Purpose.”

According to the survey, the Bible was a huge benefit to women who use it as a part of a study group. A story posted on Catholic News Service (CNS) on May 23 revealed that women participating in the Walking with Purpose Bible study program at parishes around the country reported the courses had a positive impact on their attitudes and lifestyle, in addition to being a source of inspiration and a tool to bring them closer to God.

According to the survey conducted by Walking with Purpose (walkingwithpurpose.com), a nonprofit organization based in Greenwich, Conn. women who participated in the program cited increased patience, reduced stress, and improved relationships with family and friends as benefits of the program.

Walking with Purpose was founded in 2002 by Lisa Brenninkmeyer. A convert to Catholicism, she “saw a lack of fresh, relevant Bible studies that could cater to young mothers and took it upon herself to create one with the support of her Maryland parish.”

In the last year alone, the organization has helped more than 35,000 women “deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ,” a press release said.

A group of women gather for prayer during Bible study in this undated photo. A new survey reporting on Walking with Purpose programs shows that women who participate in Bible study courses reported being happier, having more patience and feeling less stressed. (CNS photo/courtesy Walking With Purpose)

Reflection/Sean Gallagher

Indy 500 runner-up shows that falling short of glory can fuel ultimate success

Alexander Rossi should have won the 103rd Indianapolis 500 on May 26 at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. He poured his heart and soul into his effort to win the race. All day long, he fought hard to keep up with pole sitter Simon Pagenaud, who dominated much of the race, leading 116 of the 200 laps.

During a pit stop on lap 138, Rossi’s crew struggled to fuel his car, leaving the California driver several places on the track. As he waited and waited for the problem to be resolved, an obviously frustrated Rossi banged his fist on his steering wheel.

Back on the track, Rossi fought hard, eventually making his way back to the front. His passion came through later in the race. Oriol Servia was a lap down, it made it difficult for Rossi to pass, nearly forcing him into a wall. As he finally made it past, his Swiss driver, Rossi, driving close to 230 miles per hour down the front stretch, took a hard off his steering wheel to shake it free at Servia.

With 13 laps left, Rossi was finally able to duel it out with Pagenaud. The pair traded the lead several times. Rossi willed his way past the dominant Pagenaud for the lead on lap 197.

Had he been able to hold on to the top spot and cross the finish line first on lap 200, it would have been an Indy 500 storybook ending among the best of them.

Three years after coming out of nowhere to win the 100th Indy 500 as an unknown rookie, Rossi, this year with an established driver, racing with passion and making daring passes to compete with Pagenaud, who clearly had the best car in the field.

What a great story it would have been if he had won. But he didn’t.

Be Our Guest/Stephen Bussell

Reader: Immigration problem is not as important or morally urgent as abortion

In a recent “Be Our Guest” column, “Learning from an immigration culture” in the May 17 issue of The Criterion, the author says that immigration, immigrants, and children is just as important as opposing abortion. Her compassion for those who struggle is admirable. Still, she seems to labor under a mistaken sense of importance or morally urgent as abortion. For voters, it has been described as a “non-negotiable” issue, meaning that even under extraordinary circumstances, Catholics may not vote for candidates who support or help immigrants.

As the Church teaches, abortion is an “inherently evil” act that can never be morally justified. For voters, it has been described as a “non-negotiable” issue, meaning that even under extraordinary circumstances, Catholics may not vote for candidates who support or help immigrants.

The immigration problem is not as important or morally urgent as abortion. Her compassion for those who struggle is admirable. Still, she seems to labor under a mistaken sense of importance or morally urgent as abortion. For voters, it has been described as a “non-negotiable” issue, meaning that even under extraordinary circumstances, Catholics may not vote for candidates who support or help immigrants.

Reader: Immigration problem is not as important or morally urgent as abortion

The immigration problem is not as important or morally urgent as abortion. Her compassion for those who struggle is admirable. Still, she seems to labor under a mistaken sense of importance or morally urgent as abortion. For voters, it has been described as a “non-negotiable” issue, meaning that even under extraordinary circumstances, Catholics may not vote for candidates who support or help immigrants.

The immigration problem is not as important or morally urgent as abortion. Her compassion for those who struggle is admirable. Still, she seems to labor under a mistaken sense of importance or morally urgent as abortion. For voters, it has been described as a “non-negotiable” issue, meaning that even under extraordinary circumstances, Catholics may not vote for candidates who support or help immigrants.

Letters Policy

Letters from readers are welcome and should be concise, relevant, well-expressed, concise, temperate in tone, courteous and respectful.

The editors reserve the right to select and edit the letters based on space limitations, pastoral sensitivity and content. Letters must be signed, but, for serious issues, names may be withheld. Send letters to “Letters to the Editor,” The Criterion, 1400 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202-7300.

Readers with access to e-mail may send letters to criterion@archindy.org.

Evil, or even good and evil, depending on the circumstances, Catholics may not vote for candidates who support or help immigrants. Indeed, immigration or refugee policies can be good, bad, or indifferent, depending on the circumstances.

Immigration or refugee policies can be good, bad, or indifferent, depending on the circumstances.

Evil, or even good and evil, depending on the circumstances, Catholics may not vote for candidates who support or help immigrants. Indeed, immigration or refugee policies can be good, bad, or indifferent, depending on the circumstances.

Evil, or even good and evil, depending on the circumstances, Catholics may not vote for candidates who support or help immigrants. Indeed, immigration or refugee policies can be good, bad, or indifferent, depending on the circumstances.
The Lord ascends into heaven but remains close to us

“As he blessed them he parted from them and was taken up to heaven. They did him homage and then returned to Jerusalem...” (Acts 1:9-11)

The Lordascends,thenreturns to us with even greater intimacy through his gifts-of-self in Word and sacrament” (Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin).

Forty days after his resurrection from the dead, Jesus returned to his Father. After firmly establishing his victory over the power of death through numerous appearances to his faithful friends and disciples, the Lord blessed them, parted from them and was taken up to heaven (Lk 24:51).

The Ascension of the Lord which we celebrate on Sunday, June 2, is a great mystery. In fact, it is one of the most sublime paradoxes of our Catholic faith.

On the one hand, this feast day recalls the sad fact that Jesus is no longer with us. Having risen from the dead, it was necessary (he tells us) for him to assume his rightful place at the right hand of his Father in heaven. The Lord’s absence from the world as we know it should be a source of great sorrow, but St. Luke tells us that after witnessing his ascension the disciples “returned to Jerusalem with great joy” (Acts 1:8).

How can this be? How is it that the Lord’s departure from us can be an occasion for both immense sadness and profound rejoicing? The answer is the Holy Spirit.

In the Acts of the Apostles, we read this amazing account of the ascension: “When they had gathered together they asked him, ‘Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?’ He answered them, ‘It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the Earth. When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky?’ This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven’” (Acts 1:11-12).

Jesus returns to his Father so that his disciples can receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. He leaves them (and us) but he promises to return. The disciples don’t know when or how, and it is foolish of them to “stand there looking at the sky” (Acts 1:11) or, as Pope Francis would say, to remain sitting on their comfortable couches out of complacency, indifference or fear. The only authentic response to the Lord’s ascension into heaven is to receive the Holy Spirit, to rejoice and be witnesses “to the ends of the Earth” (Acts 1:8).

This feast is an occasion for both sadness and joy, but most of all it is a vivid reminder that we who wish to follow Jesus Christ cannot stand idly by gazzing up to heaven. We must evangelize, giving witness to the presence and power of the risen Lord who appears to be far away from where our everyday living takes place. God is in heaven—but who is actually closer to us than we are to ourselves. By the power of the Holy Spirit, and through the amazing grace of his gifts-of-self in Word and sacrament, Jesus remains with us, as Cardinal Tobin observes, “with even greater intimacy.”

Of all the blessed paradoxes of our faith, this one is especially powerful, especially today. During a time of increasing secularism, when “the absence of God” is all-too keenly felt in our homes, our society and even our churches, it is truly Good News to learn that “[t]his Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven” (Acts 1:11), that he is in fact, right here with us—with even greater intimacy.

My prayer is that our observance of the Ascension of the Lord this year will bring us closer to Jesus and to all our sisters and brothers in the one family of God.

May we open our hearts to the gift of the Holy Spirit, and may we find real fellowship and joy in our belief that Jesus Christ, who left us 40 days after his resurrection, is paradoxically, both with us now and planning to return. 🙏

El Señor asciende al cielo pero permanece cerca de nosotros

“Los discípulos, que se habían postrado delante de él, volvieron a Jerusalén con gran alegría, y permanecían continuamente en el Templo alabando a Dios” [Lc 24:52-53].

El Señor asciende luego y vuelve con nosotros con una cercanía incluso mucho más profunda a través del regalo de su entrega en la Palabra y en el sacramento” (Cardenal Joseph W. Tobin).

Cuarenta días después de su resurrección de entre los muertos, Jesús regresa con su Padre. Tras establecer firmemente su victoria sobre el poder de la muerte mediante numerosas apariciones a sus fieles amigos y discípulos, el Señor los bendijo, se alejó de ellos y ascendió al cielo (Lc 24:51).

La Asunción del Señor que celebramos el domingo 2 de junio es una verdadera oportunidad para que nosotros como iglesia y como hermandad y alegría en la convicción “hasta los confines de la tierra” (Hc 1:8) puedan ser testigos “hasta los confines de la tierra” (Hc 1:8).

Este testamento es una ocasión triste y alegre, pero por encima de todo, es un recordatorio vivo de que deseamos seguir a Jesucristo no podemos permanecer de pie a su lado y mirar hacia el cielo. Debemos evangelizar, dar testimonio de la presencia de Dios y el poder del Señor resultado que aparece estar lejos de nosotros, senando a la derecha de nosotros en el cielo, pero que en verdad está más cerca de nosotros que nosotros mismos. Por el poder del Espíritu Santo y a través de la maravillosa gracia de su entrega en la palabra y en el sacrament, Jesús permanece con nosotros, tal como lo señala el cardenal Tobin: “con una cercanía incluso mucho más profunda.”

De todas las sagradas paradojas de nuestra fe, esta resulta particularmente poderosa, especialmente hoy. En esta época cada vez más secularizada en la que “la ausencia de Dios” es cada vez más palpable en nuestros hogares, en nuestra sociedad e incluso en nuestras iglesias, en verdad es una buena nueva descubrir que “[t]odo lo que Jesús les ha sido quitado y fue elevado al cielo, vendrá de la misma manera que lo han visto partir” (Hc 1:6-11). Jesús regresa con el Padre para que sus discípulos puedan recibir el don del Espíritu Santo. Los deja (el igual que a nosotros) pero promete que volverá. Los discípulos no saben cuándo ni cómo, y era una tentación que siguen “mirando al cielo” (Hc 1:11) o, como lo expresaba el papa Francisco, que permanezcan sentados en la comodidad de sus sillones por desprocrastinación, indiferencia o temor. La única respuesta auténtica ante el ascenso del Señor al cielo es recibir el Espíritu Santo, alegrarse y dar testimonio “hasta los confines de la tierra” (Hc 1:8).

Esta conmemoración es una ocasión triste y alegre, pero por encima de todo, es un recordatorio vivo de que deseamos seguir a Jesucristo no podemos permanecer de pie a su lado y mirar hacia el cielo. Debemos evangelizar, dar testimonio de la presencia de Dios y el poder del Señor resultado que aparece estar lejos de nosotros, senando a la derecha de nosotros en el cielo, pero que en verdad está más cerca de nosotros que nosotros mismos. Por el poder del Espíritu Santo y a través de la maravillosa
June 4
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, 1732 Schiller Ln., New Albany. How to be a Christian Conscience Winner, decisions to offer family, friends and caregivers. Candor and helpful tools in a seminar. Door prizes for suffering. 6:30-8:30 p.m. free. Register by May 28. Information: 317-824-3734. tosplhin@archindy.org

Mission 27 Renai, 132 Loeta St., Indianapolis. Senior Discount Day, every Tuesday. 30 percent off clothing. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. free. Ministry supports Indianapolis St. Vincent de Paul Society Food Pantry and Changing Lives Forever program. Information: 317-687-8260.

June 5
Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Open House. Catholic, educational, charitable and social services, 50 and over event. Free, wheelchair accessible, widowed or divorced. New members welcome. 6 p.m. Information: 317-243-0777.

June 6-7
Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. Greenwood Parish Festival. Thur. 5-11 p.m. Fri. 5 p.m.-midnight, Sat. 4 p.m.-midnight; Sun. 4-10 p.m. Food, drinks, family, friends and caregivers, designed to offer fellowship. Information: 317-546-4005, ext. 335.

Women’s Care Center, 4901 W. 86th St., Indianapolis. Friday First Mass 5 p.m., Benedictine Father Lambert Repp providing, optional tour of center to follow. Information: 317-829-6800. www.womenscarecenter.org.


June 7
St. Lawrence Church, 6444 E. 46th St., Indianapolis. Pentecost Concert: Come Holy Spirit/Te vino Espiritu Santo. Bilingual presentation “Led by the Holy Spirit” by Father Thomas Schleisnau and Father Martin Rodriguez, praise and worship music, followed by reception. Information: Sandra Hartlieb, shartlieb@stlawrence.gact.net, 317-546-4005, ext. 335.

Women’s Care Center, 4901 W. 86th St., Indianapolis. Friday First Mass 5 p.m., Benedictine Father Lambert Repp providing, optional tour of center to follow. Information: 317-829-6800. www.womenscarecenter.org.


June 8
Mount St. Francis Center for Spirituality, Lofts House, 101 S. Mt. Anthony Dr., Indianapolis. Mass. 4:30 p.m. Mass, 5:30 p.m. dinner, raffles, silent auction. Information: 317-547-7994.

St. Mary-of-the-Knobs Church, 7917 Sartys Marys Road, Floyd Knobs. Parish Social Ministry Gathering Night, for prayer, parish staff and volunteers, 8:30 a.m.-noon, free, RSVP requested to Therese Chaple, 317-236-1404, chaple@archindy.org.

June 9
St. Mary of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Mass, 1115 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis. St. Lawrence Church, 6944 E. 46th St., Indianapolis. Crossroads of the Americas Festival, Fri. 5-9 p.m., Sat. 4 p.m.-midnight; Sun. noon-6 p.m., multi-cultural food, carnival rides, beer garden, gaming, kids’ games, raffle. Information: 317-636-4828.

June 10-13
Mount St. Francis Center for Spirituality, Lofts House, 101 S. Mt. Anthony Dr., Indianapolis. Mass. 4:30 p.m. Mass, 5:30 p.m. dinner, raffles, silent auction. Information: 317-547-7994.

June 11
Gleason Landmark Theatre, 6102 N. Rural St., Indianapolis. Presentation of Where There is Darkness, documentary about the 2016 disappearance and murder of Indiana priest Father Rene Robert, 7 p.m.; $20 advance sale tickets only; benefit Seeds of Hope addiction recovery program. Tickets and information: Marigrae Bailey, 317-709-6095, Laura Heraly, 317-508-0373.

June 12
Mount St. Francis Church, 1306 27th St., Columbus. First Friday Mass until 9 p.m., sacrament of reconciliation available. Information: 317-709-6095, Laura Heraly, 317-508-0373.

Church of the Immaculate Conception, St. Michael of the Americas Church, 223-3687, vlgmimi@aol.com. First Friday Mass followed by reception.

June 13-15
St. Mark the Evangelist Parish, 535 Edgewood Ave., Indianapolis. Funfest, Thurs., 6-11 p.m. Fri. and Sat. 5-9 p.m. Mini-Golf, silent auction, food, beverages, entertainment, car show, live entertainment, July 4th fireworks, family, friends and caregivers, designed to offer fellowship. Information: 317-923-8817, www.mountsaintfrancis.org/retreat-offerings.

June 16
Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, 335 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis. St. Lawrence Church, 6944 E. 46th St., Indianapolis. Brunch for families, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Family tradition, 20% off, children under 12 free, silent auction, 30th birthday, family and friends, designed to offer fellowship. Information: 317-636-4828.

June 17-20
Mount St. Francis Center for Spirituality, Lofts House, 101 S. Mt. Anthony Dr., Indianapolis. Art and Nature Camp, for ages 6-16, 9 a.m.-noon, $100 per child ($50 deposit due upon enrollment; balance due on first day of camp). Information and registration: 812-923-8817, www.mountsaintfrancis.org/retreat-offerings.

June 22
Mount St. Francis Church, 1306 27th St., Columbus. Mass, 4:30 p.m. dinner, raffles, silent auction. Information: 317-547-7994.

July 1-4
Mount St. Francis Church, 1306 27th St., Columbus. Mass, 4:30 p.m. dinner, raffles, silent auction. Information: 317-547-7994.

The first of a bi-weekly series of Theology on Tap summer series began in Indianapolis June 12. Events are free and open to the public.

Theology on Tap offers a relaxed atmosphere for young adults to converse about faith and God, to touch their lives and deepen their relationship with God; however, all faiths are welcome.

Free parking is available in the McGown Hall lot and surrounding streets. For more information, including the complete Theology on Tap summer schedule, visit www.indycatholic.org or contact Rebecca Keover at 317-261-3373 or e-mail keover@archindy.org.

---

Sisters of Providence to host guided walking tour on June 16

The Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, in Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, are hosting “Sundays at the Woods,” a family friendly, faith-filled outing, to explore the nature trails and the cosmic walk starting at the White Violet Center for Eco-Justice.

Registration is not required nor is there a charge for this outing, however, a free will offering will be accepted. For additional information, call 317-535-2952 or e-mail provctr@spsmw.org.

A complete list of all retreat and programs offered by the Sisters of Providence at Mount St. Francis, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods can be found at www.spsmw.org/events.†

---

Pre-Cana marriage prep to be offered in Spanish in Columbus on June 22

A Pre-Cana marriage preparation retreat will be offered in Spanish in Columbus on June 22. Information: 317-709-6095, Laura Heraly, 317-508-0373.

Church of the Immaculate Conception, St. Michael of the Americas Church, 223-3687, vlgmimi@aol.com. First Friday Mass followed by reception.

---

Preparación matrimonial Pre-Cana será ofrecida en español en Columbus el 22 de junio

Habrá un retiro de preparación matrimonial Pre-Cana en español en el campus de la parroquia de San Bartolomé, 1306 27th St., en Columbus, de 9 a.m. a 4 p.m. el 22 de junio.

Es para parejas comprometidas que se preparan para casarse sacramentalmente en la Iglesia Católica. Es organizado por la Oficina de Matrimonio y Vida Familiar, en colaboración con la Oficina de Ministerio Hispánico.

El costo es de $ 125 por pareja, con room for 30 couples. The deadline to register is June 15. Registration information available at www.archindy.org/precana or by calling 317-592-4007.†

Preparación matrimonial Pre-Cana será ofrecida en español en Columbus el 22 de junio

Habrá un retiro de preparación matrimonial Pre-Cana en español en el campus de la parroquia de San Bartolomé, 1306 27th St., en Columbus, de 9 a.m. a 4 p.m. el 22 de junio.

Es para parejas comprometidas que se preparan para casarse sacramentalmente en la Iglesia Católica. Es organizado por la Oficina de Matrimonio y Vida Familiar, en colaboración con la Oficina de Ministerio Hispánico.

El costo es de $ 125 por pareja, con room for 30 couples. The deadline to register is June 15. Registration information available at www.archindy.org/precana or by calling 317-592-4007.†
Faith at the 500

Right: Lattey Bishop Timothy L. Doherty, left, Father Joseph Newton, Father Joseph Feltz, Archbishop Charles C. Thompson and Archbishop Joseph W. Nasr pose before the start of the Indianapolis 500 on May 26. The bishops and priests concelebrated a Mass in the Fan Zone of the Cooper Tire Stage before the big race. Katukal served as the group’s chaplain.

Below: The late Father Glenn O’Connor, known for years as “The Priests in the Pits” during the Indianapolis 500 on May 26. The bishops and priests concelebrated a Mass in the Fan Zone of the Cooper Tire Stage before the big race. Archbishop Charles C. Thompson later delivered an invocation prayer before the start of the race on May 26. (Submitted photos by Charles J. Schisla)
Cathedrals

Brandon was in awe when she first saw and entered the cathedral, which is the home of the relic known as Santé Camisia, believed to be the cloak worn by Mary when she gave birth to Jesus. She marveled at the beauty of the soaring structure that had been built in the 1200s after a fire destroyed the previous cathedral. She also was overwhelmed by the extensive details of the sculptures. Yet what struck her most of all was being bathed in the “glorious” light from the sun shining through the stained-glass windows that dated to more than 800 years ago.

“I looked up at the light streaming through and just felt God’s presence in a unique way,” she recalls. “I asked for forgiveness for all the times in my life when I had turned away from God or hadn’t paid attention to him. I felt so completely surrounded by God’s presence. That was a comforting moment, a moment of strength.

“I’ve discovered that it’s not God who withholds forgiveness from us. We withhold it from us. We get in our own way. I’ve learned self-forgiveness, so I can stand in God’s presence. It’s more available. That’s been my journey.”

She spent three days visiting Chartres Cathedral during her first pilgrimage there, an experience that left her so overwhelmed that she has returned there, an experience that left her so overwhelmed that she has returned every year.

“In many ways, Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris is the starting point for the walking pilgrimages I have taken to Chartres,” she says. “In many ways, Notre Dame has been the beginning and closing points of all of my pilgrimages. It became so obvious that millions around the world consider Notre Dame to be a home of sorts.

“I join many in being relieved that so much of Notre Dame was able to escape total devastation, most notably the precious relics and the exquisite stained-glass windows. I can hardly fathom how the rose windows withstood the heat and pressure. I am hopeful that the world will come together to rebuild her.”

Home for Our Souls

That hope is buoyed by the histories of the churches she has visited, by the people through the centuries whose talents, persistence and faith have created them. Meeting the challenges of the 11-month trip increased Brandon’s faith.

“My trust in myself and in the Holy Spirit just grew,” she says. “When there was a need, something occurred to help us out.”

She kept that attitude during her school’s fall break of 2018 when she visited worship sites in New York, St. Louis, San Francisco, Washington and Mexico City for the book she is co-authoring with Austrian writer Gemer Candolin. “We traveled to the American sites in an effort to experience these places and gain insight into the heart of what they stand for and for the people who worship within them,” she says regarding the research for the book that is scheduled to be released late this year, Places of Light: The Gift of Cathedrals to the World.

“That is actually our focus—to try to tell the ‘heart stories’ of these massive structures. One of her favorite worship sites is the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. “It wasn’t just a story for Mexico and Latin America. I feel like she belongs to me. She belongs to all of us,” Brandon says as she sits in her classroom where the walls are lined with large photos of worship sites from her travels.

“My students will ask me about my experiences. I love to share my experiences with them. I did that on the first day of our Lady of Guadalupe.”

“A pure gift”

Her travels this summer will once again take her back to the place she considers her “soul home.” She will lead another pilgrimage to the Chartres Cathedral in July.

“It’s a pure gift to me,” she says. “The simple act of walking alongside someone in their pilgrimage experience and helping their transformation doesn’t get any better for me. There’s such a sense of connectedness. You’re connected with other pilgrims and the world around you, and there’s such a wonderful presence of the community of saints in that place. You feel you belong to ‘the body of Christ.”

“There’s a piece of my heart in that cathedral.”

While she acknowledges that people don’t have to go on a pilgrimage to have a “God experience,” she has learned that such a journey helps her in her life and faith.

“I have found that being on a pilgrimage is a great time to practice being present in each moment, to be listening and watching for the movement of the Holy Spirit. It allows you to see and hear in ways you’re not always able to see and hear in your regular life.

“So when you come home, you’re able to walk through the daily grind in a new way. You’re more in tune listening for that ‘God whisper’ inside you. You’re able to hear that voice more clearly.”

The court’s decision will keep the appeals court ruling in place on abortion limits and upheld the law requiring abortion providers to bury or cremate fetal remains.

All eyes have been on the court taking up an abortion case to potentially challenge its 1973 decision in Roe v. Wade which legalized abortion nationwide. A
Un universal law should guide local Churches on abuse

The critical complaint needed to make any law effective is the active cooperation and unity of leaders and laity—the entire universal Church to whom the law is addressed.

Merry Sister Sharon Euet, a canon lawyer and executive director of the Center for Religious Institutions, based in Silver Spring, Md., praised many of the provisions in the pastoral document, issued “motu proprio” (on his own accord).

“I have no questions. I and others may have about implementation are not based on the merits of the ‘motu proprio,’ but on how it is going to work in particular settings. When dioceses and others set up the mandated reporting mechanisms, she told Catholic News Service (CNS) by phone on May 23.

“There will always be some lacunas; as implies the law that is put out and flag those gaps that would need to be addressed,” said Sister Sharon, who is a consultant to the U.S. bishops’ Conference on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations and past president of the Camps of Christ in America.

“Not only does the ‘motu proprio’ call for compassion “across the board for those affected,” but also leaders charged with implementing the new law also should recognize the compassion extended to them by it,” she added.

“Although the superior or the metropolitan is not making these decisions alone, but largely the advice of those who have the expertise. That is a sign of compassion because the expertise of other persons means that there is going to be applied and you want to apply it in a way that respects both the intention of the law as well as the persons involved,” Sister Sharon said.

The Second Vatican Council profoundly changed the way the Church and the Roman Curia function, she said. While the ultimate purpose of all laws in the Church is the safeguarding of souls, “there is less on penalties and punishment and more on pastoral outreach and personal responsibility.”

“Prior to Vatican II, the law on religious governed your entire day, from the moment you got up to the moment you went to bed,” she said.

Revised laws not only recognized the need for individuals to take personal responsibility for carrying out their missiology, or ministry, “if you couldn’t do that responsibility, then there were provisions in the law for that and that was a wonderful revision,” she added.

“Through Marcantonio, a professor of canon law at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., said “Voix des luttes mundi” was ‘revolutionary.’

“It recognizes there was something wrong with the way allegations against bishops were dealt with, he said, and it establishes new procedures aimed at “getting reporting right” worldwide.

“It sets the tone for the whole Church, and it also recognizes that [abuse] is not just an American or Western issue,” he told CNS.

“But what is going to be most important,” he said, “is everybody everyone is going to be when dealing with this law” locally by actually following through with mandatory reporting and taking victims seriously.

Experience in the United States showed that process “didn’t come automatically” when procedures for dealing with allegations against minors by clergy were established in 2002. Ouellet warned, that law will also be key, he said, because even though the law has whistleblower protections, “people may still feel that there is no one who cares, or that they are afraid, and fear is not something you can legislate away.”

“Some bishops, with the abuse scandal, in fact, he said, had been leaders not implementing what was already present in law.

“Implementing the law will always be a challenge, but that shouldn’t be an argument to do nothing,” he said, adding that new norms with penalties can always be established later if “people don’t take it seriously.”

Martens said it was necessary to deal with reporting and accountability with universal Church legislation “so you get recognition that this is not a local problem but is worldwide,” but also each person is prompted to be adequately prepared despite what they believe about the extent of abuse.

The former cardinal told his students the Code of Canon Law and other Church legislation “is your tool box, and you need every tool fixed for a job.”

“But it doesn’t tell you what to do in a particular case,” he said, “and that is always the case with universal law,” he said. It is up to people on the ground making those choices.

All of this, as well as the reform of the Roman Curia, requires what Pope Francis has often said is a “conversion of hearts, a focus on service and collaboration.” “And that is something you can’t legislate,” Martens said.

Former secretary says officials knew McCarrick’s ministry was restricted

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope Benedict XVI had imposed restrictions on a public apology,” said Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick in 2008, but they were not formal sanctions and were not followed strictly, he tells The Criterion.

After an initial investigation in the United States, Cardinal Giovanni Battista Re, prefect of the Congregation for Bishops, ordered McCarrick’s removal from public ministry for 18 months after pleading guilty for abusing a 16-year-old altar boy, he said.

In August, Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, a former apostolic nuncio to the United States from 2011 to 2016, said in an interview with The Criterion that “the hierarchy’s abuse of power is a problem that the Holy See and other Church leaders have to factor in.”

After an initial investigation in the United States, Cardinal Giovanni Battista Re, prefect of the Congregation for Bishops, ordered McCarrick’s removal from public ministry for 18 months after pleading guilty for abusing a 16-year-old altar boy, he said.

The pope told Alazraki that response was “an act of faith” in people reading the document. “Maybe when a bit of time has passed, I’ll talk about it,” he said.

Cardinal Ouellet’s letter was published earlier this month. As of May 28, the report had not been published.

The pope said Alazraki that response was “an act of faith” in people reading the document. “Maybe when a bit of time has passed, I’ll talk about it,” he said.

Cardinal Ouellet’s letter was published earlier this month. As of May 28, the report had not been published.

The pope said Alazraki that response was “an act of faith” in people reading the document. “Maybe when a bit of time has passed, I’ll talk about it,” he said.

Cardinal Ouellet’s letter was published earlier this month. As of May 28, the report had not been published.
MISCELLANEOUS

Rebecca also had the “false thought” that she was being a burden on people, asking them to do too much for her and Chris.

Yet when they began to open up about the miscarriage and how they had buried their babies, people responded with their own stories of loss through miscarriage.

“We heard over and over again, ‘I wish I would have known that I could bury my baby,’” said Rebecca.

The medical definition of miscarriage is the loss of a fetus before 20 weeks gestation. Any baby born after that has to have a death certificate and follow state laws for burial.

St. Mary is making a special cemetery—Little Souls Cemetery—that will provide everything a mother and father need if they lose their baby through miscarriage. It has become a community endeavor, with local funeral homes providing miscarriage kits and burial vaults. St. Mary will then bury the baby with an 8-inch by 8-inch granite marker for $110.

The cemetery is also providing memorial markers for women who were not able to bury their babies through miscarriage. Financial assistance will be available to those in need.

Four-day retreat

Journey with the Spirit through Art

July 11-14

Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, IN

Providence Spirituality & Conference Center

Each day, you’ll join Sister Rosemary Schmitz in guided art exercises, integrated with prayer, and you’ll explore, as on a journey, how you see your world, yourself and those you love. Absolutely no art skill is required.

$425 (with lodging, meals, & art supplies)

Register by June 26

$325 (without lodging)

Register by July 7

Go to Events.SistersofProvidence.org or call 812-535-2952

E-mailed photos

Photos should be saved in jpg format and be at least 500 kb. Color photos are preferred. We recommended sending a photo where the couple’s faces are close to each other. Please send the photo as an attachment to the e-mail: cclark@archindy.org. Subject line: Fall Marriage (Last name).

Each couple is invited to submit the information for the upcoming July 12 Fall Marriage Edition. Announcements can be submitted using the form below, or electronically at www.archindy.org/criterion/localforms/wedding-form.html.

Deadline

All announcements and photos must be received by 10 a.m. on Friday, June 21, 2019. 

July 12, 2019, issue of The Criterion

Couples who are planning to be married between July 12 and Dec. 31, 2019 in a marriage that is recognized as a valid sacramental or valid natural marriage, or couples who were married between Jan. 1 and July 11, 2019 in such a recognized marriage and did not have their engagement announcement in The Criterion are invited to submit the information for the upcoming July 12 Fall Marriage Edition. Announcements can be submitted using the form below, or electronically at www.archindy.org/criterion/localforms/wedding-form.html.

Be a part of our Fall Marriage Edition

July 12, 2019, issue of The Criterion

Couples who are planning to be married between July 12 and Dec. 31, 2019 in a marriage that is recognized as a valid sacramental or valid natural marriage, or couples who were married between Jan. 1 and July 11, 2019 in such a recognized marriage and did not have their engagement announcement in The Criterion are invited to submit the information for the upcoming July 12 Fall Marriage Edition. Announcements can be submitted using the form below, or electronically at www.archindy.org/criterion/localforms/wedding-form.html.

E-mailed photos

Photos should be saved in jpg format and be at least 500 kb. Color photos are preferred. We recommended sending a photo where the couple’s faces are close to each other. Please send the photo as an attachment to the e-mail: cclark@archindy.org. Subject line: Fall Marriage (Last name). In the e-mail, please include the information in the form located below. If it is not possible to e-mail a photo, a photo can be mailed with the form below. Please no photocopy photos. To have the photo returned, please include a return addressed envelope with a postage stamp on it.

Deadline

All announcements and photos must be received by 10 a.m. on Friday, June 21, 2019. (No announcements or photos will be accepted after this date.)
God’s voice can be heard in prayer, life experiences

By Br. David Henley, G.H.M.

“Samuel, Samuel!” the Lord calls, in one of the more famous stories of discernment in the Bible. After Samuel bothers his teacher, Eli, three times, thinking it is him who has called him, the wise man realizes it is the Lord who is doing the calling. “If you are called,” said Eli, “reply, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening’” (1 Sm 3:9). The story reveals a lot about listening for God. When Samuel finally listens, the Lord begins a lifetime of revelation for Samuel.

Don’t we each wish for the same? How do we discern what God is asking of us? Real estate agents know how to read location, location, location is key. For discernment, it’s prayer, prayer, prayer. But that prayer needs to be informed by experience, both in doing new things and by listening to those around us.

Our friends and family can sometimes see things that we can’t see in ourselves! We listen to our experience, then we pray, listening for God’s calling. Discernment isn’t exactly about a voice from the sky, maybe even lightning. A Glenmary brother—a burning bush, a voice from the sky—and a woman I met once, told me that, despite his self-doubts, he found deep questions about what path he should choose—he worked them out by writing letters home to his mother. In the end, he came to his own decision, but his family’s sense of him was a key to discerning the priesthood.

In discernment, the first and most important thing we need to do is set aside time for prayer. “Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening” (1 Sm 3:9), as Samuel said. Find silence. We need to turn our questions over to God and tell him what our fears and desires are.

In discernment, the first and most important thing we need to do is set aside time for prayer. Where is joy? Where do you feel peace? What feels like you?

In discernment, the first and most important thing we need to do is set aside time for prayer. Where is joy? Where do you feel peace? What feels like you?

Here’s an example similar to one from a man, Leo, whom I worked with for many years. As a young man, he had deep questions about what path he should choose—he worked them out by writing letters home to his mother. In the end, he came to his own decision, but his family’s sense of him was a key to discerning the priesthood.

In discernment, the first and most important thing we need to do is set aside time for prayer. Where is joy? Where do you feel peace? What feels like you?

Here’s an example similar to one from a man, Leo, whom I worked with for many years. As a young man, he had deep questions about what path he should choose—he worked them out by writing letters home to his mother. In the end, he came to his own decision, but his family’s sense of him was a key to discerning the priesthood.

In discernment, the first and most important thing we need to do is set aside time for prayer. Where is joy? Where do you feel peace? What feels like you?

Here’s an example similar to one from a man, Leo, whom I worked with for many years. As a young man, he had deep questions about what path he should choose—he worked them out by writing letters home to his mother. In the end, he came to his own decision, but his family’s sense of him was a key to discerning the priesthood.

In discernment, the first and most important thing we need to do is set aside time for prayer. Where is joy? Where do you feel peace? What feels like you?

Here’s an example similar to one from a man, Leo, whom I worked with for many years. As a young man, he had deep questions about what path he should choose—he worked them out by writing letters home to his mother. In the end, he came to his own decision, but his family’s sense of him was a key to discerning the priesthood.

In discernment, the first and most important thing we need to do is set aside time for prayer. Where is joy? Where do you feel peace? What feels like you?
So, you want to save the world? Yeah, so do I. At least, most of us want to do good, some giving that will make a dent in the world’s woes, something which we can see positive results. Sometimes and in some cases, we)view it as a personal challenge. I envision a rather large dent. I know I'm not superhuman, but, hey, a little minor world-saving would be nice.

I was thinking these random thoughts about what I was waiting in a concession line on a hot Midwestern day. When I heard some Syrian refugee kids in Omaha, Neb. They had fled the destruction of Aleppo with their parents and siblings. It was about two years in a camp in Turkey while being vetted for placement in the U.S.

This day, they were at soccer camp at a Jesuit prep school, arranged for them by someone in my faith-sharing group. Our group equipped them with soccer shin guards and now some of us took turns transporting them to and from soccer camp. It seemed hundreds of little kids were kicking balls around when I arrived for pickup. All four seem to be enjoying this sport for the first time in their lives.

Someone had told the 7-year-old that the truck out front had ice cream for a dollar. She was the first girl when he saw me today was pulling out a carefully folded dollar bill and inform me that they had bought the truck out front.

How could I say no? But by the time we get to the line, it seems to snore on forever. And it’s up to me to get that ancient ice cream truck, but rather a scheme to market a cup of ice with flavoring added, topped with a couple of gummy worms, for $3 each.

But how could I say no? So I got a $20 bill and told them to put their money away.

We mull over the choices: watermelon, cherry, bubble gum, blueberry. Everyone rejects the gummy bears. The line is at a standstill. I try to find shade from the relentless sun and chat with friendly moms. We finally arrive at the front of the line. “Four yummy flavors,” she says, probably more abruptly than I should. I add a smile and make sure my friends say thanks. Armed with about 30 napkins, we

When it comes to society, why don’t we let the people decide?

Recently, the Supreme Court ruled 5-4 in Franchise Tax Board of California v. Hyatt that states have sovereign immunity in suits brought by individuals in the courts of another state. There is a lot to be said for that conclusion. But we had held otherwise in Nevada v. Hall 40 years ago. Hyatt overruled Hall.

Justice Clarence Thomas wrote the opinion, the Walrus, Chief Justice John Roberts and Justices Samuel Alito, Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh. That is the lineup some people are counting on to overrule Roe v. Wade, and the point was not lost on the dissenters. Justice Stephen Breyer, Justice Kagan, said, “Today’s decision can only cause one to wonder which cases the court will overturn next.”

We may be nearing the day when Roe v. Wade is finally overturned.

Parish disability ministry requires a welcoming faith community

“Prayer, listening, a heart for advocacy and not being afraid of pushing doors open when they seem to be closed,” Jess Streit’s description of what it takes to build a parish disability ministry sums up more than the day to day grassroots and graced effort at her home parish, Holy Rosary Church in Columbus, home to Assisi in West Des Moines, Iowa.

“I have bachelors degrees in special education in special education and was the Sunday school coordinator for nine years,” said Streit. “The director of religious education at the parish and a director of religious education networked “from within,” encouraging clergy and other leaders to host these events where we discuss disability and the parish.

“The forum was a risky move,” said Streit. “But the pastor and the DRE weren’t afraid, although it did open wide a wound. The parents sent a response mountains high, and we knew our children would be born with special needs. You encouraged us to give birth, our children were baptized then there was no support after baptism.”

“A number of parents went to Protestant churches, they told us,” said Streit. “A lot of sad, hard truths came out. But afterward, everyone decided, ‘We need to do this. We need to do this.’”

Leaders in the parish recruited Streit to start “from the ground, up.” She worked with a group of parents to develop a committee to develop 10-year and short-term
tools. A group centered with awareness building and sensitivity training for the whole parish, said Streit.

Having a focus, the liturgy, pew cards and preaching introduced parishioners to various disabilities and reinforced the parish community’s commitment to all. A cabinet in a coat closet became a “special needs library,” filled with sensed with disabilities and other items. Low-gluten hosts were made available and sacramental preparation was expanded to adults with special needs who had not had the opportunity for catechesis before.

Recently, there was no budget for the ministry, but volunteers, special pricing from local businesses, and donations from individuals and the Knights of Columbus filled needs and brought everyone together in common efforts. “I’ve spent so much time praying for the right people to come at the right time,” said Streit. “It makes a huge difference when others participate.”

The ministry continues to grow. A gluten-free option was offered at the Parish fish fry event. A dining area was set up in another room for families with children with autism. A “Hand in hand with Mary” committee needs adults of varied faiths and mothers of children with disabilities in fellowship and support. American Sign Language interpretation enhances liturgies and other events. Respite nights provide a break for parents and other volunteers.

Streit networks with local churches, the National Catholic Partnership on Disabilities, and Catholic authors and speakers on disability. She recognizes the importance of involvement of people with disabilities in the participation of children and adults with disabilities in liturgy and elsewhere. “I hope so beyond the invitation,” said Streit. “These individuals have amazing gifts.”

With hopes to continue disability ministry on an ever-expanding scale, Streit is leaving her position soon.

Mary's prayers for families help them through life's ups and downs

Worshipping with my wife Cindy at any Mass is special for me. The faith we share in God serves us well for our marriage and it gives us much more strength to enter into the highest expression of that faith, through the service of our marriage vows.

But Mass during our engagements is a bit sweeter for us, at least at our home parish of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary in Indianapolis.

After each Mass during the Easter season there is concluded, the worshippers change the traditional “Hail Mary” into a Marian antiphon that Catholics have traditionally prayed during the Easter season since at least the 12th century.

The text of the antiphon is a prayer and reads in translation “O Queen of heaven, renowned for the mercy with which thou meritedst to bear, aleluia, is resurrected, just as she said! Aleluia! Pray for us! And aleluia!”

This short antiphon (which takes less than a minute to pray) has special meaning for Cindy and because we had chanted it together at our wedding Mass on June 6, 2001, at St. Bartholomew Church in Columbus in Delaware County.

It’s common in Catholic weddings for there to be a prayerful musical offering to Mary after Mass, often after a soloist while the bride and groom place flowers by a statue of the Blessed Mother.

Our antiphon, “Regina Coeli,” is just that same melody. We chanted it together after Confirmation while standing before a statue of the Holy Family at St. Bartholomew.

So each time we sing it at Holy Rosary, it’s like we’re back at St. Bartholomew on our wedding day. We often have someone offering wholly our own, so I taught her the “Regina Coeli,” which has a similar relative emotion. We chanted it together after Confirmation while standing before a statue of the Holy Family at St. Bartholomew.

But this prayer can only be

The text of the antiphon is a prayer and reads in translation “O Queen of heaven, renowned for the mercy with which thou meritedst to bear, aleluia, is resurrected, just as she said! Aleluia! Pray for us! And aleluia!”

This short antiphon (which takes less than a minute to pray) has special meaning for Cindy and because we had chanted it together at our wedding Mass on June 6, 2001, at St. Bartholomew Church in Columbus in Delaware County.

It’s common in Catholic weddings for there to be a prayerful musical offering to Mary after Mass, often after a soloist while the bride and groom place flowers by a statue of the Blessed Mother.

Our antiphon, “Regina Coeli,” is just that same melody. We chanted it together after Confirmation while standing before a statue of the Holy Family at St. Bartholomew.

So each time we sing it at Holy Rosary, it’s like we’re back at St. Bartholomew on our wedding day. We often have someone offering wholly our own, so I taught her the “Regina Coeli,” which has a similar relative emotion. We chanted it together after Confirmation while standing before a statue of the Holy Family at St. Bartholomew.

But this prayer can only be
The Ascension of the Lord

The Sunday Readings

Sunday, June 2, 2019

- Ephesians 1:17-23

The date for celebrating the feast of the Ascension of the Lord is changeable in this country. The decision is made by bishops of each Church province for their province.

These reflections are upon readings when the feast is celebrated on what would otherwise be the Seventh Sunday of Easter. The Acts of the Apostles supplies the first reading for Mass on this great feast, a story of the ascension of the Lord from Earth into heaven. This passage begins the Acts of the Apostles. As with the Gospel of St. Luke, Acts seems to have been composed for a person whose name was Theophilus. It is not known if this was a proper name, or if it were a title. (In Greek, “Theophilus” means “friend of God.”) Regardless, Acts opens with a powerful message. Resplendent is the ascension of Jesus into heaven, or the lifting of Jesus from earthly space and time to return to the eternity of heaven. Like the resurrection, this act of Jesus shows the power of God and the very nature of God.

Reflection

The readings powerfully testify that Jesus is God. He rose again to life after being crucified and dying. Jesus ascended into heaven, and is with the power of God, but not forsaking the people of the Earth then or in all the subsequent years. The readings are strongly ecclesial, stressing the identity of the Apostles, who learned from Jesus. The Spirit would come to guide them.

The Gospel passage further establishes the Apostles as the chief witnesses and primary students of the Lord. The Apostles watch the ascension of Jesus and then return to the city, determined and committed to pray in the temple constantly and to proclaim the praises of God.

Question Corner

Fr. Kenneth Doyle

People with developmental disabilities may receive the sacrament of confirmation

Q Our son, age 24, has severe cognitive delays. Would he be able to be confirmed? What level of understanding is required? (Ohio)

A Your son would certainly be able to be confirmed, and should be. Canon 889 of the Church's Code of Canon Law states that the reception of this sacrament requires that a person who has the use of reason be suitably instructed, properly disposed and able to renew the baptismal promises.

But with regard to individuals with developmental disabilities, the U.S. bishops’ “Guidelines for the Celebration of the Sacraments with Persons with Disabilities” are even more expansive. Those guidelines, revised most recently in 2017, say that “persons who because of intellectual or developmental disabilities may never attain the use of reason can receive the sacrament of confirmation and should be encouraged either directly or, if necessary, through their parents, to receive it.

This would be consistent with the thinking of Pope Francis, who has spoken strongly about the need to make the sacraments available to persons with disabilities. In June 2016, he celebrated a Mass in St. Peter’s Square as part of the Church’s Year of Mercy. Persons with disabilities proclaimed the first two Scripture readings, including by using Braille, and several altar servers with Down syndrome assisted the pope.

The day before, the pontiff held an audience for those whose work involves catechesis for people who have disabilities; with regard to holy Communion for people who have developmental disabilities, the pontiff noted that some might object on the basis that recipients might not understand what they are doing. Opposing that view, Pope Francis explained, “We all have the same possibility of growing, moving forward, loving the Lord, doing good things.”

Referring Pope St. Pius X, who ruled in 1914 that children as young as 7 years old could receive Communion, Pope Francis noted that “each one of us has a different way of understanding things. One understands one way and another in a different manner, but we can all know God.”

Recently the Gospel read at Mass on this was from the 1st chapter of John, where Jesus appears to the Apostles after his resurrection and tells them to lower their nets into the sea—and they catch 153 fish.

Our visiting priest said in his homily that the number 153 related to the number of regional territories in that era. But then I read Bishop Robert E. Barron’s explanation—that 153 was the number of species of fish known at the time. I’m confused. Which is it? And does it matter? (Georgia)

I am tempted to side with the second apologist of your question—“Does it matter?” I confess that it’s never been an issue that has kept me awake at night. But on the other hand, if John chose to use this precise number in his inspired writing, some allegorical significance may well have been intended.

Two theories proposed by scriptural scholars over the years are the ones you mentioned—that “153” is the number of species of fish in the Sea of Galilee at the time, or that the number indicates the known population groups of that day. St. Jerome, who died around 420, first popularized the “species of fish” view, and that is the one still favored by most commentators.

Either way, though, I think the general meaning is the same: that the mission and message of Jesus, and the salvation he was offering, were meant not just for the Jews of his day, but for all people of every generation.

(Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 30 Columbus Circle Dr., Albany, New York 12203.)

My Journey to God

I Call

By M. Lynell Chamberlain

I call to the willow
And it calls to me,
Pale leaves fluttering
In the young spring breeze.

I call to the sky
And the sky calls to me,
Beckoning upward
To soar fearless and free.

I call to the Lord
And God answers me,
Surrounds me with love
For eternity.

(M. Lynell Chamberlain is a member of St. John Paul II Parish in Sellersburg.
Photo: A willow tree frames grave markers in the distance at Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis.) (Photo by Nicole Blakey)
Rest in peace

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


KREUER, Elizabeth, 70, St. Patrick, Salem, April 23. Wife of Thomas Krieer. Mother of Kateie, Andrew and Matthew Kreuer. Grandmother of eight.


MAU, Carol A., 80, St. Michael, Brookville, May 7. Aunt of two.


PARAS, Gloria L., 81, St. Louis, Batesville, May 10. Mother of Pefe Paras Krakowska, Teresa Romweber, Maria Corais and Anne Paras. Sister of Steven Dowler. Grandmother of three.


RILEY, Theresa, 94, St. Lawrence, Indianapolis, May 7. Aunty of two.

RISCH, Joanne (McDonald), 94, St. Lawrence, Indianapolis, April 30. Mother of Kathryn, James, Martin and Thomas. Grandmother of five. Great-grandmother of one.

ROSEBROCK, Helen G. (Seyal), 101, St. Roch, Indianapolis, May 11. Aunt and great-aunt of several.

WEINTRAFT, Mark, 88, St. Lawrence, Indianapolis, April 13. Father of Julie. Grandfather of one.

Pope Francis, “I am here first of all to bring you all closer to the Church, or if you know of anyone who has been a victim of such misconduct, please contact the archdiocesan victim assistance coordinator. There are two ways to make a report:

Ethics Point
www.archindy.org
317-236-1548 or 800-382-9363, ext. 1548
cartah@archindy.org

Online Lay Ministry Formation
The Archdiocese of Indianapolis partnered with the University of Notre Dame and Catholic Distance University (CDU) to offer not-for-credit online theology classes:
• Earn certificate of 21 credits
• Complete 12 courses online with ND STEP program
• CDU offers classes on Catechism of the Catholic Church
• 20% discount for all employees, volunteers, and parishioners

For more information, please log on to www.archindy.org/layministry

El Salvador tragedy

Priests pray over the casket of Father Cecilio Perez Cruz during his funeral Mass in Sonzaete, El Salvador, on May 20. Partiioners found Father Perez dead in his residence in Juayua early on May 18 with a note nearby that said he had not paid rent,’ a euphemism for extortion money. (CNS photo/Loe Colombo, Reuters)

Providence Sister Michelena Galvin served as an educator for 55 years

Providence Sister Michelena Galvin died on May 15 at Mother Theodore Hall at the motherhouse of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods in Saint Mary-of-the-Woods. She was 94. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on May 24 at the Church of the Immaculate Conception at the motherhouse. Burial followed at the sisters’ cemetery.

The cardinal also joined a foundation stone laying event for a museum where relics of St. Anthony will be reconstructed with the assistance of the Sri Lankan navy.

Cardinal Filoni served as the apostolic nuncio of Sri Lanka from 1981 to 1983. He flew to Colombo after a trip to Thailand to celebrate the 350th anniversary of the Church’s mission to the country.

While visiting the national shrine of St. Anthony in Colombo, he spoke to some of the bereaved family members from the Easter attacks, reported ucanews.com.

“I am here first of all to bring you all closer to Pope Francis,” he said at the venue where the first meetings with various priests and civil and religious personalities.

The papal representative’s itinerary included stops at all three major cities targeted by the terrorists, including Batticaloa on the eastern side of the island nation, and meetings with various priests and civil and religious personalities.

At St. Sebastian Church in Negombo, which suffered the heaviest casualties, he was due to take part in a groundbreaking ceremony for a new cemetery chapel.

Cardinal Filoni dedicated himself entirely to prayer.

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.†

Vatican official: Easter attacks were an official attack on all of Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (CNS)—One of the Vatican’s top officials visited Sri Lanka to show solidarity with the Catholics still reeling from the Easter suicide bombings that claimed more than 250 lives and injured more than 400.

Cardinal Pietro Parolin, prefect of the Vatican Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, said on May 22 that it was time to focus on rebuilding the nation, reported ucanews.com.

The cardinal condemned the April 21 bombings on a handful of luxury hotels and churches in Colombo and

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (CNS)—One of the Vatican’s top officials visited Sri Lanka to show solidarity with the Catholics still reeling from the Easter suicide bombings that claimed more than 250 lives and injured more than 400.

Cardinal Pietro Parolin, prefect of the Vatican Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, said on May 22 that it was time to focus on rebuilding the nation, reported ucanews.com.

The cardinal condemned the April 21 bombings on a handful of luxury hotels and churches in Colombo and

Vatican official: Easter attacks were an official attack on all of Sri Lanka

The papal representative’s itinerary included stops at all three major cities targeted by the terrorists, including Batticaloa on the eastern side of the island nation, and meetings with various priests and civil and religious personalities.

At St. Sebastian Church in Negombo, which suffered the heaviest casualties, he was due to take part in a groundbreaking ceremony for a new cemetery chapel.

The cardinal also joined a foundation stone laying event for a museum where relics of St. Anthony will be placed. The building will include a soup kitchen that will provide free meals to nearly 200 people of all faiths on a daily basis.

The Sri Lanka Ports Authority, the government institution that runs the harbor, donated the land. The navy will handle its construction.

Cardinal Filoni dedicated himself entirely to prayer.

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.

The papal representative’s itinerary included stops at all three major cities targeted by the terrorists, including Batticaloa on the eastern side of the island nation, and meetings with various priests and civil and religious personalities.

At St. Sebastian Church in Negombo, which suffered the heaviest casualties, he was due to take part in a groundbreaking ceremony for a new cemetery chapel.

The cardinal also joined a foundation stone laying event for a museum where relics of St. Anthony will be placed. The building will include a soup kitchen that will provide free meals to nearly 200 people of all faiths on a daily basis.

The Sri Lanka Ports Authority, the government institution that runs the harbor, donated the land. The navy will handle its construction.

Cardinal Filoni dedicated himself entirely to prayer.

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.
New archbishop urges renewed faith amid challenges

WASHINGTON (CNS)—During his installation ceremony as the new archbishop of Washington, Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory acknowledged the struggles that have recently impacted the Catholic Church and urged Catholic leaders and laity not to lose faith.

“We stand at a defining moment for this local faith community,” he said in his homily during the May 21 Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, stressing that “our recent sorrow and shame do not define us, but should chasten the archdiocese to continue the work ahead.”

The archbishop, reflecting on the day’s Gospel reading about Apostles who had grown fearful in turbulent weather at sea, said the narrative is a “worthy metaphor for us as people of faith who have been tossed about” by waves of unsettling revelations.

The former leader of the Atlanta Archdiocese who also served as the bishop of Belleville, Ill., and as an auxiliary bishop of Chicago, did not mention the sexual abuse crisis by name, but clearly he didn’t have to.

In response to these opening remarks, Archbishop Gregory said he came to this humble moment with gratitude, joy and confidence, believing that God who has always been with him will continue to be at his side.

The archbishop was welcomed by local Catholics, those from nearby states who wanted to show support and encouragement. For many in the congregation, the installation of the first African-American archbishop of Washington marked a significant moment in history.

Ron Jackson, who grew up in Mississippi and remembers being required to sit in the back pews while attending Mass, sat near the front of the basilica on May 21 and said: “To see an African-American archbishop attending Mass, sat near the front of the basilica on May 21 and said: “To see an African-American archbishop appointed to the archdiocese ... it really means a lot.”

Ron Jackson, who grew up in Mississippi and remembers being required to sit in the back pews while attending Mass, sat near the front of the basilica on May 21 and said: “To see an African-American archbishop appointed to the archdiocese ... it really means a lot.”

This is a blessed day for me as a lifelong Catholic,” he added.

Jackson, who is the former director of the D.C. Catholic Conference and now works as the senior director of government affairs for Catholic Charities USA, also remembered knocking on doors to register black voters when he was just 16, under the leadership of his pastor.

“Even though the Church, we wouldn’t have been able to make the gains we did,” he said.

Now, Jackson is looking forward to seeing Archbishop Gregory shepherd the local Church.

“For him to get this assignment is ideal,” he said. “It speaks volumes for his ability to lead and his service to the Church,” he told the Catholic Standard, archdiocesan newspaper of Washington.

TRIBUNAL ADVOCATE

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Indianapolis is seeking an Advocate for the Metropolitan Tribunal office located in the Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center. The Advocate is responsible for assisting persons who are seeking to establish their freedom to marry in the Catholic Church or to clarify their marital status in accordance with Canon Law.

The qualified candidate must have at least a bachelor’s degree (a degree in Canon Law is preferred). Two years of legal and/or pastoral experience or other relevant life experience is preferred. The qualified candidate must also be a Catholic in good standing, have a general understanding and acceptance of the Church’s teachings regarding marriage, have excellent verbal and written communication skills, strong organizational skills, computer knowledge and the ability to present realistically and effectively to the cases in an accessible, systematic manner.

Please e-mail cover letter, resume and list of references, in confidence, to:

Ed Isakson
Director, Human Resources
Archdiocese of Indianapolis
1400 N. Meridian St. • Indianapolis, IN 46202
E-mail: eisakson@archindy.org
Applications will be accepted through June 14, 2019.

Equal Opportunity Employer
CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2019

ON YOUR RECORD-SETTING ACCOMPLISHMENTS!

$57.6 million in awards and scholarships—*the most in the school’s history!*

23 VALEDICTORIANS AND SALUTATORIANS

CHOOSEN FOR STELLAR ACHIEVEMENTS BOTH IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM

JUST UNDER 30,000 HOURS COMMUNITY SERVICE

32 SCHOLAR-ATHLETES CONTINUING THEIR CAREERS AT THE COLLEGIATE LEVEL

2 ACADEMY APPOINTMENTS

8 STUDENTS - NATIONAL MERIT RECOGNITION

WHERE THE CATHEDRAL JOURNEY IS TAKING THE CLASS OF 2019

- Alabama A and M University
- Ball State University
- Belmont University
- Brescia University
- Boston University
- Butler University
- Chapman University
- Charleston Southern University
- Colorado State University
- DePaul University
- DePauw University
- Elon University
- Fashion Institute of Technology
- Florida Gulf Coast University
- Franklin College of Indiana
- Furman University
- George Mason University
- Grand Valley State University
- Hanover College
- Harvard University
- Indiana State University
- Indiana University at Bloomington
- Indiana University—Purdue University Indianapolis
- Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana
- Lafayette College
- Lindenwood University
- Lipscomb University
- Loyola University Chicago
- Maastricht University
- Maranatha University
- Marquette University
- Miami University, Oxford
- Morehouse College
- New York University
- Northwestern University
- Ohio University
- Purdue University
- Quincy University
- Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
- St. Edward’s University
- St. Louis University
- St. Mary’s College
- Smith College
- Tennessee State University
- Texas Southern University
- Thomas More College
- U.S. Military Academy
- U.S. Naval Academy
- University of Alabama
- University of Arizona
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of Central Florida
- University of Cincinnati
- University of Colorado at Boulder
- University of Dayton
- University of Detroit Mercy
- University of Indianapolis
- University of Kentucky
- University of Louisville
- University of Michigan
- University of Notre Dame
- University of Oregon
- University of South Carolina
- University of South Florida
- University of Southern Indiana
- University of St. Francis
- University of Wisconsin, Whitewater
- Vincennes University
- Wabash College
- Western Kentucky University
- Xavier University