Spending bills without Hyde seen as move to expand abortion on demand

WASHINGTON (CNS)—In eliminating the Hyde Amendment in spending bills for fiscal year 2022, the “pro-abortion” Democrats on the House Appropriations Committee “destroy over 40 years of previously unprecedented bipartisan support for a measure aimed at saving human lives,” said the president of National Right to Life.

This is a campaign by pro-abortion Democrats to ensure that abortion is available on demand, for any reason, at any time and paid for with taxpayer dollars,” Carol Tobias said.

The National Right to Life president made the comments late on July 15 after the committee marked up the legislation.

“arly aspect of the bill presented today is the removal of the Hyde Amendment, which protects lives and prohibits taxpayer funding of abortion,” said Rep. Tom Cole, R-Okla., during the markup session.

Hyde first became law in 1976 to prohibit federal funds appropriated through the Labor Department, the Health and Human Services Department and related agencies from being used to cover abortion or fund health plans that cover abortion except in cases of rape, incest or when the life of the woman would be endangered.

Hyde has been re-enacted in spending bills every year since it was first passed.

House Democrats said they had planned to keep Hyde out of spending bills because President Joe Biden released his proposed budget on May 28 without the amendment, according to an ABC News report.

ABC quoted House Appropriations Committee Chair Rosa DeLauro, D-Conn., as saying at a July 12 hearing of the committee: “Allowing the Hyde Amendment to remain on the books is...”

Faith and family help an Olympian live his dream amid hardship and heartbeat

By John Shaughnessy

June 26 was a day of excruciating waiting for Joe Schroeder.

It was the day when the news would arrive in an e-mail as to whether the dream he had worked so hard and so long for would come true or end in devastation—his dream of being chosen as an Olympic athlete representing the United States in the Summer Olympics in Tokyo from July 23 to August 8.

The June morning began for the 2012 graduate of Cathedral High School in Indianapolis by attending Mass with his parents and other family members from Indianapolis at a church in the San Diego area. That’s where the 28-year-old Schroeder has been training since 2017 with the goal of becoming a member of the U.S. Olympic rugby team.

Those four years have been marked by a crushing shoulder injury that required surgery and nearly a year of grueling rehabilitation. Much harder, his life has been touched by the death of his brother Will, at 22, in 2020.

U.S. Olympic rugby team.

Photo: Joe Schroeder powers forward as he prepares to live his dream of representing the United States in the country’s rugby team in the Summer Olympics in Tokyo. (Photo courtesy of Travis Prior)

Appealing to need for unity, Pope Francis restores limits on pre-Vatican II Mass

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Saying he was acting for the good of the unity of the Church, Pope Francis has restored limits on the celebration of the Mass according to the Roman Missal in use before the Second Vatican Council, overturning or severely restricting permissions.

St. John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI had given to celebrate the so-called Tridentine Mass.

“An opportunity offered by St. John Paul II and, with even greater magnanimity by Benedict XVI, intended to recover the unity of an ecclesial body with diverse liturgical sensibilities, was exploited to widen the gaps, reinforce the divergences and encourage disagreements that injure the Church, block her path and expose her to the peril of division,” Pope Francis wrote in a letter to bishops on July 16.

The text accompanies his apostolic letter “Traditionis Custodes” (“Guardians of the Tradition”), declaring the liturgical books promulgated after the Second Vatican Council to be “the unique expression of the ‘lex orandi’ [law of worship] of the Roman Rite,” restoring the obligation of priests to have their bishops’ permission to celebrate according to the “extraordinary” or pre-Vatican II Mass and ordering bishops not to establish any new groups or parishes in their dioceses devoted to the old liturgy.

Priests currently celebrating Mass according to the old missal must request authorization from their bishop to continue doing so, Pope Francis ordered, and for any priest ordained after the document’s publication on July 16, the bishop must consult with the Vatican before granting authorization.

Pope Francis also transferred to the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments responsibility for

See HYDE, page 15

See MASS, page 15
All of that further fueled Schroeder’s already-roaring fire to live his dream. After spending most of that June day with everyone trying to distract him, the e-mail finally came.

Schroeder slipped away to his bedroom to open the news alone, leaving his parents, two brothers and a sister-in-law in another room. He knew there were 12 spots on the team. He also knew the spots would be listed by jersey numbers, and that the jersey numbers for his position were 2 and 5. Using an index card, he slid down the selections by each number. His name wasn’t next to the 2.

“At that point, I was on the edge of my seat with all of this,” he recalls. “I knew it would be a tough situation between me and some other guys.”

Taking a deep breath, he slid the index card past 3 and 4, bracing himself as he continued from page 1

Olympics

continued from page 1

Olympics also includes was looking down on him, sharing in the emotion began. Cheers, hugs, tears.

3.5. It was his. He yelled the news into the other room.

“Stephanie, not pictured, has become a member of the family. (Submitted photo) Left, Max, Joe, Luke (holding Mara his daughter) and Nick. Middle row: Ellie, left, Jim, Susan, Angela and two brothers and a sister-in-law to open the news alone, leaving his parents, two brothers and a sister-in-law in another room. He knew there were 12 spots on the team. He also knew the spots would be listed by jersey numbers, and that the jersey numbers for his position were 2 and 5. Using an index card, he slid down the selections by each number. His name wasn’t next to the 2.

“Stephanie, not pictured, has become a member of the family. (Submitted photo) Left, Max, Joe, Luke (holding Mara his daughter) and Nick. Middle row: Ellie, left, Jim, Susan, Angela and some other guys.”

It’s a dream he gets to live with his family and heartbreak.

“We’ve always put our faith first” and this is the first step

2016! I want to make this dream a reality, without anything left. He is deeply missed by all of us, but there have been many beautiful things.

Those moments of beauty and meaning include being together with Joe when he received the news about being selected as an Olympian. We’ve always put our faith first and the first week of January.

“We’ve always put our faith first” and this is the first step

“We’ve always put our faith first” and this is the first step

2016! I want to make this dream a reality, without anything left. He is deeply missed by all of us, but there have been many beautiful things.

Those moments of beauty and meaning include being together with Joe when he received the news about being selected as an Olympian.
We do not have our grandparents' birthdays committed to memory, but I promise you that everyone of us kids grew up knowing that this life on earth was short and that time was precious. And we knew that we would have to pass on what we had learned to the next generation. Our grandparents made that decision, and we did not let our age deter us from making that decision," Sandy says. “She was baptized a Catholic on Easter Sunday, and I was born three years later on Dec. 3, 1940."

Their noteworthy December moments were just the beginning of a long list of the many things she did—and did so appreciated the outcome—and the special care that she took in the operation. And when the surgery was successful, she would stop at the Wonder Bread thrift store to bring bread to us while my grandma went to the classes with my mom. The changes coming kept me busy. While helping to keep shoes on their feet, their Aunt Margaret lavished on many other people she came to embrace. "Aunt Margaret was my Grandpa Loyd's older sister, so technically she was our great-aunt. She never married, she was in town and was always around when needed. We do not know our grandparents' birthdays committed to memory, but I promise you that everyone of us siblings will forever cherish their "Aunt Margaret" because of the way she always made us feel good about ourselves. Having had no children of her own, she treated us like her own grandchildren, giving us the individual attention that was sometimes difficult to get in a family of eight kids.

Margaret Kavanaugh said that her brother, Tim, shared a fitting tribute to her. "Aunt Margaret was our favorite because she always made us feel good about ourselves. Having had no children of her own, she treated us like her own grandchildren, giving us the individual attention that was sometimes difficult to get in a family of eight kids.

Margaret Kavanaugh said that her brother, Tim, shared a fitting tribute to her. "Aunt Margaret was our favorite because she always made us feel good about ourselves. Having had no children of her own, she treated us like her own grandchildren, giving us the individual attention that was sometimes difficult to get in a family of eight kids.

Margaret Kavanaugh also gave the Kavanaugh siblings lasting lessons in how to live their lives and their faith. "As a daily Mass participant, Aunt Margaret was devoted to her Catholic faith," says Mike Kavanaugh, a member of St. Pius X Parish in Franklin. "She was fiercely independent and chose to live a simple life. Love of family and love of her Irish/Catholic heritage were her primary motivators. I do not remember her ever yelling or getting angry—except for that one game of bridge with my dad and Grandma."

"Grandma lost her husband in 1940 when my mom was 9 and my aunt was 7," Blasdel says. "She also had two babies that were born who died shortly after birth. Life was pretty hard, but Grandma persevered. That always impressed me as I got older.

"I remember we grandkids would take fresh flowers to ‘the babies’ and Grandma would wrap them around the stems. We peeled potatoes and tulips in wet paper with rubber bands wrapped around the stems. I knew Grandma seemed sad when we visited the cemetery, but I could tell it brought her comfort.

Her grandmother also gave her a lasting lesson about faith. "My grandparents generously share their time, talent and treasure in as many ways as they can, as often as they can, and they are highly involved at their parish, St. Rose."

A short while later, Sandy was received into the full faith of a family. And Megan thinks of how her grandmother and grandfather have continued that legacy. "My Catholic faith and the heritage that it stems from is something that I feel so incredibly grateful for in this life," says Megan. "To think about the timeline of how the Catholic faith has been passed down and shared within our family is a true testament that God has absolutely perfect timing, and that God’s gifts are abundant."
Letters to the Editor

ILEARN results show Catholic schools help student development

The Indianapolis Star has indirectly given Catholic secondary education schools some well-deserved credit for their role in development of student accomplishment by publishing the most recent results of Indiana’s ILEARN testing in English and Math across all school districts of our state.

The July 15 issue of The Star documented test results in English, showing the top schools in Indiana were dominated by Catholic schools, including schools in Indianapolis, Lafayette and Evansville. These schools represented eight of the top 10 statewide school districts cited in this category.

In the category of accomplishment in both English and Math, diocesan schools represented 50% of the top 10 statewide school districts!

These results are a true tribute to American Catholic education, and the great sacrifices by a Catholic Church which more than two centuries ago established what is today a public education system open to all—thanks to visionaries such as St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and others.

I am struck by the irony that many of today’s public education advocates argue that Catholic schools somehow violate a “separation of Church and state” when in fact it was the Catholic Church in America in the 19th century that in effect brought free public education to the state.

Dr. David A. Nealy
Greenwood

When it comes to unborn children, there is nothing hard to understand

What is so hard to understand? Apparently, the word “infant” is. To what or to whom does the word infant refer?

We speak of “the infant in the womb,” a “newborn infant,” “the unborn infant.”

Quite simply, an infant is a human being in its beginnings, whether in the womb or outside. The Catholic Medical Association has stated that life begins at conception. And that life has never, never resulted in the birth of anyone but a human being.

And when a pregnant woman is murdered and the child’s death also results, the perpetrator is charged with two murders. What is so hard to understand?

Richard Ryan
Indianapolis

Letters Policy

Letters from readers are published in The Criterion as part of the newspaper’s commitment to “the responsible exchange of freely-held and expressed opinion among the People of God” (Comunicio et Progresso, 116).

Letters from readers are welcome and every effort will be made to include letters from as many people and representing as many viewpoints as possible. Letters should be informed, relevant, well-expressed and temperate in tone. They must reflect a basic sense of courtesy and respect.

The editors reserve the right to select the letters that will be published and to edit letters from readers as necessary based on space limitations, pastoral sensitivity and content (including spelling and grammar). In order to encourage opinions from a variety of readers, frequent writers will ordinarily be limited to one letter every three months. Concise letters (usually less than 300 words) are more likely to be printed.

Letters must be signed, but for serious reasons, names may be withheld.

Send letters to “Letters to the Editor,” The Criterion, 1400 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367. Readers with access to e-mail may send letters to criterion@archindy.org.

Editorial

Summer Olympics offer a golden opportunity to build community

If you’re like millions of people around the world, you’ll spend some time in the next few weeks with your eyes focused on Japan.

The Summer Olympics is being held in the Land of the Rising Sun from July 23-Aug. 8, and fans of numerous sports are no doubt excited to have the opportunity to watch world-class athletes compete at the highest level.

The Games also present a wonderful opportunity for families to gather together and share quality time as they watch the athletes compete at the highest level.

It’s hard to believe that 2020 Games are finally taking place—albeit a year late. The delay is the result of the COVID-19 pandemic, which caused chaos, uncertainty and tremendous loss of life worldwide through the past 18 months. Sadly, as of July 19, the global death toll from COVID had reached 4.1 million people, including more than 600,000 in the U.S.

May all those who have died from this illness, and all of the faithful departed, be with the divine Master, no matter what the battle. For those of us in central and southern Indiana, we have extra reason to be proud. 2012 Indianapolis Cathedral High School graduate Joe Schroeder is a member of the U.S. Rugby team that is competing in the Olympics in Japan. (Submitted photo courtesy of Travis Prior)

The opportunity to watch world-class athletes compete at the highest level.

For those of us in central and southern Indiana, we have extra reason to be proud. 2012 Indianapolis Cathedral High School graduate Joe Schroeder is a member of the U.S. Rugby team, and cyclists Coryn Rivera and Felicia Stancil, both graduates of Marian University in Indianapolis, are members of the Women’s U.S Cycling team. Those three are featured in articles in The Criterion this week, beginning on page 1. More stories are published on page 20.

Joe Schroeder, a 2012 graduate of Cathedral High School in Indianapolis, attempts to escape a defender’s tackle in an international rugby contest. Schroeder is a member of the U.S. Rugby team that is competing in the Olympics in Japan. (Submitted photo courtesy of Travis Prior)

Pope Francis recently said as much. In a meeting in late May with Athletica Vaticana, the Vatican’s own sports association which was about to compete in the athletic championships of the Small States of Europe, the Holy Father said sports is a central dimension in people’s daily lives, so much so that it can be seen as a “sacramental of beauty.”

The pope underscored the importance of working together as a team, a key element in sports.

—Mike Krokos

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Editorial
God heals and transforms us in the Eucharist

Dios nos cura y transforma en la Eucaristía

La lectura del Evangelio del 17.º domingo de tiempo Ordinario (Jn 6:1-15) relata la historia que todos conocemos del milagro de la multiplicación de los panes y los peces. Jesús se compadece de la gran multitud de personas que estaban frente a él. Jesús tiene compasión de esos hombres, de esos niños, de esos corderos, de ese hombre que fue devorado por los demonios. Jesús tiene compasión de la multitud de personas que estaban allí. Jesús tiene compasión de los que estaban viviendo en la marginación, en la soledad, en la pobreza, en la adversidad. Jesús tiene compasión de la multitud de personas que estaban allí.

“Jesús se compadece de la gran multitud de personas que estaban allí.” (Jn 6:13)

En su discurso del Angelus, el Papa Francisco sostuvo que “la Eucaristía nos une mutuamente”. En la eucaristía, como en todo sacramento, la materia es física (pan y vino, agua, aceite) pero la forma es espiritual (transmisisión, renacimiento, curación y perdón). El milagro de los panes es de demostrar la amargura de Dios para superar nuestras debilidades y suministrar todo lo que necesitamos para escuchar atentamente su palabra y responder generosamente desde el corazón.

En su discurso al Angelo, el Papa Francisco escribió: “Si queremos vivir fuertemente unidos, que no vivamos para nosotros mismos, sino para Dios y para los demás...”

El Papa Francisco invitó a todos a compartir la eucaristía y bendecir a los demás. "Si queremos vivir fuertemente unidos, que no vivamos para nosotros mismos, sino para Dios y para los demás...”

Francisco "Nos da el valor de salir de nosotros mismos y de inclinarnos con amor hacia la fragilidad de los demás. Como hace Dios con nosotros.”

Saltamos de nosotros mismos, e inclinamos con amor, es exactamente lo que hizo Jesús cuando multiplicó los panes y los peces, compartiéndolos con la multitud. Es exactamente lo que ocurre cuando se entrega a nosotros en la santa eucaristía. "Esta es la lógica de la eucaristía," concluye el Santo Padre. "Reincibimos a Jesús que nos ama y sana nuestras fragilidades para amar a los demás y ayudarles en sus fragilidades. Y esto durante toda la vida. El Santísimo Sacramento es el Pan de Vida para poder dar gracias y distribuirlas a los demás."
July 25
St. Augustine Parish, 18020 LA-82 St., Lake Station. Drive-Thru Dinners and Raffle. 10:30 a.m. CT until sold out. Homecooked chicken dinners include choice of white or dark meat, fries, green beans, noodle casserole and chocolate chip cookie, $10 (cash preferred), seating available inside or outside. Information: 317-843-5143.

July 26, August 2, 9, 16
St. Therese of the Child Jesus (Little Flower) Parish Center, 1345 N. Southern Ave., Bloomington, will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary on July 26. Information: 812-843-5143. 

July 27-29
Our Lady of Grace Parish, 9000 E. 191st St., Noblesville (LaFayette Diocese), Retreat with the Sisters of the Village. Intensive: 6-9 p.m. each night, $75, $50 for clergy, religious, seminarians or college students, register by July 21. Information: 317-795-4912, njones@nccindy.archdiocese.org or nccindy.archdiocese.org/retreats.

July 29-31
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, 10655 Haverstick Road, Carmel (LaFayette Diocese). SetonFest. 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m., amusement rides, inflatables, children's games, food trucks, grilled food/sandwiches, hourly games of chance, grilled food/sandwiches, children's games, food trucks, grilled food/sandwiches, dancing, live music, and free exercise. Free, Information: 317-727-1167, jburger@archindy.org, log on to www.archindy.org/retreats.

August 1
Rachel’s Vineyard Healing Retreat, greater Indianapolis area (exact location given upon registration), for women and men who have known regret, sorrow, guilt or shame after abortion. $175, scholarships available, registration deadline July 12. Registration and information: 317-452-0914 or projectheal@archindy.org.

August 4
MCI, Certifier, 5520 Castleton Corner Lane, Indianapolis. Solo Seniors, 5:30 p.m. CT, Catholic, educational, charitable and social singles—separated, widowed or divorced—age 50 and older, new members welcome, also call about regular Friday night dinner events. Information: 317-796-8655 or 317-243-0777. 

McGowan Hall of Knights of Columbus, 1305 N. Delaware St., Indianapolis. Theology on Tap, sponsored by archdiocesan Young Adult and College Campus Ministry, speaker series for young adults. Information: 317-261-2511. Every Wednesday through Aug. 18, free, Information on speakers and topics at indycatholic.org/theology-on-tap. Questions, 317-236-1542.

August 6
Women’s Care Center, 4901 W. 86th St., Indianapolis. First Friday Mass, 5 p.m., followed by 5:30 p.m. statues adoration and the Rosary, optional tour of center to follow. Information: 317-829-6800, womeencarecenter.org.

Our Lady of the Greenwood Church, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. First Friday bilingual celebration of the Mass. Mass, 4:55 p.m., exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, follow the Mass with a silent reparation sacrament of reparation available. Information: 317-265-0944 or petitebriet@archindy.org.

August 7
St. Mary Parish, 2500 St. Mary’s Dr., Lanesville, Parish Picnic, 6 a.m.-3 p.m. games of chance, quilt raffle, capital prize drawing, cake wheel, 50/50 prize raffle, linen and crafts, silent auction, fried chicken or ham dinner; $12 for adults, $5 for children ages 6-11, outdoor dining or drive-thru, dressing, potato salad, country-style green beans, slaw, noodles, fresh cucumbers, pie. Online auction: harrittgroup.com on July 26. Information: 812-952-2853.

August 8

August 13-14
One of the Holy Rosary Parish, 520 Stevens St. Indianapolis. Italian Street Festival - 5 p.m., religious procession 6:45 p.m., Sat. followed by 7 p.m. Mass, homemade pizza, Italian food, wine and beer, live music, amusement rides, free admission, free parking. Information: 317-357-1200.
As the Director of Marriage and Family Life, I coordinate Natural Family Planning (NFP) outreach in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. I work with clergy, medical professionals, certified NFP instructors and witness couples, and together we inform the faithful about God’s plan for marriage and family and how fertility is a component of the vocation of marriage and responsible parenthood. At a Catholic wedding, the bride and groom are asked three questions before they give their consent to marry. One of these questions is: “Are you prepared to accept children lovingly from God and to bring them up according to the law of Christ and his Church?” (*60, The Order of Celebrating Matrimony). Natural Family Planning is a morally acceptable, medically sound and natural tool to fulfill this promise.

'Are you prepared to accept children ... ?'

In my work preparing engaged couples for the sacrament of marriage, we talk about NFP and how learning about a husband and wife’s fertility can help them cooperate with God to achieve or avoid pregnancy. We address the role of NaPro (Natural Procreative) technology, which is a morally acceptable alternative to in vitro fertilization, and can help couples who are experiencing infertility or other complications.

We are so blessed to have Catholic doctors who are proficient in NaPro technology come to speak to engaged couples at our Pre-Cana and One in Christ marriage preparation retreats about fertility awareness and the science of NaPro technology, and to have dedicated witness couples share their experience practicing NFP in their marriage.

Past retreat participants have said: “I felt that the NFP talk was really great. I wish I was taught this before today, but I’m glad I have another option,” and “I loved having an MD discuss NFP. I was skeptical but the medical background was super helpful and convinced me to do it.”

Many brides are happy to learn that NFP instructors can help their fertility return to normal after their hormones were altered from being on chemical contraception for many years.

‘I wish I was taught this before ... ’

But NFP is not just for engaged couples preparing to start a family. A new mother-daughter program was recently launched by the Couple to Couple League to help middle school and adolescent girls who are coming of age to understand their blossoming fertility in light of God’s design, without getting into the topics of family planning.

With this tool, mothers can utilize resources to mentor their daughters, parishes can host mother-daughter events, and schools can incorporate the age-appropriate information into their health curriculum, knowing it is both scientific and from a Catholic perspective.

New mothers and women ending their child-bearing years are two other groups that could benefit from tracking their fertility through an NFP method. Because our society has relied on chemical contraception to treat all fertility issues, women are often left in the dark about the changes their body will naturally go through after giving birth or when entering menopause. With hormone changes come fertility changes, and women often benefit from the additional support that an NFP instructor can provide during seasons of change.

A moral and scientific way to cooperate with God’s plan for fertility

‘Are you prepared to accept children lovingly from God and to bring them up according to the law of Christ and his Church?’

(Back cover)

Gabriela Ross

Gabriela Ross is the director of the Marriage and Family Life Office of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and can be reached at gross@archindy.org. †
A DOZEN DIFFERENCES BETWEEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING &amp; CONTRACEPTION METHODS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Is in harmony with fertility</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treats fertility as a gift</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fosters increased communication</td>
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<tr>
<td>Encourages “SPICE” (Spiritual, Physical, Intellectual, Communicative, Emotional) concept of sexuality</td>
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<td>Promotes marital bonding</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reports less than 5% divorce rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Is effective to avoid and achieve pregnancy</td>
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<td>Encourages the couple to revisit the decision to avoid or achieve pregnancy</td>
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<td>Can change use of the method to avoid or achieve pregnancy at a moment’s notice</td>
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<td>Is open to God’s will for life</td>
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<td>Protects the love and life nature of marriage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Is healthy &amp; brings awareness of the women’s reproductive abnormalities for treatment</td>
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| INTERFERES WITH FERTILITY                        |
| Treats fertility as a disease                    |
| Requires little/no communication                 |
| May inhibit “SPICE” growth                       |
| May promote feelings of being used               |
| Reports greater than 50% divorce rate            |
| Used only to avoid pregnancy                     |
| Assumes avoiding pregnancy                      |
| Requires discontinuing the method to achieve pregnancy |
| Is closed to beginning a new life                |
| Interferes with love and life nature of marriage |
| May cause side effects requiring treatment       |

Staff of the archdiocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life

**Gabriela Ross**
Gabriela Ross has worked for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis for six years. She previously taught Theology of the Body in Catholic grade schools and parishes in Cincinnati. Her first position for the archdiocese was with the Office of Catechesis. Since 2019, she has worked as director for the archdiocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life. Ross is bilingual in English and Spanish and can be reached at gross@archindy.org or 317-592-4007.

**Claudia Corona**
Claudia Corona is from Guadalajara, Mexico. She has worked for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis for 3.5 years. Her previous position was as administrative assistant for the Intercultural Pastoral Institute of the archdiocesan Intercultural Ministry Office. Since March, she has worked as office and event coordinator for the archdiocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life. Corona is bilingual in English and Spanish and can be reached at ccorona@archindy.org or 317-236-7310.

(Infographic above courtesy of the Archdiocese of St. Louis Office of Natural Family Planning)
Marriage event provides ‘an avenue of grace’ for couples

By Natalie Hoefer

DOVER—When nationally-known Catholic marriage presenters Troy and Kathleen Billings emphasized the importance of date nights for married couples, Justin Egan listened.

“Justin took that message to heart,” said his wife of 13 years, Katherine. “He set up a schedule with several other couples so that we alternate watching each other’s kids and having a date night.

“In the last month, we have been to a movie and also tried out a new restaurant!”

The Egans, members of St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross Parish in Bright, heard the Billings speak at All Saints Parish in Dearborn County on June 12. About 50 couples—from nearly 54 years of marriage to just three months—attended the event as a means to nourish their marriages.

“The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that marriage is the foundational building block of the world,” said Father Jonathan Meyer, pastor of All Saints Parish. “In our world, people are really starving for marriage ministry, and there’s just not a lot out there.

“We held this event so couples would know we love them and support them.”

‘Marriage is like dancing’
The Billings spoke not just from their years of experience as a married couple with five children, but also from their experience as leaders of a marriage ministry for their parish, bloggers for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ “For Your Marriage” website, and as authors of a new book to be released soon.

The retreat, like their blog, was called “Two to Tango.”

“We both loved to dance,” said Kathleen after sharing that she and Troy met as college students—he at the University of Notre Dame and she at the nearby all-women’s Saint Mary’s College in Notre Dame.

“The problem was, we had different styles. We were always stepping on each other’s toes.

“Marriage is like dancing. Sometimes you step on each other’s toes. But the goal is to be close and to move with each other.”

Of course, marriage—particularly a Catholic marriage—is more than a dance, said Troy.

“As a sacrament, marriage is holy,” he said.

“Sacrament has the same root as sacrifice, which means ‘to make holy.’

“When you sacrifice for your spouse—from cleaning to doing yard work—you’re giving of yourself and making your marriage holy.”

With the sacrament of marriage comes grace, Troy reminded the couples.

“So many forget to tap into that grace,” he said.

“Couples need to ask God for the grace to live their marriage according to his will.”

Katherine and her husband.

“Marriage takes work,” said John. “It’s things like solving a problem together that build your marriage.”

“Marriage takes work,” said Troy. “It’s the little things like me doing your dishes and you folding the laundry that strengthen your marriage.”

“Regular date nights are so important for spouses to stay connected and enjoy themselves,” Kathleen said.

“Marriage takes work!”

With nearly 54 years of experience, Rosele and John Jones, members of St. Michael Parish in Greenfield, agreed with the Billings.

“Marriage takes work,” said John. “It’s the little things like doing the dishes and laundry together that build your marriage.”

Sitting next to the Joneses, Mary Jo and Bob Stoops nodded in agreement. The couple, members of St. Lawrence Parish in Lawrenceburg, have been married for nearly 12 years.

“I think it’s important to stay open to ways to improve and nourish your marriage,” said Bob.

“You need to be nourished in your family life just like you need to be nourished in your faith,” Mary Jo added.

Annie and Zach Webber are starting to nourish their marriage early, having just married in May. The couple

Katherine Egan smiles at her husband Justin as he leads her out of a twirl during a marriage event at All Saints Parish in Dearborn County on June 12. The Egans are members of St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross Parish in Bright. (Photos by Natalie Hoefer)

“Marriage is like dancing. Sometimes you step on each other’s toes. But the goal is to be close and to move with each other.”

Of course, marriage—particularly a Catholic marriage—is more than a dance, said Troy.

“As a sacrament, marriage is holy,” he said.

“Sacrament has the same root as sacrifice, which means ‘to make holy.’

“When you sacrifice for your spouse—from cleaning to doing yard work—you’re giving of yourself and making your marriage holy.”

With the sacrament of marriage comes grace, Troy reminded the couples.

“So many forget to tap into that grace,” he said.

“Couples need to ask God for the grace to live their marriage according to his will.”

Katherine and her husband.

“Marriage takes work,” said John. “It’s things like solving a problem together that build your marriage.”

“Marriage takes work,” said Troy. “It’s the little things like me doing your dishes and you folding the laundry that strengthen your marriage.”

“Regular date nights are so important for spouses to stay connected and enjoy themselves,” Kathleen said.

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Katherine Egan smiles at her husband Justin as he leads her out of a twirl during a marriage event at All Saints Parish in Dearborn County on June 12. The Egans are members of St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross Parish in Bright. (Photos by Natalie Hoefer)
Wedding Announcements

BRAHMA-HARRISON
Marie Elizabeth Brahm and Thomas Robert Harrison were married on June 12 at St. Joseph Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Elizabeth Hack Brahm and James Brahm. The groom is the son of Melissa Collop Harrison and David Harrison.

ELING-HARTMAN
Mary Kathleen Eling and Collin Wayne Hartman were married on April 19 at St. Joseph University Church in Terre Haute. The bride is the daughter of Joseph and Catherine Eling. The groom is the son of Brian Harman and Melissa Hartman-Compton.

HORNUNG-WATSON
Jacqueline Rose Hornung and Charles Louis Watson III were married on July 10 at St. Mary Church in New Albany. The bride is the daughter of Scott Hornung and Kelly O’Connor. The groom is the son of Charles II and Dennis Watson.

KLOE-BOWLING
Alexis Marie Hoffman and Joseph Michael Bowling were married on Oct. 9 at Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Joseph and Gretchen Hoffman. The groom is the son of Brian and Jeanette Bowling.

KUER-SHEAR
Selena Marie Kuer and Patrick Joseph Shear were married on May 28 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Indianola. The bride is the daughter of Joseph and Katelynn Shear. The groom is the son of John and Nancy Shear.

MOWH-OLIVERO
Kellie Marie Labonte and Jordan Andrew Hickman will be married on Oct. 25 at St. Luke the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Chris and Vicky Labonte. The groom is the son of Tony and Becky Green.

MOLL-ALDRIZZON
Hayley Nicole Moll and Patrick Benjamin Aldrizzon were married on July 10 at St. Joseph Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Chris Moll and Cindy Woelfel. The groom is the son of John and Jennifer Aldrizzon.

ROLAND-PERLIE
Hamish Elizabeth Perl and Joseph Robert Perl were married on April 17 at St. Leo Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Mary and Jamie Roland. The groom is the son of Patrick and Beth Perl.

SCHENBER-HOWE
Eva Marie Schember and David Lee Howe were married on Oct. 9 at St. Mary Church, a campus of St. Elizabeth Immaculate Conception Church in Millhousen. The bride is the daughter of Larry and Audrey Schember. The groom is the son of William and Nicole Johanningsm.

MULTIPLE COPIES OF PHOTOS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. A self-addressed, stamped envelope. Due to print quality, photos cannot be mailed online. To receive the photo back, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Due to print quality, photos cannot be mailed online. To receive the photo back, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Couples may announce engagement or marriage next spring in The Criterion. Engagement announcements will be published in a February 2022 issue of The Criterion for couples who are planning to wed between Jan. 1 and July 15, 2022, in a marriage that is recognized by the Church as a valid sacramental or valid natural marriage. Couples who were married in the second half of 2021 may also submit an announcement if their engagement announcement was not published in The Criterion. An engagement announcement is available online at www.criteriononline.com by selecting “Send Announcement.” A color photo of the couple close together. Photos can also be mailed to The Criterion, 121 W. Washington St., Martinsville, IN 46151. To receive the photo back, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Due to print quality, Xerox copies of photos will not be accepted.
What is Natural Family Planning?

Natural Family Planning (NFP) is the general name given to the scientific, natural, and moral methods of family planning that can help married couples achieve or postpone pregnancy. It celebrates and reveres the vision of human sexuality.

Approved Methods

There are several scientific methods that have been developed to track a couple’s fertility for natural family planning purposes. In the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, the following methods and providers have been approved. Other methods and providers may be considered on a case-by-case basis. Please contact the Marriage & Family Life office for more information.

The Sympto-Thermal Method taught by The Couple to Couple League
• Website: ccli.org
• In-person and online instruction
• Includes instruction for irregular situations, postpartum and perimenopause, and a charting “app” for mobile users. Offers Mother-Daughter program to begin discussing fertility awareness with adolescent young women (English only).

The Creighton Model FertilityCare System (CrMS) taught by local Creighton practitioners
• Website for Creighton practitioners: www.fertilitycare.org
• Website for NaPro Technology: npptandnpi.com
• In-person and online instruction; Spanish instruction local and online.
• Some Creighton practitioners have a NaPro (Natural Procreative Technology) specializations to treat infertility issues and other complications.

The Marquette Method (Sympto-Hormonal) taught by Whole Mission
• Website for Marquette Method: ccmf.org/MarquetteMethod
• Website for Whole Mission providers: www.mmnfpc.com
• Regional providers in Louisville and Evansville provide in-person training. All other training is online, also in Spanish.
• Includes online charting tools, one year of follow-up consultations as needed, and consultation for irregular situations, postpartum and perimenopause.

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Other methods and providers have been approved. Some Creighton practitioners are the daughter of Daniel and Margo Schutzman. The groom is the daughter of Margaret and the late Richard Zapfe. The groom is the daughter of Howard and Sheryl Brandenburg.

Planificación Familiar Natural (PFN)

La Planificación Familiar Natural (PFN) es el título general de los métodos científicos, naturales y morales de planificación familiar que pueden ayudar a las parejas casadas a lograr o postergar el embarazo.

¿Celebra y reverencia la visión de la sexualidad humana?

El Programa de PFN de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos organiza una campaña educativa nacional del 25 al 31 de julio, que destaca el aniversario de la encíclica papal “Humanae Vitae” (25 de julio) que articula los derechos católicos sobre la sexualidad humana, el amor conjugal y la paternidad responsable. Las fechas también marcan la festividad de los Santos Joaquín y Ana (26 de julio), padres de la Santísima Madre. El Papa Francisco ha designado el 25 de julio como el Día Mundial de los Abuelos y las Personas Mayores.
Couple offers tips for making marriage work

By Natalie Hoefer

Troy and Kathleen Billings—Catholic marriage ministry leaders, bloggers and authors—recently offered tips and advice on making marriage work at All Saints Parish in Dearborn County on June 12. Below are snippets of advice and tips the couple offered:

• “The difference between a creek and a river is that boulders and rocks can alter the flow of a creek because it’s shallow. But they don’t alter the flow of a river because it’s deeper.” God intended marriage to be like a river, not a creek.

• “If you do a little different thing each day—get up early with the kids or make a call so your spouse doesn’t have to—these build up over time to say ‘I love you.’”

• “In the words of St. Therese the Little Flower, ‘Do little things with great love.’ When you see your spouse do something extra, compliment them. Remember that small things add up to a great marriage.”

• “Do you date your spouse? As you get busier and have more kids, you need to stoke the fire of your marriage. It’s easier to stoke a fire than to build a fire again after it’s gone out.”

• “Take 15 minutes a day to talk with your spouse about how each of you is doing. That’s about 1% of your day.”

• “One of the best ways to insure a healthy and holy marriage is to pray together. Maybe it’s the Our Father, the rosary, spontaneous prayer or making a holy hour together. A holy hour guarantees at least one hour of silence in your week! It’s a date night with Jesus.”

• “The greatest gift you can give your kids is to love your spouse. Kids notice the little things you say and do for your spouse, and it’s important to them.”
How Natural Family Planning changed my life

By Dawn Farias

As a child I was baptized Catholic, but essentially grew up with no religious practice. As a married adult, I re-entered the Church, and soon after felt a tugging at my heart to stop practicing contraception. At that time, I did not know about Natural Family Planning (NFP).

More basic, I did not know about Church teachings on the moral practice of family planning. What I would learn about God’s design for my married life and through the practice of NFP would change my life.

True freedom and openness to life

When my husband, Ariel and I took an NFP class, I have to admit that I was scared. Giving up control was frightening! It was one thing to be committed to an ideal, but something quite different to follow through on it. It definitely involved a leap of faith! Over time and with some experience, I began to appreciate the gift and beauty of NFP.

In practicing NFP, my husband and I must decide if we, as a couple, are ready to embrace the possibility of a new life in each menstrual cycle.

When we had used contraception, we ignored this reality. With NFP we could not ignore how God made us—as a man and a woman. NFP helped us understand the relationship that God designed between the marital act and procreation. It has made us “open to life.” It even brought our last two children into the family!

Growing together in holiness

The sacrifices that NFP entails have only served to make me a better person and more devoted to the Lord. Without knowing it, using contraception promotes the idea that children are a burden. God's design for marriage, more dependent on him to fulfill these needs, is one of sacrifice, devotion, and grace.

Growing together in holiness includes the sacrifices that NFP entails. When we practice NFP, we give ourselves to each other fully in the marital act. For us, the idea of contraception has become almost vulgar. It cheapens the marital act. Contraception seems to say: “I love you, honey, but I don’t love you THAT much.”

NFP also guards against the objectification of the woman in the relationship. Contraception often keeps the woman in a defensive position because it allows “intimacy on demand.” NFP does not allow this because of the practice of periodic abstinence when not seeking a pregnancy. A deeper equality between husband and wife can be nurtured with NFP. NFP helps the process of this awareness.

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Growing together in holiness.

A marriage is a new beginning of love, family and financial responsibility.

Looking how to live in harmony with God’s design for loving and life in marriage is the mission of NFP education.

When I learned about NFP, I grew up with no religious practice. As a married adult, I re-entered the Church, and soon after felt a tugging at my heart to stop practicing contraception. At that time, I did not know about Natural Family Planning (NFP).

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overseeing the implementation of the new rules. In 2007, Pope Benedict XVI issued “Summarum Pontificum” on the use of the pre-Vatican II Roman liturgy. It said and asked of the bishops, ‘there was a desire for it, that the priest knows the Rite and Latin well enough to celebrate in an intelligible manner, but not so much so that the good of parishioners desiring the extraordinary form “is harmonized with the liturgical reform of the parish, under the governance of the bishop in accordance with Canon 392, avoiding discord and favoring the unity of the whole Church.”’ The new-retired Pope Benedict also insisted the liturgy be celebratng predominantly according to the old rite acknowledge the validity of the new Mass and accept the teachings of the Second Vatican Council.

In his letter to bishops, Pope Francis said that responses to a survey of the world’s bishops carried out last year by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith “reveal a situation that preoccupies and saddens me and persuades me of the need to intervene. Regretfully, the pastoral objective of my predecessors, who had intended to ‘do everything possible to ensure that all those who truly expressed the desire for unity would find it possible to remain in this unity or to re-establish it anew,’ has been often seriously disregarded. ‘Ever more plain in the words and attitudes of many is the close connection between the choice of celebrations according to the liturgical books prior to Vatican Council II, and the rejection of the Church and her institutions in the name of what is called the ‘true Church,’ Pope Francis wrote.

The President of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Smith, said bishops should carry for those Catholics “who are rooted in the previous form of celebration” who helping them “return in due time” to the celebration of Mass according to the new missal. Similarly, Pope Francis also indicated that sometimes parishes and communities devoted to the older liturgy were the idea of the priests involved and not the result of a group of Catholic faithful desiring to celebrate that Mass. Pope Francis asked bishops “to discontinue the erection of new personal parishes tied more to the vigorous and wishes of individual priests than to the real need of the ‘holy people of God.’” However, he added that many people find nourishment in more solemn celebrations of Mass, so he asked bishops “to be vigilant in ensuring that every Mass be celebrated with decorum and fidelity to the liturgical books promulgated after Vatican Council II, without the eccentricities that can easily degenerate into abuses.”

The liturgical life of the Church has changed and developed through the centuries, the pope noted.

“St. Paul VI, recalling that the work of adaptation of the Roman Missal that had already been initiated by Pius XII, declared that the revision of the Roman Missal, carried out in the light of the ancient liturgical sources, had the goal of permitting the Church to raise up, in the variety of languages, ‘a single and identical prayer’ that expressed your unity,” Pope Francis said. “This unity I intend to re-establish throughout the Church of the Roman Rite.”

ADCvocates: Ruling Against DACA must push Congress to act

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Catholic immigration advocates are urging Congress and President Joe Biden to speed up legislation to protect immigrants after a federal judge in Texas blocked the deportation of thousands of immigrants brought into the U.S. illegally as children.

The decision means that “tens of thousands of people, including those who had initially come to the U.S. as children under the program, but left later due to economic delays, will not receive the alteration protection from deportation or stability, security, opportunity,” tweeted Lisa Parisio, director of advocacy for Catholic Legal Immigration Network, or CLINIC.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) urged President Donald J. Trump to “strongly reconsider terminating DACA,” and they urged U.S. senators to “immediately pass legislation that provides a path to citizenship” for Dreamers, stressing that this kind of “permanent legislative protection is long overdue.”

Advocates had similar pleas after Hanen’s ruling. “The states that joined in the lawsuit—the Alabama, Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nebraska, South Carolina and West Virginia—also said the program has been suspended since June 18.”

DACA has enabled about 700,000 qualifying young people, described as Dreamers, to work, to go to college, get driver’s licenses, and not face deportation. These young adults were brought to the U.S. as children by their parents without legal documentation. Last year, the Supreme Court ruled against efforts by the Trump administration to end the program, saying the actions taken to rescind it had been “arbitrary and capricious.”

In his letter to bishops, Pope Francis wrote.

To promote the unity of the Church, the “extraordinary form” of the Mass may be celebrated with decorum and fidelity “to be vigilant in ensuring that every liturgy people find nourishment in more solemn Masses. The pope also indicated that sometimes parishes and communities.”

The USCCB’s Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities is asking Catholics and all “people of goodwill” to sign an online petition, www. prolifeaction.takeaction.org not to let federal funds be used to pay for abortions. The petition. “Save Hyde. Save Lives.” will be delivered to members of Congress, and staff. As of late on July 16, the petition had 121,000 signatures.
I have visited prisoners at the U.S. Penitentiary in Terre Haute for the past 18 months. There are stories here that have come in what these visits teach me about God and about these, I would not have known that I had any about the various aspects of the personal spiritual journeys of prisoners.

Reggie is 29 years old and has been incarcerated for nearly all of his life. After he was 16, the last eight years in Terre Haute. On our last visit, Reggie introduced me to the street phrases by calling me “jumped off the porch,” meaning “started hustling in the streets.” Reggie “jumped off the porch” meaning “started hustling in the streets.”

Natalie Hoefer

Grandmother's kind act encourages granddaughter's interest, faith

Living Well/Maureen Pratt

Simple action is a powerful ‘hook’ to evangelize and grow the Church

My trusty 2000 Toyota Camry with less than 70,000 miles attracts a lot of attention and even unsolicited offers to buy. However, what people often find most compelling is the car's great condition or low mileage, but two things that stuck out that came with the car when it was new. The first was the size. The car is only moderately sized, the hooks are bolted on either side of the inside of the trunk. It can carry a bunch of heavy bags, keeping contents secure, and are, according to others, quite unusual. The hooks remain, and are different kinds, which surfaced in the work I did for my final synthesis paper for a master of theological studies at the Jesuit School of Theology at Santa Clara University, which I completed in May.

I studied, I taught, I researched and reacted during four past pandemics and what we might glean from today’s pandemics and in the future.

I don't have much space to go into the details (books are on the way!), but one thing does stand out. Simple Church action has been a powerful "hook" to evangelize and grow the Church. In the pandemic years, for example, the early Church was mostly considered an outlying cult on the margins of the polytheistic pagan society. Roman military action exposed troops to smallpox, and it caught and burned throughout the empire.

Christians were among those blamed for the resulting devastation. Persecuted, killed, many of the Christians, and brothers and sisters in Christ paid the ultimate price for professing faith in Jesus during that time. 

"In the eyes of the world," Father Steve told us, "this child means nothing. But in the eyes of God and our Church, this child is precious and valued:"

For the Journey/ Effie Caldarola

Standing with those on the margins

This story happened many years ago. Some of the principal actors in this story are dead. My husband was the director of Catholic Charities for the archdiocese where we then lived.

We were attending a social event, and a Catholic woman who was a former foster mom for both the state and the Catholic agency approached my husband. Helen had taken care of a multitude of babies, many of whom were on their way to adoption. But now she was prohibition.

She was caring for a tiny baby who had hydrocephalus, a buildup of fluid around the brain. The treatment often results in a long life span, but this baby had many profound issues, and Helen was concerned about his survival. She wanted him baptized.

She had approached her pastor, who told her that such paperwork would be impossible. The mother, who had abandoned the child but not religiously relinquished, would have to be located to give consent. In general, there's little incentive for someone into a religious group is a parent's right. But in this case, that presented a bureaucratic and logistical impasse, perhaps an impossibility. The baby, Helen felt, needed to be baptized.

Steve didn't hesitate. "We have the chancery on Friday," he told Helen. There was a Mass for chancery employees every Friday, held in a corner of the office room and usually sparsely attended.

On Friday, I drove downtown for the chancery room was packed, the chancery community wanted to be part of this. Helen was the godmother, my husband the godfather.

My memories are vague. But what I do remember has lived with me for a long time.

"In the eyes of the world," Father Steve told us, "this child means nothing. But in the eyes of God and our Church, this child is precious and valued:"

I do remember many people cried.

On my refrigerator hangs a picture with the picture of Jaelen Calma Maquin, who was 7 years old when she died of sepsis after being taken in U.S. custody following her journey from her native Guatemala. Many times, cleaning up, I've looked at that photo to remind me of that child.

But I can't, because the priest's words linger. "In the eyes of the world," this child means nothing.

But to us, Jaelen is precious. So are those considering the tragedy of abortion because they have no access to good health care for themselves and their babies. Precious are those on death row, including those on death row in a country where some of the wealthiest pay little or no tax.

For the Journey/ Effie Caldarola

Standing with those on the margins

While in the chancery, Father Steve asked me if I was interested in being a sponsor for Jaelen. I was packed, the chancery community wanted to be part of this. Helen was the godmother, my husband the godfather.

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The Second Book of Kings is the source of the first reading for Mass this weekend. The two books of Kings originally were one volume. At one point in the development of the Bible, they were divided into two books. These two books are historical, but their purpose was religious. They attempted to look through the reigns of the kings and proclaim the fidelity of God to the nation. Thus, prophets, who spoke for God, were prominent in these books.

This weekend’s reading does not even mention a king. Instead, it recalls the life of the prophet Elisha. As an act of faith in and homage to God, a devout man brought the first produce of the harvest to Elisha as a gift to God. This produce was in the form of 20 barley loaves. Elisha accepted the offering, but told the man to distribute the loaves among the people, who numbered 100. The man of course doubted that only 20 loaves would suffice for so many people. Nevertheless, the man complied. Rather than being insufficient, the loaves were plentiful enough to satisfy the crowd.

For its second reading, the Church this weekend presents a passage from St. Paul’s Epistle to the Ephesians.

This epistle was directed to the Christian community of Ephesus in the first century. It was a major city in the Roman Empire and an important port on the coast of what is now Turkey on the Aegean Sea. The city was once a pagan shrine. Ephesian Christians were known for their Górüs and sumptuousness as well as their piety. Their community of Ephesus in the first century.

The Church reassures us this weekend. God is never distant from us, unless we willfully distance ourselves from him by our own selfishness and sin. God is with us today in Jesus, the risen Lord. God gives us a life and all that we need to maintain life. We are not left to struggle as best we can.

Reflection

The faithful cannot embrace that view which maintains that . . . Adam and Eve were created directly by God. The Church reassures us this weekend.

My Journey to God

I Ask My Grandmother to Teach Me to Sew

By Julianna Connelly

She raises the fibrous fabric in her left hand and shimmies it under the presser foot, careful to push away my fingers aching to help until I “know the difference between the presser foot and the foot pedal.”

Her lithe hands splay across the cotton clamping it steady as a rock, careful not to pull it too taut. The stitches hold true.

My nose tickles in preparation for the stitches to hold true. For the stitches to hold true.

Her crinkled eyes smile at me as she says, “From the spool pin around this series of hooks, pulled down and through the needle. That’s how you thread the sewing machine.”

With a slight shift of the fabric to keep it from bunching up, I tap the foot pedal and still feel her hands on mine, guiding me through how to stitch up a seam.

(Q37)

The Criterion Friday, July 23, 2021

Daily Readings

Sunday, July 25, 2021

• 2 Kings 4:42-44
• Ephesians 4:1-6
• John 6:1-15

Monday, July 26

SS. Joachim and Anne, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Exodus 32:15-24, 30-34
Psalm 106:19-23
Matthew 13:31-35

Tuesday, July 27

Exodus 13:17-20; 34:9-26
Psalm 103:6-13
Matthew 13:36-43

Wednesday, July 28

Exodus 34:29-35
Psalm 96:5-9, 12
Matthew 13:44-46

Thursday, July 29

St. Martha
Exodus 40:16-21, 34-38
Psalm 84:3-6a, 11
John 11:19-27
or Luke 10:38-42

Question Corner/Fr. Kenneth Doyle

Church sees no conflict between theory of evolution and story of Adam and Eve

How is one to accept the story of Adam and Eve, if one believes in evolution? (Kentucky)

A There is no conflict between the biblical story of Adam and Eve and the acceptance of the scientific theory of evolution. The first human bodies may well have been the product of the ordinary evolutionary process. But a Catholic is compelled to believe that the first human souls were created directly by God.

So, concerning biological evolution, the Church does not have a definitive position on whether various life forms developed over the course of time. But if that was the case, then they did so under the impetus and the guidance of God. Furthermore, the observation of Pope Pius XII in his 1950 encyclical “Humani Generis” still carries weight: “The faithful cannot embrace that opinion which maintains that . . . Adam represents a certain number of first parents. Now it is in no way apparent how such an opinion can be reconciled with that which . . . the documents of the teaching authority of the Church propose with regard to original sin, which proceeds from a sin actually committed by an individual Adam” (Q37).

And so the Catechism of the Catholic Church says: “The account of the fall in Genesis 3 uses figurative language, but clear. The Apostles, through the Church, still bear our concerns to Jesus and still convey to us all the blessings of the Lord. Links between this event in John and the Eucharist are many. First, bread is food. Food is vital for life. Secondly, the gathering of the people on the shore in this story occurred near Passover. The Eucharist is the great Passover meal. Next, Jesus gives thanks, the same gesture that appears in all the accounts of the Last Supper. And much was left over, revealing the lavishness of God’s love and mercy.”

Q I enjoy reading murder mysteries. I like seeing how the detectives work through the clues to solve their cases. Many of these stories contain graphic violence and sexual elements in these crimes.

Is it a serious sin to read these types of stories? When I ponder this, I recall that even the Old Testament has very similar instances. (Kansas)

A I suspect, by the fact that you even raise the question, that you are committing no sin in reading murder mysteries. The key question has to do with why you are reading these books. If you were reading them to bring glory to the violence or to focus on and take pleasure in the sexual descriptions, then that would certainly be a sin.

But you have told me that your interest, instead, is to guess and observe how the detectives will weigh the clues. Here is what you might do: If you are unsure about your motives in reading such mysteries, you might consult with a priest or a spiritual counselor to help you sort that out. But your guess would be that you are doing nothing wrong.

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

The Criterion invites readers to submit original prose or poetry. E-mail submissions for consideration—including name, address, parish and a telephone number—to theeditor@archcny.org.

Poems may also be mailed to “My Journeys to God,” The Criterion, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367. Please note, however, that mailed submissions will not receive a reply unless the piece is selected for publication.
Pope Francis expressed his concern to the people of Cuba a week after protests erupted on the island nation. “I pray that the Lord might help the nation construct a society that is more and more just, fraternal through peace, dialogue and solidarity,” he said, as a large group of pilgrims in the square held Cuban flags.

The pope encouraged the people of Cuba to entrust themselves to the maternal protection of the island’s patron, Our Lady of Charity, who “will accompany them on this journey.”

“Protests are taking place in Havana and elsewhere took to the streets on July 11 to protest economic hardships, lack of basic freedoms and the Cuban government’s handling of the coronavirus outbreak, making for what some have described as the most significant unrest in decades.

Since the protests, the government reportedly has responded by designating those who include clergy who do this as enemies of the state and arresting them only on the streets but also in their homes. There was at least one confirmed death after police shot a man killing part of the protest.

In response to the recent events in Cuba, Archbishop Joseph H. Gomez of Los Angeles, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), and Bishop David J. Malloy of Rockford, Ill., chairman of the USCCB’s Committee on International Justice and Peace, said in a July 19 statement, “As protests continue in Cuba and among the diaspora in the United States, we would like to express our solidarity, as well as our firm belief that those who belong to the Cuban community, with our brothers in the Cuban episcopate, and with all men and women of goodwill in Cuba.

The Cuban bishops declared in their July 12 statement, ‘A favorable solution will not be reached by imposition, nor by calling for confrontation, but through mutual listening, where all parties are sought and concrete and tangible steps are taken that contribute, with the contribution of all Cubans without exception, to the building of a future Cuba.”

The USCCB statement continued, “In the same spirit as the Cuban bishops, we urge the United States to stop supporting the regime and concord between our countries. For decades, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, in conjunction with the Holy See, have called for robust cultural and commercial engagement between the United States and Cuba, as the means to assist the island in achieving greater prosperity and social transformation.

Before praying the Angelus, the pope reflected on the Sunday Gospel reading in which Jesus shows great concern for his disciples and “their physical and interior tiredness” after returning from preaching in Galilee. He said, to make them aware of the danger of being “caught up in the frenzy of doing things, falling into the trap of activism where what most important is lost” and the feeling of being absolute protagonists.

‘How many times this happens in the Church: we are entangled in the trap of activism where whatever depends on us and, in the end, we risk neglecting Jesus and we always make ourselves the center,” he said."

**Holy Father expresses concern to Cuban people as unrest continues**

**VATICAN CITY (CNS)—**Pope Francis expressed his concern to the people of Cuba a week after protests erupted on the island nation.

In his first public appearance after his release from Gemelli hospital, the pope told pilgrims in St. Peter’s Square on July 18 that he was “nearly to the dear Cuban people in these difficult moments, in particular to those families suffering the most.”

“I pray that the Lord might help the nation construct a society that is more and more just, fraternal through peace, dialogue and solidarity,” he said, as a large group of pilgrims in the square held Cuban flags.

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**Urseline Sister Dolorita Lusitie served in Catholic schools in Clarksville**

Urseline Sister Dolorita Lusitie, a native of the Urseline Sisters of the United States of America, died July 13 at Twinbrook Assisted Living in Indianapolis.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated July 12 at the Motherhouse Chapel in Clarksville. She was laid to rest in the cemetery of the Urseline Sisters in Clarksville.

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Sister Lusitie was born on April 1, 1934, in Lebanon, Ohio, to Joseph John and Marietta (Miller) Lusitie. She was the youngest of eight children.


She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in education from Ursuline College in Cincinnati and a Master of Arts degree in Health and Physical Education from Xavier University in Cincinnati.

Sister Lusitie’s first teaching assignment was at Ursuline Academy in Lebanon, Ohio, from 1956 to 1960. She then taught for one year at Ursuline Academy in Springfield, Ohio.

In 1961, Sister Lusitie entered the Urseline Sisters and was assigned to teach in congregations in Ohio and Kentucky. She taught for a year in each of these locations.

From 1981 to 1984, Sister Lusitie served with the Urseline Sisters of the United States in Clarksville, in concentrations designed for the Urseline Sisters. She taught for a year each in Clarksville and New Albany.

Sister Lusitie is survived by a sister, Helen Lusitie of Lebanon, Ohio, and a brother, Joseph Lusitie of Lebanon, Ohio.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Mission Advancement Office of the Urseline Sisters of the United States of America, 3115 Lexington Road, Louisville, Ky. 40206.

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making monthly trips to Saint Mary-of-the-Woods to transport nuns back and forth. "Aunt Margaret would sometimes take one of us down with her to Saint Meinrad Seminary or to Saint Mary-of-the-Woods. In the world of a 90-year-old, Maureen... These were places of quiet and natural beauty. I did not have this experience with anyone else in our family. I was personally lucky enough that she took me to Father Jim Sweeney’s ordination—a very powerful and moving experience."

Just as memorable were her routine visits to their homes, including her times as a babysitter, even as she approached the age of 80. "Why mom and dad would leave a nearly 80-year-old woman with anywhere from six to eight kids is a bit of a mystery, but it worked out. We all loved having her over," Kavanaugh says. "For a special treat, one or two of us would spend the night at her house. She always had 7-Up in the refrigerator, and she always insisted that we wash our face first thing in the morning. That was to help us wake up and feel refreshed. Of course, if you spent the night at her house, you knew you would be walking the four blocks over to St. Philip Neri Church for Mass the next morning."

A special tribute
The gifts and the lessons she shared even continued in the last stage of her life. Nearing 90, she spent her last seven years in an Indianapolis nursing home where she still maintained her feistiness and her concern for others. "It was hilarious listening to her talk about the ‘old bittys’ down the hall—many of whom were younger than her. But my brother, Kevin, reminds me of how compassionate she was," Kavanaugh says. "She reminded him that the old guy in the corner who had severe dementia had previously been a local bank. And that woman who was strapped in a chair had been a high school homecoming queen."

"She reminded us all that everyone has a story that goes beyond what can be seen on the surface. Sometimes, you just have to look a little closer and listen a little harder."

Their Aunt Margaret did that and so much more. Kavanaugh says. She left the eighth Kavanaugh siblings with a story to remember and savor, the story of an aunt who loved them, looked out for them and set an example for them to live their lives.

Her impact is evident in a special family tribute to her. "Several family members, spanning at least three generations, honor her by including either Margaret or Gavvin—her mother’s maiden name—as middle name for their children. "Her legacy continues."

Aunt Margaret

Young woman shares a touching tribute to her grandmother
By John Shaugnessy
The tribute pours from the heart of Taylor Roach, showing the impact that a grandparent can have on the life and the faith of a grandchild.

"He has been the best father and grandfather," Taylor says about her grandfather, Charles Roach. "I couldn’t ask for a better Catholic role model than him. He is a true earthly image of who Jesus has called us to be."

"His devotion to his faith can be seen in his day-to-day interactions, his 55-year marriage to my grandmother, Linda, and through his faith-filled children—herself, Debbie and my brother, Kevin. He is kind, patient, generous and giving. As his grandchildren were growing up, he never missed any event. Any of us were participating in, whether it was a kindergarten school musical or my cousin’s football games."

Taylor’s grandfather has also provided her with the example of how a marriage should be. "He is fiercely devoted to his wife, and their example of marriage is my gold standard," Taylor says. "They’ve set the standard—truly a lofty relationship goal."

Taylor and her grandfather are both members of St. Jude Parish in Indianapolis. She credits her grandfather with shaping and strengthening her own faith. "My faith would not be as strong as it is today without his guidance and his true example of Christ in my life," says Taylor, who is 29. "As I get older, I am more and more thankful to have such a strong man of faith in my life."

Director of Permanent Deacon Formation
Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology is seeking a skilled, experienced, and highly motivated Director of Permanent Deacon Formation.

The Director is responsible for managing all aspects of Saint Meinrad’s program. Overseeing the academic formation of permanent deacon candidates in a number of different dioceses. Hire and oversee guest lecturers for the program. Cultivate and negotiate terms of service with new dioceses.

This position could be full-time or part-time. The candidate should have at least a Master’s level degree in a theological field and have knowledge and appreciation of Roman Catholic tradition.

Please send cover letter & resume with references to: Human Resources Department Saint Meinrad Archabbey 200 Hill Drive St. Meinrad, IN 47577 Or email: hr@smắnrad.edu

Director of Corporate Relations
Roncalli High School is excited to announce three part-time positions within the Office of Advancement. Given the right candidates, two of these positions would be combined to create one full-time position.

The Director of Special Events is responsible for the execution of all fundraising, friendraising and informational events. The Director of Special Events will coordinate annual fundraising events, such as Circle of Faith Annual Fund Dinner,Wakeathon and Celebration Roncalli but will also brainstorm new events that allow us to reach further into our community. We are seeking an individual who is extremely organized and will plan, coordinate and promote all aspects of events.

The Director of Alumni Relations is responsible for the development and management of Roncalli’s alumni relations program. The Director of Alumni Relations develops, directs, and maintains relationships with current students as they approach graduation and all alumni of Charette, Kennedy, Sacred Heart and Roncalli, in addition to exploring connections and engaging with Charlottenburg Alumni. The Director of Corporate Relations is responsible for increasing Roncalli’s visibility among businesses while actively working to establish long-term partnerships and strengthen existing relationships within the corporate sector.

For more information on each of these positions, please visit https://www.roncalli.org/about/employment.
Faith helps guide cyclist on the road to her Olympic dream

By John Shaughnessy

The road ahead is a busy and joyful one for 28-year-old Coryn Rivera, starting with the dream that she has been racing toward since she was 10—representing the United States as an Olympic athlete in the sport she loves, cycling.

Rivera will live that dream on July 25 when she competes in the road race at the Summer Olympics in Tokyo, speeding along a 140-kilometer course—about 87 miles—in pursuit of the gold medal she hopes to capture.

“It’s a huge honor. I’m proud of my country. I’m proud of where I grew up,” says Rivera, a 2015 graduate of Marian University in Indianapolis who lives in Tustin, Calif., where she and her family have been longtime members of St. Thomas More Parish.

“I’ve represented our country at the Junior World Championships, the Pan American Championships and the Pro World Championships, but the Olympics is something special.”

So is the impact that her Catholic faith has had in her life.

“I grew up in a Catholic family, and I’m still practicing,” says Rivera, the daughter of two immigrants from the Philippines who met in the United States. “It’s the backbone of my family. It’s given me guidance. It’s given me hope and faith in what we’re going through. God has always led our family. It’s kept us really strong.”

Rivera and her family have especially relied on that faith since her father, Wally Rivera, died of COVID-19 in March, after being part of the effort to fight the disease as a laboratory scientist. He was the one who introduced her to cycling, rode with her in her early years of the sport, and encouraged her dreams of success.

“As I was getting into cycling, it was mostly me and him,” she recalls. “I started riding when I was 8 or 9. When I was 10, I won a race. That’s when I broke through. I thought, ‘I really want to do this.’”

In the years since, she has thrived in the sport, and is on the short list of the most successful cyclists in the country. When her dream of participating in the 2016 Summer Olympics eluded her, she focused on the Olympics in Tokyo, fulfilling a longtime goal for her that she and her father shared. He had planned to be there to cheer for her in Tokyo.

“It’s always something that’s sad,” she says. “I always try to find the positives of what he’s built for us and make sure we’re happy for us. It gives me extra motivation to make him proud.”

While her parents and her family helped shape the person she is, so did her years at Marian, the Catholic university in Indianapolis that is renowned for its cycling success under the direction of coach Dean Peterson.

“I’m grateful for my time at Marian and for Coach Dean,” she says. “At that point in your life, there’s a lot to learn—going from a kid to an adult. It helped shape me as an adult. I don’t think I’d be where I am today if I didn’t go through everything I did at Marian.”

She met her future husband—Nate Labecki—at Marian. The couple plan to be married on Oct. 3 at Our Lady, Queen of Angels Church in Newport Beach, Calif. It’s one more great ride to celebrate on the busy and joyful road ahead of her.

Now right, though, the focus is on living her Olympic dream.

“One of my strengths is my mental strength,” she says. “I’ve been at a lot of levels of racing. At the end of the day, you have to remember it’s just another race. I’ll just be focusing on what I love to do and what I’m good at doing. I think my chances are really good. I’m pretty elated about going to the Olympics. It’s a dream come true.”

Dad’s love and a dog’s joy help an Olympian on her ride to glory

By John Shaughnessy

When the interview with Olympic cyclist Felicia Stancil begins, the 26-year-old Indianapolis resident says it would be great if one particular story could be shared with people.

“It’s a story about her and her father Jamie, a former professional BMX racer who introduced her to the sport.”

“My mom Samantha passed away when I was 3,” Stancil says. “BMX was my dad’s way of showing his love to me. It’s something we have bonded over our entire life. I started when I was 4. He calls me all the time.”

There’s also another defining story about Stancil, who will represent the United States in the Summer Olympics in Tokyo, with her BMX qualifying race taking place on July 28 before the final is held on July 29.

“It’s a story of her toughness.”

In late April of her senior year in high school, she was competing in BMX, which she describes as “a 50-second, all-out race” on a dirt track marked by jumps and turns—a race where “there’s not a lot of time to think so you have to make quick decisions and trust yourself.”

During that race, she had a horrendous crash, leaving her with four broken bones, a concussion and a lacerated liver.

“I was rushed into liver surgery right away to stop all the bleeding,” she recalls. “Because I had a concussion, I was awake during the surgery. It took two months to fully recover. After a month of training, I went to the world championships in July and won the two races I was in. I never lost my faith in what I could do. My friends and family helped me through that.”

Ever focused, Stancil spent her college years at Marian University in Indianapolis, which is renowned for its successful cycling program.

“Marian was the only college I applied to because that’s where I saw myself doing both my education and cycling at a high level,” says Stancil, who graduated with honors. “I mainly wanted to grow my cycling career, to grow as an athlete. I definitely matured at the time, too.”

Her maturity shows in the way she talks about her career in racing, especially her approach to it, which is heavily influenced by her father. The focus is on proper preparation and training—what she describes as “the process.”

“It’s definitely been an amazing journey. One thing my dad taught me is to focus on the process. He never rewarded the results. He awarded the process. I’ve definitely learned a lot about work ethic—and to enjoy the process. Sometimes, training at the highest level gets lonely. You have to trust yourself and things will come together.”

Her approach to life reflects a similar maturity—“I try to live each day and make the most of each day.”

Consider what Stancil did when the Summer Olympics were postponed last year because of international COVID concerns.

“I’ve always wanted a dog,” she says with a laugh. “She was my best friend during COVID.”

Daisy the dog has become so special to Stancil that the cyclist has added images of daisies to the back of her Olympic bike helmet.

So Daisy will be there in spirit. So will Stancil’s father, who won’t be able to cheer for her in person because fans are restricted from attending the Summer Olympics because of COVID concerns.

As for Stancil, she plans to approach the Olympics with her usual combination of passion and perspective.

“I’m very passionate about the things I do. I want to give all I can to represent my country in the best way I can. I don’t have any huge expectations. I’m trying to live in the moment.”

Coryn Rivera

Felicia Stancil

Felicia Stancil will represent the United States in cycling at the Summer Olympics in Tokyo.