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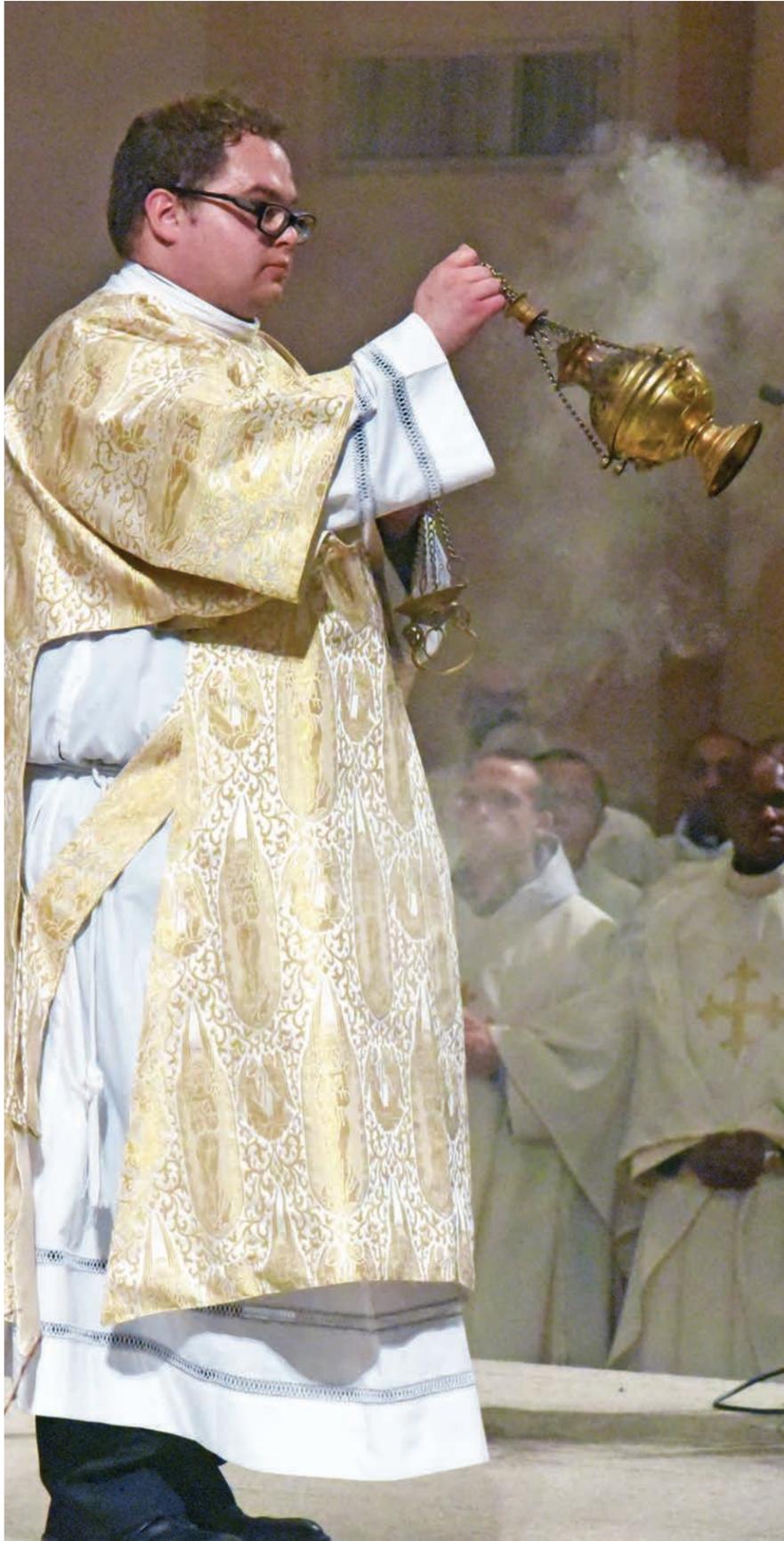
'Being and seeing Christ'

Guild members enjoy ministering at St. Augustine Home, page 9.

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May 13, 2022

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Grandmom's faith and his love for God's people lead Deacon Perronie to priesthood

By John Shaughnessy

A wealth of appreciation—and a measure of sorrow—fill transitional Deacon Matthew Perronie as he thinks about the one person he wishes could be there for his ordination as an archdiocesan priest on June 4.

"I think there will be a little bit of sorrow that my grandmother won't be there, at least physically," he says. "But knowing she has been with me through this whole journey is a consolation. She will definitely be on my mind. I realize I couldn't have done this without God working through her."

That sentiment leads him to share the story of how he lived next door to his maternal grandmother as a child, how he spent most weekends with her, and how she shaped his faith.

An only child whose parents weren't religious at the time, he was intrigued by the way his grandmother went to Mass every Saturday evening so one day he asked if he could go with her.

As he watched her express her Catholic faith through the years, he also saw how she lived it through her generosity toward others, including making hot meals for neighbors in the weeks before she died.

See PERRONIE, page 8

Transitional Deacon Matthew Perronie uses incense during the archdiocesan chrism Mass on April 12 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis. A member of St. Malachy Parish in Brownburg, he and transitional Deacon Michael Clawson will be ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Charles C. Thompson at the cathedral on June 4. (File photo by Sean Gallagher)

Plan is expanded for opening of eucharistic revival; new date is June 19

By John Shaughnessy

Imagine a joyful procession that celebrates the Eucharist, weaving through the streets of downtown Indianapolis—a procession filled with youths, young adults, children who have recently made their first holy Communion, people who were received into the full communion of the Church this Easter, and everyone else who believes that Christ continues to offer his body and blood to the faithful in each Mass.

That's the vision that archdiocesan leaders have for a celebration on June 19, Father's Day—a celebration that will include two Masses, a eucharistic procession and a "Festival of Faith, Family and Service."

The celebration will connect with ones in dioceses across the United States, coming on a weekend that marks the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, traditionally known as *Corpus Christi*.

It's all part of a concerted effort by the bishops in the United States to call for "a three-year, grassroots revival of devotion and belief in the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist."

The revival is a concrete extension of the bishops' belief "that God wants to see a movement of Catholics across the United States, healed, converted, formed and unified by an encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist—and sent out in mission 'for the life of the world.'"

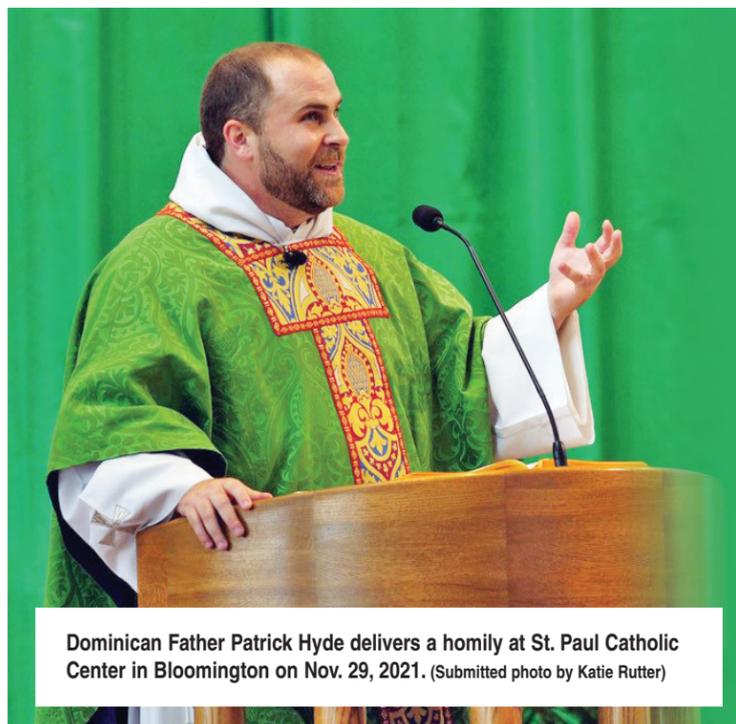
The culmination of this three-year revival will take place in July of 2024 when the first National Eucharistic Congress in nearly 50 years is held in Indianapolis.

The archdiocese will start its three-year path to that once-in-a-lifetime gathering with its celebration of the Eucharist on June 19.

The celebration will include two Masses at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis, with one starting at 1 p.m. and the second beginning at 3 p.m. Archbishop Charles C. Thompson will be the principal celebrant at both Masses.

Following the 3 p.m. Mass, there will be a eucharistic procession through the

See REVIVAL, page 16



Dominican Father Patrick Hyde delivers a homily at St. Paul Catholic Center in Bloomington on Nov. 29, 2021. (Submitted photo by Katie Rutter)

Leading people to a deeper love of Christ inspires archdiocese's 'National Eucharistic Preachers'

By Mike Krokos

Dominican Father Patrick Hyde and Father Jonathan Meyer love the Eucharist.

And both have a passion for preaching about the body and blood of Christ.

Archbishop Charles C. Thompson shared these insights when it was announced on May 2 that the two pastors serving in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis

See PREACHERS, page 2



Father Jonathan Meyer, pastor of All Saints Parish in Dearborn County, preaches on Feb. 26 during a Mass at the seventh annual E6 Catholic Men's Conference at East Central High School in St. Leon. (Photo by Sean Gallagher)

PREACHERS

continued from page 1

are among the 58 priests who have been chosen to serve as "National Eucharistic Preachers."

Their selections are in support of the multi-year National Eucharistic Revival leading up to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) National Eucharistic Congress to be held in Indianapolis in July of 2024.

Both priests are "very good homilists with a passion for the faith and teaching it to others," Archbishop Thompson said.

"They have the ability to appeal to various age groups in their preaching, which is a trait of a good homilist. The revival is about reaching minds and hearts in relationship to the real presence of the body, blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist."

Father Meyer is co-pastor with Father Daniel Mahan of the parishes of All Saints in Dearborn County, St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception in Aurora, St. Lawrence in Lawrenceburg and St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross in Bright.

Father Patrick is pastor of St. Paul Catholic Center in Bloomington.

The initiative was established with the goal of awakening a desire among the faithful to encounter Jesus in the Eucharist, and to cultivate a personal devotion and relationship with him in a way that bears fruit in works of charity, USSCB National Eucharistic Revival officials said in press release.

Father Meyer said he did not come to understand the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist until he was a college seminarian.

"I know that sounds odd, but it's

true," he said. "It was not until I read a prayer book that my mother gave me after I had been accepted as a seminarian of the archdiocese, but [then] I became thoroughly convinced that Jesus is present in the Most Blessed Sacrament."

An encounter with Jesus in the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the sixth grade helped shape Father Patrick's belief in the Real Presence.

"I remember sitting there and knowing God's love. I can't explain it. I just knew at that moment that I was loved," he said. "The hook was set. ... Throughout my life, in high school and college, especially in moments of doubt and difficulty, waywardness, struggle, sin, it was always the Eucharist and the celebration of Mass ... that always gave me hope, that always brought me back."

As he reflects on his style of preaching, Father Meyer said he has been inspired by the saints, including St. John Vianney and St. John Paul II. He added he also looks up to Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen.

"I also spend time listening to preachers in other Christian denominations, who I think do a very effective job in preaching," he noted.

Classic theologians like St. Augustine and St. John Henry Newman have influenced Father Patrick's style of preaching, as well as Msgr. Ronald Knox, an English priest who died in 1957, and Archbishop Sheen.

"Those are all priests and bishops who I looked up to in terms of the way they crafted a homily," he said.

Like Father Meyer, he also listens to preachers of other denominations and how they present the Gospel "and the story of salvation."

The process to select the preachers began by asking bishops and religious



Public Schedule of Archbishop Charles C. Thompson

May 14–22, 2022

May 14 – 5:30 p.m.
Confirmation Mass for youths of SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi Parish, Greenwood, at SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi Church

May 15 – 6:15 p.m.
Confirmation Mass for youths of St. Patrick Parish, Indianapolis, at St. Patrick Church

May 17 – 10 a.m.
Archdiocesan Priest Formation Day at St. Agnes Church, Nashville

May 17 – 7 p.m.
Confirmation Mass for youths of St. Simon the Apostle and St. John the Evangelist parishes, Indianapolis, at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, Indianapolis

May 18 – 10 a.m.
Department Heads meeting at Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center, Indianapolis

May 18 – 6:15 p.m.
Dinner for Mary's WAY and St. Joseph's MVPS at St. Luke the Evangelist Parish, Indianapolis

May 19 – 3 p.m.
Finance Council meeting at Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center

May 19 – 7 p.m.
Confirmation Mass for youths of St. Malachy Parish, Brownsburg, at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral

May 20 – 1 p.m.
Mass for senior students of Oldenburg Academy of the Immaculate Conception at Sisters of St. Francis Chapel, Oldenburg

May 21 – 9 a.m.
Graduation ceremony at Roncalli High School, Indianapolis

May 21 – 2 p.m.
Confirmation Mass for youths of St. Bartholomew Parish, Columbus, and Prince of Peace Parish, Madison, at St. Bartholomew Church

May 22 – 11 a.m.
40th Anniversary Mass and celebration for Father Dale Cieslik of the Diocese of Louisville at St. Francis Xavier Church, Mount Washington, Ky.

superiors to submit the names of candidates, explained Father Jorge Torres, a priest of the Orlando, Fla., Diocese who is helping to lead revival efforts at the USCCB.

As the candidates were vetted, some were asked to join the team with an explanation of their role and the time commitment involved. They were also invited to an April retreat in Chicago during which they discerned whether to join the effort.

As National Eucharistic Preachers, the priests will minister throughout the United States during the next two years. They will soon respond to invitations from dioceses to speak at clergy convocations, gatherings of diocesan and Catholic school leaders, at diocesan holy hours and youth and young adult events to help build stronger connections with the Eucharist and build interest in the congress.

In about a year, the priests will begin speaking at parishes and smaller gatherings, noted Father Torres.

"The preachers have been asked to enter into this role because of their love for the Eucharist, their ability to communicate, their schedule for allowing flexibility," Father Torres added.

Although the initiative means both pastors will spend time away from their ministry in the local Church, the priests said their parish communities are very understanding.

"In speaking with my spiritual director and Father Mahan, the priority that was put forth is the fact that people do not

believe that Jesus is present in our midst," Father Meyer said. "That is a tragedy that needs to be addressed as soon as possible; souls are at stake."

"I talked with the community in Bloomington, and they were all very supportive," Father Patrick said.

Father Meyer is eager to preach about the Eucharist as he begins his evangelizations efforts across the U.S.

"I look forward to having the opportunity to inspire people to fall deeper in love with Jesus Christ. Without him, there is no true meaning or understanding of what it is to be a human being," he said. "A rediscovery of Jesus, most importantly truly present in all the tabernacles of the world, will bring joy, hope and purpose to countless lives."

Father Patrick, too, prays he plants seeds of faith that are nurtured.

"There is hope and renewal and a revitalization within the Church that starts with our encounter with the Eucharist," he said of the message he plans to share.

"Put first things first. Put the Eucharist first in your life," Father Patrick continued. "I hope I can help people realize who and what the Eucharist is, ... and once we get there—how we realize who and what the Eucharist is—our life changes, everything changes."

(To learn more about the National Eucharistic Preachers or find out how they can be scheduled for local events, visit eucharisticrevival.org/eucharistic-preachers.) †



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Seniors will soon celebrate their Catholic high school graduations

By John Shaughnessy

Pride and relief, nostalgia and celebration will blend once again as seniors prepare to graduate this spring at Catholic high schools across the archdiocese.

It's a time when friends promise to stay close forever, when seniors seek out the teachers who have made a difference in their lives, when parents of the graduates look at their children and wonder where the years have gone.

It's also a time for congratulations to the Class of 2022, including this one from Brian Disney, superintendent of Catholic schools in the archdiocese.

"Congratulations to our Catholic high school graduates throughout the archdiocese," Disney said. "With their outstanding Catholic school education built on the foundation of Jesus Christ, our graduates are prepared to live the words of St. Catherine of Siena who said, 'Be who God meant you to be and you will set the whole world on fire.'"

The superintendent applauded the graduates for how they have "demonstrated their intelligence, courage, strength and commitment by excelling in academics, athletics, performing arts and other activities." He especially saluted the graduates for the way they have lived their faith.

"They have demonstrated Christ's love for others through hours of community service. They have demonstrated their love of God through their participation in the sacraments and growth in their relationship with Jesus Christ. They have grown in their vocations by asking for God's guidance and by developing their talents. These graduates have achieved much on this stage of their life's journey."

Disney also praised all the people who have supported and contributed to the success of this year's graduates.

"All the successes of our graduates would not be possible without their parents, their primary teachers," he noted. "The dedication and support of their priests, school leaders, teachers, coaches and staff members have contributed to their successes as well. All their opportunities are enhanced by those committed to Catholic schools, including our benefactors and prayer warriors."

The superintendent also hopes the graduates will continue to build upon the formation and education they have received in their Catholic school as they

journey into the future.

"May their relationship with Jesus Christ remain strong and may they use their gifts to bring glory to God.

"To the Class of 2022: We are proud of you for your accomplishments and are excited to see the continued impact you will make in our Church, communities, nation and world. Be who God meant you to be and go set the whole world on fire."

Here is a listing of graduation-related information for the 12 Catholic high schools in the archdiocese.

Bishop Chatard High School in Indianapolis has a graduating class of 156 seniors.

The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 6:30 p.m. on May 19 at the school.

The graduation ceremony will be at 2:30 p.m. on May 22 at the school.

The class valedictorian is **Daniel O'Gara**, son of Thomas and Elizabeth O'Gara of St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis.

The class salutatorian is **Patrick Countryman**, son of Brad and Eileen Countryman of St. Pius X Parish.

The archdiocese will be represented at the graduation by Msgr. William F. Stumpf, vicar general and pastor of St. Matthew the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis.

Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School in Indianapolis has a graduating class of 211 seniors.

The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 10:30 a.m. on May 22 at the school.

The graduation ceremony will be at 4:30 p.m. on May 22 at Clowes Memorial Hall on the campus of Butler University in Indianapolis.

Cardinal Ritter High School in Indianapolis has a graduating class of 131 seniors.

The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 7 p.m. on June 2 at St. Monica Church in Indianapolis.

The graduation ceremony will be at 7 p.m. on June 3 at the school.

The class valedictorian is **Nicholas Mark**, son of Robert and Colleen Mark of St. Malachy Parish in Brownsburg.

The class salutatorian is **John Baldini**, son of Daniel and Kimberly Baldini of St. Malachy Parish.

The archdiocese will be represented at the graduation by Archbishop Charles C. Thompson.

Cathedral High School in Indianapolis has a graduating class of 237 seniors.

The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 6:30 p.m. on May 20 at the school.



During the graduation ceremony of Father Michael Shawe Memorial High School in Madison in 2021, Lillian Heath turns the tassels from one side to the other on the graduation cap of fellow senior Leonel Rios-Amaro—displaying a longstanding tradition among seniors at Shawe to show that they have now graduated. (Photo courtesy of Laura Jayne Gardner Photography)

The graduation ceremony will be at 1 p.m. on May 22 at the school's Brunette Park.

The commencement speaker will be Summa Cum Laude graduate **Allison Schneider**, daughter of Brad and Melissa Schneider of Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ Parish in Indianapolis.

The archdiocese will be represented at the graduation by Sarah Watson, assistant superintendent of Catholic schools.

Father Michael Shawe Memorial High School in Madison has a graduating class of 19 seniors.

The Baccalaureate Mass will be at

6 p.m. on June 3 at the school.

The graduation ceremony will be at 1 p.m. on June 5 at the school.

Two students are in contention for valedictorian and salutatorian honors as the school year draws to a close. The students are listed in alphabetical order:

Lina Leatherman, daughter of Gabriele Leatherman and Robert Leatherman.

Nolan Tandy, son of Duane and Sonja Tandy.

The archdiocese will be represented at the graduation by Chris Walsh, chancellor.

See GRADUATIONS, page 15

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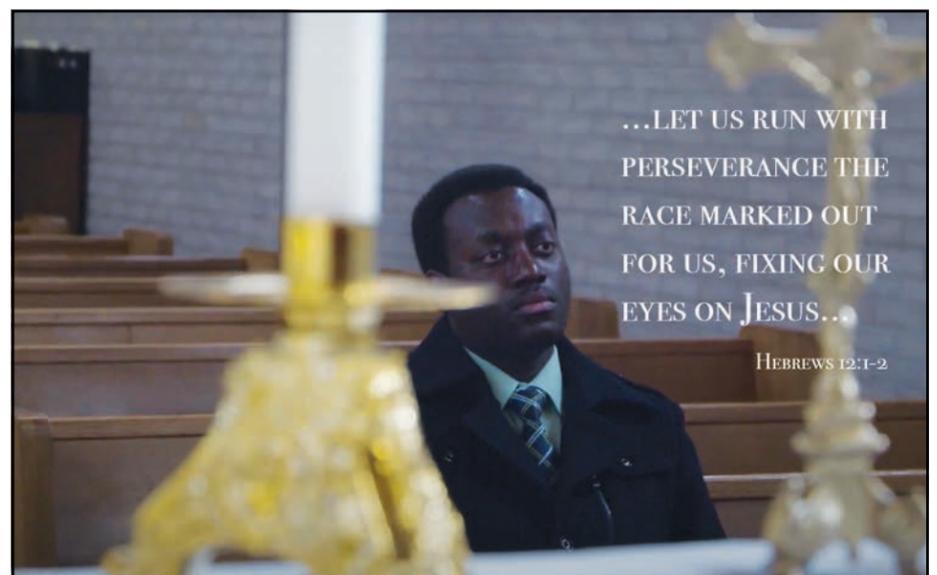
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HEBREWS 12:1-2

UNITED CATHOLIC APPEAL

Evrard Muhoza is in his final semester at Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary. He wasn't sure that seminary was the right fit for him as he was discerning God's call for his life. But it turns out, it was not only the right fit, it was perfect.

Scan the QR Code below to learn more about his story.



SCAN HERE to watch the video



To support our seminarians at Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary and other vital ministries, visit www.archindy.org/UCA.



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Editorial



Pope Francis greets seminarians and the rector from the Pontifical North American College during his general audience in the Paul VI hall at the Vatican on Sept. 29, 2021. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

Build the human family by spreading God's love through your vocation

"In virtue of their baptism, all the members of the people of God have become missionary disciples. All the baptized, whatever their position in the Church or their level of instruction in the faith, are agents of evangelization." (Pope Francis in his message for the 2022 World Day of Prayer for Vocations)

We again were encouraged to pray for vocations last weekend as the universal Church marked the World Day of Prayer for Vocations on May 8. That day we also celebrated Good Shepherd Sunday.

As people of faith, many already offer daily petitions for vocations. We thank them for this heartfelt commitment they offer to our Church.

Pope Francis reminded us in his message for this day of prayer that all vocations—to ordained ministry, consecrated life and marriage are integral to the Church and its mission.

Reflecting on the broader meaning of vocation within the context of a synodal Church, the Holy Father said we must be a Church that listens to God and to the world.

"Synodality, journeying together, is a vocation fundamental to the Church. Only against this horizon is it possible to discern and esteem the various vocations, charisms and ministries," the pope wrote in his 2022 message, whose theme was "Called to build the human family."

"We know that the Church exists to evangelize, to go forth and to sow the seed of the Gospel in history," he added.

Evangelizing and sowing seeds are themes the pope has repeated often during the past several years. But in a world replete with chaos and uncertainty, war, famine, human trafficking, ongoing concerns about COVID and countless other threats to humanity, our witness faces constant challenges. But we have weapons of faith—prayer, Scripture and the sacraments—to assist on our daily journey. And we are called to use them as we follow Jesus.

"In a word, we are called to become a single family in the marvelous common home of creation, in the reconciled diversity of its elements," the pope wrote.

Everything is rooted in welcoming and responding to God's loving gaze, the Holy Father noted. "Our lives change

when we welcome this gaze. Everything becomes a vocational dialogue between ourselves and the Lord, but also between ourselves and others."

This dialogue, experienced in depth, makes us become who we are, the pope noted.

"In the vocation to the ordained priesthood, to be instruments of Christ's grace and mercy. In the vocation to the consecrated life, to be the praise of God and the prophecy of a new humanity. In the vocation to marriage, to be mutual gift and givers and teachers of life," he wrote. "In every ecclesial vocation and ministry that calls us to see others and the world through God's eyes, to serve goodness and to spread love with our words and words."

Love—it must be at the heart of every vocation and how we live it. We must never stray from letting that gift shine through us as disciples of Christ.

Christians do not only receive an individual vocation; we are also called together, the pope reminded us.

"We are like the tiles of a mosaic. Each is lovely in itself, but only when they are put together do they form a picture. Each of us shines like a star in the heart of God and in the firmament of the universe," he wrote. "This is the mystery of the Church: a celebration of differences, a sign and instrument of all that humanity is called to be. For this reason, the Church must become increasingly synodal: capable of walking together, united in harmonious diversity, where everyone can actively participate and where everyone has something to contribute."

We are again reminded that God has a vocation for all of us. Are we listening?

Let us pray the Holy Spirit fills our lives—priests, consecrated men and women, and lay faithful—to journey and work together, as the pope wrote, "in bearing witness to the truth that one great human family united in love is no utopian vision, but the very purpose for which God created us."

May the light of Christ shine through each of us, please God, so we can live lives to the fullest—lives rooted in faith as brothers and sisters in Christ.

—Mike Krokos

Be Our Guest/Laura Kelly Fanucci

Speaking of resurrection

We don't talk enough about resurrection.

How a marriage can be resurrected—How what felt dead and gone, ready to be buried in the dark earth forever, is not always dead and gone. How a friendship can be resurrected—How speaking hard words can breathe new life into brittle bones. How relationships can come back to life through grace, mercy and forgiveness.

How miracles happen every day in hospitals, clinics and churches. How every priest and doctor, if you press them for a story and if they trust you with the truth, will tell you they have seen things with their own eyes that cannot be explained by anything they learned in school.

How children hold the secrets to God's upside-down kingdom. How freely the young speak of life, death and heaven—and how arresting their simple truths can be to older ears.

We need to tell many stories—loss and grief, suffering and love, doubt and faith. Stories that challenge and complicate. But we also need the startling stories that defy category.

Like the first disciples who found the empty tomb, we too have run and stumbled, disbelieving and grappling with what makes no sense by earthly terms.

But if we could make ourselves vulnerable, like Christ stretching out wounded hands so others would believe, we might summon the courage to speak a few words—to a spouse, a friend or a child—about the holiest glimpses we have been given.

A story of sobriety after years of addiction.

A story of a lost child returning home. A story of grudges chipped away with the right chisels.

Resurrection was meant to be shared, spread and shouted. If we do not speak of resurrection, we lock up God's best stories within cold tombs.

What's more, when you tune your eyes and ears to the infinite ways God works to bring life from death, you will start to glimpse God everywhere.

The hair on your arms will rise when a child asks a question about life or faith that you have never thought to ask.

The memory in your bones will leap like joy when you offer forgiveness to a loved one and remember how it feels to start over.

The tidy categories you assigned to heaven and Earth will start to unravel when you listen to a friend admit that in deepest grief, they felt surprising joy—and they never had a place to share such a story so she buried it for years.

Ordinary hints of resurrection will start to push into your life, certain as spring, stubborn as seedlings.

You could start to see dawn as affirmation—that God has deemed it good and worthy that we keep going, offering us another chance to try again.

You could open the confessional door, taking one step beyond the fear that kept you on the side of long-held sin, stepping out again with the freedom of forgiveness.

We don't talk enough about resurrection. But we could start to try, and it would change us—you and me, our children and grandchildren, our friends and neighbors, this lost and lonely world.

If we follow Mary Magdalene to the tomb and stay when others leave, if we turn around when God calls our name, if we let go of what we carried and take up new truth into open hands, then we can keep spreading the good news, telling what we have seen and heard and known.

We don't talk enough about resurrection. But each year we have the whole season of Easter to keep trying.

What stories will we tell this year? What truths will we find?

(Laura Kelly Fanucci is a writer, speaker, and author of several books, including *Everyday Sacrament: The Messy Grace of Parenting*. Her work can be found at laurakellyfanucci.com.) †

We don't talk enough about resurrection. But we could start to try, and it would change us—you and me, our children and grandchildren, our friends and neighbors, this lost and lonely world.

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" (*Communio et Progressio*, 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. †



Christ the Cornerstone

Our Lady of Fatima asks us to pray for conversion, peace

“On 13 May 1917, the shepherd children reported seeing a woman ‘brighter than the sun, shedding rays of light clearer and stronger than a crystal goblet filled with the most sparkling water and pierced by the burning rays of the sun.’” (Catholic News Agency, Our Lady of Fatima)

The publication date for this column is Friday, May 13, the Memorial of Our Lady of Fatima. A memorial is not a solemn feast day like the Assumption, Aug. 15, or the Immaculate Conception, Dec. 8, but it is still an occasion for serious prayer and reflection. In times like these, it is especially important for us to remember the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary to three young children in Portugal in the early years of the 20th century.

The story of Our Lady’s appearances to Lúcia dos Santos and her cousins, Francisco and Jacinta Marto, at the Cova da Iria in Fátima, Portugal, in 1917, has been declared “worthy of belief” by the Church.

Millions of pilgrims have visited the shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, many experiencing miraculous cures and the

healing of troubled minds and souls.

We Catholics believe that Mary remains close to us, involving herself in our daily lives as well as interceding in the larger affairs of the world. We turn to Mary in times of crisis because we know that she cares for us as her children, and because we believe that her intercession is powerful and efficacious.

Just this year, on another Marian feast, the Annunciation of the Lord, March 25, our archdiocese joined with Pope Francis in publicly consecrating the suffering peoples of Ukraine and Russia and all humanity to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. This act of consecration was first requested by the Virgin Mary when she appeared to the three Portuguese children 105 years ago. The original apparitions took place during the six months preceding the Bolshevik revolution in Russia, when the world was at war, and the children related that the Lady talked to them about the need to pray, especially for Russia.

Now, more than 100 years later, amid the turmoil of Russia’s 2022 “special military operation” in Ukraine, sanctions against Russia, and fears of nuclear war, the Latin Rite Catholic bishops of

the Episcopate of Ukraine requested that Pope Francis “... publicly perform the act of consecration to the Sacred Immaculate Heart of Mary of Ukraine and Russia, as requested by the Blessed Virgin in Fatima.” Our archdiocese and dioceses throughout the world joined in this solemn act of consecration.

As Pope Francis has observed, “When Mary said ‘I am the handmaid of the Lord’ [Lk 1:38] in response to the news that she would become the Mother of God, she didn’t say: ‘this time I will do the will of God, I am available, then I’ll see.’ Hers was a full yes, without conditions.”

Instead of imitating this attitude of Mary, the Holy Father says, “We are experts in the ‘half-yes’: we are good at pretending not to understand what God wants and consciousness suggests.” That’s why we turn to Mary, Queen of Peace—to help us overcome our fear, hesitation and reluctance and to show us the way to her Son, Jesus, the source of true justice and peace. Mary emboldens us with her courage at the same time that she comforts us with her tenderness.

Each full and unreserved “yes” we say to God is the beginning of a new

story, Pope Francis tells us. Saying yes to God is the witness given to us by the saints, especially Mary our mother and our guiding star. We venerate Mary as the children of Fatima saw her—“a Lady more brilliant than the Sun” because she points us toward Jesus and illumines the way he wants us to live.

We are blessed with many ways to express our love for Mary. The rosary, which Mary urged the children at Fatima—and all of us—to pray, is the most popular form of Marian devotion.

When we pray the rosary, we have a special opportunity to meditate on the incidents in the life of Christ, the sacred mysteries of our redemption, even as we ask Our Lady to intercede for us as we struggle to follow her Son as missionary disciples who are called to give witness to his peace.

When we consecrate our sisters and brothers in Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, we acknowledge that they are fellow members of God’s family who need the protection and tender care of our Blessed Mother.

May Mary, the Mother of God, accept our prayer: *Regina pacis, ora pro nobis!* (Queen of Peace, pray for us!). †



Cristo, la piedra angular

La Virgen de Fátima nos pide que recemos por la conversión y la paz

“El 13 de mayo de 1917, los niños pastores informaron haber visto a una mujer ‘más brillante que el sol que irradiaba rayos de luz más claros y fuertes que una copa de cristal llena del agua más reluciente y atravesada por los rayos ardientes del sol.’” (Agencia de Noticias Católica, Nuestra Señora de Fátima)

La fecha de publicación de esta columna es el viernes 13 de mayo, la celebración del memorial de Nuestra Señora de Fátima. No se trata de una fiesta solemne como la Asunción que celebramos el 15 de agosto, o la Inmaculada Concepción, el 8 de diciembre, pero sigue siendo una ocasión para rezar y reflexionar seriamente. En tiempos como estos resulta especialmente importante que recordemos las apariciones de la Santísima Virgen María a tres niños en Portugal durante los primeros años del siglo XX.

La Iglesia ha declarado la historia de las apariciones de la Virgen a Lúcia dos Santos y a sus primos, Francisco y Jacinta Marto, en la Cova da Iria en Fátima, Portugal, en 1917, como eventos “dignos de fe.”

Millones de peregrinos han visitado el santuario de Nuestra Señora de Fátima, muchos de los cuales han experimentado curas milagrosas, así

como también la sanación de mentes y almas perturbadas. Los católicos creemos que María permanece cerca de nosotros, involucrándose en nuestra vida diaria, así como intercediendo en los asuntos más amplios del mundo. Acudimos a ella en tiempos de crisis porque sabemos que se preocupa por nosotros como hijos suyos que somos, y porque creemos que su intercesión es poderosa y eficaz.

Precisamente este año, en otra fiesta mariana, la Anunciación del Señor, el 25 de marzo, nuestra Arquidiócesis se unió al Papa Francisco para consagrar públicamente a los pueblos de Ucrania y Rusia que sufren en este momento, así como a toda la humanidad al Corazón Inmaculado de María. Este acto de consagración fue solicitado por primera vez por la Virgen María cuando se apareció a los tres niños portugueses hace 105 años. Las apariciones originales tuvieron lugar durante los seis meses que precedieron a la revolución bolchevique en Rusia, cuando el mundo estaba en guerra, y los niños contaron que la Señora les habló de la necesidad de rezar, especialmente por Rusia.

Ahora, más de 100 años después, en medio de la agitación de la “operación militar especial” de 2022 de Rusia en Ucrania, las sanciones contra Rusia y los temores de una guerra nuclear,

los obispos católicos de rito latino del episcopado de Ucrania solicitaron que el Papa Francisco “... realice públicamente el acto de consagración al Sagrado Corazón Inmaculado de María de Ucrania y Rusia, como lo pidió la Santísima Virgen en Fátima.” Nuestra Arquidiócesis y las diócesis de todo el mundo se unieron a este solemne acto de consagración.

Como el papa Francisco ha señalado: “Cuando María dijo ‘Soy la esclava del Señor’ [Lc 1:38] en respuesta a la noticia de que se convertirá en la Madre de Dios, no dijo: ‘Esta vez haré la voluntad de Dios porque estoy disponible; más adelante veré.’ El suyo fue un sí total, sin condiciones.”

En lugar de imitar esta actitud de María, el Santo Padre dice: “Somos expertos en los ‘sí a medias’: somos buenos para fingir que no entendemos lo que Dios quiere y la conciencia sugiere.” Por eso nos dirigimos a María, Reina de la Paz, para que nos ayude a superar nuestros miedos, dudas y reticencias y nos muestre el camino hacia su Hijo, Jesús, fuente de la verdadera justicia y la paz. María nos arma con su valor al mismo tiempo que nos consuela con su ternura.

Cada “sí” completo y sin reservas que le decimos a Dios es el comienzo de una nueva historia, nos dice el papa Francisco. Decirle sí a Dios es

el testimonio que nos dan los santos, especialmente María nuestra madre y nuestra estrella guía. Veneramos a María como la vieron los niños de Fátima: “más brillante que el Sol,” porque nos señala a Jesús e ilumina el camino que Él desea que sigamos en la vida.

Tenemos la bendición de contar con muchas formas de expresar nuestro amor por María. El rosario, que María instó a los niños de Fátima (y a todos nosotros) a rezar, es la forma más popular de devoción mariana.

Cuando lo rezamos, tenemos una oportunidad especial de meditar sobre los episodios de la vida de Cristo, los sagrados misterios de nuestra redención, incluso cuando pedimos a nuestra Madre Santísima que interceda por nosotros mientras luchamos por seguir a su hijo como discípulos misioneros llamados a dar testimonio de su paz.

Cuando consagramos a nuestros hermanos y hermanas de Rusia y Ucrania al Corazón Inmaculado de María, reconocemos que son compañeros de la familia de Dios que necesitan la protección y el tierno cuidado de nuestra Santísima Madre.

Que María, la Madre de Dios, acepte nuestra oración: *Regina pacis, ora pro nobis!* (Reina de la Paz, ruega por nosotros). †

Events Calendar

For a list of events for the next four weeks as reported to The Criterion, log on to www.archindy.org/events.

May 16, 23, June 6

St. Jude Parish Hospitality Room, 5353 McFarland Rd., Indianapolis. **Bereavement Group**, 7 p.m., last three sessions, attending all sessions recommended but not required. Information: 317-786-4371 or pcollins@stjudeindy.org.

May 17

Christ the King Church, 1827 Kessler Blvd., Indianapolis. **Mystagogy Talk Series**, 6:30 p.m., third of five stand-alone sessions (May 24, 31), "Catholic Social Teaching: 'Do this in Remembrance of Me'" by Theresa Chamblee and Laura Sheehan. Information: 317-255-3666.

May 18

Calvary Mausoleum Chapel, 435 W. Troy Ave., Indianapolis. **Monthly Mass**, 2 p.m. Information: 317-784-4439 or www.catholiccemeteries.cc.

May 19

St. Joseph Church, 1401 S. Mickley Ave., Indianapolis. **Third Thursday Adoration**, interceding for women experiencing crisis pregnancy, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., with Mass at 5:45 p.m. Information: 317-244-9002.

Our Lady of Peace Cemetery and Mausoleum, 9001 Haverstick Road, Indianapolis. **Monthly Mass**, 2 p.m. Information: 317-574-8898 or www.catholiccemeteries.cc.

May 20

Northside Events and Social Club, 2100 E. 71st St., Indianapolis. **Catholic Business Exchange**, Robert Vane, president and CEO of Veteran Strategies, Inc., presenting "Lessons Learned from Leaders and Legends." Rosary 6:35 a.m., Mass 7 a.m., buffet breakfast and program following, \$18 members, \$24 non-members. Register by 4 p.m. on May 17. Information and registration: cutt.ly/CBE-Reg.

May 21

Springwood Park, 60 Waterfall Rd., Richmond. **Flying Cardinal 5K**, 9 a.m., benefiting Seton Catholic Schools Home and School Group and Athletic Boosters, \$20 individual or \$60 family rate for four runners, T-shirts guaranteed to pre-registered runners. Information and registration: 765-962-3902, ext. 4, skitchin@setoncatholics.org or setonschools.org/flying-cardinal-5k-2.

May 22

St. Michael the Archangel Church, 3354 W. 30th St., Indianapolis. **African Liberation Day Mass**, 1 p.m., honoring pan-African Liberation, celebrated in several African languages and French and English, reception to follow, bring dish and non-alcoholic drinks to share, sponsored by archdiocesan Black Catholic Community. Information: Pearllette Springer, 317-236-1474, pspringer@archindy.org.

May 23

Sr. Thea Bowman Black Catholic Women Monthly Prayer Gathering, via Zoom, third Monday of each month, sponsored by archdiocesan Black Catholic Ministry, 7 p.m. Join meeting: cutt.ly/SrTheaPrayer, meeting ID: 810 3567 0684 or dial-in at 301-715-8592. Information: Pearllette Springer, pspringer@archindy.org or 317-236-1474.

The Villages of Indiana online Foster Parenting Virtual Information Night, 6-8 p.m., for those interested in becoming a foster parent, free. Information and registration: 317-775-6500 or cutt.ly/villagesindyreg.

May 24

Christ the King Church, 1827 Kessler Blvd., Indianapolis. **Mystagogy Talk Series**, 6:30 p.m., fourth of five stand-alone sessions (May 31), "The Eastern Catholic Churches: The Glory of God Coming From the East" by Brian Goshorn of St. Athanasius the Great Byzantine Church. Information: 317-255-3666.

May 25

Group Lectio via Zoom, 7 p.m., second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, Benedictine Sister Jill Marie Reuber, facilitator, sponsored by Sisters of St. Benedict, Ferdinand, Ind. (Diocese of Evansville). Information: vocation@thedome.org.

Hoosier Brewing Company, 147 S. Madison Ave., Greenwood. **SHIP (Singles Hoping Involved Partnership) Outing**, 6:30 p.m., fellowship ministry for singles ages 40-65, one hour of axe-throwing, Mexican buffet with bottomless fountain drink, \$35, register by May 18. Information: martinlow8@cs.com.

May 28

Our Lady of the Most Holy

Rosary Catholic Church, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis. **Faithful Citizens Rosary Walk**, 10:45-11:45 a.m., meet in front of church. Information: faithful.citizens2016@gmail.com.

May 30

Calvary Mausoleum Chapel, 435 W. Troy Ave., Indianapolis. **Memorial Day Mass**, noon. Information: 317-784-4439 or www.catholiccemeteries.cc.

Our Lady of Peace Cemetery and Mausoleum, 9001 Haverstick Road, Indianapolis. **Memorial Day Mass**, 11 a.m. Information: 317-574-8898 or www.catholiccemeteries.cc.

May 31

Christ the King Church, 1827 Kessler Blvd., Indianapolis. **Mystagogy Talk Series**, 6:30 p.m., last of five stand-alone sessions, "The Eucharist: The Heart of Apologetics" by Qunah Jeffries. Information: 317-255-3666.

June 1

MCL Cafeteria, 5520 Castleton Corner Lane, Indianapolis. **Solo Seniors**, 5:30 p.m., 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: 317-796-8605.

June 2-4

St. Jude Parish, 5353 McFarland Rd., Indianapolis. **Summer Festival**, Thurs. 5-10 p.m., Fri. and Sat. 5-11 p.m., children's games, prizes, bands and food, silent auction, bingo, Monte Carlo games, beer tent, free admission. Information: 317-786-4371.

June 3

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

Our Lady of the Greenwood Church, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. **First Friday bilingual celebration of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus**, Mass 5:45 p.m. followed by adoration until 9 p.m., sacrament of reconciliation available. Information: 317-750-7309, msross1@hotmail.com. †

Retreats and Programs

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

June 1

Oldenburg Franciscan Center, 22143 Main St., Oldenburg. **Contemplative Prayer**, in person or via Zoom, sponsored by

Oldenburg Franciscan Center, 2-3:30 p.m., Franciscan Sister Olga Wittekind presenting, freewill donation. Information and registration: 812-933-6437, center@oldenburgfranciscancenter.org.

oldenburgsf.com, www.oldenburgfranciscancenter.org. Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. **Mary: Mother**

of God, Woman of Faith, Model of Discipleship – Day of Reflection, 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m., led by Cindy Kattau and Jennifer Burger, includes Mass, \$45 includes breakfast and lunch. Information and registration: ftm.retreatportal.com/events, 317-545-7681 or lcoons@archindy.org.

June 1, 2

Providence Spirituality and Conference Center, 1 Sisters of Providence, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, St. Mary-of-the-Woods. **Art and Soul Creation Guild**, choose between 9:30 a.m.-noon first Wednesday of the month or 6-8:30 p.m.

first Thursday of the month, Providence Sister Rosemary Schmalz presenting, \$30 membership fee to join group, \$5 per session after. Information and registration: Jeanne Frost, 812-535-2952, jfrost@spsmw.org or spsmw.org/events. †

Deadline to receive checks for St. Agnes Academy All-Class Reunion in June is May 25

All class members of the former St. Agnes Academy in Indianapolis—including those who attended but did not graduate from the school—and their guests are invited to a St. Agnes Academy All-Class Reunion at the Riviera Club, 5640 N. Illinois St., in Indianapolis, at noon on June 12.

The cost is \$25 per person. Checks and registration to attend must be

received by May 25. Make checks payable to Pat Douglass, and include maiden name and class year. Send checks to Pat Douglass, 7550 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis, IN 46240.

Bring your yearbooks, class pictures and other memorabilia to share.

For additional information, call Pat Douglass at 317-340-7550 or send an e-mail to padouglass@gmail.com. †

Saint Meinrad Archabbey to hold women's Catholic Leadership Forum on June 17-19

A women's Catholic Leadership Forum will be held at the Saint Meinrad Archabbey campus, 200 Hill Dr., in St. Meinrad, on June 17-19.

The forum offers an opportunity to learn from other women leaders in the Church, to reflect on your own leadership call and gifts, and to bring your experiences into conversation with others.

This gathering, limited to 50 participants, is open to women at all stages of their leadership journey, from seasoned veterans to those new to a leadership role or beginning to navigate their sense of leadership within the Catholic Church.

Speakers include Kerry Robinson, executive partner for Global and National Initiatives, and Kimberly Baker, associate professor of patristics at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology.

Workshops include "Leadership Lessons from One Woman's Life" by Judith Fean, vice president for mission at Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame, Ind.; "How Purpose Changes Across Your Lifetime: Tools for Discerning Those Life Transitions" by Rachel Forbes Kaufman, founding director of The Retirement Institute; and "Seeking the Visible Face of God: Praying with Icons" by Benedictine Sister Jeana Visel of Monastery Immaculate Conception in Ferdinand, Ind.

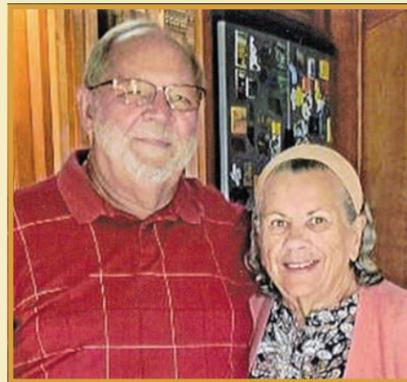
The cost is \$250, which includes housing and meals. The cost for those commuting is \$100. Scholarships are available.

Registration is required by June 1. Speaker and presenter information, a schedule and registration are available at womenofthechurch.org.

For more information, contact info@womenofthechurch.org. †

Wedding Anniversaries

Fred and Donna AmRhein



FRED AND DONNA (YOUNG) AMRHEIN, members of Immaculate Conception Parish in Millhousen, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on May 12.

The couple was married in St. Ann Church in Jennings County on May 12, 1962.

They have five children: Gretchen Armand, Aimee Cunningham, Gregory, Michael and Wayne AmRhein.

The couple also has 14 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren. †

Jerry and Carol Holloway



JERRY AND CAROL (JEHN) HOLLOWAY, former members of St. Barnabas and St. Mark the Evangelist parishes, both in Indianapolis, and currently members of Holy Family Parish in Jacksonville, Fla., celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on May 12.

The couple was married in Immaculate Conception Church in Dayton, Ohio, on May 12, 1962.

They have four children: Lynn Mattingly, Marianne McCalip, Lisa Price and Jerry Holloway.

The couple also has 10 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. †

Announcements for couples celebrating 50, 55, 60, 65, 70 or more years of marriage are accepted. Go to cutt.ly/anniversaries or call 317-236-1585.

Pope to grandparents, elderly: lead a revolution of tenderness

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope Francis said he is convinced God is calling his peers—older Catholics—to become “artisans of the revolution of tenderness.”

Through their gifts, wisdom, relationships and power of prayer, “together we can set the world free from the specter of loneliness and the demon of war,” the pope wrote in his message for the Catholic Church’s celebration of the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.

The message was released at the Vatican on May 10 in anticipation of the celebration on July 24, the fourth Sunday of July and the Sunday closest to the feast of Sts. Joachim and Anne, Jesus’ grandparents.

“Old age is no time to give up and lower the sails, but a season of enduring fruitfulness; a new mission awaits us and bids us look to the future,” the pope wrote in his message, whose theme for 2022 is “In old age they will still bear fruit” from the Book of Psalms.

In addition to taking care of themselves and remaining active, “we ought to cultivate our interior life through the assiduous reading of the word of God, daily prayer, reception of the sacraments and participation in the liturgy” as well as “cultivate our relationships with others.”

Older people need to show “affectionate concern for our families, our children and grandchildren, but also for the poor and those who suffer, by drawing near to them with practical assistance and our prayers,” he wrote.

But the entire world is also “passing through a time of trial and testing, beginning with the sudden, violent outbreak of the pandemic, and then by a war that is harming peace and development on a global scale” as well as a war in Europe “at a time when the generation that experienced it in the last century is dying out,” he wrote.

“These great crises risk anesthetizing us to the reality of other ‘epidemics’ and other widespread forms of violence that menace the human family and our common home,” he wrote, which is why older people have an important

role to play in promoting “profound change” starting in people’s hearts.

“We grandparents and elderly people have a great responsibility: to teach the women and men of our time to regard others with the same understanding and loving gaze with which we regard our own grandchildren.

“We ourselves have grown in humanity by caring for others, and now we can be teachers of a way of life that is peaceful and attentive to those in greatest need” and thereby help protect the world, he wrote.

The pope appealed to older people to extend their prayers and attention to all children of the world, especially those fleeing from war or suffering its effects. “Let us hold in our hearts—like St. Joseph, who was a loving and attentive father—the little ones of Ukraine, of Afghanistan, of South Sudan.”

Most older people have realized the world very much needs to work together and that it is wrong to think people “can find personal fulfillment and success in conflict,” he wrote.

“Dear grandparents, dear elderly persons, we are called to be artisans of the revolution of tenderness in our world” and “poets of prayers” by making “more frequent and better use of the most valuable instrument at our disposal,” that is, prayer.



An elderly woman reacts as she meets Pope Francis during his general audience in St. Peter’s Square at the Vatican in this March 22, 2017, file photo. The pope has chosen the theme, “In old age they will still bear fruit” (Psalm 92:15), for the second World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly on July 24. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

The World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly is also an opportunity for young people and the Church to celebrate together with older people, by seeking out those who feel most alone.

“Expecting a visit can transform those days when we think we have nothing to look forward to; from an initial encounter, a new friendship can emerge,” he said. “Visiting the elderly who live alone is a work of mercy in our time!”

At a news conference presenting the message on May 10, Cardinal Kevin J. Farrell, prefect of the Dicastery for Laity, the Family and Life, said the pastoral care and importance of older people have been a major part of Pope Francis’ pontificate.

The pope wants to see not just sporadic events or projects dedicated

to older people, but to make them an integral and active part of the Church community and society, he said.

In response to a reporter’s question about the pope’s increasing difficulty walking and current use of a wheelchair, the cardinal said the 85-year-old pope is “a great example to all elderly.”

“He accepts his limitations at this moment with a great spirit and a great heart,” Cardinal Farrell said.

“We should not hide the fact that with age comes a lessening of our ability to play an active part in the life of the world today,” he said, however, the pope also shows that “with the limitations that he has physically and with age, he is not going to stop.”

“He sends a message to all of us that we all have to carry on” and do one’s best, the cardinal said. †

Faithful invited to fast, pray on May 13 for upcoming Supreme Court decision

Criterion staff report

In response to the leak of a draft opinion in the U.S. Supreme Court case of *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*, the U.S. bishops are asking Catholics to unite in fasting and prayer on May 13.

The draft opinion, written by Justice Samuel Alito, said *Roe* “was egregiously wrong from the start” and that “*Roe* and *Casey* must be overruled.” *Casey v. Planned Parenthood* is the 1992 decision that affirmed *Roe*.

Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, chairman of the USCCB’s Committee on Pro-Life Activities, said in a statement, “In the midst of current tensions, we invite Catholics around the country to join us in fasting and praying the rosary on Friday, May 13, the Memorial of Our Lady of Fatima.”

Alito’s opinion said the court’s 1973 *Roe* decision

had exceptionally weak reasoning “and the decision has had damaging consequences. And far from bringing about a national settlement of the abortion issue, *Roe* and *Casey* have enflamed debate and deepened division,” he wrote.

The 98-page draft, which includes a 31-page appendix of historical state abortion laws, is an opinion in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*—a case about Mississippi’s ban on abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy with the potential to also overturn *Roe*.

The bishops are asking for prayers and fasting for the following intentions:

- For our nation, for the integrity of our judicial system, and that all branches of government be dedicated to seeking the common good and protecting the dignity and rights of the human person, from conception to natural death.
- For the overturning of *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned*

Parenthood v. Casey in the Supreme Court’s final decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson*.

- For the conversion of the hearts and minds of those who advocate for abortion.
- For a new commitment to building an America where children are welcomed, cherished, and cared for; where mothers and fathers are encouraged and strengthened; and where marriage and the family are recognized and supported as the true foundations of a healthy and flourishing society.
- For Our Blessed Mother’s intercession and guidance as the Church continues to walk with mothers and families in need, and continues to promote alternatives to abortion, and seeks to create a culture of life.

“As Catholics, let us witness to the beautiful gift of life with civility and love, and with our peaceful prayers and our compassionate service to all those in need,” the bishops said.

“Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us.” †

Officials condemn violence, threats after high court leak on abortion case

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Biden administration officials issued a statement against violence on May 9 following protests outside the homes of two Supreme Court justices in the Washington area as well as a spate of vandalism and disruptions targeting locales of groups that oppose abortion. Some of them include Catholic churches.

Referring to U.S. President Joe Biden by the Twitter handle for President of the United States, or @POTUS, White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki said that he “strongly believes in the Constitutional right to protest.”

“But that should never include

violence, threats, or vandalism. Judges perform an incredibly important function in our society, and they must be able to do their jobs without concern for their personal safety,” she tweeted.

The statement came after news agencies reported protests outside the home of Justice Brett Kavanaugh in Chevy Chase, Md., and the nearby home of Chief Justice John Roberts. Others said another justice and his family had to be taken to an undisclosed location because of threats, but it turned out to be unfounded.

After the online news site Politico published a report late on May 2 from

a leaked draft opinion signaling that the majority of Supreme Court justices seem set to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, the decision legalizing abortion, those opposed to having it overturned have taken to the streets to protest. But vandalism showing discontent with the potential ruling also seems to be on the rise.

The New York Times reported on May 7 that part of the wall of the headquarters of Wisconsin Family Action, in Madison, was set on fire, leaving behind graffiti that read: “If abortions aren’t safe then you aren’t either.”

Madison Bishop Donald J. Hying, in a May 9 statement, called the vandalism, “a

brazen act of violence, which all citizens should condemn, as an attack on the respect and concern we owe to each other in seeking the common good.”

Officials from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ religious liberty office said they documented nine similar incidents on the weekend after the leak, stretching from New York to Los Angeles.

Most were disruptions or destruction of property such as the one reported by The Denver Channel in Colorado, an ABC affiliate, where Sacred Heart of Mary Church staff, in Boulder, removed graffiti, paint, and broken glass over Mother’s Day weekend. †

PERRONIE

continued from page 1

Her inspiration led him into being received into the full communion of the Church as a youth, setting him on his way to his ordination at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis.

“I see my willingness to serve through my grandmother’s example,” he says. “I intend to offer my first Mass for her and for my grandfather on the day after my ordination.”

That tribute to Leona and Bob Wathen will take place during a Mass in their grandson’s home church, St. Malachy in Brownsburg, at 3 p.m. on June 5.

That devotion to his grandparents is one of the insights that reveal the person that Deacon Perronie is and the priest he hopes to be—insights that include why his favorite movie is *Elf*, what he wrote in his eighth-grade notebook that stunned his mom, and how his relationship with God has deepened.

The eighth-grade revelation that shocked his mother

“In the eighth grade, he brought home a notebook, and there was a page where it said, ‘What do you want to be when you grow up?’” recalls Kathy Perronie, his mother. “He wrote, ‘A priest.’ It shocked me at first.”

At the time, she didn’t say anything to her only child, but a week later she asked him the same question, and he gave the same answer of wanting to become a priest, adding, “Don’t be mad at me because I can’t give you grandchildren.”

Instead, he has given his parents two other special gifts, starting with helping them embrace their Catholic faith.

Kathy has returned to the Catholic faith that was the lifeblood of her mother’s life, becoming a member of St. Malachy Parish. So is Brent Perronie, who entered into full communion with the Church in 2015, a year after his son entered the seminary.

Their son has also given them the gift of knowing that the choice he has made for his life brings him so much joy.

“We couldn’t be prouder of him,” Brent says.

Kathy adds, “You can tell his whole heart is in the faith. When he first started seminary in 2014, he looked so scared and shy. Now it’s clear that this is what he wants to do. His faith is there. And it’s nice to know my mom inspired him.”

The change that led to a deeper relationship with God

Deacon Perronie’s relationship with God changed dramatically during an eight-day, silent retreat during the summer of 2018.

Before that time, he placed too much of an emphasis on praying *to* God.

“I was doing a lot of things in prayer, but I was more *doing* instead of *being*. The retreat shook me up and got me out of a monotonous thing. Now, I’m just focusing on God’s presence and what he wants to say to me.

“I share with him all my joys and struggles. I know I can take any situation I’m in and bring it to him in prayer. And

~ Transitional Deacon Matthew Perronie ~

Age: 26

Parents: Brent and Kathy Perronie

Home Parish: St. Malachy in Brownsburg

Education: Tri-West High School in Lizton, Ind.; Marian University in Indianapolis; Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad

Favorite Scripture verse/passage: John 15:16

Favorite saint: St. John Vianney

Favorite prayer/devotion: Adoration

Favorite movie: *Elf*

Favorite author: James Patterson

Hobbies: Walking, reading, fishing, and kayaking



Transitional Deacon Matthew Perronie proclaims the Gospel during an Aug. 9, 2021, Mass in the chapel of Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House in Indianapolis.

(Photo by Sean Gallagher)

I listen for how he is asking me to move forward in those situations. I gained a renewal of my relationship with God.”

As part of that change, his favorite time of devotion is spending a daily hour of silence in eucharistic adoration.

“I enjoy starting off my day in the presence of God—the idea of just being there, being renewed, being open to him. As my ordination approaches and I begin to work with people in the parish, I’ll take whatever people are dealing with, bring it to God and listen for what he wants me to say to them and how he wants me to minister to them.”

‘His joy and his humor’

As a fellow seminarian in the archdiocese, Tyler Huber laughs when he recalls spending the summer of 2019 with Deacon Perronie in Mexico as part of their education and formation at Saint Meinrad Seminary.

“That’s when I really got to know him,” Huber says. “In Mexico, he was famous for talking to everyone that we met. It didn’t matter where we were or whether it was on our first day when we didn’t know anyone. He would be 100 yards behind us because he’d stop and talk to so many people. He loves encountering people, talking with them, and sharing his joy with them.”

Deacon Perronie brought that same approach to his fellow seminarians when he returned from that trip to Mexico, Huber says.

“I saw how his joy and his humor that I witnessed in Mexico came out in new ways at Saint Meinrad. He set aside certain nights every week where he’d wander through the dorm halls, and if people’s doors were open, he’d stop and get to know them. Not everyone does that.

“He’s very good at developing friendships and

keeping friendships going. He fills his breaks with family and keeping in touch with families at the parishes where he’s been. He goes out of his way to minister to people.”

Why *Elf* is his favorite movie

“I enjoy the movie because, one, it’s a Christmas movie, and I enjoy anything connected with Christmas,” Deacon Perronie says. “And two, just the sense of the wonder and awe that he experiences as he leaves the North Pole to find his dad. It renews me and reminds me to always be open for adventure and to explore the unknown.”

Deacon Perronie had the same sense of adventure recently when the deacons at Saint Meinrad Seminary spent a month in Europe, traveling to London, Rome and Einsiedeln, Switzerland.

“I’m very big into ancestry and genealogy. When I was in London, there was a free

day, and I took a train to Tamworth, England, where I had learned that one branch of my family had lived in the 1600s. I walked around the town and visited the graveyard—just being open to what I could find there.”

‘People here love him’

Earlier this year, Father Joseph Feltz received a surprise from Deacon Perronie that brought a smile to the pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in New Albany.

“This year, on the anniversary of his baptism, he forwarded me a picture of him being baptized by me,” Father Feltz says. “It was a pleasant surprise. I was his pastor at St. Malachy when he was baptized [in 2010].”

Their lives have also been connected for the past two years as Deacon Perronie has done part of his pastoral ministry at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish.

“It’s been neat for me because I knew him as a rather shy, introverted eighth grader,” Father Feltz says. “Now he’s gotten his confidence. People here love him. What’s really impressed me is how he is ready to go out to people, connect with people, and meet them where they are. That’s going to be an important aspect of his ministry.”

One of the ways that Deacon Perronie has connected with members of the parish has been by offering to bless their homes.

“Just as he will build relationships with his parishioners, I see him doing the same thing with his fellow priests,” Father Feltz says. “While he was with me this past summer, he said, ‘I want to cook a dinner for all the priests in the deanery.’ I said, ‘Knock yourself out.’ There were 10 or 11 of us, and he did it all. It will be a great joy to welcome him as a fellow priest.”

‘I want to truly live among the people’

Asked to name his favorite saint, Deacon Perronie chose St. John Vianney, a parish priest who transformed the community of Ars, France, in the 1800s.

“From early on in the seminary, I knew he was someone I should pay attention to and learn about. Two things in particular stood out. One, when he was sent to Ars, he encounters someone and says, ‘Show me the way to Ars, and I will show you the way to heaven.’ He encountered people in the midst of their town, journeyed with them and led them to God, providing the sacraments and being present to them.

“There’s also the story of how he would hear confessions 16 hours a day. I know I have to take care of myself, but that inspires me to give until it hurts, if that makes sense—to be able to freely give of myself and spend myself for the people I’ve been called to minister to.”

As he reflects upon the journey that St. John Vianney made with parishioners, Deacon Perronie also thinks of his own journey to his ordination day—the influence of his grandmother, his conviction at the age of 12 that he wanted to be a priest, his help in leading his parents to embrace the Catholic faith, and his own transformation from a shy, first-year seminarian to a confident person who is convinced—and thrilled—that God has led him to his vocation.

“It’s been a long journey—and to see how God has sustained the journey to this point, and then how the journey will continue and begin with the priesthood.

“I want to truly live among the people I serve—to provide the sacraments, to be present with them, to journey with them. There’s definitely excitement and joy.”

(Transitional Deacon Michael Clawson, who is also being ordained to the priesthood on June 4, will be featured in the May 27 issue of *The Criterion*. For more information about a vocation to the priesthood in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, visit www.HearGodsCall.com.) †



A young Matthew Perronie is baptized by Father Joseph Feltz, then-pastor of St. Malachy Parish in Brownsburg, in 2010. Perronie credits his grandmother for planting the seeds of faith that led him to being received into the full communion of the Church. (Submitted photo)

Guild members enjoy 'being and seeing Christ' at St. Augustine Home

By Natalie Hoefler

It's time for High Tea at the St. Augustine Home for the Aged, and the home's guild members fuss over the residents like mother hens—pouring tea, serving cookies and striking up conversation. Their eyes radiate the smiles their face masks hide.

The April 19 event is one of the first in-person events the guild members have hosted for the residents since the COVID-19 pandemic began in March 2020.

"It's nice to be back to where we can talk with the residents and interact with them," says guild president Beth Hansen.

Technically, the all-female St. Augustine Home Guild is a non-profit "dedicated to aiding the Little Sisters of the Poor in the operation of the St. Augustine Home in Indianapolis," according to the guild's website.

They accomplish this goal through volunteering, fundraising and hosting events for the residents.

But the essence of the guild is so much more, says Little Sisters of the Poor Mother Maria Christine Lynch, the home's superior.

"They're not just raising awareness or funds," she explains. "They really are about relationship."

'It's all about relationship'

For 55 years, guild members have been touching lives and forming relationships with the residents and the sisters of St. Augustine Home on the northwest side of Indianapolis.

"It's a life-giving organization," Mother Maria Christine said of the guild. "They have a sensitivity to the needs of older persons, and a real passion for our residents."

"With our Lord, it's all about relationship. It's this outreach to others. What they do is a combination of faith and action."

Angie Bagnoli agreed.

"We all get something different out of what we do," said Bagnoli, a 20-year member of the guild. "When you see a resident smile or they tell you a story, it makes you feel good and them feel good. And the sisters feel good that the residents have additional support."

The guild found a way to provide that support even during the pandemic when in-person visits were not allowed.

Through a new Resident Companion Program, participating guild members

were given a resident's name, explained program creator Linda Bear.

"We would send them letters and little gifts, just to let them know we were thinking of them," said the nine-year guild member.

"The isolation was so hard on them. We want to do anything we can do to be part of their lives."

Resident Mary Rose Peyton appreciates the relationship she's developed with guild member Nancy Stoltz through the program.

Now that COVID restrictions have lessened, Peyton said she and Nancy "go out to eat sometimes. Or she'll come to my apartment, and we'll play games or talk. We send each other cards and talk on the phone."

"It feels good knowing there's someone out there you can talk to. She's a very caring person."

'There's so much love'

As restrictions lifted, guild members were excited to interact again in person with the residents.

"Going out there to make the beds and see the residents is a lot of fun," said Hansen, one of the guild volunteers who weekly put fresh sheets and blankets on the beds of assisted living residents.

"A few weeks ago, a lady I was making a bed for said, 'I look so forward to seeing you.' It's just a great benefit—they're happy to see us and were happy to see them."

Lu Ann Heitert explained with a laugh that volunteering in the guild's "Little Store" gift shop in the home is "definitely hands on" as she helps residents try on donated clothes they can purchase for \$1.

"I like helping them pick out greeting cards and clothes," she said. "They talk about the family they're buying the cards for. Or if they're buying clothes, they tell you where they're going to wear them. So you get to know them better by learning what's going on in their lives."

"It makes me feel really happy that I can do something to make them happy, because that's really the goal."

The personal interactions result in a win-win, said Hansen.

"I know how much the residents enjoy seeing us," she said. "But we probably learn more from them. So many of them, regardless of what their health problems might be, have



St. Augustine Home Guild member Kathy Smith, right, smiles with home resident Anne Wickens during a High Tea event the guild hosted for residents of the St. Augustine Home in Indianapolis on April 19. (Photos by Natalie Hoefler)

such a positive way of looking at their situation."

Even with behind-the-scenes activities, like "helping in the kitchen and even sorting canned goods, there's so much love" behind what the guild does, said Bear.

That same care goes into the guild's fundraisers.

"We always bring a busload of residents" to the guild's annual Hats Off to Spring fashion show fundraiser, said Bear, who co-chairs the event. "The sisters dote on them, and we make sure they have a good time."

"It's a passion that we have, even in fundraising, that we want to do everything we can to help the residents and the sisters."

'You can see God in their attitude'

The residents feel that passion. "They're figuratively embracing, like you feel their arms around everyone here," said Tom Wickens. He and wife Anne, married for almost 62 years, have lived in an apartment at St. Augustine Home for five years.

"They always take time to visit with you," Anne added. "It feels good to be recognized as a person and as a friend."

And they keep the residents active, said Peyton.

"They have a lot of events they put on for us," she said. "All the holidays, they seem to jump in and say, 'This is for you!'"

She especially likes the monthly Bingo games sponsored by the guild.

"I go there, and I know all of them, and they know me—I'm kind of a serious Bingo player," she said with a laugh.

Tom appreciates how the guild members make the residents feel valued.

"In conversation with one a while ago, I mentioned that I really like to drive," he recalled. "She said, 'Would you like to be a volunteer driver?' So now I'm a volunteer driver! I drive the sisters and take people to appointments."

Peyton, too, has been recruited by the guild members to help. Spoiler alert: the following paragraph reveals her secret identity!

"Every year at Christmastime, the guild buys little presents for all the residents, like Kleenex, candy, pens and little pads of paper, things like that," she said.

"Then they give them to me and at night, when everyone is sleeping, I go around and hang the gift bags on everyone's doors. I feel just like Santa Claus!"

On a more serious note, Peyton voiced her gratitude for the guild.

"I appreciate everything they do," she said. "They think about us, and they're here for us if we need them. They're just great to have around."

Anne agreed.

"You can see God in their attitude toward all of us, in their service," she said. "They're like the sisters: gracious, joyful, kind, compassionate."

'When you lift hearts, your heart is lifted'

There is one person behind everything the guild members do for the residents and the Little Sisters, said Bear. That person is Christ.

"We talk about being Christ and seeing the face of Christ in the residents," she said. "When they take your hand and ask for help, you're helping Christ. Christ becomes visible when we give, and it comes back to us in their gratitude and happiness."

"It's in giving that we receive, and in loving that we're loved. That's why we have the guild."

"When you lift hearts, your heart is lifted, and I'm just happy to be part of this family."

(For more information on the St. Augustine Home Guild, their events, to join or to donate, go to www.sahgindy.org. To stay up-to-date with the guild, follow them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/taugustinehomeguildindy.) †



St. Augustine Home Guild member Kathy Arruda pours tea for Mary Rose Peyton during a High Tea event the guild hosted for residents of the St. Augustine Home in Indianapolis on April 19.

After legal battle to exist, St. Luke the Evangelist thriving six decades later

By Natalie Hoefer

The year was 1959, and the Archdiocese of Indianapolis decided the time was right to build a new parish and school on land it had purchased 11 years prior in the town of Meridian Hills on the far north side of Indianapolis.

The Meridian Hills zoning board disagreed. They denied the archdiocese's petition in February 1959.

So began a two-year legal battle for the establishment of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish and its school.

According to *The Town of Meridian Hills: An Early Legal History*, an Indiana Superior Court judge overruled the decision that September. The zoning board appealed to the Indiana Supreme Court.

The Court unanimously ruled in favor of the archdiocese in February 1961. St. Luke the Evangelist parish and school were established the same year.

Six decades later, both are thriving.

Education, evangelization, stewardship

Now with nearly 2,000 members, the parish is one of the largest in the archdiocese, says Msgr. Joseph Schaedel, its pastor.

With about 600 students, "Our major ministry is in the field of education," Msgr. Schaedel says. And in the spirit of the faith community's patron, the school "has been a great tool of evangelization."

For example, he says, "This Easter, we received 21 new Catholics into the Church, and 11 of them came through the school—parents of students or

students who came here and weren't Catholic."

Msgr. Schaedel says he is "pretty proud of our adult education efforts." With its Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program, active Bible study groups and year-round adult education opportunities, "I think our educational ministry for all ages is really our strong point," he says.

But parishioners do more than learn, Msgr. Schaedel adds. Among the "Christian social efforts" the parish supports are the St. Vincent de Paul Boulevard Place Food Pantry, the archdiocese's Holy Family Shelter, Beggars for the Poor and the local Interfaith Hunger Initiative.

Msgr. Schaedel says the parishioners are "a very active community. A lot of our people practice stewardship not just in the parish or Church, but in the civic community as well."

He is proud of new physical additions to the parish—new meeting rooms, new classrooms and a new lobby for the school and a doubling-in-size of the sacristy.

But he is also "very proud" of the parish's spiritual offerings.

"We have a beautiful eucharistic adoration chapel that is open 24/7," says Msgr. Schaedel. "We have Mass twice a day and confession seven days a week," and the parish's Mary's WAY event for Women and St. Joseph MVPS (Men Valuing Prayer and Service) event for men each draw more than 300 participants.

"I think we're a very welcoming parish," he says. "We're a little bit traditional in terms of worship and liturgy and music. If you would enjoy that, we certainly welcome you here."

For information on Mass and confession times, go to www.stluke.org or call 317-259-4373.

Catholic gifts, nature and walleye

The best time to visit St. Luke is for their annual parish festival in September. The dates for this year's festival have not been set yet, so keep an eye on their website closer to September.

Indianapolis offers plenty of opportunities for a day trip. But if you want to stick close to St. Luke, two destinations within or close to the parish boundaries are The Celtic Cross Catholic Gift Shop and Holliday Park.

"We are passionately Catholic," states the website for The Celtic Cross, located on the west side of the road that marks St. Luke's western boundary.

The store is a one-stop-shop for all things Catholic. Art, books for children and both young and older adults, medals, rosaries, statues, jewelry, baby items, gifts for receiving sacraments, seasonal items, music—it's difficult to walk away without a purchase in hand. For hours, go to www.celticcrosscatholic.com or call 317-777-0059.

Toward St. Luke's southern boundary is Holliday Park. The 94-acre park offers all of the following at no charge: spacious lawns for picnics and recreation, an expansive playground, 3.5 miles of wooded trails with paths leading to the White River, a large nature center, sculpted gardens, an arboretum and a unique area featuring



St. Luke the Evangelist Church, built in 1961 on the north side of Indianapolis, is shown here during a summer sunset. (Submitted photo)

column-facade remnants of a former New York City building made with Indiana limestone. For more information, go to www.hollidaypark.org.

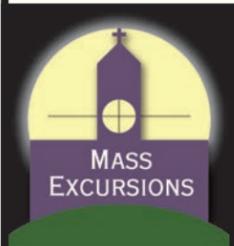
If you favor a sit-down meal over a picnic, Msgr. Schaedel suggests Daddy Jack's on the north side of the parish's boundaries.

"I always see St. Luke people there," he says.

But don't expect him to give a rundown of menu items.

"I love the walleye," says Msgr. Schaedel. "About 95% of the time, I get the walleye."

(Mass Excursions is a monthly feature highlighting an archdiocesan parish and local attractions, encouraging a trip to the area that includes Mass with the members of that parish. Each month will highlight a parish in a different deanery to showcase faith communities throughout central and southern Indiana.)†



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Happiness and joy remain elusive in troubled times

By Effie Caldarola

Is America's collective teeth-grinding an indication of its happiness level?

A Twitter user mentioned how badly she grinds her teeth in her sleep. A torrent of responses replied, detailing clinching, grinding, mouth guards, cracked, broken teeth and worn-down enamel, a tale of angst born out in the night.

A more scientific look at the state of our happiness is a recent study from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that said that even before the COVID-19 pandemic, in 2019, a survey revealed that 36.7% of high school students reported persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness, with those numbers much higher for lesbian, gay and bisexual adolescents.

By June 2021, another survey revealed those feelings of sadness and hopelessness had mushroomed to 44.2%. And nearly 20% of youth surveyed had seriously considered suicide.

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines "happiness" as "a state of well-being and contentment: joy."

Americans don't appear to be particularly joyful or contented right now. What's going on?

There are the usual suspects: the isolation, fear and death caused by the pandemic; the overuse of social media; the breakdown of the family; the onslaught of bad environmental news and political polarization. All of these contribute to our troubled state of mind.

And there's another possibility that can't be overlooked. As a country, we're moving away from organized religion. People often claim to be "spiritual but not religious," but without the help of a faith community, they often neglect that spiritual side or aren't sure where to turn for guidance.

Most mainline denominations report fewer worshippers at services, and the pandemic contributed to this trend. Once people stayed home from their usual place of worship, it sometimes became a habit, and habits are hard to break.

Wendy Everson is a licensed mental health practitioner in Omaha, Neb. She gives each of her clients a survey to find out what they are looking for and what brings them contentment. She urges them



Monica Palmer, senior director of Clinical and Legal Services, and Aimee Ryan, director of Social Work at Catholic Charities in Oklahoma City, illustrate how they provide in-person counseling amid the coronavirus pandemic in this undated photo. The old stigmas against mental illness have begun to weaken and people acknowledge that asking for professional assistance is a constructive way to deal with the angst and unhappiness that plague our society today. (CNS photo/courtesy Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Oklahoma City)

to spend more time with the things that bring them joy and peace.

"I try to work with their strengths. Where do you find joy and happiness? When was the last time you've put time into that activity?"

Part of her survey asks about a client's spiritual life. How important is their relationship to God, and what is getting in the way of it?

"I would say maybe 75-80% of the people I see will say, 'I used to be connected to this church or faith, but I'm not anymore.'"

Most claim to believe in God and

have various reasons for stopping their involvement in a faith community.

Sometimes it's a Sunday job or children's activities. Although the pandemic played a role, Everson said she sees many people who continued to worship online.

The majority of Everson's clients are between the ages of 25-45, an age group where people feel freer than older adults to question the Church in which they were raised. Many still have strong reactions to the clergy sexual abuse scandal, and many former and practicing Catholics have difficulty with the Church's views on LGBTQ issues.

Everson said connection to a faith, a higher power and spirituality found through singing, prayer, Scripture, nature—all of these can contribute to mental health.

"When people are struggling, what do they have to lean on?" she asks.

COVID-19 played a tremendous role in the stress people are feeling, said Everson.

"From my perspective, the family dynamic was affected. Parents were stressed, working virtually with children learning virtually. It did a number on the family."

Because COVID-19 brought on more stress, "it exacerbated and

accelerated couples' problems. People weren't socializing or getting away from each other."

People can build community in different ways, said Everson, and this is important for mental health. Even connection to a group of friends is vital.

Everson said her requests for help shot up in September and into October 2021 when people were beginning to feel that "this pandemic should have been over months ago."

Although Everson does not work with children or adolescents, several in her practice do, and they've seen the number of calls for help climb dramatically.

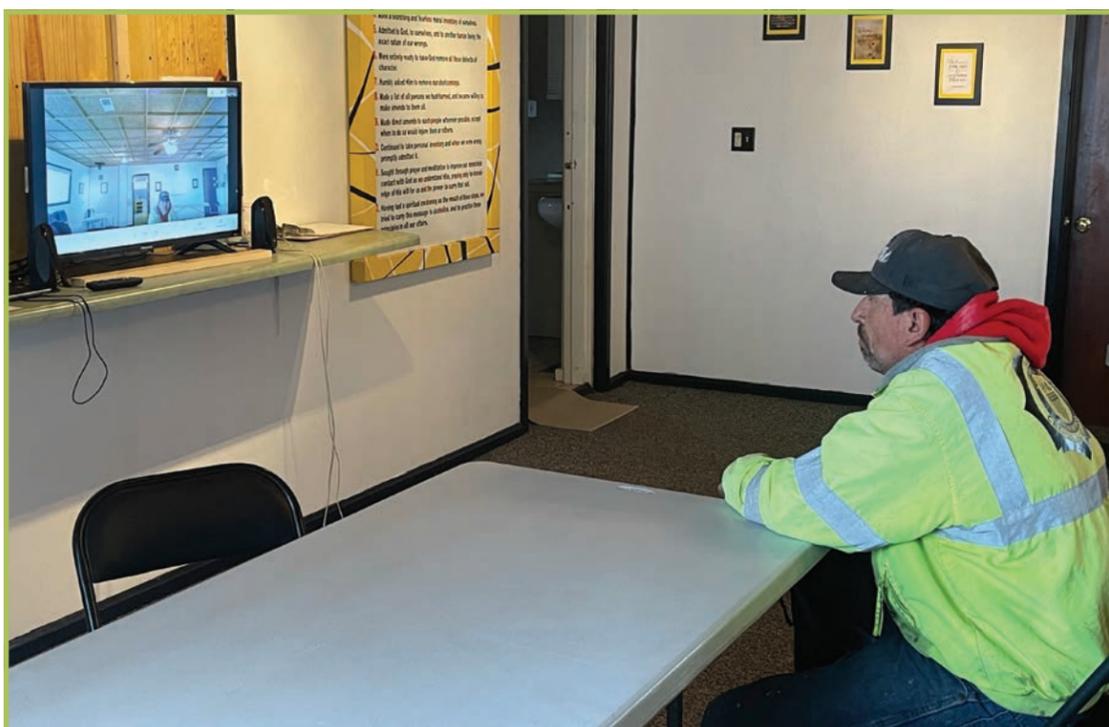
"In mid-March of 2022, we saw the greatest volume of calls we've ever had for children age 5-10," she said.

This accelerating demand for mental health assistance isn't entirely a bad indication of our collective mental health, Everson agreed. In many ways, it represents a positive view of the need for mental health assistance.

The old stigmas against mental illness have begun to weaken, and people acknowledge that asking for professional assistance is a constructive way to deal with the angst and unhappiness that plague our society today.

In the months ahead, COVID's aftermath, and the fear of new variants, will continue to challenge society. The world situation and the war in Europe, the economic stress on families—all of these loom large. People of faith might ask: How dynamically will the Church respond to the very real needs of people searching for joy in troubled times?

(Effie Caldarola is a columnist for Catholic News Service.) †



A Catholic Charities client uses telehealth counseling in the Diocese of Gallup, N.M., in this undated photo. (CNS photo/courtesy Catholic Charities, Diocese of Gallup)

Joyful Witness/Kimberly Pohovey

Retreat leads to finding peace in the miracle of healing

I had received the sacrament of the sick on at least two previous occasions, both prior to impending surgeries. I remember at the time feeling a great sense of comfort knowing I was receiving this beautiful sacrament of healing. But this last time, I wasn't so comfortable.



In March, I attended a retreat at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House in

Indianapolis led by Father Keith Hosey on the "Miracles of Healing: The Power of the Sacraments." Father Hosey had a delightful personality and easily drew me into his account of Jesus' life and the pivotal role his many miracles of healing played in his mission and ministry. It helped me see that he came to heal a world in desperate need of restoration, foreshadowing his ultimate act of healing to secure our salvation.

I admit I wasn't feeling great the day of the retreat. My arthritis was acting up, making it difficult to spend a day sitting.

As I prayed throughout the day, I couldn't help but fixate on my aches and pains. I experience pain every day. How I long for a day free from the shackles of

pain. However, many years ago, I vowed to never again question the "why" of God.

Even when I experience pain, I don't blame God or ask "why me?" This day was no exception, but some days are harder than others, making it difficult to prevent the pain from robbing me of joy. This was where my head was at during the retreat—struggling to want relief while not blaming God, all while trying to believe God might offer me his healing.

Listening to Father Hosey recount stories throughout the Gospel when Jesus cured people of their physical, emotional and spiritual illnesses, I couldn't help but get my hopes up that I too might be worthy of healing during the sacrament of the sick offered at the end of that day.

Father Hosey relayed to us that only those who believed in God's power to heal could indeed be healed. At first, I thought, "Well, of course I believe." But upon further reflection, I realized I wanted to believe, but didn't feel worthy. Whenever I have thought about being healed, I usually revert to the idea that there are so many people who are worse off than I for me to ask God to heal me. That day, my prayer shifted to asking God to help me be open to his healing—in whatever form that took.

I continued to dwell on what I heard at

the retreat in the coming week and tried to decipher what message God had for me.

Ironically, I returned to Fatima the following week to repeat the same retreat. In full disclosure, I attended as part of my job at the archdiocese, but I found myself looking forward to round two.

As I drove to Fatima that evening, I wondered if I should partake of the sacrament of the sick again so soon. When I asked Father Hosey, he enthusiastically told me I can partake of this sacrament of healing as often as I needed. Somewhere in the middle of the retreat, I finally came to understand God's message.

At the end of our time together, Father Hosey asked us to share what we had learned. I expressed that while I didn't think I had experienced any great physical healing, I believed I had experienced the healing of acceptance—understanding that God calls me to this pain—for whatever reason. Just accepting this realization has shifted my perspective and helped me find peace with pain.

Healing comes in all forms.

(Kimberly Pohovey is a member of St. Jude Parish in Indianapolis. She is the director of major and planned gifts for the archdiocese.) †

Our Works of Charity/David Bethuram

Story offers hope for those coping with mental health issues

(May is Mental Awareness Month. Each year, thousands of Hoosiers face the reality of living with mental illness. Catholic Charities joins other mental health providers to raise awareness about mental health. We fight the stigma, provide support, educate the public and advocate for policies that support people with mental illness and their families.)



Despair to hope is a journey that one local woman has traveled successfully. Thirty-two-year-old Shelby's struggles started as a young child. Depression and anxiety plagued her, but she didn't know what it was nor did she have anyone to help her cope.

Her early school memories are permeated with loneliness, fear and worry that something bad would happen to her.

She would fake being sick so she wouldn't have to go to school for days or even weeks at a time. Shelby remembers wrapping herself in her imagination to escape her fears and to try to cope with her life. Her school years were spent as a loner, and her fears kept her from even trying to make friends. She didn't understand what was wrong with her and felt certain no one else would.

She said her everyday life was dreary with no happiness. She just drifted along trying to survive any way she could.

When Shelby was 7, her school had a class about inappropriate touching and molestation. As a result, she realized that her father had been sexually abusing her since she was about 5. She told her mom what was happening but, when confronted, her father denied the accusations and accused Shelby of lying about him.

The abuse continued for several years until Shelby threatened to call the police about the sexual abuse if it didn't stop. The anger at her father for the abuse and her mother for not believing the abuse was happening was crippling for Shelby.

The depression and anxiety continued throughout her teen and young adult years. She was unable to hold down a job and continued to miss school. She reached out to her pastor's wife at age 19 and was able to at least talk about some of her struggles. At 21, she briefly saw a therapist and tried some medication, but her efforts at recovery were half-hearted and sporadic. Shelby continued to struggle with her illness until she was 25.

The turning point was her relationship with her mom. She said that her mom finally realized Shelby was sick and needed help. They talked about what she was going through. Her mom promised her she would support her in any way she could.

While her daughter was struggling with her mental illness, Shelby's mom was battling cancer. The cancer was spreading, and she underwent chemotherapy on a monthly basis. The cancer would eventually win, but before she died, her mom made Shelby promise she would remain committed and consistent with her mental health treatment. Shelby said the moment that really changed her was the promise. If not for that, she honestly believes she wouldn't be here today.

Shelby initially contacted a Catholic Charities therapist for counseling and then was put in contact with a local psychiatrist for medication. She said there were two factors that have helped her succeed: commitment to her therapy and taking her medication. She had mental health professionals looking out for her well-being and committed to helping her.

Since Shelby started receiving services at Catholic Charities, she said she couldn't imagine her life being even a third as good as it is now.

Her illness no longer controls her. She has tools and skills to make it through hard times. Shelby no longer feels like a victim; she is a survivor, and the future is open for her to live life fully.

(David Bethuram is executive director of the archdiocesan Secretariat for Catholic Charities. You can contact him at dbethuram@archindy.org.) †

Guest Column/Richard Etienne

Like St. Paul, we are called to conversion in our lives of faith

If you are reading this column in *The Criterion*, then you have probably made another much bigger decision at some point in your spiritual development. You are making a conscious effort to continue growing in your life of faith.

You may wonder where this column is going. I propose that something happened in your life to encourage

you to keep searching for spiritual inspiration on a regular basis.

What was it? Was it an especially meaningful reconciliation at some point? Was it someone you saw as a spiritual mentor, who challenged you and your

faith? Was it a parish mission speaker?

For me, it was during a high school senior retreat many years ago. The retreat was an extended weekend model where I truly embraced the message that I was lovable—right now, just as I am—not in some faraway time and place in the distant future when I would somehow become a perfect Christian.

And I also realized that I was gifted with many talents, and thereby should use these gifts within the greater communities around me. Through these actions, I understood I would find the most joy and self-fulfillment in life because only on this path would I be carrying out God's will.

My experience wasn't as dramatic as St. Paul's conversion in chapter nine of the Acts of the Apostles. But it did start me in a new direction on this journey

along the way where I began to take more responsibility in my spiritual development.

In Acts, we read Paul was knocked from a horse and temporarily left blind (Acts 9:8-9). Isn't it appropriate that he couldn't "see" properly until he started to follow Jesus?

I, like Paul, knew after that high school retreat that I had been changed. And some changes in life are permanent.

I applaud all of you in your attempts to grow in your life of faith. I wish each of you joy along your journey. Let us give thanks for those who have sown the seeds of faith in us. May those seeds yield 30, 60 and 100 fold!

(Richard Etienne has a degree in theology from Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad and resides in Newburgh, Ind.) †

Twenty Something/

Christina Capecchi

Digital detox: guard the mind, slow the pace

It was time. Time to get away, to unplug, to finally write that novel. Time to prove he could resist the barrage of



texts and tweets and notifications in order to focus his attention on a worthy endeavor.

So journalist Johann Hari booked a room on the tip of Cape Cod and made plans to go offline for three months.

He left his

electronic devices with a friend, printed a map of his destination since he would no longer be able to use phone navigation and boarded a ferry. He felt a twinge of panic, but it vanished when he arrived and gazed into the ocean.

"I felt then a sudden certainty—you only get these feelings a few times in a lifetime—that I had done absolutely the right thing," Johann wrote.

He strolled along the beach and through the streets, wandering into a pub where a group was gathered around a piano singing showtunes.

They ended, fittingly, with the Aladdin song "A Whole New World."

It took a couple weeks to re-orient, then the words poured out of him. In three months, he wrote 92,000 words of his novel. "It came back!" he realized. "My brain came back!"

Johann's digital detox compelled him to dive into neuroscience, interviewing experts on attention and flow. He learned about the value of meandering, of play and of natural sleep rhythms. He compiled his findings into a new book called *Stolen Focus: Why You Can't Pay Attention—and How to Think Deeply Again*.

It is a cultural indictment and a call to action. And for Catholics who believe in the interconnection of body, mind and soul, the book is a spiritual summons.

When I think about these three dimensions of self, one appears sorely neglected. Discussion of physical health and spiritual well-being—both mightily important—far outweighs the question of our mental health. Do we guard our minds? Do we understand the way screens are thwarting our ability to think, to contribute, to function?

We touch our phones on average 2,617 times a day. What does this mean?

If we believe our mind is a gift from God, we honor him by guarding it. The Church should take the lead. Our teachers, guidance counselors, youth ministers and priests must shine a light on mental health. They should provide guidelines for healthier habits and make real changes: assigning less homework, rescheduling school days to allow for more unstructured outdoor play, restructuring programs to allow for earlier bedtimes, reminding teens how to interact face-to-face, urging us all to turn off our phones.

When I ask Catholic school teachers how much sleep their teenaged students get, they tell me it's bad.

"Can you assign less homework?" I ask. "It's not that simple," they say.

But we must make a leap, adjusting our screentime and the structure of our days to establish more natural rhythms.

Workplaces that make fundamental shifts, such as implementing a four-day work week, reap huge benefits. Their employees are more rested, more connected to their families and more productive.

I don't have all the answers. I'm as afflicted as the next person. But I know there is a better way. I bet you do too. We can start by asking the right questions, swapping strategies and holding each other accountable. The stakes are high.

(Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn.) †

Fifth Sunday of Easter/Msgr. Owen F. Campion

The Sunday Readings

Sunday, May 15, 2022

- Acts of the Apostles 14:21-27
- Revelation 21:1-5a
- John 13:31-33a, 34-35



Once again in this Easter season, the Acts of the Apostles supplies the first reading for the Mass. It reports some of the missionary activities of Paul and his disciple Barnabas. Although eventually they parted ways, Paul and Barnabas visited several prominent cities in Asia Minor, the Roman empire of the first-century A.D.

While ancient traditions see all the Apostles as missionaries, as most of whom went far and wide to proclaim the Gospel, the Acts of the Apostles concentrates on Paul's efforts in missionizing.

The reading is more than a travelogue. It is a lesson about the faith of Paul and Barnabas and about their uncompromising determination to make Jesus known. It also reveals the conditions in which these two great figures in early Christianity lived.

As they spoke to Christians whom they visited, they warned these followers of Christ that hostility and difficulties faced them. Their warnings sprang from their own personal experiences.

Paul and Barnabas themselves met opposition and endured difficulties. It is not surprising that these two great champions of the Gospel faced hardships. The culture of the Roman empire absolutely was hostile to the values of the Gospel. The political order was becoming hostile as well.

Nevertheless, Paul and Barnabas were undaunted. They continued to move from city to city, from Christian community to Christian community, to reassure believers in Christ and to promote the Gospel.

Despite the risks and the more than occasional rejections, their faith inspired them and impelled them.

For the second reading, the Church this weekend offers a passage from the Book of Revelation. This book, the last book of the New Testament in the translations and versions that have been used for centuries, is highly poetic and symbolic. It is moving and very

often strikingly beautiful in its imagery, but often its symbolism is so involved or so unique to the first century that understanding the book is not easy without reading scholarly commentaries along with the text itself.

In this reading, the vision of heaven is symbolized by the holy city of Jerusalem—a transformed Jerusalem—and of God. It is a look into eternity and to the reward promised to those who love God.

St. John's Gospel is the source of the last reading. This is not a Resurrection narrative, but it is strongly reminiscent of the resurrection and of the Lord's death on Calvary.

Jesus obliquely refers to the crucifixion. He also refers to rising from the dead.

Eternal life is an option for humans who follow the Lord in obedience to God, in sacrifice and in faith. With Jesus, the faithful will die but also rise to eternal life.

Reflection

A month ago, the Church called us, with joy and the deepest faith, to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus after the terrible event of the crucifixion.

Gradually but unrelentingly, the Church has called upon us personally to respond to Jesus, to secure for ourselves the salvation brought to humanity by Jesus.

This weekend's readings proclaim the sacrificial death as well as the rising of Jesus from the dead, but they also call upon us to respond by following the Lord.

As the second reading from Revelation tells us, eternal life with God in heaven will be our reward.

While still in this life, we authentically become disciples by loving God, each other and all people as Jesus loved. In this divine love, Jesus died on Calvary as a sacrifice.

In God's plan, divine love triumphed when Jesus rose. We are not alone in our effort to be with God, to love as Jesus loved.

The Apostles are with us in their successors, who still teach us and strengthen us in the Church. †

Daily Readings

Monday, May 16

Acts 14:5-18
Psalm 115:1-4, 15-16
John 14:21-26

Tuesday, May 17

Acts 14:19-28
Psalm 145:10-13b, 21
John 14:27-31a

Wednesday, May 18

St. John I, pope and martyr
Acts 15:1-6
Psalm 122:1-5
John 15:1-8

Thursday, May 19

Acts 15:7-21
Psalm 96:1-3, 10
John 15:9-11

Friday, May 20

St. Bernardine of Siena, priest
Acts 15:22-31
Psalm 57:8-12
John 15:12-17

Saturday, May 21

St. Christopher Magallanes, priest, and companions, martyrs
Acts 16:1-10
Psalm 100:1b-3, 5
John 15:18-21

Sunday, May 22

Sixth Sunday of Easter
Acts 15:1-2, 22-29
Psalm 67:2-3, 5-6, 8
Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23
John 14:23-29

Question Corner/Fr. Kenneth Doyle

It is believed Jesus ascended to heaven near Jerusalem

(Editor's note: This column by Father Kenneth Doyle was originally published in 2021.)



Where did the Ascension take place? Matthew and Mark tell us that the Apostles are to go back to Galilee, but Luke says that they should stay in Jerusalem until Jesus has risen. (Kentucky)

On the top of the Mount of Olives outside of Jerusalem's Old City is a small hexagonal chapel that commemorates the site of the ascension of Jesus.

St. Luke narrates in the Acts of the Apostles how the disciples gathered with Jesus, and "as they were looking on, he was lifted up and a cloud took him out of their sight" (Act 1:9). Then, Luke notes, "they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath's journey away" (Acts 12).

In the weeks following his rising from the dead, Jesus appeared to the Apostles and disciples on a number of occasions, both in Jerusalem and in Galilee.

On Easter itself, he appeared to Mary Magdalene, to the women at the tomb, to Peter, to the two disciples on the road

to Emmaus and to the 10 Apostles in Jerusalem (when Thomas was not present).

A week later, when Thomas was with them, he appeared again to the Apostles in Jerusalem. Later, he appeared to seven disciples as they were fishing near the shore of the Sea of Tiberias (Jn 21:1) and to 11 disciples on a mountain in Galilee (Mt 28:16).

The ascension marks the final departure of Jesus for heaven following this series of apparitions. From then on, the disciples were to live by faith and communicate with Jesus through prayer and the sacraments.

As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* explains the sequence, "Christ's body was glorified at the moment of his resurrection, as proved by the new and supernatural properties it subsequently and permanently enjoys.

"But during the 40 days when he eats and drinks familiarly with his disciples and teaches them about the kingdom, his glory remains veiled under the appearance of ordinary humanity.

"Jesus' final apparition ends with the irreversible entry of his humanity into divine glory, symbolized by the cloud and by heaven, where he is seated from that time forward at God's right hand" (#659)

When is it proper to leave church at the end of Mass? Do you have to stay for the recessional hymn to end, or can we leave after the blessing, while the recessional is still being sung? (city and state withheld)

You should remain in church while the recessional hymn is being sung. Singing is a part of worship—particularly so if it is a hymn meant to be sung by the entire congregation.

It bothers me when I see people leaving church early—sometimes, alas, even right after Communion—in a rush to get to the parking lot.

What's the urgency, I think, and isn't God worth the extra few minutes? I have read—and I understand—that technically the Mass finishes when the priest blesses us and the deacon or priest tells us that the Mass is ended.

But for the sake of simple politeness, one ought not distract others in the congregation by leaving before communal worship is concluded.

I find it helpful if the priest remains at the altar for the first verse or two of the recessional hymn and structures it so that the procession of liturgical ministers reaches the back of church as that hymn is ending.

Ideally, of course, worshippers would then spend a few minutes in private, silent prayer of thanksgiving before leaving church.

On this side of heaven, we are never closer to the Lord than when we've just received him in the Eucharist. †

My Journey to God

What is a Mother?

By Greg Hublar

From the moment of conception, a mother is first and foremost a protector of her child. Every decision now made revolves around this new life—fragile, gentle, mild.

The life she has known she selflessly puts on hold. The love from within her soul empowers her to be so bold.

Denying herself of everyday pleasure, sacrifices she will make—she won't even measure.

Focused only on the time when she will finally hold this new life close to her chest,

she powers through sacrifices, the inconveniences, the pain and all the rest.

Finally, she takes her new child home, and until death will they part. This child continues to grow, but can never grow out of her heart.

She relishes the time they lovingly spend together, knowing this special time will certainly not last forever.

Now this child, long disguised as an adult, looks no different to her through the eyes of her heart.

She loves her child with nothing less than her whole heart,



for it is in this love she knows they will never be far apart.

So, what did God have in mind when he created the mother? Someone capable of loving a child like no other.

(Greg Hublar is a member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in New Albany. Photo: Pictured is a close-up of a tapestry depicting St. Gianna Beretta Molla that was hung during her May 16, 2004, canonization Mass.) (CNS photo by Daniele Colarieti, Catholic Press Photo)

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.

ADRIAN, John H., 99, Holy Spirit, Indianapolis, April 18. Father of Marianne Cooper, Theresa Helfrich, Susie Moore, Daniel, James and Joe Adrian. Grandfather of 19. Great-grandfather of 35.

BACH, Daniel, 82, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Richmond, April 27. Husband of Karen Bach. Father of Danielle Nance and Stephanie Wright. Brother of Phyllis Frederick, Larry and Tom Bach. Grandfather of two.

BARAHONA, Pedro Garcia, 57, St. Lawrence, Indianapolis, Feb. 14. Husband of Undina Acosta Ochoa. Father of Carlos, Pedro Luis and Rolando Garcia Acosta. Grandfather of five.

BECKER, Joyce, 88, St. Mary, New Albany, April 8. Mother of Jamie Becker, Tammalyne Cook, Traci Dykes, Timberly McKinley, Mark, Michael and Terri Youngs. Sister of David Stemle and Gale Stephens. Grandmother of 12. Great-grandmother of nine.

BOWLING, Martha A., 90, Holy Spirit, Indianapolis, April 5. Mother of Marie Davis, Becky Farmer and Karen Harber. Sister of Trudy McMasters, Marie Suiters and Leo Clouser. Grandmother of

five. Great-grandmother of five.
CARROLL, Charles E., 69, St. John Paul II, Sellersburg, April 23. Husband of Sue Carroll. Father of Erin Cullather and Melanie Zoeller. Brother of Mary Jo Davis, Judy Farmer, Kathy George, Mark and William Carroll. Grandfather of five.

DELUCIO, Paul A., 90, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Richmond, April 16. Husband of Romaine DeLucio. Father of Paula Ripberger, Joan Woodruff, Paul and Richard DeLucio. Brother of Sue Stallings and Robert DeLucio. Grandfather of 11. Great-grandfather of 24. Step-great-grandfather of two. Step-great-grandfather of four.

EATON, David R., 86, St. Lawrence, Indianapolis, Feb. 22. Husband of Rosemary Eaton. Father of Kathleen Ross, Elizabeth Scott, Daniel, David, Ronald and Timothy Eaton. Brother of James Eaton. Grandfather of 13. Great-grandfather of five.

ERB, Erwin C., 90, St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower), Indianapolis, April 12. Brother of Martha Roesch and Pauline Shikany. Uncle of several.

ESTER, Carl, 93, St. Mary, New Albany, April 6. Father of Carolyn Boyd, Katy Ester and Jennifer Hudelson. Brother of Carolyn Ester. Grandfather and great-grandfather of several.

FUENTES, Maricela, 43, Holy Spirit, Indianapolis, April 6. Wife of Roberto Fuentes. Mother of Lesly, Samantha and Michael Fuentes. Daughter of Pedro and Maria Romo. Sister of Dayana, Eduardo, Efrain, Isaias, Jesus and Suncy Romo.

FUHRMAN, Douglas J., 54, St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower), Indianapolis, April 9. Husband of Leigh Moore. Father of Cody and Nash Fuhrman. Brother of Cris Fuhrman.

GALLAGHER, Thomas F., 84, St. Joseph, Shelbyville, April 27. Father of Kelly Gallagher-Kiley and Sean

Gallagher. Grandfather of seven.

GARCIA RODRIGUEZ, Isabel, 46, St. Lawrence, Indianapolis, April 12. Wife of Vicente Rodriguez. Mother of Beatriz, Dailin, Destiny, Jacqueline and Jessica Rodriguez. Daughter of Eleanor Rodriguez. Sister of Silvia, Francisco, Raul and Rigoberto Garcia. Grandmother of four.

GARST, Elizabeth A., 78, St. John the Apostle, Bloomington, April 18. Sister of St. Joseph Sister Danielle, Margaret and Lewis Garst.

GESWEIN, Mary E., 94, Holy Family, New Albany, April 14. Mother of Francine Gettelfinger, Beverly Knear, Susie Naville, Kathy Wilt, Bob, Larry and Tony Geswein. Grandmother of 18. Great-grandmother of 32.

GOMEZ-CONTRERAS, Neri F., infant, St. Lawrence, Indianapolis, March 3. Son of Felipe Gomez-Barranco and Aide Contreras-Patiño.

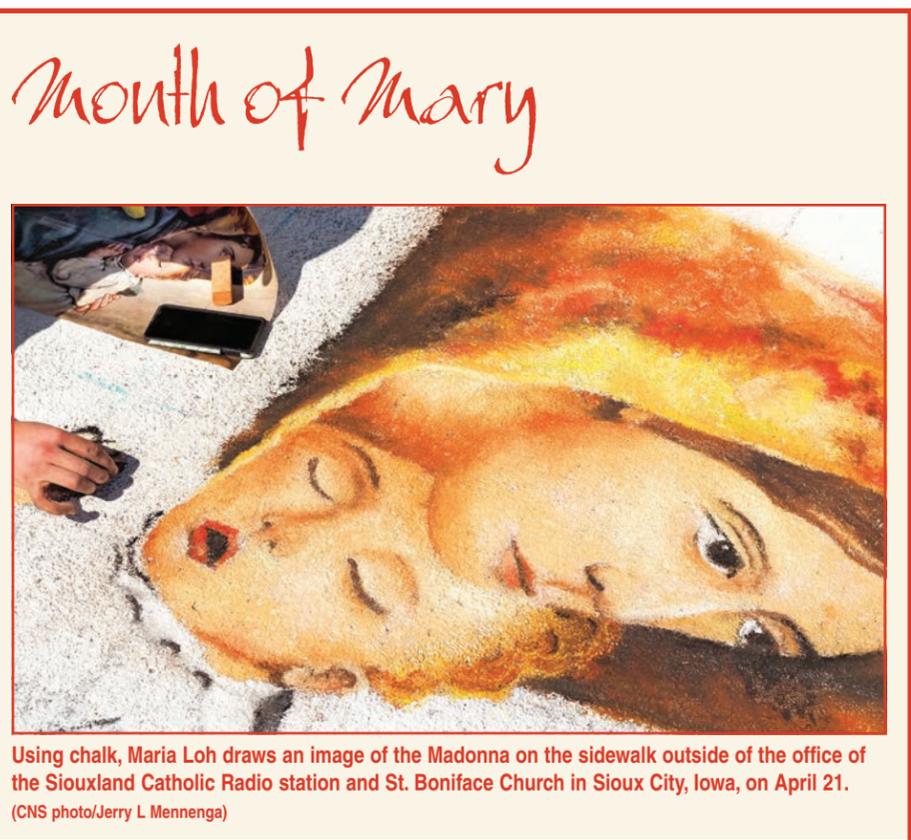
HALLAL, Nadim, 81, Holy Spirit, Indianapolis, April 12. Husband of Carole Hallal. Brother of Zakeyeh Normann, Eli and George Hallal. Uncle of several.

HARTMAN, Rita I., 70, All Saints Parish, Dearborn County, April 22. Mother of Erin and Jason Rosfeld. Sister of Janice Dieselberg, Carol Harsh, Sylvia Meeks, Shirley Schuman, Phyllis Voegel, Linda Zimmerman, Don and Jerry Hartman. Grandmother of six.

HILL, Phillip E., 70, St. Gabriel, Connerville, March 4. Father of Milah Marcum and Phillip Hill, Jr. Brother of Brenda Sims and Greg Hill. Grandfather of four. Great-grandfather of four.

KELLER, Joseph, 81, St. Pius X, Indianapolis, April 16. Father of Stephanie Kolbe and Gracie Whitlock. Brother of Charles and Robert Keller. Grandfather of seven.

KLEEMAN, Darlene J., 78, St. Lawrence, Indianapolis, Feb. 13. Mother of Dorothy Stephenson, Fabian and Rodney Kent.



Using chalk, Maria Loh draws an image of the Madonna on the sidewalk outside of the office of the Siouxland Catholic Radio station and St. Boniface Church in Sioux City, Iowa, on April 21. (CNS photo/Jerry L. Mennenga)

LEPPERT, Lenora M., 92, Holy Spirit, Indianapolis, April 16. Mother of Anna Marie Leppert-Largent, Mary Jane Linhart, Kathy Spencer, Sally and Robert Leppert. Sister of Shirley Koopman. Grandmother of six. Step-grandmother of two. Great-grandmother of six.

LINDSAY, Karen S., 64, St. Lawrence, Indianapolis, March 31. Mother of Amanda Kiener and Mark Foxworthy. Sister of Mark Strange. Grandmother of one.

MATES, Alma, 99, St. Michael the Archangel, Indianapolis, April 27. Mother of Michael II and Richard Mates. Grandmother of nine. Great-grandmother of four.

MCDANIEL, Joan, 88, St. Luke the Evangelist, Indianapolis, April 13. Mother of Maryann Sherbert, Lee Ann Yaggi, Elbert and Steven McDaniel. Sister of Jim Ries. Grandmother of two.

MORALES, Melinda A., 70, St. Bartholomew, Columbus, April 15. Wife of Jorge Morales.

PACE, Norman J., 83, Holy Spirit, Indianapolis, March 30. Husband of Mildred Pace. Father of Dawn Jayne and Deanna Lawson. Brother of Edith Ferrario and Danny Helms. Grandfather of five. Great-grandfather of three.

RITZI, Carole Anne, 78, All Saints Parish, Dearborn County, April 18. Mother of Deanna Lohrum and Debbie Ritzi. Sister of Donna Baas, Kathy Goldkamp, Sharon Neumeier and Richard Singer. Grandmother of five. Great-grandmother of seven.

ROOS, Betty, 92, St. Paul, Tell City, April 20. Mother of Tina Root, Pat Swiz, Michael and Scott Roos. Sister of Joy Aten and Gloria Schuetz. Grandmother of eight. Great-grandmother of four.

SENG, Doris, 77, St. Mary, Navilleton, April 15. Wife of Paul Seng. Mother of Sonya Schroeder, Danielle, David and Jean-Paul Seng. Sister of Raymond and Roger Rausch. Grandmother of five.

STIEL, Adam, 94, St. Lawrence, Indianapolis, April 10. Father of Sylvia Zinola.

WARD, Veronica, 90, St. Michael the Archangel, Indianapolis, April 22. Wife of Donald Ward. Mother of Julie Esterline, Joni Guest, Jennifer Hollingsworth, Charlie, Donald, Jr., and Michael Ward. Grandmother of 15. Great-grandmother of seven.

WATHEN, Gertrude C., 101, St. Charles Borromeo, Bloomington, April 20. Mother of Mary Demshar, Brenda Lutgens, Beverly Reich and Barbara Sylvester. Sister of Franciscan Sister of Mary Frieda and Oscar Rode. Grandmother of 23. Great-grandmother of 48. Great-great-grandmother of four.

WHITE, Nancy Lee, 83, St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Aurora, April 12. Mother of Larry and Mark White. Sister of Bill Kashman. Grandmother of four. Great-grandmother of seven. †

Pro-lifers in Canada, Australia rally around news Roe may be overturned

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (CNS)—Pro-life advocates in Canada are buoyed by news that the U.S. Supreme Court was poised to overturn its decision on *Roe v. Wade*, but said they expect limited immediate effect in the country.

In Australia, Archbishop Anthony Fisher of Sydney described as “very encouraging” the leaked draft majority opinion written by Justice Samuel Alito, which said “*Roe* was egregiously wrong from the start.”

The draft opinion that may strike down the 1973 U.S. abortion ruling, published by Politico on May 2, comes as Canada’s pro-life movement prepared for its largest annual events: the March for Life on May 12 in Ottawa, Ontario, as well as smaller gatherings in provincial capitals.

Canada’s Parliament passed legislation that decriminalized abortion on May 12, 1969.

Alito’s draft opinion stems from the case of *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*, a challenge to a 2018 Mississippi law banning abortion after 15 weeks of pregnancy.

The news from the U.S. is “already rallying the troops,” said Father Larry Lynn, pro-life chaplain for the Archdiocese of Vancouver. “The pro-abortion people are saying, ‘this could happen here,’ and ‘be on your guard’ and those sorts of things.”

He added, “I think you can mark this day as a time when a real battle has begun.”

Removing *Roe v. Wade* as precedent would put U.S. abortion law back in the hands of the states, which Father Lynn called “a perfect example of subsidiarity at work, a very Catholic principle, a foundation of Catholic social justice.”

While the 1973 U.S. ruling removed the abortion issue from the states and made it federal law, the draft majority opinion states that “*Roe v. Wade* was egregiously wrong in taking that power away from the states,” Father Lynn explained.

As for any political parallel in Canada, Father Lynn expressed doubt.

“I think that the political will in Canada to work against abortion is virtually nil,” he said. “All the governments since [Prime Minister Brian] Mulroney’s time have not been willing to touch it. They won’t even discuss ‘when does life begin.’”

In Sydney, Michael Quinlan, national head of the School of Law at the University of Notre Dame Australia,

told *The Catholic Weekly*, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Sydney, that it was “important to remember what happened in *Roe v. Wade*.”

“The court took medical and other evidence and it formed a view in which it divided up pregnancies into different trimesters and said that states had power to legislate in particular ways in relation to particular trimesters,” Quinlan explained.

“The minority judges in that case said their concern was what sounded very much like what you’d expect a parliament to do, to get into that kind of detail. And they were completely correct about that,” he said.

The case of *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* later abandoned the trimester divisions in favor of “fetal viability,” which Alito said “makes no sense” as a legal standard.

“Viability is the point at which the child has a possibility of surviving if delivered unharmed,” said Australian bioethicist Margaret Somerville.

“This raises the issue of whether a right to abortion is only the right of the woman to evacuate her uterus, or also includes having the child intentionally killed before delivery when it might have a chance of living—a very sensitive issue,” she said.

Noting that the World Health Organization reports 73 million abortions worldwide annually, Somerville cautioned that pro-life supporters most go beyond simply opposing abortion.

“We must offer support to vulnerable women who see abortion as their only feasible option for dealing with an unwanted pregnancy,” she said.

Archbishop Fisher said even though the U.S. Supreme Court decision is welcome, it “will not end the scourge of abortion in the United States,” but “will give each state the opportunity to prohibit or at least restrict this horrific practice that has claimed the lives of more than 60 million unborn children since *Roe v. Wade* was decided.” †

Online Lay Ministry Formation
The Archdiocese of Indianapolis has partnered with the University of Notre Dame and Catholic Distance University (CDU) to offer not-for-credit online theology classes:

- Earn certificate in Lay Ministry
- 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

REPORT SEXUAL MISCONDUCT NOW

If you are a victim of sexual misconduct by a person ministering on behalf of 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:

1 Ethics Point
Confidential, Online Reporting
www.archdioceseofindianapolis.ethicspoint.com or 888-393-6810

2 Victim Assistance Coordinator, Archdiocese of Indianapolis,
P.O. Box 1410, Indianapolis, IN 46206-1410

317-236-1548 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1548
victimassistance@archindy.org

Kentucky diocese to restore Communion under both species

OWENSBORO, Ky. (CNS)—U.S. Catholics' relationship with the Eucharist was largely altered with the COVID-19 pandemic, but some semblance of normalcy concerning Communion is about to return for Catholics in the Diocese of Owensboro.

Bishop William F. Medley of Owensboro announced in April that the suspension of Communion received on the tongue and wine from the chalice will be lifted on June 19 on the feast of *Corpus Christi*.

In his letter to the priests of the diocese, Bishop Medley said *Corpus Christi* this year would have additional significance as the COVID-19 restrictions on the Eucharist are lifted, and as the diocese joins the rest of the Catholics in the U.S. in a three-year eucharistic revival.

Like most regions of the U.S., the Diocese of Owensboro

suspended in-person liturgies in its parishes and shifted to livestreaming Mass for several months in 2020, making the reception of Eucharist difficult, if not impossible.

Once public worship was restored later in 2020, health guidelines required masking and social distancing in the pews during liturgies, as well as the suspension of receiving Communion on the tongue or receiving Communion wine from the chalice.

As COVID-19 cases steadily declined in the region, different restrictions—such as keeping the holy water fonts empty, masking requirements and social distancing—have been lifted.

In his letter, Bishop Medley expressed his gratitude to the priests "for your ceaseless care of the souls and hearts of the people we are called to serve."

"Amid all the turmoil of the pandemic, I believe that most people found an oasis of peace and hope in us—even through times of closed churches, limited worship, distancing and masking," he said.

The bishop emphasized the importance of catechesis in the parishes to educate the faithful on properly receiving Communion on the tongue, as well as retraining the extraordinary ministers of holy Communion to adequately cleanse the lip of the chalice after each communicant.

Lauren Johnson, co-coordinator of the diocese's Office of Worship, said early saints of the Church have had different preferences on how one receives the Eucharist, but that "both can show due reverence and devotion to Christ our Lord when the communicant receives with a disposition of humility and adoration," she said. †

GRADUATIONS

continued from page 3

Father Thomas Scecina Memorial High School in Indianapolis has a graduating class of 100 students.

The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 7 p.m. on May 26 at St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower) Church in Indianapolis.

The graduation ceremony will at 7 p.m. on May 27 at the school.

There are two class valedictorians:

Faith Bakemeyer, daughter of Beth and Brian Bakemeyer of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Indianapolis.

Isabelle Smith, daughter of Andy and Sarah Smith of Holy Spirit Parish in Indianapolis.

The class salutatorian is **Hope Bakemeyer**, daughter of Beth and Brian Bakemeyer of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish.

The archdiocese will be represented at the graduation by Archbishop Thompson.

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

The Baccalaureate Mass and graduation ceremony will begin at 5:45 p.m. on May 19 at Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Church in Indianapolis.

Oldenburg Academy of the Immaculate Conception in Oldenburg has a graduating class of 52 seniors.

The graduation ceremony will be at 1 p.m. on May 29 at the Chapel of the Sisters of St. Francis in Oldenburg.

The archdiocese will be represented by Archbishop Thompson during a Senior Mass at 1 p.m. on May 20 at the Chapel of the Sisters of St. Francis in Oldenburg.

Two students are currently in

contention for valedictorian and salutatorian honors, which will be announced during the senior awards ceremony on May 18. The students are listed in alphabetical order:

Kate Walke, daughter of James Walke and Tara Walke.

Carson Wolber, son of Mark Wolber and Melinda Collins of St. Michael Parish in Brookville.

Our Lady of Providence High School in Clarksville has a graduating class of 84 seniors.

The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 7 p.m. on May 27 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in New Albany.

The graduation ceremony will be at 5 p.m. on May 29 at the school.

There are two class valedictorians:

Dallas Bonnet, daughter of Gary and Rhonda Bonnet of St. John Paul II Parish in Sellersburg.

Zach Van Wie, son of John and Shelley Van Wie of St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Clarksville.

The class salutatorian is **Kaden Connin**, son of Clippert and Jane Connin of St. Anthony of Padua Parish.

The archdiocese will be represented at the graduation by Brian Disney, superintendent of Catholic schools.

Providence Cristo Rey High School in Indianapolis has a graduating class of 36 seniors.

The graduation ceremony will be at 6:30 p.m. on June 4 at Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School in Indianapolis.

The class valedictorian is **Are'Ana Easler**, daughter of Rhonda and William Easler.

The class salutatorian is **Cassie Mitchell**, daughter of Doreen Mitchell.

The archdiocese will be represented at the graduation by Watson.

Roncalli High School in Indianapolis has a graduating class of 287 seniors.

The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 6 p.m. on May 20 at the school.

The graduation ceremony will be at 9 a.m. on May 21 at the school.

The class valedictorian is **Anne Ameis**, daughter of Marie (Strack) and Michael Ameis of SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi Parish in Greenwood.

The class salutatorian is **Katrina Gangstad**, daughter of Joseph Gangstad and Danielle Turnak of St. Jude Parish in Indianapolis.

The archdiocese will be represented at the graduation by Archbishop Thompson.

Seton Catholic High School in Richmond has a graduating class of 13 seniors.

The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 1:30 p.m. on June 5 at St. Andrew Church in Richmond.

The graduation ceremony will follow at 3 p.m. on June 5 at the school.

The class valedictorian is **Lydia Reichley**, daughter of Dan and Dr. Tina Reichley of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Richmond.

The class salutatorian is **Camryn Ewing**, daughter of Justin and Amanda Ewing.

The archdiocese will be represented at the graduation by Msgr. Stumpf. †

Classified Directory

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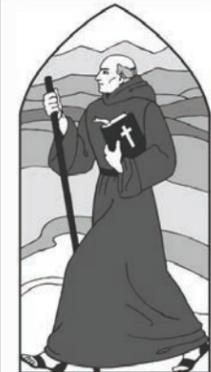


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St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church
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Carmel, IN 46033
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Meet our future deacons

On June 25, the fourth class of permanent deacons for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis will be ordained at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis. There are 15 men from across central

and southern Indiana who will be ordained.

This week's issue of *The Criterion* continues a series of profiles of these men that will run in the weeks leading up to that important day.



**Permanent
Deacons**

Archdiocese of Indianapolis



Tim Elder

Name: Tim Elder
Age: 62
Wife: Shari
Home Parish: St. Joseph Parish in Corydon
Occupation: U.S. Army Contracting Officer



Mark Henry

Name: Mark Henry
Age: 65
Wife: Brenda
Home Parish: St. Joan of Arc Parish in Indianapolis
Occupation: Retired Mechanical Engineer

Who are the important role models in your life of faith?

I graduated high school the same year St. Pope John Paul II became pope. I was always fascinated by his resolve to become a priest despite the presence of the Nazis in that part of the world. I joined the Air Force soon after graduation and was in Germany both before and after the fall of the Berlin Wall. St. Pope John Paul II's considerable moral authority laid an important framework for the eventual fall of the wall and reuniting East and West Germany. His leadership promoted human rights and peace to the entire world.

What are your favorite Scripture verses, saints, prayers and devotions?

My favorite Scripture is "The Judgment of the Nations" in the Gospel of Matthew, when "the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me'" (Mt 25:37-40).

My favorite saints are St. Francis of Assisi and St. Benedict. I grew up with St. Francis, and a lot of my faith was influenced by his teachings. I am an oblate at Saint Meinrad, and I owe my vocation to them. I learned how to pray and understand Scripture there. My favorite prayer is the rosary. I pray

it daily, and the first Saturday devotion is my favorite devotion.

Deacons often minister, formally or informally, to others in the workplace. How have you experienced that already and what do you anticipate doing in the future?

I am retiring soon. But in my current position, I sometimes participate in small prayer groups. I talk with co-workers making life decisions.

Why do you feel that God is calling you to become a deacon?

I have been praying the rosary daily for years. According to tradition, there are 15 promises associated with praying it, the first one being, "Those who faithfully serve me by the recitation of the rosary shall receive signal graces." I have received numerous graces, and I never realized it until my pastor pointed out all the signals I have received for years to becoming a deacon.

How will being ordained a deacon have an impact on your life and family?

My ordination coincides with my retirement. I'm excited about having more time with my family and more time to work in my ministries.

How do you hope to serve through your life and ministry as a deacon?

I have been a member of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul since 2015. As a deacon, I want to continue its mission dedicated to feeding, clothing, housing and healing individuals and families in our community who have nowhere else to turn for help. †

Who are the important role models in your life of faith?

I have respect for all priests, but there are two in the archdiocese I have great respect for. I think they would be embarrassed if mentioned by name. The other role model is St. Pope John Paul II. Not only was he a great thinker and holy man, he taught us how to deal with the crosses God sends us. John Paul was quoted as saying, "One cannot come off the cross." It was recently pointed out to me to see our struggles as a gift where we are given an opportunity to share in the suffering of Jesus.

What are your favorite Scripture verses, saints, prayers and devotions?

My favorite Scripture verses are Micah 6:8 and 2 Cor 12:8-10. As for favorite saints, I can relate to the personalities of Peter and Paul, but my favorite saint is Maximilian Kolbe. My father and uncle served in World War II. As I learned more about the war, it was men like Maximilian that showed the good side of humanity cannot be destroyed and will ultimately triumph. The Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Way of the Cross are my favorite prayer and devotion.

Deacons often minister, formally or informally, to others in the workplace. How have you experienced that already and what do you anticipate doing in the future?

When I was in the workplace, I was fortunate to have some colleagues who were devout Christians. We would discuss Scripture on many occasions, especially during travel. As I took on

different roles, many opportunities arose to share in the lives of others. Going forward as a deacon, we are hearing the word "accompaniment" and being present to the extent possible. I expect there will be plenty of opportunities to do just that in the future.

Why do you feel that God is calling you to become a deacon?

In the story of Abraham and Isaac, God asks to see if you would say "yes," but sometimes doesn't really want you to do something. God also speaks through others. It was through the suggestions of others and listening attentively to homilies and talks by my previous pastor that got me looking into it. There have been several obstacles, notwithstanding COVID-19. Then almost immediately in the moment, something or someone inevitably gave me pause to reconsider.

How will being ordained a deacon have an impact on your life and family?

It will definitely alter what I thought my retirement plans were going to be. I will have to balance ministry and family and that may be difficult at times. I have an understanding wife, and that is a blessing.

How do you hope to serve through your life and ministry as a deacon?

I hope to be fortunate enough to baptize infants. Everything begins with baptism, and in this sacrament we are fulfilling Jesus' Great Commission to make disciples of all nations. I also will like to take the Eucharist to those who are not able to get out. †

REVIVAL

continued from page 1

streets of downtown Indianapolis, leading to St. John the Evangelist Church where a holy hour and Benediction will take place.

From 1-4 p.m. on that same day, there will also be a "Festival of Faith, Family and Service" on the grounds of the Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center at 14th and Meridian streets.

During the festival, there will be a Father's Day lunch, starting at 1 p.m., that will be available for people who attend either Mass. There will also be a service project to help people in need, showing the connection of the Eucharist and the Church's mission to serve God and others.

"The real crown jewel of this whole experience is really going to be the procession," said Father Patrick Beidelman, executive director of the archdiocesan secretariat for Worship and Evangelization. "That's the thing in which most people physically will be able to participate."

He also noted that while the two Masses on *Corpus Christi* allow more people to be accommodated inside the Cathedral, they "also give us the opportunity to celebrate with some of the various cultures and language groups in the archdiocese."

Archdiocesan leaders also envision the lunch of the "Festival of Faith, Family and Service" as a way to feed the people who attend either Mass.

"For those who go to the 3 p.m. Mass, they will be invited to come to the festival before Mass," Father Beidelman said. "And since it's Father's Day, bring your dad, and we will have lunch provided. And there will be the opportunity for individuals and families to be hands-on with the service project.

"And those who come to the 1 p.m. Mass will be invited to do the same thing. They'll come and have a bite to eat, participate in the service project, and then either line the route of the procession or join the procession."

For the procession, Father Beidelman said that "a special invitation will be given to all young people making their first Communion this year to walk with the archbishop." This group will also be encouraged to wear their first Communion attire and will need to be accompanied by a parent, teacher or catechist.

A special invitation to join the archbishop will also be extended to people received into the Church at Easter this year.

Father Beidelman also noted that the intercultural diversity of the archdiocese will be "powerfully represented" in the Masses and during the eucharistic procession. And the youths and young adults of the archdiocese will also be called upon to make their presence known.

"We also hope to bring in people who have a particular heart for service, such as the St. Vincent de Paul Society," he said. "And we hope to call upon members of the Central Indiana *Cursillo* community and other people who can not only witness to the joy and the power of faith in their lives but also assist with hospitality, especially around the times of the Masses and the beginning of the procession."

Father Beidelman also emphasized that "a significant amount of attention is being given to safety and security for all who will participate in the procession."

These plans for the opening of the eucharistic revival have changed since an earlier announcement of the event, starting with moving it from Saturday, June 18, to Sunday, June 19. The new plan also is an expansion of the previous one.

The expanded approach to the June 19 event is a reflection of the reaction that archdiocesan leaders received to the original plan.

"The plan has been expanded because not only have our pastors hoped for more ways in which our people can participate, but we also get a sense this is a unique moment, and we're sensing some energy from the people as well," Father Beidelman said.

While the plan has grown, the hope for the June 19 event remains constant, archdiocesan leaders said.

"The Eucharist gives us life," said Christopher Walsh, chancellor for the archdiocese. "I know the archbishop is

focused on how the Eucharist impels us to take that life to others, particularly to the marginalized and the poor."

Father Beidelman noted, "I hope that this will be a new springtime of faith, a time in which people who are away from the Church feel a call to come back and [feel] welcomed. For those who are regular in their practice, I hope it will be a deepening of their experience of Christ and will be given an expression in the form of service, care for one another and strengthening our local communities." †

Opening of the eucharistic revival in the archdiocese

What: A celebration of the Eucharist that will include two Masses, a eucharistic procession and a "Festival of Faith, Family and Service." The celebration marks the beginning of a three-year eucharistic revival in the archdiocese, connecting it with dioceses across the country.

When: Sunday, June 19, from 1 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

Schedule:

• **Two options for Mass**, at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian Street, in Indianapolis. Archbishop Charles C. Thompson will be the principal celebrant at both Masses.

• **"Festival of Faith, Family and Service,"** from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on the grounds of the Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center at 14th and Meridian streets. Lunch will be provided during the festival, starting at 1 p.m. The festival will also feature a service project to help people in need.

• **Eucharistic procession**, beginning shortly after the end of the 3 p.m. Mass. Procession will weave through the streets of downtown Indianapolis, heading toward St. John the Evangelist Church where a holy hour and Benediction will take place. †