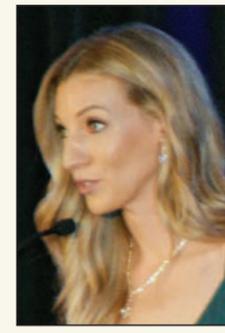




The

Criterion

Serving the Church in Central and Southern Indiana Since 1960



'Showing Christ's love'

St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities offers 'hope of a better tomorrow,' page 12.

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Archdiocesan Catholics show 'eucharistic love' in Corpus Christi processions

By Sean Gallagher

Since the Diocese of Vincennes, Ind. (which later became the Archdiocese of Indianapolis) was founded in 1834 to today, Catholics from around the world have come here to live out their faith.

An important public religious tradition by which they have done this is an outdoor eucharistic procession on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, traditionally known as *Corpus Christi*.

On June 19, the feast of *Corpus Christi* this year, Catholics from across central and southern Indiana will take part in a eucharistic procession in the heart of downtown Indianapolis from SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral to St. John the Evangelist Church. It is part of the start in the archdiocese of the three-year National Eucharistic Revival.

The June 19 procession will be the latest expression of the love and devotion that Catholics in the archdiocese have had for the Eucharist for 188 years, and their desire to pass that

See PROCESSIONS, page 3

Photo: Franciscan Father Frank Jasper leads members of Holy Family Parish in Oldenburg on May 24, 2006, in a Corpus Christi procession. The Batesville deanery faith community has had held such processions annually since 1846. (File photo by Mary Ann Garber)

Mass is offered for children who suffered double loss in Uvalde shooting

WASHINGTON (CNS)—At a May 26 Mass, the Catholic community of Sacred Heart Parish in Uvalde, Texas, comforted the four children of Joe and Irma Garcia.

Their first loss came on May 24 with the death of their mother, a teacher fatally shot during the attack at her elementary school, and it was followed by the death of their father two days later from a fatal heart attack.



Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller

Sacred Heart's pastor, Father Eduardo Morales, told Texas TV news station KSAT that the Garcias were regular Massgoers, always

willing to help with what the community needed. He said he wasn't surprised to hear that Irma Garcia's body had been found cradling her students.

"That's what she would be doing, you know ... they say, 'Will you lay your life down?' That's what she did," Father Morales said.

Irma Garcia was one of two adults killed that day, along with 19 children after an armed gunman entered Robb Elementary School in Uvalde.

San Antonio Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller, who has been accompanying the community of Uvalde, had met with the family earlier.

He had first celebrated Mass at Sacred Heart following the shooting for the parents who lost children, not knowing then that he would return to offer a second Mass at Sacred Heart for the children who lost parents. Like other members of the Catholic community gathered, he hugged the Garcia children and gave them a blessing.

Father Morales told KSAT that family members and others in the community had been accompanying the Garcia children, ages 23, 19, 15 and 13.

See SHOOTING, page 12

New Catholic drawn by helpful Catholics who were 'always smiling'

(Editor's note: This is the second in a series of articles chronicling the journey of six people who were received into the full communion of the Church at the Easter Vigil on April 16.)

By Natalie Hoefler

There is a saying, "It doesn't cost anything to give someone a smile." Johnette Grant will tell you that those free smiles can return some amazing dividends. They're what led her to the Catholic Church.

She experienced those smiles when she and her young children lived at Holy Family Shelter in Indianapolis for a time. And she received them from members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society when she turned to them for help.

"If I needed food or anything, it was always the Catholic organizations that helped," says Grant. "And they were always smiling,

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Johnette Grant, left, and her sponsor Gretchen Horne, members of Holy Angels Parish in Indianapolis, smile after Grant was received into the full communion of the Church during an Easter Vigil Mass at St. Rita Church in Indianapolis on April 16. (Submitted photo)

Faith at the 500



Archbishop Charles C. Thompson celebrates Mass on May 29 at the Trackside 19 Garage at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Assisting him is Father Joseph Feltz, pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in New Albany and a volunteer chaplain for IndyCar Ministry. Sweden's Marcus Ericsson won the 106th running of the Indianapolis 500 later that day. (Submitted photo by Charles Schisla)

NEW CATHOLIC

continued from page 1

saying, 'Let us pray with you.' 'I saw those smiles and thought, 'I need to be around them.' That's what drew me to the Catholics.'

She was received into the full communion of the Church as a member of Holy Angels Parish in Indianapolis during an Easter Vigil Mass celebrated on April 16.

But at 60, Grant was active in other faiths before finding her home among "those people who smile a lot."

'Drawn to that kind of love'

Grant's journey was steeped in faith from the start.

"My grandfather led a Sanctified Church, so I have a very religious and Christian background," she says.

In her teens, Grant's family moved and joined the Jehovah's Witness church. But "at 18 I began my own faith journey," she says.

She was a member of an Apostolic Church for a time, then became a member of Calvary Temple Church in Indianapolis.

"I was involved in a lot of ministries there," says Grant. "The evangelical church kept me going, but I still didn't feel filled up."

It was in between her time in those two churches that Grant was introduced to the "smiling people" of the Catholic faith.

"I came out of a divorce when I moved to Indianapolis" in the early 2000s, she says. "My children and I ended up in Holy Family Shelter.

"At the shelter, people were embracing us and praying with us. The people there were always smiling. When you're going through something and people were always smiling—that was huge for me. It made a big difference in my world."

So did the kindness. "It was the kindness that we mothers in the shelter always talked about," she recalls.

Grant experienced those same smiles and kindness when she turned to the St. Vincent de Paul Society for assistance in starting over after Holy Family Shelter helped her family find a home.

"I was always embraced by Catholics," she says. "They were always kind. I was drawn to that kind of love."

So began her attempt to become Catholic—four times.

Grant joined a Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) program and says she "was just fascinated with the information."

But issues with "lazy" landlords led to moving three times in as many years. The instability prevented her from completing RCIA.

In 2019, Grant started in RCIA at Holy Angels, then a car accident prevented her from continuing.

She attempted RCIA at Holy Angels again in 2020 via Zoom in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, but "I went through a lot that year, and my mind was not into joining."

In 2021, her third attempt at RCIA at Holy Angels proved to be the charm. At the Easter Vigil Mass on April 16, Grant at last joined the ranks of "smiling, kind" Catholics.

'It felt like home'

The more she learned in RCIA, the more Grant knew she'd found the right path.

"As I started going through the history and the faith life of Catholics, the value of Mass and the Eucharist, it felt like home," she says. "It was so fascinating to learn about all of it, and there's always more. It defined the things I'd been taught."

Grant says the Catholic Church "allows me to go deeper. It's so much more than



Public Schedule of Archbishop Charles C. Thompson

June 3–17, 2022

June 3 – 10:30 a.m.
Pre-Ordination brunch with deacons, Indianapolis

June 3 – 7 p.m.
Graduation ceremony at Cardinal Ritter Jr./Sr. High School, Indianapolis

June 4 – 10 a.m.
Priesthood ordinations at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, Indianapolis

June 5 – 10 a.m. CST
Priesthood ordinations at Saint Meinrad Archabbey, St. Meinrad

June 5 – 5 p.m.
Mass for Catholic Health Association Assembly at JW Marriott, Indianapolis

June 6 – 6 p.m.
Confirmation for the youths of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish at Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Church, Indianapolis

June 8 – 10 a.m.
Indianapolis Eucharistic Revival Planning Team meeting at Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center, Indianapolis

June 9 – 8:15 a.m.
Virtual Judicatories meeting

June 9 – 10 a.m.
Leadership Team meeting at Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center

June 9 – 1 p.m.
Virtual USCCB Committee on Cultural Diversity meeting

June 9 – 5:45 p.m.
Serra Club Mass and Membership Dinner at Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary, Indianapolis

June 11 – 10 a.m.
Archdiocesan Pastoral Council meeting at St. Bartholomew Parish, Columbus

June 12-17
USCCB Special Assembly meeting in San Diego, Cal.

surface rituals, more than just taking Communion.

"Everything has meaning—it's not just showing up on Easter and partaking and then all year nothing else going on. There's the liturgical seasons, like Lent and Advent. That's what really takes me to another level, the depth of it all."

Grant chose St. Teresa of Calcutta as her confirmation name. It was the saint's quality as "a genuine giver" that impressed her.

"That was fascinating to me, that someone actually dedicated their life to just loving other people," she says.

'I just want to give'

Giving and loving others are traits Grant identifies with. Having been on the receiving end of so much kindness and generosity, she now feels called to give back through a non-profit organization she founded in 2019.

While living in Holy Family Shelter, Grant—who already had a master's degree in accounting—was working on a capstone project for her second master's degree, this time in strategic business.

"For my capstone, I said I wanted to start a non-profit," she recalls. "I wanted to pay it forward."

She opened a transitional homeless shelter for veterans in 2007, but eventually had to close it.

Grant began teaching as an adjunct professor at various colleges. In 2019 she started a new non-profit called TEACH (Taking Education and Challenges Higher) Resource Group.

The organization has two components: the first is helping those in need by distributing donated items she receives from Walmart and other partners. The second is teaching entrepreneurial classes.

The recipients of the donations are "several youth-oriented non-profits" she's partnered with, says Grant.

For example, one non-profit seeks to reunite children with their incarcerated fathers, putting on events in prisons. Another teaches youths how to assemble bikes. Her organization has also supplied food, book bags and holiday items to churches.

On the educational side, her organization will start offering entrepreneurial classes at a Glick Company income-based "success center" in August through a partnership with the company.

"I want to bless others the way I was blessed," says Grant, who continues to work part-time teaching virtual business courses for Ivy Tech Community College and doing field research with the University of Michigan—while working toward earning her doctorate in education in 2024.

"I just want to give," she continues. "I just want others to smile."

Just as the Catholics she encountered when she needed help offered her smiles and kindness.

"They were always there, always serving, and they did it from the heart," says Grant. "The kindness I felt carried me a long way." †



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PROCESSIONS

continued from page 1

on to the next generation and the broader community.

'We had the body and blood of Christ'

The first recorded *Corpus Christi* procession that took place at Holy Family Parish in Oldenburg was in 1846, just 12 years after the Diocese of Vincennes was founded.

German Catholic immigrants who settled in the new village that year began a tradition that has continued uninterrupted to this day that is rooted in the centuries-old custom of eucharistic processions in Germany.

That includes a three-volley shotgun salute by a *Schiesser Kompanie* ("Shooter Company") to honor the Trinity during Benediction at altars along the route that winds its way along the borders of the town.

Holy Family parishioner Mary Gehring has helped to coordinate the procession for more than 20 years and is proud of how it has continued every year, even in 2020 at the start of the coronavirus pandemic.

"We've kept it going—rain, shine or major disease," Gehring said. "We've not missed a year, through the Civil War, World War I or World War II."

She noted that the procession isn't simply an expression of civic pride in Oldenburg, but rooted deeply in the Catholic faith.

"It really reflects what we believe in so much," Gehring said. "The town was founded on the Catholic faith. That was what kept it going, the people who made it the beautiful little village that it is, through fires, floods and famines."

"We had the body and blood of Christ. And we've done this every year to renew our faith."

Still, during her time in organizing the procession, Gehring has said that there have been challenges that have put the longstanding custom into question.

"But I've always come back and prayed,

'OK God. This is for you. We believe in you. Help us out a little here,' she said. "And he does. I don't worry about it anymore."

Passing on a gift

William Selm, a member of St. Joan of Arc Parish in Indianapolis, grew up as a member of St. Michael Parish in Brookville. He had family members who lived in Oldenburg going back to the Civil War.

So, each year in his youth he and his family would drive to Oldenburg for the *Corpus Christi* procession. His memories of "the incense, the singing, the bell ringing and the shot guns" remain sharp decades later.

"The *Corpus Christi* tradition in Oldenburg was a gift to me, a real gift," said Selm. "And it wasn't just my family's ties to Oldenburg, but the great tradition of the Church, especially with German immigrants. It was a wonderful thing."

Selm passed that gift on to his children when he and his family would return to Oldenburg to take part in the annual procession.

See related story, page 10.

In more recent years, though, he has helped to

organize *Corpus Christi* processions at St. Joan of Arc.

"It's a dream come true," Selm said. "I'm almost moved to tears. Last year, we had several hundred parishioners processing. It was humbling, really."

"It's a public expression of our love and devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. Then, when you take it to the streets, you're sharing that."

'Eucharistic love'

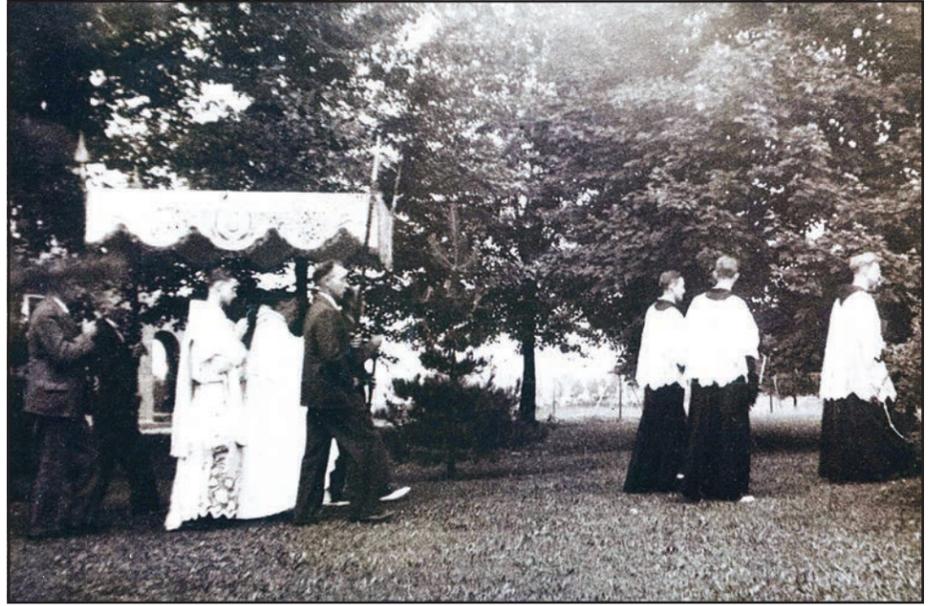
When Father Michael Keucher was ordained a priest in 2015, he was determined that he would have a *Corpus Christi* procession every year.

That wasn't because of his experience of such processions growing up. He knew very little about *Corpus Christi* processions until he spent a summer in Guatemala as a seminarian.

One parish in the city where he was staying organized a procession for *Corpus Christi* Sunday.

"That procession closed down the entire city for that weekend," Father Keucher recalled. "And then each church in the city would take a turn having a procession for the next several weekends."

Taking part in those processions



Franciscan Father Romuald Mollaun carries the Blessed Sacrament in a monstrance in 1938 during a *Corpus Christi* procession at Holy Family Parish in Oldenburg. Father Romuald grew up in the Batesville Deanery faith community, which has held *Corpus Christi* processions annually since 1846. (Submitted photo)

opened his heart to the power of this Catholic tradition.

"It was so beautiful, Jesus hitting the streets," Father Keucher said. "You had such a large crowd literally following our Lord. People on the side of the streets would kneel and put their hands in the air as soon as they caught sight of the Blessed Sacrament. That was eucharistic love."

He's organized *Corpus Christi* processions each year since he became pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Shelbyville in 2017. Hundreds of parishioners take part in the procession, many of them Hispanic Catholics like those he witnessed in Guatemala.

Father Keucher is glad to see the love for the Eucharist so evident in Hispanic Catholics in Shelbyville. It is also being renewed in the parishioners whose families have been rooted in St. Joseph for generations.

"The public expression of our faith is part and parcel of who we are as Catholics," he said. "It has to include that. It's inspiring for me to see so many parishioners really want that. That's who we are as Catholics."

James Velez, coordinator of Hispanic ministry at St. Joseph, has grown in his love of the Eucharist since becoming a member of the Batesville Deanery faith community in 2005 and has grown to appreciate the same devotion in his fellow Latino Catholics in Shelbyville.

"They want to share what they have," Velez said. "They don't want their customs to die off. This is an immigrant country. That's the beauty of the United States, how we incorporate all those different cultures and their ethnic background into what we are as a community."

For St. Joseph parishioner America Diaz, the most important people she wants to pass on a love of the Eucharist to is her children. Taking them to the annual

Corpus Christi procession in Shelbyville is one way of doing that.

"It's really important for us," Diaz said of the annual procession. "We enjoy doing it. Every time we do it, I think we have the Holy Spirit coming down upon every person. It's amazing."

"It's important to let them know that it's Jesus [we adore] on *Corpus Christi*. We need that. If you teach that when they're little, then they'll grow up with it."

Allowing Jesus 'to take center stage'

This year, St. Joseph Parish will have its *Corpus Christi* procession on the evening of June 18 so that parishioners can take part in the procession in Indianapolis the following day.

Father Keucher is helping to coordinate the June 19 procession and is looking forward to the Blessed Sacrament being taken in procession throughout the streets of downtown Indianapolis.

"The possibilities with this procession are beautiful," he said. "It's going to be a lovely witness to the biggest city in Indiana of the Church's love of the Eucharist."

"It's a good way to start the Eucharistic Revival in such a public way, to allow Jesus to take center stage on the streets with us following him and kneeling along the side."

After seeing the beauty of *Corpus Christi* processions in Shelbyville, Velez is excited about experiencing it on the streets of Indianapolis.

"I'll be there and I'm promoting it here at St. Joseph," Velez said. "It's going to have a huge impact with so many people who will see the faith of people walking with the Blessed Sacrament."

"It may steer their hearts to come to or come back to the Church or to just spend an hour with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament."

(For more information about the start of the National Eucharistic Revival in Indianapolis on June 19, visit eucharisticrevivalindy.org.) †



Father Michael Keucher blesses with the Blessed Sacrament members of St. Joseph Parish in Shelbyville on June 23, 2019, in Benediction during a *Corpus Christi* procession at the Batesville Deanery faith community. (File photo by Sean Gallagher)



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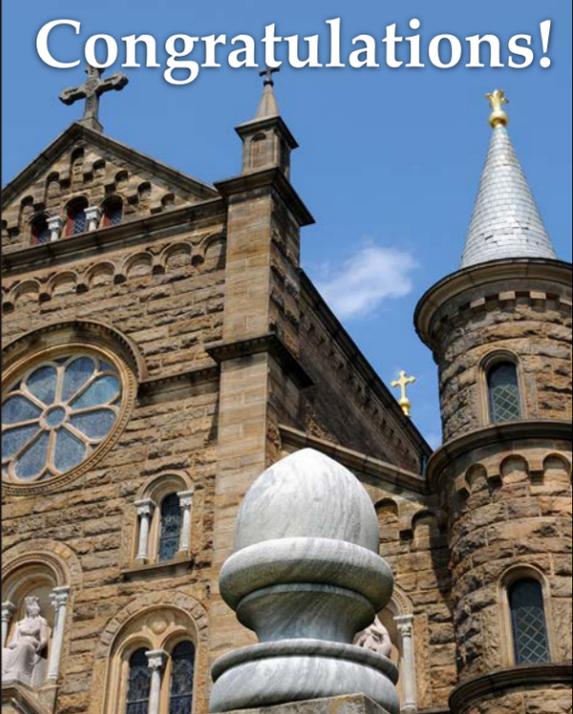
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Editorial

More unspeakable tragedies and our response as people of faith

There are no words that properly express the devastating grief, anguish and pain that resulted from another mass shooting—this time at an elementary school in Texas. It occurred only days after a senseless, racially-motivated shooting at a Buffalo, N.Y., supermarket on May 14 that killed 10 people, the majority of them Black.

Tears again flow for families, a community, our nation and our world as we now mourn the deaths of 19 children and two teachers on May 24 at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas.

How can a troubled 18-year-old shoot his grandmother, then drive a few miles and minutes later gun down innocent children and teachers who were two days from ending the 2021-22 school year? How can the teen so easily obtain an AR-15 rifle and an arsenal of ammunition to carry out such heinous actions?

There are no easy answers to what took place on that horrific day in Texas, but we, as a society, need to address the actions that lead to such tragedies that have become too commonplace in America. And they must be addressed now.

“When will these insane acts of violence end?” asked San Antonio Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller in a statement. “It is too great a burden to bear. The word tragedy doesn’t begin to describe what occurred. These massacres cannot be considered ‘the new normal.’”

We believe the majority of humankind values all human life from conception to natural death, so it can never be considered “normal” when lives are lost through the evil actions of an unstable individual. And we especially cry tears of anguish when the innocent are the victims.

“The Catholic Church consistently calls for the protection of all life; and these mass shootings are a most pressing life issue on which all in society must act—elected leaders and citizens alike,” said Archbishop García-Siller. “We pray that God comfort and offer compassion to the families of these little ones whose pain is unbearable.”

Chieko Noguchi, director of public affairs for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said the organization joined Archbishop García-Siller in prayers for the Uvalde community.

“There have been too many school shootings, too much killing of the innocent. Our Catholic faith calls us to pray for those who have died and to bind the wounds of others,” she said in a statement. “As we do so, each of us also needs to search our souls for ways that we can do more to understand this epidemic of evil and violence and implore our elected officials to help us take action.”

As in other recent mass casualty incidents—including the Buffalo tragedy—many are justifiably pointing to the ongoing gun control debate, which has again come to the forefront because the Uvalde shooter so easily obtained weapons and ammunition. Others bring mental health to the conversation and ask why the warning



Rose Conner, a substitute teacher in Uvalde, Texas, hugs a woman outside Sacred Heart Catholic Church on May 25, one day after a gunman killed 19 children and two teachers at Robb Elementary School. (CNS photo/Angela Piazza, USA TODAY NETWORK via Reuters)

signs shown were not properly addressed. Still others point to social media and its indiscriminate use by young people and how red flags should have been raised if more attention were given to questionable and unhealthy rhetoric on those platforms. It now also must be paramount to increase school security and to have schools follow more consistent measures that will ensure the safety of all students and staff.

While these issues must be addressed, we also believe now is a time for society to truly embrace its call to be missionary disciples who value every person in their thoughts, words and deeds and to take that tenet to heart with every breath we take.

We see without fail how tragedy and the resulting heartbreak brings the majority of humanity together, but we need to remind ourselves—as families, as communities, as a nation and world—that we are our brothers’ and sisters’ keepers. We need to look for warning signs when we see unhealthy behavior in family, friends, acquaintances on social media—anyone who crosses our path.

Every day, we are called to love our neighbor no matter their skin color, nationality, political affiliation or faith tradition. Too many continue putting up walls of divisions instead of working on building up the body of Christ. As we work to find solutions, we need to remember we were each made in the image and likeness of God—from the baby in his mother’s womb to the elderly in an assisted living facility, to the immigrant looking for a new life to the prisoner on death row—we all make up the body of Christ.

Of course, we know as people of faith that prayer must be at the top of our list in our response to these days that will haunt our nation for years to come.

We pray for the families affected by these unimaginable tragedies in Uvalde and Buffalo, for the communities and for all impacted. We also pray for those who will work—politicians, law enforcement and all called upon—on addressing how to make sure something like this never happens again.

For our communities, for our nation, for humanity, for our children, please God, hear our prayers.

—Mike Krokos

Reflection/Sean Gallagher

Highs and lows in racing and in life can lead to humility, gratitude

The Indianapolis 500 is a grinding marathon. Drivers and their teams have to push themselves and their cars to their utmost for 500 miles over nearly three hours to even have a chance to finish first.



But in most cases, all of their combined racing knowledge and experience will come up short. After all, only one driver can win the race.

What keeps the other 32 drivers out of the speedway’s Victory Lane?

Sometimes it’s race-changing moments that are out of their control. At other times, it’s the tiniest of mistakes.

Both happened last Sunday. IndyCar’s 2021 series champion Alex Palou was the second fastest qualifier for this year’s Indy 500 and traded the lead often in the early part of the race with his teammate and pole sitter Scott Dixon.

But a crash that occurred just when Palou was coming in for his second pit stop closed pit lane and forced him to drive through it without getting any service.

Low on fuel, Palou was forced to come down the closed pit lane again to refuel. That resulted in him being assessed a drive-through penalty. This quirk in timing, wholly out of Palou’s control, led to him going from the leaders in the race to the back of the pack.

Dixon was at the top of the field for much of the race, leading 95 of its 200 laps. No other driver, except Palou, could challenge him.

But when he went in for his last pit stop late in the race, Dixon drove just above the speed limit for the pit lane and was assessed a drive-through penalty, which put him at the back of the field. He finished in 21st place.

The racer who benefitted from these misfortunes was winner Marcus Ericsson. But the race’s Borg Warner Trophy didn’t just fall into his lap. He was the fifth fastest qualifier for the race and drove hard all Sunday to put

himself into a position to take advantage of Dixon’s late downfall.

What happened in the 106th Indy 500 happens to all of us. We set goals large and small. Our hard work to achieve them is sometimes thwarted by circumstances out of our control or just small mistakes that have effects that seem out of proportion.

This can naturally lead to the kind of tremendous frustration that Palou and Dixon experienced last Sunday. But if we’re wise, it can lead us to a humble recognition of the mysterious work of God’s providence in our lives.

Dixon has experienced tremendous success in his racing career, winning six IndyCar series championships and 51 races, third only to racing legends A.J. Foyt and Mario Andretti. He even won the Indy 500 back in 2008.

That racing excellence is often overshadowed by Dixon’s checkered (but mostly not checkered flag) record at Indianapolis. While he’s been the race’s pole sitter five times, including this year, he’s more known for the hard luck and mistakes that’s kept him from winning.

No matter how frustrating his record in the Indy 500 might be, Dixon can humbly find satisfaction in the success he’s experienced elsewhere.

Likewise, while Ericsson can be justifiably proud of the effort he made to win the Indy 500, an easy examination of the overall causes of his victory should lead him to humility, too. Circumstances wholly out of his control had to happen for him to win.

Humility, strengthened by God’s grace and a prayerful examination of our lives, can lead us to a more thorough and long-lasting satisfaction for the successes we’ve experienced, but maybe not originally planned for ourselves.

More importantly, humility can lead us to

gratitude for the many ways that God works in our lives that are entirely his loving gift to us.

(Sean Gallagher is a reporter and columnist for The Criterion.) †

Humility, strengthened by God’s grace and a prayerful examination of our lives, can lead us to a more thorough and long-lasting satisfaction for the successes we’ve experienced, but maybe not originally planned for ourselves.

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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.

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Christ the Cornerstone

The Holy Spirit gives us the gift of joy

“And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:2-4).

This Sunday, June 5, we celebrate Pentecost Sunday, the day that the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus’ disciples in “tongues as of fire” showering them with his abundant gifts. On that day, the timid, tongue-tied followers of the risen Lord became bold, outspoken and eloquent witnesses whose hearts were on fire with love for God and for all God’s family, the Church.

As Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI once observed in a homily for Pentecost Sunday, Jesus is “the One who is the Truth that gives life to men and women. What he gives is not just any kind of joy but joy itself, a gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Joy itself, which is the Holy Spirit’s gift, is what we celebrate on Pentecost Sunday. In a world too often characterized by darkness and the depths of despair, the Holy Spirit comes to us and fills our hearts with gladness.

If we open our hearts, he dispels all sadness, all cynicism and all bitterness, and he replaces them with joy itself.

According to Catholic tradition, the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of God. But as Pope Benedict makes clear in the quote above, Jesus himself is the Holy Spirit’s greatest gift.

Jesus is joy itself, the fulfillment of all our hopes and dreams. Jesus is given to us in the word of God, in the sacraments, and in our union with God and one another in Christ’s Body, the Church, which carries on the ministry of Jesus in the world.

All of the manifestations of Christ’s presence in our lives are made possible by the Holy Spirit, the Advocate sent by the Father to teach, guide and encourage us as missionary disciples of Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

When we say that joy itself, the person of Jesus, is the Holy Spirit’s greatest gift, we are not downplaying the importance of all the other gifts. In fact, as St. Paul frequently reminds us, our unity as members of the Body of Christ is enriched by our diversity as men and women who are blessed with

“different spiritual gifts.” As St. Paul observes:

“There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit” (1 Cor 12:4-7).

Each different gift given to one or more individuals in the Church serves a unique purpose. The “same Spirit” provides for all of the diverse ministries that we carry out in Jesus’ name, including praying, teaching, healing, counseling, working for justice, peacemaking and much more. All of the spiritual and corporal works of mercy have their source in the Holy Spirit’s activity in the world. It is the Spirit who prompts us to be tender, merciful and just, and only by the sanctifying grace that comes into our souls through him, can we “be Christ” for others.

During these troubled times, when all experience the world’s darkness and the profound disunity that breaks apart families, communities and nations, we need the gifts of the Holy Spirit more than ever. We need to learn how

to forgive others, how to engage in respectful dialogue with people we passionately disagree with, and how to pray for our enemies. We need the grace of the Holy Spirit to help us be women and men for others—especially when everything in our culture tells us that we should only look out for ourselves.

These words from the sequence for Pentecost express our desire for the transforming grace that the Holy Spirit provides:

*Come, Holy Spirit, come!
Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
On our dryness pour your dew;
Wash the stains of guilt away:
Bend the stubborn heart and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray.*

We need the Spirit’s help to “bend stubborn hearts” and bring tenderness, justice and peace to situations that divide us from one another. We need healing and renewed strength to “wash the stains of guilt away” through compassion, forgiveness and kindness. Above all, we need joy itself, the person of Jesus Christ, who loves us and sets us free.

A blessed Pentecost Sunday to all. †



Cristo, la piedra angular

El Espíritu Santo nos regala el don de la alegría

“De repente, vino del cielo un ruido como el de una violenta ráfaga de viento y llenó toda la casa donde estaban reunidos. Se les aparecieron entonces unas lenguas como de fuego que se repartieron y se posaron sobre cada uno de ellos. Todos fueron llenos del Espíritu Santo y comenzaron a hablar en diferentes lenguas, según el Espíritu les concedía expresarse” (Hch 2:2-4).

Este domingo, 5 de junio, celebramos el domingo de Pentecostés, el día en que el Espíritu Santo descendió sobre los discípulos de Jesús en “lenguas como de fuego,” colmándolos de sus abundantes dones. Aquel día, los tímidos seguidores del Señor resucitado se convirtieron en testigos audaces, francos y elocuentes, cuyos corazones ardían de amor por Dios y por toda la familia de Dios, la Iglesia.

Como observó una vez el papa emérito Benedicto XVI en una homilía del domingo de Pentecostés, Jesús es “Aquel que es la Verdad que da vida a los hombres. Lo que da no es cualquier tipo de alegría, sino la alegría misma, un don del Espíritu Santo.”

La alegría misma, que es el don del Espíritu Santo, es lo que celebramos el domingo de Pentecostés. En un mundo caracterizado con demasiada frecuencia por la oscuridad y las profundidades

de la desesperación, el Espíritu Santo viene a nosotros y llena nuestros corazones de alegría. Si abrimos el corazón, él disipa toda la tristeza, todo el cinismo y toda la amargura, y los sustituye por la alegría misma.

Según la tradición católica, los siete dones del Espíritu Santo son: sabiduría, entendimiento, consejo, fortaleza, conocimiento, piedad y temor de Dios. Pero como el Papa Benedicto aclara en la cita anterior, Jesús mismo es el mayor don del Espíritu Santo.

Jesús es la alegría misma, el cumplimiento de todas nuestras esperanzas y sueños. Jesús se entrega en la Palabra de Dios, en los sacramentos y en nuestra unión con Dios y entre nosotros en el Cuerpo de Cristo, la Iglesia, que lleva a cabo el ministerio de Jesús en el mundo.

Todas las manifestaciones de la presencia de Cristo en nuestra vida son posibles gracias al Espíritu Santo, el Abogado enviado por el Padre para enseñarnos, guiarnos y animarnos como discípulos misioneros de Jesucristo nuestro Redentor.

Cuando decimos que la alegría misma, la persona de Jesús, es el mayor don del Espíritu Santo, no estamos restando importancia a todos los demás dones. De hecho, como san Pablo nos recuerda a menudo, nuestra unidad como miembros del Cuerpo de Cristo se ve enriquecida por nuestra diversidad

como hombres y mujeres que han sido bendecidos con “diversos dones espirituales.” Tal como lo plantea san Pablo:

“Ahora bien, hay diversos dones, pero un mismo Espíritu. Hay diversas maneras de servir, pero un mismo Señor. Hay diversas funciones, pero es un mismo Dios el que hace todas las cosas en todos. A cada uno se le da una manifestación especial del Espíritu para el bien de los demás” (1 Cor 12:4-7).

Cada uno de los diversos dones otorgados a uno o más individuos en la Iglesia sirve para un propósito único. El «mismo Espíritu» previó los diversos ministerios que llevamos a cabo en el nombre de Jesús, incluida la oración, la enseñanza, la sanación, el asesoramiento, el trabajo por la justicia, la paz y mucho más. Todas las obras de misericordia espirituales y corporales tienen su fuente en la actividad del Espíritu Santo en el mundo. Es el Espíritu quien nos impulsa a ser tiernos, misericordiosos y justos, y únicamente por la gracia santificante que llega a nuestras almas a través de Él, podemos “ser Cristo” para los demás.

En estos tiempos difíciles, en los que todos experimentamos la oscuridad del mundo y la profunda desunión que rompe las familias, las comunidades y las naciones, necesitamos más que

nunca los dones del Espíritu Santo. Tenemos que aprender a perdonar a los demás, a entablar un diálogo respetuoso con las personas con las que tenemos fuertes diferencias y a rezar por nuestros enemigos. Necesitamos la gracia del Espíritu Santo para que nos ayude a ser mujeres y hombres para los demás, especialmente en medio de una cultura que nos dice que solamente debemos velar por nuestros propios intereses.

Estas palabras de la Secuencia de Pentecostés expresan nuestro deseo de recibir la gracia transformadora que proporciona el Espíritu Santo:

*Ven, Espíritu Santo,
Lava lo que está manchado,
riega lo que es árido,
cura lo que está enfermo.
Doblega lo que es rígido,
calienta lo que es frío,
dirige lo que está extraviado.*

Necesitamos la ayuda del Espíritu para “doblegar lo que es rígido” y llevar la ternura, la justicia y la paz a las situaciones que siembran diferencias. Necesitamos curación y fuerza renovada para “lavar las manchas de la culpa” mediante la compasión, el perdón y la bondad. Por encima de todo, necesitamos la “alegría misma,” la persona de Jesucristo, que nos ama y nos hace libres.

¡Un bendecido Domingo de Pentecostés para todos! †

Events Calendar

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

June 6
St. Jude Parish Hospitality Room, 5353 McFarland Rd., Indianapolis. **Bereavement Group**, 7 p.m., last of six sessions, attending all sessions recommended but not required. Information: 317-786-4371 or pcollins@stjudeindy.org.

June 8
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.

June 9-11
Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. **Parish Festival**, Thurs. 5-11 p.m., Fri. 5 p.m.-midnight, Sat. 2 p.m.-midnight. Information: 317-888-2861 or info@olgreenwood.org.

June 10-11
Virtual Catholic Homeschool Conference, Fri. 3:30-8:30 p.m., Sat. 11 a.m.-6:30 p.m., sponsored by Homeschool Connections, \$38.97. Information and registration: catholichomeschoolconference.com.

Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis. **Italian Street Festival**, 5-11 p.m., more than 25 Italian meats, pastas, salads, desserts, homemade spaghetti sauce, pizza, cannoli, cheesecake, Italian beer and wine, live music, dancing, religious procession Sat. 6:45 p.m., 7 p.m. Mass,

free parking in Eli Lilly lots on East and New Jersey streets, free admission. Information: 317-636-4478 or indyitalianfest.org.

June 14
St. Pius X Parish, 7200 Sarto Dr., Indianapolis. **Informational meeting on helping with SPRED retreat (virtual option available)**, 7-8 p.m., for those interested in helping with archdiocesan Ministry for Persons with Special Needs retreat for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities on July 23-24 in Beech Grove, no special medical or educational background necessary. Information: Erin Jeffries at ejeffries@archindy.org, 317-517-4744.

Church of the Immaculate Conception, 1 Sisters of Providence, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, St. Mary-of-the-Woods. **Taizé Prayer at the Woods**, 7-8 p.m., silent and spoken prayers, simple music, silence, virtual option available at cutt.ly/Taize. Information: 812-535-2952, provctr@spsmw.org.

June 15
Calvary Mausoleum Chapel, 435 W. Troy Ave., Indianapolis. **Monthly Mass**, 2 p.m. Information: 317-784-4439 or www.catholiccemeteries.cc.

June 16
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.

June 17
Northside Events and Social Club, 2100 E. 71st St., Indianapolis. **Catholic Business Exchange**, Wally Brant, CEO and owner of Indiana Oxygen, presenting "God found me wandering and lost in the Himalayas," 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 June 14. Information and registration: cutt.ly/CBE-Reg.

St. Charles Borromeo Parish, 2222 E. 3rd St., Bloomington. **Hog Roast and Beer Garden Fest**, 4:30-8 p.m., benefiting Bloomington St. Vincent de Paul Society; featuring Justin Case Band, silent auction, 50/50 raffle, I.U. international folkdance instructor, beer and wine, face painting, food, iced tea, lemonade, \$10 adult admission pre-sale, \$12 walk-in; child 6-12 \$6, children ages 5 and younger free. Information: 812-961-1510.

June 17-18
St. Thomas More Parish, 1200 N. Indiana St., Mooresville. **World Fest**, Fri. 5-10 p.m., Sat. 11 a.m.-10 p.m., food and entertainment from around the world, hot air balloon rides, Texas Hold 'Em, corn hole, raffle, magic show, free admission. Information: 317-416-7170.

June 18
St. Michael Parish, 145 St. Michael Blvd., Brookville. **Parish Festival**, 11 a.m.-11 p.m., fried chicken dinner 11 a.m.-6 p.m., music by 90 Proof Twang 7-10 p.m., beer garden, silent auction, raffles, children's games, free admission. Information: 765-647-5462 or brookvilleparishes@gmail.com.

Griffin Bike Park, 10700 Bono Road, Terre Haute. **Quick Quack 5k Trail Run**, 6:30-7:30 a.m. registration, 8 a.m. 5k race, benefitting Terre Haute Catholic Charities, disposable chip timing, live results, refreshments, register by June 12 for T-shirt; \$30 individual, walk-ups welcome; \$100 for families of four to eight members, register by June 17. Information and registration: cutt.ly/QuickQuack.

June 19
SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. **Masses and Eucharistic Procession for the Opening of Eucharistic Revival**, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. *Corpus Christi* Masses celebrated by Archbishop Charles C. Thompson, eucharistic procession following 3 p.m. Mass to St. John the Evangelist Church, 126 W. Georgia St., for holy hour until 6:30 p.m., first Communicants in special attire with guardians and newly initiated Catholics with sponsors invited to participate in procession (meet at 3:30 p.m. in the Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center Assembly Hall, 1400 N. Meridian St.), parish groups encouraged to line procession route. Information: eucharisticrevivalindy.org.

Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara

Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. **Festival of Faith, Family and Service**, 1-4 p.m., lunch, family activities, music, free. Information: eucharisticrevivalindy.org.

St. John the Evangelist Church, 126 W. Georgia St., Indianapolis. **Eucharistic Holy Hour for Opening of Eucharistic Revival**, 5:45-6:30 p.m., benediction 6:30 p.m. Information: eucharisticrevivalindy.org.

June 20
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: pspringer@archindy.org or 317-236-1474. †

Wedding Anniversary Mass with Archbishop Thompson is set for Aug. 14

The archdiocesan Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass, to be celebrated by Archbishop Charles C. Thompson, will take place at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St., in Indianapolis, at 2 p.m. on Aug. 14. A reception will follow across the street at the Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., from 3-5 p.m.

The Mass is for all couples of the archdiocese married sacramentally in the Catholic Church. Certificates will be awarded to couples celebrating the following anniversaries: first year; every fifth year between 5-60 years of marriage;

and every anniversary after 60 years.

The reception will include food, music, dancing and time to meet the archbishop.

American Sign Language interpretation will be available.

The Mass and reception are sponsored by the archdiocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life.

The event is free, but space is limited, and registration is required by July 23.

To register or for more information, go to cutt.ly/AnniversaryMass.

For additional questions, contact Claudia Corona at 317-236-7310 or ccorona@archindy.org. †

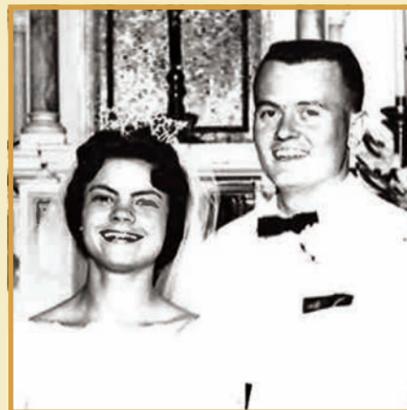
Wedding Anniversaries

Hubert and Eulalae Hagedorn



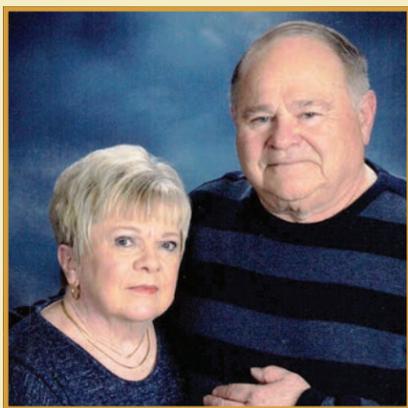
HUBERT AND EULALAE (WALTERS) HAGEDORN, members of St. Mark Parish in Perry County, will celebrate their 75th wedding anniversary on June 10.
The couple was married in St. Mark Church in Perry County on June 10, 1947.
They have seven children: Rita Etienne, Marolyn Flamion, Becky Hubert, Rosetta Westmoreland, Don, Ed and Linus Hagedorn.
The couple also has 14 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.
They will celebrate with a Mass of thanksgiving on June 12. †

Edward and Sandy Gehrlich



EDWARD AND SANDY (LUCAS) GEHRICH, members of St. Rose of Lima Parish in Franklin, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 2.
The couple was married in St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower) Church in Indianapolis on June 2, 1962.
They have three children: Ed, David and Michael Gehrlich.
The couple also has eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. †

Thomas and Marietta Daehler



THOMAS AND MARIETTA (WILLIAMS) DAEHLER, members of St. Christopher Parish in Indianapolis, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 2.
The couple was married in St. Irenaeus Church in Clinton, Iowa, on June 2, 1962.
They have two children: Katherine Nickels and Keith Daehler.
The couple also has eight grandchildren. †

Mark and Susan Burke

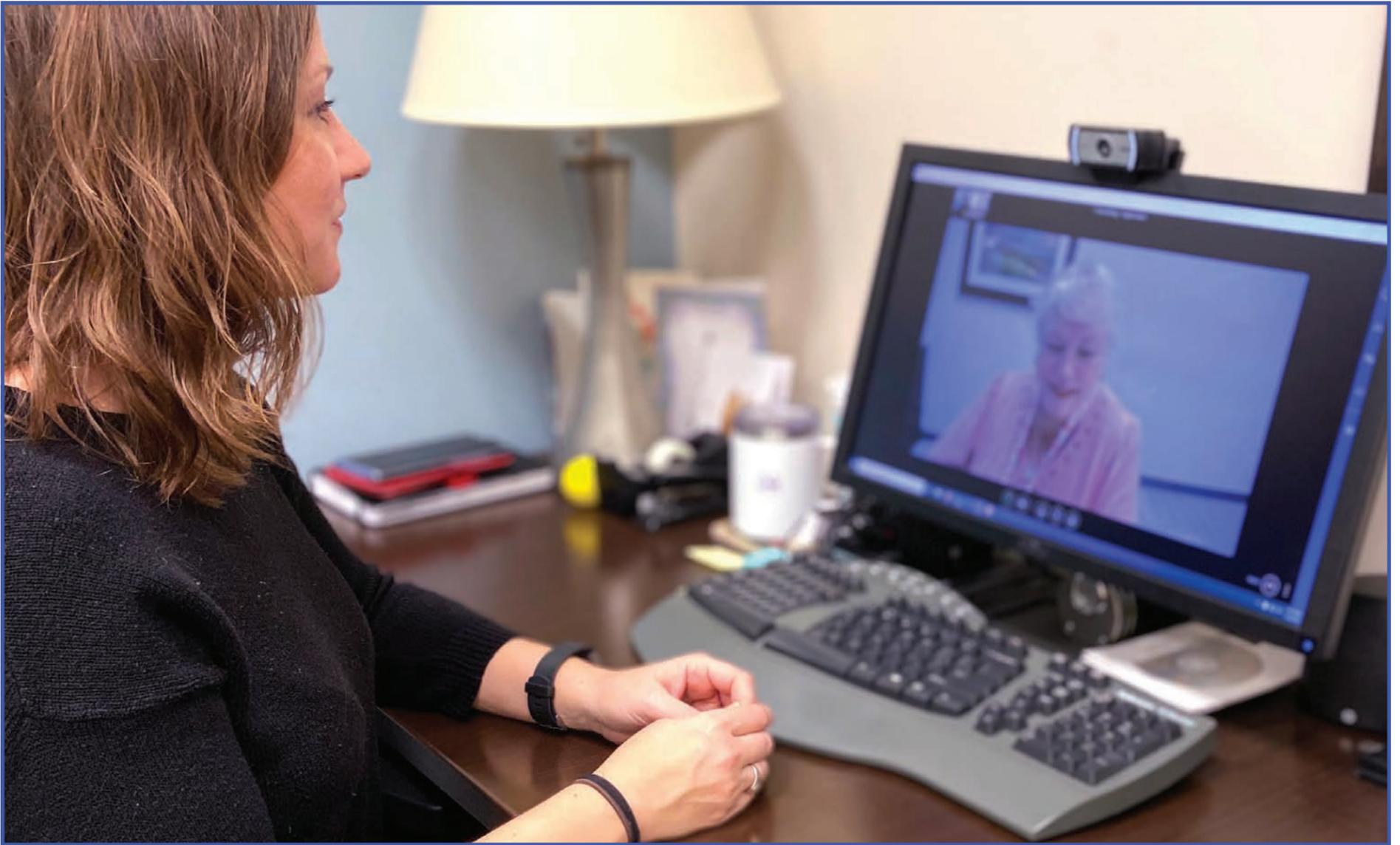


MARK AND SUSAN (QUILL) BURKE, members of St. Matthew the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on June 3.
The couple was married in the Bishop Chartrand Chapel at Marian University in Indianapolis on June 3, 1972.
They have three children: Sarah, Andrew and Philip Burke.
The couple also has two 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.

Faith *Alive!*

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Amy Shipman, director of counseling, and Stephanie Spiser, office manager at Catholic Charities in Oklahoma City, illustrate tele-counseling amid the coronavirus pandemic in this undated photo. Therapists and counselors with a religious perspective and/or affiliation say prayer and Scripture study can be viable tools for calming and eliminating fears. (CNS photo/courtesy Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Oklahoma City)

Faith-informed therapists can help us overcome fear, trials

By Mike Nelson

“Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.”

Jesus spoke these words to his disciples (Jn 14:27) at the Last Supper, when he himself had every reason to be afraid of what was to come during the next 24 hours.

Then again, maybe not, because Jesus also knew what would happen once that frightful period was over—that he would rise from the dead, speak to and eat with his disciples, and ascend to heaven. But it took time for his disciples to fully comprehend, and believe in, the meaning of “Do not be afraid.”

So, too, with us. As faithful to the Lord and his teachings as we try to be, there

are times in nearly every day when fear gets the better of us. Will my children be safe at school today? What new infection or disease will my spouse’s blood tests show? How will we pay these bills if I’m getting laid off?

Today’s state of the world is enough to arouse fear in our hearts. Will the pandemic strike us or our loved ones? Will our country’s people ever again speak to those of opposing views with civility and without rancor? What part of the world will erupt in violence next?

It is important to note that fear is a passion and, in and of itself, “neither good nor evil,” says the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (#1767). Fear of the Lord, moreover, is one of the seven gifts

of the Holy Spirit that “complete and perfect the virtues of those who receive them,” notes the catechism (#1831). “They make the faithful docile in readily obeying divine inspirations.”

Both the prophet Isaiah (“His delight shall be the fear of the Lord,” Is 11:3) and St. Bonaventure (“Grant us fear, by which we may draw back from evil and submit to what is good”) allude to the gift of the fear of the Lord—a gift that, writes

the late Jesuit Father John Hardon in his *Modern Catholic Dictionary*, confirms the theological virtue of hope.

Yet for many people, it is not “fear of the Lord” that absorbs or exacerbates their “fear quotient.”

“As Christians, we are not immune to feelings of anxiety from facing a health crisis such as the coronavirus outbreak or other life-changing events such as the death of a spouse or other loved one, workplace complications, financial problems and so on,” said Elizabeth Galanti, a Catholic licensed mental health counselor in Buffalo, N.Y.

“However,” she added, “the phrase ‘fear not’ is used more than 80 times in the Scriptures because fear decreases our hope when we face difficult trials.”

How so? Galanti cites St. Paul’s Second Letter to Timothy: “God did not give us a spirit of timidity but a spirit of power and love and self-control” (2 Tm 1:7).

“We need to calm our fears,” she said, “by resting in our faith in God and in the knowledge that our God is a loving God and he is in control. We might still feel afraid, but we can believe that God is with us. We may not be in control, but we can put our trust in the One who is. We may not know the future, but we can know the God who does.”

Other therapists and counselors with a religious perspective and/or affiliation, like Galanti, say prayer and Scripture study can be viable tools for calming and eliminating fears. So, too, are various techniques to promote exercise, relaxation, healthy diet and dialogue—deep breathing, spiritual reading, consuming less alcohol and caffeine, support groups—that aren’t necessarily tied to faith.

Sometimes, though, professional counseling or therapy may be needed, which for some who profess faith in God seems almost heretical, as if to suggest that God alone isn’t enough. For these folks, it is necessary to broaden their understanding of God, the Church and faith.

“To sit back and expect divine intervention to change things without any effort or insight on your part can be presumption,” said Allison Ricciardi, a licensed mental health counselor in New York and founder of CatholicTherapists.com. “We work together in the body of Christ, and when help is required there is no shame in seeking it out.”

For Catholics, therapy is most beneficial when the faith is integrated into the process, asserted Ricciardi. “Ultimately, good Catholic therapy will help you to transfer your dependence on the therapist to God and the faith. Therapy can help heal the wounds and impediments to healthy relationships and that relationship with God is the basis for true happiness.”

Just “taking the risk of starting therapy,” she added, “is an act of faith in and of itself. It says that you believe that things can change and that you can have a happier life.”

And although our lives can get “derailed” by the realities of daily life, “God’s desire and plan for your happiness doesn’t change,” said Ricciardi. “He will use all of your pain and regrets for your ultimate good. Therapy is one vehicle he uses to help you move from a painful past into a happier future. Don’t let your fears get in the way.”

(Catholic journalist Mike Nelson writes from southern California.) †



Jesus and his Apostles at the Last Supper are depicted in a painting at Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary Church in Southampton, N.Y. “Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid,” Jesus told his disciples at that time, when he himself had every reason to be afraid of what was to come over the next 24 hours. (CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz, Long Island Catholic)

Pastoral Ministries/Sean Hussey

Creator is the only true source of our happiness

One of the attributes of God is his *divine unicity*. Jesuit Father John Hardon, an author of several books, explains that



God's divine unicity means that there can necessarily only be one true God.

"There are not many gods [polytheism], or just one chief god [henotheism], or two gods [Manichean dualism]," Father

Hardon writes in his book *The Catholic Catechism*. As we read God's word through the prophet Isaiah, "I am the Lord, there is no other, there is no God besides me" (Is 45:5).

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says that written in the heart of every person is a deep longing to find truth and happiness (#27). Whether we know it or not, this desire is ultimately a desire for God.

God's divine unicity is important for us today because we are constantly making other "gods" out of the things of this world

(honor, fame, power, pleasure or material goods) and elevating them to the highest place in our lives. However, the divine unicity of God reminds us that there is only one God and besides him, there is no other.

Whenever we try to create gods out of the things of this world, even if they are good things, we will always end up being let down and longing for something more.

The Book of Psalms says that there is no good apart from God and that "those who choose another god multiply their sorrows" (Ps 16:4). The truth is that there is only one God, the Creator of everything, and he is the only true source of our happiness and the deepest longings of our hearts. As St. Augustine said, "You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you."

Our archdiocesan Office of Young Adult and College Campus Ministry (YACCM) exists to lead all young adults (ages 18-39) in central and southern Indiana into a relationship with Jesus Christ and to equip them to become lifelong, missionary disciples, because it is only in Jesus that we find the rest that our hearts long for.

One way we hope to do this is through our summer Theology on Tap program hosted at McGowan Hall, 1305 N. Delaware St., in downtown Indianapolis. Theology on Tap, or TOT for short, is a speaker series that gathers young adults. We've outgrown every bar in Indianapolis with 250-350 people in attendance! TOT is a great opportunity to connect with others and take the next step in your walk with the Lord.

TOT dates for this upcoming summer are June 8, July 22, July 6, July 20, Aug. 3, and Aug. 17. If you know any young adults (friends, family, co-workers, neighbors) who have wandered away from the faith or are interested in learning more about Catholicism, we encourage you to invite them to join us for Theology on Tap this summer! Check out our website to learn more: at <https://indycatholic.org/theology-on-tap>.

(Sean Hussey is the director of Young Adult and College Campus Ministry within the archdiocesan Secretariat for Pastoral Ministries. He can be reached at shussey@archindy.org.) †

For the Journey/Effie Caldarola

Mag and Pearl

The other day, my daughter and I visited the Red Cross office to donate blood.

Afterward, while munching on a little bag of popcorn I was offered to ward off dizziness, we agreed we'd done a modest "civic duty" that day.

Civic duty? Civic-mindedness? A few years ago, those were common American phrases, a positive way to describe being active in the community, a community that was cohesive and friendly where we all did our share.

What does it mean now? Civic duty brings to mind my friend Mag and, recently, a woman named Pearl. Mag embodied civic-mindedness in our small Nebraska town.

I would never have known Pearl Young's name, except she was one of 10 people murdered by a white supremacist in Buffalo, N.Y., on May 14.

Pearl, born in Alabama, moved to New York and married a pastor. She was active in her Pentecostal faith, singing, dancing and shouting her praise around the worship area with other congregants.

But she was much more than a Sunday Christian. A substitute teacher in the Buffalo public schools, Pearl taught Sunday school, worked at a soup kitchen and fed the hungry for years.

Interviews quote friends and relatives attesting to Pearl's kindness, always "being there" at times of need, sorrow or celebration. A mom, a grandma, a good citizen, she had just come from a church luncheon to the grocery store where she was killed.

Mag and Pearl were kindred spirits, even though their lives and cultural experiences were far apart.

Mag, as a young widow, moved from the farm into town. She opened a newsstand and spent a career with the post office. But her reach went far beyond. She was active in our local Catholic parish.

Like many civic-minded folks, she was a joiner, participating in groups ranging from the altar society to the Chamber of Commerce. She was elected to the public high school board of education and served for 12 years.

She was always in line when the bloodmobile came to town, and she adopted a downtown flower barrel each summer, planting and watering through the Midwestern heat to add beauty to our town. She was a top fan of local sports.

When I was a Jesuit volunteer, not only did Mag send me care packages at my remote Alaskan village, but she accompanied my mother for a visit, flying in on a small plane on a stormy night.

Mag eventually died of natural causes, but Pearl was viciously killed by white nationalism. Those are words—white nationalism—that we need to say out loud and hear condemned from the pulpit. They are the evil opposite of civic engagement.

In troubled times, the old civic duties like running for school board or volunteering to work at a polling place give us pause. Am I safe from the screaming minority? The haters? Those who, intentionally or not, inspire young men to kill?

Should I hunker down? I don't think Mag or Pearl would do that. They'd be right there, seeing church and faith as core to civic duty. They prized community. They'd be providing goodies to the bake sale, contacting their senator, writing a letter to the editor, bringing a loving message to a rancorous school board meeting, delivering a casserole in your time of need.

They would join, speak up, stand up, be kind.

They would be doing, as St. Teresa of Calcutta advised, small things with great love. People like Mag and Pearl are the cornerstone of American civic society. Let's be like them.

(Effie Caldarola writes for Catholic News Service.) †

Amid the Fray/Greg Erlandson

When it comes to abortion, who's listening to the women?

The leaked draft Supreme Court document that laid out the case for overturning *Roe v. Wade* making abortion a constitutional right has provoked an uproar.



Abortion advocates are furious that the forthcoming ruling may toss abortion back to the legislatures. Abortion opponents are working furiously to have laws in place at the state level to ban abortions. In either case, the struggle won't be ending. It will be punted to nearly level of government for the foreseeable future.

As we wait for the high court's final decision in June, we might do well to listen to Getty Israel, the founder and CEO of

Sisters in Birth, located in Mississippi.

Sisters in Birth exists to help poor and underserved women in the poorest state in the union to give birth to healthy babies and to help mothers find the care they need. In a recent interview, Israel sounded fed up with the swirling national debate.

When interviewed on National Public Radio's (NPR) "Morning Edition," Israel did not take the standard NPR line on abortion. She sounded ticked off at everybody.

"When we get calls from women—and we do—who are looking for an abortion, the first question I ask is, 'What's going on?'"

"Because, yes, I want to change her mind. Yes, I want to reduce the abortion rate. That's a lot of Black lives lost in an era of Black Lives Matter," she said.

"Pro-choice people are willing to wage a war ... to protect [*Roe v. Wade*]. But they're not willing to help create any community-based interventions to address the various underlying risk factors that will lead a woman to look for an abortion," Israel charged.

What's missing from the national debate, she added, are the voices of women who are considering abortion. "No one ever

says, What do you need? What can we do to help improve your life so that you don't find that you need to have an abortion?"

"When a woman is seeking abortion, nine times out of 10, she is alone," she continued. "Pro-choice people aren't walking down the path with her, and neither are the pro-life people, beyond beating her over the head with a Bible and Scripture."

Almost 38% of Mississippians are Black, the highest in the nation. Yet they account for 68% of abortions. Women looking for abortion often work minimum-wage jobs without health insurance. They are beset by poverty and a torn social net.

Mississippi also has the highest rate of infant deaths in the first 12 months of life. Sixty percent of those babies are Black, many of whom were born premature. Yet state medical care for pregnant women and for new mothers in poverty is minimal and underfunded.

Banning abortion will not make Mississippi a pro-life state.

The racist murder of Black shoppers in Buffalo, N.Y., has transfixed the nation, but Getty Israel is right: Hundreds of thousands of Black babies are being aborted or dying in their first year of life for lack of adequate health care and support.

Nationwide there are bold pro-life efforts like the Women's Care Centers that help expectant mothers, but so much more is needed. Passage of a new child tax credit program is one place to start.

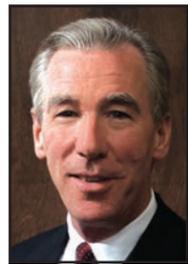
Catholic bishops are calling for all Catholic institutions to step up and support moms in need. In the words of the New York bishops, if "every Catholic parish, every Catholic Charities program, every Catholic health facility, every Catholic school, every Catholic college and university" were asking women how they could help, the impact could be culture changing. The challenge is, how do we make this more than just a slogan?

(Greg Erlandson, director and editor-in-chief of Catholic News Service, can be reached at gerlandson@catholicnews.com.) †

Intellect and Virtue/John Garvey

Addressing our debt and the parable of the dishonest steward

Every course in constitutional law begins with a discussion of *Marbury v. Madison*, an 1803 case that established the power of judicial review.



Marbury struck down a federal statute that purported to enlarge the Supreme Court's original jurisdiction.

Chief Justice John Marshall said that when a statute said one thing and the

Constitution said another, the court was bound to follow the Constitution: "It is emphatically the province and duty of the judicial department to say what the law is."

Marbury holds that when Congress and the court disagree about whether a law is constitutional, the court has the final word. We call this the principle of judicial supremacy. It does not mean that in going about its business,

Congress should not endeavor to comply with the Constitution. It can't, for example, ignore the passage in Article I that says, "No Bill of Attainder ... shall be passed."

The same goes for the president. In executing the laws that Congress has enacted, he and his agencies can issue orders and make rules. When an order or a rule conflicts with the Constitution, the court will follow the Constitution, as it did when President Harry Truman tried to seize the nation's steel mills during the Korean War.

But once again the principle of judicial supremacy does not mean that the president can do as he likes until the court blows the whistle. On the contrary, Article II, which creates the office of president, requires him to take an oath that he "will to the best of [his or her] ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution."

I find myself thinking about this point because President Joe Biden is

giving serious consideration to canceling student loan debt in the amount of \$10,000 per person. That would cost about \$373 billion—as much as the government has spent on welfare in the past 20 years. And the left wing of his party is urging him to consider \$50,000 per person.

The Constitution gives the president no such authority. The appropriations clause says the government can't take any money out of the Treasury unless Congress passes a law. The property clause entrusts the Congress—not the president—with "Power to dispose of ... Property belonging to the United States."

As recently as last year, both the president and the speaker of the house acknowledged that the president can't do this by executive fiat, and that Congress had given him no such authority.

But midterm elections are coming soon, and the president is feeling like the

See GARVEY, page 11

Pentecost Sunday/Msgr. Owen F. Campion

The Sunday Readings

Sunday, June 5, 2022

- Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11
- 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13
- John 14:15-16, 23b-26



This weekend the Church celebrates the feast of Pentecost. After Easter and Christmas, it is the most important feast of the liturgical year because of the momentous event that it commemorates, the miraculous coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles.

The first reading for this weekend, from the Acts of the Apostles, recalls this event. Pentecost occurred in Jerusalem, where the Apostles had gathered after the Lord's ascension.

In the first part of the reading, the identity of the Holy Spirit is clearly given. The Spirit is God and comes from God. To understand how clearly this identity is given, it is necessary to be familiar with the symbols for God used in the Old Testament.

First, a "strong, driving wind" blew (Acts 2:1). Ancient biblical writings associated great gusting winds with God. Secondly, fire appeared. Fire also often symbolized God in the Old Testament, as when Moses encountered God on Sinai.

These symbols revealed that the Holy Spirit is God. The Lord's divine identity again also is affirmed, since Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would come. Jesus and the Spirit, with the Father, are one.

The reading proceeds. After being empowered by the Spirit and prompted by the Spirit, the Apostles went into Jerusalem. As a result of Pentecost, they suddenly had the ability to speak in foreign languages. Importantly, they felt themselves compelled to speak for Christ.

In the city were many visitors who had come to celebrate the Jewish feast of Pentecost. They came from all parts of the Roman Empire. Each understood what the Apostles were saying. Each was touched by the announcement that God had accomplished marvels for all people, that he had provided salvation and eternal life through Christ.

For its second reading, the Church

gives us a passage from St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians. Paul makes an important point. To truly believe that Jesus is Lord requires enlightenment and strength from the Holy Spirit. A genuine confession that Jesus is Lord is more than an intellectual statement. To be authentic, it must be heartfelt in the most profound sense.

St. Paul then goes on to give the basis of the theology that would result, in these times, in Pope Pius XII's magnificent 1943 encyclical letter "*Mystici Corporis*" and in the documents of the Second Vatican Council, especially in its teachings on the Church.

In Christ, all the faithful are members of one body, bound to the Lord, but also bound to each other. No one is excluded from this body by any particular personal quality, such as gender or race.

The third reading is from St. John's Gospel. The risen Lord appears to the Apostles. He tells them to be at peace. Then Jesus gives them the authority to forgive sins. This authorization comes directly from God to the Apostles.

Reflection

Not too many days ago, the Church celebrated the Lord's glorious ascension into heaven, but Jesus did not entirely exit the Earth at that time. His words and power remain. His love remains.

He lives, the Church expressly and joyfully tells us on this great feast, in the Church itself. The Apostles formed the Church. Their successors still preach the Lord's words, bringing Jesus to us.

Thus, the Church carefully protects the Apostles' teaching simply because it never wants to lose these teachings.

We are the Church, bonded with the Lord through the power of the Holy Spirit. We're gathered around the Apostles, as were the first Christians in Jerusalem mentioned in Acts. In Jesus is our security and a peace, a peace drawn from realizing that Jesus truly is the way, the truth and the life.

Through the Church, in God's merciful love, Jesus gives us the Holy Spirit, the source of wisdom and strength. †

Daily Readings

Monday, June 6

The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church
Genesis 3:9-15, 20
or Acts 1:12-14
Psalm 87:1b-3, 5-7
John 19:25-34

Tuesday, June 7

1 Kings 17:7-16
Psalm 4:2-5, 7b-8
Matthew 5:13-16

Wednesday, June 8

1 Kings 18:20-39
Psalm 16:1b-2b, 4-5b, 8, 11
Matthew 5:17-19

Thursday, June 9

St. Ephrem, deacon and doctor of the Church
1 Kings 18:41-46
Psalm 65:10-13
Matthew 5:20-26

Friday, June 10

1 Kings 19:9a, 11-16
Psalm 27:7-9c, 13-14
Matthew 5:27-32

Saturday, June 11

St. Barnabas, Apostle
Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3
Psalm 98:1-6
Matthew 5:33-37

Sunday, June 12

The Most Holy Trinity
Proverbs 8:22-31
Psalm 8:4-9
Romans 5:1-5
John 16:12-15

Question Corner/Fr. Kenneth Doyle

Pastors can dispense a parishioner's obligation to attend Sunday Mass

(Editor's note: This column by Father Kenneth Doyle was originally published in 2014.)



Every summer, my husband and I go on a cruise. Only one cruise line (Holland America) continues to have a priest on board to celebrate Mass. When we travel on other cruise lines, frequently we have

missed Sunday Mass because there was no priest on board and we could not get to a Catholic church if we happened to be in port. Is missing Mass in such circumstances a mortal sin? (Maryland)

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says that Catholics "are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation, unless excused for a serious reason [for example, illness, the care of infants]

or dispensed by their own pastor" (#2181).

And the *Code of Canon Law* allows a pastor, in individual cases, to dispense from the Mass obligation "for a just cause" (#1245). Note that the code says "for a just cause" rather than for a "grave" or "serious" cause.

As a pastor, I would consider a once-a-year cruise to be a "just cause." The same provision of the code allows a pastor, when granting a dispensation, to assign some other "pious work." It could be, for example, reflecting on the Scriptural readings for that day's Mass, praying the rosary or, after you have returned home, attending a Mass on a day when you are not obliged.

So, my recommendation is to consult your pastor next time for such a dispensation.

Please help settle a discussion I have been having with some friends. The question is whether a priest can celebrate Mass (and, necessarily, receive Communion) while in a state of mortal sin, if the Mass is already scheduled and people are waiting for it to begin.

First, can he do so if confession is easily available to him? Next, if confession is not easily available, can he just try to make a perfect act of contrition and go ahead with the Mass? (Louisiana)

If the priest in question has the opportunity to confess his sins before celebrating Mass, of course he is obliged to do so. A priest is bound by the same requirement as other Catholics: to be in the state of grace to receive the Eucharist worthily.

But what if there is no opportunity to confess before a Mass for which the priest is scheduled? The Church's *Code of Canon Law* speaks to that situation directly:

"A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to celebrate Mass or receive the body of the Lord without previous sacramental confession unless there is a grave reason and there is no opportunity to confess; in this case, the person is to remember the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition which includes the resolution of confessing as soon as possible" (#916).

If a congregation is expecting a Mass and there is no practical opportunity to recruit a substitute celebrant, for the good of souls the priest may profess his sorrow privately to the Lord (perfect contrition is based on the love of God rather than the fear of punishment), celebrate the Mass and go to confession later. †

My Journey to God

In Every Language

By Linda Abner

Thank You, thank You, thank You, God!
For Holy water in the fonts
Candles ready to be lit
Opening procession down the aisle
Gathering song!

Thank You, thank You
For glorious crimson bouquets
Crowning Your Sanctuary,
Crying out Your Spirit's descent!
For Glorias to be sung and
Alleluias to be raised on this blessed day,
The promise fulfilled of Our Risen Lord.
Thank You, *Gracias, Merci!*
For joyous return of beloved gifts
After such a long and aching absence!
Blessings bestowing ever more grace
To our praise and worship of You, Oh God
Beloved in every language
Even as on that first glorious outpouring
Of Your Spirit.

Grazie, Muito Obrigada, Spasibo, Tack!
In tongues and words unframed in our hearts
Forever and ever!
Thank You.



(Linda Abner is a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Indianapolis. Photo: A scene from Pentecost is depicted in a stained-glass window at St. Therese of Lisieux Church in Montauk, N.Y. Pentecost is on June 5 this year.) (CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz, Long Island Catholic)

Meet our future deacons



Permanent Deacons

Archdiocese of Indianapolis

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.



Neil May

Name: Neil May
Age: 62
Wife: Kristin May
Home Parish: St. Susanna Parish in Plainfield
Occupation: School bus driver



Mike Nygra

Name: Mike Nygra
Age: 56
Wife: Susan Nygra
Home Parish: St. Michael the Archangel in Indianapolis
Occupation: Claims consultant for The Hartford Insurance Group

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

The vital role models in my life of faith were my mom and dad, along with my six other siblings. My parents raised all seven of us to serve and attend Mass regularly, and we remain firm in our faith. Other role models include my aunts, Benedictine sisters who taught me in school, sports coaches and Father Bernie Etienne and Archbishop Paul D. Etienne, whom I grew up with in Tell City.

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

The beautiful thing about the Scriptures is that a verse can become my favorite on any given day and time because God speaks to me at the time. St. Maximilian Kolbe and St. John Paul II are among my favorite saints. My favorite prayers are the rosary and the Liturgy of the Hours; both serve a particular function in keeping me grounded and centered in Christ.

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 a high school teacher, kids came in with some pretty sticky issues and needed guidance. It was a terrific opportunity to provide them with hope and peace at a time when everything seemed to be falling apart in their lives.

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

I have felt God calling me to serve for about 20 years, although I wouldn't describe it as a calling; it's more like how magnetic north influences a compass needle. The direction of my

life has taken turns toward God by my inner compass that keeps me oriented toward a specific course. Regarding the diaconate, there have been dozens of events that Kristin and I know were Godsend. Some left us speechless. We know, because of the happiness and joy we feel, despite the challenges, that we have arrived where God wants us—to serve him and his people as disciples of Christ.

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

I know being ordained will change me. When I became a naval officer and then a commanding officer, given an enormous amount of responsibility, putting on that beautiful white uniform pushed me to become the best I could be. So many great and brave men and women have worn the same uniform. There was no way I was going to let them down. However, more profoundly and more importantly, when I don the deacon alb and dalmatic, I will feel the same responsibility to serve the Church and others to the utmost of my ability. Serving my country was good; serving God is the greatest good. As for as my family is concerned, well, let's say they have become more firm in their belief in miracles.

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

I hope to serve St. Susanna and the archdiocese in every and any way to help us all get closer to Christ and sainthood. The education I have received these past five years has been exceptional, and it's time to share it. Action in serving my family, my St. Susanna family, and others in Christ is all I desire to do with my remaining days. †

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

I received my faith from my deceased grandparents, Joe and Gene Nygra. Not only did they give good example by faithfully attending Mass each week, but they always spoke to me about the importance of our faith when I was growing up.

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

My favorite Scripture verses are Joshua 24:15 and John 15:5. These passages help me to remember to always make our Lord and his divine will the first priorities in my life. My favorite saints, other than St. Joseph and Our Lady, are St. John the Baptist and St. Thomas More. My favorite prayer is the "Anima Christi." It is a powerful way to live from the graces received in the holy Eucharist. I am also devoted to Our Lady of Fatima and her request for the practices of the Five First Saturdays. I begin each day with meditation on the mysteries of the rosary and allow Our Lady to lead me closer to her Son.

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?

To lead others to Christ, we have to live joyfully and strive to be servants. People are attracted to others who are clearly happy in life and who give their lives to others. I approach each workday with these two goals in mind and with each encounter I have as a professional. When people ask the source of my joy, I am never afraid to proclaim Jesus Christ and the importance of his one true Church to the fulfillment I find in this life.

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

Before I began my discernment, I was approached by several people who recommended that I consider becoming a deacon. At first, I shrugged these suggestions off. But as more and more of my acquaintances planted these seeds, I figured maybe the Holy Spirit was trying to tell me something. So, I'm simply trying to do what I believe is our Lord's divine will for my life. I have a deep desire to give my life in service, to my family, my Church, and whomever I am asked to serve as a deacon.

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

Throughout the discernment and formation processes, I have had the complete support of my wife and children. Although the last four years have presented challenges, I can honestly say my life has been much fuller by the service I have been asked to engage in, especially as a minister to the homebound and as a teacher of the faith. With the time commitments that come with the diaconate, I have tried to be more attentive to my wife and children in the times we do have together. This will continue to be a primary focus following ordination.

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

Simply put, in whatever ways I am asked by my pastor Father John Kamwendo and Archbishop Charles C. Thompson. I commit to remaining open to the Lord's divine will and simply take one day at a time. †

Eucharistic Revival to begin in the archdiocese on June 19

The three-year National Eucharistic Revival will begin in the archdiocese on June 19 in Indianapolis with two Masses celebrated at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., both at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St.

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



The 1 p.m. Mass will be primarily celebrated in English. Other languages included in the liturgy will be American Sign Language, Korean, Vietnamese, Tagalog and Burmese dialects spoken in the archdiocese.

The 3 p.m. Mass will be primarily celebrated in Spanish. French will also be included in this liturgy.

A Festival of Faith, Family and Service will take place from 1-4 p.m. in the parking lot of the Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., in Indianapolis. It will feature lunch, service projects, family games and music.

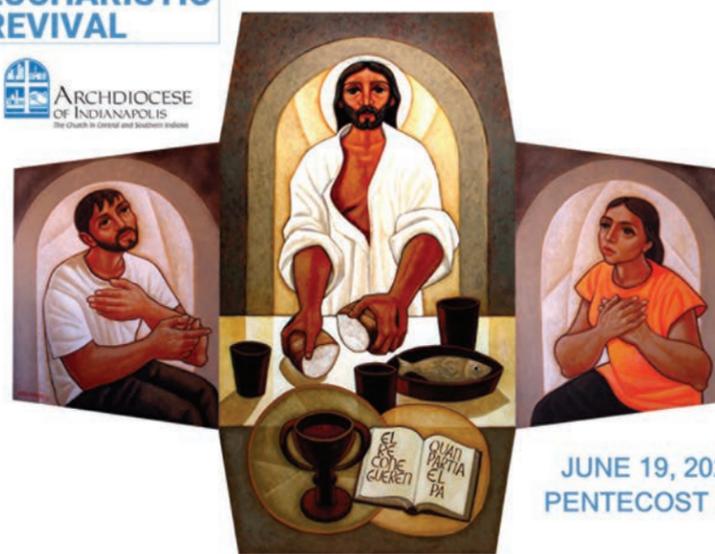
At about 4:15 p.m., following the conclusion of the 3 p.m. Mass, a eucharistic procession will begin that will go from SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral to St. John the Evangelist Church, 126 W. Georgia St., in Indianapolis.

Children who have received their first Communion this year are invited to take part in the procession while accompanied by a parent, teacher or catechist.

All newly initiated Catholics, such as those received into the Church at Easter, can also take part in the procession.

Other Catholics are invited to line the procession route

National EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL



JUNE 19, 2022—PENTECOST 2025

and bring banners, flags and other religious articles to decorate the route.

After the Blessed Sacrament arrives at St. John, a holy hour will take place that will conclude with Benediction at 6:30 p.m. Men and women religious from across the archdiocese are especially encouraged to take part in the holy hour.

As more details about the June 19 event are determined, they will be posted at eucharisticrevivalindy.org. †

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

Veteran, Catholic school grad shares sacrifice, promise of America

By John Shaughnessy

On a day mostly marked by rain, somber skies and the sobering divisions that continue to separate the people of the United States, retired Lieutenant General John Jansen delivered a reminder of the great sacrifices that individuals and their families have made for this country—and the need



Retired Lt. Gen. John Jansen

for all Americans to embrace this nation's continuing promise.

An Indianapolis native who graduated from St. Lawrence School and Bishop Chatard High School, the retired Marine Corps officer shared that theme as he gave the

keynote speech at the 2022 American Legion 500 Festival Memorial Service on May 26 at the Indiana War Memorial in Indianapolis.

Memorial Day “comes from our deepest recognitions of life and death, love and loss, all tied to the struggles of freely serving, young Americans who have engaged in the mortal combats that made this country the first democratic republic on the face of the Earth,” said Jansen, who served his country for

more than 30 years, involving nine deployments that included leading high-risk security operations across the world.

“This is a country that ended the blight of slavery, that contained the spread of communism, and that strives today to protect our way of life in a precarious global environment, day in and day out. Memorial Day is the day where we remember and give thanks to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in these vital and noble pursuits.”

While he saluted the many men and women who have died in defending the United States, Jansen also noted that their sacrifice extends to the families they came from and left behind—families that are referred to as “Gold Star” families.

“It is these families who must suffer their grief in the presentation of a folded flag, the somber notes of ‘Taps,’ and the startling crack of rifles in the 21-gun salute,” he said. “And then these families must face the ever-present ache of loss even as the drama fades, and others go about their daily lives.

“As much as we recognize those who gave their lives in service to this great nation, we should remember too, on this day, the family members of the fallen.”

Jansen touched upon the origins of Memorial Day, dating back to 1868, three years after the end of the Civil War

when “a retired Union General, John A. Logan, recommended that a nationwide day of remembrance be observed for those who had died in that war.”

At the same time, Jansen noted that the springtime ritual was actually started by the mothers from the Union and the Confederacy who had lost sons in that war.

“In communities both small and large, in both the North and the South, mothers were turning out to the graves of their fallen sons to decorate those resting places with the flowers of spring,” he noted.

“They did so as an expression of their deep grief and eternal loss. They did so, so that all would remember their sons—and the hopeless loss of young lives cut short.”

While Memorial Day is a time to reflect on that sacrifice, the Memorial Day weekend is also a time to celebrate, Jansen said.

“It is not only OK to celebrate, our young men and women would want us to celebrate. They would want us to celebrate the beauty of spring in its final days and the excitement of the coming of yet another summer filled with adventure, family and friends. They would want us to celebrate the joy of the Greatest Spectacle in Racing, with all of its tradition, competition, and high-octane excitement.

“And they would also ask that you remember why they served. They would remind you that their service to this great nation was service freely chosen, to provide

for our security and ensure our way of life; and to remember that our way of life is simply about us as a people governing ourselves—given the self-evident truth that all are created equal, ‘endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.’”

Near the end of his speech, Jansen shared this thought from Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address:

It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced.

It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion, that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the Earth.

Closing his talk, Jansen returned his thoughts to all the women and men who have died serving the United States.

“In their service and in their sacrifice for our way of life, there is indeed much to remember and much to celebrate,” he said. “May God bless our fallen service men and women, their families and the good people of Indiana.” †

Pope Francis announces new cardinals, including U.S. Bishop McElroy

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope Francis announced he will create 21 new cardinals on Aug. 27, including 68-year-old Bishop Robert W. McElroy of San Diego, Calif.

The pope made the announcement at the end of his “Regina Coeli” address on May 29, telling the crowd in

St. Peter’s Square the names of the 16 cardinals under the age of 80, who will be eligible to vote in a conclave, and the names of five elderly Churchmen whose red hats are a sign of esteem and honor.

“Let us pray for the new cardinals so that, in confirming their adhesion to Christ, they may help me in

my ministry as bishop of Rome for the good of the entire holy people of God,” the pope said.

After the Aug. 27 consistory, there will be 132 cardinals eligible to enter a conclave, and the number of those over 80 will be 97, bringing the total number of cardinals to 229. †

GARVEY

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dishonest steward in Luke 16, about to be turned out for wasting his master’s goods. Feeling too old to dig and ashamed to beg, he decided to curry favor with his master’s debtors. So he said to the first, who owed a hundred measures of oil, “Take your bill ... and write one for 50” (Lk 16:6).

This isn’t the first time the administration has forgiven debts for a group of likely electoral supporters. Last August, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ordered a moratorium on rental evictions. President Biden openly conceded that he probably lacked authority to act,

as a majority of justices had ruled just weeks before. But he went ahead anyway, *The New York Times* said, “to quell a rebellion among angry Democrats” who couldn’t persuade Congress to act.

The Constitution gives Congress authority over the government’s assets because it represents all the people who pay the bills. Congress has not forgiven student loans. The president has no authority to curry favor with one faction by writing off the debts they owe to the rest of us.

(John Garvey is president of The Catholic University of America in Washington. Follow him on Twitter @CatholicPres. Catholic University’s website is www.cua.edu.) †

Employment

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The Criterion

St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities offers ‘hope of a better tomorrow’

By Natalie Hoefler

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—Mention St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities to residents of New Albany and the surrounding area, and the agency’s crisis maternity services might be the first image to come to mind.



Mark Casper

But “the services we provide are always growing and changing,” said agency director Mark Casper. “While we maintain offering maternity home services, today St. Elizabeth is so much more. Today we are the emergency homeless shelter for women and children” in central southern Indiana.

He made these remarks to more than 550 people during St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities’ Giving Hope—Changing Lives fundraiser gala held in the Galt House Hotel in Louisville on April 21.

“We have added a mountain of those recovering from addiction, and this year we opened up a domestic violence shelter,” Casper continued. “These are all great examples of how community partners help St. Elizabeth meet the changing needs of our community.”

He said the agency’s school counseling program experienced a growth of more than 70% last year, “and we’ve already been contracted to meet more of the demand created by two years of COVID. We are already working on coming up with the staff and new methodologies of meeting this changing need.”

In addition to its crisis maternity services and school counseling, St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities offers a women and children’s emergency shelter,

affordable supportive housing, domestic violence transitional housing, a supported living program and adoption services, and Marie’s Community Distribution, which offers free items to local families in need.

‘God had a plan for her life’

Several of those services were highlighted at the event.

After the agency’s Spirit of Hope Award was presented to Paula Robinson, participants watched a video on the positive impact of Marie’s Community Distribution, followed by an agency social worker reading a letter of gratitude from a Hispanic woman whose family benefited from the help of the maternity and housing services.

Last, a young family with two small children took the stage to talk about St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities’ adoption services.

“When my husband and I got married, we ... had talked about adoption being something we both wanted to do,” said Lauren Niehoff.

What she and her husband Brian didn’t know was that, “after 12 foster kids in four years in our home, two years of



Lauren Niehoff shares the story of her and her husband Brian’s journey of adopting Roslyn, center, while Brian holds their second adopted daughter, Ainsley, during the St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities fundraiser gala at Galt House Hotel in Louisville on April 21. (Photo by Natalie Hoefler)

infertility treatments and so many failed attempts, adoption would be how we welcomed our first baby girl, Roslyn.

“I wanted our baby to come from a local mom. We wanted to know our money was being put to good use. After we learned about St. Elizabeth and all the services our money went to, it felt like a no-brainer for our family.”

Niehoff described the moment she received the call that the couple had been chosen by a birth mother as feeling like they “had won the lottery.”

She said she and Brian “fell in love with our birth mom.”

“What I love about St. Elizabeth is they’re very pro-open adoption,” said Niehoff. “They keep a box for you to send photos and letters, and keep them until the birth mom is ready to come get them.”

The Niehoffs, who have since adopted their second daughter, Ainsley, now have a “wonderful relationship” with Roslyn’s birth mother.

“We see her every two months. She comes to all of Roslyn’s birthdays. ... She is really an extension of our family.”

Niehoff said Roslyn is “fully aware” that the woman is her birth mom and has the pleasure of getting to know her half-siblings.

“Adoption and St. Elizabeth fulfilled the biggest hole in our hearts,” said Niehoff. “Adoption gave the lifelong dream that I wanted to be a mother.

“I hope one day Roslyn will find herself on a stage very similar to this, speaking about how God had a plan for her life. ... I hope she sees that she was honored by two families who cared so much for her—one woman who gave up everything to give her a good life, and one family who gave up everything just to get her.”

‘It’s all showing Christ’s love’

Indiana Rep. Edward Clere was present for the event. The Republican

representing the state’s 72nd District—which includes New Albany, where he now resides—grew up near the city. He called St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities “an exceptional organization that touches our region in so many ways.”

“One of the many things I really appreciate about St. Elizabeth is their commitment to the area where they’re located,” he said. “They’re good stewards. People want to support organizations that are good stewards, and there are few better stewards than St. Elizabeth.”

He said the name of the gala, Giving Hope—Changing Lives, is more than a slogan.

“The stories that you hear at this event about lives that have been changed—their work is quite literally life-changing.”

Casper noted that the agency works with more than 100 churches of various faiths in the area.

Mari Coyle, a member of Christ Gospel Church in Jeffersonville, attended the event. She said her church supports the work of St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities.

“I’m Pentecostal, and my husband is Catholic,” she said. “We value life. When people are in situations, you don’t scorn them—you help them. Denominations don’t matter—it’s all showing Christ’s love.

“And they truly value the women. They don’t just give them ‘things.’ They give them skills to utilize and grow upon.”

Coyle appreciates the organization’s focus.

“They’re centered around Christ,” she said. “I think anytime you center something around Christ, it’s going to be successful.”

(For more information about St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities or to donate, go to stcharities.org.) †

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SHOOTING

continued from page 1

“The best thing to do is just be there for them, you know, not to try to help them understand what happened and why it happened. Sometimes words are just not going to be enough,” he said.

The community was still trying to understand what exactly happened the day of the shooting as authorities gave differing accounts of their response to try to stop the shooter. Initially, they said the shooter had been wearing tactical gear, met with a security guard and exchanged fire before entering the school.

But none of that turned out to be correct and on May 27, Texas Department

of Public Safety Director Steven C. McCraw said during a news conference that, in hindsight, waiting almost an hour to try to free the children trapped with the gunman “was the wrong decision.”

But it was a decision made thinking that the shooter had barricaded himself and no one was in danger, McCraw added.

“It was the wrong decision, period,” he said.

The shooter, who initially is said to have crashed a truck into a nearby ditch, seems to have entered the school with little difficulty at around 11:40 a.m., entering through a door authorities now have said had been propped open. He was shot dead at around 12:58 p.m. by U.S. Border Patrol officers. During that time, he fired 116 rounds, police said. †