Pope on Pentecost: Synod is journey in the Spirit, not ‘a parliament’

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—The Catholic Church’s upcoming Synod of Bishops should not be a “parliament for demanding rights,” but a “journey in accordance with the Spirit,” Pope Francis said.

The synod, which seeks to gather input from all baptized Catholics on building a listening Church, is not “an occasion for following wherever the wind is blowing, but the opportunity to submit to the breath of the Spirit,” he said.

In his homily for Pentecost Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica on May 28, the pope said that the Holy Spirit is “the heart of synodality and the driving force of evangelization.”

“Without him, the Church is lifeless, faith is mere doctrine, morality only a duty” and “pastoral work mere toil,” he said. “We often hear so many so-called thinkers and theologians who give us cold doctrines that seem mathematical because they lack the Spirit.”

Pope Francis, seated to the side of the basilica’s main altar, spoke without difficulty just two days after he had cleared his day’s schedule due to a fever.

Brazilian Cardinal João Braz de Aviz, prefect of the Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, was the main celebrant at the altar alongside Cardinals Giovanni Battista Re, dean of the College of Cardinals, and Leonardo Sandri, vice dean.

Reflecting on St. John’s account of Jesus breathing on the Apostles to impart the Holy Spirit, Pope Francis urged Christians to seek harmony in the Church without doing away with the differences that enrich its character.

“The Spirit does not inaugurate the Church by providing the community with rules and regulations, but by descending upon each of the Apostles, every one of them receives particular graces and charisms,” he explained. The Spirit “does not inaugurate the Church by providing the community with rules and regulations, but by descending upon each of the Apostles, every one of them receives particular graces and charisms,” he explained. The Spirit “does not inaugurate the Church by providing the community with rules and regulations, but by descending upon each of the Apostles, every one of them receives particular graces and charisms,” he explained. The Spirit “does not inaugurate the Church by providing the community with rules and regulations, but by descending upon each of the Apostles, every one of them receives particular graces and charisms,” he explained. 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“It’s been a real source of life in my priesthood,” Father Mahan said.

That life flowed to him to the people of the parishes he has served.

Deacon Mark Henry, ordained in 2022 and now serving at St. Joan of Arc Parish in Indianapolis, was a member of St. Luke nearly 30 years ago when Father Mahan first developed a series of 36 presentations on the catechism.

“I attended the full course,” Deacon Henry recalled. “I found it very interesting and engaging. It opened up for me the richness of the Catholic faith.

Father Mahan has a commanding understanding of the faith,” Deacon Henry said. “His homilies offered something for those new to the faith or those advanced in it. He is remarkable.

Deacon Henry is glad to see that the ministry of his former pastor has been brought to a “national stage.”

“He is an ideal person for this position,” he said.

Monica Clouser agrees. She serves as the secretary for St. John the Apostle Parish in Bloomington, St. Jude the Apostle Parish in Spencer, St. John the Baptist Parish in East Bloomington, and as secretary and administrator of religious education at St. Jude the Apostle Parish in Spencer.

“Father Mahan worked with me to complete many of those projects,” Clouser said. “He is an ideal person to teach people the faith. People really cared his knowledge. They thought they knew their faith, but then they learned so much more.”

Continuing a legacy

In teaching the faith in parishes across the archdiocese, Father Mahan has built on the foundation he received as a college seminarian in the early 2000s under the leadership of then-Benedictine Father Daniel Buechlein, serving at the time as the rector of the former Saint Meinrad College in St. Meinrad.

St. John Paul II appointed Father Daniel Buechlein as bishop of Memphis, Tenn., in 1987.

That experience led to teaching the faith in both faith communities when he served as pastor of both from 2013-19.

“Father Buechlein taught me teaching people the faith,” Clouser said. “People really cared his knowledge. They thought they knew their faith, but then they learned so much more.”

Buechlein and the committee developed a process by which religion textbooks used in Catholic schools and catechetical programs could be evaluated for their conformity to the catechism.

He soon asked Father Mahan to be a textbook reviewer.

“It was helpful as a priest knowing that I could have something to do with the way in which textbooks were presented before our students across the country,” noted Father Mahan, who said he “was honored” by Archbishop Buechlein asking him to be a reviewer.

He said reviewing textbooks early on was challenging because of their shortcomings in presenting the faith.

Through the years, though, he said they have improved markedly.

Now, in preparing to lead the institute, he feels he is in a position to carry on Father Buechlein’s legacy by helping to move catechesis in the U.S. forward to answer the cultural challenges that have emerged since the 1990s.

“I’m very grateful that Archbishop Buechlein thought enough of me to ask me to review textbooks, having no idea then where it might lead. I see now, through his vision, a plan that people have to go deeper into the faith,” a great desire to learn, not just for the sake of knowing more things, but to be able to pass the faith on.”

Alissa Thorell, who will work with Father Mahan at the institute, has collaborated with him for nearly 10 years in reviewing religion textbooks. She said his experience in leading parishes makes him “perfectly poised” for leading the institute.

“Father Mahan... is someone who can really help guide this work so that it remains faithful to magisterial teaching and also integrates the real lived experience that people are facing and will help them to find ways to bring their faith into their daily lives,” Thorell said. “He has such a gift for that.”

In working with Father Mahan in preparing for the launch of the institute, Thorell has seen a “mark of humility” and a “servant’s heart” that will serve well in leading the institute’s efforts to develop and promote a way of passing on the faith that also helps people grow in relationship with Christ at the same time.

“He’s keenly sensitive to the need of listening to other voices and taking them into consideration as a true learning experience,” said Thorell of Father Mahan. “His quick readiness to ask for someone else’s input on something really enables people to collaborate better.

“You need to be welcoming to listening to others who have diocesan, and publishing staff all trying to work on a bigger project together from different perspectives.”

Father Mahan looks forward to meeting with Church, catechetical and publishing leaders “to listen to the Holy Spirit together and pray together. From an experience like that, plans can be made for moving forward.”

“We don’t have all the answers,” he said. “But we do trust that bringing key players together in an atmosphere of prayer and reflection will bring about the discussions that will then be translated into creative catechetical efforts on the part of those who publish textbooks, those who spread the word digitally and those who are in the classrooms.”

(For more information on the Institute on the Catechism, visit evangelizeingcatechesis.com)
“Evangelizing catechesis” helps people build a relationship with Christ

By Sean Gallagher

AURORA—Beginning in July, Father Daniel Mahan will lead the Institute on the Catechism, started last fall by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

It builds on the work the USCCB began in the 1990s of ensuring that religion textbooks submitted to its Subcommittee on the Catechism are in conformity with the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Only now, the institute will work with bishops, diocesan catechetical leaders and the staff members of publishers of catechetical resources to develop and promote an “evangelizing catechesis.”

Father Mahan described it as a time-tested approach to passing on the faith “through which saints have been formed.”

“While it is important that the contents of the faith be presented in an accurate and compelling manner so that they might know about Jesus,” he said, “the great saints have been formed by catechists who help them get to know Jesus himself. We’re calling that an evangelizing catechesis.”

Father Mahan said bringing together aspects of evangelization and catechesis is critical today. While the USCCB’s efforts since the late 1990s to improve the quality of catechetical texts have been successful, “we still have young people leaving the Church and opting out of the faith at an alarmingly young age.”

The priest has seen this up close in more than 30 years of leading parishes in central and southern Indiana. Some of the most difficult moments in Father Mahan’s priestly ministry have been in meeting with parents heartbroken over their children walking away from the faith.

“So often, it’s not that the parents did something wrong,” he said. “The parents influenced those children. But sadly, there are so many other influences in our world that seem to wrap themselves around young people like tentacles and pull them away from those things that truly give life, those things that are truly healthy for body, mind and soul.”

While contemporary culture poses new challenges to the Church’s proclamation of the Gospel in the pervasive influence of the Internet, social media and digital devices, Father Mahan said they are still rooted in the work of the Evil One.

“The devil doesn’t change much,” Father Mahan said. “What I experienced when I was growing up and what I experienced as a young priest has simply metastasized into something much more deadly.”

Despite these challenges, Father Mahan holds on to hope.

“Into the darkness comes the risen Christ and the paschal light, the light that shatters the darkness, the darkness that can never overcome it,” he said. “We have an opportunity in our day and age to be the light of Christ, to be hope where there is despair, to be light where there is darkness, to be love and goodness where there is only hatred and meanness.”

That hope, light, love and goodness can enter people’s hearts in an evangelizing catechesis when people, in learning about Jesus and his teachings, also nurture a relationship with him.

“When we truly know Jesus, how can we leave him?” Father Mahan asked. “Lord, to whom shall we go? You alone have the words of everlasting life.” (Jn 6:68)

“That’s the heart of a true disciple, to be able to say that. The more that can be developed from the earliest years of a child’s formation all the way through, the more impactful the catechesis will be.”

Father Mahan saw it as “providential” that the institute was founded to foster an evangelizing catechesis during the midst of the three-year National Eucharistic Revival and in the lead up to the National Eucharistic Congress, slated to take place in Indianapolis on July 17-21, 2024.

He said he expects it to “be a prime example of an evangelizing catechesis.”

“We come together [at the congress] not just to be together,” Father Mahan said. “We come together so that we might then go forth and take to the four corners all that we’ve learned, all that we’ve seen and heard.”

By Sean Gallagher

‘Evangelizing catechesis’ helps people build a relationship with Christ

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By Sean Gallagher
Reflection
Sean Gallagher

Live every lap of life like it's your last

The Indianapolis 500 is a marathon. But winning doesn’t require dominating it, leading the race from the first lap. To win the Borg Warner Trophy, all you have to do is lead the last lap. In fact, all you have to do is be the leader at the end of that lap.

José Newgarden knows that well. He gained the lead in this year’s race with about a mile to go in the 500-mile contest, passing 2022 winner Marcus Ericsson into turn four, on lap 298 and ultimately crossing the yard of bricks first by less than one tenth of a second.

In winning this year’s Indy 500, Newgarden tied the record for the longest time—12 years—it took a racer to win for the first time.

Before this year’s 500 or Indy, Newgarden had experienced great success in open-wheel racing, winning 22 IndyCar races and two IndyCar season championships in the first 11 years of his career. But winning at Indianapolis had always eluded him. In an interview immediately after the race, Newgarden shouldered his frustration with being asked many questions over the years why he won elsewhere, but not at Indy.

“Some look at you like you’re a failure if you don’t win it,” he said.

In this year’s race, Newgarden wanted to put this nagging assumption behind him for good. So, when the chance for victory appeared before him on the last lap of the race, he reached out, grabbed it and never let go.

In another interview after the race, he said that he was determined to do what it took to finish first this year and not settle for being a runner up.

“I’m either fencing this or I’m winning the race. I didn’t want to finish second, third or fourth. It was all on the line today.”

For Newgarden, the Indy 500 isn’t a 500-mile marathon run on the last Sunday of May each year. It’s been a 12-year marathon marked by 5,500 miles of heartache and heartbreak.

With all of that disappointment finally behind him, Newgarden said he was filled with “pure emotion” as he stopped his car at the yard of bricks after his victory lap.

Filled with energy, he hopped out of his car as if he had just finished an easy Sunday ride in the country, found an open spot in the fence and channeled through for an exuberant celebration with a group of fans.

Newgarden wanted to go into the crowd here at Indianapolis. ... I wanted to celebrate with the people. This was a dream of mine. If [victory] was ever going to happen, I wanted to do that.

For IndyCar drivers, achieving an Indy 500 victory is like entering heaven. And Newgarden going first to celebrate with the fans is like being surrounded by that great cloud of witnesses that is the communion of the saints—in this case, about 300,000 “witnesses” who attended this year’s race (Heb 12:1).

Each of us in our marathon race to reach heaven will experience many setbacks. And we may be troubled by those around us who focus first on our failures.

Nevertheless, that matters, though, if with the ever-present help of God’s grace, we are found faithful by our merciful heavenly Father on the last lap of our lives as he draws us to eternal life.

Unlike the Indy 500, we never know when the last lap will occur. Live every lap of life as you last. And then, with God’s grace fueling your finish, you can go forward in hope of a celebration with the saints that’s beyond your imagination.

(Sean Gallagher is a reporter for The Criterion.)

Letters Policy

Letters from readers are published in The Criterion as part of the newspaper’s commitment to “the responsible exchange of free and unfettered, held and expressed opinion among the People of God.” (Comunio et Paschalis 116.1)

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

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

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

Send letters to “Letters to the Editor,” The Criterion, 1400 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202-3367. Readers with access to e-mail may send letters to criterion@archindy.org.
The passionate love that marks the Holy Trinity in our lives

Por lo que nos ha revelado de su gloria creemos igualmente de tu Hijo el Espíritu Santo que para que, en la confesión de la verdadera y eterna Divinidad, puedas ser adorado en lo que es propio de cada persona, su unidad en sustancia, y su igualdad en majestad (Prefacio de la Solemnidad de la Santísima Trinidad).

El próximo domingo celebramos la solemnidad de la Santísima Trinidad (Domingo de la Santísima Trinidad). Si solamente pensamos en la Trinidad como una doctrina, una enseñanza teológica compleja, nos resultará difícil de observar esta fiesta solamente. No es fácil celebrar una abstracción, por lo que, para experimentar verdaderamente el poder y la alegría de este domingo, debemos centrar nuestra atención en la Santísima Trinidad en concreto—as the most dynamic, impactful force in the universe!—In the second reading for Trinity Sunday, St. Paul speaks of the God of love. “Mend your ways, encourage one another, live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you” (2 Cor 13:11). Love is the essence of who God is. God doesn’t simply perform loving actions, although this is a constitutive element of God’s identity. God is love. It’s who God is. And the manifestation of God’s identity, the God who has given us so much love, is that God is, in the words of Father Brian Prior of the Jesuit Order: “The whole world is at war with God.”

In the Gospel reading for the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, St. John tells us that “God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life” (Jn 3:16). This is a way of saying that God the Father is so passionate in his love for us that he gives what is most dear to him—his only Son—to ransom us from the powers of sin and death. In no way is the Father remote, indifferent or absent. He cares deeply about each of us, his children, and he passionately gives us everything we need to know, love and serve him. The Son is also passionate. The Sacred Heart of Jesus is filled to overflowing with love and forgiveness in spite of the fact that we so often betray him and show ourselves unworthy of his unconditional love. In the Nicene Creed, we acknowledge our belief in One Lord, Jesus Christ, and we confess that “For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.”

In Latin, “He suffered death and was buried and rose again on the third day” reads: Passus et sepultus est, et resurrexit tertia die. “Passus” is the Latin root for “passionate,” which means “suffering with.” Jesus Christ, the second person of the Blessed Trinity, underwent an excruciating passion and death for our sake, and in the process, he demonstrated beyond any doubt that God’s love is stronger than death itself. The third person of the Blessed Trinity, the Holy Spirit, is the source of all passionate love for God and neighbor. The Spirit is described in sacred Scripture with many images, including “tongues of fire” and “strong winds.” Paradoxically, the Holy Spirit is also pictured as a dove, the universal symbol of peace and tranquility. God’s love is passionate, but it is never violent or destructive. When the Holy Spirit sets our hearts on fire, the result is a powerful, passionate peacefulness.

Our truine God can be understood, and more importantly experienced, as a passionate love that creates, redeems and sanctifies all things visible and invisible. When we celebrate Trinity Sunday, it is this passionate love, not an abstract teaching, that we should call to mind.

This is my wish for you this Trinity Sunday: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you! (2 Cor 13:13) †

The Criterion. Friday, June 2, 2023

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ARCHBISHOP/ARZOBISPO CHARLES C. THOMPSON
June-August
Marian University, 3200 Cold Spring Rd., Indianapolis.
Summer Youth Camps, Innovation Through Engineering, Missionary Disciples Institute, theatre, Launch Your Future 21st Century Scholars SYO Summer Music, athletic camps; age levels, final registration deadline is June 12, fees vary. Information: 317-955-6102, camps@marian.edu, ext. 511.†

June 7
MCL Cafeteria, 5520 Castleton Center Lane, Indianapolis.
Local Seniors, 5:30 p.m., Catholic, educational, charitable and social singles—separated, widowed or divorced—age 50 and older, new members welcome, also call about regular Friday night dinner event. Information: 317-796-8605.

June 8-10
Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, 335 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis.
Grange Festival, Thurs. 5-11 p.m., Fri. 12:30-9 p.m., Sat. 5 p.m.-midnight, rides, games, Monte Carlo, bingo, cake wheel, grand raffle, quilt raffle, children’s games, jewelry auction, live music, beef test, food, free admission. Information: 317-888-2851, info@ogpw.org.

June 9-10
Virtual Catholic House Church Conference, Fri. 12:30-9 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., speakers include Greg and Lisa Popack, Father Joseph Gill and Jacqueline Macnab, M.D. Information, registration: 410-620-3622, ckhcwww.org/catholic-housechurch-conference.com.

June 11, 25
Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis.
Italian Street Festival, 5-11 p.m., more than 25 Italian foods, pastas, salads, desserts, homemade spaghetti sauce, pizza, cannoli, cheese tooth, Italian beer and wine, live music, dancing, rides, religious procession, Sat. 6:45 p.m. before 7 p.m. Mass, free parking in EN Lilys lot on East and New Jersey streets, free admission. Information: 317-636-4478, info@indialit.org.

June 14, 28
McGowan Hall, 1105 N. Delaware St., Indianapolis.
Theology on Tap, 6-9 p.m., summer speaker series for young adults ages 18-39, free admission. Information: gmastruchely@archindy.org, 317-592-4006.

June 15
Our Lady of Peace Church, Calumet, 9071 N Yorktown Road, Indianapolis.
Mass, 2 p.m., Information: 317-574-8898, catholiccemeterysmass.com.

Registration deadline for Sept. 17-26 Pilgrimage to France, Portugal and Spain, sponsored by Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, spiritual director Msgr. Mark S vaczkopf, $49.49 per person double room occupancy, does not include lunches or driver/guide tips. Information, registration: 317-414-9903, svirkaer@gmail.com.

June 16
Northside Events and Social Club, 2100 E. 71st St., Indianapolis.
Catholic Business Exchange, presented TBA, rosary 6:30 a.m., Mass 7 a.m., buffet breakfast and program following, $18 members, $24 non-members. Register by 4 p.m. on June 13. Information, registration: cutty@CBE-Rev.

June 17
Griffin Bike Park, 10700 Bono Rd., Terre Haute.
Quack 5k, 6:30-7:30 a.m. registration, 8 a.m. St race, benefitting Terre Haute Catholic Charities, chip timing, refreshments, register by June 11 for T-shirt, $30 individually, walk ups welcome, $100 families of four to eight members, register by June 16. Information and registration: cutty@Quack.com.

June 19

June 21
Calvary of St. Amelius Chapel, 435 W. Troy Ave., Indianapolis.

June 22-23
Benedict Inn Retreat and Conference Center, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove.
Circle of Friends Summer Retreat, 10 a.m. Thurs.-4 p.m. Fri., retreat for adults with developmental disabilities, $85 double occupancy, $90 single occupancy, commuter $12 per meal, $12 for Tookit, sponsored by archdiocesan Disabilities Ministry. Information, registration or call 317-236-1474, Kayava@archindy.org.

June 23-24
Christ the King Parish, 5884 N. Crichton Ave., Indianapolis.
Summer Social, 6 p.m. night dinner, live music, kids’ area, food, beer and wine, 51 admission. Information: 317-235-3665.

June 24
Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis.
Faithful Citizens Rosary Walk, 10:45-11:45 a.m., meet in front of church. Information: halowvry, pmcaglo@gmail.com.

Discount tickets available for June 22 Catholic Night at Victory Field through Catholic Night at Victory Field, 501 W. Maryland St., in Indianapolis, as the Indians’ baseball team hosts the W. Maryland St., in Indianapolis, as special-priced tickets can only be $10 plus a $2.50 service fee. These $3 domestic draft beers and $5 beer and wine, $1 admission.

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

June 16-18

Mother of the Redeemer Retreat Center, 820 W. State Rd. 48, Bloomington. Hearts of Jesus and Mary, 6:30 p.m. Fri.-11 a.m. Sun., Franciscan Friars of the Immaculate Father John Lawrence Polis facilitating, $50.70 per adult, children 18 and younger may attend free with parent, Sat. lunch and dinner included, overnight accommodations available for additional cost. Information, registration: 812-825-984, ext. 1.†

Announcements for couples celebrating 50, 55, 60, 65, 70 or more years of marriage are accepted. Go to cutty@anniversaries or call 317-236-1385.

Wedding Anniversaries
DON and GERRY (VOLLMER) ST. PETERS, members of St. Lawrence Parish in Indianapolis, will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary on June 8. The couple was married in St. Matthew Church in Alton, Ill., on June 7, 1958. They have four children: Don, Doug, Jeff and Steve St. Peters. The couple also has eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

PAUL and BONNIE (JHONSON) HUDYER, members of St. Mary's Parish in Greensburg, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on June 9. The couple was married in St. Mary Church in Greensburg, on June 9, 1973. They have two children: Anita and David HNMYER. The couple also has four grandchildren.

BILLY and SUE (HUNT) HUMPHREY, members of St. Christopher Parish in Indianapolis, will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on June 2. The couple was married in St. Gabriel the Archangel Church in Indianapolis, on June 2, 1963. They have four children: Marianne Alspach, Andrea Hittel, Maureen Schemmel and the late John Suding. The couple also has 15 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

JAMES and PATRICIA (KOHRMAN) HARMEYER, members of St. Mary’s Parish in Indianapolis, will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary on June 2. The couple was married in St. Gabriel the Archangel Church in Indianapolis, on June 2, 1953. They have two children: Billy and Bryan Humphrey. The couple also has four grandchildren.

A “God’s Plan for Human Sexuality” conference will take place at Catholic Center on July 29
A “God’s Plan for Human Sexuality” conference will take place at the Archbishop Edward T. O’Connor Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., in Indianapolis, from 8:30 a.m.-noon on July 29.

The conference, sponsored by the archdiocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life, is open to anyone ages 18 and older.

The conference addresses how to honor and celebrate God’s vision of our sexuality, including tips for conjugal intimacy, the vocations of spouse and parent, and overcoming obstacles in marriage. Speakers include Institute Amar al Maximio founder and Theology of the Body expert Evan Lemoine, FertilityCan/NaPro Technology medical consultant Dr. Casey DelCocco and Catholic therapist Jonathan Chamblee.

A block of discount tickets can only be purchased online at fevemorg.com/event/ Divineint0622. For more information, contact Darlene Sweeney at 317-924-5769 ext. 238 or dwueeny@svdpindy.org.

Announcements for couples celebrating 50, 55, 60, 65, 70 or more years of marriage are accepted. Go to cutty@anniversaries or call 317-236-1385.
CONGRATULATIONS
CARDINAL RITTER HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 2023

Valedictorian
ANNA KOKOSA
Salutatorian
CARSON VRABEL

Left to Right: Owen Sulecki, Matthew Schelkonka, Stella Campbell, Lauren Yelich, Jesus Santamaria, Aaron Anderson, Carson Vrabel, Jordan Hinkle, Daniela Klem And Anna Kokosa

Rim Aaron
Pedro Adame-Rodriguez
Joshua Derek Adams
Luka Jay Adams
Mabel Tietaya Adesanya
Brandon Josie Aldana-Cortes
Aaron Thomas Anderson
Taryn Danae Andrews
Jude Chidiaso Anuka
Lizet Avila-Espindola
Maya John Black
Sarion Anthony Brown
Robert Brownridge IV
Candy Bustamante-Lopez
Adriana Sofia Bustillo
Luke Adam Cairns
Stella Joann Campbell
Natalie Guadalupe Campos
Janelle Cano
Osvaldo Carlos
Samantha Cauces
Andres Jesus Classier
Helen Joanna Colin

Louis Heribeth Cortes
Jahayra Alexandra Cruz Salgado
Chloe René Davis
Albert Diego-Rosendiz
Jacob Russell Dial
Adolfo Armando Dominguez
Makenna Helen Drake
Yosel Teldai Estefanos
Jayden Sental Flemming
David Flores-Gaspar
Victor Gabriel Flores
Emily Galarraga-Daniel
Rodrigo David Galvan-Gonzalez
Julian Ignacio Garay
Kimberly Garcia Velasco
Jasmin Cobian Garcia
Canaan Teffi Gembemski
Christian Michael Arnez Glascoc
Malory Nicole Grzegorzekowski
Tyler Christian Guthrie
Elen Serrano Halle
Luis Fernando Hernandez
Vanessa Maria Hernandez

Jordan Masandra Sue Hinkle
Lulieth Huerta Acosta
Jane Maria Jackson
Robert Julian Jackson III
Benjamin William Johnson
Jamyson Johnson
Kayden Elise Jones
Elia Rae Kappel
Daniela Gail Klem
Maxwell James Knox
Anna Louise Kokosa
Victor Lara, Jr.
Calib Aaron Letter
Elizabeth Ann Lengnerich
Daniela Monserrat Lopez
Angela Buhi Mabuz
Erika Maresz
Jeremy Uceda Marin
Nathan Ross Martin
Ramon Martinez Mendi
Ashley Sサー Meija
Cristian Fernando Menjivar Chavez
Lauren Nicole Mertz

Mikial Matthew Miller
Aylene Celeste Molina
Jakar Anthony Moore
Jacqueline Muensterhera
Alaina Grace Nacl
Yanis Christ-Oliver Nebout
Naomi Valentina Negrozo-Lopez
Daniel Angel Pena
Kimberly Arianna Perez Rodriguez
Vanessa Perez
Simeon James Pontones
Kenny Quiroz
Sara Grace Redding
Jayjouir Trevon Roberts
Estan Rocha
Marcel Angel Rodriguez Reina
Angela Paulette Rodriguez
Bryan Joel Rodriguez Flores
Natalie Rodriguez
Miguel Angel Rosales Jr.
Guillermo Raurea, Jr.
Miranda Maria Rueda-Pelayo
Fernando Sandoval Ramirez

Jesus Santamaria, Jr
Alexandra Sarrisonto
Matthew Joseph Schelkonka
Samantha Serrato
Salome Malaguta Seyoum
Luis Alberto Silverste
Darveigh Semcone Small
Bendom Dreew Smith
John Alexander Starriak
Owen Jonathan Sulecki
Jean Karlo Tapia
Eva Anne Lelani Thomas
Gilberto Valedes Petronino
Eric Hector Valentino
Jordi Daniel Valladares-Velasquez
Abigail Armanda villania
Carson Ronald Vrabel
Trey Dwayne Wilson, Jr.
Lauren Elizabeth Yelich
Gabriellev Neuvel Diann Zavala

Rim Aaron
Pedro Adame-Rodriguez
Joshua Derek Adams
Luka Jay Adams
Mabel Tietaya Adesanya
Brandon Josie Aldana-Cortes
Aaron Thomas Anderson
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Jayjouir Trevon Roberts
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Natalie Rodriguez
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Guillermo Raurea, Jr.
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Fernando Sandoval Ramirez

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Owen Jonathan Sulecki
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Abigail Armanda villania
Carson Ronald Vrabel
Trey Dwayne Wilson, Jr.
Lauren Elizabeth Yelich
Gabriellev Neuvel Diann Zavala

St. Vincent de Paul is so grateful! Our 4th annual Love Your Neighbor 5K Run/Walk was a resounding success! We are thankful for all of your year's sponsors.

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Indy’s Child • Archdiocese of Indianapolis • WRTV Indianapolis

To all sponsors, donors, participants and volunteers who help us love our neighbors, your support has been a shower of God’s grace upon St. Vincent de Paul and the neighbors we serve.

Love Your Neighbor 5K
St. Vincent de Paul Indianapolis

The Criterion Friday, June 2, 2023 Page 7
This Easter 2022 and at Easter Vigil Mass held on April 8 in parishes throughout central and southern Indiana, the Archdiocese of Indianapolis welcomed 638 catechumens into the full communion of the Church through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Following is a list of the catechumens and candidates reported to The Criterion.

Bateville Deanery
All Saints, Debranch County
Jared Frances, Evan Lester, Hayley Price, Adam Schuh, Akion Vo (catechumens); Kelvin Jenner, Nathan Othman (candidates)
Holy Family, Olbany
Whitney Lambert, Meg Neile-Rae, Cassie Wittman (candidates)

Joseph, Sheville
Luka Anka, Lindsay Arriba, Gabriel Curtis-Herera, Ryan Dittler, James Gouey, Elizabeth Nauert (catechumens); Evan Emamai Varezi Rodriguez, Carlos Toro Telik, Edgar Toledo Eliko, Magdalena Tomas, Jarred Arzt, Amee Arzt, Yosel Ariza, Mirian Arzani, Antonio Arzani, Nathan Arzani, Pio Arzani, Christian Stevenson, Shalooe Stine (candidates); Laby Lucas, Taylor Richardson (candidates)

Lawrence, Lawrenceburg
Vonda Almena, Alexander Hering, Lydia Altenburg, Julianna Langlois, Stephanie Langlois, Steven Langlois, William Langlois, Zachary Murray (candidates)

Louis, Bateville
Connor Bub, Koa Gibbon, Kwan Gibbon, Vada Gibbon (candidates)

Mary, Greensburg
Kelly Bixler, Kate Stokes (candidates); Derek Alexander, Morgan Greaves (candidates)

Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Aurora
Denise Chamberlain, Steve Vega (candidates); Austin Bartler, Daniel Vanzandt (candidates)

Michael, Brookville
Dana Bream, Jessica Breston, Shelby Breston, Kimberly Bratman, Kellie Roesler, Amanda Raunzel, Andrew Schlichter, (candidates); Michelle Moster (candidate)

Peter, Franklin County
Ashley Miller (candidate)

Terrea Benevolence of the Cross, Wright
Paul Rubbo (candidate)

Bloomington Deanery
Our Lady of the Springs, French Lick
Shane Ballantine (candidate)

Our Lord Jesus Christ the King, Paoli
Andy Rieck, Elkin Rieck, Karla Rieck (candidates)

St. Luke the Evangelist
Adam, Kim Clair, Eric Cullen, Matt Orr, Abner Perez, Kevin Killeen, Toby Orme, Chase William (catechumens); Willis (candidates)

Gardner, Bryce Hackman, Chris Kennedy, Shannon Gabriel Strole, Helena Strole (catechumens); Kari Arney, (catechumens); Christian Gleason (candidate)

Reed, Joselin Saavedra, Anai Sanchez, Jhavani Sanchez Hernandez, Heidy Hernandez, Jazmin Hernandez, Julissa Oscar Amador, Danny De la Cruz, Angel Garcia, Adrian Augustus Berle, Beatrice Berle, Oliver Berle, Brian Burns (candidates)

SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral
Ethan Whitney (candidates)

St. Mark the Evangelist
Cheryl Collier, Amber Rick, Zain Safari Khan (candidates); Devon Deangrat, Amanda Lichtenberg, Pamela Hickling, Kyle Reid (candidates)

St. Patrick
Lamond, Bridget Aranda, Rhoda Aranda, Karin Aranda, Scarlett Aranda, Delilah Arzani, Muo Martha, Deonne Askew, Gabriel Cazorla, Lopeido Galindez-Almacan, Jr., Dibbyraty Molina, Elvia Molina (candidates)

St. Thomas the Apostle, Fowlerville
Alan Cherry (candidate)

Indianapolis North Deanery
Queen of Peace, Danville
Stephanie Funk, Terry Wolfe (candidates)

St. Anthony

St. Joan of Arc, Indianapolis
Kaylee Smith, Carter Waterman (candidates); Darin K. Clark, Matt O’Calla, Matt Ortez, Anne Peterson (candidates)

Lake the Evangelist
Heidi Scholl, Ryan Slazer, Lansar Siyer, Taylor Watson (candidates); Kyle Allen, Julie Collin, Will Endicott, Nathan Fuerst, Stephanie Collins, Alexander Hill, Steddan Brakes, Heidi Leckol, Jordan Ruff, Jocelina Serna (candidates)

St. Matthew the Apostle
Thomas Gilbert, John Jeter, Brody King, Charles Loper, Ryan Garrett, Garrett Miller, Layla Young (candidates); Elizabeth Jones (candidate)

St. Pius X
Tiffany Robbins, Cole Karch, Josh Mondella (candidates); Angela Beeler, Clark Karch, Sylvie De Lott, Jordan Mondella, Shelby Scholl, Josh Smith (candidates)

Indianapolis South Deanery
Our Lady of the Good Shepherd, Greenwood
Ashley Bein, Jone Baxley, Marcel Buxton, Brenda Cuello, Juan Carlos Doctor, Zach Fung, Jeremy Gallardo, Jonya Gallardo, Guillermo Gallardo, Jony Talles, Serena Gallardo, Megan Gilligan, Jonathan Gilligan, Margaret Blackwell, Kate Braun, Ashley Coald, Jason Fong, Shonda Fong, Ryan Fong, Jordan Fong, Meredith Fong, Andrew Fong, David Fong, Michael Fong, Amy Fong, John Fong, Charles Fong (candidates)

St. Thomas Aquinas
Evan Bunnell (candidates); Ethel Labs (candidates)

St. Francis of Assisi, Greenwood
Isaac Long, Brian Monteau, Cort Monteau, St. Therese (candidates); Rose Brinkoetter, Sarah King (candidates)

St. Francis Xavier
Melissa Avila Escamilla, Valentina Ascencio Ramirez, Mariam Chumame-Cisse, Ange Clay, Cleo Clay, Brenda Clancy, Maysie Clevenger, Kimberly Clevenger, Audrey Dyer-Oehlrich, Kayla Flores Perez, Carolina Garcia, Destini Garcia, Jose Garcia Xelio, Delany Green, Chau Leuc, Bruno Moya Sanchez, Paloma Mondonardo, Joana Mondonardo, Vitoria Nogura, Negras Cisneros, Jihan Florent, Pierre Panamour, Armelle Paire, Lois Flores Perez, Emilia Prator, Melanie Prate, Nemanja Prator (candidates); Martin Prate, Sharon Prate (candidates)

St. Michael the Archangel
Harold Williams (candidates)

St. Monica

St. Malachi, Brownsburg
Evelyn Delamaia, Katherine Fazzamone, Emma Gamble (candidates); Marsha Casals, Tom Casals, Ally Jean-Baptist, Sue Kehlberg, Tyler Kechin, Ben Myers, Erin Oakes, Aikl Sullivan, Emily Prater (candidates)

St. Bernard, Frenchtown
Tatiana Camp-Chavez (candidate); Angela Rosario (candidate)

St. Francis Xavier, Frenchtown
Joan Techman (candidates)

John Paul II, Sellersburg
Allan Henderson, Kari Higgs, Jim Hinton, Derek Lloyd, Elii Le, Easter O’Neal, Hayd Pedigo, Abel Petroj, Carlon Payton, Ryan Payton, Jackson Thomas, Rob Thomas (candidates); Philip Furtado, Allyson Hinton, Christy Lowen, Lauren Payton (candidates)

St. Joseph, Corydon
Zander Bryant, Marshall Rogers, Tina Torres-Rios (candidates); Xavion Bryant (candidate)

St. Marie, Lanesville
Daniel Thompson (candidate); Shawna Casabell (candidate)

St. Mary, New Albany
Reina Boyle,电梯 Gomes Cohen, Valerie Jose, Karina Mattias, Mia Miller, Chantell Walter, Matt Beethoven, John Gallogly, Nathan Hilbert, Tyler James, Giuseppe Ross, Brian Sway, Debrah Spain, Paul Sun, Pedra Melina, Aaron Stitzl, Michelle Towne (candidates)

St. Thomas More, Mareeville
Dean Noon (candidates)

St. Matthew the Apostle
Matthew Gilbert, John Jeter, Brody King, Charles Loper, Ryan Garrett, Garrett Miller, Layla Young (candidates); Elizabeth Jones (candidate)

New Albany Deanery
Holy Family, New Albany
Anthony Ash, Tavin Kochett (candidates)

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Jeffersonville
Hayden Draysegrover, Heaven Draysegrover, Jasmine Draysegrover, Delilah Draysegrover, Christian Duglas Draysegrover, James Duglas Draysegrover, James Duglas Draysegrover (candidates)

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, New Albany
Shelby Emer, Shelle Thornton, Shelby Tackett (candidates)

St. Anthony of Padua, Clarksville
Donna Dintzis Hutmack, Jan Youssouf (candidates)

St. Michael, Connersville
Angie Cervantes, Ashley Cervantez, Wheree T ביח (candidates); Amanda Cervantes, Awesome Cervantes, Marissa Cervantes (candidates)

St. Vincent de Paul, Bedford
Samantha Cervantes, Steffie Molinas, Zoe Molinas (candidates); Kian Moore, Samuel Camillo, Malli Rose, Sophia Rose, Todd Rose (candidates)

Tell City Deanery
Annunciation, Brazil
Debbie Lemb, Audrey Menet, Joel Brest (candidates); Ellie Emm, Erin Rus (candidates)

Sacred Heart, Clinton
Jason Bircher, Joel Brest (candidates); Marilyn Moscrik, Karen Rodriguez (candidates)

Sacred Heart of Jesus, Terre Haute
Jamey Bircher, Jamey Mattison (candidates)

St. Benedeic, Terre Haute
Fayth Adams, Heather Pilkin-Little (candidates)

St. Joseph, Rockville
Steve Nance (candidate)

St. Joseph University, Terre Haute
Aaron Fortiz, Alexander Fortiz, Aljiah Forzi, Andrew Fortiz, Shanna Fortiz, Nichel Fortiz, Marshall, James Mates, Grant Stuckles (candidates); Kate Cox, Zachary Cox, Zachary Cox (candidates)

St. Paul the Apostle, Greensville
Alexis Rogers, Katie Rogers,Cooldown Zepplie (candidates); Andre Campbell, Rachel Drisker, Lesi Stanley (candidates)
Congratulations to the Roncalli Class of 2023

The faculty, staff and administration of Roncalli High School are very proud of all that these young men and women continue to accomplish. They have challenged themselves, embraced their faith and are prepared to make their own unique impact in our world. The prayers and support of the entire Roncalli family accompany them on their journey. May God bless and protect the Class of 2023.

Roncalli Salutes the Graduating Class of 2023

Aydén Nol Adame
Veronica Grace Allen
Mikayla Lynn Anderson
Evan Michael Baker
Madelyn Martha Baker
Audrey Mary Balcom
Nicholas Jack Bandomer
Alexander James Bailey
Andrew Joseph Baugh
Annie Jane Bauman
Merritt Anne Bean
Andrew Noah Beard
Morgan Alicia Beaspre
Colin Michael Bere
Rory Griffin Bokes
Samantha Michelle Behlen
Julia Marie Benke
Aria Michelle Berger
Lucas Michael Bileman
Adele Marie Bishop
Lyra Eliza Blackwell
Lauren Elizabeth Bobko
Olivia Maria Bogart
Rayven Jade Bond
Lauren Marie Boone
Elliot Carter Borders
Anthony Joseph Brookman
Audrey Marie Brown
Olivia Frances Brownfield
Chloe Joseph Buck
Anne Pauline Burning
Elizabeth Ann Butryn
Abele Marie Buckle
Faith Ann Burch
Scott Michael Burke Jr
Shaan Michael Berne
Michael Scott Childers
Earon Andrew Clovers
Callum Shehan Cosgill
Campbell Grace Cricusun
Sophia Maria Crews
Iain Nicholas Crowe
Ada Mary Kathryn Danz
Jack William Davis
Dylan Thomas Day
Ethan Robert Dexter
Andrew Joseph Dill
Bradford Reed Dollens
Anne Catherine Dressman
Anthony Celestino Daenas
Arin Marie Lynn Darrow
Mallory Noel Dwyer

Condelia Louisa Eble
Ian Matthew Eldridge
Rosalia Marie Elezzi
Gaven Andrew Farris
Allison Marie Flettwood
Jaday Alacia Fracaza
Erinelle Andrew Fru
Joseph Dennis Gaalala
Andrew Thomas Gallagher
Thomas Richard Gallagher
Jose Francisco Gallegos
Elizabeth Dianne Garon
Ennex Garcia
Tod Darin Gerhart
Dana May Geiger
Lucy Kay Gibbs
Matthew Robert Golba
Alessandro Francisco Gomez-Alejo
Megan Olivia Gonzalez
Gabrielle Marie Goodnight
Elle Joyce Gosser
Reece Daniel Gosser
Andrew Michael Greene
Stephanie Alexandra Gutierrez
Luke Patrick Hanson
Joshua San Harbers
Nathaniel Song Harbers
Jenna Rose Harbers
Tyler Blayne Hatler
Katelyn Ann Heidelberger
Jordan Christine Hendricks
Derek Hernandez
Jervis Rae Hernandez
Bryce Robert Hillan
Fai Llan Hui
Abigail Marie Hofmann
Thomas Christopher Hollenback
Christopher Konstan Nathon Houston
Emily Marie Hornek
Sydney Leigh Horton
Honey William Howe
Angel Lin Hudspeth
Tanner Hogue Hudspeth
Jadon Bernard Imm
Jessica Rose Irvin
Olivia Grace-Marie Jackson
Ariel Marie Johnson
Matthew Jeffrey Johnson
Olive Thomas Johnson
Cameron Marie Jones
Monica Michelle Jones
Nora Elizabeth Jordan
Sarah Kathleen Jordan
Zane Joseph Kalic
Lee Karr
Luke Elijah Kaiser
Margaret Anne Kasynek
Elizabeth Fay Kerr
Lucas Benjamin Kegrembis
Connor James Kellams
Elih Marie Kerr
Kim San Khai
Lauren Elizabeth Kilgore
Dane Shaw Keglen
Noah Anthony Kone
Holly Patricia Kunanic
Bayden Charles Lauck
Trevor Dawson Lauck
Jackson Joes-Paul Lowrie
Sophia Rose Lawson
Karlynn Ruser Leiner
Elih Joseph Limell
Emma Kathleen Lisbyg
Sofia Nicole Lopes
Bryce Keagan Lowrey
Mary Frances Lubkemein
Nathanial Edward Lytle
Christian Maldonado
Nicholas John Abraham Marshall
Lauren Elizabeth Marsick
George Paul Marten
Kevin Isaac Marvin Ramirez
Anthony James Maxwell
Annie Sofia Maye Martindale
Andrew David Meyer
Kira Emily McElhaney
Patrick Michael McGlory
Grace Margaret McGraw
Sara Lynn McGraw
Isabella Rose Josephine McLinn
Connor Michael McNeil
Jackson Matthew McNeil
Annie Marie Mehl
Evan James Moyer
Whitney Rivers Meinsohn
Eftesto Melchi
Lizbeth Miranda-Garcia
Noah Robert Moore
Hannah Marie Morgan
Ark Roy Movers
Keith Sennett Nara
Braxton William Neighbors
Robert Maxwell Neighbors
Ava Grace Nelson

Brady Joseph Netz
Emma Rae Nelson
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Bavi Thidai Pat
Joseph Andrew Parrent
Grace Marie Parson
Walker Andrew Parry
Michaela Joyce Payne
Anthony Michael Payton
Ian Padraig Peers
Hannah Frances Piers
Isabel Morgan Pierce
Olivia Marie Plimmer
Carina Jane Pindy
Jackson Walter Lige Quebe
Ingrid Quoka
Jesus Abraham Quintana
Brooke Irene Raines
Kyle Steven Ramsey
Catherine Taylor Reed
Georgia Claire Reind
Jovon Stetson
Erin Michael Ringer
Ricardo Sebastian Roman
Alexa Glenn Rosemary
Kegan Nicole Roderick
Liam Mayn Sanford
Avery Allen Sander
Caroline Marie Sanders
Anastasia Anne Santer
Shaneunn Kathy Saylor
Kyle Eugene Walker
Grant Douglas Walter
Amelie Santos Warner
David Eric Warner
Noah Michael Watkins
Micheal Elie Wang
Sean Patrick White
Isaac Robert White
Abigail Aquas Willie
Joanie Marie Wilson
Ryan Anthony Workman
Abigail Marie Wolff
Samuel Gaspar Xochiltla

Morgan Bailey Sticks
Elleigh Jeffrey Small
Isabel Christine Spencer
Lucy Kathleen Spindler
Hannah Kathleen Sports
Kaley Marissa Sprouse
Jayden Delaney Stafford
Taylor Anne Staehl
Jackson Matthew Streit
Nicholas Daniel Stewart
Gabriella Rose Stimmus
Harmon Victor Stimmus
Austen Christopher Strzykowski
Ariy Cangliedhawong Suissong
Lauren Victoria Sudit
Jake Connor Sullivan
Lake Michael Swartz
Olive Ann Swearingen
Alexandra Elizabeth Swift
Allison Ann Taylor
Brady Glenn Taylor
Chandah Sang Thalocs
Ryan James Thomas
Nathana Liies Tieres
Yasmine Isabel Tiyo
Evan Tyler Terma
Nolan Michael Timney
Hannah Lee Tiley
Anthony Joseph Ubera IV
David Udall
Alexander Reoth Van Sickle
Allison Marie Vennell
Blaire Alexander Vennell
Lake Anthony Vennell
Allison Thomas Vitali-Romero
Kyle Eugene Walker
Grant Douglas Walter
Amelie Santos Warner
David Eric Warner
Noah Michael Watkins
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Forming disciples of Jesus Christ through the intercession of Saint John XXIII.
By Dr. Joseph White

—Forgiveness is a thread that runs throughout the story of our faith. In the Garden of Eden, we see the fragility of human relationships, both with God and one another. Throughout our history, we also see God’s mercy and love, his desire to restore us to relationship with himself and others.

In the Old Testament, God proclaims a year of jubilee to his people—a time when all debts will be forgiven. And it’s not just one-time occurrence: God calls for this celebration to be repeated every seven years. He knows his people will need forgiveness again and again.

Forgiveness was also central to Jesus Christ’s teaching. He talked and ate with people known to be sinners. He forgave the woman accused of adultery (and saved her from being stoned to death by an angry crowd). Even after all but one of his disciples abandoned him at his crucifixion, Jesus’ first word to them after his resurrection is “peace” (Jn 20:21).

In a world made imperfect by original sin, human beings make mistakes. We are created to love God and one another, but we often fall short. We act in ways that are impulsive, selfish or inconsiderate. And our wrong choices have consequences, not only for ourselves, but also for others.

Unfortunately, our human failings often hurt the ones we love the most, resulting in broken marriages, “former best friends,” severed parent-child relationships and other family members who no longer speak to one another. These situations often cause great and lasting pain to everyone involved.

When this happens, some basic steps toward reconciliation can be helpful. The following are some recommendations, both for those who have been hurt and for those experiencing the pain and loss of a strained relationship because they have been hurtful themselves.

—Express the hurt—We can’t heal what we won’t feel. If we are working with our hands and get a cut, we don’t simply ignore it and hope it goes away. Instead, we wash it off, put antibacterial ointment on it and bandage the wound.

Our emotional wounds need the same care. Ignoring them can allow them to fester and grow worse over time. We need to talk about our hurt in order to heal the wound.

—Recognize that saying “I forgive you” does not mean all is forgotten. Rather, it says you want to let go of your anger and may be willing to work toward trust again.

—Next, realize that seeking reconciliation means being vulnerable and admitting you were wrong, even if you feel the other person didn’t handle it well either. Many long-standing feuds begin when one person is hurtful to another, the hurt person reacting in an angry way, and so on.

—Some conflicts have a way of perpetuating themselves to the point that both parties forget how they began. The solution is in each party taking responsibility for his or her own actions.

—Someone has to begin this process. Often this leads to a willingness on the part of the other person to examine his or her own actions as well.

—Tell the other person what you now understand about how he or she felt and make a commitment to avoid being hurtful in the future. He or she needs to hear that, while you might not have understood the effect your actions would have, you now know the hurt you’ve caused, and you don’t want to cause this hurt again.

—Forgiveness is a choice, but trust is not—While the other person may forgive you, it may take some time for trust to be re-established. Be patient with this process. At times, the person who was hurt may be reminded of what happened when similar circumstances arise. Reassure the other person at these times that you intend to follow through on your commitment.

—Christ’s life is the ultimate testament to the transformative power of forgiveness. He knows it is in our nature to hurt one another, and, in doing so, distance ourselves from him. He offers the sacrament of reconciliation to pour forgiveness into our lives, endlessly sustaining us in our efforts to forgive others.

—Forgiveness does not always mean trusting that particular person again, or entering into similar situations with him or her. But forgiveness does mean allowing God to help us free ourselves of the anger, resentment and sorrow that can be destructive to us if we continue to carry them. Letting go of this burden helps us enjoy our futures and approach new relationships with peace and openness.

(Des: Joseph White is a clinical psychologist who writes on catechesis, ministry and other topics, and whose books include Listening for God in Everyday Life, published by Our Sunday Visitor in 2020).
Feeling It/Effie Caldarella

Book reminds us not to的历史 repeat itself

It has been an amazing experience in the world of my 1 ½-year-old grandson. But what many don’t realize is that, in the early 20th century, the Klan was in a particularly large portion of America’s shores. My husband’s grandparents all came from Italy and his parents moved here from a town in the Midwest.

The Klan had its targets: Blacks, Jews, and Catholics.

Egan’s story revolves around a charismatic leader, David C. Stephenson, who managed to galvanize the motion of the state of Indiana, where nearly one in three native-born white men joined the Klan.

Stephenson was a violent rapist, an alcoholic, a liar who invented his past. But at the same time, he also worked for a century of State legislators, judges, police departments and had his eye on the U.S. Senate. The story of his undoing is fascinating. But the larger picture is a part of American history that we like to forget. It was a time when Americans lacked the ability to see the birth of a nation, the racist film The Birth of a Nation, which has been a catalyst for the mainstream of American life, where we have an obligation to defend the victims of racism and hate.

A shrunken Klan still exists, a small part of a large landscape of hate groups and white supremacists, which, like the Klan of old, lives in secrecy, violence and a false sense of Americanism.

We need to defend the faithful teaching of American history, because we don’t, we may have to repeat it. (Effie Caldarella is a wife, mom and grandmother who received her master’s degree in pastoral ministry.)

Guest Column/Russell Shaw

On Groff v. De Joy: Do we still want our Sabbath rest?

Both the extent and the limitations of the Supreme Court’s power are visible in a pending case raising the question of how far employers may go to accommodate employees’ religious liberties. Underlying this dispute—yet obviously unreachable by the Supreme Court—is the larger reality of the Sabbath de facto secularization in today’s America.

The case now before the court—Groff v. DeJoy—concerns a man who lost his job for refusing to deliver mail on Sunday because his Christian faith forbids him to work on the sabbath.

The justices heard oral arguments and will announce their decision before the court’s current term ends in late June or early July.

Immediately at issue here is Title VII of the Civil Rights Act barring employment discrimination on the basis of religion. Under Title VII, religious observance must be accommodated by employers as a matter of conscience as long as it does not cause “undue hardship” to the employer.

But there are many other wonders to be found in the world of my 1 ½-year-old grandson. As the memory of God’s saving action is brought about by Christ’s resurrection—is brought about by Christ’s presence in and through the ministry of the Church. As the memory of God’s saving action is brought about by Christ’s presence in and through the ministry of the Church. As the memory of God’s saving action is brought about by Christ’s presence in and through the ministry of the Church.
The Sunday Readings
Sunday, June 4, 2023

Quesition Corner/Anna Marie Cooper

Canon law defines norms related to monetary gifts given for Mass intentions

If I send a donation to a religious order or shrine that says they’ll remember my intentions at Mass, how does that work? They can’t possibly remember every intention of every donor? (New York)

A

Depending on the specific circumstances of the donation and the nature of the prayer request, the group in question may indeed remember your particular intention. If you make a general, unspecified donation to a group like a shrine or a religious community, they may send you a note saying that they’re praying for your intentions. Sometimes, this means that your intentions are included in a more general prayer request—especially a monastic contemplative community, as these communities are specialists in intercessory prayer—you may be prayed for by name. When you give a small monetary gift to a parish, religious community, shrine or other pertinent Catholic organization after requesting that Mass be celebrated for a particular intention, this money is called a “stipend.” As Canon 945, 1 of the Code of Canon Law describes this custom: “In accord with the approved practice of the Church, any priest celebrating or concelebrating is permitted to receive an offering to apply the Mass for a specific intention.”

The original idea behind Mass stipends was that a stipend for a priest’s daily Mass would be enough to provide for his material daily needs—although in this respect, Mass stipends certainly have not kept up with inflation. Our current Code of Canon Law describes Mass stipends as works of charity, insofar as the faithful, in making the offering of a stipend, share in the Church’s “concern to support its ministers and works” (#946).

The set amount for a Mass stipend is determined locally by the bishops of an ecclesiastical province (that is, the region made up of an archdiocese and its surrounding suffragan dioceses). In the United States, Mass stipends tend to range between $5 and $20, but at the end of the day, a Mass stipend truly is a donation, as canon law states: “It is recommended earnestly to priests that they celebrate Mass for the intention of the Christian faithful, especially the needy, even if they have not received an offering.” (#945, 2) Canon 947 goes on to warn that “any appearance of tracking or trading is to be excluded entirely from the offering for Masses.”

Yet even while the law is very strict about avoiding any semblance of commercializing Mass intentions, it’s just as strict about ensuring that the faithful’s intentions in this context are respected as a matter of basic justice. To this end, canon 948 states that “separate Masses are to be applied for the intentions of those for whom a single offering, although small, has been given and accepted.”

Canon 949 describes priests as “obligated to honor the intention for which an offering has been accepted, even if the offerings received have been lost through no fault of their own.”

Canon 953 tells us that no priest is “permitted to accept more offerings for Masses” than he can celebrate within a year. There are scenarios however, where a given church or other community received more stipends and Mass intentions than they could handle on their own, and in such instances, it is possible to “outsource” the Mass intentions to other priests or religious communities, as long as the person who donated the stipend didn’t specifically indicate otherwise (#954).

In this scenario, the law gives us some detailed provisions as to how records of this sacramental “outsourcing” are to be kept (See #955).

Anna Marie Cooper, who holds a licentiate in canon law, is a consecrated virgin and a canonist whose column appears weekly at OSV News. Send your questions to Catholic@osv.com.

May crowning

The Criterion Friday, June 2, 2023

The Most Holy Trinity
Msgr. Owen F. Campion

The Sunday Readings
Sunday, June 4, 2023

• Exodus 34:4-6; 8-9
• 2 Corinthians 13:11-13
• John 3:16-18

This weekend, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. The first reading is from the Book of Exodus, second in the sequence of Old Testament books. As its name suggests, in general it recalls the journey of the Hebrews through the Sinai Peninsula toward the land God had promised them after their escape from Egypt. The message of Exodus is emphatic. The Hebrews’ escape succeeded only because God guided them.

If they had not followed his guidance, they would have been at the mercy of the elements and the harsh realities of the sterile and forbidding desert. The pursuing Egyptian army and other threatening nations would have made easy prey of them otherwise.

Also essential to the story is the fact that it provides a model for later readings as earthly places that were close to the popularizing story of the Hebrews in their flight in God’s name from Egyptian slavery.

(Mountaintops were often seen as sacred, a series of feasts tied to the resurrection of the Hebrews through the sea). Sinai. (Mountaintops were often seen as places of Egyptian slavery. (Mountaintops were often seen as earthly places that were close to the popularizing story of the Hebrews in their flight in God’s name from Egyptian slavery.)

This story, Moses climbed Mount Sinai. (Mountaintops were often seen as sacred, a series of feasts tied to the resurrection of the Hebrews through the sea.)

As God showed us in June 2023, amid all our personal circumstances, what do these feasts mean? Quickly and simply, they mean that we have turned to God, as did the first Christians. Christians follow the Lord, listen to him and see him as their supreme model.

This feast of the Holy Trinity calls us to reflect on the identity of Jesus, the Son of God, in the Holy Trinity, presenting us with direction, fueling our resolve.

And it is in three divine persons, the Holy Trinity. He is perfect. He is love. As shown in the life of Christ, God loves all without qualification or exception. So must we.

God shows us the way. He walks beside us and loves us. †

Catholics@osv.com.

May crowning

The mothers of St. Michael Parish in Charleston and St. Francis Xavier Parish in Hennyville hold roses they were presented as they pose with their pastor Father Jesseyeon Sengdak on May 14 in St. Michael Church after a May crowning of the Blessed Mother. Mother’s Day is celebrated on different dates in different countries. In the United States, it is celebrated on the second Sunday of May. In Hispanic countries like El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico, it is celebrated on May 10. (Submitted photo)
New Catholic in Bloomington says Eucharist ‘healed my soul’

By Natalie Hofer

Olivia Smith admits she was in a “rough spot” a few years ago.

“My dad died my freshman year of high school,” recalls the 23-year-old. “I got into a series of horrible relationships and bad friendships. It got to the point I didn’t want to be alive. I was in a rough spot.”

Her mom suggested praying, and Smith took the advice to heart.

“I prayed that I would meet good friends and get myself in a good place,” says Smith, who at the time was a college junior at Indiana University in Bloomington.

Not long after, she met Lizzie White, a Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) missionary ministering on the campus—and an answer to Smith’s prayer.

On Feb. 8, White served as her sponsor as Smith was received into the full communion of the Catholic Church at St. Paul Catholic Center in Bloomington.

Smith says her journey to the faith has been a healing process, and that “trading pain for peace and glory is everything.”

‘I was rescued’

Although she was baptized into the Baptist faith at the age of 10, Smith truly had a varied religious background.

“Both of my grandparents were non-denominational Christians, so I’d been to literally every church in Bloomington,” she says.

Every church except the Catholic ones, that is.

“My grandparents at one point told me to join any other church but the Catholic Church,” says Smith.

She had also dated a Protestant man who, along with his family, were “very against the Catholic Church.”

“I was always very stubborn, so I thought, ‘I’m going to really dive into this Church. There’s got to be a reason why people resist it.’ I find it to be where there’s the most truth, there’s the most resistance,” says Smith.

She “lived in limbo for a while,” probing deep questions about faith.

And then she crossed paths with White.

“The first thing that drew me into the [Catholic] faith was the kindness of Lizz,” Smith recalls. “I had never met anyone as loving as her. She would just show up for me.

After spending a night dealing with anxiety, she walked the next morning to St. Charles Borromeo Church in Bloomington, not far from where she lives. Sitting on a side table in the church was the Diary of St. Faustina Kowalska.

It had never been there before,” says Smith.

“I opened it up and read about the time when the Lord took away all of her peace as a way to deepen her faith. It just humbled me and helped me. She’s helping me see the beauty in suffering. I’m losing my concept of self-sufficiency—just throw that out the window. God’s sufficiency is so much better.”

Smith is now working on her bachelor’s degree in elementary education through Western Governors University online. Although she still lives in Bloomington, she chose to get an online degree “so I could spend more time focusing on God.”

“Much of that time has been spent involved with Encounter Ministries. This Catholic-based organization seeks to teach, equip and activate disciples to demonstrate the love of God through the power of the Holy Spirit in their sphere of influence,” according to its website.

She learned about the ministry through Collette Zumbrun—who called “a friend and spiritual mother.”


“I see other charismatic Christians, and I admire them. But the structure the catechism provides with how to understand the Holy Spirit—that’s been really huge for me.

“When you get more anointed with the Holy Spirit, it can work you into higher forms of spirituality.”

Through the ministry, she now lives her life with the new understanding she’s learned of the phrase “thy kingdom come” in the Our Father.

“It’s finding the fire within me to be able to pass it on to others and let his kingdom come here,” she says.

‘I felt my soul was healed’

Smith was welcomed into the full communion of the Church in a special Mass on Feb. 8. She received the three sacraments of initiation, including “conditional” baptism, since no records could be found of the baptism she received at the age of 10.

“It was so wonderful to be baptized,” she says. “This time I knew the significance of it and understood it beyond what I understood as a child.”

But receiving her first Eucharist was “the most beautiful thing,” says Smith.

“I actually felt it heal my soul. I felt the Holy Spirit in my soul. I felt I was in my deepest bond with the Lord, and I felt my soul being healed.

‘Why do I go to Mass every day? [Jesus] wants to heal us. Inviting Jesus into memories is the only way to heal that pain.’

As for a confirmation saint, Smith did not choose one—rather, one chose her.

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Olivia Smith, right, hugs her sponsor Lizzie White in St. Paul Catholic Center after being received into the full communion of the Church during a special Mass on Feb. 8. (Submitted photo)

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Olivia Smith helps on a mission trip to Lima, Peru, in March 2022. (Submitted photo)
five times a week,” and the four children were active in various ministries. So, imagine the response of the siblings, then ages 12-19, when their parents told them a year ago they felt God was calling the family to the Catholic Church. Surprise? Confusion? Anger? On the contrary. “All of them affirmed that God was leading us down a new path,” Steve recalls. All six of them reaffirmed that path was shared about their journey with The Criterion one month after they were welcomed into the full communion of the Church during the Easter Vigil Mass on April 8 at St. Lawrence Church in Lawrenceburg. The path to that Mass was “a gradual progression for about 18 years,” says Steve, a family doctor at St. Elizabeth Dearborn Hospital in Lawrenceburg. He calls the journey from Presbyterianism to Catholicism one of continuity, like “walking in a corridor that was getting wider and wider. And then walking through this threshold and looking around and seeing that God and the Church are so much bigger, and the opportunity of receiving God’s graces is so much more meaningful, and he’s more gracious than I ever thought before.”

Seeing ‘a bigger view of the church’ That corridor started widening nearly 20 years ago when a friend of Steve’s “with a strong faith background” began doubting his beliefs. Through that friendship and an effort to answer his own faith life after he began to see the busyness of starting his medical career, “I started reading a lot, the Church fathers in particular,” says Steve. Slow incorporation of how they thought about things began to just trickle into my mind and life.” That trickle increased through the years. Teaching church history to adults at his family’s church “began to see a bigger view of the Church than was held in Presbyterianism. I was reading to Church history. Church history for Christian faith rather than the Reformation backward.”

Later, the loss of a “very godly man who had a significant impact on my life” helped him come to believe in the prayers of the communion of saints. “Unexpectedly, another name came as Steve prepared to become an elder in his church. When it came to professing a belief in ‘solemnly,’ among the congregation kept the Langdons committed to their church. Steve says he and Stephanie decided, “If God releases us from this, we will pursue this path.” That release came in the winter and spring of 2022 when, among other signs, the couple’s associate pastor and friend told Steve, “It’s time for you to go.”

“I felt like I could suddenly let go’” During those 18 years, Stephanie had become homeschooling their children using a classical education curriculum and creating “a liturgy of the home” that included Scripture and singing hymns. Plus, their flexible schedule allowed time for Stephanie and the children to be active in their church ministries. “It was kind of our whole life for at least five years,” she says. Meanwhile, Steve had been “slipping more,” asking if it was time for the family to start going to Mass and become Catholic. “I was really, really dragging my feet because I was very invested in my church community, and our families [were] there as well,” says Stephanie. “So that was definitely, I think, holding him back to a certain extent, because we were walking this road together.” Then her father became sick in 2016. As his health declined, she found it “very difficult to know how to pray.”

One night, she “was just led to look up the rosary online,” says Stephanie. She started praying the prayer, and “slowly that became more and more central for me in my day-to-day life,” even after her father died in 2018. Another nudge came when their associate pastor and his family announced they were moving out of state. They were close friends of the Langdon family. “I realized that God can sustain relationships outside of us always having to be together every week,” says Stephanie. “And so, I really felt like I suddenly could just let go of having to be part of this church.”

The turning point came while the Langdons were vacationing in Florida a year ago. Rather than seek out a Presbyterian church, the couple chose to take their family to Mass. “They were [playing] music that we had just sung at our service the week prior,” Stephanie recalls. “So, it just felt very natural. … It was a worship experience that I felt like just touched Steve and my heart very deeply.” That night, the couple told their children about their friends moving—and that they felt God can sustain their own family to Catholicism. Feeling ‘at home’ in the Catholic Church “It took awhile to sink in,” admits Maria, 18. “But once we started going to Mass, it felt more like, ‘This is where you’re supposed to be.’”

Similarly, a transformed “that was shaped a lot” by reading works of Church fathers as part of their classical education, “so when we went to Mass then we started talking about it more, it felt like things were coming together.” Her siblings have maintained the same experience. “I feel the whole history of the Church, with all the saints and everything, helping bring it in and feel more right,” says 13-year-old Alex. Julie, 16, agrees,adding she finds it “very important that the Catholic Church [was] the early Church.”

Twenty-year-old Will recalls how God released them from us, we will pursue this path.”

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“I felt like I could suddenly let go’” During those 18 years, Stephanie had become homeschooling their children using a classical education curriculum and creating “a liturgy of the home” that included Scripture and singing hymns. Plus, their flexible schedule allowed time for Stephanie and the children to be active in their church ministries. “It was kind of our whole life for at least five years,” she says. Meanwhile, Steve had been “slipping more,” asking if it was time for the family to start going to Mass and become Catholic. “I was really, really dragging my feet because I was very invested in my church community, and our families [were] there as well,” says Stephanie. “So that was definitely, I think, holding him back to a certain extent, because we were walking this road together.” Then her father became sick in 2016. As his health declined, she found it “very difficult to know how to pray.”

One night, she “was just led to look up the rosary online,” says Stephanie. She started praying the prayer, and “slowly that became more and more central for me in my day-to-day life,” even after her father died in 2018. Another nudge came when their associate pastor and his family announced they were moving out of state. They were close friends of the Langdon family. “I realized that God can sustain relationships outside of us always having to be together every week,” says Stephanie. “And so, I really felt like I suddenly could just let go of having to be part of this church.”

The turning point came while the Langdons were vacationing in Florida a year ago. Rather than seek out a Presbyterian church, the couple chose to take their family to Mass. “They were [playing] music that we had just sung at our service the week prior,” Stephanie recalls. “So, it just felt very natural. … It was a worship experience that I felt like just touched Steve and my heart very deeply.” That night, the couple told their children about their friends moving—and that they felt God can sustain their own family to Catholicism. Feeling ‘at home’ in the Catholic Church “It took awhile to sink in,” admits Maria, 18. “But once we started going to Mass, it felt more like, ‘This is where you’re supposed to be.’”

Similarly, a transformed “that was shaped a lot” by reading works of Church fathers as part of their classical education, “so when we went to Mass then we started talking about it more, it felt like things were coming together.” Her siblings have maintained the same experience. “I feel the whole history of the Church, with all the saints and everything, helping bring it in and feel more right,” says 13-year-old Alex. Julie, 16, agrees, adding she finds it “very important that the Catholic Church [was] the early Church.”

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Remains of Missouri Benedictine foundress claimed to be incorrupt

(OSV News)—Sister Wilhelmina Lancaster of the Most Holy Rosary claimed to have had profound religious experiences, beginning in her childhood. She was born Mary Elizabeth Lancaster on April 13, 1924, in St. Louis. Her great-grandmother, Mary Madden, had been a slave.

In a short autobiography discovered after Sister Wilhelmina’s death, she wrote that at her first Communion in 1934, 9-year-old Mary Elizabeth had “an unforgettable experience,” where “Our Lord asked me if I would be his. He seemed to be such a handsome and wonderful man. I agreed immediately.” Then he told her to meet him every Sunday at holy Communion. I said nothing about this conversation to anyone, believing that everyone that went to holy Communion heard Our Lord talk to them.

Notes with her eight-page autobiographical sketch, as shared by her religious community, also mentioned that the future Sister Wilhelmina also had a vision of the Virgin Mary, who thanked her for praying the rosary.

Foundress of the Benedictine Sisters of Mary, Queen of the Apostles, in Gower, Mo., Sister Wilhelmina died in May 2019 at age 95. On April 28, her body was exhumed from her grave to move it to a tomb in the monastery’s chapel. Despite her body not being embalmed, damage to her wooden coffin, and water sitting on her grave—all elements that should have contributed to her body’s decomposition—her body was found remarkably intact, the community’s sisters say.

The sisters said that a sainthood cause for Sister Wilhelmina may be taken up should widespread devotion to their foundress first be established. Father Matthew Bartulica, the sisters’ chaplain, told OSV News on May 26 that the rural Missouri religious community expected thousands of visitors to arrive at the monastery during Memorial Day weekend to view Sister Wilhelmina’s remains.

“It’s the kind of thing you read about and you don’t think will happen to you, but finally something that I think has struck a lot of people, especially those who knew her,” Sister Scholastica Radel, the community’s prioress, told OSV News on May 22. A May 22 statement from the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph said the condition of Sister Wilhelmina’s remains “has understandably generated widespread interest and raised important questions. At the same time, it is important to protect the integrity of the mortal remains of Sister Wilhelmina to allow for a thorough investigation. “Bishop [James V.] Johnston is working to establish a thorough process for understanding the nature of the condition of Sister Wilhelmina’s remains,” it continued “Incorruptibility has been verified in the past, but it is very rare. There is a well-established process to pursue the cause for sainthood, but that has not been initiated in this case yet. Bishop Johnston invites all the faithful to continue praying during this time of investigation for God’s will in the lives of the Benedictines of Mary, Queen of Apostles, for all women religious; and all the baptized in our common vocation to holiness, with hope and trust in the Lord.”

Incorruptibility has long been regarded as a divine sign of sanctity in both Catholic and Orthodox traditions, and the bodies of more than 100 canonized saints have been seemingly untouched by decay.

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not eliminate differences of cultures, but harmonizes everything without reducing them to bland uniformity.” Embracing difference, the pope said, is key to resisting the temptation to look back in time with nostalgia or longing for the way things were.

At Pentecost, however, “the life of the Church never takes off from the essential and detailed plan, but from the shared experience of God’s love,” he said.

Pope Francis asked Christians to invoke the Holy Spirit daily to create harmony where there is division in the Church and beyond.

“If we think of the wars, so many conflicts, it seems incredible the evil of which we are capable. Yet fueling our hostilities is the spirit of division, the devil, whose very name means ‘divider.’ ” he said.

Conversely, the Holy Spirit “opposes the spirit of division because he is harmony, the Spirit of unity, the bringer of peace.”

“If the world is divided, if the Church is polarized, if hearts are broken, let us not waste time in criticizing others and growing angry with one another.” Pope Francis said, “instead, let us invoke the Holy Spirit.”

The pope encouraged Christians to reflect on their relationship with the Holy Spirit and asked them to develop a faith that is “docile in the Spirit,” and not “stubbornly attached” to “so-called doctrines that are only cold expressions of life.”

“If we want harmony let us seek [the Spirit], not worldly substitutes,” he said.