Pope Francis names 21 cardinals, including U.S.-born Archbishop Prevost

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope Francis named 21 new cardinals, including U.S.-born Archbishop Robert F. Prevost, who took the helm at the Dicastery for Bishops in April, and French Archbishop Christophe Pierre, the apostolic nuncio to the United States.

The pope announced the names after his recitation of the Angelus with the faithful in St. Peter’s Square on July 9.

He said he would formally install the cardinals during a special consistory at the Vatican on Sept. 30.

Cardinal-designate Prevost expressed his joy upon hearing the announcement, he said in an interview with Vatican News on July 10.

“Certainly I felt happy for the recognition of the mission that has been entrusted to me—which is a very beautiful thing—and at the same time I thought with reverence and holy fear: I hope I can respond to what the pope is asking of me. It is an enormous responsibility, like when he called me to Rome as prefect,” he said in Italian.

“Speaking in English, Cardinal-designate Prevost said it is not a coincidence that Pope Francis scheduled the consistory before the start of the first general assembly of the synod on synodality, saying he is firmly convinced that “all of us are called to walk together.”

The new cardinals represent more than a dozen countries on five continents.

Three of the new cardinals are current Vatican officials, three are current or retired apostolic nuncios, 13 are current or retired heads of archdioceses around the world, one is a rector major of the Salesians and one is a 96-year-old confessor in Buenos Aires. Six belong to religious orders; two of them are Jesuits.

Record number of Bishop Bruté Days’ participants celebrate faith and fun

By Sean Gallagher

MOORESVILLE and VINCENNES, Ind.—The more than 100 boys who took part in Bishop Bruté Days from June 26-28 threw themselves completely into whatever they were doing.

Dozens who filled one of three school buses on a pilgrimage to the tomb of the Servant of God Bishop Simon Bruté in Vincennes, Ind. (Evansville Diocese), sang with gusto such varied songs as John Denver’s “Take Me Home, Country Roads” and Queen’s “Bohemian Rhapsody.”

Yet on that same bus ride, their voices blended together in praying the Liturgy of the Hours and the rosary.

At Bishop Simon Bruté Seminary in Indianapolis and at St. Thomas More Parish in Mooresville—a stop on the June 27 pilgrimage’s return to the seminary—the boys poured their hearts in faith and fun.

Filled with emotions and memories, Dottie King steps down as the president of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College

By John Shaughnessy

When you leave a place you love, a place where you have given your all to help people grow in strength, faith and love—a place that also helped you to grow in strength, faith and love—the emotions begin to pour out at some point.

That was the reality for Dottie King in the last week of June as she packed up her office at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College in St. Mary-of-the-Woods, ending her 21 years there, including the past 13 as the school’s president.

“I’m feeling a lot of emotions this week,” she said on June 26. “It’s a

Dottie King gives a hug to a graduate of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College in St. Mary-of-the-Woods during a May 2023 commencement ceremony. After 13 years as president of the college, King stepped down from that post at the end of June. (Submitted photo)
Indiana’s 2022 law protecting most unborn lives from abortion, which has been under a preliminary injunction since Sept. 22 of last year, was declared constitutional by the Indiana Supreme Court in a ruling released on June 30. The law limits abortions to within 20 weeks gestation in cases of fetal heart beat or when the mother’s life is in danger from specific medical issues. It also requires that abortions take place at a hospital or a hospital-owned surgery center, essentially shutting the doors of abortion providers such as Planned Parenthood in the state.

Unless the plaintiffs—Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers—seek a rehearing, the law will go into effect on Aug. 1, according to a June 30 article at the online Indiana Capital Chronicle.

Marc Tuttle, a second suit against the law, based on the grounds of religious freedom, is making its way through the state’s appellate courts. While a preliminary injunction was placed on the law as result of this case, the Indiana Capital Chronicle noted that this “injunction only applies to the plaintiffs in the case”—Hosier Jews for Choice and four anonymous women.

Archbishop Charles C. Thompson lauded the June 30 decision. “This is a win for all efforts of the state, including its courts, to safeguard the sanctity of life and the dignity of the unborn,” he said in a statement. “This is one moment of conception to natural death,” he told The Criterion. “Let us not wave in our care for both baby and child, both persons and families.”

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita released a statement after the ruling, declaring, “We celebrate this day—one long in coming, but morally justified. Thank you to all the warriors who have fought for this day that upholds LIFE.”

Right to Life Indianapolis president Marc Tuttle also weighed in on the ruling, calling it a “big victory.” “This is a big victory in the fight to protect the life of unborn babies, and to protect pregnant mothers from the often lifelong trauma of abortion,” Tuttle said in a statement. “This case is also a victory in that Indiana was the first state to pass pro-life legislation since the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade [in June 2022], making it clear there was never a right to abortion established in the U.S. Constitution.”

“Now the work ahead is to ensure that we, as loving and compassionate Hoosiers, provide the support that pregnant mothers and their babies need to thrive and succeed.”

A decision nine months in the making

After the U.S. Supreme Court ruling on June 24, 2022, overturning the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortion, Indiana became the first state to initiate such General Assembly “to reassert the state’s abortion ban in place at the time.”

The result was Senate Bill 1. It became Senate Enrolled Act 1 (SEA 1) when it was signed into law on Aug. 6, 2022. The law, which greatly increased the legal protection afforded to unborn children in the state, went into effect on Sept. 15, 2022.

Just seven days later, a preliminary injunction was placed on the new law in a legal challenge filed by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) that claimed the law violated the Indiana constitution. The injunction put back into place Indiana’s abortion law as it stood prior to Sept. 15, which allowed abortion up to 20 weeks gestation, including at independent abortion centers.

The Indiana Supreme Court heard oral arguments for the case on Jan. 19, taking about five months before declaring SEA 1 does not violate the Indiana constitution. As for the religious freedom suit filed against SEA 1 last fall, Rokita has filed three appeals now making their way through the Indiana Appellate Courts, one against the case itself, one against a preliminary injunction on SEA 1, with oral arguments to be heard on Sept. 12, and one against a Marion County judge’s June 6 decision to grant the case “class action” status.

Indiana became ‘an abortion destination’

The cost of unborn lives due to the preliminary injunction in the ACLU case was extensive. According to the Indiana Department of Health’s recently released Termination of Pregnancy report, nonresident abortions were up significantly in 2022.

“This was the result of abortion-industry hysteria, pre-emptive pro-life laws in Ohio and Kentucky that went into effect upon the overturning of Roe v. Wade, the time it took for Indiana’s legislation to pass, and judicial activism buffeting Indiana’s new law from being in effect,” said Mike Fichter, president and CEO of Indiana Right to Life, in a July 7 press release. “Together this combination of actions doomed Indiana to become an abortion destination state. This is exactly what we warned would happen, and it did.”

The result was 9,529 abortions in the state in 2022. According to the press release, that figure is the largest annual number since 2010. The majority of Indiana abortions in 2022 were performed at abortion clinics, with nearly half conducted at Planned Parenthood locations.

Since the 2022 reported abortion complications increased by 600% over the number of abortion complications reported in 2021,” said Fichter. “Abortion is traumatic to women—mentally, emotionally, and the state’s latest report underscores abortion presents real life-threatening complications as well.”

The press release noted that there were 100 reported abortion complications in 2022, including one death, uterine perforation, incomplete abortions (retained tissue) and cervical laceration. Most of the complications—72%—arose from medical rather than surgical abortions.

“Last year was, essentially, open borders on abortion, despite the will of millions of loving and compassionate Hoosiers represented in the passage of SEA 1,” Fichter said in the press release. “We are hopeful the recent Indiana Supreme Court ruling ends this exploitation by abortion businesses in Indiana. Each day the law remains inactive is another day where Indiana becomes the final and fatal destination for unborn babies.”

---

**Track options announced for National Eucharistic Congress next July**

Track options for the National Eucharistic Congress on July 17-21, 2024, in Indianapolis, have been announced. The Congress will be the largest Catholic conference in the U.S. and provide an opportunity for Hoosiers, provide the support that pregnant mothers and their babies need to thrive and succeed.”

For more information on the National Eucharistic Congress or to register, go to eucharisticcongress.org.

---

**The Criterion** (ISSN 0574-4350) is published weekly except the last week of December and the first week of January.

**The Criterion**

1400 N. Meridian St.
Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367

317-216-1570

1-800-382-9836, ext. 1570

317-216-1425

E-mail: criterion@archindy.org

Periodical postage paid at Indianapolis, IN. Copyright © 2023 Criterion Press Inc.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Criterion Press Inc.

1400 N. Meridian St.
Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367

---

**The Criterion**

1109 E. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367

317-236-1570

1-800-382-9836, ext. 1570

317-236-1425

E-mail: criterion@archindy.org

Periodical postage paid at Indianapolis, IN. Copyright © 2023 Criterion Press Inc.

---

**TheCriterion**

1400 N. Meridian St.
Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367

317-236-1570

1-800-382-9836, ext. 1570

317-236-1425

E-mail: criterion@archindy.org

Periodical postage paid at Indianapolis, IN. Copyright © 2023 Criterion Press Inc.

---

**The Criterion**

1109 E. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367

317-236-1570

1-800-382-9836, ext. 1570

317-236-1425

E-mail: criterion@archindy.org

Periodical postage paid at Indianapolis, IN. Copyright © 2023 Criterion Press Inc.
By John Shaughnessy

As the next executive director of the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, Jack Schmitz wants to follow the example of the one person who had the greatest impact on his life.

Being the only child of his parents, Donald and Sherri, Schmitz spent a lot of time in his childhood with his dad, who was the athletic director and boys’ basketball coach for 25 years at St. Lawrence Parish in Lafayette, Ind., in the Lafayette Diocese.

“|I was always his sidekick in the gym,” Schmitz recalls. “He always had a strong connection to CYO and just loved being around it. Seeing him in that role, I saw the positive impact it had on so many people, not only in sports but how much it affected them in life. I just wanted to follow in his footsteps.”

The 39-year-old Schmitz then became emotional thinking about his father who died unexpectedly when Schmitz was 13. “He accepted everyone for who they were. And he helped them out in any way that he could. He never knew a stranger and was friends with everybody. He just always gave back so much of his time to CYO and the parish. Without a doubt, I think he’s played a part in this.”

Schmitz shared his memories of his father a few days after the archdiocese announced on June 8 that he will become the next executive director of CYO when Bruce Scifres retires on Aug. 31 at the age of 66.

Scifres praised the selection of Schmitz, who has served first as the boys’ athletic director in his two years with the organization. “First and foremost, Jack is just a really good person,” Scifres says. “He is a devout Catholic with a great work ethic and a strong moral compass. His calm demeanor and great sense of humor make him a real joy to be around. His ethic and a strong moral compass. His calm demeanor and great sense of humor will serve him quite well in this position.”

Schmitz’s selection also drew praise from Brian Disney, the superintendent of Catholic schools for the archdiocese who also oversees CYO. “Jack has been a positive force for the past two years in his roles at CYO, and we are thrilled to have him rise to the position of executive director,” Disney says. “I look forward to working with him to ensure a bright future for CYO and all of the youths who benefit from its activities and mission-driven leaders.”

Schmitz says he’s “humbled” by his selection, adding, “The best part of this opportunity to serve in this role is to be a part of something bigger than myself. The immense impact that this organization has on people is incredibly fulfilling, and I’m so thankful to be involved with it.”

The combination of their Catholic faith and CYO means a great deal to him and his wife of 12 years, Danialle, who grew up being involved in CYO as a member of St. Barnabas Parish in Indianapolis.

The couple first met at Marian University in Indianapolis, where he played baseball, and she played softball. Now members of Mary, Queen of Peace Parish in Danville, they hope their Catholic faith and CYO offer to both girls and boys.

“With the organization has on people is incredibly fulfilling, and I’m so thankful to be involved with it. “One of the coolest parts of the camp is growing up in Catholic schools and CYO helped strengthen and guide my life,” Schmitz says. “I want the same thing for my children. To be around great people, the family atmosphere of CYO and the Catholic community, I don’t think it gets any better than that in preparing you for life and helping you to become the best version of yourself.”

That’s also the ultimate goal he has for the thousands of children and youths who participate in CYO activities in the archdiocese each year. The pursuit of that goal is partly achieved through the eight sports that CYO offers to both girls and boys. Schmitz stresses that the goal is also achieved through the fun, faith-filled and year-round efforts of Camp Rancho Fiamassa, the CYO camp in Brown County. “One of the coolest parts of the camp is seeing how inclusive it is,” says Schmitz, who earned a bachelor’s degree in sports management from Marian and a master’s degree in that same field from Illinois State University. “To see kids from all different backgrounds be able to enjoy camp and to have opportunities for kids with special needs to enjoy camp is just a phenomenal thing.”

Schmitz smiles as he shares some of the touching conversations he’s had with campers. “One camper told him, "I can be myself here." Another said, "I feel I belong here. "That’s great because sometimes athletics aren’t for all children," he says. “To have those different experiences through camp, our music programs and our chess program is such a well-rounded way of helping prepare kids for life.”

While Schmitz appreciates the different ways that CYO activities provide new experiences for children and youths, he also wants to be open and inclusive in his future leadership of the organization. “The volunteers, coaches and parents that are involved in CYO are so vital to the success of the organization,” he says. “From this office, I want to extend as much of an appreciation for what they do and to get out to meet these people, listen to them and hear their ideas for the future of CYO.

“We’ve done a lot of great things, and we’re currently doing a lot of great things, but there’s always an opportunity for certain changes to be made and certain ideas. I just want to be as visible as I can throughout all the parishes and schools and let them know how much of a direct relationship we have in serving the kids throughout CYO.”

He views such cooperation as all leading to a shared goal — continuing to have the Catholic faith be the foundation of CYO for everyone involved in it, both children and adults.

He has embraced that faith at the core of his life. “I don’t know where I would be without my faith. I really believe my faith carried me through the loss of my father. And I truly believe that it’s been a calling to join CYO. To be the next executive director is just a wonderful blessing.”

---

**Father’s approach to sports and people guides next CYO director**

The immense impact that **this** organization has on people is incredibly fulfilling, and I’m so thankful to be involved with it. **One of the coolest parts of the camp is growing up in Catholic schools and CYO helped strengthen and guide my life,” Schmitz says. “I want the same thing for my children. To be around great people, the family atmosphere of CYO and the Catholic community, I don’t think it gets any better than that in preparing you for life and helping you to become the best version of yourself.”

That’s also the ultimate goal he has for the thousands of children and youths who participate in CYO activities in the archdiocese each year. The pursuit of that goal is partly achieved through the eight sports that CYO offers to both girls and boys. Schmitz stresses that the goal is also achieved through the fun, faith-filled and year-round efforts of Camp Rancho Fiamassa, the CYO camp in Brown County. “One of the coolest parts of the camp is seeing how inclusive it is,” says Schmitz, who earned a bachelor’s degree in sports management from Marian and a master’s degree in that same field from Illinois State University. “To see kids from all different backgrounds be able to enjoy camp and to have opportunities for kids with special needs to enjoy camp is just a phenomenal thing.”

Schmitz smiles as he shares some of the touching conversations he’s had with campers. “One camper told him, "I can be myself here." Another said, "I feel I belong here. "That’s great because sometimes athletics aren’t for all children," he says. “To have those different experiences through camp, our music programs and our chess program is such a well-rounded way of helping prepare kids for life.”

While Schmitz appreciates the different ways that CYO activities provide new experiences for children and youths, he also wants to be open and inclusive in his future leadership of the organization. “The volunteers, coaches and parents that are involved in CYO are so vital to the success of the organization,” he says. “From this office, I want to extend as much of an appreciation for what they do and to get out to meet these people, listen to them and hear their ideas for the future of CYO.

“We’ve done a lot of great things, and we’re currently doing a lot of great things, but there’s always an opportunity for certain changes to be made and certain ideas. I just want to be as visible as I can throughout all the parishes and schools and let them know how much of a direct relationship we have in serving the kids throughout CYO.”

He views such cooperation as all leading to a shared goal — continuing to have the Catholic faith be the foundation of CYO for everyone involved in it, both children and adults.

He has embraced that faith at the core of his life. “I don’t know where I would be without my faith. I really believe my faith carried me through the loss of my father. And I truly believe that it’s been a calling to join CYO. To be the next executive director is just a wonderful blessing.”

---

**Saint Michael The Archangel Parish, Indianapolis, is celebrating its 75th Anniversary this year!**

Our Celebration will be September 22nd & 24th. On the 22nd of September we are having a Revenue Raffle for a Short Auction. We need sponsors and donors for our Celebration Weekend! We will have three levels of Sponsorship. Patron Level of $150 will be listed on our 75th Anniversary Book. Angel Level of $500 will be an Ad Space in our book and Archangel Level of $500 will receive ad space in the book as well as listed on our 75th Anniversary T-Shirt. Donations from companies in the form of gift certificates and/or products or services are also welcomed for the Silent Auction Evening. Donors will be listed in the book as well. Families of 2023 Graduates are welcome to run congratulations ads for Angel Level Donations as well. Please Contact Katie Morninet at 317-926-7359 ext. 1 or katie@archindy.org for more information. Tickets are now on sale for the Revenue Raffle, Live & 50/50.
This summer, Catholics around the world are invited to participate in two exciting, interrelated events in the life of the Church. The World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly will take place on Sunday, July 23, and World Youth Day is being celebrated in Lisbon, Portugal, during the first week of August.

To highlight his desire for the young and the old to deepen their bonds with one another, Pope Francis chose to draw the themes of these two celebrations from a single biblical passage—that of the Visitation of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth, found in the first chapter of St. Luke’s Gospel.

This biblical passage is often associated with the Advent season, since the Visitation occurs between the angel Gabriel’s announcement to Mary that she would become the mother of the Savior, and the birth of her Savior-Son in Bethlehem.

But echoes of the Visitation are quietly woven into our daily prayer life as Catholics. Part of the traditional Hail Mary prayer—“Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb?” (Lk 1:42)—is drawn from Elizabeth’s greeting to her young cousin when the Virgin arrived to visit her.

“The Magnificat—the exultant hymn of praise to God sung by Mary during the Visitation—is repeated every evening, year-round, by all those who enter the Liturgy of the Hours.”

As we sing this litany of joy each day after day, it imprints itself on our memories and on our souls. But I think that even as we repeat the Hail Mary and the Magnificat each day, we tend to treat it as granted, almost as an afterthought, an encounter from which these texts were born.

Just as it is important for the young to reach out to the old, the opposite is also true. If you are an older adult with young people among your relatives or neighbors, why not honor the spirit of World Youth Day by reaching out to them with a gesture of welcome or support?

Pope Francis really believes that the young won’t make it without their elders. He has said that just as it is important for the young people to reach out to the young, the latter “will no longer see the things that must be done to open up new vistas of hope to their melancholy, young people will look even more to their smartphones. The screen may stay on, but life will die out before its time.”

Let’s do all we can to make sure that life remains for them.

Whether you are young, like Mary, or older, like her cousin Elizabeth, this summer set aside some time to reach out to someone who is not from your own age cohort. If you do your life, and the lives of others, will be richly blessed.

(Little Sisters of the Poor Sister Constance Veit is director of communications for the Little Sisters of the Poor in the United States and an occupational therapist.)†

Letters Policy

Letters from readers are published in The Criterion as part of the newspaper’s commitment to “the responsible exchange of freely-held and expressed opinion among the People of God” (Communio et Perspicuum, 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-argued and temperate in tone. They must reflect a basic sense of courtesy and respect.

Letters Policy letters from readers are published in The Criterion as part of the newspaper’s commitment to “the responsible exchange of freely-held and expressed opinion among the People of God” (Communio et Perspicuum, 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-argued and temperate in tone. They must reflect a basic sense of courtesy and respect.

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-argued and temperate in tone. They must reflect a basic sense of courtesy and respect.

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-argued and temperate in tone. They must reflect a basic sense of courtesy and respect.

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-argued and temperate in tone. They must reflect a basic sense of courtesy and respect.

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-argued and temperate in tone. They must reflect a basic sense of courtesy and respect.
“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light” (Mt 11:28-30).

Last week, we celebrated the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Mt 11:25-30). The Gospel we read contains one of the paradoxes of Jesus’ teaching.

On the one hand, he invites all who are anxious and weary to come to him to find rest. On the other hand, he requires that we accept an additional burden (his “yoke”) and learn from him. In other words, to relieve ourselves of the burdens we are afflicted with (physical, mental or spiritual), we must commit ourselves to “taking up our cross” and following Jesus no matter how much it costs us.

A “yoke” is a wooden crosspiece that is fastened over the necks of two animals and attached to a plow or cart that they are to pull. It is not something that is used to harness a single beast of burden. A yoke helps its bearers to work together to achieve their purpose. It can be seen as an analogy for the life’s greatest obstacles—sin and death. Now, he invites us to do the same—to “let go and let God” and to freely accept a sacrificial love that is much more liberating than burdensome.

As St. Paul told us in the second reading (Rom 8:1-13), it is the Holy Spirit that transforms the burdens we freely take on as missionary disciples of Jesus and frees us from sin and death. “If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, you who believe, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit that dwells in you” (Rom 8:11). If we open our minds and hearts to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, no weight will be too much for us to carry. We must liberate our brothers and sisters with the same Spirit, we will be moved to join with them in carrying our burdens lightly and easily as Jesus has promised.

The first reading for last Sunday in the Book of Zechariah described the joy that we are invited to experience once we have surrendered our difficulties to God and accepted the responsibilities that come with fidelity to God’s will. As the prophet proclaims:

Thou sayest, “Let his delight be in the joy of thy people, and of their peace.” O daughter Zion, thou shalt do joy, O daughter Jerusalem! See, your king shall come to you, a just savior is he, meek, and riding on an ass, on a colt, the foal of an ass. He shall banish the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem; the warrior’s bow shall be banished, and he shall proclaim peace to the nations. His dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the river to the ends of the earth. (Zc 9:9-10)

Peace and joy are the fruits of our labor as men and women who collaborate with Jesus in his saving work. Meekness and humility, not aggressive forms of pride and self-importance, are what we must call forth from us from our daily preoccupations. Above all, care and concern for the needs of others free us from self-pity and the preoccupation with our own difficulties whatever they may be.

Paradoxically, the burden that Jesus imposes on us is not burdensome. The “easy” yoke that he asks us to bear is not difficult; it is meant to keep us all together, pulling in the right direction, as we continue the Lord’s saving work in our world. With Jesus, we are invited to pray: “I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and Earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned, you have revealed them to little ones” (Mt 11:25). Together, let’s rejoice in the burden that God’s love imposes on us. Let’s shout for joy that we are bound together—in freedom—and give the magnificent opportunity to proclaim peace to the nations and comfort to all with the proclamation: “Jesus’ yoke is easy, and his burden is light. Let us rejoice in him now and always!”

ARCHBISHOP / ARZOBISPO CHARLES C. THOMPSON

Christ the Cornerstone

Encontremos la paz y la alegría mientras Jesús alivia nuestras cargas

“Vengan a mí todos ustedes, los agotados de tanto trabajar, que yo los haré descansar. Eleven mi yugo sobre ustedes, y aprendan de mí, que soy manso y humilde de corazón, y hallarán descanso para su alma; Porque mi yugo es manso y mi carga es liviana” (Mt 11:28-30).

El pasado fin de semana celebramos el decimoquinto domingo del tiempo ordinario (Mt 11:25-30). El Evangelio que leemos contiene una de las paradojas de la enseñanza de Jesús.

Por un lado, invita a todos los que están ansiosos y cansados a venir a acudir a él para encontrar sosiego. Por otro lado, nos exige que aceptemos una carga adicional (su “yugo”) y que aprendamos de él. En otras palabras, para aliviarnos de nuestras dificultades, sean del tipo físico, mental o espiritual, nos sentiremos más liberados a experimentar una vez que hemos entregado nuestras dificultades a Dios, su obra salvadora. La mansedumbre y la humildad, y no las formas agresivas del orgullo y la voluntad propia, son las que nos enlazan de nuestras preocupaciones cotidianas. Sobre todo, el cuidado y la preocupación por las necesidades de los demás nos liberan de la autopreocupación y de la preocupación por nuestras propias dificultades, sean cuales sean.

Paradójicamente, la carga que Jesús nos impone no es difícil. El yugo “fácil” que nos pide que llevemos no es difícil de cargar: está pensado para mantenernos juntos, tirando en la dirección correcta, mientras continuamos la obra salvadora del Señor en nuestro mundo. Con Jesús, se nos invita a rezar: “Te alabo, Padre, Señor del cielo y de la tierra, porque estas cosas las escondiste de los sabios y de los entendidos, y las revelaste a los niños” (Mt 11:25).

Alegraméndonos de la carga que nos impone el amor de Dios y griteamos de alegría porque estamos unidos, libremente. Y se nos ha dado la magnífica oportunidad de proclamar la paz a las naciones y el consuelo a todos los que están cansados.

El yugo de Cristo es fácil y su carga, ligera. ¡Regocijémonos en él ahora y siempre!"
July 23
Mount Saint Francis Center for Spirituality, 10400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. God’s Spirit for Human Sexuality Conference, 8:30 a.m.-noon, Institute Amaar d-Maximo founder Evan Lemons, FertilityCare/NaPro Technology consultant Dr. Casey DellCoco, Catholic therapist Jonathan Changalavich, 25 individual, 340 couple, includes continental breakfast, registration by July 15. Information: registration: 317-800-9306, coretan@archindy.org, cutt.ly/GPH56.

July 30
St. Augustine Parish, 18024 Lafayette St., Leopold.
Church Picnic, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. CT. 52 fried chicken dinners, ice cream, hamburgers, raffles, quilt raffle, quilt wheel, free admission. Information: 812-843-5174, staugustine@archindy.org, 317-592-4006.

July 31-August 7
Providence Spirituality and Conference Center, Foley Room, 1 Sisters of Providence, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, St. Mary-of-the-Woods. Summer Used Book Sale, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. -4 p.m. -4 p.m. -4 p.m. -4 p.m. Information: Foley Room ProvidenceCenter@providence.org.

August 2
MCL Cafeteria, 5520 E. 96th St., Indianapolis. Solo Seniors, 5:30 p.m., Catholic, educational and social singles—separated, widowed or divorced; age 50 and older, new members welcome, also call about regular Friday night dinner events. Information: 317-796-8605.

July 31-August 7
Holy Name of Jesus Parish, 21 N. 36th St., Beech Grove. Altar Society Rummage Sale, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., proceeds support community outreach and prayer, free admission. Information: 317-702-4910, ptc@kmarker@prolife.org.

July 22-23
Benedictine Inn Retreat and Conference Center, 1400 Southern Ave., Beech Grove. Celtic Church Summer Retreat, 10 a.m.-Thu. 11 a.m., Fri., retreat for adults with developmental disabilities, 355 double occupied, 90 single occupancy, complementary meals, 92 for T-shirt, sponsored by archdiocesan Disabilities Ministry Healing Mass, to be celebrated with Archbishop Thompson is set for Aug. 10.

July 26
Marian Hall, 1305 N. Delaware St., Indianapolis. Theology on Tap, 6:30-9 p.m., summer speaker series for young adults 18-39. Free admission. Information: 317-661-7666.

July 27-August 7
Providence Spirituality and Conference Center, Foley Room, 1 Sisters of Providence, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods. Summer Used Book Sale, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. -4 p.m. -4 p.m. -4 p.m. Information: Foley Room ProvidenceCenter@providence.org.

August 3-5
Holy Spirit Parish, 7243 E. 106th St., Indianapolis. Holy Spirit Festival Thurs, 6-11 p.m., Fri. 6-6 p.m., midnight. Sat. 1 p.m. midnight, live music, midway rides, food, beer and wine, bingo, Monte Carlo, Texas Hold’Em, silent auction, raffle, and game show available at 7400 E. Washington St., free wristband provided to parishioners after Masses, non-parishioners admission $10 in festival tickets, children younger than 12 free, minors under 18 unaccompanied by an adult not admitted. Information: holyspiritfestival.org, fest@holyspiritfestival.org, 317-353-8040.

August 4-5
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, 523 S. Merritt St. Fortville. Summer Festival, Fri. 6-10 p.m. Bingo Night, $25, Sat. 11 a.m.-8 p.m. children’s games, food, raffle, silent auction, free admission. Information: 317-485-5302.

St. Susanna Parish, 1210 E. Main St., Plainfield. Backyard Bash, Fri. 6-10 p.m., 5-10 p.m. -10 p.m. -10 p.m. Information: 317-485-5302.

August 3-5
Holy Spirit Parish, 7243 E. 106th St., Indianapolis. Holy Spirit Festival Thurs, 6-11 p.m., Fri. 6-6 p.m., midnight. Sat. 1 p.m. midnight, live music, midway rides, food, beer and wine, bingo, Monte Carlo, Texas Hold’Em, silent auction, raffle, and game show available at 7400 E. Washington St., free wristband provided to parishioners after Masses, non-parishioners admission $10 in festival tickets, children younger than 12 free, minors under 18 unaccompanied by an adult not admitted. Information: holyspiritfestival.org, fest@holyspiritfestival.org, 317-353-8040.

August 4-5
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, 523 S. Merritt St. Fortville. Summer Festival, Fri. 6-10 p.m. Bingo Night, $25, Sat. 11 a.m.-8 p.m. children’s games, food, raffle, silent auction, free admission. Information: 317-485-5302.

St. Susanna Parish, 1210 E. Main St., Plainfield. Backyard Bash, Fri. 6-10 p.m., 5-10 p.m. -10 p.m. -10 p.m. Information: 317-485-5302.

July 21
Our Lady of Peace Cemetery and Mausoleum, 9001 Harvestick Road, Indianapolis. 2 p.m. Information: 317-574-8989, cathedcemetery@archindy.org.

July 21

July 21-23, 28-30

July 27-August 31
Indianapolis. “The Chosen” Season 3; Discussion and Dinner Series. 5:30, 8:30 p.m., seventh and eighth of eight episodes, episode viewing and discussion, $16 per session, includes dinner, popcorn and refreshments. Registration: ftm@retrontotal.com/events, 317-545-7681, lolean@archindy.org.

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.
The history of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Richmond is a story with five chapters. Chapters one through three involve the founding of three parishes: St. Andrew in 1846, St. Mary in 1859 (just a half-mile from St. Andrew), and Holy Family in 1953 (about a mile from St. Andrew and St. Mary.).

The 1890s ushered in the fourth chapter as the three faith communities began to work in unison. In 1995, one priest was assigned to head the three parishes as the Richmond Catholic Community. The fifth chapter launched in 2016 when the parishes united to form one faith community. A new parish name resulted in St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, in honor of the two local parishes and the St. Andrew Ann Seton (pre-K through grade 6) and Seton High School (grades 7-12).

But the story isn’t over. It continues as the parish serves the community, educates children and seeks to make disciples.

Making a difference in Richmond and beyond.

The parish’s largest ministry is its two schools and their ability to both provide a stellar education and convey a Catholic perspective, says Father Sengole Gnanaraj, the parish’s administrator. He notes that 40% of the school’s students are not Catholic.

“Some have been exposed to Christianity, some not at all. Our priority is the Catholic identity in the schools!”

Mass, daily prayer, opportunities for confession and service projects are among the ways the “schools evangelize not only the students but the teachers,” says Father Gnanaraj. “Our schools have been a huge blessing to the Richmond community.”

So has the parish’s participation in the Tri-County Good Samaritan St. Vincent de Paul conference, along with members from the parishes of St. Gabriel in Connsville and St. Bridget of Ireland in Liberty. “They’re real caring,” he says. “They do a furniture ministry, they offer Changing Lives Forever and they’re opening a business to employ people who are cooking classes and budgeting classes.”

The parish also helps those in need by annually donating to the Wayne County Trusteeship.

“They take care of the homeless and hungry in Richmond and the whole county,” explains Father Gnanaraj. “They have a system in place, so we help the poor and homeless in the Wayne County through them.”

One recent source of “pride and excitement” in the parish was celebrating two sons of the parish being ordained priests in the last two years. Jesuit Father Joseph Kraemer was ordained on June 11, and Father Jack Wright was ordained on June 3. He now serves as parochial vicar of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis.

With three worship sites, each church building offers something unique, says Father Gnanaraj.

Completed in 1901, St. Andrew Church has “beautiful stained-glass windows,” he says. “I use them during Mass to help teach the children about the life of Christ.”

St. Mary Church was completed in 1909. Built by the same architect who designed SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis, it is a smaller version of “ Gotham’s cathedral.”

Holy Family Church, built in 1979, boasts a new outdoor Stations of the Cross. The church also hosts adoration, confession, Vespers and Benediction twice a week for the parish.

“We have 150 people show up each time,” says Father Gnanaraj. “When people leave confession, they see all sorts of people there, like they’re being brought back into the community.”

He is also excited about something else coming back to the community: the parish’s annual Chocolate Festival.

“We used to have over 1,000 people show up, with chocolatiers and vendors. We had to stop it because of COVID,” he says. “But we’re bringing it back next year on Jan. 27.”

Father Gnanaraj invites all to worship with the members of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

“The Richmond Catholic community is known for its openness,” he says. “Our members are very welcoming and very generous.

“Please come worship with us—and bring your friends! God wants you to see us all together adoring, worshiping and praising as one family.”

Go to www.setoncatholics.org for Mass times and church locations.

Choose your path: forest, music trail or Underground Railroad

There is a wealth of culture within the boundaries of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish. Parishioners have a chance for a fun day or weekend trip that includes Mass at one (or more!) of the parish’s churches, a visit to other sites in the Richmond area, and a chance to try an activity that one (or more!) of the parishioners enjoy.

Known as “The Birthplace of Recorded Jazz,” Gennett Records in Richmond is where greats like Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington and Hoagy Carmichael cut their first albums. Founded in 1917, Gennett Records studio and record plant was instrumental in spreading jazz, country and Gospel music in the country prior to the Great Depression. The studio no longer exists, but the Gennett Walk of Fame is a sidewalk trail embedded with medallions and information honoring the many artists and bands that recorded there. The trail begins at 201 S. 1st Street.

Music and the arts drive the city of Richmond, says Father Gnanaraj. He notes that parishioners are involved in the Richmond Symphony (richmondsymphony.org, 765-966-5181) and the Richmond Theater (richmond-theater.com; 844-765-8432). He also recommends the Gennet Art Museum (richtownartmuseum.org, 765-966-1256) and the Wayne County Historical Museum (waynechms.org, 765-962-7576).

A particular historic site of note is the Levi Coffin Home in Fountain City, about 9 miles north of Richmond. Built in 1839, it became known as “The Grand Central Station of the Underground Railroad.” For 20 years, the Coffins provided food, clothing, shelter and transportation to slaves seeking freedom. The site consists of the home and an interpretive center—named in 2016 by the Smithsonian as “one of 12 new museums around the world to visit.” It’s located at 201 US Highway 27 in Fountain City. For more information, hours or to purchase tickets, go to coffinhouse.org or call 765-847-1691.

Those who prefer the outdoors will like Hayes Arboretum—330 acres of hiking and biking trails through woods, flora and fauna native to Indiana. An old-growth beech and maple forest on the grounds includes trees as old as 350 years. The site includes two Adena and Hopewell native American mounds, a nature center, a playground, a geology collection featuring at least one of every rock type native to Indiana and more. For more information and hours of operation, go to hayesarboretum.org or call 765-966-1931.

(Mass Excursions is a feature highlighting an archdiocesan parish and local attractions, encouraging a trip to the area that includes Mass with the members of that parish.)

Gabriel Project helps at several locations in central Indiana

Walking with Moms is a monthly feature highlighting organizations that help—and need support in helping—expecting and parenting mothers in need in central and southern Indiana.

Gabriel Project

Through parish Gabriel Project ministries, trained volunteers called “angels” support pregnant mothers’ choice for life through emotional and spiritual assistance and accompaniment. Some parish ministries also help meet the pregnant mothers’ material needs in the form of donated items and services.

At least six Gabriel Project chapters exist at parishes in Brownsburg, Greenwood, Kokomo, New Palestine and Plainfield, as reported to The Criterion.

There are also two Gabriel Project resource centers in Indianapolis offering material support to pregnant mothers, a local hotline and website; and a Gabriel Project Ministry doing business as 1st Choice for Women Pregnancy Care Center in Indianapolis.

Hotline: 833-9937-4968 (317-946-3813 in Esparol) for pregnant mothers to connect with a volunteer angel.

Website: Go to www.gauneels.org for information on abortion pill reversal and to learn about ways to support Gabriel Project financially, through donated items and through volunteering.

Resource centers in Indianapolis:

• St. Joseph Parish, 1401 S. Mckley Ave. Indianapolis. Open Thursdays 1-4:30 p.m.

• St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower) Parish, 4720 E. 13th St., Indianapolis. Mothers in need can call Anita at 317-918-0997 to arrange a meeting time.

Both resource centers help any pregnant or parenting woman regardless of race, gender or religious affiliation. Both offer clothes, diapers, wipes, baby shampoo, lotion, bath tubs, baby toys and blankets, carseats, strollers, bounce seats and other baby items as donated. They CANNOT take disposable diapers, bottles, activity mats and cluttered car seats.

Current needs at St. Joseph location: diapers sizes 6 and 6+, diaper bags, pack-and-plays, strollers, carseats, bottles, activity mats, baby toys. Call Anita at 317-918-0997 to arrange a meeting time.

1st Choice for Women Pregnancy Care Center:

Currently being renovated. In need of 1) experienced grant writer (volunteer), and 2) financial donations for renovation. Make donations online at www.gauneels.org or send check made out to 1st Choice for Women (or 1st Choice for Women Pregnancy Care Center). Parish Gabriel Project ministries

Those wishing to donate money or items or to volunteer for a parish Gabriel Project ministry can reach the ministry leader as follows:

• SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi Parish, 4615 W. International Blvd., Indianapolis, IN 46221.

Current needs at Little Flower location: clothes, baby wash and lotion, wipes, any size diapers, pack-and-plays, new car seats, strollers, carseats, bottles, activity mats, baby toys. Call Anita at 317-918-0997 to arrange a meeting time.
Theological Union in Chicago and a doctorate from the Church in Latin America, where nearly 40% of the
world. Recommendations made by the dicastery are typically approved by the pope. Archbishop Prevost
was named by Pope Francis named him bishop of Chicago and a cardinal in 2016. He has been
Cardinal-designate Prevost, 67, was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1956. A Franciscan priest—older than age 80, whom Pope Francis
named him nuncio to the United States in 2016. He was also named to be apostolic administrator of Callao,
Chiclayo, in northern Peru, and the pope asked him also to be apostolic administrator of Cumaná, Venezuela, 84.

The cardinal-designate holds degrees from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome. An Augustinian friar, he joined the Augustinian order in Peru in 1985 and largely worked in the country until 1999, when he was elected head of the Augustinians’ Chicago-based province. From 2001 to 2013, he served as provincial general of the worldwide order.

In 2014, Pope Francis named him bishop of Chiclayo, in northern Peru, and the pope asked him also to be apostolic administrator of Callao, Peru, from April 2020 to May 2021. The pope then appointed him a cardinal and over the age of 80. After being elected a cardinal, Cardinal Marc Ouellet as prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops in early 2023.

Cardinal-designate Prevost was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1956. A Franciscan priest—older than age 80, whom Pope Francis
named him nuncio to the United States in 2016. He was also named to be apostolic administrator of Cumaná, Venezuela, 84.

The cardinal-designate holds degrees from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome. An Augustinian friar, he joined the Augustinian order in Peru in 1985 and largely worked in the country until 1999, when he was elected head of the Augustinians’ Chicago-based province. From 2001 to 2013, he served as provincial general of the worldwide order.

In 2014, Pope Francis named him bishop of Chiclayo, in northern Peru, and the pope asked him also to be apostolic administrator of Callao, Peru, from April 2020 to May 2021. The pope then appointed him a cardinal and over the age of 80. After being elected a cardinal, Cardinal Marc Ouellet as prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops in early 2023.

Cardinal-designate Prevost was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1956. A Franciscan priest—older than age 80, whom Pope Francis
named him nuncio to the United States in 2016. He was also named to be apostolic administrator of Cumaná, Venezuela, 84.

The cardinal-designate holds degrees from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome. An Augustinian friar, he joined the Augustinian order in Peru in 1985 and largely worked in the country until 1999, when he was elected head of the Augustinians’ Chicago-based province. From 2001 to 2013, he served as provincial general of the worldwide order.

In 2014, Pope Francis named him bishop of Chiclayo, in northern Peru, and the pope asked him also to be apostolic administrator of Callao, Peru, from April 2020 to May 2021. The pope then appointed him a cardinal and over the age of 80. After being elected a cardinal, Cardinal Marc Ouellet as prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops in early 2023.

Cardinal-designate Prevost was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1956. A Franciscan priest—older than age 80, whom Pope Francis
named him nuncio to the United States in 2016. He was also named to be apostolic administrator of Cumaná, Venezuela, 84.

The cardinal-designate holds degrees from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome. An Augustinian friar, he joined the Augustinian order in Peru in 1985 and largely worked in the country until 1999, when he was elected head of the Augustinians’ Chicago-based province. From 2001 to 2013, he served as provincial general of the worldwide order.

In 2014, Pope Francis named him bishop of Chiclayo, in northern Peru, and the pope asked him also to be apostolic administrator of Callao, Peru, from April 2020 to May 2021. The pope then appointed him a cardinal and over the age of 80. After being elected a cardinal, Cardinal Marc Ouellet as prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops in early 2023.

The criterion interviewed King in the last week of her presidency of the college, a tenure that included opening the school to men in 2015. Here is an edited version of that conversation.

Q. Talk about the impact that your 21 years at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College has had on you personally.

A. It’s been a life-changing experience. When I came, I was a faculty member. So I loved teaching, but becoming president allowed me to expand my leadership skills. It was a perfect place for me. My faith has always been an extremely important part of me. So working in an environment that really allowed that to be on display and at the forefront of what we do has been a blessing to me — and was one of the reasons I wanted to come to the Woods. I grew, I stretched as an leader. It’s been a special, special experience that I will cherish for all of my life.

Q. What are the most significant professional lessons you learned from 13 years of leading Saint Mary-ofthe-Woods as its president?

A. When people think of that, they will think of possible accomplishments, but really what I’m most proud of is that I was able to work with the people of the Woods in meaningful ways. I think I was able to understand the gifts that were inside of them and to bring those gifts together. So really, just it’s the work itself, the people, and accomplishing things as a team.

Q. The college’s history revolves around developing young women to become leaders in the Church and in faith. Talk about the importance of that goal today.

A. I believe that think about Mother Theodore’s wisdom of meeting needs in society. She came when the Church had absolutely no presence beyond grade school in the Wabash Valley and created a new opportunity for them. So it was a new idea for the story we all know. But she also created a pharmacy, and she created a school that included that. She was just meeting the needs of the world in her time.

So we became a women’s college through the 1900s, women were beginning to imagine themselves in roles then really didn’t exist and those thought were traditional. Some of them were dreaming of careers, and Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College was allowing them to dream opportunity for them, gave them empowerment and put the tools in the hands of what made us successful. So really, meeting the college in this moment, that I was being reminded by some angry alums that I was not a graduate of the Woods. I understand that comes from a place of hurt. But I also felt that hurt. Within a few years, I came to realize something that I would always be passionate and appreciate—that you do not have to be a student of the Woods to be a student of the Woods. This place has impacted me much like it has the generations of students who attended here. I feel like I have learned from a voice and to use it to go out and make a difference in the world. And if my actions have impact on others, and it could be good, and it could be bad. And so, I wanted it to be good.”

Q. Who are some of the current state of the college?

A. "I think the state of the college is strong. I think we have a solid foundation that’s built on strong and enduring values. I see it as a growing school. And I think I see this college working hard to understand our own foundations and to build upon it.

Q. What do you see as the future of the college?

A. We’re trying to be uniquely ourselves. And because of that, I think that our unique identity and our willingness to meet the needs of today’s young people, the college is growing. The other thing I would say is it’s always been a resource-challenged institution, so if we were to grow an undergraduate major in the next 20 years, that would be the last thing we need to do to realize a bright future.

Q. How do you want to be remembered?

A. "I hope that what people remember the most is that my faith was always a part of what I did, and I always kept that. I always remembered that I was part of the midst of financial challenges and decisions we were making for strategic reasons that at the heart of the college mission. So, I always kept the mission in mind. And I really valued the people who were on the board with me, that together we were far better than me alone. I hope those are the things people remember.

Q. Anything else you would like to share?

A. I would like to share that I worked with three different archbishops during my 13 years as president, and each one has been incredible. I didn’t work very long with Archbishop Daniel M. Hermann, who was a good shepherd. Archbishop Joseph Tobin, who visited the Woods. And I called him on the phone when we were announcing going coed, and he literally prayed a beautiful prayer for me over the phone. And I’ve enjoyed so much my relationship with Archbishop Charles C. Thompson. I hope that continues as I represent all the Catholic colleges in Indiana now.

“So really I want to say I really appreciated the support of The Criterion, and the archdiocese recognizing this in Indiana. And I know there a lot of wonderful Catholic people in Indiana that supported this, and I just want to say thank you to them.”

Continuing a papal custom, among the new cardinals were two Augustinians—a Capuchin Franciscan priest—older than age 80, whom Pope Francis named him nuncio to the United States in 2016. Being over the age of 80, they are ineligible to vote in a conclave.

The nominating of Cardinal-designate Prevost brings to 18 the number of U.S. cardinals; after the conclave, the U.S. contingent will include 11 potential papal electors.

Cardinal-designate Prevost, 67, was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1956. A Franciscan priest—older than age 80, whom Pope Francis named him nuncio to the United States in 2016. Being over the age of 80, they are ineligible to vote in a conclave.

The nominating of Cardinal-designate Prevost brings to 18 the number of U.S. cardinals; after the conclave, the U.S. contingent will include 11 potential papal electors.

Cardinal-designate Prevost, 67, was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1956. A Franciscan priest—older than age 80, whom Pope Francis named him nuncio to the United States in 2016. Being over the age of 80, they are ineligible to vote in a conclave.

The nominating of Cardinal-designate Prevost brings to 18 the number of U.S. cardinals; after the conclave, the U.S. contingent will include 11 potential papal electors.

Cardinal-designate Prevost, 67, was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1956. A Franciscan priest—older than age 80, whom Pope Francis named him nuncio to the United States in 2016. Being over the age of 80, they are ineligible to vote in a conclave.

The nominating of Cardinal-designate Prevost brings to 18 the number of U.S. cardinals; after the conclave, the U.S. contingent will include 11 potential papal electors.

Cardinal-designate Prevost, 67, was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1956. A Franciscan priest—older than age 80, whom Pope Francis named him nuncio to the United States in 2016. Being over the age of 80, they are ineligible to vote in a conclave.
into hard-fought soccer, football and basketball games.

"It’s true joy," said Max, a member of St. Jude the Apostle Parish in Spencer. "I don’t have to hide my faith here."

Living, playing and praying with so many like-minded peers at Bishop Bruté Days was also important for Adam McIntyre, a member of St. Gabriel Parish in Connersville. This was his third year taking part in the camp.

"It’s a fun time," said Adam. "It’s a good way to prayerfully discern what your future vocation will be. There are a lot of great opportunities for prayer.

Being together with so many other peers opens to the possibility of a priestly vocation led Jacob Flaig of St. Lawrence Parish in Lawrenceburg to look to the future while taking part in Bishop Bruté Days for the second time.

"It’s interesting that we’re all thinking about the same goal," said Jacob, adding that he was curious about whom among his fellow campers would discern a priestly call.

"It is Jesus who calls us." Archbishop Charles C. Thompson celebrated Mass on the opening evening of Bishop Bruté Days. In his homily, he encouraged his teenage listeners to focus on Christ, especially present in the Eucharist, in their prayers about their vocation.

"We know the word of God is transforming our hearts and the Eucharist is always there for us," he said. "It’s what sustains us in our vocation and in our discernment. It is Jesus who calls us. It is Jesus who is always with us intimately, who nurtures, sustains and feeds us in word and sacrament so that we can carry out in service, in his name, the good news of the Gospel."

After the Mass, Archbishop Thompson spoke with The Criterion about seeing so many young men taking part in the camp.

"The fact that these young people have given up part of their summer and the comfort of their homes to be here shows a lot of great courage, generosity and faith on their part," he said.

Father Jack Wright and Father José Neri, ordained priests for the archdiocese just three weeks before Bishop Bruté Days, were there on its first day.

Lines of campers waited in the courtyard of the seminary to receive blessings from them. The newly ordained priests spent about an hour answering questions about their vocation and life in seminary. And then they were on hand to hear confessions.

At this level of beginning of my priestly ministry in the archdiocese at St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis, Father Wright was happy to see so many young men considering the call that he’s embraced. About two-thirds of this year’s high schoolers had participated in the camp before.

"Most of them probably don’t know yet what the future holds, but the fact that they’re here and come back year after year tells me that God’s doing something with them," said Father Wright. "It’s great to see because I know it’s going to bear fruit in future vocations. I’m sure it will."

As this year’s Bishop Bruté Days took place at the beginning of the second year of the three-year National Eucharistic Revival, Christ’s presence in the Eucharist was emphasized throughout the camp. Transitional Deacon Samuel Rosko reflected on the meaning of the Mass and its connection to a priestly vocation in a homily during a holy hour on the first day of the camp.

"The priestly vocation is the Mass," said Deacon Rosko, a member of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish in Indianapolis. "It is a call to live the Mass in your life, your own self gift, your own death and your own rising with Christ."

In these coming days and especially tonight as you have the opportunity to be with our Lord and
Against Racism, said. Quoting St. Katharine Drexel, a newly appointed chair of the Ad Hoc Committee by Bishop Joseph N. Perry, auxiliary bishop of Chicago, a landmark decision overturning previous precedent was made in response to the June 29 Supreme Court ruling that institutions of higher education must work in that way, and we will not do so today.”

On affirmative action, U.S. bishops echo call of St. Katharine Drexel

(OSV News)—In a statement released on July 7, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) said that it was their “hope that our Catholic institutions of higher learning will continue to find ways to make education possible and affordable for everyone, regardless of their background.”

The statement was made in response to the June 29 Supreme Court ruling that institutions of higher education can no longer take race into consideration for admission, a landmark decision overturning previous precedent supported by many Catholic universities and colleges.

“Education is a gift, an opportunity, and an important aspect of our democracy that is not always within the reach of all, especially racial and ethnic groups who find themselves on the margins,” the statement, issued by Bishop Joseph N. Perry, auxiliary bishop of Chicago and newly appointed chair of the Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism, said. Quoting St. Katharine Drexel, a pioneer in Catholic education in the U.S., the USCCB statement concluded: “If we wish to serve God and love our neighbor as well, we must manifest our joy in the service we render to him and them. Let us open wide our hearts. It is joy which invites us. Press forward and fear nothing.”

Within higher education, affirmative action refers to admissions practices that purport to increase the number of students admitted from historically marginalized groups, such as Black and Hispanic students. Colleges and universities that take race into consideration have argued that doing so is only one way to a broadly inclusive admissions process, which also includes a student’s grades, test scores and extracurricular activities.

Supporters of affirmative action policies argue they help to address the lasting impact of racism in American society. Opponents, however, say race-based admission policies harm students who should be judged on their merits as students alone, with some arguing that Asian American students were disproportionally rejected in favor of white, Black and Hispanic applicants.

Chief Justice John Roberts wrote the 6-3 majority opinion in Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard, arguing admissions programs at Harvard University and the University of North Carolina (UNC) violated the Constitution’s equal protection clause in a ruling dealing with affirmative action policies at those institutions.

“The Harvard and UNC admissions programs cannot be reconciled with the guarantees of the Equal Protection Clause,” Roberts wrote. “Both programs lack sufficiently focused and measurable objectives warranting the use of race, avoidance employ race in a negative manner, involve racial stereotyping, and lack meaningful end points. We have never permitted admissions programs to work in that way, and we will not do so today.”

On affirmative action, U.S. bishops echo call of St. Katharine Drexel

St. Juliana of Cornillon was a woman, an orphan, and a daughter, but most importantly, she was a follower of Christ. Though it is not widely known, her faith and perseverance contributed to the institution of the feast of Corpus Christi. St. Juliana of Cornillon’s life illustrates the prominence of devotion to the Eucharist. Through her devotion, she fulfilled her vocation.

At the age of 16, Juliana received a vision during eucharistic adoration where a moon presented itself crossed by a dark stripe. The moon symbolized the life of the Church on Earth while the line represented the lack of a liturgical feast on which believers would be able to adore the Eucharist in order to increase their faith.

Juliana’s heart became filled with joy, and she immersed herself in prayer, waiting patiently. Following her vision, Juliana’s devotion to the Eucharist allowed her the strength to confide in two friends, also fervent adorers of the Eucharist, and Father John Lausanne.

Fulfilling her vocation of establishing a liturgical feast for the Eucharist, Juliana requested Father Lausanne to consult theologians and clerics about such a feast. Accompanied later by other bishops, Bishop Robert Torote accepted Juliana’s proposal and introduced the Solemnity of Corpus Christi.

St. Juliana’s devotion to the Eucharist empowered her to overcome the harsh opposition of certain clergy. Her fervent love for the Eucharist inspires me to prevail in humility. Throughout the brutal opposition she endured, she never offered criticism for her adversaries. She continued to obediently spread eucharistic worship.

St. Juliana truly inspires me because, as she faced opposition, she turned to God rather than straying from him. She in no way allowed the opposition to define who she was, as I fail to accomplish today.

St. Juliana died loving and adoring the Lord in the Eucharist. Her love for the Eucharist inspires me to love the Lord as she did. She devoted her life to serving the Lord through her vocation, exemplifying a life given to God.

(Audrey and her parents, Bill and Kimberly May, are members of Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ Parish in Indianapolis. She recently completed the 10th grade at the Roncalli High School in Indianapolis and is the 10th-grade division winner in the Indianapolis Serra Club’s 2023 John D. Kelley Vocations Essay Contest.)

On affirmative action, U.S. bishops echo call of St. Katharine Drexel

St. Juliana of Cornillon inspires student to ‘prevail in humility’

On affirmative action, U.S. bishops echo call of St. Katharine Drexel
Rosary can renew love for the Church, its role in renewing society

By Gretchen R. Crowe

(OSV News)—It’s easy for Catholics to take the rosary for granted. We tend to purchase them as souvenirs or carry them around with us or even wear them. But we forget the immense power that they have when we actually pray them. And that’s really too bad, because devotion to the rosary can be the answer to so many struggles in our 21st-century world.

Our society today faces growing secularism and the disappearance of faith from the public square. In a talk titled “The Woman I Love,” Pope Francis said that part of the reason was due to the fact that “noise has invaded our existence.” If he thought that life was noisy in 1973, what would today’s typical lifestyle look like? We are distracted and overwhelmed by the noise that surrounds us. Technology is constantly demanding our attention. We sit in front of screens and, at the same time, look at smaller screens.

In today’s typical lifestyle, it is easy to become distracted and overwhelmed by the noise that surrounds us. Technology is not just a distraction; it is also a barrier to prayer. We are distracted by interior barriers to prayer that often manifest themselves in the form of pride and self-centeredness. In all of these moments of difficulty, we can turn to the rosary. The meditative quality of the devotion can help focus us and break through the external noise.

At the same time, by praying this simple prayer frequently, faithfully and with humility, we can break down our internal barriers. One of the intellectual, spiritual and even media giants of the 20th century was Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen. He also had a deep devotion to the Blessed Mother, and he dedicated a book to her called The World’s First Love. Archbishop Sheen also spoke much about her presence in public. In a talk titled “The Woman I Love,” he indicated how Mary and the Church were intertwined because “as we discontinue our devotion to the Blessed Mother, there is always a decline in the love of the Church.”

Fascinating, isn’t it? The less we call upon and venerate Mary, the less we are connected to the Church. And this is a problem that we desperately need to address today. Catholics in the 21st century are experiencing a massive decline of love for the Church, as is our country.

On the other hand, the country is experiencing a rise in the religiously unaffiliated, or “nones.” It also is facing a large—and growing—gap between the moral teachings of the Church and the evolution of our secular society. Recent years have seen an increase in cultural mores and public policies at odds with Church teaching, which means that Church teaching is increasingly at odds with the laws of the land. Part of the problem is widespread lack of faith formation, particularly for many adult, cradle Catholics.

The universal call to holiness is expressed in the Second Vatican Council’s “Dogmatic Constitution on the Church,” which reminds us that we are called to “be perfect as your heavenly father is perfect” (#11; Mt 5:48). When wanting to achieve holiness, where else is it better to look than to those men and women who have already done so—that is, the saints themselves? “The saints and blessed of paradise remind us, as pilgrims on earth, that prayer, above all, is our sustenance for each day so that we never lose sight of our eternal destiny,” St. John Paul said. “For many of them the rosary … was the privileged instrument for their daily discourse with the Lord. The rosary led them to an ever more profound intimacy with Christ and with the Blessed Virgin.”

(Gretchen R. Crowe is the editor-in-chief of OSV News and the author of Why the Rosary, Why Now?, published by Our Sunday Visitor in 2017.)

A woman prays the rosary in St. Peter’s Square at the Vatican. Praying the rosary can be an effective means to grow in love for the Church and allow the Church to renew contemporary society. (OSV News photo/Alessia Giuliani, CNS)
God lines up the village we need to thrive in this world

It was April 2004 and the long-anticipated marathon of raising triplets. Michelle had always been so vital, so driven. She couldn’t have been happier when Jake, Madison and Morgan made their appearance. By God’s Mercy, all three were born healthy. They were so tiny at first, it was hard to picture them all grown up. And yet, I knew they were. They are the mountainside.”

Michelle and Jeff were blessed with lots of family members—parents, siblings and extended family members who not only helped feed, change and watch the triplets, they also also helped raise them. And the triplets have been the recipients of many, many prayers from the village that surrounds them.

This 2-pound babies were fighters. They grew in size, intelligence, athleticism and inward and outward beauty. My husband and I are godparents to Madison. She is gorgeous, bright and strong. Jake is intelligent, mature and driven. Morgan is beautiful, kind and possesses a quiet detest that I admire. Like many other teenagers their age, they have faced their own challenges.

Michelle had a sidelined injury to both feet while playing varsity soccer for her high school. But she was determined to play through the pain. Her soccer career as captain of the team that won the Ohio state girls’ championships. Madison excelled in leadership as well, playing golf for his high school. He is driven to succeed and used his injury to motivate his teammates.

Joanne had a sideline injury to her leg. She was not a normally athletic person. After she got it all figured out. I knew where I needed to go for specific services and began to share that information with others.”

Catholic Charities staff soon recognized Joanne’s potential and thought she would be an excellent candidate to assist people with housing needs.

Joanne’s Catholic Charities case worker suggested she begin volunteering at a local nonprofit that works with those facing homelessness. She trained as a peer navigator at a homeless shelter. Her help has been invaluable and has allowed her to think about getting an apartment with three other women. She says, “I don’t know anyone who can make it alone. Even folks who are not homeless seem to live with four or five other people to be able to afford a place to live.”

Joanne is excited to see what the future holds. She will continue to volunteer and become better for others because I am able to conceive on her own. She has a quiet strength that has helped achieve her in school despite learning challenges. At one time, teachers told her parents that she would never be able to go to college. She is proving them wrong. At her high school graduations, all three received top honors and awards—some athletic, some academic, some for leadership and some for personal courage.

At their high school graduations, all three received top honors and awards—some athletic, some academic, some for leadership and some for personal courage. I am so impressed with all three of them. I am even more impressed with their parents. They are great parents. They raised many teachers, coaches, family and friends.

I am even more impressed with their parents. They are great parents. They raised many teachers, coaches, family and friends arrest and comment or stimulus that occurs? Is it helpful for us to be able to move through life without feeling in conflict or being overwhelmed by life’s demands? I don’t think so. I also think that tingle, shocking me awake. Putting down the remote and thinking that maybe I have something to write about.

Putting that into practice, I started to write about my life. I started to write about my experiences as a caregiver and how it has affected my life. I started to write about my struggles and how I managed to overcome them.

I am not a professional writer, but I have found that writing helps me to make sense of my experiences. It helps me to process my feelings and to understand my situation. I have found that writing is a good way to express my thoughts and feelings.

I have also found that writing helps me to connect with others who are going through similar experiences. It helps me to feel less alone and to know that I am not the only one who is going through these struggles.

I am not a professional writer, but I have found that writing helps me to make sense of my experiences. It helps me to process my feelings and to understand my situation. I have found that writing is a good way to express my thoughts and feelings.

I have also found that writing helps me to connect with others who are going through similar experiences. It helps me to feel less alone and to know that I am not the only one who is going through these struggles.

I have found that writing is a good way to express my thoughts and feelings. It helps me to connect with others and to feel less alone. It helps me to process my feelings and to understand my situation.

I have found that writing is a good way to express my thoughts and feelings. It helps me to connect with others and to feel less alone. It helps me to process my feelings and to understand my situation.
The third and last section of the Book of Isaiah is the source of the first reading for Mass this weekend. This passage was composed when pious Jews could have become disillusioned and uncertain in their devotion to God. For instance, Jews exiled in Babylon, capital and center of the once powerful Babylonian Empire, longed to leave the pagan environment of this great city located in what is now Iraq and return to their own homeland. At last, as ancient political fortunes changed, these Jews were permitted to go back to their ancestors’ homes. Upon returning, however, they found no “land flowing with milk and honey.” Life was hard. Difficulties were many. For so long they had dreamt of leaving Babylon for security, order and peace in Israel, yet they instead found destitution and misery. God had spared them, but for what? Certainly, many were angry with God. The author of this third section of Isaiah was likely one of several prophets who reminded them that God was working for their own good. He had freed them, but they had to create a society of justice and prosperity. St. Paul’s Epistle to the Romans supplies the second reading. Written to the Christians of Rome about two generations after Jesus, Paul refers to their “sufferings” (Rom 8:18). The legal and political systems in the empire were turning against Christianity. The law aside, the culture of the Roman Empire in the first century stood directly opposite the Gospel. The Apostle consorted and challenged the Roman Christians, reminding them that sin enshrouded humans, demeaning them and robbing them of freedom. Sin disorders creation itself, so creation “groans” in agony (Rom 8:22). Jesus is the Redeemer. He gives true freedom to people. This freedom opens the way to peace and eternal life, despite any hostility or chaos all around. St. Matthew’s Gospel furnishes the last reading. It is the familiar parable of the farmer who sowed seed in different places, some conducive to growth, others not. Similar passages occur in Mark and in Luke. A great crowd awaited Jesus. As are people everywhere, at any time, these people thirsted for the truth and insight that only God gives. Almost certainly everyone was Galilean, and therefore of rural backgrounds and circumstances. The imagery of a farmer sowing seed was easily understood. Agriculture still often is a game of chance. It was more so when Jesus preached in Galilee. Hot days easily scorched seeds that fell on shallow soil. Birds and pests were everywhere. So were weeds. Here and there was good soil, able to receive the seeds and produce a yield. The message is clear. God sows the seeds in our heart. We must be humble enough to receive God’s word. As an aside, here again in the Gospels the disciples had privileged access to Jesus. They question the Lord about the technique of speaking in parables. Jesus explains that parables assist in understanding great mysteries. Jesus explains this parable. He prepares them for their future role.

**Question Corner**

**Jenna Marie Cooper**

**Baptismal registries record a person’s important sacramental information.**

Q: Am I getting married and the priest at my fiancé’s basilica said we need new baptismal certificates. Why can’t we just use the ones our parents got when we were baptized? (Maine)

A: Baptismal certificates aren’t a one-and-done kind of document. It is true that when you are baptized, you (or your parents, if you were an infant at the time of your baptism) receive a paper certificate attesting to the fact that your baptism took place on a certain day at a particular place.

However, the official record of your baptism is not one piece of paper in a file, but rather an entry into a baptismal registry book. Your entry in the baptismal register in your parish of baptism then serves as the “master record” of your life as a Catholic. Catholic baptismal registry books register the details of a person’s baptism, but also include room for subsequent major sacramental life events.

For instance, when a Catholic who was baptized as an infant later receives the sacrament of confirmation, this is recorded next to their name in the baptismal register of their parish of baptism. If the confirmation happens in a parish other than the one where he or she was baptized, then the parish of confirmation must take care to contact the parish of baptism to ensure that everything is recorded properly.

Other life events that must be recorded in a person’s original baptismal register include reception of holy orders and religious profession, or a woman’s becoming a consecrated virgin. Marriage in the Church is also an important life event to be recorded in a baptismal register—and if a marriage is declared null by a tribunal, this would also be noted in the same place.

When Catholics request a copy of their baptismal certificate, their parish of baptism issues a new hard copy based on the information in the baptismal register. This new copy will have a section on the back which relates all the biographical details recorded over the years in the register event by event.

So, if you are requesting a copy of your baptismal certificate as part of your marriage preparation, a newly-issued one lets the priest or deacon assisting you in this know about any previous life events, such as a previous marriage or previous reception of holy orders, which might present an issue or impediment with your upcoming wedding.

Q: My husband abandoned me years ago. I know I am married and that I am called to live chastely, and I am doing that. But my friend told me I was not married. I have attended previous annulments. Is that true? (Wisconsin)

A: No, nobody needs a declaration of nullity (commonly known as an annulment) to avoid hell, or even to participate fully in the life of the Church. In fact, it’s never good to start the marriage nullity process because of feeling rushed or pressured by third parties.

We are all required to live out the virtue of chastity according to our state in life and particular circumstances. This means, essentially, that a person can only enjoy sexual intimacy with a person to whom he or she is married. Divorce in and of itself is not necessarily sinful, and being an abandoned spouse is certainly not a sin.

But—as you correctly note—even in cases of divorce, separation or abandonment, a once-married couple is still presumed to be proper to marry with someone to whom they were not married.

But, if you are at peace living a chaste life as a divorced Catholic without seeking a new marriage, it’s perfectly fine to remain as you are.

**Jenna 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 CatholicQ&A@osv.com**

---

**My Journey to God**

**It Takes Faith to Believe**

By Thomas J. Rillo

It takes faith to believe in defying scientific logic. It takes faith to believe in having a positive attitude. It takes faith to believe in a loving and merciful God. It takes faith to believe in surrounding mounted dreaded courage. It takes Faith to Believe.

It takes faith to believe that God will help us in dark times. It takes faith to believe that we can overcome our fears. It takes faith to believe in the morning to draw a new day. It takes faith to believe you can succeed with perseverance. It Takes Faith to Believe.

It takes faith to believe that God will always provide for you. It takes faith to believe that you can always count on God. It takes faith to believe that God can heal and assist your life. It takes faith to believe that God is there always for you. It Takes Faith to Believe.

(Seeing the late Thomas J. Rillo was a member of St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Bloomington and a Benedictine oblate of St. Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad, Ind.)

---

**Daily Readings**

**Monday, July 17**

Exodus 1:8-14, 22

Psalm 124:1-4, 6-7

Matthew 13:1-9

**Tuesday, July 18**

St. Camillus de Lellis, priest

Exodus 2:1-15a

Psalm 69:3, 8, 30, 31, 33-34

Matthew 11:20-24

**Wednesday, July 19**

Exodus 3:1-6, 9-12

Psalm 103:1-4, 6-7

Matthew 11:25-29

**Thursday, July 20**

St. Apollinaris, bishop and martyr

Exodus 3:13-20

Psalm 105:1, 5, 8-9, 24-27

Matthew 12:28-30

**Friday, July 21**

St. Lawrence of Brindisi, priest and doctor of the Church

Exodus 11:10-12, 14

Psalm 116:12, 13, 15-18

Matthew 12:1-8

**Saturday, July 22**

St. Mary Magdalene

Song of Songs 5:8-9

Psalm 63:2-6, 8-9

John 20:1-2, 11-18

**Sunday, July 23**

Exodus 16:1-7

Psalm 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16

Romans 8:26-27

Matthew 13:24-30

---

**The Sunday Readings**

June 17, 2023

- Isaiah 55:10-11
- Romans 8:18-23
- Matthew 13:1-9

- A great crowd awaited Jesus. As are people everywhere, at any time, these people thirsted for the truth and insight that only God gives. Almost certainly everyone was Galilean, and therefore of rural backgrounds and circumstances. The imagery of a farmer sowing seed was easily understood. Agriculture still often is a game of chance. It was more so when Jesus preached in Galilee. Hot days easily scorched seeds that fell on shallow soil. Birds and pests were everywhere. So were weeds. Here and there was good soil, able to receive the seeds and produce a yield. The message is clear. God sows the seeds in our heart. We must be humble enough to receive God’s word. As an aside, here again in the Gospels the disciples had privileged access to Jesus. They question the Lord about the technique of speaking in parables. Jesus explains that parables assist in understanding great mysteries. Jesus explains this parable. He prepares them for their future role.

---

See READINGS page 16
St. Roch, Indianapolis, June 9.
BURKE, Margaret

ECHART, Margaret Ann.

ERHART, Anna Marie.

FLACK, Margaret F.
St. Anthony of Padua, Indianapolis, April 16. Sister of Sister James and Paul Flack. Mrs. of Paul Flack.

GOFNET, Claris, H.

HAMER, James N., J.

HENDERSON, Julia

HOLMAN, Mary G.

JOLIFF, Angela, M.

KOONTZ, Patricia M.

LEAP, Richard S., Jr.
St. Martin of Tours, Martinsville, April 13. Husband of Cynthia Leap. Brother of Randy Leap. Uncle of several.

O’ROURKE, Margaret A.
St. Mary of the Knobs, Floyd County, June 26. Mother of Sharron Thomas, Matthew Thomas, Alfie Thomas, Mike Thomas, Tom Thomas and Mark Powser. Grandmother of 18. great-grandfather of 12.

Purichia, Doris, St.

RAMSEY, Lisa M., J.

REEVER, Jr., Alfred, J.

SLINGER, Margaret Ann.

STEEEN, Barbara
(Gratzer), S.

STEGH, Sandra K., J.


The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on June 7 at the Church of the Immaculate Conception at the motherhouse in St. Mary-of-the-Woods. Burial followed at the sisters’ cemetery. Sister Mary Margaret was born on Dec. 5, 1920, in Decatur, Ill. She entered the Sisters of Providence on Sept. 16, 1940, and professed final vows on Jan. 23, 1949.

Sister Mary Margaret earned a bachelor’s degree in English at St. Mary-of-the-Woods College and a master’s degree in education at Indiana University in Bloomington.

During her 82 years as a member of the Sisters of Providence, Sister Mary Margaret ministered as an educator in Catholic schools for 40 years in California, Illinois, Indiana and Washington, D.C. At the motherhouse, she served as the head of the Church’s Office of Peace from 1967-71. In 1986, she became the community’s historian and wrote the third volume of its history, covering the period from 1900-1926. From 1998-2007, Sister Mary Margaret registered as a specially-trained midwife to serve the women of the community’s Providence Center. She also served as the coordinator of the community’s Blessed Sacrament Chapel from 2006-17.

In the archdiocese, in addition to her service at the motherhouse, Sister Mary Margaret served at St. Mary School (now part of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School) in Richmond from 1952-54. Our Lady of Providence High School in Clarksville from 1964-65 and at St. Mary-of-the-Woods College from 1966-69.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Sisters of Providence, 1 Sisters of Providence Road, St. Mary-of-the-Woods, IN 47875.

Sister Mary Margaret Danda was born as a member of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods on June 26, 1920, in Decatur, Ill. She entered the Sisters of Providence on Sept. 16, 1940, and professed final vows on Jan. 23, 1949.

Sister Mary Margaret earned a bachelor’s degree in English at St. Mary-of-the-Woods College and a master’s degree in education at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and a master’s degree in education at

At the motherhouse, she served as the head of the Church’s Office of Peace from 1967-71. In 1986, she became the community’s historian and wrote the third volume of its history, covering the period from 1900-1926.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Sisters of Providence, 1 Sisters of Providence Road, St. Mary-of-the-Woods, IN 47875.

Sister Mary Margaret Danda was born as a member of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods on June 26, 1920, in Decatur, Ill. She entered the Sisters of Providence on Sept. 16, 1940, and professed final vows on Jan. 23, 1949.

Sister Mary Margaret earned a bachelor’s degree in English at St. Mary-of-the-Woods College and a master’s degree in education at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and a master’s degree in education at

At the motherhouse, she served as the head of the Church’s Office of Peace from 1967-71. In 1986, she became the community’s historian and wrote the third volume of its history, covering the period from 1900-1926.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Sisters of Providence, 1 Sisters of Providence Road, St. Mary-of-the-Woods, IN 47875.

Sister Mary Margaret Danda was born as a member of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods on June 26, 1920, in Decatur, Ill. She entered the Sisters of Providence on Sept. 16, 1940, and professed final vows on Jan. 23, 1949.

Sister Mary Margaret earned a bachelor’s degree in English at St. Mary-of-the-Woods College and a master’s degree in education at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and a master’s degree in education at

At the motherhouse, she served as the head of the Church’s Office of Peace from 1967-71. In 1986, she became the community’s historian and wrote the third volume of its history, covering the period from 1900-1926.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Sisters of Providence, 1 Sisters of Providence Road, St. Mary-of-the-Woods, IN 47875.

Sister Mary Margaret Danda was born as a member of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods on June 26, 1920, in Decatur, Ill. She entered the Sisters of Providence on Sept. 16, 1940, and professed final vows on Jan. 23, 1949.

Sister Mary Margaret earned a bachelor’s degree in English at St. Mary-of-the-Woods College and a master’s degree in education at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and a master’s degree in education at

At the motherhouse, she served as the head of the Church’s Office of Peace from 1967-71. In 1986, she became the community’s historian and wrote the third volume of its history, covering the period from 1900-1926.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Sisters of Providence, 1 Sisters of Providence Road, St. Mary-of-the-Woods, IN 47875.

Sister Mary Margaret Danda was born as a member of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods on June 26, 1920, in Decatur, Ill. She entered the Sisters of Providence on Sept. 16, 1940, and professed final vows on Jan. 23, 1949.

Sister Mary Margaret earned a bachelor’s degree in English at St. Mary-of-the-Woods College and a master’s degree in education at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and a master’s degree in education at

At the motherhouse, she served as the head of the Church’s Office of Peace from 1967-71. In 1986, she became the community’s historian and wrote the third volume of its history, covering the period from 1900-1926.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Sisters of Providence, 1 Sisters of Providence Road, St. Mary-of-the-Woods, IN 47875.
VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Only by shedding feelings of personal greatness and regaining a sense of wonder in God’s love can people welcome Jesus into their hearts and lives, Pope Francis said.

With some 15,000 visitors gathered to pray the Angelus at St. Peter’s Square on July 9, the pope reflected on the day’s Gospel reading from St. Matthew in which Jesus praises God the Father for hiding “things” from the wise and revealing them to the childlike.

Those things, Pope Francis explained, refer to Jesus’ miracles—restoring sight to the blind and healing lepers—which are “signs of God acting in the world” that are overlooked by the prideful.

God’s love, as reflected through Jesus’ miracles, “is not understood by those who presume to be great and manufacture a god in their own image: powerful, unyielding, vengeful,” he said.

“These presumptuous ones fail to accept God as Father; those who are full of themselves, proud, concerned only with their own interests: these are the presumptuous ones, convinced that they need no one,” Pope Francis said.

He noted that the notion of embracing the five senses feels novel. And this season bursts with multi-sensory happiness:

the smell of fresh-mown grass, the

buzz of fireflies croaking, the swing of a hammock.

May we soak it all in, feeling the tingle of being fully alive, giving God all the glory. 
(Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn.)†

The childlike are open to receiving God’s love, however, “have hearts free from conceit and self-love,” the pope explained.

“The childlike are those who, like children, feel needy and not self-sufficient, they open to God and let themselves be astonished by him,” he said. “Before you know how to read his signs, amazed by the miracles of his love.”

Pope Francis urged Christians whether they let themselves stop and be amazed by how the signs of God are working in their lives or if they notice them only in passing.

“Our lives, if we think about it, are full of miracles, full of signs of love, of signs of God’s bounty,” he said. “Before these, however, our heart can also remain indifferent and become set in its ways, strangely unable to be amazed.”

Pope Francis suggested that Christians draw attention to the signs of God’s love in daily life by “photographing” them in their minds and “printing” them onto their heart to then develop them in their lives through positive actions, so that the “photograph” of God’s love “becomes brighter in us and through us.”

After praying the Angelus, the pope recalled “with pain” the recent bloodshed in the Holy Land, where on July 3 Israeli forces launched a two-day ground and aerial attack on the city of Jenin in the West Bank. The Palestinian government reported that 12 Palestinians were killed in the raid and at least 120 were wounded.

“I hope that the Israeli and Palestinian Authorities can resume a direct dialogue in order to end the spiral of violence and open paths of reconciliation and peace,” the pope said.†
The Criterion  Friday, July 14, 2023

HELPING WOMEN
AND FAMILIES

HEALTH | FERTILITY CARE | NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

Fertility is a gift to be appreciated and understood. By using the Creighton Model FertilityCare™ System, our center offers women truly feminine, individualized, holistic healthcare that is safe, effective, life-affirming and clinically proven for each unique phase of life.

PROVIDING INDIVIDUALIZED AND TRULY FEMININE CARE

• Cooperative gynecological wellness
• Avoiding pregnancy
• Achieving pregnancy

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SCHEDULE AN INTRODUCTORY SESSION

(317) 528-7071
FranciscanFertilityCareCenter@FranciscanAlliance.org
610 E. Southport Road | Suite 110 | Indianapolis

The Miracle Club tugs heartstrings with moving performances

By Ann Margaret Lewis

I’m always a sucker for a watching Dame Maggie Smith (Downton Abbey, The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie, California Suite) in anything she does, so I couldn’t resist the opportunity to review Sony Pictures’ film The Miracle Club, a story set in 1967 about four Irish-born women making a trip to Lourdes, France, in search of miracles.

As I predicted, Maggie made me cry. Her performance and those of Kathy Bates (Misery, Fried Green Tomatoes, About Schmidt), Agnes O’Casey (BBC One’s “Ridley Road”) and Laura Linney (You Can Count on Me, The Squid and the Whale, HBO’s “John Adams”) are all well done.

One could almost think of this film as an Irish version of Steel Magnolias (1989) with all the female actors chewing the scenery. One character faces the threat of terminal illness, while another desires to have her autistic son speak.

But in contrast with the joy of the pilgrimage is tension from the unwelcome return of a friend banished from their Irish community 40 years prior for an out-of-wedlock pregnancy. She joins the women in place of her deceased mother.

Of course, as with just about any secular production about Catholic characters, the film predictably approaches the subject of abortion. Since this is one of the core turns of the story, the subject couldn’t be avoided. But still, I find myself wishing secular filmmakers would tell a story about Catholics that didn’t hit on that topic, or at least approach it through a truly Catholic lens. Here the morality of it is left nebulous, which, again, is unsurprising.

I was also disappointed, but again not surprised, that none of the characters suggested or approached the sacrament of penance with the priest on the trip.

Regardless, he was portrayed sympathetically, being visibly crushed when one of the characters declares Lourdes a “con” because only 67 miracles had occurred there since Mary appeared there in 1858. To be honest, I found that amusing because my thought was, “Sixty-seven? That’s a lot!” (Lourdes is now up to 70.) Of course, the character who says this ends up with a miracle of her own she hadn’t anticipated, proving her wrong in her doubts about the pilgrimage.

Ultimately, the film is a pleasant tear-jerker that I was glad to watch for the fine performances if nothing else.

The film is rated PG-13 for language and adult subject matter. Directed by award-winning Irish filmmaker Thaddeus O’Sullivan, The Miracle Club is based on a story by Jimmy Smallhorne, with a screenplay by Smallhorne, Timothy Prager and Joshua D. Maurer. The film is beautifully shot at locations in Ireland, while the Lourdes grotto was recreated at Ireland’s Ardmore Film Factory. The Lourdes shrine rarely grants permission for filming.

The Miracle Club is releasing in theaters nationwide on July 14. To see if the film will show at a theater near you or to purchase tickets, go to tickets.miracleclubmovie.com.†