

**The**

# Criterion

Serving the Church in Central and Southern Indiana Since 1960

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November 5, 2004

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## Catholics can make a difference by taking part in Called to Serve

By Brandon A. Evans

Parishes around the archdiocese have been busy this past month talking about stewardship—and now the chance has come for Catholics to make a difference in central and southern Indiana.

Stewardship efforts in October have all led up to the 2004-05 Called to Serve: Parish Stewardship and United Catholic Appeal (UCA) intention weekend on Nov. 6-7.



The weekend is an opportunity for parishioners to pledge their time, talent and treasure to help not only their parish, but the entire archdiocese.

The annual appeal solidifies the commitment of Catholics to helping their parish and contributing to its Christian life of worship and service.

The appeal also allows Catholics to pledge money to the larger archdiocese—money that goes 100 percent toward keeping the ministry of the Church alive.

Nearly 40 percent of all the money raised from this year's UCA—and the collective goal is to raise \$5.5 million—will go to the home missions of the archdiocese.

These are parishes and schools that, as Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein has said, need to be where they are but are also struggling to stay viable.

More than 60 percent of the money raised will go toward shared ministries—those larger tasks that require the help of the whole archdiocese to fund, such as seminarian education, Catholic education, Catholic Charities, and spiritual life and

worship.

“Parishes and local charities are extremely important and supporting the United Catholic Appeal is an important way of doing just that,” said Joseph Therber, executive director of stewardship and development for the archdiocese.

“The vast majority of funds directly support and go to ministries ‘in the field’ as well as to ‘laborers for the harvest,’ our seminarians and senior priests,” he said.

Stephen Lanterman, director of Catholic Charities in Tell City, commented about the importance of the UCA to his

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## Record amount raised from dinner will help send children to Catholic schools

By Brandon A. Evans

Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Alan Page spoke to more than 1,000 people who attended the annual Celebrating Catholic School Values Awards Dinner on Oct. 27.

This year, the event, which has funded more than \$1.35 million in needs-based tuition assistance for families who send their children to a Catholic school, raised a record amount this year—more than \$345,000.

J. Timothy McGinley, chair of the event, said that the money raised over the past eight years at the dinner has helped more than 2,500 children attend the Catholic school of their choice.

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein thanked all those in attendance for their generosity, and also for the help of corporate sponsors.

The evening is a chance to celebrate all the good that comes from Catholic education in the archdiocese.

“Our system,” McGinley said, “because it is privately financed, saves Indiana taxpayers more than \$165 million a year, and our high school graduation rates exceed 99 percent while serving a high percentage of low-income and minority students. That is

Photo by Brandon A. Evans



Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein and Annette “Mickey” Lentz, far right, executive director of Catholic education and faith formation, congratulate Dr. James and Bernice Nolan on receiving a Celebrating Catholic School Values Career Achievement Award during the Oct. 27 dinner in Indianapolis.

quite an accomplishment.” Annette “Mickey” Lentz, executive director of Catholic education and faith formation, lauded the accomplishments of

all the Catholic schools in the archdiocese that have been honored as No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon Schools

See SCHOOLS, page 10

## Minnesota Supreme Court justice speaks to students

By Brandon A. Evans

Catholic students from Indianapolis and Oldenburg recently got the chance to take some advice from a man who has excelled in two very different fields.

Alan Page, an associate justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court and member of the National Football League Hall of Fame, spoke to the youth on Oct. 27 at the Indianapolis Colts practice facility in Indianapolis.

The students were a selection of leaders from most of the Catholic high schools in Indianapolis along with Oldenburg Academy and some middle school students from center-city Catholic schools in Indianapolis.

Page was in Indianapolis to speak that evening at the annual Celebrating Catholic School Values Awards Dinner.

After graduating from the

University of Notre Dame, Page played professional football as a defensive lineman for the Chicago Bears and the Minnesota Vikings. While still playing football, he attended law school.

“The work that I do in the law is far more interesting, far more challenging [than football],” Page told the students.

“Ultimately, the game of football is entertainment—good entertainment, wholesome entertainment—but it’s just that—entertainment,” he said.

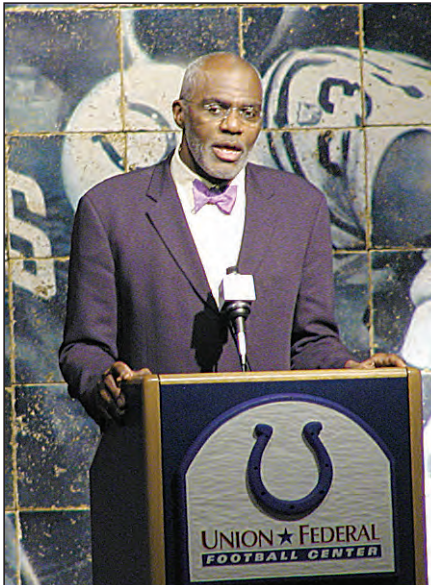
Colts Coach Tony Dungy introduced Page. He said that while all of the Colts defensive linemen know who Page is, many of the other players do not.

“Even though he’s a Hall of Fame player and a great legend, he could walk right through our room because athletics . . . doesn’t last that long—it’s short term,” Dungy said.

Dungy said that what he respects so much about Page is that while he was

See PAGE, page 9

Photo by Brandon A. Evans



Alan Page, associate Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court, speaks to Catholic students on Oct. 27 at the Indianapolis Colts practice facility.

## As Europe struggles with identity, Church finds its views challenged

ROME (CNS)—The Vatican is finding that its positions on abortion, homosexuality, euthanasia and other issues are being constantly challenged in a Europe that is struggling to forge a common set of rules while keeping national identities intact.

On the eve of the historic signing of the European Constitution, Pope John Paul II met with outgoing European Commission President Romano Prodi to remind him that Christian values are at the base of the European identity.

Christianity, he told Prodi on Oct. 28 at the Vatican, “contributed to the formation of a common conscience of the European peoples.”

“Whether recognized or not in official documents, this is an undeniable fact that no historian can forget,” he said.

The constitution does not mention Europe’s Christian roots, a reference the Vatican had sought repeatedly.

In light of this and other developments of late within the European Union and in individual countries, some top Vatican officials have been speaking out because they feel the values of the Church are being ignored or trampled.

The most recent example of friction erupted when Rocco Buttiglione, a

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# UCA

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work.

"The Tell City Deanery Catholic Charities is an outreach ministry of justice and mercy of the Church in southern Indiana," he said. "Here, many Catholics are very busy doing good for their fellow man, but it is the mission of Catholic Charities to make visible their Catholic presence and identity by being a supportive rallying point.

"As the newly hired director, I rely on the United Catholic Appeal to help us make the Catholic presence more deeply felt in southern Indiana," he said.

Each year, Catholic Charities helps more than 214,000 people in need through its 32 social service programs.

Catholic education is also a major focus of the annual appeal. Catholic schools reach nearly 50,000 children through 71 schools and 150 parish religious education programs.

Kathy Arkins, elementary religious education teacher at St. Barnabas Parish in Indianapolis, said that "without the support of UCA, many parishes would find it difficult to provide the materials needed for us to reach out to all families.

"We must remember our greatest asset for the future is with our youth," she said.

"Because operating a Catholic school can be an expensive proposition economically, we want to make this gift available to all children of the archdiocese through our collective support," Therber said.

Paying the pensions of our retired priests is another important part of the UCA.

Father Joseph Sheets, who retired in 2001 and lives in Seymour, said the pension checks he gets help to pay the bills—and that the needed health care insurance he receives is tremendous.

"Supporting retired priests signifies our deep appreciation for decades of ministry that [they] have given to the people of the archdiocese," Therber said. "These wonderful men have shaped countless lives and relationships through their counsel, prayer and friendship."

Spiritual life and worship is a major part of Christian living, and Carey Landry, coordinator of music ministries for Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Indianapolis, said that he has seen how much vibrant music during Mass can move and inspire people.

"The Office of Worship, which benefits directly from the United Catholic Appeal, supports the ministries of all musicians and liturgists in the archdiocese through various educational programs and special events," Landry said.

"For this, I and many other liturgical musicians, are very grateful," he said, adding that he encourages continued support of the annual appeal.

Dena Perry, director of stewardship for the archdiocese, thanked all those who have worked to make this annual appeal a success for the mission of the Church.

"Thanks, too," Perry said, "to each one of you for your support and your day-to-day ministry in the Church. You know how considerable the needs are. You face them every day.

I know you will be as generous as you possibly can in your response to the many needs facing the Church we all love so much." †

## UNITED CATHOLIC APPEAL GIFTS

### Executive Summary

Minimum Treasure Goal — \$5,500,000



### Our Shared Ministries \$3,377,000

**OUR CALL TO SUPPORT OUR PASTORAL MINISTRIES - \$1,397,000**  
Supports our 30 seminarians currently studying to be archdiocesan priests and our 36 retired clergy.

**EDUCATE CHILDREN, YOUTH AND ADULTS - \$740,000**  
The Office of Catholic Education teaches Catholic beliefs, traditions and values to nearly 50,000 children, youth and adults through 71 Catholic schools and 150 parish religious education programs. This includes leadership training and resources for school professionals.

**REACH OUT TO OTHERS THROUGH CATHOLIC CHARITIES - \$430,000**  
Catholic Charities serves more than 214,336 people in need annually through its 32 social service programs.

**FAMILY MINISTRIES HELP FAMILIES IN TRANSITION - \$365,000**

Your gift to the United Catholic Appeal provides services such as marriage preparation, bereavement, divorce recovery, family enrichment, parent education and deaf ministry. Multicultural ministries promote an increased awareness of diversity in the archdiocese.

**SPIRITUAL LIFE AND WORSHIP - \$445,000**

Promotes retreat and renewal ministries and provides training and resources for those who evangelize and lead us in prayer in our parishes and archdiocesan-wide celebrations. Your gifts to the United Catholic Appeal help provide the TV Mass for Shut-Ins each Sunday for the benefit of Catholics who are homebound because of age, illness or disability.

### Our Call to Serve Home Missions \$2,123,000

**DIRECT PARISH OUTREACH - \$1,239,500**

Provides direct assistance to parishes struggling to meet the costs of their annual ministry needs. Many have a vibrant school ministry.

Our home mission parishes and schools need to be where they are for the good of the people and their neighborhoods as they carry out the ministries and mission of our Church.

**DIRECT SCHOOL OUTREACH - \$883,500**

Provides direct assistance to our seven center-city Catholic elementary schools. Children who attend center-city schools are able to break the cycle of poverty and reach their dreams. Your support helps educate approximately 1,200 students.

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Kelly Mosley, the librarian at St. Joan of Arc School in Indianapolis, reads to a class of third-grade students in the reading room of the school library. Many of the schools of the archdiocese receive funding from the United Catholic Appeal to continue operating.



Doris Jackson, an assistant with the preschool operated at Ryves Hall in Terre Haute, helps some of the children from the preschool enjoy a pancake breakfast at the Terre Haute Catholic Charities Food Bank. Catholic Charities receives hundreds of thousands of dollars in aid from the United Catholic Appeal each year.

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# St. Francis-Mooresville Hospital expands to meet growing health care needs

By Sean Gallagher

MOORESVILLE—Hendricks County and Morgan County are among the fastest growing communities in the nation.

St. Francis-Mooresville Hospital has worked to meet the health care needs of this growing population by adding 77,000 square feet to its facilities, an increase of 40 percent.

Employees of the Morgan County hospital gathered on Oct. 26 with administrators of St. Francis Hospital and Health Centers to bless and dedicate the \$20.8 million expansion.

The developments to the hospital include a medical office building that also houses an endoscopy center and ambulatory surgery center, a cancer care center, a radiology department, the relocation of the urgent care facility to the main hospital, four new labor and delivery suites, and a larger, more patient-friendly main entrance, lobby and surgery waiting room.

Keith Jewell, executive director of St. Francis-Mooresville Hospital, explained that much planning went into determining the nature of the hospital's expansion. A key part of this expansion was assessing the specific health care needs of the surrounding community.

Jewell noted that cancer therapy was one of the greatest needs identified in the study. In 2001, more than 11,000 radiation therapy treatments were provided to Morgan County patients, but all were done outside the county.

Focusing on this great need and enabling patients to receive their treatments close to home through the construction of the cancer treatment center allowed St. Francis-Mooresville Hospital to be good stewards of its limited resources.

"It's important that we focus on the most important things first," Jewell said. "We did take a look at the most significant unmet needs where people were having to travel. When you need chemotherapy services or radiation therapy services, typically you're doing that every day over a long period of time, and we don't want

those folks to have to drive significant distances."

Robert Brody, president and chief executive officer of St. Francis Hospital and Health Centers, was involved in the January 2000 purchase of the former Kendrick Memorial Hospital. Brody said he knew from the start that expansion of the facility was vital, and he took pride in its completion on the day of the dedication and blessing.

"This is an opportunity to celebrate with this community our investment in this community," Brody said. "We said when we came into Mooresville that we wanted to see this facility grow. We're delivering on that promise."

While the blessing and dedication of the expansion focused attention on the current rapid growth of Mooresville and the surrounding area, recognition was also given to the historic foundation of St. Francis-Mooresville Hospital.

A conference center in the hospital was dedicated to the memory of the late Louise Duncan Swisher, who worked in patient care for decades and was also largely responsible for the hospital's move to its current location in the 1970s when it was Kendrick Memorial Hospital.

Her son, Charles "Bud" Swisher, the chief administrator of the hospital for many years, spoke about his mother at the dedication and blessing, noting that over the years she assisted in an estimated 35,000 surgical procedures.

"Were she alive here today, she would of course be proud of the recognition," Swisher said, "but she would tell you that she did not deserve it, that the real contributors to the hospital would be the little people. And that is not a demeaning term. For the little people are those who labor day in and day out in service to those who look to us for care and comfort."

After listening to Swisher's account of his mother's work, Sister of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration Jane Marie Klein, chairperson of Sisters of St. Francis Health Services Inc., noted the importance of her legacy.



Photos by Sean Gallagher

Above, St. Francis-Mooresville Hospital officials in Mooresville recently dedicated and blessed a \$20.8 million addition to the hospital facilities, a 40 percent expansion of the medical campus.



Left, Jackie and Charles "Bud" Swisher attend the Oct. 26 dedication and blessing ceremony at St. Francis-Mooresville Hospital. The Swisher family was involved in patient care and the administration of the former Kendrick Memorial Hospital for decades. A conference center in the expanded hospital was dedicated to the memory of his late mother, Louise Duncan Swisher.

"I couldn't help but think as I was listening to his comments, 'I hope this history is in writing someplace,'" Sister Jane Marie said. "Heritage is so important. We need that written history for St. Francis-Mooresville."

In setting a course for the future of St. Francis-Mooresville, Sister Jane Marie

looked further back into history to the example of St. Francis of Assisi, her religious community's patron.

"Just as St. Francis lay dying on his deathbed, we can say today, 'We've only just begun,'" she said. "There's so much more that we can do and so much more that I'm confident we will be doing." †

# Celebration of Hope service seeks to build bridges between races

By Brandon A. Evans

While Celebration of Hope has existed as an ecumenical effort against racism in Indianapolis for many years, a special worship service on Nov. 14 will represent the first time that the twice-annual event will occur in a Catholic church.

The service will take place at 7 p.m. on Nov. 14 at St. Lawrence Parish, 4650 Shadeland Ave., in Indianapolis. A dinner at 5 p.m. will precede the service. Tickets are \$6.50 per person over age 3.

Celebration of Hope is comprised of several faith-based organizations and more than 40 Indianapolis-area congregations of different denominations. It was started more than a decade ago to help different races—primarily black and white—to better understand each other and work toward racial reconciliation.

The worship service is one of two that the group holds each year. The speaker for the Nov. 14 service is Father Michael Pflieger, pastor of St. Sabina Parish in Chicago.

"The most exciting thing is just simply looking out at the congregation and seeing the mix of black, white and brown faces, and the excitement that people experience when they're in that setting," said Jayne Thorne, executive director of Celebration of Hope.

Thorne is also the director of community ministry for St. Luke United Methodist Church in Indianapolis.

In the past, the services have attracted thousands of people—such as one at the now-demolished Market Square Arena, attended by more than 10,000 people.

The worship services are only part of the picture. The group also hosts other activities, such as an interracial task force that prays monthly for racial healing.

"I think the real relationships, though, begin to form when people are doing more one-on-one activities," she said, whether they're planning a worship service or they're participating in a focus group gathering or a race relations study circle."

Art Johnson, the Celebration of Hope committee chair

for St. Lawrence Parish, said that it is time that the worship service is held at the parish.

"Catholics have something unique to offer," Johnson said. "We have been a participant and supporter of Celebration of Hope for about six years."

Father John Beitans, pastor of St. Lawrence Parish, said the parish has had a speaker from Celebration of Hope speak at least once a year.

"We're asking everybody to take a stand against bigotry and against discrimination by coming," he said. "We've made a decision that we're not going to tolerate discrimination."

But discrimination still exists, and Father Beitans said he can even see it in himself sometimes.

"If anyone thinks that racism ended in 1964 with the passage of the Civil Rights Acts," Thorne said, "they need to just simply ask an African-American when the last time

was that they experienced racism."

She said that answer will probably be sometime in the past week or even day.

Johnson said that he hopes that anyone who attends will walk away with "a commitment to participate and to look into their hearts to see if their attitudes about race match their Christianity."

(For more information about the Celebration of Hope service and dinner, call Jayne Thorne at 317-846-3404.) †



Father Michael Pflieger

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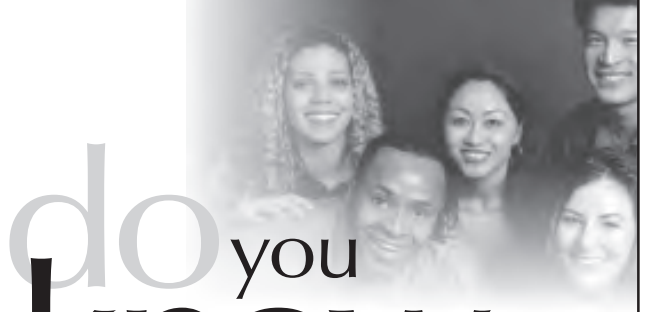
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## Editorial

# The Church is always in need of reform

The Catholic Church in the United States is in need of reformation.

That word "reformation" really isn't a bad word despite the negative connotations it has as a result of the Protestant Reformation, when reformers attacked some of the essentials of the Catholic faith. There have been various successful reformations through the centuries, and St. Augustine said, "The Church is always in need of reformation."

St. Peter Damian was a leader of a necessary reform almost a thousand years ago, when there was widespread corruption among the clergy and weak practice of the faith among the laity. Concubinage was prevalent, sermons were largely discontinued, sacraments were neglected, attendance at Mass was poor and divorce was common. The reforms that St. Peter urged culminated in what is known as the Gregorian Reform, named for Pope Gregory VII.

Reform was needed again in the 16th century. Despite the efforts of many in the Church, true reformation didn't take place until the Council of Trent, after the Protestant reformers broke away from the Church.

The Second Vatican Council also made some necessary reforms, although it preferred to use the word "purify." *The Constitution on the Church (Lumen Gentium)*, for example, said that the Church "is at the same time holy and always in need of being purified." Although it is always under the protection of the Holy Spirit, its members are humans with all of our human limitations.

The Church is, in fact, its members—the people of God, as the Second Vatican Council defined it. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* devotes an entire section to the Church as the people of God (# 781-786).

It is, therefore, we people of God who are in need of reformation. We would be blind not to see some of the same problems that existed at the time of St. Peter Damian. Those problems exist throughout the Western world, but we are particularly concerned with the Church in the United States.

Jesuit theologian Cardinal Avery Dulles spoke about true and false reform in a lecture he gave at Fordham

University in April of 2003. Excerpts from the lecture have been widely published. Perhaps no one has pointed out the need for reform better than he did.

In his list of issues that need to be addressed, he began, "Religious literacy has sunk to a new low." He then added more issues: "Dissent is rampant, not only on secondary and reformable teachings but even on central doctrines of the faith." ... "The majority of Catholics have little appreciation of their mission to spread the faith." ... "Liturgical laws are often flouted." ... "Religious practice is falling off. Many fail to attend Mass on Sundays. The sacrament of penance is neglected by the vast majority of Catholics. There is a serious dearth of vocations to the priesthood and the religious life."

He was just getting warmed up: "The immoral behavior of Catholics is a cause of scandal and defections. Under this heading I would include ... sex outside of marriage, abortion, divorce, alcoholism, the use and marketing of drugs, domestic violence, defamation and financial scandals."

Our columnist James D. Davidson has reported on his and others' surveys that consistently show that American Catholics are rejecting the teachings of the Church, and the younger the Catholics are the more likely they are to reject some of those teachings. That shows that the Church in the United States is in crisis and badly in need of reform. Our secular culture has been battling the Church's counterculture and the secular culture seems to be winning.

The U.S. bishops are fully aware of this crisis. None of this is news to them. They even realize that, to a large extent, many of them have been part of the problem rather than the solution because of their inclination to put the institutional Church ahead of the real Church—the people of God.

When they convene for their annual meeting in Washington, they will be discussing what must be done about the crisis. Several suggestions have been made for the best way to attack the problem. We will be watching, and praying, that they will make the decisions needed to begin the reform of the Church in America.

— John F. Fink

## The Human Side/Fr. Eugene Hemrick

# Our amazing retired priests

On retreats I give, I have met 70- and 80-year-old priests who care for several parishes, often traveling long distances to reach them. Others fill in so that burdened pastors can get away, while still others are the backbone of various ministries in their dioceses.



When we reviewed the age categories of priests in the research studies we conducted, we usually focused on active priests. Retired priests generally were envisioned as being in the background due to health problems, lack of energy and immobility. Yet, the more we mingle the more I realize that retired priests today are definitely in the foreground!

These priests often exude an energy and strength that younger generations don't have. It's not that younger people lack energy or are weaker. Rather, it is that older people have a unique toughness that comes with age, despite physical degeneration. They know how to better pace themselves, hang in there and calmly face seemingly overwhelming problems.

Once these men are gone, many dioceses already hurting for priests will be devastated. The number of U.S. parishes without a resident pastor is growing. Without these retired men, that number would be much larger. We especially will feel their loss in hospital ministry and ministry to the elderly.

As I've listened to retired priests tell of their priesthood, I've realized that the

wisdom and inspiration they pass on to younger priests are awesome. In fact, when younger priests tell their stories, many point to an older priest as their ideal. The loss of these older priests not only means that the Church will lose an essential priestly support system but, more important, it will lose a wisdom community.

As dire as this may sound, elderly priests would tell us not to fear. Many who in their prime were autonomous pastors now advocate giving more responsibility to lay leaders. Instead of seeing a crippled Church, many see new models of collaboration with the laity adding a fresh vitality.

Most will admit that they don't particularly like seeing younger priests and the laity changing the way they did things, but in the same breath they will admit that change is needed and is good. Some even will say that a major change (e.g., married priests) would be welcome.

And what about elderly priests serving as wise mentors for younger priests? Many elderly priests would tell us that today's youth are much more independent and also more knowledgeable. As water finds its level, so too will younger priests find the spirituality and wisdom needed to carry on, be it from other priests or the laity.

Our retired priests will one day be missed dearly. But their love for the priesthood and the people it serves will live on in those they have touched. With this spirit of love, the Church and priesthood will not only survive, but also thrive.

(Father Eugene Hemrick is a columnist for Catholic News Service.) †

## Letters to the Editor

### More attention needed on Sunday Mass

Matthew 23:12 tells us that "whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted."

This is the Year of the Eucharist, as declared by our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II. There is the eucharistic celebration, the Mass, wherein the eucharistic species is consecrated. Therefore, the Mass needs to take place so the host can be consecrated for eucharistic adoration. Also the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states that the celebration of the eucharistic liturgy is the center of the Church's life (#1343). It is also true that we need priests to preside over the rite.

However, there are places where people consider themselves Catholic and rarely attend Mass on Sunday. So if the people of God are so blasé about a duty "to keep the Lord's day holy," how do you expect them to attend any exposition of the Blessed Sacrament? I have learned that in our local Catholic community as many as 60 percent of the people do not attend Sunday Mass regularly.

We must convince our own people to be fervent members of the eucharistic assembly on Sunday first. Without a faith commitment by a Catholic family, there will be fewer and fewer priests.

I do not think that there is the time to be lecturing others about going to eucharistic adoration when so many are not even attending Sunday Mass. After all, Jesus did say, "It is mercy I desire, not sacrifice." As my pastor declares: "In all things, charity."

Charles J. Waltermann, Richmond

### Real Presence should fill us with wonder

Thanks to Theresa W. Oliver of Lawrenceburg for her Oct. 22 letter to the editor defending the practice of eucharistic adoration. She was responding to the

Oct. 15 letter of Helen Welter, who asked, "How has the meaning of Eucharist been translated into a host in a golden monstrance?"

A very helpful book on this subject is *In the Presence of Our Lord: The History, Theology, and Psychology of Eucharistic Devotion* by Father Benedict J. Groeschel, C.F.R., and James Monti, Our Sunday Visitor Press, 1997.

If we really believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the consecrated bread and wine, we should be filled with wonder every time we receive Communion because the Creator of the universe is commingling, both spiritually and physically, with our puny humanity. As long as host and wine remain intact from digestion, we are engulfed in the most miraculous intimacy with our Savior. This is no figment of imagination, no ghost, no symbol; this is Jesus of Nazareth, the God-man, just as surely as if he stood before us in the form of a man.

And if kings sit upon thrones to emphasize their power and presidents sit at the heads of tables to honor their rank, where shall we ask Our Lord to sit? Why not a "golden monstrance?" The people of the Middle Ages believed so firmly in the Real Presence that they erected gorgeous cathedrals to house the Eucharist and express their adoration. Kings knelt and gave way to the Eucharist carried by a passing priest. But that was when people truly believed that Jesus meant what he said: "This is my body ... This is my blood." When disciples left him over this hard saying, he didn't say, "It's just a metaphor! Come back! Let me explain!" The master of the parable wasn't being symbolic. He was being literal.

He promised to be with us until the end of time. The fulfillment of this promise is his Real Presence in the Eucharist, and it must sadden him to see how cavalierly we dismiss this greatest of his gifts. How lonely he must be in our churches.

Patricia Cornwell, Corydon

ARCHBISHOP/ARZOBISPO DANIEL M. BUECHLEIN, O.S.B.



# SEEKING THE FACE OF THE LORD

## BUSCANDO LA CARA DEL SEÑOR

### Much is being done to improve catechesis in the United States

**N**ext week, the catechetical leaders from our Indiana dioceses gather for their annual conference. It is important that we express our gratitude for these important leaders of our Church and all the unsung catechists of our parish programs and schools. It is equally important that we pray for their important role in this mission of the Church.

A frequent request for prayer from parents and grandparents saddens me: "Archbishop, would you please pray for my children [grandchildren] who are not going to Church [or who have left the Catholic Church]? We don't know what to do."

Often, these folks are heartbroken. Why do some of our Catholics leave the practice of the Church? There are a variety of reasons to be sure, but one of them may be that they did not receive the kind of catechetical instruction that would carry them through changing and challenging times. Ours is not a superficial faith, and short-hand instruction does not serve us well.

While it is true that the first catechists are parents, it is also true that our parents also need catechesis as well. Our pastors and catechetical leaders work hard and do their best to help. It is a cooperative effort.

Much is being done to help our catechetical mission be more effective. Certainly the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* has provided us with a normative resource that is invaluable. Since its promulgation, the bishops of the United

States, with the cooperation of Catholic publishers, have reviewed catechetical texts and series of texts used in our schools and parish programs to ascertain their conformity to the catechism. We have learned a great deal and continue to cooperate in bringing forward more complete and accurate learning resources for catechesis.

During our annual meeting in two weeks, the bishops of our country will consider the publication of the *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*. The bishops, catechetical leaders and theological experts have had the opportunity to review three working drafts of the text, which should now be prepared for approval by our bishops and the Holy See. This new U.S. catechism will be of great assistance for adult and young adult faith formation. It will also be useful in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and for the evangelization of new and not so new Catholics as well. The text should also be a valuable text for college theology programs.

When the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* was first promulgated, Pope John Paul II asked that other catechisms be composed for local Churches that adapt the teaching of the faith to their cultural circumstances. That is exactly what the new *United States Catechism for Adults* does. It adopts the basic structure of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* while addressing our doctrine to circumstances of our country. I am convinced that it will

be a useful resource.

A new *National Directory for Catechesis* is also about to be published for our country. The directory is intended to provide helpful direction for administrators of both religious education programs and schools as well as for catechists and teachers. It, too, has been written with an eye to the particular contemporary challenges of teaching the Catholic faith and inviting conversion to Christ in our contemporary culture so dominated by secularism, materialism and individualism.

I am optimistic about the future of catechesis in our country. Like some of our parents and grandparents, I have deep regrets about the fact that a couple of generations of our youth did not get the help they needed to truly live the faith and, even more, to understand and explain the Catholic faith in sometimes less than friendly inquiry. This lack may now be addressed through programs of adult religious education.

I am confident that our religious education texts have become reliable, though not always so at the high school level. At the moment, to ensure a better catechesis at

this level, national doctrinal guidelines for the eight semesters of high school religion are being drafted for presentation and approval by the bishops of our country in the near future.

At the same time, a new effort is in process to outline principles that should guide moral teaching relative to human sexuality and chastity. These principles will address the rights and responsibilities of parents in this sensitive area as well as the pastoral responsibility of the Church. They will also provide direction for teachers of religion.

A further area of consideration by the U.S. bishops' committee on catechesis is a review of requirements for the certification of graduate programs in religious education and catechesis.

These initiatives by the bishops of the United States are intended to help our pastors, administrators, catechists and parents in our shared mission of handing on the faith.

(Archbishop Buechlein is chairman of the catechesis committee of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops). †

#### Archbishop Buechlein's retreat for vocations to the priesthood

If you are an adult male and have considered a vocation to the priesthood, please consider attending a discernment retreat led by Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein on Nov. 19-20 at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House in Indianapolis. An application and more information can be found on page 7 of this issue of *The Criterion*.

## Se realizan grandes esfuerzos para mejorar la catequesis en Estados Unidos

**L**a semana que viene los líderes catequistas de nuestra diócesis de Indiana se reunirán en su conferencia anual. Es importante que expresemos nuestra gratitud hacia estos líderes tan importantes de nuestra Iglesia, así como hacia todos los catequistas desconocidos de nuestros programas y escuelas parroquiales.

Asimismo, es importante que recemos por su destacada labor en esta misión de la Iglesia.

Me entristece una petición de oración muy frecuente de parte de padres y abuelos: "Arzobispo, ¿podría rezar por mis hijos (nietos) que no van a la iglesia (o que han abandonado la Iglesia Católica)? No sabemos qué hacer."

Por lo general, estas personas están desconsoladas. ¿Por qué algunos de nuestros católicos abandonan la práctica de la Iglesia? Existen muchas razones como para poder estar seguros, pero una de ellas puede ser que no recibieron el tipo de educación catequista que los sostendría en tiempos difíciles y de cambio. La nuestra no es una fe superficial, y una instrucción resumida no nos sirve de nada.

Si bien es cierto que los primeros catequistas son los padres, también ellos necesitan catequesis. Nuestros pastores y líderes catequistas trabajan arduamente y brindan lo mejor de sí para ayudar. Se trata de un esfuerzo de cooperación.

Se está haciendo mucho para ayudar a que nuestras misiones catequistas sean más efectivas. Ciertamente el *Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica* nos proporciona un recurso normativo de valor incalculable. Desde su publicación, los obispos de Estados Unidos en cooperación con las editoriales católicas, han revisado los textos catequistas y series

de textos usados en nuestros programas y escuelas parroquiales para verificar su conformidad con el catecismo. Hemos aprendido mucho y continuamos cooperando para desarrollar recursos más completos y precisos para la catequesis.

Durante nuestra reunión anual, a celebrarse en dos semanas, los obispos de nuestro país someterán a consideración la publicación de un *Catecismo católico de Estados Unidos para adultos*. Los obispos, líderes catequistas y expertos teólogos han tenido la oportunidad de revisar tres bocetos del texto que ya debe de estar listo para recibir la aprobación de nuestros obispos y de la Santa Sede. Este nuevo catecismo estadounidense será de gran ayuda para la formación de fe de adultos y jóvenes adultos. También será útil en el Rito de la Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos, así como para la evangelización de nuevos (y no tan nuevos) católicos. Asimismo, debería servir como un valioso texto para los programas universitarios de teología.

Cuando se promulgó por primera vez el *Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica*, el Papa Juan Pablo II pidió que los demás catecismos elaborados para las iglesias locales adaptaran la enseñanza de la fe a sus circunstancias culturales. Esta es exactamente la finalidad del nuevo *Catecismo católico de Estados Unidos para adultos*. Éste adopta la estructura básica del *Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica* y orienta nuestra doctrina a las circunstancias del país. Estoy convencido de que será un recurso muy útil.

De igual forma, está a punto de publicarse un nuevo *Directorio Nacional para la Catequesis*, para nuestro país. El directorio tiene como finalidad proporcionar

lineamientos útiles, tanto para administradores de programas educativos religiosos y escuelas, así como también para catequistas y maestros. Este texto también ha sido elaborado tomando en cuenta los retos contemporáneos particulares de la enseñanza de la fe católica y la invitación a la conversión a Cristo en nuestra cultura moderna, dominada por el secularismo, el materialismo y el individualismo.

Me siento muy optimista en cuanto al futuro de la catequesis en nuestro país. Al igual que algunos de nuestros padres y abuelos, lamento mucho que un par de generaciones de jóvenes no haya obtenido la ayuda necesaria para vivir su fe a plenitud y, más aun, para entender y explicar la fe católica en circunstancias a veces poco amigables. Esta carencia puede remediarse ahora a través de programas de educación religiosa para adultos.

Me siento seguro de que nuestros textos de educación religiosa son hoy en día una fuente confiable, aunque no siempre sea así en el ámbito de secundaria. En estos momentos y para garantizar una mejor catequesis en este ámbito, se están diseñando los lineamientos doctrinales nacionales para el octavo semestre de secundaria de educación religiosa, que serán presentados a los obispos de nuestro país

para su aprobación en el futuro inmediato.

Al mismo tiempo, se está desarrollando un nuevo esfuerzo para delinear los principios que deberán guiar la enseñanza moral en cuanto a la sexualidad humana y la castidad. Estos principios esbozarán los derechos y deberes de los padres en esta área tan delicada, así como también la responsabilidad pastoral de la Iglesia. También proporcionarán instrucciones para los maestros de religión.

Un área de consideración más profunda para el comité de obispos de Estados Unidos en cuanto a la catequesis, es la revisión de los requisitos para la certificación de programas de postgrado en educación religiosa y catequesis.

Estas iniciativas de los obispos de Estados Unidos tratan de ayudar a nuestros pastores, administradores, catequistas y padres en nuestra misión compartida de difundir la fe.

(El Arzobispo Buechlein es el jefe del comité de catequesis de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de Estados Unidos). †

Traducido por: Language Training Center, Indianapolis

#### Retiro para vocación sacerdotal del Arzobispo Buechlein

Si es usted un hombre adulto y ha considerado la vocación sacerdotal, tal vez le interesaría asistir al retiro de discernimiento ofrecido por el Arzobispo Daniel M. Buechlein del 19 al 20 de noviembre en la casa de retiro Fatima Retreat House en Indianapolis. Podrá encontrar más información y una solicitud de inscripción en la página 7 de esta edición de *The Criterion*.

## Check It Out . . .

Father Thomas Scecina Memorial High School, 5000 Nowland Ave., in Indianapolis, is having an **open house** for the prospective classes of 2009 and 2010 from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Nov. 7. The open house will feature a dinner, guided tours and presentations. For more information or to R.S.V.P., call Peggy Purvis, enrollment coordinator, at 317-356-63777 or e-mail [ppurvis@scecina.org](mailto:ppurvis@scecina.org).

The **Catholic Business Exchange** will have its next meeting on Nov. 19 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 2100 E. 71st St., in Indianapolis. The meeting will begin with a 6:30 a.m. Mass, followed by networking, a buffet breakfast and guest speaker. The meeting will end at 8:30 a.m. Daniel Elsener, president of Marian College in Indianapolis, will be the speaker. The cost is \$10 per person. For more information, call Jim Liston at 317-469-1244.

Cathedral High School, 5225 E. 56th St., in Indianapolis, is presenting "**A Tale of Two Cities**" at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 19, 20 and 21, and also at 3 p.m. on Nov. 21. For more information or tickets, call 317-968-7436.

St. Joan of Arc School, 500 E. 42nd St., in Indianapolis, is having an **open house** from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Nov. 12 for all those interested in the school. The event will feature students fine arts displays, a dinner and student-led activities. A guest speaker will also make a presentation about parent stress management. For more information, call 317-283-1518 or e-mail Mary Pat Sharpe, principal, at [mpsharpe@sjoa.org](mailto:mpsharpe@sjoa.org).

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, 4600 N. Illinois St., in Indianapolis, is having a **welcoming weekend** on Nov. 13-14 to celebrate the diversity of all God's people. Benedictine Father Cyprian Davis of Saint Meinrad will preach the homily at the 5:30 p.m. Mass on Nov. 13, and the 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses on Nov. 14. For more information, call the parish office at 317-253-1461.

A follow-up workshop to the "**A Call to walk Up Upright-Part II**" Men's Conference in Memphis will be held at 9 a.m. on Nov. 20 at St. Rita Parish, 1733 Dr. Andrew J. Brown Ave., in Indianapolis. All men and youth are encouraged to attend the workshop. There is no cost. The parish is also having its **85th anniversary Mass** at 10 a.m. on Nov. 21. Divine Word Father Kenneth Hamilton

will be the main celebrant. For more information about either event, call the parish office at 317-632-9349.

The Indianapolis Chapter of Civitas Dei will hold its fifth annual **Christmas Celebration** on Dec. 15. The events will begin with a 5:30 p.m. Mass at St. Luke Parish, 7575 Holliday Dr. E., in Indianapolis, that will be celebrated by Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein. The meeting will then move to Meridian Hills Country Club, 7099 Spring Mill Road, in Indianapolis, for a reception and dinner, all beginning at 6:30 p.m. During the dinner, the fourth annual Thomas E. Burnett Jr. Heroic Leadership Award will be presented. The award is given to one Catholic businessman or woman each year who best exemplifies the virtues of the Catholic faith in the marketplace. Reservations for the event must be placed by Dec. 10. For more information, call Marigrace Bailey at 317-253-1678 or e-mail [mgbmable@aol.com](mailto:mgbmable@aol.com).

St. Francis Hospitals and Health Centers will host a **workshop for people living with cancer** from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Nov. 12 at the hospital's Indianapolis campus, 8111 S. Emerson Ave. The workshop, titled "Living with Cancer," is open to current cancer patients, their families and caregivers. It will address the latest cancer treatments, treating side effects, pain management, coping skills and other related topics. The main focus of the workshop is to help participants with the healing process by sharing similar experiences with others. The workshop is free and lunch will be provided. It is sponsored by the American Cancer Society, Ortho-Biotech and St. Francis Hospitals and Health Centers. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. For more information or to register, call Janice Leak at 317-782-6704.

A workshop on "**The Parish: Past, Present and Future**" will be offered by Saint Meinrad School of Theology from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Nov. 11 and 18 at Holy Name Parish, 89 N. 17th Ave., in Beech Grove. Benedictine Father Matthias Neuman will present the workshops, which will help participants better understand the parish and its role in Catholic life. The cost is \$40, less for seniors. For more information or to register, call the Indianapolis Office of Saint Meinrad School of Theology at 317-955-6451 or e-mail [indyprogs@saintmeinrad.edu](mailto:indyprogs@saintmeinrad.edu).

The Little Sisters of the Poor will hold their annual **Christmas Bazaar** from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Nov. 12 and 13 at St. Augustine Home for the Aged, 2345 W. 86th St., in Indianapolis. The bazaar will feature a variety of handmade items crafted by the Little Sisters, residents and St. Augustine Guild members. Some of the items include baked goods, holiday wreaths, ornaments, baby clothes and afghans. All proceeds will benefit the work of the Little

Sisters of the Poor, who have provided a home for the elderly poor in Indianapolis for the past 131 years. For more information, call 317-872-6420.

**Pre-Cana Conferences** will be held monthly at Fatima Retreat house, 5353 E. 56th St., in Indianapolis. The Sunday afternoon program starts at 1:45 p.m. and concludes at 6 p.m. The upcoming dates are Nov. 14, Jan. 16, Feb. 13, March 13, April 24, May 22 and June 5. The conference will address family of origin, communication, Christian marriage and other important relationship topics. The cost is \$30 per couple, which includes materials and lunch. Advance registration is required. For more information or to register, call the archdiocesan Office of Family Ministries at 317-236-1596 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1596.

Upcoming **Tobit Weekend retreats**, for couples preparing for marriage, will be held at Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., in Indianapolis, on Nov. 5-7, Jan. 28-30, April 22-24, April 29-May 1, May 13-15 and June 17-19. The focus of the retreat is on helping couples grow closer and preparing them to be married. The program enables participants to relax, pray and learn how important it is to have Christ at the center of a marriage. The cost is \$270 per couple. For more information, call 317-545-7681 or e-mail [fatima@archindy.org](mailto:fatima@archindy.org).

**Rachel's Companions** is a confidential, Catholic spiritual support group for those affected by abortion and in need of healing. For more information, call Servants of the Gospel of Life Sister Diane Carollo, director of the archdiocesan Office of Pro-Life Ministry, at 317-236-1521 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1521.

The next meeting of **Lumen Dei**, a Catholic group for businessmen and women, will be on Nov. 12 at Holy Rosary Parish, 520 Stevens St., in Indianapolis. Mass will begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by breakfast in the parish hall. The speaker for this month is Butch Martin, who is a wheelchair mini-marathon champion. R.S.V.P. by Nov. 10. For more information or to R.S.V.P., call Stan Schenher at 317-842-6917 or e-mail [sschenher@comcast.net](mailto:sschenher@comcast.net). †

## VIPs . . .



**Warren and Mary Lou (Loudermilk) Clark**, members of St. Simon the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis, recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a reception hosted by their children. The couple was married on Oct. 30, 1954, at St. Mary Church in Sullivan, Ind. They have three children: Angela, Gary and Gordon Clark. They have three grandchildren. †

## Grants . . .

**St. Joan of Arc School** in Indianapolis recently received a \$30,000 technology grant from an anonymous foundation. The grant, which requires the school to provide scholarships for two students for at least six years, will also provide the school with a 16-unit wireless computerlab and cart as well as other equipment and software. †

## U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Office for Film and Broadcasting movie ratings

**The Final Cut** (Lions Gate)  
Rated **A-III (Adults)** because of brief violence, an implied sexual encounter and some crude language and profanity.  
Rated **PG-13 (Parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.)** by the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA).

**Ray** (Universal)  
Rated **A-III (Adults)** because of a handful of crude and profane words, sexual innuendo, racial epithets, drug use and discreet sexual situations.  
Rated **PG-13 (Parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.)** by the MPAA.

**Saw** (Lions Gate)  
Rated **O (Morally Offensive)** because of much graphic violence and recurring rough and crude language.  
Rated **R (Restricted)** by the MPAA. †



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# Eight Benedictine monks celebrate jubilees at Saint Meinrad

The Benedictine monks of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad celebrated the monastic profession jubilees of eight monks who marked 60, 50 and 25 years in the order earlier this year.

They celebrated the 60-year jubilees of Father Harold Hammerstein, Father Simeon Daly and Father Rupert Osttick as well as the 50-year jubilees of Father Vincent Tobin, Father Boniface Hardin and Father Augustine Davis, and the 25-year jubilees of Father Eugene Hensell and Father Mark O'Keefe.

Father Harold was born on Oct. 13, 1923, in Evansville, Ind. He professed his vows on Aug. 10, 1944, and was ordained on July 10, 1948.

A teacher of physical education in the former Minor Seminary at Saint Meinrad for many years, Father Harold also served for a time as chaplain at the federal penitentiary in Terre Haute.

From 1975-78, he was pastor of St. Augustine Parish in Leopold, Ind. Since 1978, Father Harold has assisted at St. Benedict Cathedral in Evansville.

Father Simeon was born on May 9, 1922, in Detroit. He professed his vows on

Aug. 10, 1944, and was ordained on May 18, 1948.

He received a licentiate in sacred theology and a master's degree in library science from The Catholic University of America in 1949 and 1951, respectively. He received a master of divinity degree at Saint Meinrad School of Theology in 1984.

Father Simeon taught religion and liturgy at Saint Meinrad and served as assistant librarian from 1949-51, when he was appointed head librarian. He retired from the library in 2000.

Father Simeon served as subprior from 1975-78. He served the American Theological Library Association as a board member from 1973-76, as president from 1979-81 and as executive secretary from 1985-90.

He presently serves part-time in Saint Meinrad's Development Office.

Father Rupert was born on Nov. 14, 1921, in Elgin, Ill. He professed his vows on Aug. 10, 1944, and was ordained on May 18, 1948.

He received a bachelor's degree from Saint Meinrad College.

Father Rupert served for one year as

assistant treasurer of the archabbey and as treasurer from 1948-79. During those years, he also served as assistant spiritual director, spiritual director, and master of novices and instructor of clerics.

In 1972, Father Rupert assumed the role of the archabbey's business manager and treasurer. In 1979, he was appointed general manager of Abbey Press. Since 1991, he has worked with employees' health claims in the Human Resources Department.

Father Rupert also served the monastic community as subprior from 1986-96.

Father Vincent was born on Jan. 28, 1933, in Pittsburgh, Pa. He professed his vows on July 31, 1954, and was ordained on May 11, 1959.

He received a bachelor's degree in history at Saint Meinrad College in 1956, a master's degree in Latin from St. Louis

University and a licentiate in sacred theology from Gregorian University in Rome in 1979.

From 1960-64, Father Vincent taught Latin and English at Saint Meinrad High School. He joined the Saint Meinrad College faculty in 1965 and taught Latin and Greek more or less continuously until the college closed in 1998. He was appointed assistant dean of students in 1964, and became vice-rector and dean of students in 1966. In 1971, he was appointed spiritual director.

Father Vincent was the first director of the Midwest Association of Spiritual Directors in 1971 and the first president of the National Federation of Spiritual Directors in 1973.

Since 1996, he has held various teaching

See MONKS, page 8



Benedictine Fathers Simeon Daly, from left, Mark O'Keefe, Eugene Hensell, Rupert Osttick, Augustine Davis and Harold Hammerstein pose for a photo at Saint Meinrad Archabbey on the occasion of their monastic jubilees. Benedictine Fathers Vincent Tobin and Boniface Hardin also celebrated golden jubilees this year.

## Got a Vocation?

I am interested in attending a retreat the weekend of November 19-20, 2004 for adult men who are considering a vocation to priesthood. Please contact me to be considered to attend this retreat.

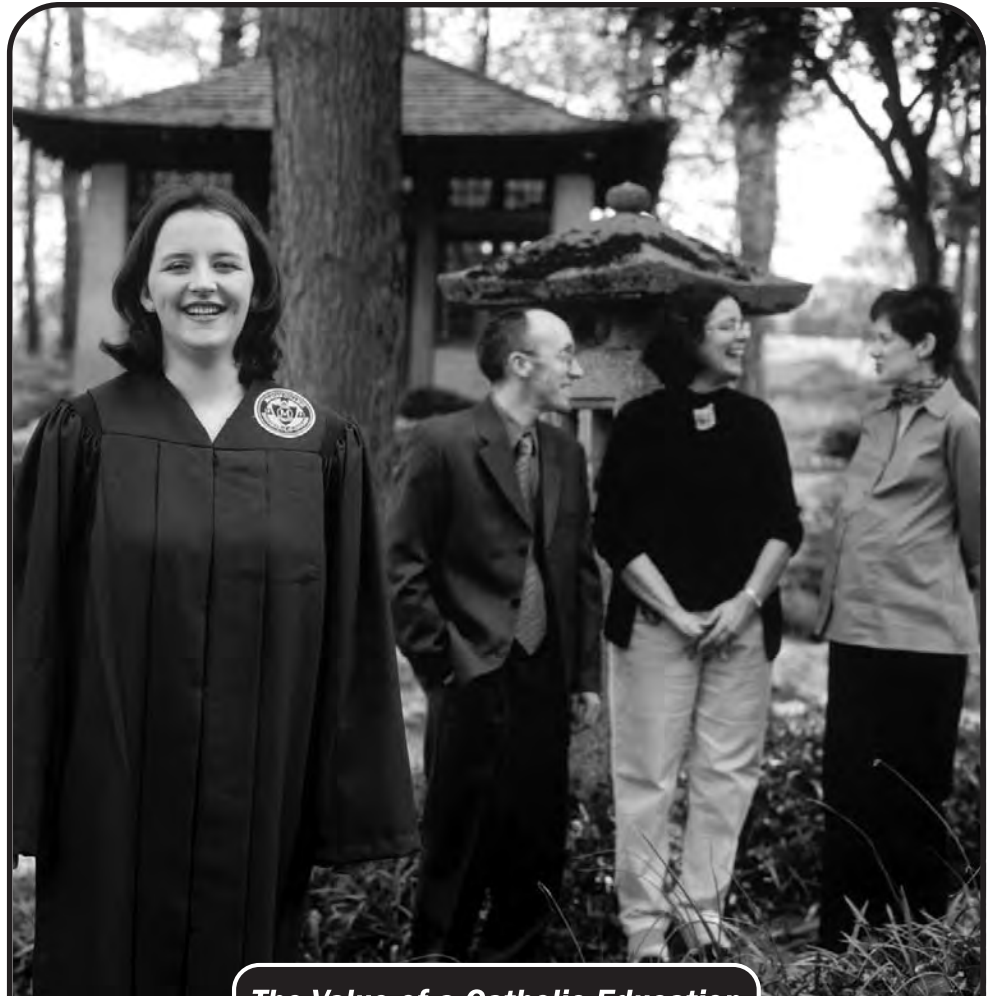
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Please return by November 12 to: Fr. Joe Moriarty, Vocation Director, P.O. Box 1410, Indianapolis, IN 46206-1410 please print



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**MEGAN WERLE**

Currently an intern in the conservation lab at the Indianapolis Museum of Art and pursuing a job in chemistry or art conservation.  
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Megan stands with a few of her favorite professors. From left to right are Roderick Macrae, Ph.D., Megan Wright, M.F.A., and Jamie Higgs, Ph.D.

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# Oldenburg Franciscans celebrate 75 and 60 years as sisters

One Sister of the Third Order of St. Francis of Oldenburg is celebrating her 75th anniversary of religious profession and six sisters are marking 60 years as Franciscans this year.

Franciscan Sister Angela Benedict joined the order 75 years ago and Franciscan Sisters Carmen de Barros, Angela Betsch, Mary Claver Ehren, Edith Soergel, Catherine Mary Veda and Jean Wolf professed their vows six decades ago.

Sister Angela Benedict, formerly Sister Mary Aloysius, is currently in retirement at St. Clare Hall, the health care facility for the order, at the motherhouse in Oldenburg.

Sister Angela taught at St. Louis School in Batesville, St. Lawrence School in Indianapolis, St. Michael School in Indianapolis, the former Holy Trinity School in Indianapolis and St. Joseph School in Evansville, Ind. She also taught at Catholic schools in Ohio and Illinois.

Sister Carmen de Barros, formerly Sister Francis Mary, is currently ministering in community service at the motherhouse.

Sister Carmen taught at Oldenburg Academy, formerly the Immaculate Conception Academy, in Oldenburg, the former St. Mary Academy in Indianapolis and Father Thomas Seccina Memorial High School in Indianapolis. She also taught in Ohio.

From 1988 until it was closed in 2002, Sister Carmen directed *Casa Franciscana de Alegria* in Chicago.

Sister Angela Betsch is currently ministering in community service at the motherhouse.

Sister Angela served as a teacher and principal at the former Holy Trinity School in Indianapolis and also taught at Catholic schools in Ohio, Illinois and Missouri.

She also ministered as a nurse's aide and driver for the residents of St. Clare Hall at the motherhouse.

From 1987-90, Sister Angela taught at St. Joseph High School in Tari, Papua New Guinea.

Sister Mary Claver Ehren is currently ministering as spiritual director for St. Clare Hall and St. Francis Hall at the motherhouse.

Sister Mary Claver taught at St. Vincent de Paul School in Bedford and St. Joseph School in Princeton, Ind. She also taught in Ohio and Montana.

She was one of the original four pioneer Oldenburg Franciscan sisters to go to Papua New Guinea in 1960, where she spent the next nine years as a teacher, and also ministered to Native Americans in Montana for 22 years.

Sister Edith Soergel, formerly Sister Edwin, is a native of New Albany and is currently in retirement at St. Clare Hall at the motherhouse.

Sister Edith ministered at the former

Holy Trinity School in Indianapolis, Little Flower School in Indianapolis, the former St. Bernadette School in Indianapolis, St. Gabriel School in Indianapolis, the former Catholic Central School in New Albany, St. Mary School in New Albany, the former St. Anthony School in Morris and the former St. Mary School in Lanesville. She also ministered in Ohio.

Sister Catherine Mary Veda is currently in retirement at St. Clare Hall at the motherhouse.

Sister Catherine taught at St. Christopher School in Indianapolis and the former Holy Family School in Oldenburg. She also taught in Ohio and Kentucky.

Sister Jean Wolf, formerly Sister Jean Pierre Wolf, is a native of Evansville, Ind., and is currently ministering in community service at the motherhouse.

Sister Jean taught at St. Joseph School in St. Leon, Ind., St. Wendel School in Wadesville, Ind., and St. Agnes School



Sr. Angela Benedict, O.S.F.



Sr. Carmen de Barros, O.S.F.



Sr. Angela Betsch, O.S.F.



Sr. Mary Claver Ehren, O.S.F.



Sr. Edith Soergel, O.S.F.



Sr. Catherine Mary Veda, O.S.F.



Sr. Jean Wolfe, O.S.F.

and St. Anthony School, both in Evansville, Ind.

From 1989 to 2003, Sister Jean ministered as chaplain at St. Mary's Medical Center in Evansville. She also ministered in Ohio and Illinois. †

## MONKS

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and administrative positions at Sant' Anselmo and, currently, at the North American College, both in Rome.

Father Boniface was born on Nov. 18, 1933, in Louisville, Ky. He professed his vows on July 31, 1954, and was ordained on May 11, 1959.

He earned a bachelor's degree at Saint Meinrad College.

From 1959-65, Father Boniface served as assistant treasurer at Saint Meinrad Archabbey. In 1965, he was named associate pastor of Holy Angels Parish in Indianapolis. While there, he became involved in the civil rights movement and founded the Martin Center. Later, he co-founded the Indianapolis Sickle Cell Center and Human Relations Consortium.

In 1977, Father Boniface founded what is now Martin University in Indianapolis, a liberal arts institution designed to educate older students and minorities, and continues to serve as its president. He has received numerous awards and honorary doctoral degrees in recognition of his contributions to education, community service, public health and global understanding.

Father Augustine was born on Sept. 21, 1930, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He professed his vows on July 31, 1954, and was

ordained on May 11, 1959.

He earned a bachelor's degree from Saint Meinrad College in 1955 and a master's degree in industrial arts from Indiana State University in 1966.

He taught religion, mathematics and industrial arts courses while serving as assistant director of St. Placid Hall from 1959-66.

Father Augustine served in various capacities at San Benito Priory and seminary in Huaraz, Peru, from 1967-79. Following the Peru earthquake of 1970, he was in charge of reconstruction of the physical plant. From 1979-86, he was the physical plant director at Saint Meinrad.

Father Augustine was pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in South Pittsburgh, Tenn., from 1986-96. The following year, he served the priory in Morelia, Michoacan, Mexico.

Since 1997, he has been in charge of mail delivery for the various institutions at Saint Meinrad. He regularly offers Mass for local Hispanic communities.

Father Eugene was born on Feb. 10, 1942, in Logansport, Ind. He was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Lafayette on May 24, 1969. He professed his vows on Aug. 6, 1979.

He received a bachelor's degree in English from Saint Meinrad College in 1965 and a master's of divinity degree from Saint Meinrad School of Theology in 1969.

He received a master's degree and doctoral degree from St. Louis University in 1971 and 1975, respectively.

Before coming to Saint Meinrad, he taught Scripture at Notre Dame College from 1971-76 and Fontbonne College in St. Louis from 1976-78.

Father Eugene served at St. Mary Magdalene Parish in St. Louis from 1969-78. He was director of campus ministry at both colleges in St. Louis, where he taught from 1969-78. He was also the administrator of St. Boniface Parish in Fulda from 1984-85.

Father Eugene served two terms as president-rector of Saint Meinrad School of Theology from 1987-96.

Since 1979, Father Eugene has been on the teaching faculty at Saint Meinrad School of Theology. He is active in numerous academic societies and regularly contributes articles and reviews to such journals as *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* and *Review for Religious*. He is in demand for his retreats on the text of Scripture.

Father Mark was born on Aug. 2, 1956, in Shirley, Mass. He professed his vows on Aug. 6, 1979, and was ordained to the priesthood on May 1, 1983.

He received a bachelor's degree in history from Saint Meinrad College in 1978, a master's degree in religious studies from Indiana University in 1981 and a doctorate in moral theology from The Catholic

University of America in 1987.

He has been a member of the teaching faculty at Saint Meinrad since 1987.

Father Mark is, or has been, active in the Catholic Theological Society of America, Society of Christian Ethics and Society of the Study of Christian Spirituality. He has contributed articles and book reviews to such journals as *The Priest*, *Irish Theological Quarterly*, *Studies in Formative Spirituality* and *Marriage and Family*.

He has authored six books titled *Becoming Good*, *Becoming Holy*; *In Persona Christi*; *The Ordination of a Priest*; *Priestly Virtues*; *Priestly Prayer*; and *What Are They Saying About Social Sin?*

Father Mark has served as an ethical consultant to St. Mary's Medical Center in Evansville, Ind.; Regina Continuing Care Center in Evansville; and Memorial Hospital in Jasper, Ind. He served as chaplain of the Newman Center at George Washington University in Washington, D.C., from 1985-87.

He has offered pastoral assistance at various parishes in the Saint Meinrad area on weekends since his ordination. He served as part-time chaplain for the Benedictine sisters at the Monastery of the Immaculate Conception in Ferdinand, Ind., from 1987-90.

Since 1996, Father Mark has been president-rector of Saint Meinrad School of Theology. †

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# PAGE

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playing football, he was also doing meaningful things with his life.

Page admits that he was, at times, distracted by football and the success that he had as an athlete, but also spoke of how he knew his dream of becoming a lawyer would take hard work and commitment. He

urged the students to work toward excellence and be the best person they can be.

"And a funny thing happens when you do that: the winning and losing will take care of itself," Page said. "As you go forward from here with your education ... strive for excellence—excellence for excellence's sake. Be as good as you can be, and good things will happen."

"Take what you do seriously—very seriously—[but] don't take yourselves too

seriously," he said.

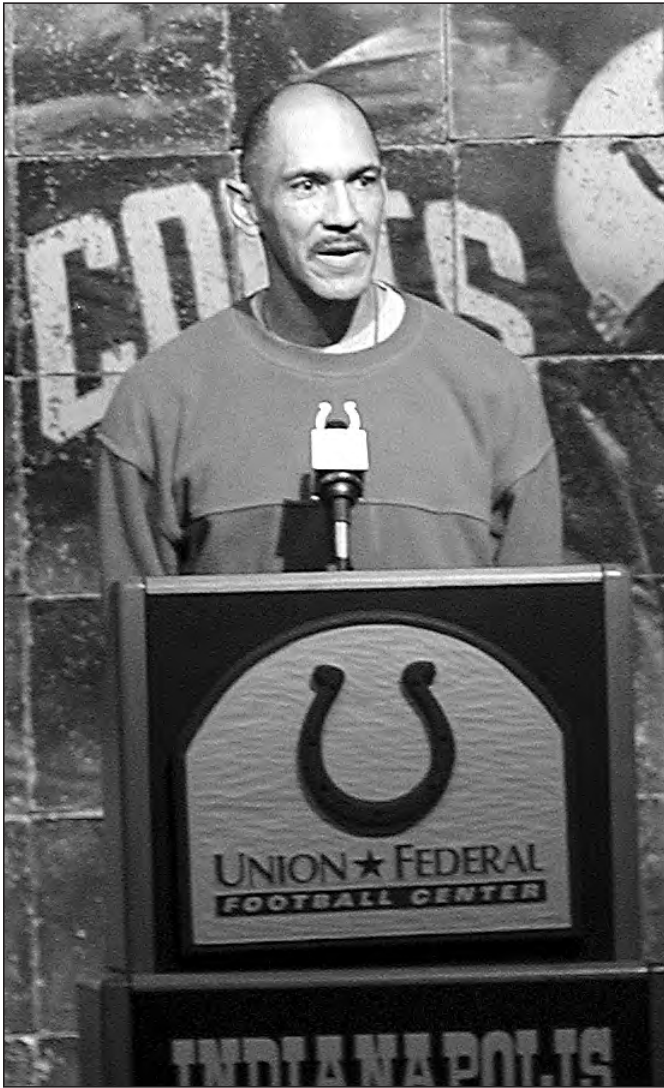
He also told the youth to spend time helping others in life—and to remember that nobody gets to where they are going in life by themselves.

After Page's address, and some time for questions and answers, the students toured the Colts practice facility and watched the team practice.

Annette "Mickey" Lentz, executive director of Catholic education and faith

formation for the archdiocese, said that she couldn't have asked for Page to deliver a better message to the students who attended.

"It's a wonderful treat for them," Lentz said, "but I think it is also an opportunity for them to see pretty much what Justice Page said to them: that we all need to be leaders, and we all need to recognize that sports can be fun, but life is greater than that." †



Above, students from various Catholic schools listen to Alan Page, associate Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court, talk about striving for excellence on Oct. 27 at the Indianapolis Colts practice facility.

Left, Indianapolis Colts Coach Tony Dungy speaks to Catholic students about how he looks up to Alan Page, a former National Football League defensive linemen who now sits on the Minnesota Supreme Court.

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# SCHOOLS

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of Excellence by the U.S. Department of Education.

"In the last two years, schools in the archdiocese have received 10 such awards," Lentz said. "We believe that's more—in fact, I know that's more—than any other diocese in this country."

The archbishop spoke about the success of the archdiocese's Project EXCEED program and of the archdiocese's efforts to strengthen Catholic education in the Indianapolis center-city through a new consortium.

Lentz said that our Catholic schools are always faithful to their mission, which is "to instill a values-based education that combines faith and academics in a way that will prepare students to excel in the future."

Helping students to excel is exactly what the keynote speaker has devoted a large amount of time to—and he knows something about achieving excellence.

Alan Page is a Hall of Fame National Football League defensive lineman who once played for the Chicago Bears and the Minnesota Vikings. He graduated from the University of Notre Dame.

In 1971, he became the first defensive player in the NFL to be honored with the league's Most Valuable Player Award. While still playing football, he attended law school.

After his football career, Page went into private law practice, became Minnesota's assistant attorney general then was nominated to the state Supreme Court.

In 1988, he and his wife launched the Page Education Foundation, which serves "to encourage, to assist and to motivate young men and women of color to pursue education beyond high school," he said.

Over the years, the foundation has awarded education grants to nearly 2,400 students. Each scholar that receives a grant is also given the responsibility to work as a tutor and mentor to students in kindergarten through eighth-grade. This year, the foundation will serve 7,500 children.

"I believe that children are the future, and that the future is about hope," Page said, "and if we are to make the future better and brighter, then we must prepare our children, for they will be tomorrow's leaders."

Preparation is critical for success, he said, and without it, "opportunity is an empty promise."

"Now there are plenty of opportunities for people who are prepared—the challenge is to help young people see opportunities for themselves," Page said.

He recalled the incident that got him committed to making education a priority



Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein and Alan Page, back row center, associate Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court, stand with the winners of the 2004 Celebrating Catholic School Values Awards on Oct. 28. Those winners are: Father Boniface Hardin, back row far left, Richard Pflieger, back row far right, Franciscan Sister M. Dominica Doyle, front row from left, Dr. James Nolan, Bernice Nolan and Mary Ann Kenney.

among young people—the year was 1978 and he had just graduated from law school, but was still playing football. A new defensive line coach had all the linemen get together to read from the playbook to each other.

"Now I suspect there aren't too many of you who have had the opportunity to read an NFL playbook," Page told those at the dinner, "but the difficult words are 'offensive,' 'defensive,' 'block,' [and] 'tackle.'"

"There were nine defensive linemen in that group and four of them couldn't read that playbook," he said.

The education system had failed those young men, Page said, and not when they were already good football players, but when they were just small children.

"We can't afford another generation of children—especially African-American children—disconnected from the education process," he said.

He said that athletics often provides a means for people who should not be role models to be just that—and that we ought to turn away such people "whose actions and words belie the bankrupt nature of their character."

Sometimes, these problems in education, and the problems that minorities face

in particular, can be overwhelming, Page said, but the solutions can be simple.

"Ultimately, these are people problems," he said, "and the most effective solution will be found in people like you, and people like me."

Everyone, he said, "has the ability, the opportunity and the obligation to make this world a better place. All we have to do is act, and act we must."

The dinner was a chance to honor those in the archdiocese who have acted and who have lived out the values of their Catholic education.

This year, four individuals and one married couple were honored—and each had a chance to say a few words by means of a previously recorded video for the event.

Franciscan Sister M. Dominica Doyle, the recently retired principal of St. Michael School in Brookville and pastoral associate at St. Michael Parish, received a career achievement award.

"I feel like the background that I had in teaching and in being raised in Catholic education, I found a love for being a teacher and getting across to children," she said.

She added that she is proud whenever she sees her former students who have made a good life for themselves.

Mary Ann Kenney, a member of St. Matthew Parish in Indianapolis, received a career achievement award.

She said that her Catholic education and her parents gave her a way to live and that she will be an advocate of Catholic

education until the day she dies.

"I feel like I was given so much that as long as I live I could never thank God enough," Kenney said.

Richard Pflieger, a member of St. Simon the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis, also received a career achievement award.

He said that he has fallen back on Catholic school values during his lifetime, and realizes what a gift a Catholic education is.

"I know that my parents, along with many other parents in our neighborhood, have sacrificed many, many things in order to allow both my little brothers and myself to attend 16 years of Catholic education," Pflieger said.

Dr. James and Bernice Nolan, members of Holy Family Parish in New Albany, both received a career achievement award.

Bernice Nolan thanked those who had any say in giving them the award.

"It was truly a surprise for us," she said.

Her husband said that the core behind all they have done in their lives rests in what they learned in Catholic school.

Benedictine Father Boniface Hardin, founder and president of Martin University in Indianapolis, received the community service award.

Father Boniface said that looking to what Jesus did is what Catholic schools are all about.

We should remember as well, Father Boniface said, that Jesus was a teacher, and that he lives on in our Catholic schools. †

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## Pope and bishops affirm gifts and talents of the elderly

By Daniel S. Mulhall

Older adults need more than “bus and bingo”—trips and social events—from their parish. They need opportunities to continue learning and growing in faith.

They are full members of their faith communities and deserve to be treated with respect and dignity, and afforded a chance to serve the Church and to help people in need.

Sally, who is 82, tutors English-as-a-second-language students, is active in pro-life activities, and serves as a lector and extraordinary minister of Holy Communion at her parish. She and her husband regularly provide rides to older members of their parish who need transportation.

Norman, who is 81, counts the collection at the parish every Monday morning and is a member of the parish’s building and maintenance committee, which recommends and oversees improvements to Church property. An active home handyman, he volunteers two days a week to build and repair homes for people living in poverty. He also serves as a parish Communion minister.

Frances, who is 74, takes part in parish prayer groups and reads at Mass. She serves on the parish committee that prepares meals for families in times of illness or death and has a regular group of homebound adults whom she calls and visits weekly on behalf of the parish. She works in the kitchen at most every parish social and fund-raising event.

Mary, who is 67, is active on the adult faith formation committee at her parish. A retired financial planner, she now offers courses in the parish about saving for college and preparing for retirement.

Countless stories could be told of older adults who serve as mentors, tutors and

coaches for young children and teens.

They include people who are frail or homebound and make rosaries, participate in prayer circles or place phone calls on the parish action-alert network. They also include men and women who are experts in accounting, carpentry or computers and teach these skills to parishioners who can benefit from their knowledge.

Leisa Anslinger, pastoral minister for faith formation at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Cincinnati, Ohio, said “older adults give us ‘younguns’ perspective and a deeper appreciation of the history of our faith community.”

Anslinger said a 74-year-old parishioner named Pat leads the precatechumenate class and accompanies catechumens as they journey toward full membership in the Church. She also serves as a lector, and coordinates daily Mass and wedding celebrations.

“Pat says that over the years she’s learned what she’s really good at and cares about,” Anslinger said, “and that’s where she continues to serve. She’s a real blessing.”

A longtime member of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, Sister Elaine McCarron recently retired from full-time parish ministry but continues to work on many projects. Sister Elaine said she feels that she has more to accomplish in life than “sitting on the front porch rocking the days away.”

So many people are living longer today and are living healthier, more active lives. Today’s older adults not only have to plan how they will finance their retirement years, they also have to figure out how they will use their time.

As Pope John Paul II wrote in 1998, “Arriving at an older age is to be considered a privilege ... because this period provides real possibilities for better



CNS photo by Karen Callaway/CNS photo by Art Babych

Parishioner Barbara Kemler, who is 82, cleans candlesticks in the sanctuary of the Church at St. Mary of the Lake in Gary, Ind. Many people are living longer, healthier lives today. Older adults need to plan how to finance their retirement years as well as how they will use their time.

evaluating the past, for knowing and living more deeply the paschal mystery, for becoming an example in the Church for the whole people of God.”

In 1997, the U.S. bishops approved a pastoral letter titled “Blessings of Age: A Pastoral Message on Growing Older Within the Faith Community,” which can be accessed online at [www.usccb.org/laity/blessings/index.htm](http://www.usccb.org/laity/blessings/index.htm). This 16-page statement offers encouragement to older people, their families and their parishes along with foundational principles about working with older adults.

The first principle held out to parishes is that “older people are providers, not just recipients, of pastoral care.”

The bishops explain that, “Far from draining parish resources, older people are themselves a valuable resource. Even those who obviously need pastoral care—the homebound, the disabled, the seriously ill—are also able to give pastoral care... By encouraging older persons to

make their unique contribution, we affirm their dignity and value within the community of faith.”

Just because a person becomes older doesn’t mean that he or she loses the ability to think or to do things as in the past. The people who just 10 years earlier were company managers and parish council members still have great talents and wisdom to share.

While failing health, family commitments such as caring for grandchildren and retirement travel will affect many senior citizens, other older adults look for opportunities to stay involved and to put their skills to good use.

What a shame it would be to see such gifts go unused.

*(Daniel S. Mulhall is assistant secretary for catechesis and inculturation in the U.S. bishops’ education department and co-author of the structured-life review program A Time For ... published by Liguori Publications.) †*

## Honor older people with invitations

By David Gibson

We don’t quite know what to make of the process of getting older anymore. People can’t even agree upon when middle age ends, and the Social Security Administration keeps raising the age.

It might help if we knew the right questions to ask about growing older, but this process is somewhat of a mystery today as life spans lengthen. We can’t assume that we know what older people want or want to do. We have to ask them.

“Honoring older people involves a threefold duty: welcoming them, helping them and making good use of their qualities,” Pope John Paul II said in 1999.

Old age isn’t a time when people should be judged for their productivity, he said. It is “more and more important to promote a widespread attitude of acceptance and appreciation of the elderly and not relegate them to the fringes.”

*(David Gibson edits Faith Alive!) †*

## Discussion Point

### Parishes rely on older members

#### This Week’s Question

How are people in their 70s or older serving in your parish or diocese?

“People in their 70s or older are serving their parishes in the same way that younger people are serving—by involvement. At the diocesan level, they are serving on various committees and advisory councils—again, just as younger people are.” (Bob Krebs, Wilmington, Del.)

“Some [elderly parishioners] are serving on our [St. Anne Parish] Parish Council. They are tremendous volunteers. And our auxiliary accompanist is 96.” (Father Timothy Keeney, Bristol, Va.)

“I’m in my 70s, and I volunteer [at St. Benedict Parish

in Phoenix, Ariz.]. I help count collections and I do office work, which I thoroughly enjoy.” (Georgia Brilz, Chandler, Ariz.)

“Here at SS. Peter and Paul [Parish] they coordinate our funeral lunches. Many sing in our Resurrection Choir. Many serve as sacristans for daily Mass. And they serve in various ministries throughout the parish.” (Rosie Gilfether, Cary, Ill.)

#### Lend Us Your Voice

An upcoming edition asks: In your own words, what is the message of Christmas for these unique times?

To respond for possible publication, write to *Faith Alive!* at 3211 Fourth St. N.E., Washington, D.C. 20017-1100. †



CNS photo by Sam Lucero, Catholic Herald

From the Editor Emeritus/John F. Fink

## My book profiles Patriotic Leaders of the Church

Please allow me to apologize immediately for this column, which is a blatant promotion for my latest book. My only excuse is that some readers have actually asked me to let them know when another of my books appears.

Or perhaps I can offer a second excuse: The book is an elaboration of some of my columns. Or, to be more accurate, the columns were extreme condensations of the chapters in the book.

The title of the book is *Patriotic Leaders of the Church*. It is the first of my books to be published by Our Sunday Visitor. (Five of my previous books were published by Alba House, and two by Criterion Press.)

A major reason why I chose Our Sunday Visitor (besides the fact that I worked there for more than 30 years before coming to *The Criterion* in 1984) is that one of the chapters in the book is

about Archbishop John F. Noll, who founded *Our Sunday Visitor* newspaper back in 1912. He was the subject of three of my columns earlier this year.

Other chapters are devoted to Archbishop John Carroll, Bishop John England, Archbishop John Hughes, Cardinal James Gibbons, Archbishop John Ireland, Father Isaac Hecker, Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen and Cardinal John O'Connor. Yes, it's true that six of the nine have the name John (and Archbishop Sheen's middle name was John), but that used to be one of the most common names and it has nothing to do with the fact that my name, too, is John.

There's also a 10th chapter with brief profiles of 15 additional Catholic patriots in U.S. history. I also wrote an essay on "Patriotism and Catholicism" to serve as an introduction to the book.

The lives of those men (and I'm sure I'll be criticized for not including any women or laity) span the history of our nation, but they all had a great love for their country and for their Church. They were all proud of the principles

underlying the Declaration of Independence and our Constitution because they recognized that the philosophy of those documents is also the philosophy of the Church. All recognized, too, the possibilities the Church had for growth under the American form of government. Finally, all were also courageous defenders of their Church when that became necessary.

You can buy the book directly from Our Sunday Visitor, 200 Noll Plaza, Huntington, IN 46750. I think it would be easiest to call 800-348-2440 and put it on your credit card. The cover price is \$13.95, but I assume there's an additional cost for shipping and handling. You could escape those costs by buying the book at a bookstore. If the bookstore doesn't have the book, ask them to order it (and my other books, too).

End of commercial. Next week, I'll begin a series of columns about Archbishop Sheen, but I won't stress (as the book does) his patriotism. That series seems an appropriate follow-up to the columns I wrote about Father Patrick Peyton. †



Cornucopia/Cynthia Dewes

## Everyone has a human story to tell

People-watching is a favorite occupation for many of us. We enjoy sitting in some public place, watching people as they walk by, eavesdropping on their conversations and studying their body language.

We soon find that people are so interesting because everybody has a story to tell. Sometimes the stories are obvious, as with frazzled young moms dragging tired kids across the mall, or with handicapped folks maneuvering themselves through what must be terribly difficult situations.

But often, people's stories are subtler, harder to determine merely from fleeting appearances. And that's when people-watching really becomes fun because, by following all the clues we're given, we may solve part of the eternal mystery of the "Other."

Of course, to truly know others' stories we must spend years developing relationships with them. Quick judgments may lead to incorrect, or even cruel, opinions. So, the trick is to never act upon them, but just take sneaky

pleasure in our people-watching fantasies.

Teenagers are an education in human behavior all by themselves. Their idols may change over time from Frank Sinatra to Britney Spears, but their enthusiasm for life remains a constant. We see girls giggling, clustered together in intense scrutiny of this boy or that, while the guys in question affect cool swaggers as they pass by. Hope is the name of their game, and the sight of it energizes us, too.

Once in a while, we see kids who seem depressed, and that's a scary thought in these times of youthful suicide. Secretly, we check for signs of drugs or alcohol, physical abuse, extreme fear of grown-ups or authority figures, or whatever we find unusual for someone that age. We start to imagine possible rescue strategies.

Unlike kids, old folks often seem invisible in public. They move more slowly, speak more quietly, demand less attention in general. But, what may seem like resignation to us may in fact be quiet satisfaction. They don't buy much as they shop because theirs is the time of life when they're downsizing rather than accumulating. Still, it's obvious they're enjoying new things and new faces,

assessing the scene in light of their long experience.

Occasionally, we spot people who seem to be seeking shelter from the outside weather or whatever else threatens them. They may be dressed inappropriately or are personally unclean, and sometimes they mumble to themselves or push a shopping cart full of junk. Strangely, they may appear to be content, if a bit confused. It's we who are uneasy in their presence.

We think we spot lovers by the way their eyes light up at the sight of their beloved, or how they touch fingertips on the sly. We speculate endlessly about their marital status or possible intentions. Are they wannabees, or having a real affair? Or, are they simply a happily married couple grabbing a few minutes together on their lunch hour?

On a good day, we can dream up any number of funny, dramatic, uplifting or even tragic scenarios from one session of people-watching. I hope they're giving us insights into how better to be our brother's keeper, rather than just symptoms of an evil imagination. Hmmm.

(Cynthia Dewes, a member of St. Paul the Apostle Parish in Greencastle, is a regular columnist for *The Criterion*.) †



The Bottom Line/Antoinette Bosco

## The 'shepherd in the mist' and the Eucharist

This fall I went to a huge book sale and walked first, as I always do, to the section marked "Religious" where suddenly I stopped, grabbing a book with a title I could never forget: *Shepherds in the Mist*. My guess is that of all the hundreds of people who came and went to the book sale that day, I was the only one who would have noticed or cared about this thin book written by a man named E. Boyd Barrett in 1949.

The story of why I was happy to find this book goes back to that very year, 1949. My dearest friend at that youthful time of my life was my cherished mentor, Father John Forman, pastor of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Albany, N.Y. We used to have many talks about Catholic faith. Often he talked about the priesthood and the sacred responsibility a man had when he was given the gift of serving God through ordination.

Several times he told me about a priest who he said had thrown away his vocation. Now, through the grace of God, this man, Boyd Barrett, had come back to the Church, though not as a priest. Father Forman knew this because Barrett had written a book about his return to the Church. It was called *Shepherds in the Mist*.

I never forgot the name of the author or the book. Years later, when some of the fine priests I knew left their vocation, I briefly would think of them as "shepherds in the mist," but with no criticism or judgment.

Now I had the book in hand and could read the story I had wondered about for so many decades. Surprisingly, Boyd Barrett never tells why he left the priesthood, nor is he critical of the Church. In fact, his is really a re-conversion story, a love story of why he came back to his Church. He said that grace accounted for this, given to him because so many prayers had been offered for him.

But there was a deeper reason, the hunger in his soul for the Eucharist. It was the yearning to be nourished again with the body of Christ that brought him back to the Church.

"The holy Eucharist is the argument that triumphs," he wrote. In reading that, I remembered something spoken by the Catholic writer Flannery O'Connor when another writer, Mary McCarthy, who had left the Church, commented that, as for the Eucharist, it was "a pretty good symbol."

O'Connor brilliantly and tersely commented, "Well, if it's a symbol, to hell with it."

Her answer, I think, was perfect. For McCarthy's comment as she seems to have meant it that the Eucharist is nothing more than a symbol empties it of its very meaning, that this bread is the real presence of Christ, the Son of God.

Coming back to the Church brought another special gift to the shepherd who had been in the mist: peace. He said he had found that "being at peace, having once more a conscience that is clean and enlightened with God's grace, gives one the courage to face the hardships of life. No threatening mishap is terrible anymore, no disappointment too bitter to bear. So many fears and anxieties and doubts are gone. The air is good now. Life has a true meaning ... You carry music in your heart!"

(Antoinette Bosco is a columnist for *Catholic News Service*.) †

Faithful Lines/Shirley Vogler Meister

## Thoughts on a recent trio of 'spirited' days

Last Sunday, Monday and Tuesday were celebrations of three especially hallowed days.



The first, Halloween, Oct. 31, of course, is an adulterated version of what once was known as All Hallows' Eve, the night before the Feast of All Saints. My once happy-go-lucky views of

Halloween have been tempered a bit through the years, but I still try to relive the harmless traditions of Halloweens Past.

The second, All Saints Day, Nov. 1, also brings memories of youth. The Sisters of Christian Charity at St. Bernard School in St. Louis usually spent several days the week before and the week after especially examining and explaining the lives of the saints. There also were Masses and the Litany of the Saints. Those were formative years when I first realized how I, myself, could aspire to

sainthood, too—even as what's known as "a living saint." Alas, I am still far, far removed from any such title.

As a child, I wasn't very knowledgeable about the third day, what was commonly known as the Feast of All Souls (now the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed), on Nov. 2. As a young adult, however, I began to recognize its importance, believing that it should probably be the most popular of the hallowed trio of days. Why? Because it includes every person whose spirit has gone into God's realm, our afterlife, the place we call heaven—or into the other alternatives.

What I hadn't taken into consideration until recently is how we use and misuse the word "spirit." Spirit sprang from Medieval English, Old French and Latin. Basically, it means "breath, courage, vigor, the soul." The dictionary stretches these to various degrees. For purposes here, I concentrate on "soul."

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states that body and soul are truly one, created in the image of God: "then the

Lord God formed man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being" (Gn 2:7).

The catechism continues, "It is because of its spiritual soul that the body made of matter becomes a living human body; spirit and matter, in man, are not two natures united, but rather their union forms a single nature ..."

Life and spirit go together!

The Church also teaches that there is no duality of the soul, although "spirit" and "soul" are sometimes used separately to mean the same thing: "Spirit signifies that from creation, man is ordered to a supernatural end and that his soul can gratuitously be raised beyond all it deserves to communion with God."

Is it any wonder that Catholics so deeply believe in the sanctity, dignity, defense and preservation of life from conception to the cradle to the grave?

(Shirley Vogler Meister, a member of Christ the King Parish in Indianapolis, is a regular columnist for *The Criterion*.) †

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time/Msgr. Owen F. Campion

# The Sunday Readings

Sunday, Nov. 7, 2004

- 2 Macabees 7:1-2, 9-14
- 2 Thessalonians 2:16-3:5
- Luke 20:27-38

The Second Book of Maccabees is this weekend's first biblical reading.



This book, and its companion, First Maccabees, were written not very long before the coming of Christ, as Old Testament time is measured, appearing within 200 years before Christ.

This book was composed in Greek so strict Jewish scholars long ago rejected it as authentic Revelation. However, the Church has recognized its place in Revelation for centuries through a series of Ecumenical Councils.

When Alexander the Great died in 323 B.C., his legitimate heirs were unable to hold together, or their claim upon, the vast empire won by his conquests throughout the Middle East.

In the struggle that followed, two of Alexander's generals survived. One, Ptolemy, established himself as pharaoh in Egypt. The other, Seleucus, seated himself in Antioch over a kingdom composed of parts of modern Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Palestine and Iraq.

Seleucus, and the dynasty he sired, were despotic. This despotism in itself would have turned the Jews against them. But, to add the grossest of insult to injury, these kings tended to declare themselves divine and to require subjects, including Jews, to adore them.

Maccabees is a story of martyrdom. As this reading graphically discloses, the agents of these Greek kings played for keeps. The martyred Jews, lionized in this reading, reminded their tormentors that in the end the One God of Israel would triumph.

In the second reading, taken from the Second Epistle to the Thessalonians, St. Paul calls upon the Christians of Thessalonica to be strong in the faith, but also to rely upon the strength of God, so lavishly given by God to all who ask for it in humility and faith.

St. Luke's Gospel is the source of the last reading.

The Jewish society of the early first century A.D. was divided into many factions and sects. Overall was a deep and festering frustration about the oppressive rule of the Romans. Not only were these Romans cruel and harsh, they also were pagans.

Their very footsteps defiled the holy ground of the land God had given the Jews. That they set their pagan law as supreme over the Jews, who functioned according to God's law as revealed through Moses, was the greatest outrage.

One of these factions was the Sadducees. The Gospel identifies this group by citing one of their chief beliefs, that there is no life after death. To be generous, some might honestly have wondered about the views of Jesus regarding the afterlife.

Perhaps more exactly, others dismissed these views, and they sought to expose Jesus' words as illogical. They framed their question about the woman who married a series of brothers in terms of the Law of Moses. Everybody would have understood the context.

Jesus gives as good as he got from the Sadducees. He mentioned angels, and they did not believe in angels either. Finally, the Lord states that Hebrew tradition itself suggests an afterlife, indeed that it is most logical. He also recalled the Maccabees, great heroes among the Jews.

## Reflection

The Gospels abound with occasions on which persons argued with Jesus or altogether discounted the words of Jesus. To assume that the Lord only met admirers, with just a few exceptions, is to misread the New Testament.

Some who disputed Jesus had good intentions. Many, like the Sadducees, were religiously faithful. Some simply could not understand the message.

In any case, Jesus faced obstacles. For months, the Church has been guiding us toward salvation, advising us how to live. A critically important lesson is in this weekend's readings. We will confront the world, the flesh and the devil.

The only victory is in the hereafter, being eternally with God. †

## Daily Readings

Monday, Nov. 8

Titus 1:1-9  
Psalm 24:1-6  
Luke 17:1-6

Tuesday, Nov. 9

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome  
Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12  
Psalm 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9  
1 Corinthians 3:9c-11, 16-17  
John 2:13-22

Wednesday, Nov. 10

Leo the Great, pope and doctor of the Church  
Titus 3:1-7  
Psalm 23:1-6  
Luke 17:11-19

Thursday, Nov. 11

Martin of Tours, bishop  
Philemon 7-20

Psalm 146:7-10  
Luke 17:20-25

Friday, Nov. 12

Josaphat, bishop and martyr  
2 John 4-9  
Psalm 119:1-2, 10-11, 17-18  
Luke 17:26-37

Saturday, Nov. 13

Frances Xavier Cabrini, virgin  
3 John 5-8  
Psalm 112:1-6  
Luke 18:1-8

Sunday, Nov. 14

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Malachi 3:19-20a  
Psalm 98:5-9  
2 Thessalonians 3:7-12  
Luke 21:5-19

Question Corner/Fr. John Dietzen

## Modern Church documents don't address elective circumcision

Q What is the morality of circumcision? The *Catechism of the Catholic*



*Church* teaches that amputations and mutilations performed on innocent people without strictly therapeutic reasons are against the moral law.

Pope Pius XII taught that circumcision is morally permissible if it prevents

a disease that cannot be countered any other way.

In spite of these and other Church statements against circumcision through the centuries, I'm told there is no strict Catholic rule against the practice today. Why not? No medical association in the world today any longer says circumcision is therapeutic. (Ohio)

A I'm not sure why not, but the fact is that male circumcision generally just doesn't appear very much on the "radar screen" of Catholic moral teaching. Many major moral theology texts don't mention it. A notable exception is *Medical Ethics* by Jesuit Father Edwin Healy (Loyola University Press), who holds that since routine circumcisions are not medically defensible they are morally objectionable.

A few observations may help explain. The practice of circumcision arose thousands of years ago and is prevalent in many cultures around the world. Nearly always, it has religious or social significance, signifying full membership in the group and establishing one's social position in the society.

The first divine command to the Jews, for example, was that every male child be circumcised, symbolizing the covenant between God and Abraham (Gn 17).

After the famous confrontation between Paul and other leaders of the early Church (Acts 15 and Gal 2), Christians pretty much rejected the necessity of circumcision for becoming a believer in Christ.

The idea didn't entirely die, however. The theory that circumcision still held some spiritual benefits, even for Christians, prompted at least some of the condemnations you speak of. The Council of Vienne (1311), for example, decreed that Christians should not be lured into Judaism or be circumcised for any reason.

The following century, the Council of

Florence (1438-1439) ordered "all who glory in the name of Christian not to practice circumcision either before or after baptism, since whether or not they place their hope in it, it cannot possibly be observed without loss of eternal salvation."

Today, while nontherapeutic male circumcision remains common in some places, as a general practice it is forbidden in Catholic teaching for more basic reasons of respect for bodily integrity.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states, "Except when performed for strictly therapeutic medical reasons, directly intended amputations, mutilations and sterilizations performed on innocent persons are against moral law" (#2297).

Elective circumcision clearly violates that standard. It is an amputation and mutilation; and to my knowledge, and as you note, no significant medical group in the world defends it as having any therapeutic value.

In 1999, the Council on Scientific Affairs of the American Medical Association stated that neonatal circumcision is nontherapeutic because no disease is present and no therapeutic treatment is required.

Modern Catholic Church documents do not deal explicitly with the morality of elective circumcision. The above basic principles, however, clearly render it immoral. It violates the bodily integrity of infant male children and unnecessarily deprives them of a part of their body that can protect the glans of the penis during infancy and serve at least a sexual function for adults.

My understanding from physicians is that circumcision rarely if ever arises as an ethical consideration. Usually, it is requested by the parents for more social reasons, such as, "It's always been done in our family." In that case, the procedure might be carried out, in some places rather routinely, even if it is not what the child needs and no curative or remedial reason renders it ethical.

(A free brochure answering questions that Catholics ask about Mary, the mother of Jesus, is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 325, Peoria, IL 61651. Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address or by e-mail in care of [jjdietzen@aol.com](mailto:jjdietzen@aol.com).) †

## My Journey to God

### Mea Culpa

Could I have served my neighbor,  
but ignored  
His grievous wounds I did not try  
to tend,  
Forgive me ... mea culpa ... blessed  
Lord.  
Sustain the friendless I did not befriend.

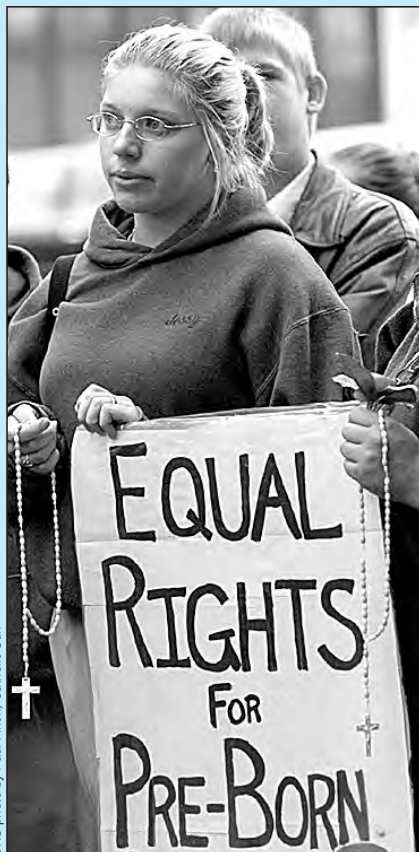
Bless any I have injured carelessly  
With callous word or deed or disrespect.  
Extend Your hand in holy charity,  
Undo my indefensible neglect.

It may, as life progresses, be my turn  
To seek compassion, for I, too, can  
bleed.  
How poignant is the lesson I will learn  
If those I failed to aid now meet my  
need.

With burning love, dear Lord, may  
even I  
Ease your suffering children when  
they cry.

By Anna-Margaret O'Sullivan

(Anna-Margaret O'Sullivan is a member of St. Rose of Lima Parish in Franklin.)



CNS photo by Paul Finch, Catholic Sun

## The Active List

The Criterion welcomes announcements of archdiocesan Church and parish open-to-the-public activities for "The Active List." Please be brief—listing date, location, event, sponsor, cost and time. Include a phone number for verification. No announcements will be taken by telephone. Notices must be in our office by 5 p.m. Thursday one week in advance of (Friday) publication: The Criterion, The Active List, 1400 N. Meridian St. (hand deliver), P.O. Box 1717, Indianapolis, IN 46206 (mail); 317-236-1593 (fax), mklein@archindy.org (e-mail).

### November 5

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 14598 Oakridge Road, **Carmel, Ind.** (Diocese of Lafayette). Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Central Indiana, Mass, teaching, healing prayers, 7 p.m. Information: 317-927-6565.

### November 5-6

Saint-Mary-of-the-Woods, **St. Mary-of-the-Woods.** "Violence-Reconciliation-Economics" retreat, Providence Sister Barbara Doherty and Ron Moore, presenters, \$85 per person. Information: 812-535-3131, ext. 161.

### November 5-7

Saint Meinrad Archabbey, 100 Hill Dr., **St. Meinrad.** Weekend retreat, "Reflections on St. Paul and the Troubled Community at Corinth," Benedictine Father Eugene Hensell, presenter. Information: [www.saintmeinrad.edu](http://www.saintmeinrad.edu) or [mzoeller@saintmeinrad.edu](mailto:mzoeller@saintmeinrad.edu).

Pope John XXIII Retreat Center, 407 W. McDonald St., **Hartford City, Ind.** (Diocese of Lafayette). "Being and Belonging" retreat for separated and divorced men and women. Information: Archdiocesan Office of Family Ministries, 317-236-1596 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1596.

### November 6

St. Vincent Indianapolis Hospital, 2001 W. 86th St., **Indianapolis.** Couple to Couple League, Natural Family Planning (NFP), 9-11 a.m. Information: 317-865-5554.

St. Martin of Tours Parish, 1709 E. Harrison St., **Martinsville.** Annual holiday bazaar, cookies, holiday crafts, homemade goodies, food, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Information: 765-342-4504.

Saint-Mary-of-the-Woods, **St. Mary-of-the-Woods.** White Violet Center for Eco-Justice, Green Living Series, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., \$60 per person includes lunch and materials. Information: 812-535-5205.

Saint-Mary-of-the-Woods, **St. Mary-of-the-Woods.** "And the Word is Made Flesh ..." workshop for directors of religious education, teachers and parents, vocalist and catechist Monica Brown, presenter,

9 a.m.-3 p.m., \$65 per person. Information: 812-535-3131, ext. 161.

Saint-Mary-of-the-Woods, **St. Mary-of-the-Woods.** "Quiet My Soul" concert, vocalist Monica Brown, presenter, 7:30-9 p.m., \$10 per person. Information: 812-535-3131, ext. 161.

St. Athanasius Parish Center, 5915 Outer Loop, **Louisville, Ky.** (Archdiocese of Louisville). Catholic Charismatic Renewal, seminar on "The Baptism of the Holy Spirit and His Gifts," 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., no charge. Information: 502-239-0208.

### November 6-7

St. John the Baptist Parish, 25743 State Road 1, **Dover.** 14th annual craft show, Sat., 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sun., Mass, 10 a.m., craft show and chicken dinner, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

### November 7

Father Thomas Seccina Memorial High School, 5000 Nowland Ave., **Indianapolis.** Open house for prospective students and their families, 4:30-7 p.m., dinner, guided tours and presentations. Information: 317-356-6377.

Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School, 2801 W. 86th St., **Indianapolis.** Open house for prospective students and their families, 12:30 p.m., Mass, 3:30 p.m. Information: 317-876-4726.

MKVS and DM Center, **Rexville** (located on 925 South, .8 mile east of 421 South, 12 miles south of Versailles). Mass, 3:30 p.m., with Father Elmer Burwinkel. Information: 812-689-3551 or e-mail [frburwink@seidata.com](mailto:frburwink@seidata.com) or log on to Schoenstatt Web site at [www.seidata.com/~frburwink](http://www.seidata.com/~frburwink).

### November 8

Borders Bookstore, 7565 U.S. 31 South, **Indianapolis.** St. Francis Hospital and Health Centers, Spirit of Women's Wellness Book Club, *What Happy People Know: How the New Science of Happiness Can Change Your Life for the Better*, 7 p.m. Information: 317-865-5864.

### November 11

St. Christopher School, 5335 W. 16th St., **Indianapolis.** Fall

Feast, adults only, \$20 per person. Information: 317-371-7422.

Holy Name Parish, 89 N. 17th Ave., **Beech Grove.** Saint Meinrad School of Theology workshop, "The Parish: Past, Present and Future," 7-9 p.m., \$40 per person, less for seniors. Information: 317-955-6451.

### November 12

Holy Rosary Church, 520 Stevens St., **Indianapolis.** Lumen Dei meeting, Mass, 6:30 a.m., breakfast in Priori Hall, \$10 per person. Information: 317-919-5316.

St. Francis Hospital and Health Centers, 8111 S. Emerson Ave., **Indianapolis.** "Living with Cancer" workshop, no charge. Information: 317-782-6704.

St. Rita Church, 8709 Preston Highway, **Louisville Ky.** (Archdiocese of Louisville). Charismatic Mass, 7 p.m. Information: 502-239-0208.

### November 12-13

St. Augustine Home for the Aged, 2345 W. 86th St., **Indianapolis.** Little Sisters of the Poor, Christmas bazaar, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Information: 317-259-4969.

### November 12-14

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., **Indianapolis.** "Blending Souls: Deepening God's Presence in Your Marriage," Father Jim Farrell and others, presenters, \$275 per couple. Information: 317-545-7681.

### November 13

St. Mark the Evangelist Parish, 535 E. Edgewood Ave., **Indianapolis.** "Craft Junction and Bake Sale," 35 craft booths, lunch, baked goods, pie booth. Information: 317-787-8246.

St. Rose Parish, 8144 W. U.S. Highway 40, **Knightstown.** Holiday craft bazaar, crafts, baked goods, Christmas items, food, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Information: 765-345-5595.

St. Maurice Parish, 8874 N. Harrison St., **Napoleon.** Smorgasbord, \$7 adults, \$3 children ages 7-12, \$1.50 children ages 3-6, carry-out meals available.

Mount Saint Francis Retreat Center, **Floyd County.** Married couples retreat, "We Are God's Chosen People." Information: 812-923-8817.

Oldenburg Franciscan Center, 22143 Main St., **Oldenburg.** Young Artists' Gathering, pioneer crafts and toys, children ages 8-11, \$20 per session first child, \$10 each sibling. Information: 812-933-6437 or e-mail

[center@oldenburgosf.com](mailto:center@oldenburgosf.com).

St. Athanasius Parish Center, 5915 Outer Loop, **Louisville, Ky.** (Archdiocese of Louisville). Catholic Charismatic Renewal, seminar on "The Baptism of the Holy Spirit and His Gifts," 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., no charge. Information: 502-239-0208.

### November 13-14

St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 4625 N. Kenwood Ave., **Indianapolis.** "Welcoming Weekend," celebrate the diversity of all God's people, Sat., 5:30 p.m. Mass, Sun., 8 and 10:30 a.m. Masses, Benedictine Father Cyprian Davis of Saint Meinrad, homilist. Information: 317-253-1461.

### November 14

St. Anthony Parish, 379 N. Warman Ave., **Indianapolis.** Euchre party, 1:30 p.m., \$3 per person.

Holy Name Parish, 89 N. 17th Ave., **Beech Grove.** Annual Christmas Bazaar and Chicken Noodle Dinner, crafts, baked goods, children's games, 12:30-5 p.m. Information: 317-784-5454.

### November 16

St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 4625 N. Kenwood Ave., **Indianapolis.** North Deanery parishes, adult education series, "Liturgy of the Hours," 7 p.m. Information: 317-257-2266.

### November 17

Marian College, Allison Mansion, 3200 Cold Spring Road, **Indianapolis.** Civitas Dei meeting, Mass, 4:45 p.m., Marian College Chapel. Reservations: 317-253-1678.

### November 20

Oldenburg Franciscan Center, 22143 Main St., **Oldenburg.** Retreat, "Grieving Your Loved Ones," Ken Czillinger, presenter, \$45 per person, includes lunch. Information: 812-933-6437 or e-mail [center@oldenburgosf.com](mailto:center@oldenburgosf.com).

St. Athanasius Parish Center, 5915 Outer Loop, **Louisville, Ky.** Archdiocese of Louisville Catholic Charismatic Renewal, seminar on "The Baptism of the Holy Spirit and His Gifts," 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., no charge. Information: 502-239-0208.

### Monthly

#### Second Mondays

Church at **Mount St. Francis.** Holy hour for vocations to priesthood and religious life, 7 p.m.

#### Second Tuesdays

St. Pius X Parish, 7200 Sarto Dr., **Indianapolis.** Support Group for Separated and Divorced Catholics, 7 p.m. Infor-



"He's cute. We'll be able to find him a good home."

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mation: Archdiocesan Office of Family Ministries, 317-236-1596 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1596.

Marian Center of Indianapolis, 3356 W. 30th St., **Indianapolis.** "12-Step Spirituality" tapes, Dominican Father Emmerich Vogt, narrator, 7:30 p.m. Information: 317-924-3984.

#### Second Thursdays

St. Luke Church, 7575 Holliday Dr. E., **Indianapolis.** Holy hour for priestly and religious vocations, 7 p.m.

#### Second Saturdays

St. Agnes Parish, Brown County Public Library, **Nashville.** Brown County Widowed Support Group, 3 p.m. Information and directions: 812-988-2778 or 812-988-4429.

#### Third Sundays

Christ the King Church, 1827 Kessler Blvd., E. Dr., **Indianapolis.** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 2 p.m.-7 a.m. Monday, rosary, 8 p.m. Open until midnight.

Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Church of the Immaculate Conception, **St. Mary-of-the-Woods.** Mass, 10 a.m., sign-interpreted.

#### Third Mondays

St. Matthew Parish, 4100 E. 56th St., **Indianapolis.** Young Widowed Group, sponsored by archdiocesan Office of Family Ministries, 7:30 p.m. Information: 317-236-1596 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1596.

#### Third Tuesdays

St. Francis Medical Clinic, 110 N. 17th Ave., Suite 300, **Beech Grove.** Chronic pain support group, 7-8 p.m. Information: 317-831-1177.

#### Third Wednesdays

Holy Name Church, 89 N. 17th Ave., **Beech Grove.** Holy hour

and rosary, 6 p.m. Information: 317-784-5454.

St. Jude Church, 5353 McFarland Road, **Indianapolis.** Rosary, 6:15 p.m. Information: 317-783-1445.

Archbishop O'Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., **Indianapolis.** Catholic Widowed Organization, 7-9:30 p.m. Information: 317-784-1102.

Calvary Mausoleum Chapel, 435 Troy Ave., **Indianapolis.** Mass, 2 p.m.

#### Third Thursdays

Our Lady of Peace Mausoleum Chapel, 9001 Haverstick Road, **Indianapolis.** Mass, 2 p.m.

St. Elizabeth's and Coleman Pregnancy and Adoption Services, 2500 Churchman Ave., **Indianapolis.** Daughters of Isabella, Madonna Circle meeting, noon, dessert and beverages served. Information: 317-849-5840.

St. Joseph Church, 1375 S. Mickley Ave., **Indianapolis.** Adoration of Blessed Sacrament, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Mass, 5:45 p.m. Information: 317-244-9002.

St. Thomas More Church, 1200 N. Indiana St., **Mooreville.** Prayers for vocations, rosary, eucharistic adoration, Benediction, 6 p.m. Information: 317-831-4142.

#### Third Fridays

Marian College, St. Francis Hall Chapel, 3200 Cold Spring Road, **Indianapolis.** Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Central Indiana, Mass and healing service, 7 p.m.

#### Third Saturdays

St. Michael the Archangel Church, 3354 W. 30th St.,

—See ACTIVE LIST, page 15



Belleek Artist Naomi Sloan

The event piece, Floral Glen Vase, has been pre-signed by the artist, Naomi Sloan

The Killybegs staff will be available to:

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- Assist you in your holiday gift selections

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**St. Mary's Family Health Fair**

**Sunday, November 14, 2004 12:00 noon-4:00 p.m.**

**St. Mary Catholic Church**  
**Marian Center**  
**311 N. New Jersey Street**

**FREE Screenings:** Dental, Vision, Osteoporosis, Blood Pressure, Instruction in Breast Self-Exam, Diabetes Risk Test, Women's Health

**And information about:** Hispanic Health & Social Services, Healthy Families, Child Health & Safety, Legal Services, Health Insurance, Diabetes, Heart Health, Mental Health, Public Libraries

#### Activities and Services provided by:

IU National Center of Excellence in Women's Health • Wishard Health Services/Wishard Hispanic Health Project • Riley Hospital for Children • IU Schools of Medicine, Dentistry and Law • Marion County Health Department • Office of Women's Health/Indiana State Department of Health • Indianapolis Marion County Public Library • Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic • Prevent Blindness Indiana

# Editorial cartoonist relies on Christian faith in daily life decisions

By Mary Ann Wyand

Nationally syndicated *Indianapolis Star* editorial cartoonist Gary Varvel brings a Christian perspective to his artistic commentaries on current events.

Varvel told Catholic Business Exchange members during a discussion about "Our Maker's Masterpiece" on Oct. 15 at the Northside Knights of Columbus Hall in Indianapolis that his faith plays a big part in his life and his work.

"We serve a master who knows us," Varvel said. "He knows every thought we have. He knows every word on our tongue before we even speak it. He knows us inside and out. In fact, the Bible says that he knows the number of the hairs on our head. When we are talking about 'Our Maker's Masterpiece,' that is us. He is working a masterpiece in us."

A devout Christian, Varvel said he believes that God gave him the opportunity to work as an editorial cartoonist.

There are only 90 full-time editorial cartoonists working at newspapers and magazines in the United States, he said, and only three in Indiana.

"It's a limited field," Varvel said, but he knew that he wanted to make it his career.

"I remember praying about it even though I really wasn't living for the Lord like I should at the time," he said. "I grew

up in a Christian home, and I knew that there was a God. And I believed Jeremiah 29:11, which says, 'I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you, not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.' I prayed, 'Lord, I'm at a dead end [without a job]. I don't know what I'm going to do.'"

Soon after asking God for help, Varvel was contacted by an art department staff member at the former *Indianapolis News* in 1978. He joined the staff of *The Indianapolis Star* in 1994. His editorial cartoons are also distributed nationally by Creator's Syndicate.

"It was an answer to a prayer," he said. "To me, it confirms again that God was pushing me in this direction. How do you explain how certain people are just prepared for certain things? I don't know, except that God has a plan, and I believe that his plan was for me to move into that position."

Varvel said he learned to draw cartoons from looking at pictures in *Mad* magazine then attended the John Herron School of Art in Indianapolis for several years. After working for a weekly newspaper in Indiana, he was hired by the former afternoon paper in Indianapolis.

He said a woman once told him, "Oh, you're the guy who does the cartoons that

Photo by Mary Ann Wyand



Nationally syndicated *Indianapolis Star* editorial cartoonist Gary Varvel of Indianapolis tells members of the Catholic Business Exchange how his Christian faith helps him in his work and daily life. This patriotic editorial cartoon was later reproduced as a poster that raised \$130,000 for relief efforts in New York after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

See FAITH, page 18

## The Active List, continued from page 14

**Indianapolis.** Helpers of God's Precious Infants monthly pro-life ministry, Mass for Life by archdiocesan Office of Pro-Life Activities, 8:30 a.m., drive to Clinic for Women (abortion clinic), 3607 W. 16th St., Indianapolis, for rosary, return to church for Benediction.

**Fourth Tuesdays**  
Marian Center of Indianapolis, 3356 W. 30th St., **Indianapolis.** "12-Step Spirituality" tapes, Dominican Father Emmerich Vogt, narrator, 7:30 p.m. Information: 317-924-3984.

**Fourth Wednesdays**  
St. Thomas More Church, 1200 N. Indiana St., **Mooreville.** Mass and anointing of the sick, 6 p.m. Information: 317-831-4142.

**First Sundays**  
St. Paul Church, 218 Scheller Ave., **Sellersburg.** Prayer group, 7-8:15 p.m. Information: 812-246-4555.

Fatima Knights of Columbus, 1040 N. Post Road, **Indianapolis.** Euchre, 1 p.m. Information: 317-638-8416.

**First Mondays**  
Archbishop O'Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., **Indianapolis.** Guardian Angel Guild, board meeting, 9:30 a.m.

**First Tuesdays**  
Divine Mercy Chapel, 3354 W. 30th St., **Indianapolis.** Confession, 6:45 p.m., Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament for vocations, 7:30 p.m.

St. Joseph Church, 2605 St. Joe Road W., **Sellersburg.** Holy hour for religious vocations, Benediction and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after 7 p.m. Mass.

Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School, 2801 W. 86th St., **Indianapolis.** Indiana Autism and Sertoma Club meeting, 7-9 p.m., child care provided. Information: 317-885-7295.

**First Fridays**  
Holy Name Church, 89 N. 17th Ave., **Beech Grove.** Mass, 8:15 a.m., eucharistic adoration following Mass until 5 p.m. Benediction. Information: 317-784-5454. †

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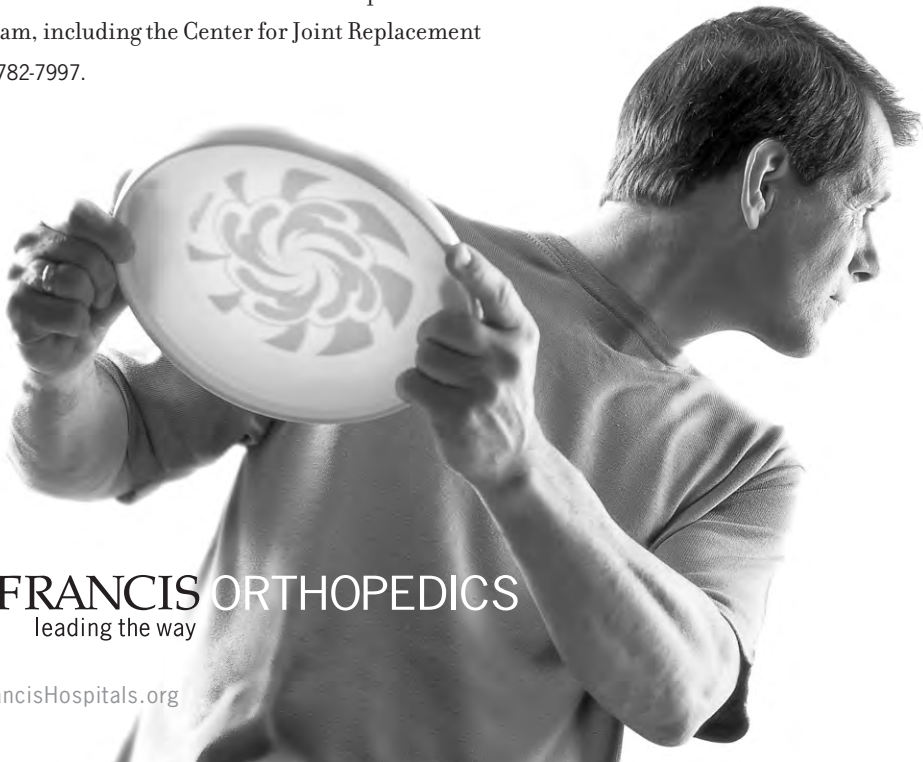
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# Brebeuf Jesuit launches daily reflection at prayer service

By Brandon A. Evans

During a special prayer service on Oct. 19 to honor their patron, St. Jean de Brebeuf, the students at Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School in Indianapolis were introduced to a prayer that will be a part of their school day from now on.

Jana Haffley, a teacher at the school and a 1986 graduate, told the students about the daily Examen of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

The prayer will be read to all the students at the end of each day. It is structured in a way that asks people to reflect on what they are thankful for, how God has been present to them and how they have fallen short that day.

The prayer service is an annual celebration to honor the life and ministry of St. Jean de Brebeuf, a missionary to the Huron Indians in North America, who was martyred by the Iroquois Indians in the 16th century.

"He followed God's lead in his life, standing up for what he believed was right," said Jesuit Father Benjamin Hawley, president of the school.

Andrew Noga, principal of the school, said that St. Jean de Brebeuf was a "living example" of two principles central to the school: care for the person and service to others.

"Brebeuf Jesuit celebrates a culture of diversity—of opinions, of experiences, of backgrounds, of perspectives," Noga said. "Jean de Brebeuf and his life are perfect examples of respecting diversity, advocating acceptance and ministering to others."

The daily Examen reflects part of the school's commitment to being an inter-faith educational community. Its format is such that virtually any person of any faith could participate, yet it is a fully

Catholic prayer.

"The Examen invites each one of us—regardless of where we are presently in our individual faith journeys—to move forward with help from God," Noga said.

Haffley said that the prayer calls people to have a greater connection with themselves, others and God.

"Such an invitation is hard to pass up, no matter what your faith tradition," Haffley said.

Noga said that the decision to incorporate the daily Examen into student life came after members of the faculty and staff heard about it at the triennial Colloquium of the Jesuit Secondary Education Association held in June at John Carroll University in Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

"Our teachers discovered the idea of the daily Examen from their counterparts at Walsh Jesuit High School in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio," Noga said. "Walsh Jesuit had implemented this form of prayer a few years ago and had found great success."

Haffley said that she found the prayer to be "thoughtful, thought-provoking and very meaningful."

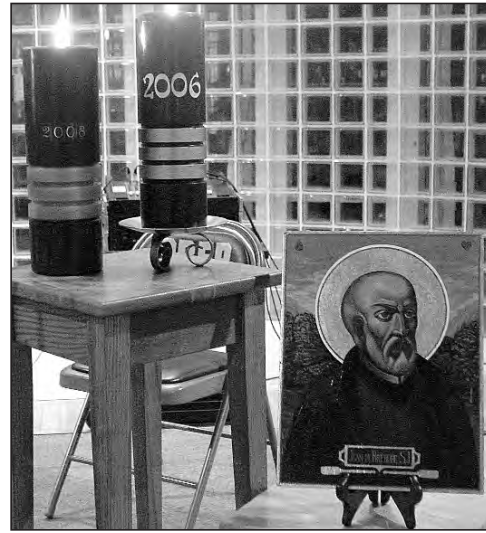
"The reflection inherent in the Examen is at the heart of all true learning," she said.

The Examen will give students the chance "to collect themselves, reflect upon God's presence in their lives, challenge themselves to live out more fully their particular faith traditions and thank God for the small graces that are sometimes overlooked in the course of their busy lives," Noga said.

Father Hawley said that he prays the Examen "every day without fail. I couldn't do anything I do—especially as president of the school—without this



Photos by Brandon A. Evans



Above, students at Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School in Indianapolis attend a prayer service on Oct. 19 to honor the patron of their school, St. Jean de Brebeuf, on his feast day. The students also learned about a new prayer that will be said at the end of each day called the daily Examen, a prayer of St. Ignatius of Loyola, that will give them a chance to reflect on their day, the blessings they received and the ways that they fell short in their actions.

Left, an icon of St. Jean de Brebeuf is displayed during an Oct. 19 prayer service at Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School in Indianapolis. St. Jean de Brebeuf was a missionary to the Huron Indians in North America, and was martyred by the Iroquois Indians in the 17th century.

daily reflection."

Noga said that the reflection will take place at the perfect point in the day for the students, and he thinks they will embrace it.

Haffley told the youth at the prayer service to make good use of their time every day.

"They'll be teenagers, as they should

be," Haffley said. "Some days, it will be the most meaningful three minutes of their day; others, they'll be a million miles away in their heads, thinking of the next thing they need to be doing."

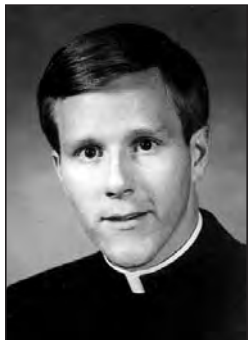
Haffley said that the benefits of the Examen can be endless, yet also limited because how much good it can work will be up to the students. †

# Local priest attends International Eucharistic Congress in Mexico

By Brandon A. Evans

Father Michael O'Mara, pastor of St. Mary Parish in Indianapolis, had a unique opportunity last month.

Father O'Mara attended the 48th International Eucharistic Congress on Oct. 10-17 in Guadalajara, Mexico.



Father Michael O'Mara

While there, he had the chance to spend time with a group of seminarians from the Archdiocese of Guadalajara, who spent last summer helping out at parishes in Indianapolis.

It was the second year that Cardinal Juan Sandoval Iniguez, the archbishop of

Guadalajara, allowed a group of seminarians to come here.

The seminarians provided Father O'Mara with housing, meals, transportation and even trips to tourist attractions during the congress.

"It is a wonderful experience to be able to share in the liturgies, discourses and experiences of this congress with these brothers," Father O'Mara wrote in an e-mail from Mexico.

"I know that Indianapolis parishes that have worked with the seminarians are very eager to have more come back to work with us in our Hispanic ministries," Father O'Mara said. "I believe that the seminary finds that the effort is worthwhile."

Father O'Mara said one of the seminarians wrote a favorable article about his time in Indianapolis in 2003.

"If this represents the attitude of the participants and the seminary administration, I think that we have established a

very positive relationship with the Archdiocese of Guadalajara," Father O'Mara said.

About 14,000 people participated in the various sessions of the congress, including approximately 250 bishops. During an Oct. 12 procession to honor the Virgin of Zapopan, 3.5 million people turned out.

Father O'Mara represented Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein, who was not able to attend the congress.

"It was an incredible experience for me to be one of the thousands of people present from all over the world," Father O'Mara said.

He said that, particularly during the eucharistic processions, the experience brought "a new enthusiasm" to him.

"You couldn't help but to get caught up in the excitement of hundreds of thousands or millions of people making the proclamation of faith," Father O'Mara said.

He also said that he will take back to his parish the catechesis that he learned while at the congress. One dimension of the Eucharist that he said he learned about was the social dimension.

"[The] Eucharist called us to solidarity with one another," he said. "We have to walk with one another as did Jesus, tending to the poor, sick, the most vulnerable of our society."

Father O'Mara said that the Mexican Church was giving the world a taste of its spirituality through the Congress, and that the world seemed to like it.

"The Archdiocese of Guadalajara," Father O'Mara said, "is one of the strongest and most active Catholic dioceses in the community with 8 million Catholics, thousands of religious sisters [and] brothers, 1,100 priests [and] 2,000 seminarians."

"The religiosity of the people is rich," he said. "Certainly, those present from around the world felt this." †

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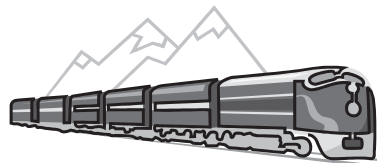
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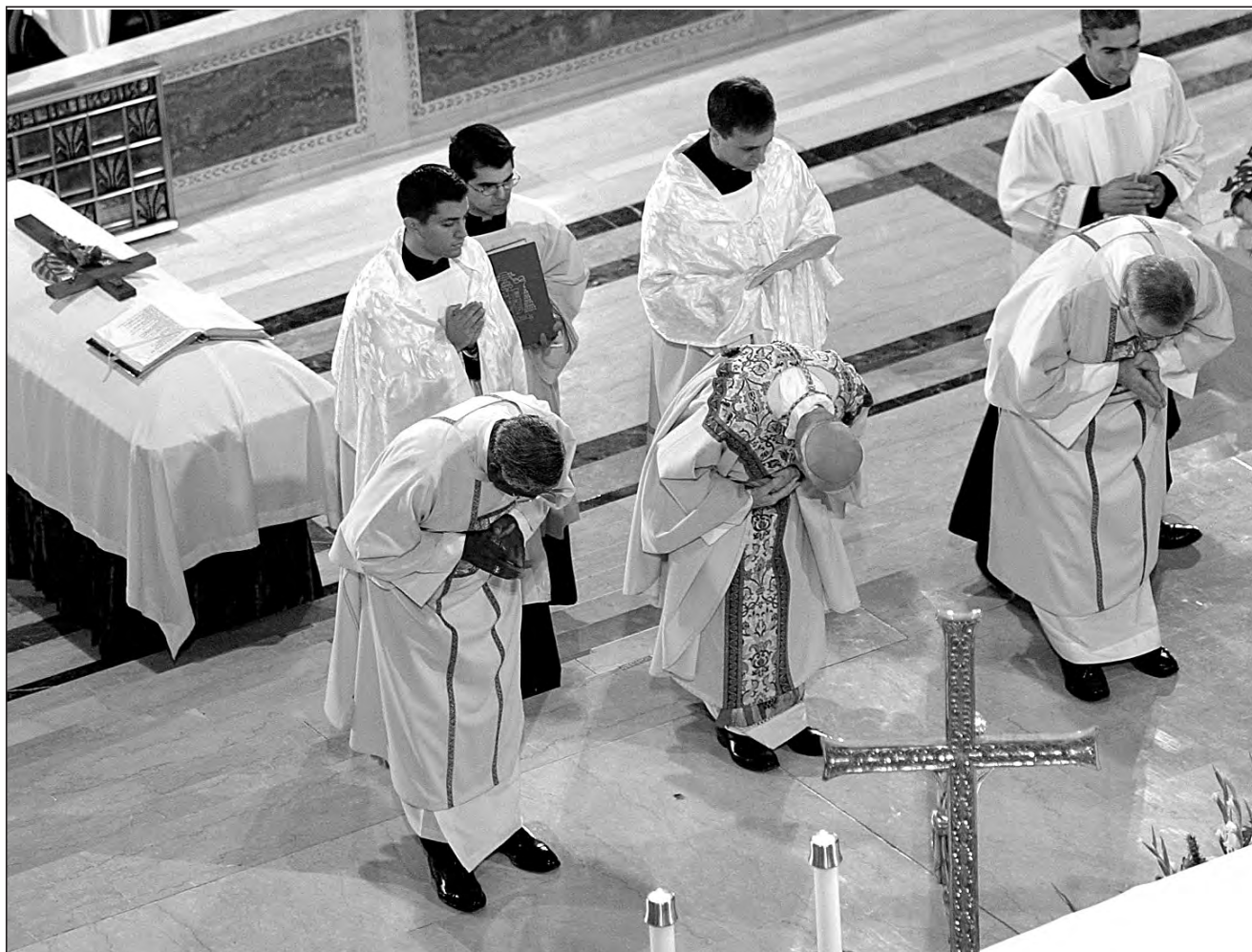


Larry Moran





CNS photos by Paul Haring



Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick of Washington and others bow during the funeral Mass for Cardinal James A. Hickey, retired archbishop of Washington, on Oct. 30 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Clergy exit with the casket of Cardinal James A. Hickey at the conclusion of his funeral Mass on Oct. 30 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. More than 2,000 people attended the funeral of the 84-year-old cardinal, the retired archbishop of Washington, who died on Oct. 24 after a long illness.

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# Rest in peace

Please submit in writing to our office by 10 a.m. Thursday before the week of publication; be sure to state date of death. Obituaries of archdiocesan priests serving our archdiocese are listed elsewhere in *The Criterion*. Order priests and religious sisters and brothers are included here, unless they are natives of the archdiocese or have other connections to it; those are separate obituaries on this page.

**BLANKEN, Donna M.**, 48, Holy Family, Oldenburg, Oct. 22. Wife of Doug Blanken. Mother of Dakota Blanken. Daughter of John and Karen Oesterling. Sister of Cathy Blanken, Amy Grimme, Theresa Hornberger, Micki Sitterding, Ingrid and Chris Oesterling. Stepsister of Amy Gunter and Troy Ilderton.

**BUSALD, Dorothy V.**, 85, Holy Family, New Albany, Oct. 18. Sister of Thelma Beswick. Aunt of several.

**COLE, Wilma J.**, 67, Prince of Peace, Madison, Oct. 22. Wife of Francis Cole. Mother of Brian Cole. Sister of Nelson Hambrick. Grandmother of two.

**COSTA, Carolina**, 96, Sacred Heart, Clinton, Oct. 22.

**COUNTRYMAN, Alice Marie**

**(Bowman)**, 56, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Indianapolis, Oct. 27. Wife of Stuart B. Countryman. Mother of Heather O'Brien, Bradley, John, Nicholas and Peter Countryman. Daughter of Mary Elizabeth (Fromhold) Bowman. Sister of Linda Haislup, Joyce Nitchman, Marcia Shields and Anthony Bowman. Grandmother of three.

**COY, James W.**, 64, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Terre Haute, Oct. 17. Father of Eric, James, Kevin and Patrick Coy. Brother of Carla Lincoln, Sharon Melvin, J. Jerry and Michael Coy. Grandfather of 10.

**DIERKES, John J.**, 85, Prince of Peace, Madison, Oct. 25. Husband of Mary Dierkes. Father of Joan Bear, Sue Geyman, Mary Kay Melton, Janet Rankin and Mark Dierkes. Brother of Emma Sommer and Robert Dierkes. Grandfather of 11. Great-grandfather of seven.

**DUFFY, Shari**, 67, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, New Albany, Oct. 10. Wife of Paul Duffy. Mother of Jean Ann Foster, Matthew and Scott Duffy. Sister of Rhonda Duffy. Grandmother of seven.

**EDER, Victoria C.**, 82,

St. Mary, North Vernon, Oct. 18. Mother of Teresa Branham, Victoria Ernestes, Dorothy, Andrew, Anthony, Frank, Harold, Louis and Thomas Eder. Sister of Dorothy McLaughlin, Anthony and Frances Troskey. Grandmother of 36. Great-grandmother of 47.

**GENTRY, Carrie L.**, 90, St. Thomas Aquinas, Indianapolis, Oct. 21. Sister of Henrietta Haynes, Julia Williams, Ernestine and Sara Francis Gentry.

**GOLDEN, Ann (Powers)**, 38, St. Jude, Indianapolis, Oct. 23. Wife of Ronald Golden.

**GOSS, Nelson L.**, 81, Holy Family, New Albany, Oct. 21. Father of Debra Gartrell, Vicki Jones and Glenn Goss. Brother of Mary Elizabeth Buckel and Ruby Austin. Grandfather of five.

**GUFFEY, Anna**, 87, St. Roch, Indianapolis, Oct. 20. Sister of Wilma Logsdon and Agnes Wachtel.

**GUY, Donald Gale**, 87, St. Jude, Indianapolis, Oct. 20. Husband of Lucille (Rizzi) Guy. Father of Donna Shea and Robert Guy. Stepfather of Mary Carson, Denise O'Connor, Anthony and E. Earl Pruitt. Brother of Glenn Guy. Grandfather of six. Step-grandfather of 15. Great-grandfather of 12. Step-great-grandfather of 24.

**KULPINSKI, Viola F. (Heckman)**, 92, Holy Name,

Beech Grove, Oct. 6. Sister of Annabelle Kulpinski.

**McGINNIS, Lucille Josephine**, 92, St. Gabriel, Connersville, Oct. 23. Mother of Mary Moffitt, Thomas and William McGinnis. Sister of Marjorie Peggs. Grandmother of seven. Great-grandmother of one.

**NIEHUUS, Rose Ruth**, 101, St. Michael the Archangel, Indianapolis, Oct. 24. Mother of Joyce Neely. Grandmother of one.

**PURCELL, Bernadine Rose (Steinmetz)**, 84, St. Anthony of Padua, Clarksville, Oct. 25. Mother of Jacquelyn Hutt, Marilyn Williams, Benedictine Sister Antoinette Purcell, Loy Jr. and Robert Purcell. Sister of John Steinmetz. Grandmother of 11. Great-grandmother of six.

**RICHARDS, Paul E.**, 85, St. Mary, Greensburg, Oct. 21. Husband of Mary L. Richards. Father of Linda Fairman, Karen Holmes, Eileen Palmer, Marilyn Sasser, Ruth Wenning, Dave, Kevin, Michael, Philip and Scott Richards. Brother of Loren and Roland Richards. Grandfather of 22. Great-grandfather of two.

**ROTH, Cyril**, 67, St. Jude, Indianapolis, Oct. 20. Husband of Gayle Roth. Father of Susan Ardizzone, David and William Roth. Brother of Donald and Kevin Roth. Grandfather of four.

**ROWE, Charles R., Sr.**, 76, Father of Patricia Caito, Susan Smith, Lisa, Chuck and Mark Rowe. Grandfather of 14. Great-grandfather of nine.

**RUSSELL, James E.**, 80, St. Lawrence, Indianapolis, Oct. 12. Husband of Dema Russell. Father of Craig and Gary Russell. Brother of Agnes Billerman, Joan Crouch, Catherine Leake and Victor Russell. Grandfather of three.

**SPRIGLER, Elizabeth**, 59, St. Mary-of-the-Knobs, Floyds Knobs, Oct. 15. Wife of George Eddie Sprigler. Mother of Dana Becker, Edward and Jason Sprigler. Daughter of Martha Carroll. Sister of Nancy Jacobi, Barbara Kochert, George, Hollis III and R. Kevin Carroll. Grandmother of seven.

**TAFLINGER, Mary Lou**, 87, Prince of Peace, Madison, Oct. 21. Sister of Albert Jr. and John Herrmann.

**TESS, David B.**, 81, Holy Name, Beech Grove, Oct. 4. Father of Darlene Colin, Rita Drescher, Judy Ann Prather, Danny, David, John and Ronald Tess. Stepfather of Belinda Adams, John and Kenneth Rice. Brother of E. Lenore Baynard and Bernice Flieshman. Grandfather of several. Great-grandfather of several.

**WALKE, Aloysius J.**, 84, St. John, Enochsburg, Oct. 22. Father of Victoria Scheele and Kenneth Walke. Stepfather of

Judy Lambert, Karen Linne-man, Shelly Williamson and Samuel Fehrman. Brother of Bertha Wagner and Ott Walke. Grandfather of nine. Great-grandfather of 13. Great-great-grandfather of three.

**WALLACE, Paul Joseph**, 86, St. Anne, New Castle, Oct. 23. Father of Debbie Scott and David Wallace. Grandfather of six. Great-grandfather of five.

**WERNER, Ardwin**, 70, St. Anthony of Padua, Morris, Oct. 16. Husband of Mary Ann Werner. Father of Joyce Hansell, Dan, Daryl and Roger Werner. Brother of Bernice Abrams, Doris Davidson, Mary Maune, Estelle Salisbury, Cletus, Lawrence, Linus, Omer and Raymond Werner. Grandfather of nine.

**WESTERMANN, John W.**, 49, St. Joseph, Shelbyville, Oct. 20. Husband of Debra Jo Westermann. Father of Dana Sipes. Son of Marion Westermann. Brother of Christina Bottoms, Linda Merkel, Joanne Miller and Andrew Westermann.

**WHEELER, Mary Jo**, 66, Nativity, Indianapolis, Oct. 17. Wife of William Wheeler. Mother of Cynthia Hughey and Jodi Wheeler.

**WOOD, Austin**, infant, Holy Spirit, Indianapolis, Oct. 21. Son of Earl Wallace and April Mae Wood. †

## FAITH

continued from page 15

aren't funny."

Varvel agreed that some of his editorial cartoons are intended to be serious, like his depiction of Uncle Sam carrying a New York firefighter out of the rubble of the World Trade Center towers after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

"After watching the coverage for several days, this image came to mind," he said. "I was reminded of the Oklahoma City bombing [of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building] and the picture that sticks in my mind from that is the firefighter carrying a small child out of the rubble. Then I thought about the World Trade Center, how ironic that the firefighters now become the victims, and I did this cartoon, which later became a poster that sold for \$10 and raised \$130,000 for the relief effort in New York."

Varvel said people asked him how it made him feel to be able to help others in need after the terrorist attacks.

"It's almost like when one of your kids does really well," he said. "You're surprised, but you're happy at the same time. That's kind of the way it was with this. ... We're actually documenting history. ... Years from now, people will go back and

look at how newspapers covered that tragic event. One of the things they will look at is what did the cartoonists say, what was the mood of the country, and I felt like this was the mood."

Most of Varvel's cartoons provide a humorous look at serious messages to make people stop and think about issues.

"Editorial cartoons are not always funny," he said, "but we use humor as a tool to get the message across. That's the main point. ... The Election of 2000 was a wild one, and I did cartoon after cartoon. You can imagine. It went on for months."

Varvel said he is concerned that the moral foundation of the United States is being broken away by popular culture.

"Stuff like 'under God' is being taken out," he said. "The Ten Commandments are being questioned. You can't have those anywhere. Marriages are breaking down. It is tragic when you see our foundations starting to crumble. Can we stand as a nation if we allow that to continue? At some point, is the pendulum going to start swinging back the other direction?"

"I'm hoping that the next generation that we're raising up will realize that we're going the wrong way," Varvel said. "I've often thought, 'What would the founders think?' They would be impressed with our technology, but would they be impressed

with our morality?"

Varvel said he is "very pro-life" and has used his artistic talent to raise awareness about the importance of supporting respect for all life.

"I did this cartoon after [former President] Clinton vetoed one of the partial-birth abortion bans," he said. "It's a child in heaven saying 'I was just inches away from my birthday.'"

Commenting on *Roe vs. Wade*, the Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion, Varvel reminded the gathering that more than 40 million people have died in abortion since 1973.

Varvel said he recently talked with an 18-year-old man who told him, "A third of my generation is missing. A third of my generation is not here today because they have been aborted."

The young man also told him, "We were shocked at Nine Eleven because 3,000 people, 3,000 of our citizens, were destroyed on one day," Varvel said. "He said, 'That happens every day in abortion clinics around this country. Three thousand [babies] die every day.'"

Varvel said when the late Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmun died, he drew a cartoon showing him at the gates of heaven with the message, "Thirty-eight million fetuses want to have a word with you."

Christmas also provides opportunities for Varvel to witness to his Christian faith.


For a recent Christmas issue of *The Indianapolis Star*, he drew a cartoon that read, "After finding Christ, wise men still go home a different way."

Varvel said his favorite Scripture passage has been called "the Bible in a verse."

"If you were to take all the Bible and condense it down to one verse, what would that verse be?" he asked. "A lot of people say John 3:16. It's a great verse. 'God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believes in him shall never perish but have eternal life.' That's a great verse, but I think this verse is better: Romans 6:23. 'For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.' It shows us our problem, and God's solution to our problem."

"I believe that our Maker is making a masterpiece," Varvel said, "not just of me, but of you."

(For more information about the Catholic Business Exchange, call Jim Liston at 317-469-1244 or contact him by e-mail at [jliston@finsvcs.com](mailto:jliston@finsvcs.com). Daniel Elsener, president of Marian College in Indianapolis, is the guest speaker for the organization's Nov. 19 meeting.) †



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# News briefs

## U.S.

### Catholic shade of green emerges at environmental justice conference

OWATONNA, Minn. (CNS)—A Catholic shade of environmental green emerged at a three-day national Catholic scholars' conference on environmental justice. Participants linked care for the Earth with a preferential option for the poor and the need to work for the common good—all intertwining themes of Catholic social teaching. The invitation-only meeting was jointly sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul. Held on Oct. 29-31 at the university's Gainey Conference Center in Owatonna, it brought together about 60 experts from various fields—theologians, scientists and other academic specialists, bishops, heads of national Catholic organizations that are engaged in environmental issues, diocesan social action leaders and media representatives versed in Catholic social thought. The conference theme was "The Person, the Poor and the Common Good: A Catholic Dialogue on the Environment."

### Bishop Edward U. Kmiec installed as head of Diocese of Buffalo

BUFFALO, N.Y. (CNS)—Ending months of anticipation, Bishop Edward U. Kmiec accepted his crosier and took the bishop's chair on Oct. 28 as the 13th bishop of the western New York diocese during a two-hour installation ceremony at St. Joseph's Cathedral in downtown Buffalo. Bishop Kmiec, former head of the Diocese of Nashville, Tenn., succeeded Bishop Henry J. Mansell, who was appointed to head the Archdiocese of Hartford, Conn., in October 2003. In attendance were more than 40 archbishops and bishops from across the country, including Archbishop Mansell, Cardinal Edward M. Egan of New York, Bishop Robert J. Cunningham of Ogdensburg, N.Y., and Bishop Donald W. Trautman of Erie, Pa. "We welcome you officially, first of all as you now become a Buffalonian, you now become a western New Yorker, and we hope you become a Bills [football] fan. They need all the hope and prayers they can get," said Auxiliary Bishop Edward M. Grosz of Buffalo in his welcoming address.

### Review board calls for bids for study on causes of sex abuse crisis

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The National Review Board, which monitors Church compliance with child sex abuse prevention policies, has asked research organizations to bid on doing a comprehensive study on the causes and context of the clergy sex abuse crisis. Aims include studying the effectiveness of current prevention procedures and examining additional methods for promoting safety for children, said an Oct. 29 announcement by the U.S. bishops' Department of Communications. More details about the proposed study are available on the U.S. bishops' Web site at <http://www.usccb.org/ocyp/grantproposals.htm>. The study is a follow-up to two 2004 studies published by the all-lay board appointed by the bishops. One study was statistical information on the scope of the problem and the second was a report on the crisis based on interviews. The study on the scope of the problem reported that 10,667 minors were abused by clerics during the 1950-2002 period.

## WORLD

### German cardinal uses canon law to prevent French bishop from speaking

COLOGNE, Germany (CNS)—A German cardinal invoked canon law to prevent a dismissed French bishop from speaking in his archdiocese. Cardinal Joachim Meisner of Cologne cited Canon 763 of the Code of Canon Law to force Bishop Jacques Gaillot to withdraw from a speaking engagement in the archdiocese. Canon 763 allows bishops to prevent other bishops from preaching in their dioceses, "but only in particular instances and for a serious reason, for example, that the bishop is known to be preaching error or folly." Bishop Gaillot was removed as head of the Diocese of Evreux, France, in 1995 for opposing official Church positions on issues like celibacy, women priests and the use of condoms to prevent AIDS. Bishop Gaillot was scheduled to speak at an Oct. 28 panel in Bonn on "Being Christian in the Third Millennium: A Faith Which Has Hope." †

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Position to start early January 2005

Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern, surrounded by European Union delegates, addresses the media on June 18 at the close of the European Union summit. Europe's leaders drafted a constitution that would, among other things, protect religious communities and promote dialogue between political and religious institutions. Pope John Paul II expressed disappointment that Christianity's historical contribution was not mentioned in the document. The constitution must be ratified by all 25 European Union states within two years before it becomes effective.



CNS photo from Reuters

# EUROPE

continued from page 1

candidate for a post as a European commissioner, told a European Union committee earlier this month that as a Catholic he believed that homosexuality was a sin, though not a crime, and that women should have the protection of a man so that they can raise a family.

The uproar that followed eventually forced European Commission President-elect Jose Barroso to delay an Oct. 27 vote that was to have confirmed all his commission choices.

Buttiglione and some others said he was being singled out for his strong Catholic beliefs, and the case offered fertile terrain for a public discussion about the influence—or lack of it—that the Catholic Church has on contemporary European society.

The incident apparently was at least partly responsible for remarks by Cardinal Renato Martino, head of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, who said powerful lobbies in Europe were trying to “silence the Church.” He told reporters on Oct. 18 that “any method is legitimate” for these lobbies, “from intimidation to public scorn, from cultural discrimination to exclusion.”

In Spain, the Cabinet has approved legislation that would allow homosexuals to marry. The government also has announced plans to make religious education optional in the overwhelmingly Catholic country, although neither measure has been approved by the Spanish Parliament.

On Sept. 26, Cardinal Julian Herranz, a Spaniard and president of the Pontifical Council for the Interpretation of Legislative Texts, warned of a “lay fundamentalism” and an “aggressive laicism” in Spain. Speaking to Spanish faithful in Rome, he expressed the Spanish bishops’ concern “about what’s happening in our country, at the political level and with public opinion.”

In an interview in the Italian daily *La Repubblica*, the Vatican secretary of state, Cardinal Angelo Sodano, avoided commenting directly on the Buttiglione incident.

However, he said, “It’s not the first time that Catholics ... find themselves confronted with problems of this sort and the dangers of isolation and discrimination. Just look at the history of the Christian Church.”

He warned, however, that the Church would be increasingly obligated in the future to claim the right to preach the Gospel, which he said “is tied directly to the sacrosanct principle of freedom that is the right of every person beyond the faith they profess, their race and their political choices.”

The Church finds itself constantly challenged by and speaking out on legislation passed and proposed in various countries. Some examples are:

- In August, the British government gave permission to a team of researchers to begin cloning human embryos for research, in so-called therapeutic cloning. The Vatican opposes human cloning for any purpose.
- Italians are expected to face a referendum in coming months that would repeal a law passed earlier this year that limits assisted fertility procedures and prohibits stem-cell research.
- In 2001, the Dutch Parliament passed a law permitting euthanasia in some cases and under certain provisions. Church teaching does not allow for euthanasia in any circumstance.

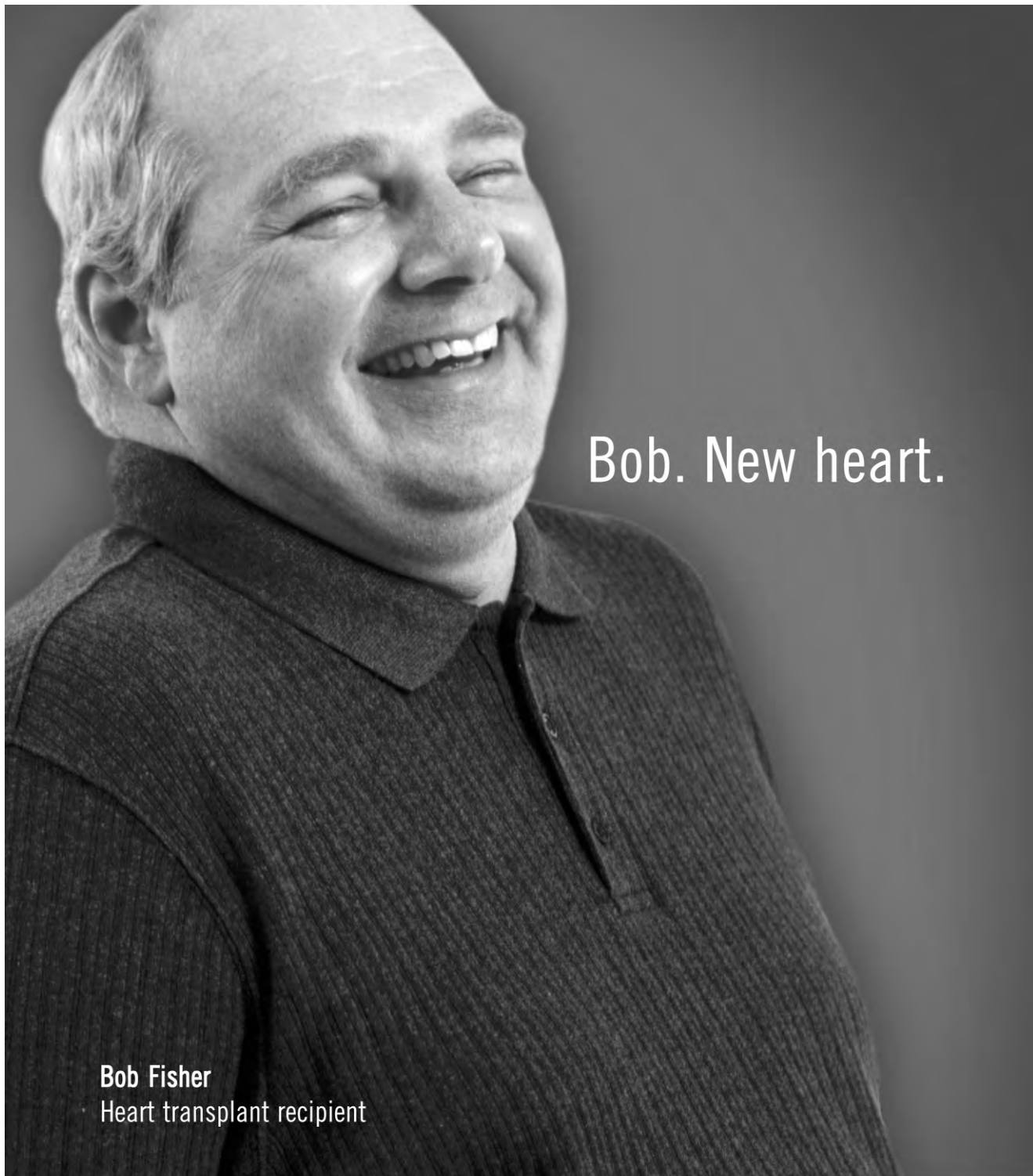
Father Michele Simone, vice-director of the Jesuit monthly *La Civiltà Cattolica*, said the Buttiglione case should not be used as an indicator because there are strictly political components to the issue as well. He said he believed that anti-Christian sentiment exists in Europe and that there is a “de-Christianization” of contemporary society because of excessive consumerism, the influence of the media and the tendency of individuals to create a “personal morality.”

Alberto Melloni, a religious historian, author and professor of contemporary history at the University of Reggio-Emilia, said he did not believe there is strong anti-Catholic sentiment in Europe. Rather, he said following the Buttiglione incident, “the Catholic Church is so broad, those views of his don’t represent everybody at all.”

“The Church has two options: to be seen as the defender of a set of values or to be part of society,” Melloni said.

His views appear to be shared by Spanish Prime Minister Jose Rodriguez Zapatero. In an Oct. 17 interview in the Italian daily *La Repubblica*, he was asked about the conflict with the Church that his measures regarding gays had opened.

“The government merely translated the values of a social majority into an extension of civil rights,” he said. He added that the Church is promoting “certain values and certain discussions from a historical period that society has by now surpassed.” †



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