



The

# Criterion

Serving the Church in Central and Southern Indiana Since 1960



## Parish festivals

Food, fellowship and fun highlight annual gatherings, pages 8-9.

CriterionOnline.com

May 24, 2024

Vol. LXIV, No. 32 75¢



Transitional Deacon Bobby Vogel proclaims the Gospel during an Aug. 14, 2023, Mass in the chapel of the St. Joseph Retreat and Conference Center in Tipton County in the Lafayette, Ind., Diocese. The Mass was part of the annual archdiocesan seminarian convocation. (File photo by Sean Gallagher)

## Encounter with God in prayer leads future priest to invite others closer to Christ

By Sean Gallagher

January 2, 2016.

One date on the calendar, much like any other day.

But, for transitional Deacon Bobby Vogel, that was the day on which his life changed forever. It was the day on which he encountered Christ.

At about 8 a.m. on that day in Dallas at a conference sponsored by the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS), Deacon Vogel, 23 at the time, did what a priest who had heard his confession advised him to do: "Just listen to God in the silence."

"I poured out my heart to God," recalled Deacon Vogel.

At the time, he was getting ready to graduate from college, had a well-paying information technology job lined up and lots of friends.

"I had all these things, but I still was not satisfied," Deacon Vogel remembered. "So, I was willing to consider what God wanted from me. What do you want from my life?"

Then in the silence, Deacon Vogel heard God tell him in his heart, "I love you."

"It was in that moment, on that morning, that I just wept."

Those three words from God, "I love you," heard by Deacon Vogel on January 2, 2016, spurred him on a winding journey to show gratitude to God for his love. That journey

See **VOGEL**, page 15

## National Eucharistic Pilgrimage journeys begin on Pentecost, inviting torrents of grace on U.S.

LAKE ITASCA, Minn. (OSV News)—An unassuming stream—just 18 feet across—pours forth from Lake Itasca, forming the start of the Mississippi



Bishop Andrew H. Cozzens

River's winding flow down 2,552 miles to the Gulf of Mexico. At this very point among the northern Minnesota pines, Bishop Andrew H. Cozzens held high a golden monstrance on the afternoon of May 19, tracing the sign of the cross over the waters and

the people gathered—a humble gesture pleading for a mighty river of grace to flow for the National Eucharistic Revival.

Here at the start of the waters once blessed and named by the earliest Catholic missionaries as the "River of the Immaculate Conception," the bishop of Crookston, Minn., carrying Jesus in the

See related story, page 2.

Eucharist, turned onto a trail into the woods of Itasca State Park, followed by pilgrims whose hymns and psalms

were punctuated by long periods of meditative silence—and short bursts of rain from the cloudy gray sky.

The Marian Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage had begun at last.

### Marian Route

The May 19 blessing of the Mississippi River headwaters marked the launch of the northern route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, an eight-week journey with the Eucharist from four compass points across the U.S. All routes

See **PILGRIMAGE**, page 7

## Catholic Women's Giving Circle benefits archdiocese, empowers women to lead

By Jennifer Lindberg

Surrounded by more than 65 like-minded Catholic women of the archdiocese, April Sasso made an observation.

"The collective aspect of women is that we operate as a group, and the impact we make as a group is so much bigger than what we can do by ourselves," said the member of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis.

She made the comment at an informational gathering in Indianapolis on April 24 to launch the archdiocese's first-ever

See **CIRCLE**, page 14

Sue Ellspermann, right, president of Ivy Tech Community College in Indianapolis, speaks with women of the archdiocese about women's philanthropy during a gathering at the college launching the archdiocese's Catholic Women's Giving Circle on April 24. (Photo by Jennifer Lindberg)





# Synodality must become ‘paradigm’ for dioceses, pope tells bishops

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—The Catholic Church’s synodal path, the Church-wide listening and dialogue process currently approaching its second assembly in October, must become a model for all Catholic dioceses and parishes, Pope Francis said.

Opening the general assembly of the Italian bishops’ conference in the Vatican synod hall on May 20, the pope spent an hour and a half answering questions posed to him by some 200 bishops on global issues from migration to rising antisemitism, as well as problems within the Church such as falling vocation rates and the merging of dioceses, according to reports by Italian Catholic media.

Bishop Antonio De Luca of Teggiano-Policastro in central Italy told *Avvenire*, the newspaper of the Italian bishops’ conference, that Pope Francis “asked us to encourage the synodal way so that it may become a paradigm in dioceses and parishes.”

During the closed-door meeting, the pope said pastors must approach the current era

of change in society not with sadness but with a renewed energy since the Lord does not abandon his Church, *Avvenire* reported.

The assembly’s primary focus was on the synodal path, particularly its upcoming “prophetic phase” in preparation for the general assembly of the Synod of Bishops in October.

Bishop Mario Toso of Faenza-Modigliana in northern Italy said the recent “*ad limina*” by Italian bishops offered Pope Francis material for reflection regarding the merging of dioceses, a consideration frequently brought up by the bishops in their meeting with the pope. “It is not necessarily the case that this should be the way forward in the future,” he said.

The pope also addressed the issue of seminary restructuring, advocating for regional or interdiocesan seminaries where the number of seminarians is too low to allow for individual diocesan seminaries and to ensure better formation and community life for future priests. †



## Public Schedule of Archbishop Charles C. Thompson

May 26–June 1, 2024

**May 26 – TBD**  
Invocation for the 108th Indianapolis 500, Indianapolis Motor Speedway

**May 28 – 1 p.m.**  
Council of Priests meeting at Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center, Indianapolis

**May 28 – 7 p.m.**  
Confirmation Mass for youths of St. Mary and St. Philip Neri parishes, Indianapolis, at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, Indianapolis

**May 29 – 11:30 a.m.**  
Virtual Catholic Prison Ministries Coalition Advisory Board meeting

**May 29 – 7 p.m.**  
Confirmation Mass for youths of St. Malachy Parish, Brownsburg, at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral

**May 30 – 10 a.m.**  
Leadership Team meeting at Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center

**May 30 – 3 p.m.**  
Finance Council meeting at Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center

**May 31 – 10 a.m.**  
Pre-ordination brunch with transitional deacons, Indianapolis

**June 1 – 10 a.m.**  
Priesthood ordinations at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, Indianapolis

# Plan now for National Eucharistic pilgrimage parish stops and processions in the archdiocese from July 8-16

### Criterion staff report

The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage—originating from eastern, northern, southern and western areas of the United States—began on May 18-19.

Upon entering the archdiocese—anywhere from July 8 (south) to July 14 (north)—each route will include parish stops and processions as outlined below. For more detailed information such as times and activities, visit the link listed at the end of each list or call the parish in question. (Note: Details are subject to change.)

Those who wish to participate in one or more of the processions within the archdiocese might consider registering via the links listed below. Registration is not required, but those who do will receive e-mails with specific route and related information.

All routes end at St. John the Evangelist Church, in Indianapolis, on July 16, in time for a noon Mass celebrated by Archbishop Charles C. Thompson. All are invited to worship at the liturgy.

For more information on the four routes of the national pilgrimage, go to [eucharisticpilgrimage.org](http://eucharisticpilgrimage.org).

### Elizabeth Ann Seton (eastern) Route

Planned stops and eucharistic processions:

- St. John, St. Martin and St. Paul campuses of All Saints Parish, Dearborn County, July 8-10, with processions from St. John to St. Paul and from St. Paul to St. Martin on July 9;
  - St. Vincent and St. Joseph churches, Shelbyville, July 11-12, with a 1-mile procession from St. Joseph to Sunset Park in Shelbyville on July 12;
  - St. Michael Church, Greenfield, July 12-14, with a 1-mile procession around the parish grounds on July 14;
  - Holy Spirit Church, Indianapolis, July 14-15, with a procession to St. Philip Neri Church, Indianapolis, on July 15;
  - St. Philip Neri Church, July 15-16, with a procession to St. John the Evangelist Church, Indianapolis, on July 16.
- For more detailed information, go to [tinyurl.com/NEPEastRoute](http://tinyurl.com/NEPEastRoute) or call each parish.

### Marian (northern) Route

Planned stops and eucharistic processions:

- St. Luke the Evangelist Church, Indianapolis (after a 9-mile procession from Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Carmel, in the Lafayette Diocese), July 14-15, with a procession to St. Joan of Arc Church, Indianapolis, on July 15;

—St. Joan of Arc Church, July 15-16, with a 3-mile pilgrimage to Holy Angels Church, Indianapolis, on July 16;

—Holy Angels Church, July 16, with a 3-mile procession to St. John the Evangelist Church, Indianapolis, on July 16.

For more detailed information, go to [tinyurl.com/NEPNorthRoute](http://tinyurl.com/NEPNorthRoute) or call the parish in question.

### Juan Diego (southern) Route

Planned stops and eucharistic processions:

- Big 4 Park, Jeffersonville, July 9, 6:30 p.m. prayer service with Archbishop Charles C. Thompson, followed by a procession to St. Augustine Church, Jeffersonville;
  - St. Augustine Church, July 9-10, with a procession to St. Mary-of-the-Knobs Church, Floyd County, on July 10;
  - St. Mary-of-the-Knobs Church, July 10-11, with a procession to Mount St. Francis Center for Spirituality, Mt. St. Francis, on July 11;
  - Mount Saint Francis Center for Spirituality, July 11;
  - Our Lady of the Greenwood Church, Greenwood, July 11-12, with a 1-mile procession around the parish grounds on July 12;
  - St. Mark the Evangelist Church, Indianapolis, July 12-14;
  - Good Shepherd Church, Indianapolis, July 14-15;
  - Holy Name of Jesus Church, Beech Grove, July 15, with a 1/2-mile procession in Beech Grove neighborhood;
  - Good Shepherd Church, July 15-16, with a procession to St. John the Evangelist Church, Indianapolis.
- For more detailed information, go to [tinyurl.com/NEPSouthRoute](http://tinyurl.com/NEPSouthRoute) or call the parish in question.

### St. Junipero Serra (western) Route

Planned stops and eucharistic processions:

- St. Patrick Church, Terre Haute, July 12, with a 1 1/2-mile procession to St. Joseph University Church, Terre Haute;
  - St. Joseph University Church, Terre Haute, July 12-13;
  - Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Terre Haute, July 14, with a procession around the parish grounds;
  - St. Susanna Church, Plainfield, July 15, with a 9-mile procession to St. Joseph Church, Indianapolis;
  - St. Joseph Church, Indianapolis, July 15, with a 4-mile procession to St. Anthony Church, Indianapolis;
  - St. Anthony Church, July 15-16, with a procession to St. John the Evangelist Church, Indianapolis, on July 16.
- For more detailed information, go to [tinyurl.com/NEPWestRoute](http://tinyurl.com/NEPWestRoute) or call the parish in question. †



**NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS WEEKLY UPDATE**



### Phone Numbers:

Main office..... 317-236-1570  
Advertising..... 317-236-1585  
Circulation / Subscriptions ... 317-236-1425

**Price:** \$22.00 per year, 75 cents per copy

**Postmaster:**  
Send address changes to *The Criterion*,  
1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367

**Web site :** [www.CriterionOnline.com](http://www.CriterionOnline.com)

**E-mail:** [criterion@archindy.org](mailto:criterion@archindy.org)

Published weekly except the last week of December, the first week of January and every other week from June to August (*summer schedule*). Mailing address: 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367. Periodical postage paid at Indianapolis, IN.  
Copyright © 2023 Criterion Press Inc. ISSN 0574-4350.

### NEWS FROM YOU!

Do you have something exciting or newsworthy you want to be considered to be printed in *The Criterion*?

E-mail us:  
[criterion@archindy.org](mailto:criterion@archindy.org)

### Staff:

Editor: Mike Krokos  
Assistant Editor: John Shaughnessy  
Reporter: Sean Gallagher  
Reporter: Natalie Hoefer  
Graphic Designer / Online Editor: Brandon A. Evans  
Executive Assistant: Ann Lewis



*The Criterion* (ISSN 0574-4350) is published weekly except the last week of December, the first week of January and every other week from June-Aug.

1400 N. Meridian St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46202  
317-236-1570  
[criterion@archindy.org](mailto:criterion@archindy.org)

Periodical postage paid at Indianapolis, IN.  
Copyright © 2024

Criterion Press Inc.

**POSTMASTER:**  
Send address changes to:  
Criterion Press Inc.  
1400 N. Meridian St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46202



05/24/24

### Moving?

We'll be there waiting if you give us two weeks' notice!  
Use the form below or at [archindy.org/moving](http://archindy.org/moving).

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
New Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
New Parish \_\_\_\_\_  
Effective Date \_\_\_\_\_

Note: If you are receiving duplicate copies please send both labels.

*The Criterion* • 1400 N. Meridian St. • Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367



# Powerful stories show how St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities excels at 'being there'

By Natalie Hoefler

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—The list of what it takes to help women, children, families and adults with developmental delays is extensive.

But Mark Casper summed it up in two words: "Being there."

"You have to *be there* to be there to help," said the agency director of St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities (SECC) in New Albany during the organization's annual Giving Hope-Changing Lives Gala held in Louisville on April 18.

SECC gives hope and changes lives by "being there" through eight programs that range from housing women in need to helping adults with developmental delays live fuller lives and more.

Three of those programs were highlighted by powerful witness stories shared that evening with the gala's nearly 600 attendees.

### 'You will always feel like our home'

One couple shared how adopting through the agency's Adoption Bridges of Kentuckiana brought them "our sweet Elanore."

"With every negative pregnancy test," the future family Clarissa and Wade Thaxton pictured "faded more and more," said Clarissa.

After researching different adoption agencies, the couple chose St. Elizabeth's Adoption Bridges of Kentuckiana.

"At their orientation, we had learned about the many other services [St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities] provided, and this was huge," said Wade. "We were so encouraged to hear that they truly cared for and provided support with much-needed resources for the families in their care. This wasn't an adoption agency—this was a place of refuge."

Then there's Monica Bottorff. She spoke of the benefits of the agency's supported living program for her 23-year-old daughter Abbie, whose lifetime of issues with epilepsy and seizures has left her developmentally delayed.

Participating in the program's activities "allows her social connections and interactions by engaging in conversation with the volunteers and guests.

"It also enables her to learn new skills, follow directions and walk away feeling proud of the project she just completed. ...

"The togetherness, social interaction, education and engagement are all things that Abbie can get from the services she receives through the supported living program at St. Elizabeth's."

Abbie's parting smiles and waves brought the applauding crowd to their feet.

The next speaker also received a



Clarissa and Wade Thaxton smile at their daughter Elanore, whom they adopted through St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities' Adoption Bridges of Kentuckiana in New Albany, during their talk at St. Elizabeth's Giving Hope-Changing Lives gala on April 18 in Louisville, Ky. The Thaxton's son Wesley stands at right. (Photos by Natalie Hoefler)

standing ovation—a young, single mother of two who overcame tremendous challenges with the help of SECC.

In 2019, "I left an unsafe situation with my two boys, who were 11 months and 2 years old at the time," said Dorcas Marrero.

They moved into SECC's women and children's emergency shelter, where she "received the validation I needed but was so deprived of at the time," and

"visits from so many volunteers and precious people. ... It was like receiving a visitation from heavenly hosts."

She and her children next moved into one of the agency's affordable supported housing units. With support from her SECC caseworkers, Marrero found employment in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

See SECC, page 14



This photo was displayed as Monica Bottorff spoke at the St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities gala on April 18 of her appreciation for the help the New Albany agency's supported living program gives her daughter Abbie, pictured at left with her nurse Hannah House at an annual holiday party the agency holds for supported living clients.

## Shelby Upholstering & Mill End Window Fashions

**90**  
Years of  
service

Family Owned & Operated Since 1932.  
"The pride and economy of our family working together makes a difference."

### Experts in Commercial & Residential Projects

- Carpet Sales & Installation • Wood Refinishing
- Custom Window Treatments Including Blinds
- Interior Painting
- All Customized to Fit Your Taste

**3136 W. 16th Street**  
Check out our website  
[shelbyupholstering.com](http://shelbyupholstering.com)

*Upholstering*  
317-631-8911

*Mill End Window Fashions*  
317-257-4800

**Trusted & Compassionate Care**  
(317) 255-5700 [www.HuserSpecialCare.com](http://www.HuserSpecialCare.com)

**Serving Individuals with Developmental Disabilities & Autism**

- Family-owned and operated – Kathy and Terry Huser
- Medicaid Waiver Provider (CIH & Family Supports)
- Residential, Community, Respite and PAC Services
- In client residence, family home, community or supported living
- Staff carefully screened and trained to meet client-specific needs
- Support with social skills, daily living, communication, personal-care, community living, and activities

**Full-time and Part-time Employment Opportunities Available**

- Must be compassionate, caring, dependable and trustworthy
- Comprehensive training program provided
- Flexible work hours with competitive pay
- Apply on-line @ [www.HuserSpecialCare.com](http://www.HuserSpecialCare.com) "Our Team" tab

## "Heating - Heat Pump - Air Conditioner"

Our staff has over 76 years of Catholic Education

# 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sale

140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sale

### FREE LABOR

On the installation of a FURNACE, HEAT PUMP OR AIR CONDITIONER  
Cannot be combined with any other offer. Must be presented at time of order. EXPIRES: 06/07/24  
THIELE 639-1111

## CALL TODAY!

# 639-1111

Still Locally Owned & Operated  
[WWW.CALLTHIELE.COM](http://WWW.CALLTHIELE.COM)

140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sale

### 1/2 OFF SERVICE CALL

Save \$45 with Paid Repair  
Cannot be combined with any other offer. Must be presented at time of service. EXPIRES: 06/07/24 M-F 8-4  
THIELE 639-1111

140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sale

### FREE 10 YEAR WARRANTY ON PARTS & LABOR

90% Furnace, Heat Pump or High Efficiency Air Conditioner.  
Cannot be combined with any other offer. Must be presented at time of order. EXPIRES: 06/07/24  
THIELE 639-1111

SERVING CENTRAL INDIANA

SINCE 1883

18-6987722





Archbishop Charles C. Thompson, *Publisher*  
Mike Krokos, *Editor*

John F. Fink, *Editor Emeritus*

## Editorial



Harrison Butker, kicker for the Super Bowl LVIII champion Kansas City Chiefs, delivers the May 11 commencement address at Benedictine College in Atchison, Kan. (OSV News photo/Todd Nugent, courtesy Benedictine College)

# NFL player's countercultural message at graduation speaks to heart of our vocations

While many have been critical of the commencement address that Kansas City Chiefs' kicker Harrison Butker delivered on May 11 at Benedictine College, a private Catholic school in Atchison, Kan., as people of faith we would do well to read it in its entirety or watch the 20-minute speech.

His address—as Butker admitted—was countercultural to the worldview so many in society have gotten used to hearing and, in many cases, supporting. While not all readers will agree with everything he shared, his message is worth reflecting upon in thought and prayer because he addresses several important, and we believe, timely topics.

A devout Catholic, the football player was vocal about the issue of gender identity in society. He also shared his strong pro-life values, among other things.

“Bad policies and poor leadership have negatively impacted major life issues. Things like abortion, IVF [*in vitro* fertilization], surrogacy, euthanasia as well as a growing support for degenerate cultural values in media, all stem from the pervasiveness of disorder,” Butker said.

His criticism didn't end there.

He called out President Joe Biden, a Catholic, for his support of abortion rights, saying, “He has been so vocal in his support for the murder of innocent babies that I'm sure to many people it appears that you can be both Catholic and pro-choice.”

Butker also criticized Church leaders, saying some bishops and priests seek personal comfort and security instead of unequivocally teaching the truths of our faith.

Still, it was the kicker's words to the females in the graduating class that caused most of the firestorm on social media and via other outlets—because he said a woman's vocation as a wife and mother will be their most important role in life.

Many were critical of his words, including *USA Today*, which said his message was “... telling women to get back in the kitchen.” Reading his words paints a much different picture.

“How many of you are sitting here now about to cross this stage and are thinking about all the promotions and titles you are going to get in your career?” Butker asked the women.

“Some of you may go on to lead successful careers in the world, but I

would venture to guess that the majority of you are most excited about your marriage and the children you will bring into this world.

“I can tell you that my beautiful wife Isabelle would be the first to say that her life truly started when she began living her vocation as a wife and as a mother,” he noted.

Fighting back tears, Butker continued, “I'm on the stage today and able to be the man I am because I have a wife who leans into her vocation. I'm beyond blessed with the many talents God has given me, but it cannot be overstated that all of my success is made possible because a girl I met in band class back in middle school would convert to the faith, become my wife and embrace one of the most important titles of all: homemaker.”

But the NFL player said his wife is much more than that.

“She is a primary educator to our children. She is the one who ensures I never let football or my business become a distraction from that of a husband and father,” Butker said. “She is the person that knows me best at my core, and it is through our marriage that, Lord willing, we will both attain salvation.”

Butler also had a message for the men of Benedictine's graduating class. Encouraging them to embrace their faith and their vocations as husbands and fathers, he told them, “... part of what plagues our society is this lie that's been told to you that men are not necessary in the home or in our communities.

“Be unapologetic in your masculinity. Fight against the cultural emasculation of men. Do hard things. Never settle for what is easy,” Butker said.

The kicker's message is indeed countercultural to many who have heard it, but we pray it leads all of us to reflect where we are on our pilgrimage of faith.

Our primary vocations are to get those we love—whether they be a spouse, children or our extended family—into heaven and to strive to be saints.

Those challenges are as great as ever. “Make no mistake: You are entering into mission territory in a post-God world, but you were made for this,” Butker said. “And with God by your side and a constant striving for virtue within your vocation, you too can be a saint.”

—Mike Krokos

Sight Unseen/Brandon A. Evans

## The secret language of God

“I shall also give a white amulet, upon which is inscribed a new name, which no one knows except the one who receives it” (Rv 2:17)

This quote from the Book of Revelation hints to us the possibility that God will give those who have risen with Christ a new name—a name previously unknown to them.

It's wild, and a little scary, to think that what we've been called our whole lives will one day be transcended by something which describes us *perfectly*;

something that we've longed to hear all these decades without even knowing it.

But the second part of that passage is equally mystifying: that our name will be unknown to *anyone else*.

A name solely kept between the one who is named and the one who names.

It shows an intimacy in our relationship with God—a way in which we are each bound to him differently than anyone else. And I think it gives us a clue about how he speaks to us in this present world.

I've wished and prayed so many times to be able to see and hear Jesus as the disciples did, or as the saints have experienced in extraordinary visions. But I haven't, not because he isn't there but because it's not the best way *for me* to know him.

God speaks to me in a way that he doesn't to anyone else. A way that is unique, and that can be explained only vaguely.

It's a pattern only I can sense, that only I can discern. Clues and connections that the world passes by unnoticed; paths that appear at each step; pages that turn to words which light up a fire in the imagination.

It's inspiration, tied to coincidence, tied

to symbol. It flows around perfectly—almost sings—in a wonderful and unexpected harmony.

It's our secret language, God and me. Not a secret that divides, but that binds in love.

His whisper in my mind is the answer to the deep prayers of my heart, although it came only after a long, long time of wondering if God was merely a truth blindly accepted, or a silence that must be stoically borne, or worst of all, that he was only and all along just my own voice inside my head.

It breaks my doubts in the only way they could be broken, because his is a language that only one who is greater, wiser and has a knowledge of the future and control of the world would be able to fashion.

“I tell everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than one ought to think,” St. Paul writes. “We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us” (Rom 12:3, 6).

That's the same passage in which Paul reminds us that we are one body with different parts. My part is superior *only to me*. Your part is superior *only to you*. Arrogance and jealousy are not so much sins as they are a waste of time. We are each called to something that only we can do, and no one else.

And likewise, we all hear God differently. To each—when that language is found—it fits so well we wish everyone could hear it. But the song is only meant for one person.

We don't yet hear him all the time—or even most of the time—as we will in the life to come. But when he chooses to speak, your soul will know the call instantly.

Kind of like hearing your name.

(*Sight Unseen is an occasional column that explores God and the world. Brandon A. Evans is the online editor and graphic designer of The Criterion and a member of St. Susanna Parish in Plainfield.*) †

Be Our Guest/Effie Calderola

## Finding gratitude in what is given

One morning, I was half-listening to National Public Radio as I quickly prepared for an appointment. Into the shower, grab the coffee, find the toothbrush and in the midst of this, bits and pieces of the day's news.

Then, “StoryCorps” was playing. An independent nonprofit, StoryCorps exists to let people tell their stories. According to its website, since 2003, they've helped “nearly 700,000 people across the country have meaningful conversations about their lives.” These stories are housed in the U.S. Library of Congress.

The people who tell their stories are ordinary people, if any child of God on this earthly pilgrimage qualifies as “ordinary.”

My ears perked up when I realized the family talking was journeying through the terminal illness of the family's husband and father, who we learned at the end had died shortly after the recording was made.

His wife remarked that people would tell her they were hoping for a miracle. She resisted this, because she said, “My whole life has been a miracle,” referencing her relationship with this man she loved.

That line captured my attention, and her comment infiltrated my whole day. I saw in her words the spirituality of gratitude.

Because true gratitude, a very deep well, is profoundly spiritual.

Sometimes in our contemporary culture, gratitude is portrayed as just another self-help scheme. You'll be happier if you focus

on thankfulness. At Thanksgiving, we enumerate our “thanks” at grace. We focus on family, success, “stuff.” Our culture tempts us to glide over the richness and depth of real gratitude and to feel thankful for material things and the completion of our ambitions.

Years ago, I belonged to a Jesuit parish on a university campus. Our beloved young pastor, Jesuit Father Pat Malone, was quite ill. Because of treatments that had negatively affected his immune system, the day came when he could no longer celebrate Mass for us. I will never forget a Sunday morning, walking down the sidewalk to Mass, when we saw Father Malone, standing on the hill above us, alone outside the Jesuit residence, where he could wave good morning but keep a safe distance.

It wasn't long before he died, but in my memory, he stands there still, a solitary figure wanting to be one with his flock. After his death, a compilation of his writings and homilies was published.

There was one line that I have carried with me ever since: “It is gratitude that ultimately asks one thing, but at a great price: fall extravagantly in love with what is given.”

Twenty-one words I've pondered. It is one thing to be thankful for a good test result, the pay raise, the healthy baby. It's another to find gratitude in the hard things, the standing alone in illness and being able to appreciate the miracle therein.

What a great gift and challenge it is to fall extravagantly in love with that which is given.

(*Effie Calderola is a wife, mom and grandmother who received her master's degree in pastoral studies from Seattle University.*) †



ARCHBISHOP/ARZOBISPO CHARLES C. THOMPSON



# Christ the Cornerstone

## Trinity Sunday celebrates the closeness of God to us

*“The mystery of the Most Holy Trinity is the central mystery of Christian faith and life. It is the mystery of God in himself. It is therefore the source of all the other mysteries of faith, the light that enlightens them” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, #234).*

This weekend, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity (Trinity Sunday). This important feast should not be an occasion for expounding on the complex doctrinal questions about the Trinity. Instead, we should take this opportunity to reflect on the simple truth of God’s closeness to his creation and, especially, to each of us who have been made in God’s image and likeness.

Our God has revealed himself to us through both our native intelligence (reason) and his word (revelation). We know a lot of important things about God from these two sources. Here are some of the significant things that we know about God:

First, God is one. There are not many gods, but one true God. As we will hear in the first reading, “This is why you must now know, and fix in your heart, that the Lord is God in the

heavens above and on Earth below, and that there is no other. You must keep his statutes and commandments that I enjoin on you today, that you and your children after you may prosper, and that you may have long life on the land which the Lord, your God, is giving you forever” (Dt 4:32-34, 39-40).

We are tempted to worship many false gods under the guise of fame and fortune, wealth and social status, romantic infatuation or heroic idolization. None of these things are God—no matter what we are encouraged to believe. There is only one God as he has disclosed himself to us in the person of Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Second, as the last sentence indicates, God is three persons in one God. The great mystery that we celebrate this weekend is that God is authentic unity-in-diversity.

St. Paul gives witness to this powerful truth in Sunday’s second reading when he says:

*For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a Spirit of adoption, through whom we cry, “Abba, Father!” The Spirit himself bears witness with our*

*spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. (Rom 8:15-17)*

God is “Abba,” our Father, and we are all his children. God is also “Son,” our brother—like us in all things but sin. Finally, God is the Holy Spirit who bears witness to the truth and who works unceasingly to keep us united with our triune God and with one another.

Third, God is close to us. The great commission given to the disciples at the time of our Lord’s ascension into heaven assures us that our God is not absent, uncaring, or far away from us in the heavenly heights. God is closer to us than we are to ourselves, and he has entrusted us with a serious responsibility to proclaim to the whole world that he is with us—now and always.

As we read in St. Matthew’s Gospel:

*All power in heaven and on Earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that*

*I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age. (Mt 28:18-20)*

Yes, the triune God is a mystery that none of us can ever completely comprehend, but this should not prevent us from coming closer to our God in prayer and the sacraments, in meditation on his word, and in communion with him in service to all our sisters and brothers. We can grow in our understanding of this divine mystery by our personal spiritual growth and by our communal participation in the self-sacrificing love that comes from God alone.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches us that “the whole history of salvation is identical with the history of the way and the means by which the one true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, reveals himself to men and reconciles and unites with himself those who turn away from sin” (#234).

Let’s take advantage of this Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity to draw closer to the One-in-Three who created us, who loves us, and who invites us to be his missionary disciples. †



# Cristo, la piedra angular

## El Domingo de la Santísima Trinidad celebra la cercanía de Dios

*“El misterio de la Santísima Trinidad es el misterio central de la fe y de la vida cristiana. Es el misterio de Dios en sí mismo. Es, pues, la fuente de todos los otros misterios de la fe; es la luz que los ilumina” (Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica, #234).*

Este domingo celebramos la solemnidad de la Santísima Trinidad (Domingo de la Santísima Trinidad). Esta importante fiesta no debe ser una ocasión para exponer las complejas cuestiones doctrinales sobre la Trinidad. Más bien, deberíamos aprovecharla para reflexionar sobre la sencilla verdad de la cercanía de Dios con su creación y, especialmente, con cada uno de nosotros que hemos sido hechos a su imagen y semejanza.

Nuestro Dios se nos ha revelado tanto a través de nuestra inteligencia nativa (la razón) como de su Palabra (la revelación). A partir de estas dos fuentes sabemos muchas cosas importantes sobre Dios. He aquí algunas de las más significativas:

En primer lugar, que Dios es uno. No hay muchos dioses, sino un solo Dios verdadero. Tal como escuchamos en la primera lectura “Aprende y reflexiona hoy en tu corazón que el Señor es Dios, lo

mismo arriba en el cielo que abajo en la tierra, y que no hay otro Dios. Cumple con sus estatutos y sus mandamientos, los cuales hoy te ordeno cumplir, para que te vaya bien, a ti y a tus hijos después de ti, y prolongues tus días sobre la tierra que el Señor tu Dios te da para siempre” (Dt 4:32-34, 39-40).

Tenemos la tentación de adorar a muchos dioses falsos bajo el disfraz de la fama y la fortuna, la riqueza y el estatus social, el enamoramiento o la idolatría heroica. Ninguna de estas cosas es Dios, por mucho que nos lo quieran hacer creer. Solo hay un Dios tal y como se nos ha revelado en la persona de Jesucristo por el poder del Espíritu Santo.

En segundo lugar, como indica la última frase, Dios es tres personas en un solo Dios. El gran misterio que celebramos este fin de semana es que Dios es auténtica unidad en la diversidad.

San Pablo da testimonio de esta poderosa verdad en la segunda lectura del domingo cuando dice:

*Pues ustedes no han recibido un espíritu que los esclavice nuevamente al miedo, sino que han recibido el espíritu de adopción, por el cual clamamos: ¡Abba, Padre! El Espíritu mismo da testimonio a nuestro espíritu, de que somos hijos*

*de Dios. Y si somos hijos, somos también herederos; herederos de Dios y coherederos con Cristo, si es que padecemos juntamente con él, para que juntamente con él seamos glorificados. (Rom 8:15-17)*

Dios es *Abba*, nuestro Padre, y todos somos sus hijos. Dios también es “Hijo,” nuestro hermano, igual a nosotros en todo menos en el pecado. Por último, Dios es el Espíritu Santo que da testimonio de la verdad y que trabaja sin cesar para mantenernos unidos a nuestro Dios trino y entre nosotros.

Tercero, Dios está cerca de nosotros. La gran obra que encomendó nuestro Señor a los discípulos al momento de su ascensión a los cielos nos asegura que nuestro Dios no está ausente, indiferente o lejos de nosotros en las alturas celestiales. Dios está más cerca de nosotros que nosotros mismos, y nos ha confiado la enorme responsabilidad de proclamar al mundo entero que está con nosotros, ahora y siempre.

Como leemos en el Evangelio según san Mateo:

*Toda autoridad me ha sido dada en el cielo y en la tierra. Por tanto, vayan y hagan discípulos en todas las naciones, y bautícenlos en el nombre del Padre, y del Hijo, y del*

*Espíritu Santo. Enséñenles a cumplir todas las cosas que les he mandado. Y yo estaré con ustedes todos los días, hasta el fin del mundo. (Mt 28:18-20)*

En efecto, el Dios trino es un misterio que ninguno de nosotros podrá jamás comprender por completo, pero esto no debe impedirnos acercarnos a nuestro Dios en la oración y los sacramentos, en la meditación de su Palabra y en la comunión con él en el servicio a todos nuestros hermanos y hermanas. Podemos crecer en nuestra comprensión de este misterio divino mediante nuestro crecimiento espiritual personal y nuestra participación colectiva en el amor abnegado que solamente procede de Dios.

El *Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica* nos enseña que “Toda la historia de la salvación no es otra cosa que la historia del camino y los medios por los cuales el Dios verdadero y único, Padre, Hijo y Espíritu Santo, se revela a los hombres, los aparta del pecado y los reconcilia y une consigo” (#234).

Aprovechemos esta solemnidad de la Santísima Trinidad para acercarnos al Dios trino que nos creó, que nos ama y que nos invita a ser sus discípulos misioneros. †



# Events Calendar

For a list of events for the next four weeks as reported to The Criterion, log on to [www.archindy.org/events](http://www.archindy.org/events).

## May 27

Calvary Mausoleum Chapel, 435 W. Troy Ave., Indianapolis. **Memorial Day Mass**, noon. Information: 317-784-4439, [catholiccemeteries.cc](http://catholiccemeteries.cc).

Our Lady of Peace Cemetery and Mausoleum, 9001 Haverstick Road, Indianapolis. **Memorial Day Mass**, 11 a.m. Information: 317-574-8898, [catholiccemeteries.cc](http://catholiccemeteries.cc).

## May 30

St. Joan of Arc Parish, 4217 Central Ave., Indianapolis. **Cor Jesu**, 7-8 p.m., night of communal prayer, adoration, Benediction and fellowship, free. Information: [megt2014@gmail.com](mailto:megt2014@gmail.com).

## June-July 2024

CYO Camp Rancho Framasa, 2230 N. Clay Lick Road, Nashville **Summer Camps for Youths**, ages 7-18, fees range \$130-\$815. Information, registration: [campranchoframasa.org](http://campranchoframasa.org), 812-988-2839, [info@campranchoframasa.org](mailto:info@campranchoframasa.org).

## June 1

St. Monica Parish parking lot, 6131 Michigan Road, Indianapolis. **St. Vincent de Paul Stuff A Truck**, 9-11 a.m., accepting clothing,

household goods and linens (all in closed bags), furniture, bicycles, bicycle helmets and locks, backpacks. List of items most needed: [cutt.ly/ItemsNeeded](http://cutt.ly/ItemsNeeded). Information: [dsweeney@svdpindy.org](mailto:dsweeney@svdpindy.org).

## June 3-7, June 17-21

Mount St. Francis Center for Spirituality, 101 St. Anthony Dr., Mt. St. Francis. **Art and Science Camps**, ages 7-11, 9 a.m.-noon Art and Nature Camp, \$175; 1-4 p.m. Science and Nature Camp, \$175; both camps, \$325. Information and registration: 812-923-8817, [mountsaintfrancis.org/kids-summer-camp](http://mountsaintfrancis.org/kids-summer-camp).

## June 4, 5, 6

Providence Spirituality and Conference Center, 1 Sisters of Providence, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, St. Mary-of-the-Woods. **Teen Volunteering Opportunity**, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., ages 12-18, teens may volunteer one, two or three days with healthcare residents. Information, registration: 361-500-9505, [jluna@spsmw.org](mailto:jluna@spsmw.org), [TeenVolunteer.SistersofProvidence.org](http://TeenVolunteer.SistersofProvidence.org).

## June 6

Lanesville Knights of Columbus, St. John Paul II

Council #1808 building, 8104 SR 62, Lanesville. **Theology on Tap**, 6-8 p.m., ages 21 and older, Thursdays in June, first of four stand-alone sessions (June 13, 20, 27), missionary Meg Hunter-Kilmer presenting "How the Eucharist Makes Saints," \$70 for four sessions until June 6, \$20 per session if register by Sunday before event, \$25 after and for walk-ins. Information, registration: [catalystcatholic.org/tot](http://catalystcatholic.org/tot), 812-923-8355, [kelli@catalystcatholic.org](mailto:kelli@catalystcatholic.org).

## June 7

**Monthly Prayer with Sisters of Providence: "Prayer on gun violence awareness,"** for single Catholic women ages 18-42, via Zoom, 7-7:45 p.m., seventh day of each month. Information, registration: [Events.SistersofProvidence.org](http://Events.SistersofProvidence.org), 361-500-9505, [jluna@spsmw.org](mailto:jluna@spsmw.org).

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

Our Lady of the Greenwood Church, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. **First Friday bilingual celebration of**

**the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus**, Mass 6 p.m. followed by adoration until 9 p.m., sacrament of reconciliation available. Information: 317-750-7309, [msross1@hotmail.com](mailto:msross1@hotmail.com).

St. John Paul II Church, 2253 St. Joe Road W., Sellersburg. **First Friday Devotion**, 11:40 a.m., litany, consecration to the Sacred Heart, Divine Mercy Chaplet followed by noon Mass. Information: 812-246-2512.

## June 8

St. John Paul II Church, 2253 St. Joe Road W., Sellersburg. **First Saturday Devotion**, 8 a.m., rosary, litany, consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, confession 8-8:30 a.m. followed by 8:30 a.m. Mass. Information: 812-246-2512.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 2322 N. 13½ St., Terre Haute. **100th Anniversary Mass**, 4:30 p.m., Archbishop Charles C. Thompson celebrant, free. Information: 812-466-1231, [barb@shjth.org](mailto:barb@shjth.org).

MCL Banquet Center, 3 Meadows Lane, Terre Haute. **Sacred Heart of Jesus Church 100th Anniversary**

**Dinner**, 6 p.m. doors open, 6:30 p.m. dinner served, \$25, register by June 2. Information, registration: 812-466-1231, [barb@shjth.org](mailto:barb@shjth.org), [shjth.org/shjth.org/100th-anniversary.html](http://shjth.org/shjth.org/100th-anniversary.html).

## June 10

Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, Madonna Hall, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. **Confraternity of Christian Mothers**, 6 p.m. Mass followed by meeting, for all Catholic women whether a parent or not, free. Information: 217-638-7433, [paulabeechler@gmail.com](mailto:paulabeechler@gmail.com).

## June 11

Church of the Immaculate Conception, 1 Sisters of Providence, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, St. Mary-of-the-Woods. **Taizé Prayer at the Woods**, 7-8 p.m., silent and spoken prayers, simple music, silence, virtual option available. Information: [Taize.SistersofProvidence.org](http://Taize.SistersofProvidence.org), 812-535-2952.

## June 12

McGowan Hall, 1305 N. Delaware St., Indianapolis. **Theology on Tap**, 6-9 p.m., speaker TBA, for ages 18-39, includes presentation, full bar, food trucks and

socializing, free admission. Information: 317-592-4006, [emastronicola@archindy.org](mailto:emastronicola@archindy.org).

## June 13

Lanesville Knights of Columbus, St. John Paul II Council #1808 building, 8104 SR 62, Lanesville. **Theology on Tap**, 6-8 p.m., ages 21 and older, second of four stand-alone sessions (June 20, 27), Jason Shanks, National Eucharistic Congress board treasurer and Our Sunday Visitor Institute president, presenting "Miracle Man," \$20 if register by June 9, \$25 after and for walk-ins. Information, registration: [catalystcatholic.org/tot](http://catalystcatholic.org/tot), 812-923-8355, [kelli@catalystcatholic.org](mailto:kelli@catalystcatholic.org).

## June 15

New Albany Knights of Columbus, Cardinal Ritter Council #1221 building, 809 E. Main St., New Albany. **Let Us Shine Gala**, 5-10 p.m., 5 p.m. social hour, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Down syndrome motivational speaker Mark Hublar presenting, benefitting Knights of Columbus programs, 50/50 drawing, bourbon raffle, \$40 individual, \$300 table of eight. Information, ticket purchase: 812-987-8350, [brknightgb@yahoo.com](mailto:brknightgb@yahoo.com). †

## Retreats and Programs

For a complete list of retreats as reported to The Criterion, log on to [www.archindy.org/retreats](http://www.archindy.org/retreats).

## June 7

Oldenburg Franciscan Center, 22143 Main St., Oldenburg. **A Day of Quiet Renewal**, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., \$20, \$80 with spiritual direction. Information, registration: 812-933-6437, [oldenburgfranciscancenter.org](http://oldenburgfranciscancenter.org).

## June 9

Oldenburg Franciscan Center, 22143 Main St., Oldenburg. **Coffee Talks: "Pope Francis, Spirituality in the Face of Adversity,"** 10:45 a.m.-noon, Franciscan Center associate co-director Jane Schaefer presenting, freewill donation. Information, registration: 812-933-6437, [oldenburgfranciscancenter.org](http://oldenburgfranciscancenter.org).

## June 10-15

Mount St. Francis Center for Spirituality, 101 St. Anthony Dr., Mt. St. Francis. **Quilters Retreat**, 9 a.m. Mon.-11 a.m. Fri., includes guest speaker and quilting essentials; accommodations and meals: \$575 five nights, \$475 four nights, \$375 three nights, commuter \$200, pay as you go option \$100 a day. Information, registration: [retreatcommunications@mountsaintfrancis.org](mailto:retreatcommunications@mountsaintfrancis.org), 812-923-8817, [mountsaintfrancis.org/quilters-retreat-1](http://mountsaintfrancis.org/quilters-retreat-1).

## June 11

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. **Day of Reflection: Mother Teresa ... Faithful Disciple**, 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Father James Farrell presenting, includes lunch and Mass, \$45. Registration: [archindy.org/fatima-events](http://archindy.org/fatima-events), 317-545-7681, [lcoons@archindy.org](mailto:lcoons@archindy.org).

## June 12

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. **Evening of Reflection: Mother Teresa ... Faithful Disciple**, 5-9 p.m., Father James Farrell presenting, includes dinner and Mass, \$45. Registration: [archindy.org/fatima-events](http://archindy.org/fatima-events), 317-545-7681, [lcoons@archindy.org](mailto:lcoons@archindy.org).

## June 13, July 10

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. **Day of Silence**, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., \$45, includes room, lunch, Mass and use of common areas and grounds, overnight stay available for additional \$32, dinner additional \$11. Registration: [archindy.org/fatima-events](http://archindy.org/fatima-events), 317-545-7681, [lcoons@archindy.org](mailto:lcoons@archindy.org).

## June 14-16

Saint Meinrad Archabbey Guesthouse, 200 Hill Dr., St. Meinrad. **In Sickness and in Health: Prayer, Covenant, and Healing**, Benedictine Father Lorenzo Penalosa presenting, \$300 single, \$425 double. Registration: 812-357-6611, [saintmeinrad.org/retreats](http://saintmeinrad.org/retreats).

## June 19

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. **Divine Wine and Mandala Art**, 5-9 p.m., trained art therapist and art teacher Kristin Scifres presenting, includes snacks, beverages, art supplies, \$45. Registration: [archindy.org/fatima-events](http://archindy.org/fatima-events), 317-545-7681, [lcoons@archindy.org](mailto:lcoons@archindy.org).

## June 21-23, 21-25, 21-28

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. **Three-, five- or eight-day Silent Directed Retreat in the Ignatian Tradition**, includes private room, meals, daily spiritual direction; June 21-23, \$265; June 21-25, \$425; June 21-28, \$595. Registration: [archindy.org/fatima-events](http://archindy.org/fatima-events), 317-545-7681, [lcoons@archindy.org](mailto:lcoons@archindy.org).

## June 22

Oldenburg Franciscan Center, 22143 Main St., Oldenburg. **The Creative Process: The Sound of Paper**, 9:30-11:30 a.m., artist Carolyn Stewart presenting, art supplies provided, participants encouraged to bring images that inspire, beginners welcome, \$30, \$45 with CEUs. Information, registration: 812-933-6437, [oldenburgfranciscancenter.org](http://oldenburgfranciscancenter.org).

## June 28-30

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. **TOBIT Marriage Preparation Weekend**, 7 p.m. Fri.-11:45 a.m. Sun., \$298 per couple, separate rooms, includes meals and materials. Registration: [archindy.org/fatima-events](http://archindy.org/fatima-events), 317-545-7681, [lcoons@archindy.org](mailto:lcoons@archindy.org).

## July 12-14

Saint Meinrad Archabbey Guesthouse, 200 Hill Dr., St. Meinrad. **A Step 11 Retreat for Recovering Alcoholics and Alanons: Conscious Contact**, Kathleen McCauley presenting, \$300 single, \$425 double. Registration: 812-357-6611, [saintmeinrad.org/retreats](http://saintmeinrad.org/retreats). †

## Wedding Anniversaries

**EDWARD AND ROWENA (GUNTHER) HOEHN**, members of St. Joseph Parish in Corydon, will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on June 13.

The couple was married in St. Joseph Church in Corydon on June 13, 1964.

They have five children: Diane Owen, Matthew, Michael and Russell Hoehn and the late Susan Book.

The couple also has 13 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.



**BOB AND BETTY (HODAPP) FISSE**, members of St. Mary Parish in Greensburg, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on May 25.

The couple was married in St. Mary Church in Greensburg on May 25, 1974.

They have three children: Angie Maloney, Andy and Dave Fisse.

The couple also has nine grandchildren.



**JAMES ("CHRIS") AND SHEILA (CONERTY) KAUFMAN**, members of Christ the King Parish in Indianapolis, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on June 1.

The couple was married in St. John the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis on June 1, 1974.

They have three children: Cassandra Dorsey, James, Jr., and Michael Kaufman.

The couple also has 11 grandchildren.



**ROCKY AND CONNIE (RECEVEUR) MEFFORD**, members of St. Mary Parish in Navilleton, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on June 1.

The couple was married in St. Mary-of-the-Knobs Church in Floyd County on June 1, 1974.

They have three children: Amy Shaffer, Daniel and Justin Mefford.

The couple also has seven grandchildren.



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



# PILGRIMAGE

continued from page 1

began their treks on May 18-19, Pentecost weekend, with the other three routes starting from Brownsville, Texas; New Haven, Conn.; and San Francisco.

The pilgrimage is part of the National Eucharistic Revival, a three-year initiative launched in 2022 by the U.S. bishops to inspire a deeper love and reverence for Jesus in the Eucharist, after a Pew Research Center survey found only one-third of U.S. Catholics believed the Church's teaching of Jesus being truly present in the Eucharist.

From these four directions, the pilgrimage routes trace what organizers call "a sign of the cross over the nation" as pilgrims traverse a combined 6,500 miles across 27 states and 65 dioceses, through small towns, large cities and rural countryside—often on foot, always with the Eucharist—until they converge in Indianapolis for the July 17-21 National Eucharistic Congress.

"Brothers and sisters, the revival has to begin with you and me, and has to begin with our repentance, humbling ourselves, turning from our sin," Bishop Cozzens, who chairs the board of the National Eucharistic Congress Inc., which is responsible for overseeing the congress in Indianapolis, told an estimated 2,500 people gathered for an outdoor Pentecost Mass held in a field near the state park's entrance just prior to the headwaters' blessing.

He encouraged them to seek to receive the Eucharist worthily through frequent confession, ideally monthly.

"That's when the power of the Holy Spirit will be able to inhabit our hearts," Bishop Cozzens said, calling them to undergo a "personal Pentecost," and to ask the Lord "to enkindle in our hearts his fire, so that I can be the saint that he's calling me to be."

As the pilgrims meandered with the Eucharist through the wooded state park, cyclists and hikers respectfully stopped and waited for the procession to pass. Some, like Tom and Jeanne Young, dropped to their knees.

"You recognize that Jesus is really present, and here he is right with us," Jeanne Young said.

## St. Juan Diego Route

In contrast to the gray skies and cool temperatures of northern Minnesota, the pilgrims and faithful gathered for the launch of the St. Juan Diego Route had bright blue skies and the Texas heat for the start of their journey at the southernmost tip of the continental U.S.

"The Holy Spirit moves us to join Christ in his sacrifice and in glorifying the Father, and we move with Christ because the Spirit moves us," Brownsville Bishop Daniel E. Flores told the hundreds of Catholics who filled the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Brownsville, Texas, to overflowing on May 19 for a Pentecost Mass.

The Mass, celebrated in English and Spanish, marked the start of the southern pilgrimage route named for St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin, the Indigenous Catholic



Father Roger Landry and pilgrims pray as a boat transporting the Eucharist from New Haven, Conn., arrives at the harbor in Bridgeport, Conn., on May 19. The procession was a part of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage. (OSV News photo/Paul Haring)



San Francisco Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone elevates the monstrance as he blesses the city and pilgrims after crossing the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco on May 19. The event began the western route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage. (OSV News photo/Bob Roller)

visionary who saw Our Lady of Guadalupe in 1531 and had a deep devotion to the Eucharist.

Jaime Reyna, part of the National Eucharistic Congress' planning team, came from Corpus Christi, Texas, to join the May 19 launch of the southern route. He explained that at points of the eucharistic procession in Brownsville, the Blessed Sacrament was being transported in an open trailer decorated with white flowers pulled by a white truck, as hundreds of people followed. He added that people in their cars or on the side of the road would make the sign of the cross when seeing Jesus in the Eucharist passing by them.

About 350-500 people joined the day's observances, according to a diocesan official.

Reyna said that organizers had not expected "to have hundreds of people walk in the Texas heat, and yet people did, and people were just wanting to keep walking, and keep walking."

"It was just amazing to see that," he said.

Shayla Elm, one of the perpetual pilgrims who hails from Denver, said she "witnessed a deep level of faith in this community that I've never really experienced before myself in a community here in America."

Describing people responding to the procession by saying "Viva Cristo Rey" ("Long live Christ the King") or spontaneously offering water to those walking on the road, and the faithful processing alongside her singing religious hymns, Elm said, "It was just really beautiful to see how personal the Lord is with the people here."

## St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Route

On the day of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's eastern route's launch in New Haven, Conn., perpetual pilgrim Natalie Garza said her heart was burning.

At a May 18 presentation at the Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center, the Kansas City, Kansas-area high school theology teacher shared her desire to "witness with my body the truth that I have professed with my words many times, that Jesus Christ is really present in the Eucharist."

For Garza, the eight weeks of pilgrimage are both an opportunity to "intercede for the American Church" and live out "a real expression and experience of discipleship," walking alongside Jesus in the Eucharist.

Under a gray sky punctuated at times by a cold, drizzling rain, scores of Catholics in New Haven sang and prayed in procession with the eucharistic Jesus in a monstrance held by Father Roger Landry, a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Mass., and Catholic chaplain at Columbia University in New York City.

Archbishop Christopher J. Coyne of Hartford, Conn., celebrated a Pentecost Vigil Mass at New Haven's St. Mary Church, the church where Blessed Michael McGivney, the Knights of Columbus' founder, once served and where his remains are reposed. The archbishop prayed "for the gift of the Holy Spirit to be given to our nation during the Eucharistic Revival" and for the success of the eastern pilgrimage named after the first American-born saint, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

"Our life as Christians is a pilgrimage along the path of salvation. But it is not a solitary one. It is one in which we walk together as the body of Christ," the archbishop said. "In seeking after what God desires of us, we become pilgrims of no path but the one that he would have us follow."

The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Route pilgrims took part in overnight adoration organized by young adult groups, which concluded at 7 a.m. on May 19 and led into a 1.5-mile eucharistic procession from St. Mary Church to St. Joseph Church for Pentecost Mass. Following Mass, the Seton Route's perpetual pilgrims headed to Long Wharf, New Haven's waterfront district.

Much like Jesus did with his first disciples many times in the Gospels, the eucharistic Jesus, held aloft by the Seton Route's chaplain, Father Landry, boarded a boat with the pilgrim-disciples and headed



Bishop Andrew H. Cozzens of Crookston, Minn., processes with the Eucharist to the headwaters of the Mississippi River in Itasca State Park on May 19 for the launch of the Marian Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, during which pilgrims from across the United States will travel with the Eucharist for the next eight weeks on their way to the July 17-21 National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis. (OSV News photo/Courtney Meyer)



Bishop Daniel E. Flores carries a monstrance as pilgrims process through the streets of Brownsville, Texas, on May 19 from the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception to Sacred Heart Mission. The procession kicked off the St. Juan Diego Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage. (OSV News photo/Tom McCarthy)

out on the sea—this time venturing into the Long Island Sound, toward Bridgeport, Conn.

## St. Junipero Serra Route

On the West Coast, Jesus' travels in Galilee were also on the minds of the pilgrims gathered in San Francisco for the start of the western branch of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage.

"The last time Jesus walked this far across the face of the Earth was in Galilee, so to be able to carry him will be extraordinary," said Wisconsin native Jack Krebs, one of two drivers of the van specially equipped with a tabernacle where the pilgrims will travel when they are not walking the St. Junipero Serra Route of the National Eucharistic Revival.

The six young adults who are the Serra Route's perpetual pilgrims received a special blessing from Oakland Bishop Michael C. Barber at a May 18 prayer vigil, consisting of eucharistic adoration and Benediction at Mission Dolores Basilica.

"Junipero Serra would be just in love with this whole idea, because his notion was he was bringing the Gospel and the Eucharist into an area where it had never been brought before," said Andrew Galvan, curator of Mission Dolores and a descendant of the Ohlone Indians evangelized by St. Junipero Serra, noting the saint would often celebrate eucharistic processions.

The Serra Route finally began in earnest following the Pentecost Mass on May 19 at St. Mary of the Assumption Cathedral in San Francisco.

"Christ breathes new life into us, his Church," said Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone of San Francisco, who celebrated the Mass.

He urged those gathered to follow Jesus Christ in his "way of love," living publicly their faith in such a way that people perceive "a better way to live."

He said Jesus' way of love "has the power to change history, to change hearts, to bring the life of heaven to Earth and to bring us to the life of heaven when we pass from this world to the next."

At the day's conclusion, after leading about 1,000 pilgrims across the Golden Gate Bridge, the San Francisco archbishop raised the monstrance and blessed the city with the Eucharist from a vista point across from the city.

He then blessed the faithful who had crossed the bridge with him, and the perpetual pilgrims who would continue to journey with Jesus, truly present in the Eucharist, all the way to Indianapolis for the National Eucharistic Congress.

(Events for each route, along with an interactive map and registration, are at [www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org](http://www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org).) †



# Parish FESTIVALS

## May 30-June 1

St. Simon the Apostle Parish, 8155 Oaklondon Road, **Indianapolis**. Parish Festival, Thurs. 5-11 p.m., Fri. 5 p.m.-midnight, Sat. 3 p.m.-midnight, rides, food, beer garden, games, kids' zone, Vegas room (ages 21 and older), live music: Thurs. St. Simon Idol, Fri. Rhythm Kings and Stella Luna and the Satellites, Sat. Jason Joy and My Yellow Rickshaw, \$10 food/drink ticket per person or per family required for admission. Information: [sponsorship@saintsimonfestival.com](mailto:sponsorship@saintsimonfestival.com), 317-826-6000, [saintsimonfestival.com](http://saintsimonfestival.com).

St. Jude Parish, 5353 McFarland Road, **Indianapolis**. Summer Festival, 5-10 p.m., children's games, grand prize raffle, bands, food, carnival rides, live entertainment, bingo, Monte Carlo games, free admission. Information: 317-786-4371.

## May 31-June 1

St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish, 6000 W. 34th St., **Indianapolis**. 23rd Annual International Festival, 5 p.m.-midnight, carnival rides, food, live music, \$5,000 raffle, beer garden, free admission, prices for food, drinks and rides vary. Information: [parish@stgabrielindy.org](mailto:parish@stgabrielindy.org), 317-291-7014, ext. 0.

## May 31-June 1

St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower) Parish, 4720 E. 13th St., **Indianapolis**. Summerfest, Fri. 5-11 p.m., Sat. 3-11 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., \$4,000 grand prize raffle, bingo Fri. and Sat., midway rides, silent auction, live entertainment, food, beer, wine, games for kids and adults, \$10 admission for \$10 in event coupons. Information: 317-357-8352, [amackell@littleflowerparish.org](mailto:amackell@littleflowerparish.org).

## June 2

St. Paul Parish, 814 Jefferson St., **Tell City**. Parish Picnic, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., pulled pork or BBQ chicken dinners, cash/quilt raffles, live music, eat-in or carry-out dinners, free admission. Information: 812-547-7994, [stpaulch@psci.net](mailto:stpaulch@psci.net).

## June 6-8

St. Anthony Parish, 337 N. Warman Ave., **Indianapolis**. Parish Festival, Thurs. 4-10 p.m., Fri. 4-11 p.m., Sat. 2 p.m.-midnight, live music, beer garden, American, Mexican and international food, Jessop Amusements,

cash raffle \$25 per ticket (\$25,000 1st prize, \$5,000 2nd prize, \$3,000 3rd prize), free admission. Information: 317-543-7730, [stanthonybulletin@gmail.com](mailto:stanthonybulletin@gmail.com).

Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, 335 S. Meridian St., **Greenwood**. Parish Festival, Thurs. 5-11 p.m., Fri. 5 p.m.-midnight, Sat. 2 p.m.-midnight, rides, games, Monte Carlo, bingo, cake wheel, grand raffle, quilt raffle, children's games, live music, beer tent, fair food, free admission. Information: [tinyurl.com/OLGFest24](http://tinyurl.com/OLGFest24), 317-888-2861, [info@olgreenwood.org](mailto:info@olgreenwood.org).

## June 14-15

Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish, 520 Stevens St., **Indianapolis**. Italian Street Festival, 5-11 p.m., more than 25 Italian meats, pastas, salads, desserts, dancing, live music, inflatables, display of Ducati bikes and Vespa scooters, Italian music, religious procession Sat. 6:45 p.m. with Indianapolis Opera before 7 p.m. Mass, free parking in Eli Lilly lots on East and New Jersey streets, free admission. Information: 317-636-4478, [kfcpublicrelations@gmail.com](mailto:kfcpublicrelations@gmail.com), [indyitalianfest.org](http://indyitalianfest.org).

## June 21-22

St. Christopher Parish, 5301 W. 16th St., **Indianapolis**. Summer Festival, 5-11 p.m., live music, food, kids' games, casino, 50/50 raffle, free admission. Information: 317-241-6314, [amy@indyfestival.com](mailto:amy@indyfestival.com).

Christ the King Parish, 5884 N. Crittenden Ave., **Indianapolis**. Summer Social, 6-11 p.m., live entertainment, food, beverages, raffle, \$1 admission. Information: 317-255-3666, [www.ck-indy.org](http://www.ck-indy.org), [SummerSocial\\_ctksommersocial@gmail.com](mailto:SummerSocial_ctksommersocial@gmail.com).

## June 22

St. Ambrose Parish, 325 S. Chestnut St., **Seymour**. Parish Festival, 5-8 p.m., international foods, kids' games, local artisan vendors, \$100 reverse raffle (win up to \$5,000), quilt and 50/50 raffles (tickets \$5 each or five for \$20), free admission. Information: 812-522-5304, [info@stambroseseymour.org](mailto:info@stambroseseymour.org).

## June 30

St. Catherine of Siena Parish, St. Maurice Campus, 1963 N. Saint John St., **Greensburg**. Parish Festival, 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m., fried chicken dinner, turtle soup, games for kids and adults, pedal tractor pull, beer garden, live music, free admission, 812-560-6017, [stcatherinekb@gmail.com](mailto:stcatherinekb@gmail.com).

## July 13-14

All Saints Parish, St. John the Baptist Campus, 25743 State Route 1, **Guilford**. Chicken Dinner and Summer Festival, Sat. 5 p.m.-midnight, Sun. 11 a.m.-9 p.m., food, beer garden, B&G ice cream, kiddie land, raffles, live music, Sun. only chicken dinners start 11 a.m., free admission. Information: 812-576-4302, [emilyalig.asp@gmail.com](mailto:emilyalig.asp@gmail.com).

## July 27-28

All Saints Parish, St. Martin Campus, 8044 Yorkridge Road, **Guilford**. Summer Festival, Sat. 5 p.m.-midnight, Sun. 11 a.m.-9 p.m., food, beer garden, B&G ice cream,

kiddie land, raffles, live music, Sun. only chicken dinners start 11 a.m., free admission. **5K Country Run/Walk**, Sun. 9:30 a.m., \$20 (\$2.20 online registration fee), register at [tinyurl.com/StMartinRun24](http://tinyurl.com/StMartinRun24). Information: 812-576-4302.

## July 28

St. Augustine Parish, 18020 Lafayette St., **Leopold**. Church Picnic, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. CT, \$12 fried chicken dinners (cash only), dine-in or carry-out, ice cream, hamburgers, raffles, quilt wheel, half pot drawing, free admission. Information: 812-843-5143, [staughc@psci.net](mailto:staughc@psci.net).

## August 1-3

Holy Spirit Parish, 7243 E. 10th St., **Indianapolis**. 76th Annual Holy Spirit Festival, Thurs. 6-11 p.m., Fri. 6 p.m.-midnight, Sat. 1 p.m.-midnight, live music, rides, shish kabobs, tacos, pizza, hamburgers, hot dogs, fruit smoothies, desserts, lemon shake-up, seltzers, beer and wine, bingo, Monte Carlo, silent auction, \$20 tickets for \$7,500 raffle, parking shuttle available at 7140 E. Washington St., free wrist bands provided to parishioners after Masses, non-parishioner admission \$10 in food tickets, ages 12 and younger free, 17 and younger must be accompanied by adult. Information: [holyspiritfestival.org](http://holyspiritfestival.org), [festival@holyspirit.cc](mailto:festival@holyspirit.cc), 317-353-9404.

## August 4

St. Boniface Parish, 11715 E. County Road 1550 N., **Fulda**. Annual Summer Picnic, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. CT, fried chicken and roast beef dinners, Fulda's famous soup, games, live music, handmade quilts, bingo, themed baskets, organ concert, family fun center, free admission. Information: [sbcatholic.church/summer-picnic](mailto:sbcatholic.church/summer-picnic), 812-357-5533, [info@myparishfamily.church](mailto:info@myparishfamily.church).

## August 9-10

Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ Parish, 7225 Southeastern Ave., **Indianapolis**. Augustravaganza, 4 p.m.-midnight, rides, raffles, festival food, children's games, church tours, baby crawling race, bingo, beer/wine tent, Monte Carlo, carnival rides, live music/entertainment, food tent, catered dinners in air-conditioned gym, Silly Safari, free admission. Information: 317-357-1200, [tmartin@nativityindy.org](mailto:tmartin@nativityindy.org), [nativityindy.org/augustravaganza](http://nativityindy.org/augustravaganza).

## August 10-11

All Saints Parish, St. Paul Campus, 9788 N. Dearborn Road, **Guilford**. Summer Picnic, Sat. 5 p.m.-midnight, pork loin dinners, live music; Sun. 11 a.m.-9 p.m., chicken dinners; both days live music, lunch stand, beer garden, kiddie land, raffles, free admission. Information: 812-576-4302, [emilyalig.asp@gmail.com](mailto:emilyalig.asp@gmail.com).

St. Mary Parish, 2500 St. Mary Dr., **Lanesville**. Beer and Brats Night and Parish Picnic, Sat. 6:30-10:30 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; Sat. beer and brats, Sun. fried chicken or ham dinner; dine-in or carry-out, both days: bingo, capital prize raffles, linen booth, online auction at [harrittgroup.com](http://harrittgroup.com), food prices TBA, free admission. Information: 812-952-2853, [elizabeth.johnson@catholic-community.org](mailto:elizabeth.johnson@catholic-community.org).

## August 16-17

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, 4625 N. Kenwood Ave., **Indianapolis**. SausageFest, 5:30 p.m.-midnight, Kincaid's sausages, Sun King beer, sides from Illinois Street Food Emporium, Byrne's pizza, live music, wine, snack shack, kids' zone, teen zone with DJ, free admission. Information 317-253-1461, [churchinfo@staindy.org](mailto:churchinfo@staindy.org).

## August 17-18

St. Mary-of-the-Knobs Parish, 5719 St. Marys Road, **Floyds Knobs**. Knobfest, Sat. 5:30 p.m.-midnight, beer garden, food trucks, 9 p.m. live music by Juice Box Heroes; Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., kids' zone, fried chicken dinner, wheels, raffles, free admission. Information: 812-923-3011, [mhartlage@yoursmk.org](mailto:mhartlage@yoursmk.org).

St. Nicholas Parish, 6459 E. St. Nicholas Dr., **Sunman**. Church and Music Festival, Sat. 6-11 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., music on Sat., fried chicken dinners all day Sun., free admission. Information: 812-212-0501, [principal@stnicholas-sunman.org](mailto:principal@stnicholas-sunman.org).

## August 22-24

St. Ann Parish, 6350 S. Mooresville Road, **Indianapolis**. Summer Festival, Thur. 5-10 p.m., Fri. 5-11 p.m., Sat. 5-11:30 p.m., food, carnival rides, games, casino,

beer garden, silent auction, raffle, free admission. Information: 317-821-2909, [admin@stannindy.org](mailto:admin@stannindy.org).

## August 23-25

St. Joseph Parish, 1401 S. Mickle Ave., **Indianapolis**. Fall Festival, Fri. and Sat. 5-11 p.m., Sun. 1-7:30 p.m., Vietnamese, Mexican, African, Italian, American food, rides, kids' games, blackjack, Texas Hold'em, 50/50, bingo, silent auction, beer garden, free admission. Information: 317-244-9002.

## August 24-25

St. Mary Parish, 1331 E. Hunter Robbins Way, **Greensburg**. Parish Festival, Sat. 5:30-11 p.m.: adult night, games, beer garden, pie auction, 7 p.m. live music by Nuttin' Fancy, pork burger and pulled pork dinners, concessions; Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m.: Family Day, kids' games, live entertainment, silent auction, 50/50 raffle, fried chicken and pulled pork dinners; free admission. **On Eagles Wings 5K Run/Walk**, Sat. 8 a.m. registration, 8:30 a.m. kids' games open, 9 a.m. race, 10 a.m. optional Kids Fun Run, 10:15 a.m. awards, \$20 for all participants until Aug. 9, \$25 after Aug. 9, register by Aug. 9 for t-shirt, \$8 to have shirt shipped, additional fees apply for online registrations. Information, registration: 812-663-8427, [oneagleswings5k.com](http://oneagleswings5k.com).

## September 1

St. Catherine of Siena Parish, St. John the Evangelist Campus, 9995 E. Base Road, **Greensburg**. 86th Annual Church Picnic, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Fireside Inn fried chicken and roast beef dinners \$15 adults or \$7 for ages 11 and younger, games, raffles, basket booth, mock turtle soup, country store, silent auction, beer garden, pies, free admission. Information: 812-934-2880, [stcatherine47240@gmail.com](mailto:stcatherine47240@gmail.com).

## September 2

St. Peter Parish, 1207 East Road, **Brookville**. Labor Day Festival, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., fried chicken dinner, air-conditioned hall, basket raffle, \$30,000 raffle, country store, bingo, turtle soup, beer garden, free admission. Information: 812-623-3670, [brookvilleparishes@gmail.com](http://brookvilleparishes@gmail.com).

St. Anthony of Padua Parish, 4773 Church Road, **Morris**. Labor Day Festival, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., raffles, chicken dinners, games, beer garden, free admission. Information: 812-934-6218, [parishoffice@stanthonymorris.org](mailto:parishoffice@stanthonymorris.org).

## September 7

St. Joan of Arc Parish, 4217 Central Ave., **Indianapolis**. French Market, noon-10 p.m., live music, 50 artisan booths, French food, beer and wine, bake sale, raffle, church tours, children's games and food until 5 p.m., Club d'Arc for grades 5-10 6:30-9:30 p.m., Mass 5:30 p.m., free admission. Information: 317-283-5508, [sjoa.org/about-french-market](http://sjoa.org/about-french-market).

## September 8

St. Mary Parish, 512 N. Perkins St., **Rushville**. Fall Celebration, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., chicken dinner, grand raffle, quilt raffle, vendors, craft booths, free admission. Information: 765-932-2588, [dspaeth@stmaryrush.org](mailto:dspaeth@stmaryrush.org).

St. Michael Parish, 145 St. Michael Blvd., **Brookville**. Chicken Dinner Festival, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m., fried chicken dinner, drive-thru or carry-out, food item prices vary, cash and basket raffles, free admission. Information: 765-647-5462, [brookvilleparishes@gmail.com](mailto:brookvilleparishes@gmail.com).

## September 13-14

St. Thomas More Parish, 1200 N. Indiana St., **Mooresville**. Church Festival, 5-10 p.m., hot air balloon rides Sat., bingo, live southern rock band, kids' games, basket raffles, pull tabs, 50/50 raffle, beer and wine garden, hand-breaded pork tenderloins and corn dogs, Philippine homemade dish Sat., free admission. Information: 317-831-4142, [pweber@stm-church.org](mailto:pweber@stm-church.org).

St. Bartholomew Parish, 1306 27th St., **Columbus**. St. B Fest, Fri. 6-11 p.m., Sat. 4-11 p.m., live entertainment, multicultural food, Sat. PTO carnival, free admission. Information: 812-379-9353, [stbartholomewfestival@gmail.com](mailto:stbartholomewfestival@gmail.com).

## September 15

St. Michael Parish, 101 St. Michael Dr., **Charlestown**. Septemberfest, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., chicken dinner, authentic Mexican food, games, quilt and cash raffles, silent auction, free admission. Information: 812-256-3200, [stmichaelsecretary@northclarkcountycatholic.org](mailto:stmichaelsecretary@northclarkcountycatholic.org).



Children enjoy a swing ride during the annual Italian Festival at St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Wilmington, Del., in this file photo. (CNS photo by Don Blake, *The Dialog*)

St. Meinrad Parish, 19570 N. 4th St., **St. Meinrad**. Annual Fall Picnic, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. CT, fried chicken dinners, famous soup, ice cream, food court, German tenderloin sandwiches, country store, family activity center, guided tour of church, live music, entertainment, free admission. Information: 812-357-5533, [info@myparishfamily.church](mailto:info@myparishfamily.church).

## September 20-21

St. Luke the Evangelist Parish, 7575 Holliday Dr. E., **Indianapolis**. Fall Fest, 5-11 p.m., Fri. adults only, live music, games; Sat. children's games and activities, food, beverages, live music by The Indigos, free admission. Information: 317-259-4373, [tinyurl.com/StLukeFallFest2024](http://tinyurl.com/StLukeFallFest2024), [bkudla@stluke.org](mailto:bkudla@stluke.org).

## September 21

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, school parking lot, 1842 E. Eighth St., **Jeffersonville**. Street Dance, 7-11 p.m., live music, food trucks, kids' area, live auction, school fundraiser, \$10 admission. Information: 812-282-2677, [info@sacredheartsschool.us](mailto:info@sacredheartsschool.us).

## September 22

St. Michael Parish, 11400 Farmer's Lane NE, **Greenville**. Parish Picnic, 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., fried chicken, homemade dumplings, silent auction, Nana's Basement, cake booth, kids' zone, pull tabs, food stand, dinners \$14, free admission. Information: 812-364-6646.

## September 25

Persimmon Festival, corner of 7th and Main streets, **Mitchell**. St. Mary Parish Italian Dinner Food Tent, 4:30-7 p.m., Italian dinner, cost TBD. Information: 812-849-3570, [stmarysmitchell294@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysmitchell294@gmail.com).

## September 26-28

SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi Parish, 5901 Olive Branch Road, **Greenwood**. Fall Festival, Thurs. 4-8 p.m., rides only; Fri. 4-5 p.m. rides only, 5-10 p.m. full festival, fish fry, 6:30-9:30 p.m. live music by Tastes Like Chicken; Sat. noon-10 p.m. full festival, Art in the Park arts and crafts fair, 6:30-9:30 p.m. live music by Big Rosco and The Hammers; full festival includes: rides, food, silent auction, quilt and \$10,000 raffles, kids' tent,

cake wheel, free admission. Information: 317-859-4673, [festival@ss-fc.org](http://festival@ss-fc.org), [ss-fc.org/news/parish-fall-festival](http://ss-fc.org/news/parish-fall-festival).

## September 27-28

St. Malachy Parish, 9833 E. County Rd. 750 N., **Brownsburg**. Country Fair and Hog Roast, Fri. 4-11 p.m., Sat. 3-11 p.m., pork, drinks, casino, midway, beer tent, silent auction, kids' games, live music; free admission. Information: 317-852-3195, [countryfair@stmalachy.org](http://countryfair@stmalachy.org).

Holy Name of Jesus Parish, 89 N. 17th Ave., **Beech Grove**. Oktoberfest, 5-11 p.m., live music, food, raffles, kids' games, free admission. Information: 317-784-5454, [parishadmin@holyname.cc](mailto:parishadmin@holyname.cc).

## September 28

St. Augustine Parish, 315 E. Chestnut St., **Jeffersonville**. Oktoberfest, 3-10 p.m., German food served in dining room 3-7 p.m., outside concessions 6-9 p.m., food trucks 4-10 p.m., live music by The Monarchs 7-10 p.m., capital prize, booths, cake wheel, children's activities, beer tent, quilt raffle, free admission. Information: 812-282-2677, [communications@jeffersonvillecatholic.org](mailto:communications@jeffersonvillecatholic.org).

## September 29

St. Mark Parish, 5377 Acorn Road, **Tell City**. Shooting Match and Festival, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., shoot to win beef, ham or cash, raffle, handmade quilts, cake wheel, bingo, dice games, splatter boards, half pot, country store, homemade pies, chili, hamburger, hot dogs, sandwiches, brats, food prices vary, free admission. Information: 812-836-2481, [stmark@psci.net](mailto:stmark@psci.net).

## October 6

Holy Family Parish, 3027 Pearl St., **Oldenburg**. Parish Festival, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., fried chicken and roast beef dinners, turtle soup, money raffle, quilt raffle, basket raffle, silent auction, craft booths, free admission. Information: 812-934-3013, [holyfamilycheryl@gmail.com](mailto:holyfamilycheryl@gmail.com).

St. John Paul II Parish, 2253 St. Joe Road W., **Sellersburg**. Turkey Shoot/Chicken Dinner/Fall Festival, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., chicken dinner with homemade dumplings (price TBA), wheels, country store, raffles, kids' games, firing range, free admission. Information: 812-246-2512. †



Kyle Kujawa, 6, waves to family members as his cousin Matthew Kusbel, 11, steers a ride during "Sharing Your Blessings Day" at St. James the Less Parish festival in Highland, Ind., in the Gary Diocese, in this file photo. (CNS photo by Karen Callaway, *Northwest Indiana Catholic*)



## SERRA CLUB VOCATIONS ESSAY

# Student's love of the Eucharist is nurtured in family life

By Faustina Darnowski

Special to *The Criterion*

As the source and summit of the Christian life, the Eucharist is the focal point of the Catholic faith. Every one of



the seven sacraments is an outward sign of an inward grace, created by Christ, to the feed the soul, by increasing or restoring the life of grace in the soul.

In the "Litany of the Most Precious Blood,"

the invocation, "Blood of Christ, springing forth virgins, have mercy on us!" appears. This phrase addresses the fact that vocations, (especially religious vocations) come from his heart.

The Eucharist is the lifeblood of the Church, as it is the Church's very founder, Jesus Christ, who guards the Church from evil and error and leads it on the often-arduous path to heaven.

Every member of the Catholic Church has a vocation. A vocation is the way of life that God specifically intends for people to serve him best and through which they can receive the maximum amount of grace. God means for each person to enjoy a beautiful vocation that will give them great joy.

A young person's family, school and parish life have great impact on the growth of their soul and the vocation they choose to follow by the ways that they expose a young person to the Eucharist, and the love and respect they instill in them for the Blessed Sacrament.

The first and greatest influence on young people's vocation is their family. Seeing their parents, the love they have for each other and the way they interact on a day-to-day basis has a great effect on the vocation they decide to follow.

Their siblings also, who often require a generous helping of patience, help to form them for their future calling. The charity a person shows to the difficult people they live with will enable them to practice greater patience and charity later in life.

A young person's parish can affect in a profound way their vocation, by offering the sacraments, especially the holy Eucharist and orthodox homilies that invite the young person to seek their mission of holiness.

Their school assists, too, by teaching them about the different vocations, not only careers, and showing young people how they relate.

I personally have benefited from my family's strong efforts to love Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. My mother and father have always made an extraordinary effort to bring me and my 14 siblings to daily Mass, as far as they are able. Because of this, and the devotion with which they pray the Mass, every one of us, from my 19-year-old oldest brother, who is pursuing a vocation to the priesthood, to my 3-year-old sister who has Down syndrome, has a deep love of the Eucharist.

The graces I receive at Mass in receiving my Creator and my God have helped me to feel God's presence in my life. When I am having a difficult

day, the thought that I will be able to be so close to God, by receiving holy Communion, gives me courage.

While many other things can influence one's biggest choices in life, the family, as the primary building block of society, has the greatest effect on a young person's life.

As members of the Catholic Church, every Catholic child's role models and primary teachers in life have great ability to help them to follow their vocation by planting in their soul a deep love of Jesus in the Eucharist. He loves them greatly and will lead them on wondrous paths. After all, did he not say, "Let the little children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these" (Mt 19:14)?

*(Faustina and her parents, Doug and Adele Darnowski, are members of St. Mary Parish in Lanesville. She is a homeschooled 10th-grade student and is the 10th-grade division winner in the Indianapolis Serra Club's 2024 John D. Kelley Vocations Essay Contest.) †*

## St. John Paul II Prize awarded to Uganda justice and peace center

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Convinced that the "major emphasis" of St. John Paul II's teaching was on social justice and human dignity, seven religious orders joined together to establish the John Paul II Justice and Peace Centre in Kampala, Uganda.

The center, which runs programs ranging from preventing human trafficking to sowing peace between residents and refugees in a camp nearby,

received the first St. John Paul II Prize on May 22 from the Vatican-based foundation dedicated to keeping the Polish pope's legacy alive and deepening scholarly reflection on his teachings.

Holy Cross Father Leonard Olobo, chair of the board of directors of the center in Kampala, told Catholic News Service on May 20 that being chosen for the award "was a complete surprise. We were just doing

what we thought was right. But now we must work harder because we have been recognized, and we must keep alive the teaching of St. John Paul II."

The center is sponsored by the Holy Cross Fathers, the men's and women's branches of the Comboni Missionaries, the Mill Hill Missionaries, the Jesuits, the Missionaries of Africa and the Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Africa.

Father Andrzej Dobrzynski, director of the John Paul II Vatican Foundation's Center for Documentation and Research, told reporters the foundation's administrative council decided a year ago to institute the prize "to recognize significant results by those who deepen understanding of the teaching of St. John Paul II or who live out those teachings in an excellent way." †

## Little Flower SUMMERFEST

(Corner of Nowland and Bosart Streets)

[LFsummerfest.com](http://LFsummerfest.com)

Friday, May 31—5:00pm-11:00pm  
Saturday, June 1—3:00pm-11:00pm  
Sunday, June 2— 11:00am-5:00pm

### Fun

BINGO Friday AND Saturday (register 6pm before 7pm start)  
Silent Auction—Register at <https://lfway.cbo.io>  
Raffle with \$4,000.00 grand prize  
50/50, Tip Boards and more  
Saturday Night is Little Flower School Alumni Night  
Family Day on Sunday with family friendly entertainment

### Food

Outdoor Food Court  
Beer and Wine with Daily Specials  
Indoor Dinner provided by Steer In on Saturday 5-7pm  
Indoor Sunday Brunch 10:30am-12:00pm

### Entertainment

#### Friday

Lazy Boy Rockers at 5:00 pm  
Bigger is Better Band at 7:30 and 9:00 pm

#### Saturday

Benito DeBartolli & the Hired Guns at 4:00 pm  
Sherwood Club at 6:30 pm  
Black Belt Jones at 9:00 pm

#### Sunday

Silly Safaris at 12:00 pm  
Little Flower Musical Numbers at 1:15 pm  
Paige & the Rhythm Roll-Ups at 2:00 pm

### Rides & Games

Poor Jack Amusements on the Midway  
Ride the carnival rides all day Sunday for just \$20.00

No one under age 18 admitted unless accompanied by adult.  
Minimum \$10 purchase per person age 13 and above required.

Indiana Festival License #002626

CATHOLIC  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION, INC.

## WHAT IS CCF?

The Catholic Community Foundation (CCF) is the charitable foundation for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. CCF was established in 1987 to provide long-term stability for charitable, religious and educational organizations within the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. We operate with the constant focus of ensuring donor intent to provide for the long-term financial health of the Catholic church in central and southern Indiana.

CCF manages more than 600 endowment and donor-advised funds which are invested according to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) guidelines for socially responsible investing. Donors can rest assured that their fund is in alignment with the teachings of the Catholic Church. All funds grow with the investing power of our combined \$242 million in assets. We work with both individual donors, and our parishes, schools and ministries to match donor passions with the needs of our Catholic entities.



To learn more, contact our team at [ccf@archindy.org](mailto:ccf@archindy.org), 317-236-1482 or scan the code above.



# SIMPLY CATHOLIC

## Power of Sign of the Cross can be felt in many aspects of faith

By Bert Ghezzi

(OSV News)—I used to make the sign of the cross casually as a nice gesture for beginning and ending my prayers. More than a decade ago, probably nudged by the Holy Spirit, I began to take it more seriously.

I began to sign myself more frequently with faith and reverence. I did not think much about it, but after a year I noticed that I seemed to be doing measurably better in my Christian life. I was praying with more passion, resisting my bad inclinations somewhat more effectively and relating to others more kindly.

When I asked myself what had produced these positive results, I decided the only thing I was doing differently was praying the Sign of the Cross more fervently. Pretty good, I thought, for just signing myself reverently, and I realized that the Sign of the Cross is not merely a pious gesture. It is a powerful prayer.

So, I studied about it in Scripture, the Church fathers and saints and Catholic teaching.

In my study, I discovered six perspectives on the Sign of the Cross that revealed why making it opens us to life-transforming graces. I share them here, confident that once you grasp them, you will make the gesture with more faith and experience its great blessings.

### A mini-creed

The Sign of the Cross is a profession of faith in God as he revealed himself. It serves as an abbreviated form of the Apostles' Creed.

Touching our forehead, breast and shoulders, we declare our belief in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We are announcing our faith in what God has done—the creation of all things, the redemption of humanity from sin and death and the establishment of the Church, which offers new life to all.

When we sign ourselves, we make ourselves aware of God's presence and open ourselves to his action in our lives. That would be enough, wouldn't it? But there is much, much more.

### A renewal of baptism

First-century Christians began making the sign of the cross as a reminder and renewal of what happened to them when they were baptized. It can still work the same way for us.

When we sign ourselves, we declare that, in baptism, we died sacramentally with Christ on the cross and rose to a new life with him (see Rom 6:3-4 and Gal 2:20). We ask the Lord to renew in us those baptismal graces.

We also acknowledge that baptism joined us to the body of Christ and equipped us for our role of collaborating with the Lord in his work of rescuing all people from sin and death.

### A mark of discipleship

At baptism, the Lord claimed us as his own by the priest marking us with the Sign of the Cross. Now, when we sign ourselves, we affirm our loyalty to Christ.



Pope Francis makes the Sign of the Cross as he visits Ermineskin Cree Nation Cemetery at Maskwacis, Alberta, on July 25, 2022. The Sign of the Cross is an ancient prayer that has the power to affect the life of faith in many ways. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

By tracing the cross on our bodies, we deny that we belong to ourselves and declare that we belong to him alone (see Lk 9:23).

The Church fathers used the same word for the Sign of the Cross that the ancient world employed to indicate ownership. The same word named a shepherd's brand on his sheep, a general's tattoo on his soldiers, a householder's mark on his servants and the Lord's mark on his disciples.

So, signing ourselves recognizes that we are Christ's sheep and can count on his care; his soldiers, commissioned to work with him in advancing his kingdom on Earth; and his servants, dedicated to doing whatever he tells us.

### An acceptance of suffering

Jesus promised us that suffering would be a normal

part of a disciple's life (see Lk 9:23). So, when we mark our bodies with the Sign of the Cross, we embrace whatever pain comes as a consequence of our faith in Christ.

Making the sign is our "taking up the cross and following" him (Lk 9:23). But at the same time, it comforts us with the realization that Jesus, who endured the crucifixion for us, now joins us in our suffering and supports us.

Signing ourselves also announces another significant truth: With St. Paul, we celebrate that our afflictions as members of the body of Christ contribute to the Lord's saving work of perfecting the Church in holiness (see Col 1:24).

### A move against the devil

Upon Christ's crucifixion, the devil mistakenly believed he had won a great victory. Instead, the Lord surprised him with an ignominious defeat (see 1 Cor 2:8).

From the first Easter morning through the present, the Sign of the Cross makes the devil cower and flee. So, on one level, making the sign is a defensive move, declaring our inviolability to the devil's influence. But more importantly, the sign is also an offensive weapon, helping us reclaim with Christ all that Satan lost at the cross.

It announces our cooperation with him in the indomitable advance of the kingdom of God against the kingdom of darkness.

### A victory over the flesh

In the New Testament, the word flesh sums up all the evil inclinations of our old nature that persist in us even after we die with Christ in baptism (see Gal 5:16-22). Making the Sign of the Cross expresses our decision to crucify these desires of the flesh and to live by the Spirit.

Like tossing off a dirty shirt or blouse, making the sign indicates our stripping ourselves of our evil inclinations and clothing ourselves with the behaviors of Christ (see Col 3:5-15).

The Church fathers taught that the Sign of the Cross diffused the force of powerful temptations such as anger and lust. So, no matter how strongly we are tempted, we can use the Sign of the Cross to activate our freedom in Christ and conquer even our besetting sins.

(Bert Ghezzi is the author of numerous books, including *The Sign of the Cross: Recovering the Power of the Ancient Prayer*, published by Word on Fire in 2021.) †



Children make the Sign of the Cross at St. Anthony Indian School on the Zuni Pueblo Indian reservation in New Mexico. The Sign of the Cross can serve as a shortened form of the Apostles' Creed. (CNS photo/Bob Roller)



Evangelization Outreach/Cheryl McSweeney

## Let the gift of true Sabbath be yours: a time to savor rest with God

Even as an adult, I get excited about Fridays. The weekend has arrived, and this means that “rest” is in my future.



However, I typically fill my weekends with anything but rest. There is yardwork, laundry, cleaning and shopping that can't be done during the week. What I really need is a Sabbath day.

What would that look like? It might mean a slow walk through the woods. It might mean reading a book while laying in a hammock, perhaps listening to my favorite music while I sit outside by a small pond. No matter what I do, it would be an opportunity to slow down and connect with God. The possibilities are endless.

*Merriam Webster* dictionary defines Sabbath as “a time of rest.” But rest means so many different things to so many people.

During the pandemic, it was as if all we did was rest. We spent so much time at home, in our most comfortable

clothes, in a space that we created with familiar items around us to put us at ease.

This was great for about a month ... until it wasn't great anymore. I eventually got to a point of missing the “busy” of my life, seeing my extended family, my friends and my co-workers. I missed the hustle and bustle of my work.

Now we are back in full swing at work, which is wonderful, but that means I am not finding the time for Sabbath anymore. I have gone from one extreme to another, and I find it difficult to achieve a balance between the two.

Taking time for true Sabbath needs to be intentional. I have to say “no” to opportunities to meet with friends, and I must work harder to ensure that I have fulfilled my responsibilities so that I am able to experience Sabbath each week.

For me, I would alter the definition of Sabbath to read “a time of rest with God.”

Spending time with God is the only true Sabbath that can be life giving, refreshing and renewing. We are all called to be intentional about having a true Sabbath, but it

is not always easy.

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House in Indianapolis is here to help you with this opportunity. We offer a “Day of Silence” at least one time each month where you can come to simply be with God in the silence. You are welcomed to walk our trails, pray the labyrinth on our property, visit our rosary walk and prayer garden, or to spend time praying in our chapel.

We recently redesigned one of the smaller houses that we have on our property to serve as a place for people who are looking for a private retreat space. It has three bedrooms, two bathrooms, a full kitchen, dining area and two sitting rooms. It is appropriately named “The Sabbath House.” It is a beautiful and peaceful place to rest with God.

Being intentional about prioritizing a true Sabbath time for yourself is what we are each called to do. We would love to see you at Fatima, but our prayer is that you will find Sabbath in whatever way you can.

*(Cheryl McSweeney is associate director of operations at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House in Indianapolis.) †*

Correction Ministries/Deacon John Cord

## Should all lifers be lifers? Program offers a second chance for a new life

*(Nancy and Jim Cotterill operate 2nd Chance Indiana in Indianapolis providing workplace training for men and women being released from jails and prisons. Nancy wrote the following column on her blog at [www.2ndchancein.com](http://www.2ndchancein.com). It is reprinted with permission.)*



Nationwide, there are 204,000 people serving life sentences with or without the possibility for parole. And the number of life sentences without the possibility of parole is up 66% since 2003. Some people may need lifetime incarceration, but many do not.

Perhaps with good intentions, President Bill Clinton's 1994 crime bill with its “three strikes”

mandatory life sentence fed the fire of mass incarceration and actually did little to reduce crime. With recidivism up in the 70% range, “three strikes” became a low bar to reach and the law now demanded automatic life sentences as judges no longer had the option of a more reasonable decision.

There is strong criminological evidence that life prison terms, with or without parole, do little to improve public safety because eventually people “age out” of the statistical criminal age group. The latest surveys show that 30% of lifers are 55 years old and older, and many are serving life sentences for crimes they committed before they were 18.

At 2nd Chance Indiana, we meet and deal with many re-entrants in their 50s and 60s who have spent 20 to 40 years in prison. Inevitably, they are not the same person who committed a crime. All they hope for is a job, reunion with their

families and the freedom to live a peaceful life. If these people have gained wisdom in the decades they have spent imprisoned, many of those with life sentences surely should be reviewed.

Whether they be lifers or not, at some point, we have to ask ourselves: Is it really beneficial to hold thousands of aging men and women in overcrowded prisons, three and four decades after a crime has been committed, with little or no possibility they will return to crime?

*There is strong criminological evidence that life prison terms, with or without parole, do little to improve public safety because eventually people “age out” of the statistical criminal age group.*

*(Deacon John Cord is the coordinator of Corrections Ministry for the archdiocese. For more information on supporting the office's re-entry ministry, contact Deacon Cord at 317-432-6604 or e-mail [jcord@archindy.org](mailto:jcord@archindy.org).) †*

Many will respond that a murderer or rapist should never be given freedom—I get it. But, we must consider the huge cost to run ever-larger prisons and the fact that rehabilitated former prisoners are often the best anti-crime examples as they re-enter their communities.

Also, there is a movement toward diverting the money we are spending on punitive (rather than reformative) incarceration to better fund policing, drug treatment, and meaningful preschool programs that have been found to reduce rates of abuse and neglect and yield lower arrest rates as the children grow up.

Considering all that, perhaps we could re-think the way our society could work if we didn't require life sentences and allowed judges to let the punishment fit the crime.

People can change.

No Greater Joy/Gretchen R. Crowe

## Gratitude, generosity and humility create the recipe for true Christian joy

It's birthday month in our home, a time when four of the five of us flip the page that welcomes a new year and a new number. When you throw in Mother's Day, end-of-year events, new sacraments and so on, the cake and ice cream alone has the potential to get wildly out of control.



So can the gifts—so much so that my husband and I decided that we were going to only get our toddler, celebrating the big 2, a few small things this year. At that age, anything's a toy, right?

In reality, though, it mattered little what we got for our baby because he barely got to see his new spoils. Big bro and sis were waiting in the wings—or should I say, standing right in front of him—fully ready and willing to give the new items a thorough test drive.

After the toddler had been put to bed, my husband told our 6-year-old, who was still playing with one of the new toys, that he needed to remember whose gift it was that he was holding. “It's John's,” said Joseph, without missing a beat, “and he's asleep.”

These observations have prompted me to spend some time pondering the gifts we encounter in our lives.

There are the gifts we receive—the gifts of life, love and salvation from our Creator; the gifts of care, time and attention from our family members and friends; the gifts of the Church and of the sacraments; and those seven gifts of the Holy Spirit poured out on the Apostles and Mary on Pentecost that sustain the moral life of Christians. These also include the material gifts we receive—those tokens of love and thoughtfulness that, when shared and received in the proper spirit, can

strengthen and sustain healthy relationships.

Then there are the gifts that we give, especially the gifts we make of ourselves: the sacrifices, big and small, that we offer daily for the good of others, modeled after Christ's gift of himself to us on the cross and the gift he continues to give us in the Eucharist; the reciprocal gift of love between a husband and wife; the pouring out of

*Gratitude, we are taught from a young age, is the proper response when receiving a gift. But it is generosity that opens our hearts when things are seemingly going better for others than they are for ourselves.*

ourselves, even when we think we have nothing left to give. As the fathers of the Second Vatican Council wrote in “*Gaudium et Spes*,” “man ... cannot fully find himself except through a sincere gift of himself” (#24).

And then there are the gifts that are given not to ourselves but to others. How do we respond to those gifts—to the things that we might observe, even things

that we might think we deserve, but are not able to have for ourselves? The ninth and tenth commandments exist as guardrails to the natural human inclination to envy. We are not to covet anything belonging to anyone else—from family to personal effects. (I'm looking at you, Big Kids.)

This can be hard, because sometimes other people are gifted things that we aren't. I think of friends who, though wanting to be married, haven't yet met a spouse. I think of couples who, for one reason or another, or for reasons known only to God, have been unable to conceive a child. I think of women, myself among them, who have lost children to miscarriage—whose gifts await them in heaven while their arms remain empty here on Earth. Or the gift of good health when ours is poor, or the gift of sustainable work for some when it is, for others, scarce.

Gratitude, we are taught from a young age, is the proper response when receiving a gift. But it is generosity that opens our hearts when things are seemingly going better for others than they are for ourselves. A generous heart cultivates within us a spirit of constant thanksgiving, to which St. Paul calls us, allowing us to crush jealousy and enabling us to freely honor the riches possessed by others. This is the lesson of the widow, who gave away all she had. (Mk 12:42-44)

And it is humility that allows us to recognize everything truly as gift. Mastering the virtue of humility means that we automatically think of others before we think of ourselves—including the blessing of their gifts.

Gratitude, generosity, humility—the recipe for true Christian joy and the keys to heaven. Jesus, grant us the grace to desire them.

*(Gretchen R. Crowe is the editor-in-chief of OSV News.) †*



The Most Holy Trinity/Msgr. Owen F. Campion

# The Sunday Readings

Sunday, May 26, 2024

- Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40
- Romans 8:14-17
- Matthew 28:16-20

The Book of Deuteronomy is the source of the first reading for Mass this weekend. Deuteronomy is the fifth book now in sequence in the Old Testament. It is one of the five books that form, for Jews, the basic revelation by God.



This reading describes an instruction given by Moses to the Hebrew people as they wandered across the

Sinai Peninsula, fleeing Egypt where they had been slaves and in search of the land God had promised them.

In this reading, Moses is quoted as having told the people that God created all. He had spoken to them. He is in heaven. Finally, Moses said that the people must obey God's commandments.

At the time, these words were extraordinarily powerful. They revealed God. Moreover, they were God's own revelation. They marked the path toward genuine life with God. They were the ways to peace and joy in human existence.

For the second reading this weekend, the Church presents a passage from St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans. By the time Paul wrote this letter to the Christians of Rome, a community had formed, convinced of the identity of Christ as Savior.

Still, much more needed to be pondered and learned if the full measure of life with God in Christ was to be attained.

Therefore, Paul profoundly explained that faithful Christians share the divine life. They are more than creatures of God. They are God's children by adoption. Disciples are encouraged to address God as "Father," indeed as "Abba," an ancient Aramaic term for fathers that was a particularly gentle and loving endearment (Rom 8:15).

As children of God, the faithful are heirs to the eternal life of God. All this, of course, is accomplished through God's grace in the individual Christian's bond with the Lord Jesus.

St. Matthew's Gospel supplies the last reading. It is a Resurrection narrative,

clear and compelling. The risen Lord appears before the eleven surviving Apostles on a mountain, speaking to them in words that they understood.

For future generations, Jesus gave them all authority on Earth and in heaven, sending them into the entire world, telling them to bring all whom they would meet into the one body, "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" (Mt 28:19).

In other words, Jesus ordered them to unite all people with God.

## Reflection

What is the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity all about? It tells us about God. God lives and we hear that God loves us. In loving us, God communicates with us, meets us in the world, speaks in terms we can comprehend, provides for our needs and gives us eternal life.

God loves us so much that he gave to us and sent to us the Lord Jesus, his Son, as our Redeemer and teacher.

God loves us by having given us the Apostles. They were more than humans who simply met Jesus and watched Jesus. They loved Jesus. Jesus called them individually and then sent them into the world—to us—to give us the words of salvation and the mercy of God despite all that may beset us.

That we might better know God, Jesus revealed to us, and the Church continues to reveal, the most intimate detail of God's own life, the reality of the Holy Trinity, three distinct Persons, united in the one divinity.

The Trinity reminds us that God is love, in a way we cannot fully describe, too wonderful, too perfect for humans to completely grasp.

The feast of the Holy Trinity does not present a mystery, academic, dry and the object of useless speculation. Instead, it proclaims God's perfect, unqualified love for us, never ceasing, always willing to forgive.

This feast joyfully proclaims that God wishes us truly to live. The key is our loving God in return. †

## Daily Readings

### Monday, May 27

St. Augustine of Canterbury, bishop  
1 Peter 1:3-9  
Psalm 111:1-2, 5-6, 9, 10c  
Mark 10:17-27

### Tuesday, May 28

1 Peter 1:10-16  
Psalm 98:1-4  
Mark 10:28-31

### Wednesday, May 29

St. Paul VI, pope  
1 Peter 1:18-25  
Psalm 147:12-15, 19-20  
Mark 10:32-45

### Thursday, May 30

1 Peter 2:2-5, 9-12  
Psalm 100:2-5  
Mark 10:46-52

### Friday, May 31

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Zephaniah 3:14-18a  
or Romans 12:9-16  
(Response) Isaiah 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6  
Luke 1:39-56

### Saturday, June 1

St. Justin, martyr  
Jude 17:20b-25  
Psalm 63:2-6  
Mark 11:27-33

### Sunday, June 2

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (*Corpus Christi*)  
Exodus 24:3-8  
Psalm 116:12-13, 15-18  
Hebrews 9:11-15  
Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

Question Corner/Jenna Marie Cooper

## Catholics are bound to follow 'canonical form' in weddings

**Q**A divorced, annulled Catholic friend of mine recently got engaged to another divorced Catholic, who said her



previous marriage was ruled "lacks proper form" by the Church. What does this mean? Are they able to marry in the Catholic Church? (Indiana)

**A** Even as a canon lawyer, it's impossible to draw firm conclusions about another person's canonical marriage situation based on a secondhand account and without knowing all the details. Still, it sounds like the marriage in question was invalid due to what we would call a "lack of canonical form."

Catholics, and only Catholics, are bound to observe "canonical form" in marriage as per canon 1108 of the *Code of Canon Law*. Essentially, this means that Catholics are required to be married in a Catholic context, saying their wedding vows and exchanging matrimonial consent in the presence of two witnesses and a properly authorized Catholic bishop, priest or deacon.

If Catholics marry outside of canonical form—for example, if they married in a courthouse or even in a non-Catholic religious ceremony—this is not only illicit (that is, against canon law) but also invalid.

In some cases, depending on specific pastoral needs, it may be possible for a Catholic to receive a "dispensation from canonical form," or special permission from the bishop, to marry a non-Catholic in a non-Catholic ceremony.

It's also important to note that if someone becomes Catholic at any point in his or her life, even if he or she falls away from the Church, he or she is always considered Catholic in canon law. This means that a baptized

Catholic who no longer actively practices the faith would still be bound to observe canonical form in his or her wedding.

So, if a Catholic—practicing or not—attempts to marry in a non-Catholic ceremony without a dispensation, this marriage would be invalid in an objective, clear-cut way. Other causes of marriage nullity, like certain psychological issues or a lack of proper intention, are generally less obvious and more nuanced. This is why a marriage can be declared invalid due to lack of form much more quickly and easily than a typical marriage nullity process.

Presuming there are no other impediments, a Catholic who had his or her marriage declared invalid due to lack of form would indeed be free to marry in the Catholic Church.

**Q** May a Catholic lay person perform self-intinction by dipping the consecrated host in the precious blood? (Rhode Island)

**A** No, self-intinction is not permitted for a lay person.

Intinction is a well-established, albeit relatively less common, way of receiving holy Communion under both kinds. As paragraph 245 of the "General Instruction of the *Roman Missal*" tells us: "The Blood of the Lord may be consumed either by drinking from the chalice directly, or by intinction."

This same idea is reiterated in the U.S. bishops' 2002 document "Norms for the Distribution and Reception of Holy Communion under Both Kinds in the Dioceses of the United States of America." However, in paragraph 50, the U.S. bishops' document explicitly states: "The communicant, including the extraordinary minister, is never allowed to self-communicate, even by means of intinction. Communion under either form, bread or wine, must always be given by an ordinary or extraordinary minister of holy Communion." Extraordinary ministers are by definition laypersons, as clergy—meaning ordained bishops, priests and deacons—are considered ordinary ministers of holy Communion.

Similarly, in a section describing the norms for Communion under both kinds for the non-ordained lay faithful, the 2004 Vatican document "*Redemptionis Sacramentum*" tells us in paragraph 104: "The communicant must not be permitted to intinct the host himself in the chalice, nor to receive the intincted host in the hand."

(Jenna Marie Cooper, who holds a licentiate in canon law, is a consecrated virgin and a canonist whose column appears weekly at OSV News. Send your questions to [CatholicQA@osv.com](mailto:CatholicQA@osv.com).) †

## My Journey to God

### God Listens

By Janine Schorsch

There are people who say they don't believe ... Why then do they cry out when no human can help them? Are they crying out to the God in whom they don't believe?

There are people who say they believe ... but don't cry out. Why do they hold so tightly to their pain? Do they think their God is too busy, too far from them?

There are people who cry out, who believe, but doubt ... How do they know God is listening? How could He let this happen? Will God really answer them?

No matter where you are, God listens. God speaks to us in our hearts. Be still, let go of this world, It's your turn ... Listen to God.



(Janine Schorsch is a member of St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross Parish in Bright. Photo: Father Vincent Gillmore, then-parochial vicar of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis, serves in persona Christi as he listens to a confession during an Hispanic Family Camp at Catholic Youth Organization Camp Rancho Framasa in Brown County on Sept. 18, 2021.) (File photo by Natalie Hoefler)



# SECC

continued from page 3

“That particular stage for me was very empowering,” she said. “I was breaking free of stigmas, and that helped me work toward my financial independence.”

The staff encourage her to apply for a Habitat for Humanity home, and “volunteered their time into hammering nails into the house that now shelters us.”

Marrero’s voice was emotional when she said, “St. Elizabeth’s, you are far more than charity for me. You will always feel like our home.”

## ‘We have to be present’

The gala is the agency’s biggest fundraising event. This year it raised more than \$386,500, nearly 19% more than last year.

Casper shared stories that evening of how donations are translated into essential help for those in need through SECC’s eight programs.

He spoke of two working mothers who were housed while “working, doing all they could while caring for their children undergoing chemo treatments.”

There was the 18-year-old high school student who needed a home when her

only parent died, and a woman “so beaten, she was bedridden while nursing her 2-week-old baby.”

When Gabriella, “whose parents courageously made a decision to place her for adoption prior to her birth,” was born with life-threatening medical issues, our amazing social services team . . . visited her daily,” said Casper. “They prayed over her daily in making very difficult medical decisions that was every parent’s worst nightmare.”

He spoke of the grandmother who “comes to our Marie’s Blessing program, asking for essential baby items to care for her grandchild as her daughter was removed from her parenting role due to addiction.”

And he noted “the children we are assisting in our school counseling program, for issues that, I can tell you, most of us never even thought about these in our school years.”

Casper mentioned an expectant mother who recently moved into the agency’s maternity home, who “is receiving prenatal care for the first time in the sixth month of her pregnancy.”

There are the general stories, too. “The mom no longer worrying where her child’s next meal is coming from,” he said. “The victim whose slow recovery

from trauma is just begun. The resident’s self-esteem that has been raised from non-existent to ‘I can do this.’

“These things happen every day at St. Elizabeth, and the first key to St. Elizabeth helping anyone is, we have to be present.

“This means doors open, staff trained, resources to deliver the quality services that we all expect.”

Casper, now serving in his 15th year as SECC’s agency directory, closed with a thank you.

It’s the agency’s supportive community that “makes it possible for us to provide help, create hope and serve all,” he said.

“Whether your support is driven by the cause of homelessness, pro-life, empowering women, addiction, mental health, domestic violence, protecting children, disabilities or creating forever families, we thank you.”

*(St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities in New Albany offers eight programs: maternity home; women and children’s emergency shelter; domestic violence transitional housing and rapid rehousing; affordable supported housing; Adoption Bridges of Kentuckiana; Marie’s Blessings; school counseling; and supported living for those with developmental delays. For more*



Dorcas Marrero shares how various housing programs of St. Elizabeth Catholic Charities in New Albany helped her and her two young boys find independence and a home of their own. She spoke at the agency’s Giving Hope-Changing Lives gala on April 18 in Louisville, Ky. (Photo by Natalie Hoefer)

information on these programs or to donate, go to [www.stecharities.org](http://www.stecharities.org), call 812-949-7305 or e-mail [info@stecharities.org](mailto:info@stecharities.org).) †

# CIRCLE

continued from page 1

## Catholic Women’s Giving Circle.

Any Catholic woman in central and southern Indiana can join, multiplying her own and the circle’s ability to impact the works of Catholic ministries in the archdiocese.

“We can change lives with these grants,” said Kim Pohovey, director of major and planned gifts for the archdiocese.

And grow in faith, knowledge and friendship along the way.

## ‘Female giving from a Catholic perspective’

It was Pohovey who conceived the concept of an archdiocesan Catholic women’s giving circle.

“Tonight is a culmination of several years of thought and preparation to create a Catholic women’s giving initiative within the Archdiocese of Indianapolis,” she told the women gathered.

Pohovey said she “attended many presentations on the rise of women’s giving in this country.” In the process, she learned that, “Statistically, women prefer to give collectively.

“I began to ponder the idea of creating an effort to promote female giving from a Catholic perspective.”

The giving circle concept was a perfect fit.

It is a mode of collective philanthropy involving a group of people with shared values pooling donations. At a certain point in the year, members vote on organizations—selected through an application process—they wish to support through the group’s gathered funds.

The process is repeated annually, both in terms of membership and awarding grants.

Her vision was to create a Catholic Women’s Giving Circle open to any female member of the archdiocese.



Kim Pohovey

Membership lasts one year, with commitments of \$1,000 or \$250 determining whether a member gets a whole or quarter vote on the final grant recipients.

Currently, 33 women have joined the giving circle, contributing a total of \$33,000. Membership is open through June 17.

As for the recipients, they must be archdiocesan-supported agencies or ministries that submit an application describing how they would use a \$25,000 grant from the giving circle. *(See related article below for membership and grant applicant details.)*

“Simply put, our goal is to empower Catholic women to raise money to fuel Catholic ministries,” Pohovey summarized.

## ‘Women give differently than men’

Two experts also spoke at the event, discussing the science behind women’s giving circles.

Sue Ellspermann, president of Ivy Tech Community College in Indianapolis where the gathering was held, shared statistics of women’s philanthropy, while Andrea Pactor of Indiana University Women’s Philanthropy Institute explained more about the research behind the statistics.

“Research shows women give differently than men, and women’s giving is increasing,” Pactor said.

She noted that Catholic women in philanthropy have a deep history in America, starting in 1727 when Ursuline sisters started a hospital, school and orphanage in New Orleans. The school is still there.

Pactor also shared that the trend is catching the attention of researchers, who report women gave more than \$3.1 billion last year—and that figure is still increasing. They also found that women tend to give across broader interests and give consistently, making it all add up regardless of the dollar amount.

“It is interesting to me that women are natural connectors,” said Elisabeth Williams of what she learned from the presentation.

Williams, a member of St. Barnabas Parish in Indianapolis and part of the archdiocesan Catholic Women’s Giving Circle steering committee, said the idea

of a Catholic women’s circle is to “build each other up,” the way women do as natural nurturers.

“We are a group of women sharing the same faith and values,” said Sasso. “We want to help each other grow.”

## ‘Spiritually enriching’

Before launching the Catholic Women’s Giving Circle, Pohovey consulted with Archbishop Charles C. Thompson.

She shared how he emphasized that a spiritual component is a pivotal part of the process he wants to see incorporated into the group, that it should not be just about raising funds, but increasing the Catholic faith of the women involved.

Ellspermann, who has been involved in several giving circles, assured this growth.

“This will be spiritually enriching for you so that we can be the hands of our Lord,” she told the women, noting she has gained more than she’s ever given from her giving circle participation.

The group is dedicating its mission to St. Katherine Drexel (1858-1955), a hero of women’s philanthropy who gave all her wealth to serve Black and Indigenous Americans. A native of Philadelphia, she used her family’s banking fortune for philanthropy after meeting Pope Leo XII, who urged her to be a missionary. She founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament in the late 1800s and was canonized by Pope John Paul II in 2000.

St. Katherine’s witness of using her talents and treasure to inspire others to work together is an inspiration to the women helping start the Catholic Women’s Giving Circle.

“It’s not only about the money,” Pactor said of the giving circle concept. “It’s an opportunity for friendship, connection, community, learning about philanthropy and about joy. Giving makes us happy.”

*(Jennifer Lindberg is a freelance writer and a member of St. Mary Parish in North Vernon. Natalie Hoefer contributed to this article. For more information on the archdiocesan Catholic Women’s Giving Circle or application for their grants, see related article or go to [www.archindy.org/womensgiving](http://www.archindy.org/womensgiving).) †*

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

- Earn certificate in Lay Ministry
- Complete 12 courses online with ND STEP program
- CDU offers classes on Catechism of the Catholic Church
- 20% discount for all employees, volunteers, and parishioners

For more information, please log on to [www.archindy.org/layministry](http://www.archindy.org/layministry)

**REPORT SEXUAL MISCONDUCT NOW**

If you are a victim of sexual misconduct by a person ministering on behalf of the Church, or if you know of anyone who has been a victim of such misconduct, please contact the archdiocesan victim assistance coordinator. There are two ways to make a report:

**1 Ethics Point**  
Confidential, Online Reporting  
[www.archdioceseofindianapolis.ethicspoint.com](http://www.archdioceseofindianapolis.ethicspoint.com) or 888-393-6810

**2** Victim Assistance Coordinator, Archdiocese of Indianapolis  
P.O. Box 1410, Indianapolis, IN 46206-1410  
**317-236-1548 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1548**  
[victimassistance@archindy.org](mailto:victimassistance@archindy.org)

## Catholic Women’s Giving Circle membership and grant applicant information

**Membership**  
Any Catholic woman who is a member of the archdiocese is invited to become a member of the Catholic Women’s Giving Circle.  
The cost for a full voting membership is \$1,000. The cost for a quarter-vote membership is \$250.  
Those who choose to join at the \$1,000 membership level can pay in one installment or four quarterly installments of \$250 each. Payments can be made by check, securities (IRA, DAF or stock gifts) or securely online by credit card.  
This is an annually renewable commitment. Membership commitments for this cycle are due on June 17.

**Grant applicants**  
One-time, one-year grants of \$25,000 will be available to all archdiocesan-supported agencies and ministries that apply. The membership response will determine the number of \$25,000 grants to be awarded.  
Interested agencies and ministries must complete a grant application by Aug. 30. (Applications are available starting on June 3.)  
A selection committee of member volunteers will select three to five finalists. The archdiocesan Office of Stewardship and Development will work with these selected finalists to prepare a short video to be presented at a grant selection event on Oct. 30.  
Grant awardees have until Oct. 1, 2025, to target completion of their project, and will be asked to complete an impact report. Awardees may be asked to present their report at a future gathering of the Giving Circle. Awardees will be eligible to apply for future funding.

*(For more information about membership or the grant application process, go to [www.archindy.org/womensgiving](http://www.archindy.org/womensgiving) or contact Kim Pohovey at 317-236-1568 or [kpohovey@archindy.org](mailto:kpohovey@archindy.org).) †*



# VOGEL

continued from page 1

will reach a high point—but will not end—on June 1.

That's the day when Archbishop Charles C. Thompson will ordain Deacon Vogel, Deacon Anthony Armbruster and Deacon Samuel Rosko as archdiocesan priests at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis.

June 1 is the day on which Deacon Vogel will start in his priestly life and ministry to help Catholics across central and southern Indiana have the same kind of encounter of love with God that so changed his life eight years ago.

## 'It catapulted me'

Deacon Vogel grew up in rural Jennings County in southern Indiana, a member of St. Joseph Parish there.

His father Steven was Catholic, but his mother Andrea was not. Yet she was determined that her son would be raised as a Catholic—something for which Deacon Vogel gives thanks today.

"To her, that was something so important," Deacon Vogel said. "I am so grateful that I was given a moral compass and a really good grounding, a good Catholic sensibility. That's such a gift that I know I've had."

It's a gift, though, that he didn't appreciate as much when he was growing up as he does now. His practice of his faith became irregular in his later high school years, a trend that continued when he was a student at Indiana University-Purdue University Columbus and later at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI).

Looking back on that time, Deacon Vogel thinks an intuition he may have had about his priestly vocation led him in part to step away from his faith.

"Frequently when I would go to Mass, they would pray during the petitions for an increase of vocations to the priesthood," he explained. "Occasionally, my heart would leap up. I felt like [the prayer] was talking to me. I couldn't explain it. I figured, though, that I didn't want to do that. I wanted to get married."

"So, I figured that I'd stop going to Mass and it would go away. And that worked for a while."

It didn't continue forever, though. When Deacon Vogel came to Indianapolis in 2014 to continue his college education, he learned about the Catholic campus ministry at IUPUI, in which FOCUS missionaries were involved.

Getting to know IUPUI students active in campus ministry and finding a spiritual home at nearby St. John the Evangelist Parish led Deacon Vogel to re-embrace his faith—and to take part in the FOCUS conference in Dallas in January 2016.

"It catapulted me," he said of his prayer experience at the conference. "I knew I wanted to pursue whatever God was wanting and asking of me."

## Celebrating joys, sharing sorrows

So, he put a career in information technology on hold and considered where God might be leading him.

Thoughts of the priesthood arose, and he spoke about them with Father Rick Nagel, St. John's pastor. But with his return to the faith so recent, Deacon Vogel eventually discerned that his relationship with Christ and the Church needed to mature a little before he explored a priestly vocation more deeply.

So, he turned instead to FOCUS, the apostolate that had done so much to lead him to Christ.

Deacon Vogel became a FOCUS missionary, serving from 2016-18 at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, Mich., starting less than a year after his life-changing moment in Dallas.

"I definitely experienced imposter syndrome, because it was all so new," Deacon Vogel recalled. "... I didn't think I was qualified at all. But I thought that this is what I was being asked to do. And so, I took a step forward to see what would come of it."



Transitional Deacon Bobby Vogel speaks on April 28, 2023, with Ana Perez, director of the Office of Hispanic and Latino Ministry at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad. (Photo courtesy of Saint Meinrad Archabbey)

Like the FOCUS missionaries at IUPUI had done for him, he mentored young adults at Eastern Michigan in living the faith as college students.

"I was learning probably as much as they were," Deacon Vogel said. "I was just going out there, facing the challenge, trying to grow from it and help others to be bold enough to go and do the same."

While at Eastern Michigan, Deacon Vogel entered into the happiness and sorrows of the college students there, from weddings to tragic deaths in their families.

"Just getting to celebrate the joys and be with them when they're grieving and all the things in between—I thoroughly, thoroughly loved that," he explained. "There was just something so special about getting the opportunity to know people so deeply and to walk with them in their journey. I love that."

"That's what I fell in love with, walking with others toward Christ. That's what really drew me to seminary. That's the thing I'm most looking forward to as a priest, just loving people and walking with them toward Christ, bringing him, his healing and his sacraments."

## 'This is home'

In the fall of 2018, Deacon Vogel enrolled at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology as an archdiocesan seminarian.

During the past six years, in addition to being part of the formation community at Saint Meinrad, Deacon Vogel has served at parishes across central and southern Indiana, including Holy Spirit Parish in Indianapolis, St. Mary-of-the-Knobs Parish in Floyd County and St. Joseph Parish in Shelbyville.

His first assignment as a priest will be as parochial vicar of St. Simon the Apostle Parish on the northeast side of Indianapolis.

"I've fallen in love with the archdiocese and the people here," Deacon Vogel said. "This is home—anywhere in the archdiocese. This is where I want to spend the rest of my life."

As Deacon Vogel looks forward to priestly life and ministry, he thinks back to his childhood.

"I remember telling my mom ever since I was young that I wanted to change the world," Deacon Vogel recalled.

While he values the "hope and optimism" that is part of the "beauty of youth," the cynicism and jadedness that often come as one grows into adulthood has not kept Deacon Vogel from trusting in the power of grace.

"I've seen what God can do through little, weak, pathetic me," he said. "We're all so small. We can only do so much. We sin all the time, and yet the Lord can use us in such profound and incredible ways beyond anything we could guess."

## 'A man of community'

Terri French could never have guessed that eighth-grader Bobby Vogel would one day be a priest when she was his catechist at St. Joseph Parish in Jennings County. "God chooses all kinds of people," said French, the wife of Deacon Larry French. "I would never have thought that God would have picked this young man who was so shy."

So, she was happy beyond words years later when she learned that he was considering a priestly call.

"I was elated—elated—when he shared that he was discerning the priesthood," French said.

She's confident that Deacon Vogel's kindness and empathy will help him minister well to people from all backgrounds.

"If you are a highly educated person, he is right there on your level. He can communicate and do well there," French said. "And if you are a not-so-educated person, but a very good, down-to-Earth person, he can talk to you and make you feel important."

Seth Slone agrees. He is a former seminarian for the Diocese of Lexington, Ky., who spent four years at Saint Meinrad as a classmate of Deacon Vogel.

"He's a man of community," said Slone. "He's not interested in trying to put on airs. What you see is what you get."

What Slone got in him was a faith-filled friend.

"He was always able to listen, but not just to me," Slone said. "He also listened to the Holy Spirit. He

## Transitional Deacon Bobby Vogel

**Age:** 31

**Parents:** Steven and Andrea Vogel

**Home Parish:** St. Joseph Parish in Jennings County

**Education:** Jennings County High School; Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis; Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad

**Favorite Scripture verse/passage:** Luke 6:45b ("From the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks.")

**Favorite saint:** St. Francis Xavier

**Favorite prayer/devotion:** Surrender novena

**Favorite movie:** the *Toy Story* series

**Favorite authors:** J.R.R. Tolkien; Oscar Wilde; Herman Melville; Jesuit Father Gerard Manley Hopkins; Rudyard Kipling; Msgr. Ronald Knox

**Hobbies:** Exploring new countries; learning linguistic facts about Latin, Spanish or English; reading poetry; hiking; smoking a cigar on a crisp night with a pint or cocktail in hand surrounded by good company; getting to know people over a coffee; making the perfect cup of coffee or shot of espresso; tinkering with electronics, dissecting and discussing a movie just watched with a group of friends.



always seemed to provide me with just the right step that I needed for growing closer to God."

Father William Marks, pastor of St. Mary-of-the-Knobs, sees in him a good addition to the priests of the archdiocese.

"As a brother priest, Deacon Bobby will bring a spirit of encountering Christ," Father Marks said. "He enjoys sharing his experience with people. His compassionate approach to ministry will resonate with parishioners and help foster a sense of belonging and spiritual growth."

On the verge of his ordination, Deacon Vogel is eager to help Catholics of central and southern Indiana to not only have an encounter with Christ, but then to go forward to help others do the same.

"The Lord is calling us to be missionaries," Deacon Vogel said, "every single person in whatever particular context our lives are in. We can do things that will profoundly change the course, the eternal destiny of people's lives."

"Everybody can do this. Everybody can be an instrument for Christ."

(For more information about other archdiocesan seminarians and a vocation to the priesthood in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, visit [HearGodsCall.com](http://HearGodsCall.com).) †

## Classified Directory

### For Sale

**CALVARY CEMETERY**, 435 W. Troy, Indianapolis, two crypts, Bldg. 2, Tier A, Alcove D-END, \$13,499. Call 513-257-4543.

### Hauling and Tree Removal Services



**Fred & Sons**  
Hauling & Tree Removal Service  
FredAndSons.com  
**317-626-5973**  
Call today for prompt service!

- Tree Removal, Topping & Trimming
- Shrub Trimming & Removal
- Light Hauling
- Construction Clean-up
- Junk Removal
- Brush Pile Cleaning
- Garage/Basement/Attic Cleanout
- Gutter Cleaning
- Mini Barn / Shed / Fence / Deck Demolition & Removal
- Appliance / E-Waste Removal
- Stump Grinding

### Employment

## Organist Position

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish in Carmel, IN seeks a part-time organist and choral accompanist. Degree in Sacred Music/Organ & AGO certification preferred. Send resumé to [rundr@OLMC1.org](mailto:rundr@OLMC1.org). More information at <https://www.olmc1.org/employment-opportunities>







# Congratulations to the Roncalli Class of 2024

The faculty, staff and administration of Roncalli High School are very proud of all that these young men and women continue to accomplish. They have challenged themselves, embraced their faith and are prepared to make their own unique impact in our world. The prayers and support of the entire Roncalli family accompany them on their journey. May God bless and protect the Class of 2024.



## Roncalli Salutes the Graduating Class of 2024

- |                             |                                  |                               |                                |                              |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Adrienne Ann Agresta        | Erin Elizabeth Curtis            | Ella Mikayla Huth             | Ella Rae Miller                | Elizabeth Ann Schafer        |
| Gianni Paul Agresta         | Cal Scott Davis                  | Dyan Marie Imán               | Dominic Michael Morelli        | Emma Kathryn Scheer          |
| Meredith Concetta Agresta   | Jack Edward Davis                | Maylee Grace Johnson          | Roselith Moreno-Miranda        | Gabrielle Elizabeth Scheil   |
| Tatum Lynn Allstatt         | Edgar De Los Santos              | William Blake Kaul            | Marisa Elizabeth Morwick       | Ries Gabriel Schilten        |
| Justyn Joaquin Anciso       | Abigail Renee Deane              | Fiona Maeve Keenan            | Dasha Bhanu Mukunthan          | Claire Louise Schneider      |
| Noah Matthew Anglemeyer     | Odin Theodore Debon              | Andrew Xavier Kegerreis       | Evan Jeremy Nalley             | Onyn Ralph Schornack         |
| Madeline Grace Annee        | Gabriella Eileen DeMore          | Danica Michelle Keller        | Saul Jr Navarrete              | Emme Nicole Scott            |
| Marco Antonio Arteaga, Jr   | Colin Oscar Denzer               | Sophia Abigail Kelley         | Alyssa Mary O'Connor           | Elizabeth Beatrice Secrest   |
| Ronald Alexander Arthur     | Awi Lam Dim                      | Cole Gene Kesler              | Grace Marie Odum               | Gabriella Danielle Sejas     |
| Corey Neil Avila            | Parker Daniel Dougherty          | Samantha Marie Kilgus         | Chisom Lauretta Okeke          | Emily Grace Escalante Sering |
| Noah Christopher Bajuyo     | Jillian Delores Doyle            | Alyssa Marie Kirkhoff         | Miles Joseph Orrick            | Ella Rose Shelburn           |
| Charles Michael Baker       | Asher Cayden Earnhart            | Hailey Nichole Kortzendorf    | Cing San Paal                  | Amelia Mae Shirley           |
| Thawngthalian Bawihrin      | Daniel Charles Elsener           | Kaitlyn Jane Kriner           | Chloe Louise Painchaud         | Vincent William Shives       |
| Jolie Marie Beeson          | Madelyn Lorraine Endris          | Valeria Lara                  | Jonathan Paul Parrett          | Aubrey Caroline Silcox       |
| Katherine Brice Bellew      | Paloma Escobedo-Lopez            | Kiefer David Lawry            | Tim Peng                       | José Angel Silva-Aguilar     |
| Christian HansPeter Blaser  | Emma Kathaleen Fegan             | Jackson Thomas Lee            | Caitlynn Marie Penollar        | Katherine Li Anne Smith      |
| Josephine Mary Bleizeffer   | Nathan James Fikes               | Natalie Jeanne Lehner         | Megan Charlotte Perkins        | Owen Joseph Sommers          |
| Geovany Bocanegra-Llanos    | Elijah Andrew Fitzgerald         | Riley Gene Lepper             | Noah Anthony Petralia          | Matthew Noah Stacy           |
| Lachlan Daniel Borders      | Brady Joseph Fletcher            | Ryanne Stella Lepper          | Garrett Walter Phillips        | Gracen Kimberly Staehler     |
| Colin James Boring          | Brianna Lynn Fletter             | Jane Elizabeth Bradley Levine | Catherine Elise Pittman        | Joshua James Staehler        |
| Moire Colleen Boyle         | Madden Donald Troy Forsy         | Lilian Catherine Lewen        | Paul Daniel Pittman            | Amelia Grace Steuer          |
| Thomas Austin Bradley       | Joseph Hale Fought               | Alison Patrice Lewis          | Anna Rose Povinelli            | Christian Bradley Swiezy     |
| Nicolas Michael Brand       | Kennia Garcia                    | Ava Rose Lewis                | Jameson Thomas Prendergast     | Isha Tandon                  |
| Benjamin Baker Brandenburg  | Michael Anthony Garcia           | Lauren Elizabeth Lewis        | Gavin Stephen Pritchard-Poteet | Edher David Tapia            |
| Christopher Maxwell Branson | Carlie Michelle Gaskill          | Claire Olivia Lindsey         | Evan Nicholas Quinlin          | Lily Elisabeth Teipen        |
| Seth Cameron Brosseau       | Braden Rucker Getz               | Ezra Matthew Littell          | Jaime Quintana                 | Isabelle Marie TenBarge      |
| Luke Joseph Browning        | Paige Elise Gibbs                | Patrisha Pearl Luziotti       | Jose Manuel Quintana-Flores    | Siang Cung Thang             |
| Gabrielle Lynn Brueggemann  | Johnathon Sherman Gin-Daffron    | Meghan Elizabeth Mader        | Clara Mayer Ralston            | Sui Len Tial                 |
| Kelly Marie Buckel          | Samuel Adrian Gin-Daffron        | Connor Michael Mahoney        | Sophia Luise Ramsay            | Riley Elizabeth Tucker       |
| Spencer Raymond Burge       | Blake Thomas Gliva               | Ronald Maynard Malan          | Marie Kristine Ramsey          | Taylor Anne Turk             |
| Madelyn Alyse Busuttill     | Isaac Aaron Gomez-Alejo          | Lawmyu Mang                   | Jack Lawrence Reed             | Olivia Kathryn Tuttle        |
| Patrick Thomas Cadwallader  | Cristopher David Gonzalez-Rangel | Ryan Thomas Marack            | Erin Colleen Reilly            | William Rhys Vannoy          |
| Stephanie Carmona Avila     | Mason Joseph Grabczak            | Andrew Jeffrey Mason          | Emily Rose Render              | Morgan Alexa Vaught          |
| Francesca Mary Carothers    | Victoria Renee Grant             | Lucas Allen Mathies           | Kyla Ann Renfro                | Lauren Marie Volk            |
| Brandon Carrillo Avila      | Aidan Jay Griffiths              | Marisa Hana Matney            | Israel Anthony Reyes           | Cole Anthony Walters         |
| Samuel Michael Cassiero     | Margaret Ella Guilfooy           | Evan Thomas Maue              | Amaerani Reyes-Quintana        | Oliver Thomas Wellman        |
| Julian Bawi Lian Cawi       | James Matthew Guthrie            | Ella Rae Mayer                | Elise Elaine Richert           | Camren David Whiteley        |
| Michelle Cisneros           | Thalia Elena Guzman              | Michael Eugene McCauley       | Juliana Nichole Riddle         | Nataleigh Rose Wilham        |
| Allyson Lynn Cissell        | Noelani Rachelle Hall            | Rachel Juliana McGaha         | Paige Lauren Riley             | Anthony Michael Wilson       |
| Avery Michelle Clark        | Andrew Michael Heiden            | Adelaide Elise McGill         | Katherine Grace Rittenhouse    | Levi Frew Wisler             |
| Camryn AnnMarie Clark       | Matthew James Hellinga           | Brady Adison David McGuire    | Brayden Paul Rossman           | Bernard Orion Wood III       |
| Kendra Kristine Clark       | Dylan Andrew Henry               | Connor Joseph McHugh          | Gabriel Andre Ruiz             | Brisa Jimena Ximello         |
| Andrew Connor Cole          | Bryce Alan Himelick              | Cristopher Edward Lee         | Brigid Maureen Ruplinger       | Abigail Nancy Young          |
| Elizabeth Ann Collins       | Jasmine Riana Horsman            | McMullen-Vodney               | Elijah James Rutherford        | Rebecca Ann Zakrowski        |
| Megan Elaine Comer          | Grace Marie Hovanec              | Erin Christine McNulty        | Vantin Thang San               | Brian Zarza-Diego            |
| Andres Carlos Corona        | William Joseph Huff              | Luke Ryan McQuillan           | Jerzy Lee Sandlin              |                              |
| Raegan Suzanne Crist        | Nicole Jean Hunt                 | Annah Maria-Louise Meehan     | Luis Antonio Sandoval          |                              |
| Jacob Matthew Cromer        | Jarit Logan Carter Hurst         | Elijah Douglas Miller         | Thla Dawt Sang                 |                              |

Forming disciples of Jesus Christ through the intercession of Saint John XXIII.