



The

# Criterion

Serving the Church in Central and Southern Indiana Since 1960



## The heart of a missionary

Saint is a model of the new evangelization, priest says, page 16.

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## Quarter century of stewardship praised during Catholic Community Foundation annual meeting

By Sean Gallagher

The annual meeting of the Catholic Community Foundation's board of trustees usually is a time to review the state of the endowments it manages and the overall financial health of the archdiocese over the previous fiscal year.

A broader view was emphasized in this year's annual meeting on Nov. 7 at the Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center in Indianapolis.

That's because the Catholic Community Foundation (CCF) is marking the 25th anniversary of its founding. (See related story on page 3.)

"This celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Catholic Community Foundation is a testament to all that is good about the Archdiocese of Indianapolis," said Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, apostolic administrator, during the meeting. "Vision and strong leadership, combined with the generosity of tens of thousands of Catholics over the past 25 years, have created a foundation that will continue supporting the work of passing on the faith long after all of us are gone."

work of passing on the faith long after all of us are gone."

Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara established the CCF in 1987 to manage endowments that were intended to provide long-term support for ministries at parishes, schools and archdiocesan agencies in central and southern Indiana.

The foundation began with a handful of funds valued at less than \$1 million.

Today, there are more than 400 endowments valued at nearly \$140 million.

"There is no part of the archdiocese that hasn't been lifted up by the

See STEWARDSHIP, page 3



Bishop Christopher J. Coyne



The 2012 Indianapolis Catholic Youth Conference begins with singing, dancing and cheering on Nov. 3 at Marian University in Indianapolis. Nearly 700 youths from the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and the Diocese of Lafayette, Ind., attended the event.

## Speaker encourages youth to trust God and all he brings them on their journey of faith

By John Shaughnessy

The teenagers smiled as Katie Prejean told a story about the unlikely guy who made her take a deeper look at her faith—a guy in a gas station with these words



Katie Prejean

tattooed across the back of his neck, "Light It Up, Salty."

The youths also laughed when the 23-year-old Prejean shared another unusual part of her faith journey—the moment when she set the record for

the longest time it's ever taken to scale a 50-foot-high climbing wall.

Then there was the quiet appreciation that the high school students showed when Prejean mentioned the secret to life that she learned from a young saint, a secret the saint revealed on her deathbed when she shared the six words that guided her life.

Katie Prejean related those stories as the keynote speaker of the Indianapolis Catholic Youth Conference on Nov. 4 at Marian University in Indianapolis.

Taking the stage in front of an enthusiastic audience of nearly 700 youths from the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and the Diocese of Lafayette, Ind., Prejean showed the teenagers how even the ordinary moments and seemingly different people we meet can sometimes help lead us to a

deeper relationship with Christ.

To the delight of the teenagers, the youth minister and high school religion teacher from Louisiana illustrated that point in her story about the guy with the unusual tattoo. She recalled how she stood behind the man as they waited to pay for gas, awkwardly staring at the tattoo.

Trying to make sense of its meaning, she wondered if it was some kind of drug reference. Then the man turned around, caught her staring at him and shared the origin of the tattoo.

"He smiles and says, 'You are the light of the world. You are the salt of the earth.' Look it up. It's the Gospel of Matthew,'" Prejean recalled.

She looked it up. She found the words in See FAITH, page 8

## Events connected to Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin's installation as new shepherd are announced

Criterion staff report

Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin will be formally installed as the sixth archbishop of Indianapolis during a 2 p.m. Mass on Dec. 3 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis.

Seating for this Mass will be by invitation only, and attendees will need a ticket to enter the cathedral.



Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin

This is due to the large number of bishops, priests, family members and friends of Archbishop Tobin expected to attend.

Also participating in the installation Mass will be priests and deacons ministering at archdiocesan parishes and schools, and parish life coordinators and

representatives of religious orders that minister in central and southern Indiana as well as representatives of other area faith communities and civic leaders.

Two tickets to the Mass have been offered to each of the archdiocese's 147 parishes. The pastor or parish life coordinator of each faith community has been asked to submit the names of the people who will receive these tickets by Nov. 20.

The installation Mass can be viewed live online at [www.archindy.org](http://www.archindy.org).

At 5 p.m. on Dec. 2, a Solemn Evening Prayer for the First Sunday of Advent will be prayed at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis.

Like the installation Mass, seating for it is by invitation only. Those planning to attend need to RSVP. Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, apostolic administrator, will be the homilist.

Participating in this liturgy will be guests

of Archbishop Tobin, archdiocesan clergy and parish life coordinators, religious priests living and ministering in central and southern Indiana, other members of the men's and women's religious communities in the archdiocese, and representatives of Catholic groups and fraternal organizations that have a special relationship with the archdiocese.

During the Dec. 2 liturgy, Archbishop Tobin's miter, crozier, ring and pectoral cross will be blessed.

Other events connected to Archbishop Tobin's installation are open to the public.

"A Mission of Prayer: A Year of Faith with Archbishop Tobin" will take place on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 at Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, 335 S. Meridian St., in Greenwood.

Although the event is geared especially See INSTALLATION, page 2



# U.S. bishops discuss penance, homilies, religious liberty, economy

BALTIMORE (CNS)—The U.S. bishops' fall general assembly in Baltimore began with an emphasis on conversion and a return to the sacrament of penance.

New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, president of the U.S. bishops' conference, told the bishops at the start of the Nov. 12-15 meeting that he could imagine the criticism he might get for emphasizing penance when there are plenty of "controversies and urgent matters for the Church right now."

But he stressed that the bishops cannot engage culture, dialogue with others or confront challenges unless they first recognize their own sins and experience the grace of repentance.

The cardinal also said the sacrament of penance was something that the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops planned to stress for all Catholics year-round with reflections on re-embracing Friday as a day of penance, including the possible re-institution of abstinence from meat on all Fridays.

Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, apostolic nuncio to the United States, echoed Cardinal Dolan's call for reconciliation.

Noting that there have been some clergy who "out of weaknesses have brought great pain to others," Archbishop Vigano reminded the bishops, "We must continually undergo conversion ourselves ... so people have faith and confidence in us."

Bishop David L. Ricken of Green Bay, Wis., chair of the bishops' Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis, presented a document that encouraged all Catholics to make a renewed effort to seek the sacrament of penance, also known as reconciliation.

If approved, the document will be published as a pamphlet in time to allow dioceses to prepare for Lent 2013.

The bishops' assembly, which opened nearly a week after Election Day, also included discussions about religious liberty and marriage.

Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, chairman of the U.S. bishops' Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty, said the work of defending religious liberty would continue despite "setbacks or challenges."

"Defense of religious freedom requires not just dealing with short-term and mid-term goals, but indeed is a project that requires long-term foundational and formational work," he added.

San Francisco Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone, chairman of the U.S. bishops' Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage, said Election Day was "a disappointing day for marriage." Voters in Maine, Maryland and Washington state approved same-sex marriage. Minnesota voters rejected a constitutional amendment to define marriage as being between one man and one woman.

He praised the work of the bishops in those

four states to defend traditional marriage, noting that in all those states they were outspent by supporters of same-sex marriage.

Each measure passed by small margins, he said, a factor that pointed to the need to "redouble our efforts."

A new statement on the economy, intended as a pastoral message of hope, received some sharp criticism as the document was formally introduced for consideration on Nov. 12.

In floor discussion, some bishops said that "The Hope of the Gospel in Difficult Economic Times"—which the bishops agreed in June should be drafted and fast-tracked to be ready for November—lacked connections to the bishops' 1986 economics pastoral letter, gave what they felt was short shrift to Church teaching on workers' rights, and inadequately addressed "the growing gap between the haves and have-nots," among other issues.

The document, written by a drafting committee under the direction of Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron of Detroit, was scheduled for a final vote of approval on Nov. 13.

The bishops also heard a preliminary presentation of a document that highlights the need for better preaching in Sunday homilies.

"Preaching the Mystery of Faith: The Sunday Homily" encourages preachers to connect the Sunday homily with people's daily lives. It was prepared by the Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations, chaired by Archbishop Robert J. Carlson of St. Louis.

Preaching needs to be done "more effectively in the context of the new evangelization," Archbishop Carlson said. "Our people hunger for better preaching—preaching that would help them rediscover their faith."

The bishops also discussed the proposed "scope of work" for revision of the Liturgy of the Hours submitted by the Committee on Divine Worship. The committee's request comes as the International Commission on English in the Liturgy has started work on revising some parts of the liturgy, specifically hymns, some orations and some antiphons.

A statement drafted by the Doctrine Committee was withdrawn after the committee asked permission to expand its scope. Titled "Contemporary Challenges and Opportunities for the Exercise of the Teaching Ministry of the Diocesan Bishop," it calls upon bishops to take advantage of new technologies—including social media, blogging and cellphone technology—to respond when Church teaching is portrayed inaccurately.

Auxiliary Bishop Edgar M. da Cunha of Newark, N.J., a member of the USCCB Committee on Family, Marriage, Laity and Youth, gave an update on World Youth Day next July in Rio de Janeiro. He said about 12,000 U.S. pilgrims are expected for the international event, but organizers are preparing for a turnout of 1 million registrations, plus 2.5 million at its closing Mass.

Bishop da Cunha, a Brazilian native, also addressed



Bishop John G. Noonan of Orlando, Fla., prays with his fellow U.S. bishops as they gather for the second day of their annual fall meeting in Baltimore on Nov. 13.

safety concerns, pointing out that Rio de Janeiro's reputation "is less than the reality." He said organizers have gone to great lengths to address the issue. They have seen a notable police presence and felt safe there, he added.

The day before the start of the bishops' fall assembly, officials of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) met with three U.S. bishops charged with overseeing the organization's reform.

"The discussion was open and cordial, and those present agreed to meet again to continue the conversation," according to a brief statement issued on Nov. 12 by Franciscan Sister Florence Deacon, LCWR president, and Seattle Archbishop J. Peter Sartain, who was assigned by the Vatican to provide "review, guidance and approval, where necessary, of the work" of LCWR, an umbrella group of 1,500 leaders of U.S. women's religious communities representing about 80 percent of the country's 57,000 women religious.

In April, the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith issued an assessment of LCWR and called for its reform to ensure its fidelity to Catholic teaching.

In elections on Nov. 12, Bishop Kevin J. Farrell of Dallas was chosen as treasurer-elect by the U.S. bishops on the first day of the bishops' assembly. The bishops chose chairmen-elect for several committees: Bishop Michael F. Burbidge of Raleigh, N.C., for Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations; Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston for Divine Worship; Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski of Miami for Domestic Justice and Human Development; Bishop Richard J. Malone of Buffalo, N.Y., and currently administrator of the Diocese of Portland, Maine, for Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth; and Auxiliary Bishop Eusebio Elizondo of Seattle for Migration.

The bishops also elected members of the board of Catholic Relief Services. †

## INSTALLATION

continued from page 1

for archdiocesan youths and young adults, Catholics of all ages are welcome to attend.

Exposition and eucharistic adoration will begin at 7 p.m. on Nov. 30 and continue until 3 p.m. on Dec. 1. A holy hour with praise and worship music and witness talks will take place from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Nov. 30.

A holy hour for vocations organized by the archdiocesan vocations office and seminarians will take place from 11 a.m. to noon on Nov. 30. At noon, Bishop Coyne will lead the praying of the "Angelus," and offer a reflection on Mary and the vocation to do God's will.

A light lunch will follow in Madonna Hall. A rosary rally

organized by the Archdiocesan Youth Council will take place from 2 p.m. to 2:45 p.m., followed by praise and worship music from 3 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Archbishop Tobin will be the principal celebrant of a 4 p.m. Mass on Dec. 1 for the First Sunday of Advent.

On Dec. 12 at a time and place in the archdiocese to be determined, Archbishop Tobin will celebrate a Mass for the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

During late January and early February, Archbishop Tobin will visit each of the archdiocese's 11 deaneries. The times, dates and places of these events have yet to be determined.

Catholics across central and southern Indiana will have an opportunity to meet Archbishop Tobin at these events. †

## Readers are invited to share favorite Christmas memories

The Criterion invites readers to submit a brief story about a special holiday memory for possible inclusion in our annual Christmas issue, which will be published on Dec. 21.

Your favorite Christmas story may be written about a humorous or serious topic related to your faith, family or friends.

Submissions should include the writer's name, address, parish and telephone number.

Send your story for consideration to The Criterion, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46206 or by e-mail to [criterion@archindy.org](mailto:criterion@archindy.org) by the Dec. 12 deadline. †

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# Catholic Community Foundation marks 25 years of growth

By Sean Gallagher

In July 1987, Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara made a single decision that, for the past 25 years, has borne fruit at parishes, schools and archdiocesan agencies across central and southern Indiana.

At that time, he established the Catholic Community Foundation (CCF) to manage endowments that would be established to support the long-term ministry of these institutions across the 39 counties of the archdiocese.

Shortly before Archbishop O'Meara died in January 1992, the CCF managed just 10 endowments whose overall value was less than \$1 million.

That was soon to change.

Soon after Archbishop Emeritus Daniel M. Buechlein became archbishop of Indianapolis in July 1992, he made developing the foundation a high priority.

"He knew from his many years in leadership at Saint Meinrad [Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad] how important it was to have a strong foundation to support the long-term financial stability of the archdiocese," said Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, apostolic administrator, during the Nov. 7 annual meeting of the board of directors at the Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center in Indianapolis.

J. Patrick Byrne, the newly elected president of the CCF board of trustees and a member of St. Mary-of-the-Knobs Parish in Floyd County, had similar words of praise for Archbishop Buechlein.

"His vision, focus, energy, and great love of God and of us helped Catholics across the entire archdiocese to become better stewards," Byrne said. "He was able to balance being the shepherd of 147 parishes with knowing the needs of each individual parish."

During Archbishop Buechlein's 19 years of leadership, the number of CCF-managed endowments grew to 337 with their value reaching nearly \$109 million.

Msgr. Joseph Schaedel, pastor of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis, served as CCF treasurer from 1994 to 2011 while he also ministered as archdiocesan vicar general.

He recalled Archbishop O'Meara establishing the foundation in 1987, but said he couldn't foresee at the time how important it would become during Archbishop Buechlein's tenure.

"I think it was a big deal at the time," Msgr. Schaedel said. "But I don't think any of us understood what a big deal it was going to turn out to be."

Ellen Brunner, archdiocesan director of planned giving, sees how much of a big deal the CCF has become as she helps manage its endowments and gets new ones established.

"The breadth and depth that you see in

the support that is provided is really something we can be proud of," Brunner said. "It's only been 25 years. People I talk to are often surprised to look at our annual report and see the number of endowments and donor-advised funds that we have. It's really phenomenal."

The breadth and depth of the more than 400 endowments now managed by the CCF is due in large part to the generosity of lay Catholics across central and southern Indiana who established them to support the long-term ministry of their parishes, schools and archdiocesan agencies spread out across 39 counties.

Jim and Christine Hackl, members of St. Luke Parish, established three such endowments in 1999 and 2000 to support their parish's school as well as archdiocesan Catholic Charities, the formation of future priests, pro-life education and other Catholic schools across the archdiocese.

At the time, the Hackls wanted to support Catholic ministries, and sought an institution that could manage and distribute their gifts in a trustworthy manner. They chose to put their trust in the CCF.

"We've felt very good about it," Jim Hackl said. "We felt and still feel that we went about it in the right way, that it's in the right hands, and that it's doing what we wanted it to do in a way that is far better than we could have done by ourselves."

Hackl is also pleased with how the foundation has grown over the past quarter century.

"It's not going to disappear," he said. "There's probably a critical mass [of endowments] there. We like the assurance that it will be around."

Msgr. Schaedel noted that Archbishop Buechlein was able to grow the CCF to the extent that he did because he relied on expert advice from many lay Catholics across central and southern Indiana.

"They are top flight professionals in their fields," Msgr. Schaedel said. "They continue to provide a lot of advice and expertise that we just wouldn't have otherwise in finance, in communications and in all kinds of fields. We have volunteers doing what other places pay to have done by consultants."

One of those volunteers is George Kempf. A vice president of a large financial services firm, Kempf just completed a term as president of the board of trustees.

Although he is in a position to appreciate the sound advice given to the foundation by many of his Catholic colleagues in his field, Kempf also looks higher to give credit for its success.

"God's hand is clear in steering the success of the CCF in its first 25 years," said Kempf, a member of St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis. "The mix of business owners, executives, financial people and others has also been very important to the success we see today."

have distributed nearly \$77 million to parishes, schools and archdiocesan ministries throughout central and southern Indiana, including nearly \$7 million this past fiscal year."

David Milroy, executive director of the archdiocese's Secretariat for Stewardship and Development and acting chief financial officer, noted that, because of fluctuations in the stock markets, the CCF endowments lost about 1 percent in value during the last fiscal year.

Milroy also said that archdiocesan endowments, whose value was approximately \$20 million, were removed from the CCF and reinvested in other ways. This happened because it was determined that these particular endowments were meeting short-term archdiocesan needs instead of helping it to achieve long-term goals, which is the purpose of CCF endowments.

Despite a small loss in value of CCF endowments, Milroy emphasized that they have nonetheless grown by an average of more than 7 percent annually in the past quarter century.

"When you think about the [overall poor] investment returns over the last 10 years, that's a number that we can feel good about," Milroy said.

In reviewing the financial health of the archdiocese, Milroy noted that it recently completed its eighth consecutive year with either a break even or small budget surplus.

Part of that good budget track record is due, Milroy said, to the archdiocese's ability over the past five years to

control the costs of its employees' health insurance costs.

"Our claim activity in the lay benefit plan has trended much better than national levels," Milroy said, "so much so that we've been able to make extra contributions to employees' [health savings] accounts, and give agencies, schools and parishes premium holidays."

At the same time, Milroy said that the archdiocese is facing financial challenges largely due to ongoing tough economic conditions.

"It puts pressure on our donations, which in turn leads many of our parishes and schools to struggle to balance their budgets," he said. "And it likely means that we'll continue to have lower returns on our investments. Until the economy takes off, the stock market probably isn't going to do much."

Despite these challenges, which in part have led to a \$2 million reduction in the archdiocesan budget to \$34 million, Milroy said that the overall good financial health of the Church in central and southern Indiana will help Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin when he begins his ministry in December.

"Every ministry needs more funds than it has," Milroy said, "but I'm really comfortable that Archbishop Tobin is inheriting a very solid organization on which to build his vision with us."

(For more information on the Catholic Community Foundation, log on to [www.archindy.org/ccf](http://www.archindy.org/ccf).) †



Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, fourth from left, apostolic administrator, prays the eucharistic prayer during a Mass celebrated on Nov. 7 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral prior to the annual meeting of the Catholic Community Foundation (CCF) board of directors. Concelebrating the Mass were, from left, Fathers Vincent Lampert, Steven Giannini and Clifford Vogelsang, at right (partially obscured). Ford Cox, center, executive assistant to the archbishop and liaison for episcopal affairs, assisted during the liturgy. The CCF is marking the 25th anniversary of its founding this year.



Sue and George Kempf, from left, members of St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis, and Steve Stapleton, a member of St. Matthew the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis, kneel in prayer on Nov. 7 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis during a Mass celebrated prior to the annual meeting of the Catholic Community Foundation board of directors.

Byrne is happy to lead the CCF into its next 25 years as he begins a year as president of the foundation's board.

Looking to the future, though, is somewhat easy for the Floyd County native because he is the great-great-grandson of the man who donated the original plot of land on which St. Mary-of-the-Knobs Church was built. Founded in 1823, it is the

oldest faith community in the archdiocese.

"As our ancestors have provided for us, our faith and our Church is alive, present and growing right now in our archdiocese," Byrne said. "The CCF helps to provide resources for the current and future needs as our parishes, schools and agencies continue to focus on spreading God's word." †

## STEWARDSHIP

continued from page 1

Catholic Community Foundation in the past 25 years," said outgoing CCF board president George Kempf, a member of St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis. "During that time, we



David Milroy, executive director of the archdiocese's Secretariat for Stewardship and Development and acting chief financial officer, speaks during the annual meeting of the Catholic Community Foundation on Nov. 7 in the renovated Assembly Hall at the Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center in Indianapolis.





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## Editorial

CNS photo/Nancy Phelan/Wiechee



Paola Correa, 14, of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Baltimore and Auxiliary Bishop Alberto Rojas of Chicago fill meal bags with grains, dehydrated vegetables and vitamin supplements during a "Helping Hands" project on Nov. 11 ahead of the U.S. bishops' annual fall meeting in Baltimore. Young people joined several bishops in packaging 50,000 meals destined for people in the West African nation of Burkina Faso. The project is a joint effort of Catholic Relief Services and Stop Hunger Now.

## Families and evangelization

"Ever since the first evangelization, the transmission of the faith from one generation to the next found a natural home in the family."

That's a quotation from the statement directed to "the People of God" from the bishops who attended the Synod of Bishops' meeting on the "new evangelization."

The importance of families in the new evangelization was stressed repeatedly during the synod's meeting.

Carl A. Anderson, supreme knight of the Knights of Columbus, who was appointed by Pope Benedict XVI to be an observer at the synod, told the bishops that the sacrament of matrimony makes Catholic spouses and their families public signs of God's love and thus missionaries.

It should hardly be a surprise that the importance of Catholic families was recognized. It is within families that children are, or aren't, introduced to the truths of the Catholic faith and are, or aren't, taught to pray. The family is absolutely essential in the transmission of the faith.

That's why the bishops wrote, "A new evangelization is unthinkable without acknowledging a specific responsibility to proclaim the Gospel to families and to sustain them in their task of education."

It is also within families that we have witnessed members falling away from the practice of their Catholic faith. Few families have not been touched by this. So few families can assert that they don't need help in bringing members back to the Church.

From the beginning of his pontificate, Pope Benedict has said that the new evangelization is directed "principally at those who, though baptized, have drifted away from the Church and live without reference to the Christian life." Those people come from Catholic families.

The bishops took note of the fact that the family is being assaulted by crises everywhere in our modern secular society.

"It is precisely this, however, that impels us to say that we must particularly take care of the family and its mission in society and in the Church, developing specific paths of accompaniment before and after matrimony," they said.

Couples who are living together, and families that are established after the failure of previous marriages, got the

bishops' attention.

They told them "that the Church loves them, too, that the Church is a house that welcomes all, that they remain members of the Church even if they cannot receive sacramental absolution and the Eucharist. May our Catholic communities welcome all who live in such situations."

Perhaps the parents of those who live in such situations can emphasize that point to their sons or daughters—that they are still members of the Church and should continue to practice their faith within those limitations. They should also rear their children in the Catholic faith.

Our young people are a particularly essential part of families so the synod's bishops also had a word about them. They admitted being concerned about them, but not pessimistic.

"We are concerned because the most aggressive attacks of our times happen to converge precisely on them. We are not, however, pessimistic because we sense in our youth deep aspirations for authenticity, truth, freedom, generosity, to which we are convinced that the adequate response is Christ."

Teenage and young adult years are a time for searching when each young man or woman discovers who he or she is and either takes possession of the Catholic faith or doesn't. Our parishes must support them in their search by listening to them and dialoguing with them.

We need our Catholic youths and young adults to be evangelizers in their world, and that can be done by capturing their enthusiasm, and directing it toward various experiences of spirituality, service and mission to others as is already being done in many places.

Families come together in our parishes, of course, and the bishops said in their statement that the work of evangelization "is the work of ecclesial communities as such, where one has access to all the means for encountering Jesus—the word, the sacraments, fraternal communion, charitable service, mission."

The bishops' statement noted that Blessed John XXIII liked to call the parish "the village fountain" from which all can drink. Our parishes must be able and eager to help families in their important role in the new evangelization—leading us to Jesus.

—John F. Fink

## Be Our Guest/Carolyn Woo

# A dream on 25 cents a day and resilience in Madagascar

On a recent trip to Madagascar, I visited a rather extensive vocational training center, Ankohonana Sahirana Arenina, run by the Franciscans.



The center offers workshops in embroidery, basket-making, sewing, formal tailoring, textile weaving, plumbing, wood-carving and other trades. Such skill

development offers participants a chance to make a good living. For many, that means starting their own businesses.

Sixty participants of all the people who had completed their training gathered to greet us when we arrived. They brought their handiwork and irrepressible enthusiasm to showcase what success looked like.

One woman, Germaine, brought a boy's long-sleeve shirt and a common household plastic bucket to illustrate her transformation. She began with a dream and a plan that was built on 25 cents per day. Her dream was to have a home for her family of four daughters rather than living with others and relying on their charity. Her plan, after attending the workshop, was to make school uniform shirts for boys.

Germaine needed capital so she set aside 25 cents a day from her food budget of about \$1.50 until she saved up \$25. One hundred days of sacrifice gave her the investment to buy 25 buckets at a "wholesale rate" of \$1 each.

She resold them in her neighborhood for \$1.50. The fledging bucket trade eventually generated enough capital to buy a sewing machine and materials that busy fingers, tireless efforts and skills learned at the training center transformed into shirts for little boys. Germaine happily told us that her daughters are now also in the business, and thinks she is on her way to owning a home.

I heard many similar stories of ingenuity, persistence and sacrifice. They reminded me that mothers and fathers everywhere want a better life for their families. They want to be able to send their children to school, afford tuition and books, provide sufficient food so that children do not go to bed hungry, and have what for many is the ultimate luxury—a safe, secure home. In Madagascar, that

means one made of concrete so that it does not blow away or collapse in a storm.

Another workshop participant—a widow who is disabled and has three children—lost everything after a bad harvest. If she had not joined the program, her only option was to send her oldest child, a girl of 14, into prostitution. These are the kinds of choices that the poor of the world face every day.

I grew up in Hong Kong, where entrepreneurial spirits flourished. Many people started small, but did not stay that way. The taxi driver who eventually bought his own taxi, the repairman who started his own supply store, and the vendors who sold newspapers, fruits, cheap toys, batteries and watches in retail spaces of 50 square feet in some apartment building stair landings, but saved until they could open a proper store. I saw many people who parlayed humble beginnings into successful businesses.

Such ambition is not limited to Hong Kong or the United States. Throughout the poorest countries in Africa, I have met countless individuals who were assisted by training workshops like the one in Madagascar. They saved from meager earnings, maybe \$1 to \$3 a day, and invested in livestock, better seeds and more effective fertilizers to turn their farms into agribusinesses. Others bought water purifiers so they could open a roadside cafe or ovens so they could start a cookie business or materials and tools so they could create vegetable gardens.

These are the paths taken by so many smallholder farmers, widows, and the poor and vulnerable so they can have more than just subsistence.

They can have something to call their own. They can have independence and a sense of worth. They can experience achievement and know the excitement of an idea as it becomes a reality. They can feel the anticipation for what is possible in the future. They can know that there is something to live for.

Is this what "thy kingdom come" means? Is this the "bounty of the Lord in the land of the living" (Ps 27:13)?

(Carolyn Woo is president and CEO of Catholic Relief Services, the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States.) †

## Letter to the Editor

### Pray that the eyes of the American people will be opened to the truth of Jesus Christ

Apostasy is defined in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* as "the total repudiation of the Christian faith" (#2089).

With full knowledge of what President Barack Obama stands for now that he has been our president for four years, the American people re-elected as their national leader a man who has and will continue to openly attack the Catholic Church and religious liberty in our nation with such measures as the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) mandate requiring the inclusion of abortion drugs, contraceptives and sterilization in health insurance plans.

In large part, Obama's re-election can be attributed to Catholics who, for reasons of ignorance or pure disregard for the teachings of Jesus Christ as transmitted through his Church, cast their votes for a man who is the epitome of the culture of death politician in our day and age.

As Father John Hollowell, an archdiocesan priest, posted on his blog (<http://on-this-rock.blogspot.com>) on Nov. 7, please draw me up a candidate who could more completely embody the opposite of Catholicism.

Clearly, we now live in an apostate nation whose people have forgotten the words of our Founding Fathers such as Thomas Jefferson. "God who gave us life gave us liberty. And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are of the gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with his wrath?"

But as the parables in the 15th chapter of the Gospel of St. Luke teach us, our God's greatest attribute is his mercy. It is time for each of us to now turn to that mercy with renewed vigor.

Our Lady of Fatima urged all believers to fast and pray for the sins of the world. Let us all now take up a renewed commitment to fast and pray for the conversion of heart of President Obama and all of the culture of death politicians who now lead our nation.

And let us fast and pray that the eyes of the American people will be opened to the truth of Jesus Christ once again.

Mike Nygra  
Brownsburg



# Visiting elderly, pope says 'it's wonderful being old'

ROME (CNS)—Presenting himself as “an elderly man visiting his peers,” Pope Benedict XVI visited a Rome residence for the elderly, urging the residents to see their age as a sign of God’s blessing, and urging society to value their presence and wisdom.

“Though I know the difficulties that come with being our age, I want to say, it’s wonderful being old,” the 85-year-old pope said on Nov. 12 during a morning visit to the residence run by the lay Community of Sant’Egidio.

The residence includes apartments for independent living as well as rooms for those requiring more skilled care. Younger members of the Sant’Egidio Community volunteer their time assisting and visiting with the residents, who include an elderly couple from Haiti whose home was destroyed in the 2010 earthquake.

Walking with his white-handled black cane, the pope visited several of the residents in their rooms and apartments before addressing them and members of Sant’Egidio in the facility’s garden.

One of the residents, 91-year-old Enrichetta Vitali, told the pope, “I don’t eat so much anymore, but prayer is my nourishment.”

She asked the pope to “pray that I don’t lose my memory so I can keep remembering people in my prayers.”

The pope told those gathered at the residence on the Janiculum Hill that in the Bible a long life is considered a blessing from God, but often today society, which is “dominated by the logic of efficiency and profit, doesn’t welcome it as such.

“I think we need a greater commitment, beginning with families and public institutions, to ensure the elderly can stay in

their homes,” and that they can pass on their wisdom to younger generations.

“The quality of a society or civilization can be judged by how it treats the elderly,” he said.

Pope Benedict also insisted on recognition of the dignity and value of all human life even when “it becomes fragile in the years of old age.

“One who makes room for the elderly makes room for life,” the pope said. “One who welcomes the elderly welcomes life.”

The pope told the residents that he knows the aged face difficulties, especially in countries where the global economic crisis has hit hard. And he said that the elderly can be tempted to long for the past when they had more energy and were full of plans for the future.

However, the pope said, “life is wonderful even at our age despite the aches and pains and



Pope Benedict XVI talks with Enrichetta Vitali, 91, during a visit on Nov. 12 to a home for the elderly run by the Sant’Egidio Community in Rome.

some limitations.

“At our age, we often have the experience of needing other’s help, and this happens to the pope as well,” he told the residents.

Pope Benedict said they need to see the help they require as a gift of God “because it is a grace to be supported and accompanied, and to feel the affection of others.” †

## Cardinal congratulates Obama, urges him to give priority to most vulnerable

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, congratulated President Barack Obama on his re-election in a Nov. 7 letter.

“The people of our country have again entrusted you with a great responsibility,” Cardinal Dolan said. “The Catholic bishops of the United States offer our prayers that God will give you strength and wisdom to meet the difficult challenges that face America.”

Cardinal Dolan added that the bishops pray that Obama will “help restore a sense of civility to the public order so our public conversations may be imbued with respect and charity toward everyone.

“In particular, we pray that you will exercise your office to pursue the common good, especially in [the] care of the most vulnerable among us, including the unborn, the poor and the immigrant,” he added. “We will continue

to stand in defense of life, marriage and our first, most cherished liberty, religious freedom.”

In the press release containing the text of the letter, the words “our first, most cherished liberty” were in italics. The bishops and the Obama administration have clashed for the past year on a federal Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) mandate that would require most religious employers to provide

contraceptives, abortifacients and sterilization to their employees, allowing for few exceptions.

With 270 electoral votes needed to secure a presidential win, Obama, a Democrat, had 332 to 206 for his Republican challenger, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney.

Four years ago, Obama, previously a U.S. senator from Illinois, received congratulations from a fellow Illinoisan—Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago, then

president of the U.S. bishops—when Obama became the nation’s first African-American president.

“I believe we can seize this future together—because we are not as divided as our politics suggest. We’re not as cynical as the pundits believe. We are greater than the sum of our individual ambitions, and we remain more than a collection of red states and blue states. We are, and forever will be, the United States of America,” Obama said at the end of his 20-minute address to supporters at a victory rally in Chicago during the early morning hours of Nov. 7.

“And together, with your help and God’s grace, we will continue our journey forward, and remind the world just why it is that we live in the greatest nation on Earth,” he added.

Archbishop Jose H. Gomez of Los Angeles also congratulated Obama in a Nov. 7 statement.

“Every political office is an expression of public trust and carries the responsibility to work for justice and the common good—not only in our own country, but also in the international community. So I pray that God will grant our president the wisdom he needs to carry out his duties along with the virtues of honesty, courage, prudence and humility that are necessary for true public service,” Archbishop Gomez said.

“As faithful citizens, the Catholic community here in Los Angeles and elsewhere in the country stands ready to work with our president to fulfill the promise of America’s founders,” he added. “We look forward to working for a new America that is truly one nation under God, where men and women from every race, creed and national background are welcomed to live in liberty and peace as brothers and sisters.”

Charmaine Yoest, president and CEO of Americans United for Life Action, took the Obama administration to

task for its health care law and what she described as its efforts to expand access to abortion. In a Nov. 7 statement, Yoest said she expected state legislatures and a “pro-life majority” in the House of Representatives to blunt those efforts during Obama’s second term.

“Already, AUL has worked with 10 states in passing legislation to opt out of permitting taxpayer-subsidized abortion coverage through Obamacare,” Yoest said. “And we predict that the courts are going to see an ever increasing number of lawsuits as Americans fight for their First Amendment rights of conscience.”

Care Net, an organization that promotes alternatives to abortion, said it hopes that Obama will honor a promise that he made during his first term to make abortion “rare.” “In 2010, President Obama talked about the importance of making abortion ‘rare.’ Sadly, the record of his administration so far has been a record of expanding abortion,” said Care Net CEO Roland Warren in a Nov. 7 statement. “Yet, most American women agree. Abortion is not the best solution in an unplanned pregnancy situation.”

“While the economy, health care and the deficit were the leading issues that voters specifically cited as most important in this election, the results also signal historic shifts in values and demographics,” said a statement from Robert Jones, founding CEO of the Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI).

In focus groups conducted by PRRI in Columbus, Ohio, on the weekend before the election, “among white working-class independent voters, the participants emphasized economic issues like jobs, the deficit and taxes as their highest-ranked priorities for this election.”

Jones said early exit polls also showed Obama “won younger voters under 30 by 23 points, while Romney won seniors by 12 points. And this year, as in 2008, younger voters turned out, rivaling seniors as a proportion of the electorate.”

Another key issue in the election, Jones said, was the treatment of immigration and other issues important to Latino voters, “who now constitute 10 percent of all voters.” †



Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan



Archbishop Jose H. Gomez

## What was in the news on Nov. 16, 1962? A date is set to begin next session of the Second Vatican Council, and Bishop Sheen sees world headed for a showdown

By Brandon A. Evans

This week, we continue to examine what was going on in the Church and the world 50 years ago as seen through the pages of *The Criterion*.

Here are some of the items found in the Nov. 16, 1962, issue of *The Criterion*:



- Second session of council will not begin until May 12; name of St. Joseph put in Mass canon

“VATICAN CITY—The Second Vatican Council shifted into a higher gear at the beginning of its 14th general meeting, largely because of the green light given [to] council Fathers by Pope John to close debate with a vote. It took the council two weeks and a half to cover the first two chapters and the introduction of the project on the liturgy. But after the approval given for a cloture vote, they sped through the final six chapters of the project within a week. The current session of the council

will conclude on December 8 after eight weeks of meetings. The council will then recess until four weeks after Easter. Its second session will begin on May 12 and last until June 29.

- Catholic-Protestant joint hymnal proposed
- Campaign for clothing set to open
- Law deans hit prayer amendment
- Urges ‘rocking chair seminars’
- Asks ‘civic ecumenism’
- Bayh raps direct church school aid
- Holy See reiterates supports of UNESCO
- Vatican Radio denounces baby-murder acquittals
- Clergy and laymen: A new ‘mission’ to French workers
- Bishop Sheen sees world headed for showdown

“ROME—The world is very remotely preparing for apocalyptic times or the final struggle between good and evil,” Auxiliary Bishop Fulton J. Sheen of New York said here. ... The bishop said the day of heresies is over. “There will no longer be a splintering of Christian truth,” he declared, but added, “We are living in a time when the world is beginning to divide into two societies.” One of these

societies, he said, is anti-God, anti-personal and anti-moral.”

- International board of bishops suggested
- Pope John pays a visit to teenaged delinquents
- Reports on survey: Sociologist discounts anti-clericalism in U.S.
- Editor comments from Rome: Council observers reported impressed with freedom of debate
- Vatican coffee shop is ‘oasis’
- Vatican official: Tells why the Church will not close down nunciature in Cuba
- 23 percent of U.S. is Catholic
- Cites two-fold answer to population problem
- Advocates paid lay help in operation of parish
- Unique church service conducted by the laity
- Council facilities cost \$5 million
- Prelate marks 100th birthday

(Read all of these stories from our Nov. 16, 1962, issue by logging on to our archives at [www.CriterionOnline.com](http://www.CriterionOnline.com).) †



## Events Calendar

### November 15-17

Roncalli High School, Fine Arts Center, 3300 Prague Road, Indianapolis. **"Crazy for You,"** Thurs. 7 p.m., Fri. 7 p.m., Sat. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., \$7 adults, \$3 Roncalli High School students and children 14 years or under, pre-sale tickets available. Information: 317-787-8277, ext. 249.

### November 16

Northside Knights of Columbus Hall, 2100 E. 71st St., Indianapolis. **Catholic Business Exchange,** Mass, breakfast and program, "Learn, Earn and Return." Michael Evans, CEO of AIT Bioscience and founder of AIT Laboratories, presenter, 6:30-8:30 a.m., \$15 members, \$21 non-members. Reservations and information: [www.catholicbusinessexchange.org](http://www.catholicbusinessexchange.org).

St. Monica Parish Center, 6131 N. Michigan Road, Indianapolis. **"Coping with the Holidays When You Are Separated or Divorced,"**

7:30 p.m. Information: Archdiocesan Office of Family Ministries, 317-236-1586 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1586.

Athenaeum Ballroom, 401 E. Michigan St., Indianapolis. **St. Mary Parish, "Fine Art Auction,"** preview 6:30 p.m., auction 7:30 p.m., \$10 per person. Information: 317-371-2728.

Knights of Columbus, 1305 N. Delaware St., Indianapolis. **Theology on Tap, "What Are You Looking For?"** 7 p.m. Information: [indytheologyontap@googlegroups.com](mailto:indytheologyontap@googlegroups.com).

### November 17

St. Michael the Archangel Church, 3354 W. 30th St., Indianapolis. **Helpers of God's Precious Infants, pro-life Mass,** Father Todd Goodson, pastor of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis, celebrant, 8:30 a.m., followed by rosary outside abortion clinic and Benediction at church. Information: Archdiocesan Office for Pro-Life Ministry, 317-236-1569 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1569.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, 1530 Union St., Indianapolis. **"Saturday Morning Recollection,"** 9 a.m. Information: 638-5551 or [sheartparish@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sheartparish@sbcglobal.net).

St. John the Evangelist Parish, 126 W. Georgia St., Indianapolis. **"Faithful Citizens" rosary procession through downtown Indianapolis,** Mass, 12:10 p.m., procession following Mass. Information: [faithful.citizen2016@gmail.com](mailto:faithful.citizen2016@gmail.com).

St. Michael Parish, 11400 Farmers Lane N.E., Bradford/Greenville. **"Christmas Bazaar" and spaghetti supper,** 4-7:30 p.m., adults \$8 per person, children ages 4-11 \$4 each. Information: 812-364-4289 or [gigeswein@aol.com](mailto:gigeswein@aol.com).

St. Mary-of-the-Knobs Parish, Floyd County, fundraiser at Huber Family Farm, Starlight. **"Harvest of Abundance,"** 11th annual night out, dinner, dance, live and silent auctions, \$40 per person. Information: 812-923-3011.

### November 18

Most Holy Name of Jesus School, Hartman Hall, 21 N. 16th Ave., Beech Grove. **Parent Teacher Organization, "Holiday Bazaar,"** chicken and noodles dinner, craft booth, holiday booth, country kitchen, white elephant booth, visit by Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus, 1-3 p.m., bazaar, 12:30-5 p.m. Information: 317-784-5454.

Oldenburg Academy of the Immaculate Conception, 1 Twister Circle, Oldenburg. **Open house,** 1-3 p.m. Information: 812-933-0737, ext. 244, or [kwessling@oldenburgacademy.org](mailto:kwessling@oldenburgacademy.org).

Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Providence Center, St. Mary-of-the-Woods. **Bake sale,** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Information: 812-535-2947 or 866-996-2947 or [www.ProvCenter.org](http://www.ProvCenter.org).

Catholic Community of Richmond, 701 N. "A" St., Richmond. **Charismatic prayer group,** 7 p.m.

Information: [dicksoncorp@parallax.ws](mailto:dicksoncorp@parallax.ws).

### November 20

Our Lady of Peace Cemetery, 9001 N. Haverstick Road, Indianapolis. **Memorial Mass for deceased archbishops, bishops, priests and deacons of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis,** 4 p.m., Father Gerald Kirkhoff, archdiocesan vicar for priests' advocacy, principal celebrant. Information: 317-236-1589 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1589.

### November 21

Calvary Cemetery Mausoleum Chapel, 435 W. Troy Ave., Indianapolis. **November Memorial Mass,** 2 p.m. Information: 317-574-8898.

SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. **Thanksgiving Eve Mass,** 6:30 p.m. Information: 317-634-4519.

### November 22

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, cafeteria, 30 S. Downey Ave., Indianapolis. **Annual Irvington Thanksgiving Dinner,** social hour, 11 a.m.,

dinner served noon-2 p.m., reservations to attend the dinner or request delivery by Nov. 20. Information: 317-356-7291 or [parishsecretary@ollindy.org](mailto:parishsecretary@ollindy.org).

### November 24-25

Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, Madonna Hall, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. **Nativity Open House,** Sat. 4-7 p.m., Sun. 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and 5-7:30 p.m. Information: 317-888-2861.

### November 25

St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish, 6000 W. 34th St., Indianapolis. **Opening Mass for the 50th anniversary of ministry,** 11 a.m. Information: 317-291-7014.

### November 28

Columbus Bar, 322 Fourth St., Columbus. **Theology on Tap, "Is This the End?"** 7 p.m. Information: 812-379-9353, ext. 241, or [tracanelli@yahoo.com](mailto:tracanelli@yahoo.com). †

## Retreats and Programs

### November 19

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. **"Come Away and Rest While-Silent Non-Guided Day of Reflection,"** \$30 per person. Information: 317-545-7681 or [marcia.johnson@archindy.org](mailto:marcia.johnson@archindy.org).

Benedict Inn Retreat and Conference Center, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove. **"Catholic Identity and Doctrine-The Sermon on the Mount ... Becoming Beatitude People,"** session four of four, Benedictine Sister Susan Marie Lindstrom, presenter, 6:30-9 p.m., \$25 per session includes dinner. Information: 317-788-7851 or [www.benedictinn.org](http://www.benedictinn.org).

### November 28

Oldenburg Franciscan Center, Oldenburg. **"Grieving with God,"** Franciscan Sister Olga Wittekind, presenter, 11 a.m.-noon, \$15 per session. Information: 812-933-6437 or [www.oldenburgfranciscancenter.org](http://www.oldenburgfranciscancenter.org).

### November 30-December 2

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. **"Advent Silent Retreat Weekend,"** Father John Mark Ettensohn, presenter. Information: 317-545-7681 or [marcia.johnson@archindy.org](mailto:marcia.johnson@archindy.org).

Oldenburg Franciscan Center, Oldenburg. **"The Healing Power of Our Stories,"** Advent retreat, Joy Carol, presenter. Information: 812-933-6437 or [www.oldenburgfranciscancenter.org](http://www.oldenburgfranciscancenter.org). †

## African-American women's conference is Dec. 15 at Fatima Retreat House

"Touch the Hem of His Garment" is the theme for the first archdiocesan "African-American Catholic Women's Advent Day of Reflection" on Dec. 15 at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., in Indianapolis.

It is based on a Scripture passage from the Gospel of St. Matthew about a woman who suffered from bleeding and was healed after touching Jesus' robe (Mt 9:20-22).

Sponsored by the archdiocesan Office of Multicultural Ministry, the conference is intended to help African-American women deepen their spirituality and celebrate the Church's international Year of Faith.

The keynote speaker is C. Vanessa White, an assistant professor of spirituality and director of the Augustus Tolton Pastoral Ministry Program located at the

Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.

White is the author of several books. She also teaches part-time and serves as coordinator of spiritual formation at Xavier University in New Orleans.

She also ministers at the Institute for Black Catholic Studies and is an adjunct faculty member for Loyola Marymount University's African-American Ministries Program in Los Angeles.

The retreat begins with a continental breakfast at 8:30 a.m., includes lunch and concludes after a 4 p.m. Mass in the retreat house chapel.

The cost is \$15 per person.

For more information or to register, contact Franciscan Sister Jannette Pruitt, project coordinator for the archdiocesan Office of Multicultural Ministry, at 317-236-1474 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1474, or call Jane Cooley at 317-632-9349, Brenda Ray at 317-547-8030, Elizabeth Malone at 317-842-5150, Diana Davis at 317-441-9498 or Marilyn Crane at 317-253-1461. †



C. Vanessa White



## 'Americafest'

Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels speaks to students at Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School in Indianapolis about civic engagement during the private Catholic high school's "Americafest" program on Nov. 2.

## VIPs



**Raymond and Rose (Simmermeyer) Weisenbach,** members of St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Morris, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 17 with a Mass, reception and dinner. The couple was married on Nov. 17, 1962, at St. Mary-of-the-Rock Church in Franklin County. They are the parents of eight children, Kim Hountz, Susan Huffmeyer, Shari Strassel, Sandy Volk, Kristin, Jeff, Joe and John Weisenbach. They also have 17 grandchildren, one step-grandchild, two great-grandchildren and four step-great-grandchildren. †



## Bishop Bruté exhibition

Father John Schipp, left, pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish in Vincennes, Ind., in the Evansville Diocese, and Sulpician Father John Kemper examine a crozier that belonged to the Servant of God Bishop Simon Bruté, the first bishop of Vincennes. It is included in an exhibit titled "Simon Gabriel Bruté: Physician of Body and Soul" at the St. Mary Spiritual Center and Historic Site in Baltimore. More than a dozen possessions of Bishop Bruté housed at St. Francis Xavier Parish are included in the exhibit. The Diocese of Vincennes later became the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. Archbishop Emeritus Daniel M. Buechlein launched the cause for Bishop Bruté's beatification and canonization in 2005.



# Bishops, bloggers discuss how tweets, blogs help evangelize

BALTIMORE (CNS)—A group of U.S. bishops and Catholic bloggers discussed—and tweeted about—how to use social media to spread the Gospel message during a Nov. 11 session prior to the start of the U.S. bishops' annual general assembly in Baltimore.

In the nearly three-hour session, the group of two dozen bishops—including Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, apostolic administrator—and even more bloggers talked about the challenges in keeping up with the all-pervasive social media, but also acknowledged the absolute necessity of doing so in order to reach people and connect them more deeply with their faith—or put simply, to evangelize.

In question-and-answer sessions, a panel discussion and in small groups, the bloggers repeatedly urged the bishops to use social media tools, such as blogs and Twitter or Facebook accounts, as a means to communicate a living faith in the modern world.

"[Archbishop] Fulton Sheen would give his right arm to have the tools we have today," said Brandon Vogt, a 26-year-old Catholic blogger and author of the 2011 book *The Church and New Media: Blogging Converts, Online Activists and Bishops Who Tweet*. Archbishop Sheen, who was declared venerable this year, was known for his preaching on television and radio in the 1950s.

Rocco Palmo, author of the popular Catholic blog "Whispers in the Loggia," urged

the bishops to recognize that they have something unique to bring to the broad social media table.

He gave the example of Bishop Alexander K. Sample of Marquette, Mich., who kicked off the Year of Faith by traveling more than 1,000 miles across Michigan's Upper Peninsula to visit parishes and tweeted about the trip along the way.

"That's something you bring that can't be replicated," Palmo said, noting that people can relate to bishops when they share their experience and also feel close to them. "Your job as guarantors of the faith is to make sure the message has integrity and resonates with people."

If the bishops had any doubt about the number of people, Catholics in particular, who use social media, a new study by Georgetown University's Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA), confirmed that there is indeed a big audience out there, and that audience wants material that is relevant and also entertaining.

Mark Gray, director of Catholic polls and a research associate at CARA, gave the bishops and bloggers highlights of the study, "Catholic New Media Use in the United States, 2012" commissioned by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Department of Communications.

The survey, of 1,047 Catholics from Sept. 10-18, showed that 62 percent of adult U.S. Catholics, representing an estimated 36.2 million people,

have a profile on Facebook, 58 percent of Catholics age 30 and under share content, such as pictures, articles and comments, at least once a week on social media, and nearly a third of all surveyed said they would like their pastors and bishops to blog.

An immediate takeaway from the survey was that the sheer number of Catholics online cannot be ignored.

Bishop John C. Wester of Salt Lake City, chairman of the USCCB Committee on Communications, said that the CARA report "suggests many opportunities for the Church to engage with those who live on the 'digital continent,'" described by Pope Benedict XVI, and urged bishops and Catholic laity to approach this online world as missionaries.

The bishop read a letter to the session's participants from Archbishop Claudio Maria Celli, president of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, which similarly described the online mission field.

"In this context, the role of the laity becomes ever more central," Archbishop Celli said, noting that the "voices of the many Catholics who are present in blogs, social networks and other digital forums are reaching people who might not otherwise encounter the message of Jesus."

Some of the bishops at the meeting expressed a hesitancy to jump into the online social media world, noting that it could take a lot of time and that there can be a lack of civility in many online



Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, apostolic administrator, and blogger Rocco Palmo of "Whispers in the Loggia" facilitate a discussion between U.S. bishops and Catholics active in social media during a meeting in Baltimore on Nov. 11.

discussions and comments.

In a small-group discussion, one bishop said he was overwhelmed by the concept of tweeting even a few times a day.

Sister Anne Flanagan, a Sister of St. Paul who writes "Nun Blog," assured him that it wasn't that hard, noting that just during the group discussion she had already tweeted 10 times.

The sister, who has more than 5,000 followers on Twitter, said she sees the value of making connections with people and drawing people into the Church.

Other bloggers emphasized that the online world is a key place to reach young people.

Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Ky., took that idea a step further by encouraging young bloggers to help the Church in this work, suggesting

that they call their pastor or bishop and offer to help.

Bloggers in turn advised bishops to talk about the faith—in quick and entertaining ways—by linking faith to current events or even discussing movies in blogs or video reflections.

The bloggers, many of whom live tweeted the session, not only showed how it can be done, but highlighted its urgency.

Mary DeTurrís Poust, former contributor to Our Sunday Visitor's "Daily Take" blog and the author of her own blog, "Not Strictly Spiritual," said, "Facebook is the new parish hall" where people meet and look for spiritual guidance and connections.

"If they don't find it in our virtual walls, they will find it elsewhere," she said. †

## DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE?

Do your kids "really" believe?  
Do your family & friends really believe?  
IF YOU HAVE AN  
"I'LL BELIEVE IT WHEN I SEE IT"  
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### "SCIENCE TESTS FAITH"

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Photo by Megan Gehrich



Top left, a youth receives holy Communion from Father David Hellmann, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Remington, Ind., in the Lafayette Diocese, during the closing Mass of the 2012 Indianapolis Catholic Youth Conference on Nov. 3.

Top right, Father Patrick Beidelman, center, director of liturgy for the archdiocese and vice rector of Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis, was the principal celebrant during the closing Mass of the 2012 Indianapolis Catholic Youth Conference on Nov. 3.

Right, youths at the 2012 Indianapolis Catholic Youth Conference form a conga line during the event at Marian University in Indianapolis on Nov. 3.

# FAITH

continued from page 1

Matthew, Chapter 5, verses 13-16.

"It's a command to all of us to really light it up," Prejean told the youths. "God is telling us, 'Go into the world I made and help make it better by your witness. Help people realize that they are meant for greatness. They are meant for so much more.'"

Yet, Prejean acknowledged that greatness was the last thing on her mind when she was a high school senior on a spiritual retreat that involved climbing a 50-foot-tall wall. She just wanted to survive.

As she looked for a way to avoid the climb, a fellow student encouraged her. Then when she finally neared the top, a burly man reached down from atop the wall and pulled her up the last few feet.

"I still hold the record of taking the longest time to climb the 50-foot-wall—57 minutes," Prejean proudly noted to the youths, who cheered in response.

She then shared how the climb was just part of the adventure. The second part involved riding a zip line through the forest at the retreat center. The same man who pulled her to the top of the wall encouraged her to push off on the zip line twice. Both times, she stayed put. The third time that he encouraged her, he also pushed her off the platform.

"Your faith is a journey," Prejean said. "It's a process where you are getting to a point where you can literally launch yourself into the arms of God. You are never going to reach a point in your faith where you cannot believe more.

"And every single time you get to a point in your faith where you think you can't go anymore, you hear the cheers of those supporting you. You'll see the hands coming up to grab you. You'll feel the

presence of people pushing you to go further. When you fall off the wall and go forward in your faith, there's somebody waiting there to catch you. It's Jesus. And he never drops you. Never."

She finished her talk with a story about St. Thérèse of Lisieux.

"She lived a life of complete, total surrender to the faith," Prejean told the audience of youths.

"A priest heard her confession [before she died]. When she's done confessing, he gives her absolution, and he turns to her and says, 'Thérèse, what's the secret to faith? What's the secret to holiness? Tell me your secret.'

"She said to the priest, 'It is love alone that counts.'"

Prejean repeated those words a few times to the youths.

She then noted, "In the moments when your faith is a struggle, in the moments when your faith is a challenge, in the moments when your faith seems like just a list of rules that don't make sense, go back to this: It's ultimately love."

It's a love that God offers us as his people, Prejean said.

"God made us so we can love him," she noted. "Our faith is all about that relationship we are supposed to have."

Father Patrick Beidelman shared a similar message with the youths in his homily during the closing Mass of the conference.

"In the face of our transcendent God, who is one and who desires to be one with us, our only response is holy, single-minded, wholehearted love," said Father Beidelman, director of liturgy for the archdiocese and vice rector of Bishop Simon Bruté College of Seminary in Indianapolis.

"Such love finds its precedent and inspiration in the absolute, complete and unreserved gift of Jesus on the Cross." †

Photo by Megan Gehrich

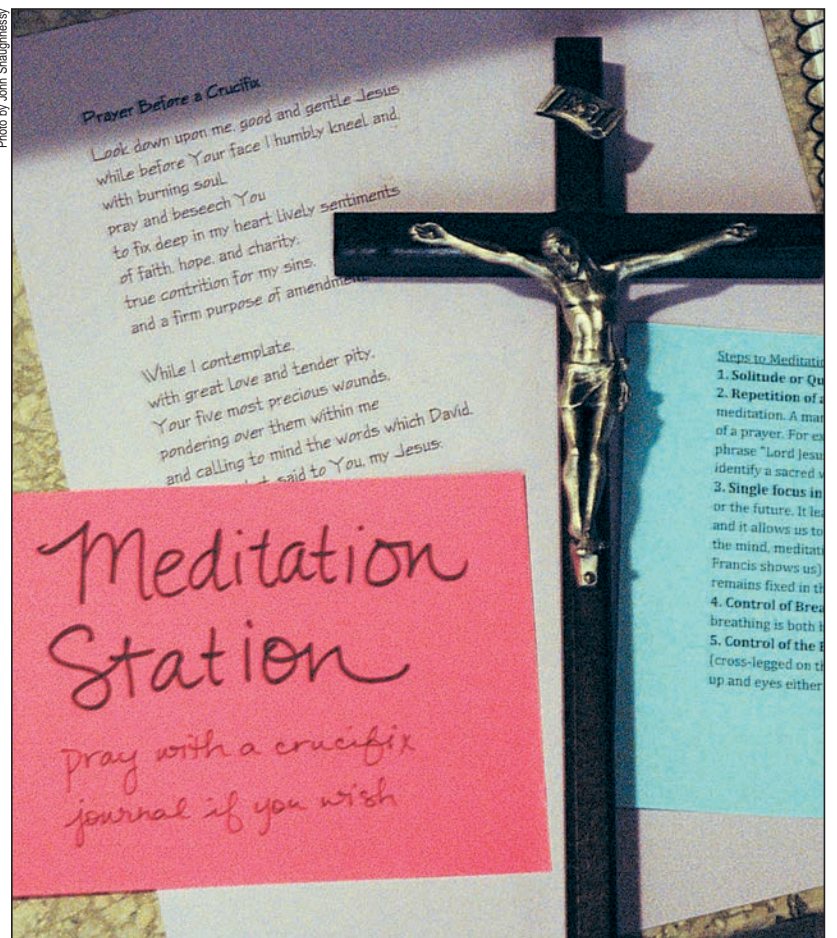


Photo by John Shaughnessy



Katie Prejean, right, the keynote speaker at the 2012 Indianapolis Catholic Youth Conference, talks with Blake Whitney, a member of St. Paul the Apostle Parish in Greencastle.

Photo by John Shaughnessy



Right, youths at the 2012 Indianapolis Catholic Youth Conference were able to take advantage of opportunities for meditation and reconciliation at the event.

Below, the band Ceili Rain shared their Catholic faith when they performed during the 2012 Indianapolis Catholic Youth Conference at Marian University in Indianapolis on Nov. 3.



Photo by John Shaughnessy





Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin speaks to the approximately 600 men who attended the seventh annual Indiana Catholic Men's Conference on Oct. 20 at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis.

# Men's conference participants called to evangelize

By Sean Gallagher

Nearly 600 Catholic men from across Indiana came to the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis on Oct. 20 to be strengthened in their faith.

The event was the seventh annual Indiana Catholic Men's Conference organized by the Indianapolis-based Marian Center and St. Michael Foundation.

The day got off to a rousing start when the attendees gave a standing ovation to Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin, who just two days earlier had been introduced as the next archbishop of Indianapolis.

Archbishop Tobin opened the conference with a prayer and short reflection on the important role that Catholic men can play in the Church's mission of evangelization.

"I think that the fact that you are men banding together to be formed by the word of God and to be sent as missionaries wherever the Lord wants you is really encouraging," he said. "... I'm so happy that you're here today because—whether it's your sons or your nephews or the kid down the block—all of you have an opportunity to be a missionary, to show, especially young men, that it's possible to be a man in every sense of the word and to be a disciple of Jesus Christ."

Archbishop Tobin recalled in his reflection how his father taught him the basics of football in their backyard in Detroit during the 1950s and 1960s.

A priest who could have been an offensive lineman in the NFL spoke after the archbishop.

Father Michael Lightner, a priest of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, Wis., stepped up to the podium standing 6 feet 4 inches tall and weighing approximately 300 pounds.

As an undergraduate at Eastern Michigan University, he had NFL scouts evaluating him as a prototypical offensive lineman.

But then he participated in a Marian pilgrimage in which he had a profound conversion experience. That soon set him on the road to the seminary and ordination to the priesthood.

Like Archbishop Tobin, Father Lightner exhorted his listeners to embrace in their own daily lives the mission of evangelization.

"Imagine what Jesus did with the 12 [Apostles] as he started Christianity all over the world," Father Lightner said. "... Imagine what he could do with 600 men in Indianapolis with one archbishop. Be faithful to the Church's magisterium. Be faithful to the truth. Imagine what you can do."

While encouraging them to take action to spread the Gospel, Father Lightner also emphasized the critical role of prayer for men in making changes in society.

"Do you want to defeat the HHS [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services] mandate? Start praying the rosary," he said. "Do you want to get rid of abortion? Start praying the rosary. We have to humble ourselves and go to Mary because she is the most beautiful creation that God has created."

Father Lightner was followed by Mark Houck, co-founder and president of The King's Men, a national Catholic organization promoting an authentic Catholic male spirituality and faith formation, and advocating against pornography.

Houck described how pornography had left a deep wound in his soul as a young adult. He had tried to fight his problem by returning to the sacrament of confession, but soon learned that he also needed to get to the heart of his problem before God could bring long-lasting healing to his heart.

"Going to confession without addressing the wound is like putting a bandage on a huge shark bite," Houck said. "It's not going

to work. God wants you to go to the place where you don't want to go. He wants you to go to the center of the wound. That's where he wants you to go because that's where the healing is.

"Pornography is an intimacy disorder. We're only as intimate as we are honest. So when you start letting truth into your life, that's when you'll be set free from those things."

Houck encouraged his listeners to turn to Christ as a model of strength and virtue.

"He's got a manly heart," Houck said. "He loves like a man. You need to love like that. You need to call upon that love."

"You have that heart, men. You're grafted into the sonship of God. You're his brother. ... So draw on that strength, men. Draw on that courage for yourself as you deal with these issues in your community. And come together as brothers and draw on that strength because you're going to need it."



Mark Houck

During a break at the conference, Jason Frey, a member of St. Louis Parish in Batesville, spoke about how he came to the second Indiana Men's Conference with a cousin and has come back each year with more of his relatives. This year, he brought along 13 men.

"I just had a feeling of the Spirit, I guess, to bring more people in here," Frey said. "I learned so much about my faith—like praying the rosary on a daily basis, the power of confession, the power of the Eucharist. Hearing it from men made such a difference in my life."

In addition to the speakers, the conference

also featured opportunities for confession, eucharistic adoration and Benediction as well as celebration of the Mass.

Catholic author and commentator George Weigel spoke after lunch about the important role that Catholic men can play in society in the United States, which is becoming increasingly secularized.

He pointed as evidence of this to the HHS mandate, announced in January, that forces abortifacients, sterilizations and contraceptives to be paid for by nearly all religious employers and other business owners opposed in conscience to these medicines and procedures.

"Over these past 10 months, I've had occasion to think seriously about the wonderful saying of Pope Pius XI," Weigel said, "which that great pope articulated when the shadows of a harder totalitarianism were lengthening across Europe in the 1930s.

"Pope Pius XI said, 'Let us thank God that he makes us live among the present problems. It is no longer permitted to anyone to be mediocre.'"

Weigel then exhorted his listeners to go forth from the conference to take up the defense of religious freedom and to see this task as a gift.

"It is a gift to defend religious freedom in full, which includes the right of religious institutions to conduct their educational and charitable activities according to their own religious and moral self-understanding," Weigel said. "It includes the necessity of defending the conscience rights of religious believers, particularly employers, when an aggressive secularism tries to use state power to coerce those consciences.

"This is the freedom for which Christ has set us free. And may we be given in this grave hour in the history of our American democracy the grace, the wit, the wisdom, the humor and the guts to live that freedom nobly." †



Roger Reuss, a member of St. Michael Parish in Brookville, bows his head in prayer while praying the rosary during the men's conference.



Left, Chris Sansone, a men's conference participant, kneels in prayer during the rosary.

Top right, Father Michael Lightner, a priest of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, Wis., speaks during the men's conference.

Bottom right, Catholic writer and commentator George Weigel speaks during the men's conference.





# New cemetery crypt blessed after All Souls Day Mass

By Mary Ann Garber

Candles burned brightly inside the Calvary Cemetery Mausoleum Chapel in Indianapolis on All Souls Day as Catholics from a number of central Indiana parishes offered their heartfelt prayers to and for the faithful departed.

Their prayers for deceased loved ones were an emotional expression of grief as well as fervent witness of belief in the communion of saints and life everlasting.

Father Patrick Beidelman, archdiocesan director of liturgy and vice rector of Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis, was the celebrant for a Nov. 2 Mass at the chapel.

He also presided during the blessing of the cemetery's new Court of the Apostles Garden Crypt, a 384-space mausoleum constructed just east of the chapel.

Father Beidelman represented Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, apostolic administrator, who had traveled to Boston to celebrate the Mass of Christian Burial for his late father, William Coyne Jr., on Nov. 3 with family members and friends.

"On this feast of All Souls, we especially remember those who have died within this past year and all the faithful departed," Father Beidelman said. "Today, we also gather to bless a new mausoleum where the bodies of our brothers and sisters in Christ will be buried and sealed with the name of Christ. ...

"As we prepare this resting place for the dead, we should raise our hearts from Earth to heaven and look to Christ, who suffered, died and rose again for our salvation," he said. "Christ has commended us to keep watch for his coming, and has promised to meet us when we rise again."

The liturgy also gave mourners an opportunity to open their hearts to God's consolation and comfort, Father Beidelman said. "We gather today to remember to God those who have died, who have passed from this life to the next life, and who stand in need of our prayerful support as they come face to face with God in heaven.

"We also gather to be renewed in our hope in the promise of the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead [so] that we can be with God forever in paradise," he said. "In the Paschal Mystery—Jesus' saving death and resurrection—we celebrate the annihilation of the effects of sin and death, and the restoration of our deep communion with our Triune God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit to us all.

"In the celebration of this ancient commemoration of the sacrifice of Christ and the banquet of his love," Father Beidelman said, "we are reminded of and renewed in our call to holiness in this life, a call that is best expressed in a life lived in service and care of others."

God's gift of salvation is offered to each of us, he said, and we are called to live our lives in faithful service as our response to God's love for us.

Catholics can help the faithful departed through their prayers, almsgiving and good deeds, Father Beidelman said, and especially by the sacrifice of the holy Mass.

"If our prayers are earnest and sincere, if our loving concern for others is rooted wholeheartedly in compassion and mercy, and if our discipleship is marked by humility and kindness, we can and will be drawn into the mystery of

Photos by Mary Ann Garber



Good Shepherd parishioner Mary Jane Mattingly of Indianapolis, left, and St. Lawrence parishioner Patricia Beaupre of Indianapolis hold lighted candles as they pray during an All Souls Day Mass on Nov. 2 at the Calvary Cemetery Mausoleum Chapel in Indianapolis. They are widows and longtime friends.

our life with God as we strive boldly for the communion to which we have been called by Jesus," he said. "So even if today our hearts are heavy and we come [here] with some sadness, ... we know that we are called to be people who are hopeful."

We need to ask the Lord to transform us as well as our hearts and prayers, Father Beidelman said, to better reflect God's glory.

"May our lives be transformed by the example of love, obedience and service," he said, "which we celebrate in this Eucharist."

Autumn sunshine carved bright angles of light against the shadows along the sides of the new garden crypt as Father Beidelman led prayers then blessed the mausoleum with holy water.

"As we bless this place of rest for the bodies of the faithful departed, let us ask the Lord to strengthen us with his consolation, his grace and his mercy," Father Beidelman said. "Grant that this mausoleum placed under the patronage of the Apostles may be—by the power of your blessing—a place of rest and hope. ... May this place be a comfort to the living, and a sign of their hope for unending life."

St. Barnabas parishioner Celia Woodard of Indianapolis, the mother of Deacon Russell Woodard, was widowed two years ago. Her husband, Melvin Woodard, died on March 11, 2010.



Father Patrick Beidelman, archdiocesan director of liturgy and vice rector of Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis, blesses the new Court of the Apostles Garden Crypt on Nov. 2 at Calvary Cemetery in Indianapolis. Tim Elson, right, general manager of the Catholic Cemeteries Association, assists him with the holy water. The prayer service and blessing followed an All Souls Day Mass at the Calvary Cemetery Mausoleum Chapel.

"It's a very special day," she said of the feast of All Souls. "Yesterday, on All Saints Day, I was hoping that he is one of the saints. But if he still needs prayers and everything, this was a beautiful Mass to do that." †

## Cardinal sees 'phenomenal' solidarity, compassion in Sandy recovery

NEW YORK (CNS)—Everywhere that New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan said he has gone to visit people and communities in the hurricane-ravaged areas of the archdiocese, he has heard stories "not just of the pain and destruction caused by Sandy, but the overwhelming goodness of people in helping those in need."

He made the comments in a Nov. 8 statement to announce the success of special collection to respond to families, individuals, parishes, Catholic institutions and charities, and other community organizations harmed by Sandy.

Cardinal Dolan asked that all of the archdiocese's nearly 375 parishes hold a special collection on two weekends in November.

The final tally for the collection will not be known until



Rudy Mienert, a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Staten Island, stands outside his destroyed home in the New York borough on Nov. 8. More than a week following the havoc of Hurricane Sandy, residents were struggling to cope with destruction and loss. Special collections were to be taken in all New York archdiocesan parishes over two weekends to help aid in recovery.

sometime after the second weekend, but pastors were already "reporting a generous response from the people to this special appeal for help," the cardinal's announcement said.

The Alfred E. Smith Memorial Foundation and the Cardinal's Annual Appeal will each contribute an additional \$500,000 to the relief fund.

Cardinal Dolan praised the responses of individuals and agencies alike to the devastation and hardship caused by the super storm.

"Catholic Charities and our parishes are doing a magnificent job in reaching out and providing help to people on Staten Island, in Lower Manhattan and elsewhere, as are so many other agencies and individuals," he said. "This new fund will augment those efforts already under way in providing direct aid where it is needed most."

A board of pastors from those areas of the archdiocese most affected by the hurricane will oversee distribution of the funds to ensure that they go to the people and institutions most in need of help with their recovery efforts.

"We have an obligation—a sacred duty—to help those who are hurting," Cardinal Dolan said. "The efforts of the Catholic Church, along with so many other organizations and individuals, are helping us to fulfill this responsibility to care for our brothers and sisters in need."

During a visit on All Saints' Day, Nov. 1, to emergency shelters, embattled firehouses and flooded churches in Manhattan and on Staten Island, Cardinal Dolan said he wanted to "bring a word of encouragement or inspiration" to people struggling to put their lives back in order after Hurricane Sandy.

Instead, he said he found himself being stirred by the New Yorkers that he encountered.

"I got it backwards. These people inspire me! They are a living homily," the cardinal told *Catholic New York*, archdiocesan newspaper, as he visited a shelter set up at

John Jay College of Criminal Justice on Manhattan's West Side.

"What they say to us is like a page out of the Gospel. They say, 'My house is destroyed, all my earthly possessions are destroyed but, I've got my life, got my faith, got my friends, I've got my family, I've got my community.' That's a pearl of great price. Jesus said that," he said.

"These people are an inspiration. They are people of tremendously profound faith," the cardinal added. "Faith comes through at moments of trial, and that's what we've got now."

After that visit, the cardinal immediately headed to Staten Island, where he spent the afternoon comforting residents who were still reeling from the storm. He visited some of the areas hardest hit by Sandy from South Beach to Tottenville.

Being with New Yorkers in the days after the storm, Cardinal Dolan said, had given him a heightened respect for how they handle themselves during a crisis.

"I admired New York from afar after 9/11," he said. "And now I've got a box seat. I don't have a box seat, I'm on the playing field! And they're just amazing with the solidarity, with the compassion. It's phenomenal."

After Hurricane Sandy made landfall on Oct. 29 in New Jersey, the state as well as Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens and Long Island were among the areas hit the hardest. The storm surge reached 14 feet in some places, killing more than 100 people and leaving millions of residents without power.

(Donations can be made at the Catholic Charities USA website at [www.catholiccharitiesusa.org](http://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org). Donations also can be made by calling toll-free 800-919-9338 or by mail to P.O. Box 17066, Baltimore, MD 21297-1066.) †



# Faith *Alive!*

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## Vatican II emphasized that the Church is a mystery

By Kristin Colberg

Many argue that the Second Vatican Council's "Dogmatic Constitution on the Church" (*"Lumen Gentium"*) stands as the jewel in the council's crown.

Blessed John XXIII convened the 21st ecumenical council with the hope that the Catholic Church would engage in *"aggiornamento"* or updating.

His desire was that the bishops would consider ways that the Church might contribute meaningfully to the decisions facing the modern world.

Achieving this required the Church to look seriously at itself so that it could better understand and articulate the wisdom it had to offer.

In the centuries preceding Vatican II, especially those years following the Protestant Reformation, Catholic thinking about the Church often adopted a defensive character. External challenges to its authority led the Church to describe itself in clear, precise and juridical terms as a way of demonstrating its ability to overcome the threats it perceived.

At the convocation of Vatican II, many bishops expressed hope that Pope John's vision would promote a more comprehensive view of the Church, including a more positive articulation of its relationship with the world.

During the council's first session, however, many bishops were disappointed to find that the preparatory draft on the Church was little more than a reassertion of the existing defensive model.

Inspired by the pope's leadership, the majority of bishops were unwilling to persist with such a narrow view, and they overwhelmingly rejected the document.

Theologians debate about the single most important development at Vatican II, but many claim that it was the proposal during the council's second session to begin the document on the Church with the chapter "The Mystery of the Church."

By identifying the Church as a mystery, rooted in the mystery of Christ, the council fathers sought to recover the Church's spiritual and communal dimensions. They returned to more biblical and patristic images as a means of expressing fundamental elements of the Church and people's experience of Christ within it.

This first chapter aptly refers to the Church as a sacrament, a description that promotes appreciation of the Church's outward structures and the deeper, invisible reality of God's presence in the ecclesial community.

The constitution's second chapter on "The People of God" is significant in terms of its content and placement. It affirms the common identity and equal dignity of all the Church's members. It embraces the biblical image of a priesthood of all the faithful, and presents a vibrant idea of catholicity, not as uniformity, but as unity in diversity.

In the original preparatory document, the second chapter was dedicated to examining the Church's hierarchy. By placing consideration of the people of God ahead of such an examination, the council fathers powerfully affirmed that what unites members of the ecclesial community is more significant than what distinguishes them.

The third chapter, on the hierarchy, focuses on the issue of collegiality—shared authority among the bishops and the pope. The success of this chapter is a rediscovery of the theological importance of local ecclesial

communities, and affirms that they are not just branch outposts of Rome. They are, instead, true Churches in and of themselves and, at the same time, in communion with other local Churches and the Church of Rome.

This section articulates a robust view of episcopal authority, yet it presents this authority not as competitive with papal power but as complementary to it.

The succeeding chapters on the laity, the universal call to holiness, the religious and the pilgrim Church examine the roles played by the people of God who are not ordained. These chapters stress the critical importance of baptism and acknowledge the existence of a variety of ways that the faithful advance the Church's mission.

The final chapter on Mary provided some of Vatican II's most vigorous debates.

Primarily, the dispute was between those who were adamant that a council about the Church's self-understanding should honor Mary with her own separate chapter, and those who wondered whether this was theologically and ecumenically appropriate.

By an extremely narrow vote (1,114 to 1,074), it was decided that the last chapter of *"Lumen Gentium"* would be dedicated to Mary, a placement that pays tribute to her role as mother of the Church.

The constitution's shift to understanding the Church as a mystery opens the way for many of the council's subsequent and remarkable achievements.

For example, the affirmation of religious freedom, more robust roles for lay participation and ministry, greater ecumenical openness and a positive view of non-Christians all flow from an understanding of the Church's fundamentally sacramental character.

CNS photo/Paul Haring



Pilgrims attend a candlelight vigil in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican on Oct. 11 to mark the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council. The council's "Dogmatic Constitution on the Church" reached back to scriptural and patristic sources to emphasize that the Church is a mystery.

Vatican II's willingness to embrace the notion of the Church as mystery reflects a dynamic sense of God's presence throughout creation and a confidence that the Church is not isolated. Rather, the Church's mission calls it to engage the world in order to transform it.

While the council achieved many things, it can be argued that its greatest achievement is not found in any one of its teachings, but in the way that it renewed the

Church's understanding of itself and its relationship with the world.

This fundamental shift is the aspect of Vatican II that most fully captures Pope John's vision and the one that most profoundly shapes our experience of the Church today.

(Kristin Colberg is adjunct assistant professor of theology at St. John's University and The College of St. Benedict in Minnesota.) †

## 'Few road maps' existed to guide Second Vatican Council reforms

By Father David K. O'Rourke, O.P.

When I was ordained in 1962, the Second Vatican Council was in full swing.

And when I began my full-time ministry in 1964, a couple of years later, implementing the documents of the



CNS photo/Catholic Press Photo

Bishops arrive in St. Peter's Square in Rome before a meeting of the Second Vatican Council in 1962. Implementing the reforms of the council in the tumultuous years after its conclusion in 1965 was challenging for priests ministering in parishes.

council became our daily work.

Only as the months rolled by did it become clear just how hard that work was going to be. What we—those of us ministering in local Churches—were being asked to do was to reform the way the Church celebrated its sacraments. That had not been done in such a comprehensive way since the Council of Trent hundreds of years earlier.

"Reform the way we celebrate the sacraments" can sound abstract. But there was very little about it that was abstract.

Equally important, there wasn't a lot about it that was concrete, either. We knew that the traditional ways of "saying Mass" were being changed, starting with the words. We now "celebrated the Eucharist."

But how did the changes take place?

Well, those in my generation found out that there were few road maps. It took a long time to put them together. In many ways, we struggled as we went along. And we were not alone because the entire Church was doing the same.

Catholic liturgy takes rituals very seriously. They play an important role in the dignity and strength of our worship. The small things, such as who does what and when, who stands where, and how does it start and end are taken for granted—except when rules or guidelines have not been established.

During our first year, when we had to learn to make some of the changes, there were no clear rules or guidelines. It taught my generation that no one cared about excuses. We were there and we had to make it work. That meant going ahead and doing it.

Interestingly, the first thing I had to learn was not on anyone's job list. I had to learn to be a host. No one really

thought much about it. For an introverted intellectual like me, being out front, greeting everyone, being visible and being there on a regular basis did not come easy.

Hosts welcome people. Hosts open doors. Hosts let everyone know that they are welcome. And that is what Blessed John XXIII and Pope Paul VI wanted in the new sacramental rites for the Mass, for baptism, for welcoming newcomers into the Church, during wedding celebrations and for the sacrament of penance.

The world we lived in during those days, as we now know, was becoming very chaotic. People were looking to the Church after Vatican II as a place of hope. But for many, it was a somewhat distant hope.

Lots of people felt like outsiders to this new Church. It was our challenge as the Church's parish leaders to open the doors, help them become insiders, and open the Church's storehouse of human and religious treasures.

I know that all of this can sound on the level of importance very low. The Second Vatican Council, by contrast, was such a historic event. But I and, I think, many like me read those wonderful documents from the council then looked out our windows and front doors.

What we saw was that same world, except now in the late 1960s it was slipping into real trouble.

I am an old man now. I look back 50 years. I marvel at what we were called to do when we were so young, so inexperienced in the ways of institutions.

But we were on deck, and it was on us to make it work.

(Dominican Father David K. O'Rourke is a senior fellow at the Santa Fe Institute in Berkeley, Calif.) †



From the Editor Emeritus/John F. Fink

## Year of Faith: Catholics believe that hell exists

As I continue my discussion of the Four Last Things, I'll take my cue from Dante Alighieri. In his masterpiece, *The Divine Comedy*, the ancient Roman



poet Virgil conducts Dante through hell, then purgatory and finally to heaven. So I'll treat them in that order, too.

Does the Catholic Church really teach that hell exists? Yes, it does. There are too many references to

hell in Scripture to just pretend that it doesn't exist.

It's a place of eternal damnation for those who used the freedom God gave them to reject God's love. It's the state of persons who die in mortal sin in a condition of self-alienation from God.

Blessed Pope John Paul II asked, "Is not hell in a certain sense the ultimate safeguard of man's moral conscience?" How else is human freedom to be respected if it doesn't include the right to say no to God?

We believe that God gives everyone the

graces necessary to accept God's love and live according to his precepts, but he also gives everyone the freedom to reject that love.

Two questions about hell need to be addressed—the nature of the sufferings inflicted and the number of those condemned to endure them.

Perhaps this statement from the German bishops' conference sums up the answer to the first question. They wrote, "Just as heaven is God himself won forever, so hell is God himself eternally lost. The essence of hell is final exclusion from communion with God because of one's own fault."

But what about the fires of hell that we see in various images? This is a metaphor for the pain of eternal separation from God, which must be the most horrifying pain of all. There won't be physical fire, which wouldn't affect a spiritual body anyway.

And who is in hell? Blessed Pope John Paul II spoke about that, too. On July 28, 1999, he said, "Eternal damnation remains a real possibility, but we are not granted ... the knowledge of whether, or which, human beings are

effectively involved in it."

The Church has said infallibly, through the process of canonization, that certain people are in heaven, but it has never said that certain people are in hell.

There is an ancient controversy known as universalism, which was embraced by the great theologian Origen, which taught that everyone will be saved. The Second Council of Constantinople condemned it in 553.

There's a difference, though, between teaching universalism and speculating about it, as Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, Cardinal Hans Urs von Balthasar and Blessed John Paul II did in relatively recent times.

Here's what John Paul wrote in *Crossing the Threshold of Hope*: "In Christ, God revealed to the world that he desires 'everyone to be saved and to come to knowledge of the truth.' If God desires this—if, for this reason, God has given his Son, who in turn is at work in the Church through the Holy Spirit—can man be damned, can he be rejected by God?"

Only God has the answer to that question. †

For the Journey/Effie Caldarola

## What the years have to teach about gratitude in our lives

Recently, my young cousin shared a video of her daughter, just a few months



old, playing in her jump-up seat. A jump-up is a child's contraption which hangs from a door frame tethered by a sturdy but flexible elastic band. The baby sits, her legs dangling, while she watches the world and enjoys a

soothing bouncing motion.

The humor in my cousin's video was that her daughter, Elizabeth, had discovered that with a little extra effort, the jump-up can take her careening toward the door frames. Although not exactly rappelling off the walls yet, Elizabeth is happily shaking it up.

Elizabeth, who has an older sister, seems to be living up to the second-child stereotype—discovering adventure in all things.

It was Ralph Waldo Emerson who said, "The years teach much which the days never knew." That bit of wisdom certainly applies to parenting. It is why grandmothers must occasionally be forgiven for offering too much advice. Maybe the framework of years has taught them a few things.

My first child also was an Elizabeth.

An easy baby, my Elizabeth was not so much a risk-taking adventurer as a quiet observer.

When she was born, someone loaned us a jump-up, but we had an open design house with few door frames so we threw the jump-up in the closet and forgot about it. Until one night, when all the carpets upstairs were drying from a cleaning, we settled for a card game in a downstairs room that had a door frame.

So we said, hey, let's try this jump-up thing. Both of us were concentrating on a hand of bridge with the child just a few feet away. What could go wrong, right?

Absorbed in my cards, I casually glanced over to see if Elizabeth was enjoying her bounce. Horrified, I saw her hanging completely upside down in the jump-up. Thankfully, this jump-up must have come with remarkable seat belts, saving my daughter from a fall on the basement floor. Obviously, in a classic first-time parent move, I had somehow gotten the tether tangled.

What was it like, that sudden flip and then the whole world upside down? Elizabeth, not uttering a peep, must have wondered what excitement her clueless parents had in store for her next.

The poet Mary Oliver, in "Percy (Seven)," offers an intriguing but heart-tugging verse. "Ah, this is the

thing that comes to each of us. The child grows up."

It was 30 years ago that my Elizabeth was treated to an upside down world. Where did the years go? But I don't think it was just children to which Mary Oliver was referring. This is the thing that comes to each of us—change, growth, decline, a journey into marriage and parenting or to another vocation. A passage into old age, when we cling, no longer to the little boy who gave the best hugs and is now a grown man, but to the memory of that little boy.

In the United States, we are now entering the season of gratitude, a season we sometimes clutter up with things besides thanksgiving. But our whole lives should be a season of gratitude, especially as we grow older. God has lived through the days of our lives, and God knows what the years have to teach.

We ask to live lives filled with gratitude—for small memories, large ones, good ones and bad—gratitude that God forgives and heals the mistakes each of us made as we struggled through days that were sometimes so close and so intense that the lessons of them would be learned only much later.

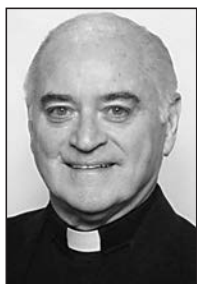
(Effie Caldarola writes for Catholic News Service.) †

Spirituality for Today/Fr. John Catoir

## Don't fall into the trap of inactivity as you live each day

Many people these days fall into the trap of inactivity. They become utterly passive.

For instance, when they read the



Scripture quote, "Ask and you shall receive" (Lk 11:9), they think that God is a servant, waiting to do their bidding.

Unfortunately, it means something quite different.

Allow me to explain.

Let's use the example of a person named Tom. He wants to find a job, but never hunts for one. Tom seems to pray incessantly, and apparently waits in the hope that God will send an employer to his door with a great offer. The truth is that, except for salvation itself, God helps those who help themselves.

Inactivity can lead to sloth, and in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* we are warned about this. "Acedia or spiritual

sloth goes so far as to refuse the joy that comes from God and to be repelled by divine goodness" (#2094).

In the elderly, inactivity is a normal state of being. Because of low levels of energy, the elderly are excused. As long as one is grateful to God, there is no chance of committing any sin related to inactivity. Just pray for the grace to be kind to your caretakers, and you will be fulfilling what Jesus asked of you when he said, "Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me" (Mt 25:40).

We've all heard the phrase, "God helps those who help themselves." But it is a saying not found in the Bible. When it comes to saving one's soul, just the opposite is true. Help comes from above. The Lord's death on the Cross is the great sign of how far his love has gone for each of us.

To get to heaven, we are dependent on the Lord's mercy and love. So the rule that "God helps those who help themselves" only applies in matters of

daily life.

Jesus is not only the cause of our joy, but on the Cross he also is the symbol of heroic self-denial given in the name of love.

Even when it comes to contemplation, be careful not to be sucked into the belief that the annihilation of the will is the correct way to contemplate. True prayer is in the will to give ourselves to God. The will is active in Christian contemplation, not passive. God is the Creator. We are the creatures.

Even when it comes to prayer, don't fall into the trap of inactivity in the name of religion. Be a person who does things. Be active, don't be a couch potato.

If you are an elderly person, be kind, relax, enjoy life and follow the advice of St. Augustine to "Do what you can, and then pray that God will give you the power to do what you cannot."

(Father John Catoir writes for Catholic News Service.) †

Catholic Evangelization Outreach/  
Peg McEvoy

## We are missionaries at home and abroad

Are you a missionary? Most of us would answer that question with a resounding "no!"

We don't go to foreign lands to proclaim the Gospel. That is something reserved for



religious sisters and brothers, priests and some lay folks who join them, right?

Wrong!

We are missionaries through the simple fact of our baptism. It is increasingly challenging to find Christian truth, charity and love in the

world. In many ways, our own culture has become a "mission territory." Many people have heard the Gospel, but have no idea how it applies in "real" life.

We've just made it through an election cycle that brought to the forefront important topics that need to be directly enlightened by our faith. Regardless of who sits in the White House or Congress or the Statehouse, we Catholics need to reclaim our voice as faithful citizens. The Year of Faith provides us with the opportunity to move forward on this path.

The Archdiocese of Indianapolis is focusing on the Vatican II document titled "*Lumen Gentium*" ("Light of Nations") during this Year of Faith. It reminds us that "... the laity are called in a special way to make the Church present and operative in those places and circumstances where only through them can it become the salt of the Earth. Thus, every layman, in virtue of the very gifts bestowed upon him, is at the same time a witness and a living instrument of the mission of the Church itself 'according to the measure of Christ's bestowal.'"

We—the laity—are being called to bring Christ and his Church into every place and circumstance. We even have a special mission where she cannot normally reach without us. It is our job to "season" our families, workplaces, recreational pursuits, political views and interactions with the truth of the Gospel.

Our Catholic faith provides so many rich and beautiful paths to draw us closer to Christ in both the good and bad times. Can we explain why we Catholics do what we do and believe what we believe?

The Year of Faith is calling all Catholics around the world to do just that. In "*Porta Fidei*," Pope Benedict's announcement of the Year of Faith, he says, "Faith is choosing to stand with the Lord so as to live with him. This 'standing with him' points towards an understanding of the reasons for believing. Faith, precisely because it is a free act, also demands social responsibility for what one believes" (10.2).

You are the person—the missionary—called to be salt in the lives of those you encounter. Through prayer and the practice of the faith (Catholic spirituality), through learning the reasons for what we believe (catechesis), and through generous service to others, especially the poor (charity), we become the "witness and living instrument of the mission of the Church."

A speaker I recently heard made a very simple but profound statement. "To do the work of the Church, it takes people." I would add that it takes people of "action."

What about your parish? Is it clear that the work of Christ—the work of the Church—takes people, time and resources? Do you respond? Do you encourage others to respond?

If you feel the tug to go deeper and be more active in your faith, you are not alone. Log on to the Archdiocese of Indianapolis Year of Faith web page at [www.archindy.org/yearoffaith](http://www.archindy.org/yearoffaith).

Act on that inspiration and gather with other parishioners to pray, learn and reach out to others.

(Peg McEvoy is archdiocesan associate director for Evangelization and Family Catechesis. For questions and/or help starting a parish evangelization team, contact her at [pmcevoy@archindy.org](mailto:pmcevoy@archindy.org).) †



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

# The Sunday Readings

Sunday, Nov. 18, 2012

- Daniel 12:1-3
- Hebrews 10:11-14, 18
- Mark 13:24-32

The Book of Daniel provides the first reading this weekend.



Michael, the “great prince” of the angels, is the center of attention. He is one of the few angels mentioned by name in the Scriptures.

Michael’s role in Daniel is to defend God’s people. In this role, he is God’s

servant and instrument. Along with the other angels, Michael is featured in this Scripture passage as opposites of the devils, the fallen angels.

In this reading, Michael protects God’s people. The fundamental point is that God protects the good from everlasting death and defeat before evil.

The setting is very trying, a scene of great distress. Persecution, hardship and terror are everywhere.

Some people will die. However, the names of all people will be recorded. The dead will awake. Some will live forever. Others will be cast into eternal doom.

Living forever will be the wise people, who in the Scriptures are not necessarily persons of high intelligence, but rather those able to perceive the greatness of God in all things.

For the second reading, the Church offers us a selection from St. Paul’s Epistle to the Hebrews.

This book of the New Testament, which is majestic in its eloquence and deep in its message, extols Jesus.

Drawing upon symbols in ancient Judaism, it describes Jesus as the one and eternal high priest. Jesus offered the ultimate and profound sacrifice.

One with God, Jesus sits at the right hand of God’s throne, judging the good and the bad. He has vanquished all enemies of God, and enemies of the right and just.

He sanctifies—makes holy—all of the people who have been perfected by their turning to God and by having had their sins forgiven.

St. Mark’s Gospel supplies this

weekend’s third reading.

Scholars assume that this Gospel was the first of the four to be written. Many believe that it was composed in Rome. Some think that the author had connections with St. Peter. They wonder if the author of this Gospel might not have been a scribe, writing at the behest of the illiterate Peter.

In any case, the Gospel apparently was written in a time of anxiety. Outright persecution lay menacingly on the horizon. Christians knew what it meant to be on the wrong side of power in the Roman Empire because the empire played for keeps.

Maybe this experience led the Evangelist to include in the Gospel text the Lord’s words about “trials of every sort.”

Difficult times might come, but no power on Earth, not even that of the mighty Roman emperor, would be able to thwart God’s plan of salvation.

Even if evil seemed to prevail, the heavenly forces of God would descend from the clouds in glory and transport the faithful to everlasting joy and reward.

## Reflection

The readings this weekend set the stage for next weekend, the great feast of Christ the King.

They also address a situation as ancient in Christianity as the days of the Apostle Peter in Rome. They speak of the devout living among the enemies of God amid harsh times.

In frankness, the readings put reality before us. Life on Earth is no paradise. It has never been paradise for anyone loyal to God.

A month ago, millions of people in this country coped with the devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy.

Actual events remind us every day that the world is not safe. Evil is mighty. Enemies of God are real and active.

Leading us astray in our own hearts are temptations from “the world, the flesh and the devil.”

Just as real is the fact that nothing is strong enough to stand against God. He gives us everlasting life. Jesus is God. Christians have nothing to fear because Jesus is their guide and protector.

Next weekend, in this spirit then, the Church will joyfully celebrate the feast of Christ the King. †

## Daily Readings

Monday, Nov. 19  
Revelation 1:1-4; 2:1-5  
Psalm 1:1-4, 6  
Luke 18:35-43

Tuesday, Nov. 20  
Revelation 3:1-6, 14-22  
Psalm 15:2-5  
Luke 19:1-10

Wednesday, Nov. 21  
The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Revelation 4:1-11  
Psalm 150:1-6  
Luke 19:11-28

Thursday, Nov. 22  
St. Cecilia, virgin and martyr  
Revelation 5:1-10  
Psalm 149:1-6, 9  
Luke 19:41-44  
Thanksgiving Day  
Sirach 50:22-24  
Psalm 138:1-5  
1 Corinthians 1:3-9  
Luke 17:11-19

Friday, Nov. 23  
St. Clement I, pope and martyr  
St. Columban, abbot  
Blessed Miguel Agustín Pro, priest and martyr  
Revelation 10:8-11  
Psalm 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131  
Luke 19:45-48

Saturday, Nov. 24  
St. Andrew Dũng-Lac, priest and companions, martyrs  
Revelation 11:4-12  
Psalm 144:1-2, 9-10  
Luke 20:27-40

Sunday, Nov. 25  
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe  
Daniel 7:13-14  
Psalm 93:1-2, 5  
Revelation 1:5-8  
John 18:33b-37

## Question Corner/Fr. Kenneth Doyle

### Son should honor his dying mother’s faith by asking Protestant minister for prayers

My mother, a baptized member of the Baptist tradition, is 92 years old. She is currently hospitalized with some very serious health issues that may result in the end of her natural life.



I am a Roman Catholic, and a permanent deacon.

I would like to know your view on whether to

have my parish priest administer the sacrament of anointing of the sick to my mother.

She is not asking for this, is likely not sufficiently lucid to understand and would not have understood the sacrament even before the deterioration of her health.

At some level, I suppose having her anointed would provide a sense of peace for my wife and me. (Evansville, Ind.)

The Church’s *Code of Canon Law* speaks to your situation.

In reference to the sacraments of penance, Eucharist and anointing of the sick, the Church provides that “if the danger of death is present ... Catholic ministers administer these same sacraments licitly also to other Christians not having full communion with the Catholic Church, who cannot approach a minister of their own community and who seek such on their own accord, provided that they manifest Catholic faith in respect to these sacraments and are properly disposed” (#844).

The effects of the sacrament of anointing include, among others, “the forgiveness of sins, if the sick person was not able to obtain it through the sacrament of penance; the restoration of health, if it is conducive to the salvation of his soul; [and] the preparation for passing over to eternal life” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1532).

Given those effects, I can understand why it would be of great comfort to you and your wife to have your mother anointed.

However, a key element here is that your mother never asked to be anointed, and I would consider it a violation of her privacy and privilege to confer the sacrament on someone who—as the canon stipulates—has not sought it on her own accord.

Certainly, it would be proper for you and/or your parish priest to pray at your mother’s bedside that God will bless her with strength and peace.

I would suggest, too, out of respect for your mother’s religious preference, that you might invite a Baptist minister to pray over her. I’m not sure of her state of awareness, but that might give her added comfort.

Be at peace. No doubt your mother has lived a good life, including raising a deacon for the Church. I’m quite sure that God has this all figured out and is waiting to bring her home.

Are lesbians and their adopted children permitted to receive holy Communion? I thought that homosexuality was “an abomination unto the Lord.”

These adopted children are also serving as altar girls.

Bless you for your orthodox answers to questions. (La Crosse, Wis.)

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states clearly that men and women with deep-seated homosexual tendencies have not chosen their homosexual condition, and “must be accepted with respect, compassion and sensitivity,” and that “every sign of unjust discrimination in their regard should be avoided” (#2358).

At the same time, the catechism states just as clearly that sacred Scripture presents homosexual acts as gravely depraved, and that such acts are “intrinsically disordered,” calling them contrary to the natural law, and may, under no circumstances, be approved (#2357).

In light of that clear teaching, those Catholics who are living an active homosexual lifestyle should absent themselves from the reception of holy Communion until they have sought forgiveness in the sacrament of penance and resolved to amend their lives.

The same holds true for heterosexuals who are engaged in sexual activity outside the bonds of a valid marriage—including those living together before marriage or Catholics who are divorced and have remarried outside the Church.

Ideally, the lesbians you speak of would recognize for themselves their ineligibility to receive Communion.

The Church’s *Code of Canon Law* states that those who are “obstinately persevering in manifest grave sin are not to be admitted to holy Communion” (#915).

The adopted children of lesbians bear no responsibility for their parents’ lifestyle, and should be welcomed at the altar rail and as servers at Mass. †

## My Journey to God

### Grace

How is it so  
That Your grace can be shed  
Through so broken a vessel,  
So often misread?

Imperfect, unbalanced,  
Through turbulence wrought,  
Capricious by nature,  
Unholy in thought.

Given to whims  
Of emotion and fate,  
Captive to demons  
That never abate.

How can You use  
So repulsive a thing?  
How make the worthless  
Worthy again?

You, Creator,  
Blessing and blest,  
You who see all  
And know us the best,



You use us despite  
Our rebellious ways—  
A mystery of grace  
In the graceless of days.

By Linda Abner

(Linda Abner is a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Indianapolis. A stained-glass window at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Ord, Neb., depicts a priest’s stole surrounding the Eucharist and chalice.)



# Rest in peace

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

**AMBERGER, Jacob**, 17, St. Joseph, St. Leon, Oct. 6. Son of Charlie and Keri Amberger. Brother of Megan and Jason Amberger. Grandson of Jerry and Sheri Osterman and Dick and Jo Ann Amberger.

**CESNIK, Charles**, 76, St. Christopher, Indianapolis, Oct. 14. Father of Ellen Ferguson, Christopher, Michael and Robert Cesnik. Grandfather of nine. Great-grandfather of one.

**EMERSON, Cecilia F. (Lewis)**, 67, St. Mary, Rushville, Oct. 30. Wife of Jim Emerson. Mother of Jodi Emerson. Sister of Laura

Falascino, Jeannie Hill, Michael and Tommy Lewis.

**HELMER, Christine Marie**, 61, St. Christopher, Indianapolis, Oct. 14. Sister of Susan Fay, Mary Hougendobler, JoAnne Koss, James, Robert, Thomas and Vincent Helmer Jr., and Dennis Morrison.

**HELMER, Patricia**, I., 86, St. Christopher, Indianapolis, Oct. 14. Mother of Susan Fay, Mary Hougendobler, JoAnne Koss, James, Robert, Thomas and Vincent Helmer Jr., and Dennis Morrison. Grandmother of 12. Great-grandmother of 23.

**JENNINGS, Brian F.**, 69, St. Matthew the Apostle, Indianapolis, Oct. 30. Husband of Susan (Walsh) Jennings. Father of Michelle Brady, Kelly, Maureen, Keith, Kevin and Matthew Jennings. Brother of Frances Kevan and Patricia Gallagher. Grandfather of eight.

**JORDAN, Teresa Ann**, 57, St. Michael the Archangel, Indianapolis, Nov. 3. Daughter of Thomas and Marilyn Jordan. Sister of Rebecca Barrett, Amy

Barton, Joan Hauk, Laura Jordan and Susan Lay. Aunt of several.

**KINSER, Lura (Justis)**, 76, St. Charles Borromeo, Bloomington, Oct. 27. Wife of John F. Kinser. Mother of Anna Marie DeStefano, Valerie Scott and John Kinser. Sister of Lola Barnett, Lois Curry, Phyllis Deford and Richard Justis. Grandmother of four.

**MARRONE, August L.**, 73, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Jeffersonville, Sept. 30.

**MAY, Mary Rose**, 84, St. Bartholomew, Columbus, Oct. 28. Mother of John, Larry and Rick May. Grandmother of eight. Great-grandmother of eight.

**RICHMER, Raymond**, 90, St. Mary, New Albany, Oct. 28. Husband of Joyce Richmer. Father of Mary Kay Campbell, John, Michael and Scott Richmer. Grandfather of 20. Great-grandfather of four.

**STRIEGEL, Norma**, 89, Holy Family, New Albany, Oct. 26. Wife of Raymond Striegel. Mother of Rozalyn Wolverson, Raymond, Reed, Richard, Roger and Ronald Striegel. Sister of Georgia Striegel. Grandmother of 24. Great-grandmother of 50. Great-grand-grandmother of nine. †



CNS photo/Dominic Ebenbichler, Reuters

## Remembrance

Tombstones are pictured at a cemetery in the western Austrian village of Absam on Oct. 31. Each year, Catholics observe All Saints Day on Nov. 1 and All Souls Day on Nov. 2 with visits to the cemetery to offer prayers for deceased loved ones.

## Franciscan Sister Alma Louise Kohnen taught at Catholic schools in two states for 49 years

Franciscan Sister Alma Louise Kohnen, a member of the Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis of Oldenburg, died on Oct. 28 at St. Clare Hall, the health care center at the motherhouse. She was 101.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Oct. 31 at the motherhouse chapel. Burial followed at the sisters' cemetery.

The former Florence Eleanora Kohnen was born on April 28, 1911, in Newport, Ky.

She entered the congregation of the Oldenburg Franciscans on Dec. 27, 1928, and professed her final vows on July 2, 1934.

Sister Alma Louise taught at Catholic elementary schools in Indiana and Ohio for 49 years.

In the archdiocese, she taught at the former

St. Mary-of-the-Rock School in Franklin County, the former St. Joseph School in St. Leon, St. Paul School in New Alsace, the former St. Martin School in Yorkville and the former St. Mary School in Lanesville.

After retiring from teaching, Sister Alma Louise volunteered in the communications office and archives at the motherhouse, and also helped care for sisters who were ill.

In 1997, she retired from active ministry, but continued to serve her community as a minister of praise until shortly before her death.

Surviving are two brothers, Clarence and Harold Kohnen.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Sisters of St. Francis, P.O. Box 100, Oldenburg, IN 47036. †

## COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS THIS THANKSGIVING

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Pastor of St. Pius X Parish

**Mary Weber**

Grief and Consolation Minister

**Marilyn Hess**

Bereavement Minister

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# Chemistry helps Bishop Chatard win state championship

By John Shaughnessy

The dream of winning a state championship for the Bishop Chatard High School girls' volleyball team had come down to this tense, excruciatingly nerve-racking situation.

The championship match on Nov. 3 had just been tied at two games each by the team from Yorktown High School—the No. 1 ranked team in Class 3A that had decisively beat Bishop Chatard for last year's state title.

Now, the championship would be decided by a winner-take-all fifth game to 15—a reality that led parents in the stands to pray, pace and pull in deep breaths in anticipation.

The players on the Bishop Chatard team approached this overwhelming moment in their own way.

They laughed and danced before they took the court. The scene made their head coach, Nick Wolf, smile. "At the beginning of the season, we pressured the girls at times to see how they would react," Wolf recalled later. "They didn't play well when we did. We learned they played better when we got them in a positive mood."

That positive mood before the final game exploded into a scene of pure joy when the Bishop Chatard Lady Trojans won the decisive set and the 2012 Class 3A state championship in girls' volleyball.

The joyous feeling added another touch when co-captain Marissa Collier was named the Mental Attitude Award winner. Marissa is one of seven seniors on the team.

"All seven of them helped lead us to the state championship," Wolf noted. "They all had the feeling of losing in the state championship last year, and they wanted redemption."

While the state championship provided a moment of redemption, the scene following it offered a surprising touch of romance as Wolf proposed to volunteer assistant coach Suzanne Van Schaak after the trophy presentation.

"I got the ring on Friday [the day before the state championship], and a couple of coaches wanted to see it," Wolf recalled. "Then one of the players walked by, saw it



Members of the Bishop Chatard High School Class 3A state championship girls' volleyball team pose with their trophy on Nov. 3.

and started going crazy. The next thing you know, all 18 of the girls are around us. They asked me to ask her after the game."

Wolf told the players to focus on the championship match, which was played at Worthen Arena on the Ball State University campus in Muncie, Ind.

"After we won, I had the ring in my pocket," Wolf said. "I was going to wait until later in November or December to ask

her. But she's a Ball State grad and she loves volleyball so it was a good place and a good time to ask."

She said yes, and the laughing, the dancing, the smiling and the hugging started again.

"The biggest thing with the team this year was chemistry," Wolf said. "They came together as a team. On the court, they all seemed to be best friends." †

## Christians and Hindus must educate young to be peacemakers, Vatican says

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Christian and Hindu parents, teachers and religious leaders must educate young people to recognize and resist ideologies that teach disrespect for certain groups of people and sow divisions in society, said the leaders of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue.

Extending their best wishes to the world's 1.1 billion Hindus for the feast of Diwali, Cardinal Jean-Louis Tauran and Father Miguel Ayuso Guixot, respectively the president and secretary of the council, called for greater efforts to support young people's yearning for a better world by educating them to be peacemakers.

The message to Hindus was released on Nov. 8 by the Vatican.

Diwali, a three-day religious festival, began on Nov. 13 in most parts of the world. The festival focuses on the victory of truth over lies, light over darkness, life over death and good over evil.

As the primary educators of children, the message said, parents obviously have the first responsibility for equipping their children to be peacemakers. Parents "have the unique privilege of forming their children in values that are essential for peaceful living—mutual trust, respect, understanding, listening, sharing, caring and forgiving."

But religious leaders, too, have a special role, particularly because they are called to be spiritual and moral guides, the message said.

"If peace is to be authentic and enduring, it must be built on the pillars of truth, justice, love and freedom, and all young men and women need to be taught above all to act truthfully and justly in love and freedom," it said.

The majority of the world's Hindus live in India, where in the recent past Christians have endured violence at the hands of Hindu militants trying to assert their vision of a Hindu India and painting Christianity as a recent foreign import despite its centuries of presence in the country. †

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# Saint is a model of the new evangelization, priest says



*'The main celebrant [Father Stephan] was so good, the whole message he gave us taking St. Martin de Porres as an example of evangelizing in our time.'*

—Brother Moises Gutierrez, O.F.M.

By Mike Krokos

The portrait painted during the Mass created a beautiful mosaic of the Church.

Readings proclaimed in English and Spanish. Petitions prayed in those languages as well as in French, Tagalog and Chinese.

African-Americans and Latinos making up the majority of the choir and the nearly 250 people in the congregation during the archdiocesan Office of Multicultural Ministry's 10th annual St. Martin de Porres feast day Mass on Nov. 3 at St. Andrew the Apostle Church in Indianapolis.

"God is great, all the time. All the time, God is great," said Divine Word Father Stephan Brown, who was the principal celebrant and homilist, at the beginning of the bilingual Mass.

"We are celebrating the greatness of God," the priest later added.

During his homily, which he shared in both English and Spanish, Father Stephan reflected on St. Martin de Porres as a model for people of faith.

A Dominican brother who lived from 1579 to 1639 in Lima, Peru, Martin was the son of a Spanish nobleman and freed Panamanian slave of African descent. He is also much admired by African-American and Hispanic Catholics.

The priest said the saint, who was "a man of faith, a man of love and man of mission," lived three characteristics of the new evangelization.

"The first characteristic is that we must have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ," said Father Stephan, former pastor of St. Rita Parish in Indianapolis, who now serves as university minister and assistant to the president at St. Leo University in St. Leo, Fla. "You and I must be men and women of prayer.

"Christ is the center of the evangelization," he said. "Christ is the reason for which we proclaim the message. The Church exists in order to evangelize."

The second characteristic, the priest said, is a passion for Christ, "a passion to share the Good News of Jesus Christ."

The annual St. Martin de Porres celebration, Father Stephan said, is an example of African-Americans and Latinos coming together to live out that faith.

"This is what it looks like to live the [new] evangelization," he said.

The third characteristic of the new evangelization that St. Martin de Porres lived was having a missionary's heart, Father Stephan said. A person who has a missionary or servant's heart loves God "with all their heart, soul and mind," and their neighbor as themselves, he said.

"This is what it means for us as Church. The new evangelization is rooted in that personal relationship with Jesus Christ. It is rooted in love of God and love of neighbor. It is rooted in service. It is rooted in

extending our lives to one another," the priest said.

The new evangelization, Father Stephan added, calls us to follow St. Martin de Porres' example, and "model his love, his prayer, his service, his commitment in our love and service to one another."

Franciscan Brother Moises Gutierrez said the annual feast day Mass was an opportunity to bring together and appreciate the richness of the Church.

"This year's celebration was more intimate," said

Brother Moises, who serves as coordinator of Hispanic Ministry for the archdiocesan Office of Multicultural Ministry.

"The main celebrant [Father Stephan] was so good, the whole message he gave us taking St. Martin de Porres as an example of evangelizing in our time," Brother Moises said.

Deacon Kerry Blanford, parish life coordinator of St. Andrew the Apostle Parish, said the gathering was a unique way to show the local Church's diversity.

"We don't do enough of this. This is a much more diverse archdiocese than any of us stop to consider," Deacon Blanford said.

Franciscan Sister Jannette Pruitt, project coordinator for the archdiocesan Office of Multicultural Ministry, agreed.

"I think that we need to come together as often as possible," she said, "and to celebrate this oneness that we have in the Church." †



Divine Word Father Stephan Brown offers a sign of peace to Rhoda and Thomas Keough during the 10th annual St. Martin de Porres feast day Mass on Nov. 3 at St. Andrew the Apostle Church in Indianapolis.



Franciscan Sister Jannette Pruitt, project coordinator for the archdiocesan Office of Multicultural Ministry, left, and Missionary Sister of Our Lady of Africa Demetria Smith pose for a photo after the annual St. Martin de Porres feast day Mass on Nov. 3.



Left, members of the choir sing during the annual St. Martin de Porres feast day Mass on Nov. 3.



Right, Diamond Price, a member of Holy Angels Parish in Indianapolis, plays the drums during the St. Martin de Porres feast day Mass on Nov. 3.