

# The Criterion

Archbishop Buechlein . . . . .	4, 5
Deanery Profile . . . . .	8
Editorial. . . . .	4
Faith Alive! . . . . .	15
Question Corner . . . . .	17
Sunday & Daily Readings. . . . .	17

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December 11, 1998

## New archdiocesan team commissioned for HIV/AIDS care

By Mary Ann Wyand

Six of seven members of a new Catholic HIV/AIDS Care Team in the archdiocese were commissioned Nov. 29 during the 10 a.m. Mass at St. Jude Church in Indianapolis.

Father Carlton Beaver, director of HIV/AIDS Ministry for the archdiocese, commissioned Indianapolis residents Dan Daly of Holy Cross Parish, Myrna Vallier of St. Lawrence Parish, Monica Collins of St. Bernadette Parish, Mary Jo Lowe of St. Barnabas Parish, and Milly Kopecky and Beverly Carrico, both of St. Jude Parish. Holy Cross parishioner Jan Erlenbaugh also is a member of the new Catholic HIV/AIDS Care Team.

The idea for the care team originated more than a year ago, Father Beaver said, in response to an increasing need for volunteer caregivers for people living with HIV and AIDS.

Last spring, Father Beaver and staff members of the Damien Center in Indianapolis, which provides a variety of support services for people living with HIV/AIDS, began plans to train volunteers and form care teams by working with members of central Indiana churches and religious congregations.

Following a five-month training program and the commissioning ceremony two weeks ago, Catholic HIV/AIDS Care Team members began their ministry roles Nov. 30 when they received care partners who are Damien Center clients.

"This ministry has been a long time in coming," Father Beaver said. "At present, 33 million people worldwide have HIV and AIDS, and half of those are young people. This year, the United Nations is focusing on educating young people about the disease. The theme for the World AIDS Day observance Dec. 1 was "HIV/AIDS: Be a Force for Change."

National health statistics indicate that "Indiana has the second highest increase in HIV infection among teen-agers of all the states this year and also for the last couple of years," he said. "I think there is a growing feeling that teen-agers have to actively be involved in terms of peer education and peer ministry to really bring about prevention."

Ideally, Father Beaver said, every parish in the archdiocese will begin to offer some type of ministry support to



Father Carlton Beaver, director of HIV/AIDS Ministry for the archdiocese, commissions members of the new archdiocesan Catholic HIV/AIDS Care Team at a Nov. 29 liturgy at St. Jude Church in Indianapolis. The idea for the care team originated more than a year ago in response to an increasing need for volunteer caregivers for people living with HIV and AIDS.

Photo by Mary Ann Wyand

people living with acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

Holy Cross parishioner Dan Daly, the new Catholic HIV/AIDS Care Team guide, said he "heard about this project and thought it would be a very worthwhile thing to do."

St. Barnabas parishioner Mary Jo Lowe said she formerly worked as the social service chaplain at Parkview Manor, a state-licensed health care facility for people living with HIV and AIDS, and she wanted to help start the Catholic portion of the caregivers' program.

"I see myself as being able to sit with the individual and visit," Lowe said. "If he or she needs to have an errand run, or wants to go to the show, that's fine. I'm interested in all aspects of pastoral care."

Lowe said she believes "it's very difficult to get people living in the outlying areas to recognize this need (for HIV/AIDS ministry)."

St. Jude parishioners Beverly Carrico and Milly Kopecky said they decided to join the care team because they want to help people in need.

"I've worked as a volunteer for St. Francis Hospital," Carrico said, "and I like to help people."

Kopecky said she has a background in nursing and chaplaincy at St. Francis Hospital and "just felt the call to help people who are living with AIDS."

When Kopecky discussed her volunteer plans, many people she knew expressed concern for her health.

"Some people said, 'Why do you want to do that? Are you sure this is what God wants you to do?'" Kopecky recalled. "Most people would just shake their heads. There was quite a lot of skepticism, but I've had support from people at church, and my husband has been supportive."

While working as a hospital chaplain, Kopecky said, "I found there is something sacred about being with a person who is

very ill and facing a terminal illness. I felt like this is my way of living out the Gospel."

St. Lawrence parishioner Myrna Vallier said her interest in ministering to people living with HIV and AIDS dates back to the years she worked for the archdiocesan Office of Pro-Life Activities.

"It's not easy to help people who are hurting," Vallier said, "but I realize how desperate the need is [for volunteer caregivers]. I want to bring a knowledge of caring to the person, and to the person's family. I want to be there with them for whatever they might need, whether it's listening or doing. The most important thing is to let them know that I love them, that we all love them, and we're not judgmental. Forgiveness is there. Reconciliation with the Lord is there. They just have to ask for it." †

(For information about a variety of ways to help people living with HIV/AIDS, call Father Carlton Beaver, director of HIV/AIDS Ministry for the archdiocese, at 317-631-4006.)



### St. Nicholas of Myra

St. Nicholas of Myra is portrayed in this church window holding a bag of coins. Nicholas, who lived in the fourth century, is said to have secretly given gold to poor girls for their dowries. This legend gave rise to his patronage of children and the giving of gifts in his name at Christmas time. His feast was Dec. 6.

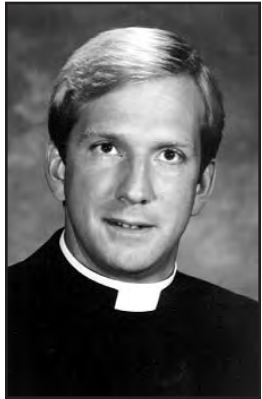
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# Priest assigned to Bright area to help determine support for new parish, school

*Appointment is part of archdiocesan response to development in Dearborn County by people working in the greater Cincinnati area*

By William R. Bruns

Father William G. Marks, pastor of St. Gabriel Parish in Indianapolis, has been assigned by Archbishop Daniel M.



Fr. William G. Marks

Buechlein to the Bright area. He will begin offering Mass and celebrating the other sacraments for the people there in January 1999.

This step is being taken in order to determine if there is sufficient support for the establishment of

a new parish—and possibly for an elementary school—in the area.

According to Msgr. Joseph F. Schaedel, vicar general, "This first step is an assessment of the real potential for a new parish in the area. Contrary to rumor, the archdiocese has not purchased property in the area for a new parish. Land purchase at this time would be very premature."

Father Larry P. Crawford, who had been

pastor of St. Simon the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis, has been named pastor of St. Gabriel, succeeding Father Marks.

The northeastern Dearborn County area in southeastern Indiana has experienced a tremendous growth in recent years as persons who work in the Greater Cincinnati area have moved their families to the area. Catholics there have requested the establishment of a new parish and Catholic schools for their children. Many now attend Mass and send their children to schools in the Cincinnati Archdiocese.

"The challenges, struggles and joys of becoming a community in Christ creates memories of a lifetime," Father Marks said. "I think it will be an incredible experience to be part of a group of people who will possibly create something bigger than ourselves. Nothing will be taken for granted, and this will give us the opportunity to truly experience the Spirit of God at work in our lives," he said.

The archdiocese has also formed a new task force that will be asked to determine the need, interest and ability to support a Catholic high school in the area.

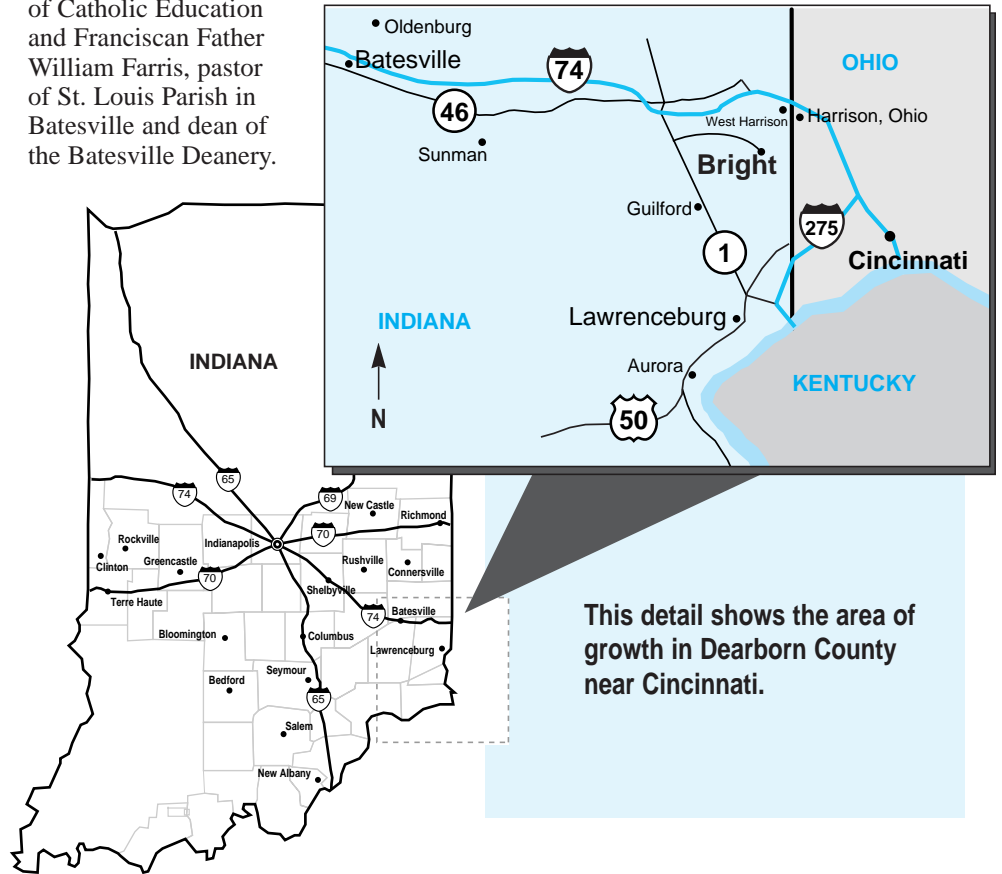
Members of the task force are George Batta, Father Louis Manna, and Stacie Sehlhorst, all of West Harrison; Kathy Busken, Benedictine Sister Mary Cecile

Deken, Mary Gellert, Father John E. Hartzler, Christine Mueller, Eva Roll, and Marty Ryan, all of Lawrenceburg; Betty Federle and Larry Merkel, of Batesville; William Hornbach and Father William Turner, of Guilford; Father Christopher Craig, of Aurora; and Al Stock, of Sunman.

A professional firm has been hired to assist with the surveys and other consultations. The project is being coordinated by the archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education and Franciscan Father William Farris, pastor of St. Louis Parish in Batesville and dean of the Batesville Deanery.

Oldenburg Academy in Oldenburg is also involved in discussions.

Ordained in 1992, Father Marks's first assignment was as associate pastor of St. Paul Parish in Tell City, St. Pius Parish in Troy and St. Michael Parish in Cannelton. In 1994, he was named associate pastor of St. Barnabas Parish in Indianapolis. He was named pastor of St. Gabriel in 1996. †



This detail shows the area of growth in Dearborn County near Cincinnati.

## Official Appointments

Effective Nov. 23, 1998

Rev. Robert Mazzola appointed auditor/assistant at the archdiocesan Metropolitan Tribunal.

Effective Jan. 6, 1998

Rev. Larry Crawford, pastor of St. Simon the Apostle, Indianapolis, appointed pastor of St. Gabriel, Indianapolis.

Rev. William Marks, pastor of St. Gabriel, Indianapolis, appointed to the pastoral responsibility of beginning the process for forming a potential parish in Bright.

Given at Indianapolis Dec. 2, 1998

These appointments are from the office of the Most Rev. Daniel M. Buechlein, O.S.B., Archbishop of Indianapolis.

### VIDEO DOCUMENTARY

## IN HIS FOOTSTEPS

A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land and the Beatification of Mother Theodore

For more information see ad on page 6 or call

Catholic Communications Center at 317-236-1570 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1570

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# Registration deadline for March for Life youth pilgrimage to Washington is Dec. 15

Reservations are still being accepted for the fourth annual youth pilgrimage Jan. 20-24 to the March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Since 1973, when the U.S. Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* decisions legalized abortion, the March for Life Education and Defense Fund has sponsored an ecumenical rally and march every year on Jan. 22 in downtown Washington to peacefully and prayerfully protest the killing of unborn babies.

More than 36 million babies have died in abortion in the past 25 years.

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein and many other U.S. bishops participate in the national pro-life rally and march on the anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision, as well as in the National Prayer

Vigil and Mass for Life at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington.

Steve Flynn, associate director of the archdiocesan Office of Pro-Life Activities, said this year the archdiocesan Office for Youth and Family Ministries is collaborating with the pro-life office on arrangements for the pilgrimage.

High school students from all 11 deaneries are invited to participate in the pro-life bus trip, he said, by contacting the pro-life office at 317-236-1569, or 800-382-9836, ext. 1569, before the Dec. 15 registration deadline. The reservation fee of \$89 per person with registration form and permission slip are due by that date.

"We are broadening our pro-life message this year by extending the trip and

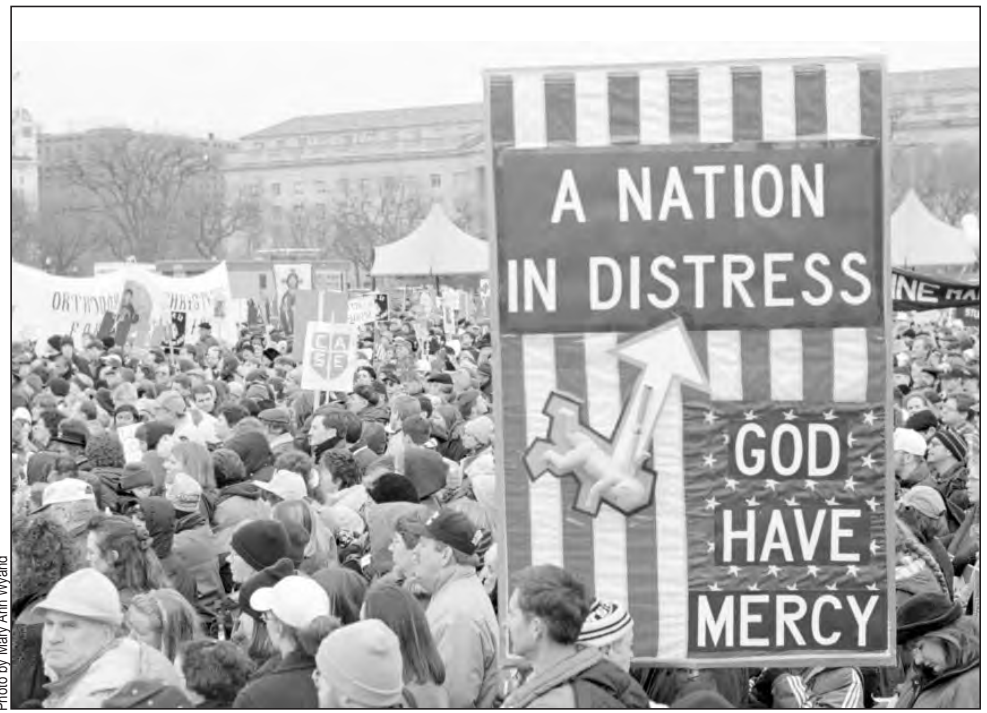


Photo by Mary Ann Wyand

Archdiocesan youth will travel again to the nation's capitol this January for the annual March for Life. The event is held annually to peacefully protest the 1973 Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion. Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein and other U.S. bishops plan to participate in the national pro-life rally and march.

including visits to the Smithsonian Institution's Holocaust Museum and the war memorials," Flynn said. "We hope these new educational experiences will

deepen the students' understanding of respect for life. We also are making the format more like a retreat, with an opportunity for discussion of our experiences." †

## Needy families 'shop' at Catholic Social Services Christmas Store

For parents who can't even pay their bills, the thought of providing Christmas gifts for their children can be frightening.

For nine years, Catholic Social Services has offered the answer—the Christmas Store. The idea was to provide a place where the poor could have the dignity and take the responsibility of selecting gifts for their own families.

After Thanksgiving, qualified parents went through the store, escorted by trained volunteers, selecting gifts for everyone in

the family. They paid \$2 for each person, with a maximum of \$10 for a family.

Last year, 193 volunteers spent thousands of hours helping to buy, collect, sort and display the thousands of new items needed—and people donated. Gifts include clothing for all ages, toys and household merchandise.

That meant 264 families were able to have bountiful Christmas celebrations. It meant bringing the joy of being remembered to 1,166 people—mostly children.

Children, 9 years and under, who benefited from the Christmas Store last year numbered 449. At ages 10 to 14, there were 322 children; 109 were aged 15 to 19.

The program has grown. In 1990, the Christmas Store served 42 families and utilized 42 volunteers.

The Christmas Store tries to accommodate all the parishes and organizations that use the store as their way to assist their needy families and involve their parishioners in the process. The store works with

more than 20 such parishes.

Before assisting clients in the store, volunteers are given orientation training.

Needy families are referred to the Christmas Store by school social workers, St. Vincent de Paul conferences, Crisis Office workers and other child service organizations.

To volunteer, call 317-236-1556, or send donations to Catholic Social Services, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202. †

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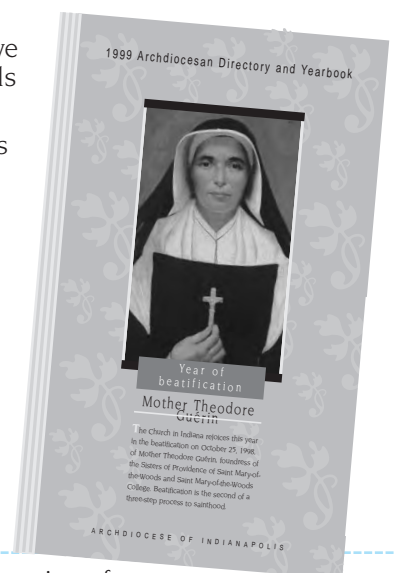
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## Editorial

# Leave hour of death in Lord's hands

Several weeks ago, many watched in horror as Jack Kevorkian, "Dr. Death," killed a patient suffering from Lou Gehrig's disease by injecting potassium chloride into his veins. The physician-assisted suicide was seen on a television program.

The Catholic Church has consistently taught that both suicide and euthanasia constitute sinful matter of a serious or grave nature. By extension, assisting another human being to commit suicide is to cooperate in that evil, and is therefore an offense against God, the author and sustainer of life (*Catechism of the Catholic Church* #2276 ff.).

An article by James F. Keenan, S.J., in the Nov. 14, 1998, issue of *America* magazine describes three assumptions frequently used in the debate on physician-assisted suicide.

The first assumption is that physician-assisted suicide is all about relief from chronic suffering and pain.

Yet this is not so. In fact, studies show that properly administered palliative care can lessen or eradicate pain in all but extremely rare cases. Physician-assisted suicide is not the appropriate remedy for chronic pain; palliative care is, and it should be sought out on behalf of the patient who desires it.

The second assumption is that physician-assisted suicide is about helping clear-headed, rational patients exercise their "right to die."

Yet this is not so. In fact, the occurrence of clinical depression is high among those who would be candidates for physician-assisted suicide. Furthermore, many who are terminally ill have a deep fear of being a burden to others in their final days. If physician-assisted suicide becomes an option for patients, it is likely that it would be chosen in many cases out of a misguided sense of duty to free the family from the burden of care, rather than out of a clear sense of what is best for the patient.

Physician-assisted suicide is not an exercise in compassion, but rather it robs the dying patient of his or her human dignity and deprives the family and caregivers of the opportunity to grow in virtue and compassion. Caring for the dying may be an inconvenience, but it is not a burden. It is a corporal work of mercy.

The third assumption is that physician-assisted suicide is fully voluntary. We are led to believe that in each case the dying person voluntarily requests it and assumes full responsibility for her or his directive.

Yet this is not so. In fact, in Holland, where physician-assisted suicide is practiced without fear of prosecution, 1,000 of 3,600 cases of physician-assisted suicide were nonvoluntary, according to Father Keenan.

Clear evidence is to be found in Holland of the slippery slope from voluntary physician-assisted suicide to involuntary euthanasia. Physician-assisted suicide is unethical and morally repugnant. But as Jack Kevorkian and his ilk push us closer toward legalized euthanasia, there are forces at work that serve the good.

Thank God for those involved in Catholic health care who lead the way in promoting the dignity of the human person from conception until natural death.

Thank God for those who offer encouragement to patients and their caregivers to pray, to be patient, to hope and wait for the Lord whose mercies never fail.

Thank God for all those who stand vigilant for the cause of the rights of the dying, in the face of mounting rhetoric that would have us settle for false mercy and a mistaken sense of what is best for the patient.

As we live this season of Advent, let us recall that it is above all a season of hope: hope against the face of anxiety, pessimism and despair. To hope requires great courage.

The candles of the Advent wreath will burn in hope this month. May they remind us all that everything is in God's hands—and that in him—especially in matters of life and death—we rightly place all our trust. Those who hope in the Lord do not hope in vain.

We can do no better than to leave the hour of death in the hands of our gentle and compassionate Lord. †

— Rev. Daniel J. Mahan

(Father Daniel Mahan is pastor of St. Luke Parish in Indianapolis and a member of the editorial committee of the Board of Directors of Criterion Press, Inc.)

## Seeking the Face of the Lord

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein, O.S.B.



# Back to basics in this era of eclectic religiosity

It is a challenge to hold onto the spirit of the liturgical season of Advent. After the sale of Advent candles and wreaths in a few stores, the season doesn't exist in the marketplace. I can't remember ever being bombarded by so many Christmas mail order catalogues.

I received a catalogue from a national bookstore chain and out of curiosity I looked at the one page marked "Religion and Spirituality." Here is what is offered: *Animals as Guides for the Soul*; *Small Miracles II*; *The Art of Happiness*; *The Hidden Jesus*; *The Power of Birthdays, Stars and Numbers*; *The Spirit of America*; *Something More: Excavating Your Authentic Self*.

I was amazed.

In fairness, two other works are offered, namely Jimmy Carter's *Living Faith* and Mother Teresa's *Everything Starts from Prayer*. Either the person who made selections for the catalogue knows little or nothing about religion or things are worse than I want to believe. In fact, there is serious work and more inspirational reading available.

Yet, I think the bookstore advertisement indicates an impoverishment in what is popularly offered in the secular realm of reading and the coverage of religion. Recently I was amazed that *The Indianapolis Star* and *The Indianapolis News* printed a major feature on the sale of antique (more or less) religious objects, yet there was precious little coverage on the historic and solemn beatification of Blessed Mother Theodore Guérin, a religious pioneer in Indiana. Beatification of Hoosiers doesn't happen very often! In the context of the ethical morass of our current society, the accompanying sidebar on the ethics of selling formerly used religious goods was equally surprising.

To some degree at least, we leaders of religion are responsible for an apparent trend to trivialize religion. If you are a regular reader of this weekly column, you have noticed that recently I have emphasized the importance of sound doctrine and solid theology in the teaching and preaching and liturgical resources of our time. No doubt this preoccupation comes with my work for the National Conference of Catholic Bishops relative to the use of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (for which the committee I chair is responsible). Our review of catechetical resources has surfaced a trend of deficiencies in our catechetical texts

that I have described elsewhere. We are making strides. My concern for solid teaching and solid theological underpinnings for preaching and worship also comes from my background at Saint Meinrad Archabbey and Seminary. The tradition of sound theology continues there to this day, and we are fortunate to have this resource in our archdiocese.

Last week I spoke of the "Divine Desire" to share the trinitarian life with us. We humans exist because of God's desire to share his very life with us and for no other reason. That Divine Desire is expressed in the divine Word made flesh. Christ, the Son of God, became like us in everything but sin, and he makes entry into the trinitarian family a possibility. Therein lies the ultimate meaning of our human life. The Word of God made flesh is not just a body of knowledge. The Word of God is a person who suffered and died to redeem us from sin and death. He continues to give himself to those in need, to all of us. Christ is the treasury of our faith.

Christ, the ultimate revelation of the Divine Desire, also left a body of teaching, and he established the Church as its custodian. Christ left the Church, founded on the apostles and guided by his Holy Spirit, to continue as the sure vessel of revelation for our own times, until the fullness of the kingdom arrives.

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Church presents us with a creed and a "deposit of faith." We need a creed. It is the way the content of faith, conserved by the Church, keeps us from hanging our hearts on something that cannot bear the weight. Most recently, the creed and the treasury of Christ's reliable doctrine are presented for our era by the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. This compendium of the faith is a sure aid that keeps us from choosing the wrong things in which to believe. We live in an age of eclectic religiosity in which people choose what they think will help them, like *Animals as Guides for the Soul* or *The Power of Birthdays, Stars and Numbers*.

I suggest a special Advent practice. Let's take a little time to seriously reflect on the creed that we profess at Sunday Mass or on the Apostles' Creed that we learned in our early years. Everything is there. We don't need eccentric helps to strengthen our faith or shore up our search for the meaning of life. †

### Archbishop Buechlein's intention for vocations for December

**Catholic Grade Schools:** that they may teach our children the Catholic faith and assist them in hearing and answering God's call to service in the Church, especially as priests or religious.



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## Buscando la Cara del Señor

Arzobispo Daniel M. Buechlein, O.S.B.



# Regresamos a los fundamentos en esta era de religiosidad ecléctica

Es un reto mantener el espíritu de la estación litúrgica del Adviento. Después de la venta de velas del Adviento y coronas en algunas tiendas, la estación del Adviento ya no existe en el mercado. No puedo recordar anteriormente el recibir tantos catálogos de ventas por correo.

Recibí un catálogo de una cadena de librerías nacional y por curiosidad miré la página marcada "Religión y Espiritualidad". He aquí los títulos que se ofrecen: *Los Animales como Guías para el Alma*; *Los Milagros Pequeños II*; *El Arte de la Felicidad*; *El Jesús Escondido*; *El Poder de los Cumpleaños, Estrellas y Números*; *El Espíritu de América*; *Algo más: Excavando su Auténtico Ego*.

Yo estaba asombrado.

Para ser justo, se ofrecen dos otras obras, es decir *La Fe Viviente* por Jimmy Carter y *Todo Comienza con Oración* por la madre Teresa. O la persona que hizo selecciones para el catálogo sabe poco o nada sobre la religión o las cosas son peores de las que quiero creer. En realidad, hay obras de valor y libros más inspirados que están disponibles.

Sin embargo, opino que el anuncio de la librería indica un empobrecimiento en lo que se ofrece popularmente en la esfera secular de los libros y el reportaje sobre la religión. Recientemente estuve asombrado que el periódico *The Indianapolis Star and News* imprimiera un artículo sobre la venta de objetos religiosos (más o menos antiguos), pero hubo poco reportaje sobre la beatificación histórica y solemne de la Madre Bendita Theodore Guérin, una pionera religiosa en Indiana. ¡La beatificación de Hoosiers, es decir personas de Indiana, ocurre muy a menudo! En el contexto de los obstáculos éticos de nuestra sociedad actual, la columna pequeña que acompañó al lado acerca de las éticas de vender bienes religiosos anteriormente usados fue también sorprendente.

Hasta cierto punto por lo menos, nosotros los líderes de religión somos responsables de la clara tendencia a trivializar la religión. Si ustedes regularmente leen esta columna semanal, ya han notado que recientemente he dado énfasis en la importancia de la doctrina legítima y la teología sólida en la enseñanza, la predicación, y los recursos litúrgicos en nuestros tiempos. No cabe duda de que esta preocupación es resultado de mi trabajo para la Conferencia Nacional de Obispos Católicos relativo al uso del *Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica* (soy presidente del comité y también el responsable). Nuestra revisión de los recursos catequéticos ha encontrado una tendencia de deficiencias en nuestros textos catequéticos

que describí en otra parte. Estamos haciendo grandes progresos. Mi preocupación por tener la enseñanza y base teológica sólidas para predicación y culto también resultan de mis antecedentes en la Abadía y Seminario San Meinrad. La tradición de la teología sólida continúa allí hasta ahora, y somos afortunados que este recurso está en nuestra archidiócesis.

La semana pasada hablé del "Deseo Divino" para compartir la vida trinitaria con nosotros. Nosotros como humanos existimos debido al deseo de Dios de compartir su propia vida con nosotros y no por otra razón. Ese Deseo Divino se expresa a través de la Palabra divina que se hizo carne. Cristo, Hijo de Dios, se volvió como nosotros en todo, pero sin pecado, y hace posible la entrada a la familia trinitaria. A respecto con el significado fundamental para nuestra vida humana. La Palabra de Dios que se hizo carne no es simplemente un cuerpo de conocimiento. La Palabra de Dios es una persona que sufrió y se murió para redimirnos del pecado y la muerte. Él continúa dando su ayuda a aquellos que la necesitan, a todos. Cristo es el tesoro de nuestra fe.

Cristo, la revelación fundamental del Deseo Divino, también dejó un cuerpo de enseñanza y estableció la Iglesia como su guardián. Cristo instituyó la Iglesia, fundada en los apóstoles y guiada por Su Espíritu Santo para continuar como el camino verdadero de relación para nuestros tiempos, hasta que llegue la realización del reino.

Bajo la guía del Espíritu Santo, la Iglesia nos presenta con un credo y un "depósito de fe". Necesitamos un credo. Es la manera que el contenido de la fe, conservado por la Iglesia, nos impide colgar nuestros corazones en algo que no puede soportar el peso. Recientemente, el credo y la tesorería de la doctrina fiable de Cristo están presentados para nuestra era por el *Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica*. Este compendio de la fe es una ayuda segura que nos resguarda del error. Vivimos en una época de la religiosidad ecléctica en la que las personas escogen lo que piensan les ayudará, como el libro *Los Animales como guías para el Alma* o *El Poder de los Cumpleaños, Estrellas y Números*.

Sugiero una práctica del Adviento especial. ¡Tomemos un poco de tiempo para reflexionar en serio sobre el credo que profesamos en la Misa los domingos o sobre el Credo de los Apóstoles que aprendimos en la niñez. Todo está allí. No necesitamos auxilios excéntricos para fortalecer nuestra fe o nuestra búsqueda del significado de la vida. †

Traducido por: Language Training Center, Indianapolis

## Letters to the Editor

### Inmates give thanks for reading materials

Mail call ... Not so great a moment within prison for those who seldom receive any.

In my asking Archbishop Buechlein for Catholic reading materials, he published my letter in this paper. Now with books, magazines, and all types of Catholic material having been sent—some with return addresses—I have tried to personally thank everyone; to those who have anonymously donated, I also give thanks.

From a single bookmark, to an entire case of books, or even a simple letter of encouragement ... I see more of what it means to be a true Christian.

There are only two types who leave prison. The type that gets worse ... and the type that gets better. Yet inside the horrors of prison, there is a pocket of hope and growth. Inmates are told there's only a small chance for their reform. Perhaps this is due to only small chances offered within here.

At Graham C.C., one of these chances is with the stern and friendly guidance of Father Morelock and the Catholic Church. With the small selection of donated materials, inmates crave the teachings and the challenge to improve themselves.

Inmates are often accused of taking advantage of any programs offered. Yet isn't that what is desired? Taking advantage of God's word and the Church teachings offers hope not only to the inmate now and in the future, but to those they will live near upon their release.

To all who donate and help, we give thanks for assisting us in our spiritual growth. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

To the archbishop, I give thanks and

my prayers for helping us in so many quiet, yet effective ways.

I have made mistakes, but I am not a mistake. Today I proudly state that I am a Catholic becoming a true Christian in all areas of my life. For this I give thanks.

Any who might wish to donate more Catholic reading materials, please direct them to: Catholic Chaplain, Graham C.C., Box 499, Hillsboro, IL 62049

I would enjoy hearing from your readers.

Michael R. Galyen  
IDOC# B28747  
Box 500  
Hillsboro, IL 62049

### Flip Wilson made millions laugh

In November 1998, America lost one of its best comedians. A man short in stature, he brought laughter to millions of people. He was: Flip Wilson.

As I thought about the Christmas season, there seems always to be mixed feelings, some sad, some joyful.

I'm thinking that on Christmas day, the people centuries ago surely had reasons for sorrow. Perhaps fatigue, poverty and loneliness were among these.

In the midst of all this gloom, a new infant was born and no one could deny the need to welcome this tiny stranger. His innocence and warmth captured our hearts.

My wish for all this Christmas is that we remember the positive side of men such as Flip Wilson. And, in a special way, recall the tiny stranger who still brings us joy today.

John R. Williams  
Indianapolis

### The Human Side/Fr. Eugene Hemrick

## Rather than passively absorbing the news, focus on culture of life

Although we have been extremely generous in aiding Latin Americans ravaged by Hurricane Mitch, bolstering the economies of nations in financial crisis, creating programs that protect the poor, the elderly and our youth, and endeavoring to stop the proliferation of nuclear bombs and chemical warfare, most people aren't feeling good about our country these days. The reason is obvious.

During much of 1998 we were bombarded with reports about lying, perjury, unethical procedures, betrayals and partisan tactics in our nation's capital. When we add to this the recently televised assisted-suicide on CBS-TV's "60 Minutes," is it any wonder that many feel the nation is becoming another Gomorrah?

Ironically, the United States is on the verge of making medical and technological breakthroughs unmatched by any progress experienced in civilization's history. But what is this compared to losing society's very soul?

Pope John Paul II was prophetic in warning that we are becoming a culture of death. Not only is the preservation of human life less valued, but so is respect for the reputation and dignity of the person. But he also focused positively on the culture of life we can construct.

What might we do to stem the slide?

One possible suggestion is to stop watching and reading the news. But this is unrealistic. Most of us can't live without

the news of our world, just as we can't live without food. And too, this would leave us with our heads in the sand. The problems will continue whether or not we are willing to hear about them.

And it is a problem, I agree, but it is a fact that we find ourselves in a tell-it-all era.

There is an old saying, "If you can't beat them, join them." I believe that when this is interpreted properly, it is one way to turn our troubled times around.

The way to join current events is to learn everything there is to know about them in order to understand exactly what has gone wrong and why. What moral principles have been broken? What virtues are lacking?

What do we know from our spirituality about cultivating virtue? How do we ensure that the same things don't happen again?

Instead of simply listening to commentators and functioning as passive recipients of information, we need to ponder in an active way the moral principles that are at stake in our nation's current situation. This is a time to refocus on moral values and the ways to apply them.

What does the new catechism teach us about lying, adultery and betrayal? What makes a person culpable, and what mitigates culpability? How should we respond responsibly to the faults of others? What responsibility do we bear if the good things that occur in society are overlooked in favor of negative events?

As distasteful as society's "atmosphere" may be these days, it does encourage us to turn our attention to our moral values and the role we can play in creating a more positive atmosphere within our culture. †

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

### La intención del Arzobispo Buechlein para vocaciones en diciembre

**Escuelas primarias católicas:** que ellos puedan enseñar la fe católica a nuestros niños y puedan ayudarles a oír y contestar la llamada de Dios para servir en la Iglesia, sobre todo como sacerdotes o religiosos.

## Check It Out . . .

Sacred Heart Parish in Indianapolis will present its **"Living Nativity Scene"** Dec. 11 and Dec. 12 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. each evening. The nativity scene will be displayed outside the parish hall, located at 1125 S. Meridian St. Refreshments will be available in the parish hall. Information: 317-638-5551.

St. Vincent Carmel Hospital will present its **"Living Nativity"** performances Dec. 12 at 5:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m. The performances will be held under a heated tent on the St. Vincent Carmel campus, 13500 N. Meridian St., in Carmel. Refreshments will be available. Those attending the event are encouraged to bring canned goods for distribution in Hamilton County through the St. Vincent de Paul Society's food pantry.

St. Francis Hospice is offering white ceramic angel ornaments for the **"Tree of Honor"** at the St. Francis Beech Grove Campus, 1600 Albany St., in Beech Grove through Dec. 15. The ornaments, which can be purchased to honor

and remember loved ones, are \$15 each. The ornaments will remain on the "Tree of Honor" through Jan. 1, 1999. In addition, hospice is also offering lights to illuminate the live "Tree of Honor" at the St. Francis South Campus, 8111 S. Emerson Ave., located outside the emergency department, for \$10 each. Lights can be designated to honor or remember someone special. All proceeds from the sale of ornaments and lights will benefit St. Francis Hospice. For more information, call Candy Howe at 317-865-2092.

**Saint Meinrad School of Theology in St. Meinrad was awarded \$1,396,163 by Lilly Endowment Inc.** of Indianapolis, as part of a \$54.4 million grant program to assist theological schools in North America in "ensuring the highest possible quality of pastoral leadership for local congregations." With the grant the school will undertake an ambitious program aimed at the three primary groups of parish ministers in the Catholic Church in the U.S.: priests, permanent deacons and lay ministers. The proposed integrated program will promote the development of

professional skills and collaboration among parish ministers.

**Lilly Endowment, Inc. awarded Saint Meinrad School of Theology in St. Meinrad a \$30,000 planning grant** to assist it in proposing a program that will engage high school students in theological inquiry and offer them a "religious context for making vocational choices."

**Young Widowed Group will have its annual family Christmas party** Dec. 21 at St. Matthew Parish in Indianapolis in the Lawless Room. Present and former group members and their families are invited to attend. For more information, call Marilyn Hess, archdiocesan Office for Youth and Family Ministries, 317-236-1586 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1586. †

## VIPs . . .

**Jesuit Father Albert Bischoff and Jesuit Brother John Buchman** were honored by Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School in Indianapolis recently with the President's Medal for their exemplary service and dedication to the school. The distinguished service awards were presented by Jesuit Father Walter C. Deye, school president, during Brebeuf's 20th annual President's Dinner Nov. 21 at the

Holiday Inn North in Indianapolis. Father Bischoff served as rector of the Brebeuf Jesuit Community for six years and now serves in campus ministry at Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio. Brother Buchman has worked in a variety of ministries at the school—including serving as bookstore manager, administrative assistant and cook—for 27 years. †



Photo by Margaret Nelson

## Good will among schools

Immaculate Heart of Mary School in Indianapolis is across E. 57th Street from Public School 84. The two student councils have met. One result is that the public school has been collecting food for Immaculate Heart's ongoing food drive for the poor. Here, student council members from School 84, fifth-grader Gabby Gaither (from left) and fourth-grader Detronne Davis, hand food to Immaculate Heart eighth-grader Megan Hillier and seventh-grader Katie Roe. In November, the public school children collected enough food to fill the stairwell at the Catholic school. The food was given to the St. Vincent de Paul conference at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish and the Little Sisters of the Poor. The staffs of the two schools also collaborate; fourth-grade classes are pen pals. Each of the two schools serves as a "safe place" for the students of the other. Last year, PS 84 used Immaculate Heart School when the building had to be evacuated.

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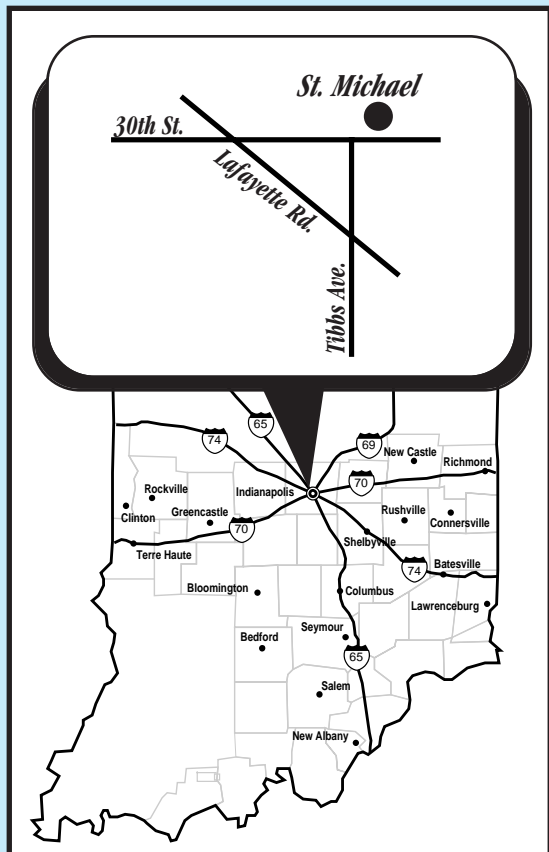
## Indianapolis West Deanery

# St. Michael the Archangel Indianapolis

Story and photos by Mary Ann Wyand

### Fast Fact:

In the mid-1950s, St. Michael School had 990 students. The creation of St. Monica Parish in 1956 and St. Gabriel Parish in 1963 alleviated overcrowding at the Indianapolis West Deanery school. Now St. Michael School has 360 students and two classes for every grade except the eighth-grade.



Journey of Hope 2001

# St. Michael Parish plans to evangelize door-to-door

The fabric of parish life—memories of shared faith, of family and of friends—at St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Indianapolis has been preserved in a colorful quilt celebrating a half-century of community and commemorating St. Michael's golden anniversary this year.



Fr. Anthony Volz

Parishioner Judy Barmann designed and made the quilt with help from Maria Montgomery, Ann Clark, Janette Lynch, Jo Armin, Mary Ellen Kutcher and Carol Romaine. The quilt now hangs as a symbol of faith and fellowship in the entry hall of St. Michael's two-year-old Parish Life Center.

"Four of the six name blocks are signed by some of the pastors who have served St. Michael's over the years," Barmann said. "Other quilt blocks include a portrait of the front of the church done in appliqué, an embroidered copy of the logo designed for St. Michael's 50th anniversary, and one commemorating the founding of the school in 1948 and the Franciscan sisters who staffed it."

Other quilt blocks list the groundbreaking dates for the three major buildings—the church, the school and the Parish Life Center—on St. Michael's property at 3354 W. 30th Street in Indianapolis. Blocks also recall important moments and activities in the parish history, including two fires.

"One quilt block depicts our Journey of Faith and Growth," she said, "which was a major capital campaign for us when we were able to build our Parish Life Center."

When Msgr. Richard Kavanagh, St. Michael's administrator from 1951 through 1955 and pastor until 1982, signed his quilt block, he added the words "Carry on!" next to his signature.

Now retired and living at St. Paul Hermitage in Beech Grove, Msgr. Kavanagh said he has prayed to St. Michael daily on behalf of the parish for many years.

"Father Thomas Finneran was the founding pastor," Msgr. Kavanagh explained. "When I was there, it was interesting to see St. Michael's grow from a very small parish and school to a big parish and school."

"I had many a good year at St. Michael's," he said. "I was there at a very interesting time because all the changes of Vatican II were coming in, and I had to cope with the fact that some people didn't like the changes and some did. Others tried to add changes that the council didn't approve, so I had to have kind of a firm hand. The worst experience I had there was the church fire in December of 1967. About a year later, the fire marshal found out it was arson."

During his tenure as pastor, Msgr. Kavanagh said he started the practice of reciting the Prayer of St. Michael and the *Memorare* before the start of every Mass. Parishioners still continue that liturgical tradition.

Father Anthony Volz, St. Michael's pastor since September 1997, said about 75 percent of the parish is comprised of long-time members, and 25 percent of the parishioners are newcomers.

"Our golden anniversary ends in December," Father Volz explained, "but we still want to carry on our 50th anniversary theme of 'Welcome Home.' Our emphasis right now is evangelization. We want to build on our rich past and invite inactive Catholics back to the parish and the Church."

Conventual Franciscan Brother Bob Baxter, St. Michael's director of religious education and youth ministry coordinator, is planning a comprehensive door-to-door evangelization campaign this summer in the near-westside community.

Father Volz said a national young adult evangelization team has been asked to assist parish adults and youth with

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Photo by Mary Ann Wyand

St. Michael parishioner Judy Barmann of Indianapolis talks with Msgr. Richard Kavanagh, a former pastor, at the St. Paul Hermitage in Beech Grove after he signed his name on a quilt she designed to commemorate the West Deanery parish's 50th anniversary this year.

this major outreach effort within the parish boundaries.

"We're planning a series of six or seven mailings at various times to prepare people for the campaign," Father Volz said. "We hope to gain some insights about why people have become inactive, and we want to welcome them to our parish."

St. Michael parishioners will complete their participation in the archdiocesan Legacy of Hope from Generation to Generation capital and endowment campaign on Dec. 12.

"We've been going in earnest since September," Father Volz said. "We had our commitment weekend in November, and we're already over our diocesan goal. We're pleased about that. We also paid off our Parish Life Center last August."

St. Michael parishioners also support their parish with service in a variety of Church ministries, Father Volz said. "We have a group of people who have helped the parish for a long time. They welcome new people into the life of the parish and encourage newcomers to help with our ministry to the poor through our food pantry, with home visits, and with the many other activi-

ties we have in the Parish Life Center."

The multipurpose center is used for religious education classes, he said, as well as for meetings, social occasions, community gatherings and Catholic Youth Organization sports competitions in the Wilmoth Gymnasium. The gym is named for Father James Wilmoth, St. Michael's pastor from 1990 to 1997, who encouraged parishioners to build the center for a variety of Church and community uses.

"The Parish Life Center is used seven days a week," Father Volz said. "It's great to have the space to welcome people. We have a number of community organizations, including neighborhood Crime Watch groups, Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon, using the center. It's become a central focus for the near westside."

St. Michael Parish recently instituted quarterly dinners to welcome new parishioners, the pastor said. "When someone new calls the rectory for information, the parish secretary invites them to the welcoming supper at the Parish Life Center. The parish staff and parish council hosted the first dinner recently. We started with introductions and a short presentation by the parish staff, then each new parishioner

had a chance to talk about what brought them to St. Michael's or another topic."

Parish council president Jack Watson grew up in St. Michael Parish and is currently serving his second term on the council.

"Through the '50s and '60s, the parish and school grew rapidly and supported a growing middle-class community," Watson said. "At one time, we had 990 students in the school. St. Michael's reacted well to the needs of the Catholics in the area as well as to the needs of the community."

Four decades later, he said, St. Michael Parish continues to meet a variety of needs for people living in this multicultural and diverse socioeconomic neighborhood.

"I think St. Michael's is one of the catalysts holding the [near westside] community together," Watson said. "The fact that St. Michael School and Cardinal Ritter Junior and Senior High Schools are right on the parish grounds creates a stable environment in the community. We're going to try to reach out to people we know who are not attending a church and determine what their needs are and whether we can meet their needs. As we look forward [to the third millennium], I think we'll continue to meet those diverse kinds of community needs." †

### St. Michael the Archangel (1948)

Address: 3354 W. 30th St., Indianapolis, IN 46222  
Phone: 317-926-7359 Fax: 317-921-3282

Church Capacity: 709 &  
Number of Households: 899  
Chaplaincy: Westview Hospital

Pastor: Rev. Anthony Volz  
Pastoral Associate: Daniel P. Clark  
Administrator of Religious Education: Bro. Bob Baxter, OFM Conv  
Youth Ministry Coordinator: Bro. Bob Baxter, OFM Conv  
Music Director: Benjamin Del Vecchio  
Parish Secretary: Dianne Phennig

Principal: Steven M. Padgett  
School: 3352 W. 30th St., 317-926-0516 (K-8)  
Number of Students: 370

Masses: Saturday Anticipation — 5:30 p.m.  
Sunday — 8:00, 10:00 a.m., noon  
Holy Day — see parish bulletin  
Weekdays — Tues.-Fri. 8:15 a.m.; Sat. 8:30 a.m.

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For further information, please contact: Mary Ann Schumann, 3356 West 30th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46222, 317-926-1963.

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# Announcements of WEDDINGS

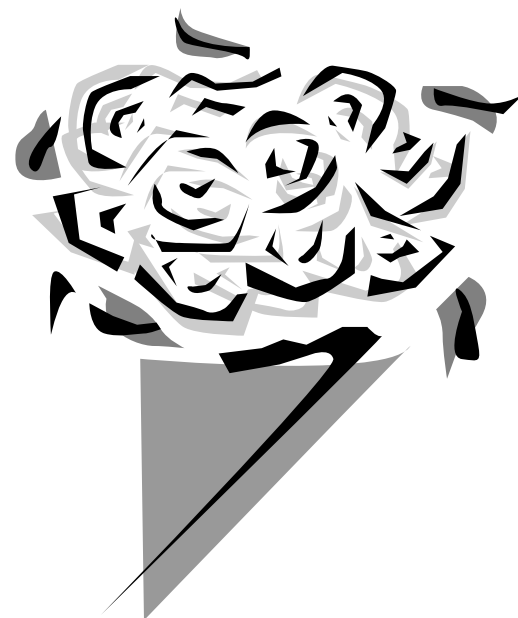


## Parents/Grandparents!

Send us your daughter's, son's, or grandchild's wedding announcement with a picture of the couple to be published free in The Criterion's Feb. 5, 1999 wedding supplement!



**Free gifts to the first 25 announcements received with a picture!**



To be published in the February 5, 1999, issue of *The Criterion*

If you are planning your wedding or have had your wedding between Feb. 1 and July 30, 1999, we invite you to submit the information for an announcement on the form to the right.

**Photographs**

You may send us a photo of the bride-to-be, a picture of the couple or a photo of the bride and groom. Please do not cut the photograph. The photo must be wallet-size and will be used as space permits. Black & white photos are preferred; we cannot guarantee the reproduction quality of a color photo. Please put name(s) and return address on the back. Photos will be returned if a stamped, self-addressed envelope is enclosed.

**Deadline**

All announcements with photos must be received by Wednesday, Jan. 13, 10 a.m. (No photos can be accepted after this date). All announcements without photos must be received by the same date.

— Use this form to furnish information —

Clip and mail to: BRIDES, *The Criterion*, ATTN: Susan Bierman, 1400 North Meridian, Indianapolis, IN 46202  
 Deadline with photos: Wednesday, Jan. 13, 10 a.m.

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Bride's Parents				
City		State		
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Bridegroom's Parents				
City		State		
Wedding Date	Church	City	State	
<input type="checkbox"/> Photo Enclosed	Signature of person furnishing information		Relationship	Daytime Phone
<input type="checkbox"/> No Photo				

Below is an example of how your listing will appear in *The Criterion*.



**Bedel - Calabrese**  
 Susan Marie Bedel and Christopher Michael Calabrese will be married June 27 at St. Maurice, St. Maurice. The bride is the daughter of Robert and Janet L. Bedel. The groom is the son of Jeff and Rebecca Calabrese.



**Black - Hallal**  
 Julie A. Black and Jared R. Hallal will be married on July 3 at Holy Family, New Albany. The bride is the daughter of the late Barbara Aemmer Black and Mr. Richard T. Black. The groom is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Eli R. Hallal.



**Bielski - Dubois**  
 Catherine Elizabeth Bielski and John Charles Dubois will be married June 27 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Carmel. The bride is the daughter of Leonard and Catherine Bielski. The groom is the son of Raymond and Suzanne Dubois.



**Borse - Wheat**  
 Christina Lynne Borse and Christopher John Wheat will be married Aug. 22 at St. Matthew, Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Jim and Sally Borse. The groom is the son of Chris and Becky Wheat.

# Communal penance services set for Advent

## Batesville Deanery

Dec. 13, 2 p.m. at Immaculate Conception, Millhousen  
 Dec. 13, 4 p.m. at St. Maurice, Napoleon  
 Dec. 14, 7 p.m. at St. Louis, Batesville  
 Dec. 14, 7 p.m. at St. Charles, Milan  
 Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at St. Nicholas, Ripley Co.  
 Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at St. Peter, Franklin Co.  
 Dec. 16, 7 p.m. at St. John, Dover  
 Dec. 16, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph, St. Leon  
 Dec. 17, 7 p.m. at St. Mary, Greensburg

## Bloomington Deanery

Dec. 14, 7 p.m. at St. Agnes, Nashville  
 Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at St. Martin of Tours, Martinsville  
 Dec. 16, 7 p.m. at St. John the Apostle, Bloomington

## Connersville Deanery

Dec. 13, 1 p.m. at St. Anne, New Castle  
 Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at St. Michael, Brookville

Dec. 17, 7 p.m. at St. Gabriel, Connersville

## Indianapolis East Deanery

Dec. 12, 7:30 p.m. at St. Simon the Apostle  
 Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m. at St. Simon the Apostle  
 Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at St. Michael, Greenfield  
 Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral  
 Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at St. Philip Neri

## Indianapolis North Deanery

Dec. 11, 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. at Christ the King School  
 Dec. 13, 3 p.m. at St. Joan of Arc  
 Dec. 14, 9 a.m. at Immaculate Heart School  
 Dec. 15, 6:30 p.m. at St. Joan of Arc  
 Dec. 15, 9 a.m. at Immaculate Heart School  
 Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at Christ the King  
 Dec. 16, 7 p.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary  
 Dec. 16, 12:30 p.m. at St. Luke School  
 Dec. 16, 7 p.m. at St. Andrew the Apostle  
 Dec. 16, 9:30 a.m. at Bishop Chatard High School

Dec. 16, 7 p.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas

Dec. 17, 1 p.m. at Cathedral High School

## Indianapolis South Deanery

Dec. 14, 7 p.m. at St. Roch  
 Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at SS. Francis and Clare, Greenwood

Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m. at St. Mark

Dec. 17, 7 p.m. at St. Jude

Dec. 17, 7 p.m. at St. Barnabas

## Indianapolis West Deanery

Dec. 13, 2 p.m. at Holy Trinity  
 Dec. 14, 7 p.m. at Mary, Queen of Peace, Danville  
 Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at St. Monica  
 Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph  
 Dec. 16, 9 a.m. at Cardinal Ritter High School  
 Dec. 17, 7 p.m. at St. Gabriel

## New Albany Deanery

Dec. 11, 8:15 a.m. and 3 p.m. at Our Lady of Providence High School, Clarksville

Dec. 12, 9 a.m. at St. Mary-of-the-Knobs, Floyds Knobs

Dec. 14, 7 p.m. at St. Augustine, Jeffersonville, and Sacred Heart, Jeffersonville

Dec. 14, 7 p.m. at St. John the Baptist, Starlight

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Dec. 17, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph, Sellersburg

Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary, New Albany

## Seymour Deanery

Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at St. Bartholomew, Columbus

Dec. 16, 7 p.m. at St. Mary, North Vernon

## Terre Haute Deanery

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Dec. 15, 1:30 p.m. at St. Ann, Terre Haute

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Dec. 21, 7:30 p.m. at St. Margaret Mary, Terre Haute †

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## Book Reviews

# New books on positive everyday moments, Little Flower

### *Hugs and Hopes for a Century*

by Sara Sanderson  
Pine Hill Press, \$12

Reviewed by Shirley Vogler Meister

A year before the start of the next millennium, I'm already hearing grumpy comments about the worldwide ugliness that the next century will inherit—the political and economic turmoil, prejudice and war, diseases without cures, and a general chaos that pervades our so-called civilization.

So, it was with joy that I read a recently released book that accentuates the positive instead: *Hugs and Hopes for a Century*.

For two years, Indianapolis author Sara Sanderson traveled more than 2,000 miles to interview a wide variety of people—from a cab driver to well-known notables—about what they'd like to see preserved for the next century. The number of miles she covered could easily symbolize the personal journeys we all are making toward the year 2000, as well as the Journey of Hope that the archdiocese is making together.

In her travels, Sanderson wondered "what we can celebrate about the century we knew" and "what we hope for those who will walk after us." All people of God should be wondering the very same things. Her book incorporates comments and memories representing the virtues we find in our faith; and it emphasizes the beauty of wisdom, observations, deep reflections and everyday moments that help us be better Christians.

And she does this without preaching! Sized perfectly to fit in a purse or briefcase, the book appeals to both men, women, and youngsters since it quotes people of all ages (7 to 93) from diverse backgrounds and circumstances. Many are from the Indianapolis area.

With a light-hearted approach, Sanderson—an essayist, poet, and lecturer—also shares sidebar-anecdotes, quotations, and historical facts; and she leaves space for readers to jot notes, draw pictures, or write memories of their own. I've already heard about book owners (including clergy) who have read parts of her book to patients in the hospital or friends and family, or who have used excerpts as inspiration for prayer or meditation for themselves and others.

Sharing was one of the goals the author had in mind when writing *Hugs and Hopes for a Century*. Writing with flare and sensitivity, Sanderson says, "Let's celebrate the

good we bring to a new century. ..." She can be reached at 317-271-2973 for additional information. †

(Shirley Vogler Meister is a freelance writer. She is a member of Christ the King Parish in Indianapolis.)

### *Maurice and Thérèse: The Story of a Love*

by Patrick V. Ahern  
Doubleday, \$19.95  
222 pages

Reviewed by John F. Fink

On Sept. 30, 1997, we observed the 100th anniversary of the death of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus and of the Holy Face. Nineteen days later, Pope John Paul II declared St. Thérèse a doctor of the Church, the third woman so named (there are 30 men). This year, we observe the 100th anniversary



of the publication of her autobiography, *Story of a Soul*, which moved her from the status of an unknown person to that of the most popular saint of modern times.

Now Bishop Patrick V. Ahern, an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of New York, has written a remarkable book because it's drawn from a remarkable correspondence between St. Thérèse and a young struggling seminarian named Maurice Bellière. There were 21 letters, 11 from Maurice and 10 from Thérèse.

Bishop Ahern's greatest contribution is in telling us what was happening in the lives of the two young people during the correspondence. It took place during the last two years of Thérèse's life, at a time when she was suffering physically from the tuberculosis that would kill her. She was also suffering from severe spiritual dryness, a condition that continued until her death. And, in obedience, she was writing her masterpiece, *Story of a Soul*.

The correspondence began when Maurice wrote to the Carmelite monastery in Lisieux, France, asking to have a sister pray for him. He hoped to be a missionary but was well aware of his limitations and knew that he needed prayers. The letter was received by Thérèse's blood sister, Pauline, who was then prioress, and she asked Thérèse to pray for Maurice. Soon the correspondence began, and it became ever more intimate.

These are love letters, which is why

See BOOK, page 13

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# BOOK

continued from page 12

the book's subtitle is "The Story of a Love." But not a romantic love. Eventually they addressed each other as "my dear little brother" and "my very dear little sister." Maurice and Thérèse never met.

After Thérèse told Maurice that she was dying but that she would be with him after her death, Maurice wrote that he feared that, once Thérèse shared in God's justice, she wouldn't be able to excuse his faults. In reply, Thérèse said that Maurice should remember that she would also share in the infinite mercy of

the Lord. This letter goes to the heart of her understanding of God, that God is love and mercy.

Thérèse also did not accept the concept of heaven as eternal rest. Rather, it is eternal life, a life that is full. The whole purpose of her life on earth, she thought, was to love God and make him loved. After death, she would no longer be bound by the limitations of space and time and her mission would be to travel the world as the messenger of God's love. That is why she was named, along with St. Francis Xavier, as the patron of missionaries.

Much of this book is quite emotional, especially the narrative of Thérèse's death.

When Thérèse died, Maurice was on a ship to Africa to begin his life as a missionary. Although he always felt that Thérèse was close to him, his career was not successful. After eight years, he left Africa a broken priest. He died from sleeping sickness, an illness carried by

the tsetse fly. But before that, he was confined to a sanitarium for the mentally ill, the same one where Thérèse's father died. Maurice died on July 14, 1907, at age 33.

This book truly reveals the full beauty of St. Thérèse's spirituality. †

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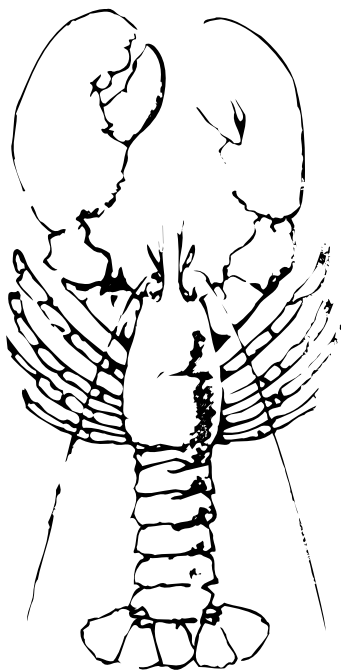
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# New efforts help engaged couples, slow divorce rates

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Church, civic and state measures have been introduced to better enhance the quality of marriage preparation and to lower divorce rates.

In the Catholic Church, a St. John's University professor has helped develop and test a new marriage preparation program called Unitas.

The hope for Unitas, Joann Heaney-Hunter said, is that an engaged couple's "skills for marriage would be enhanced and ... they would walk away with an appreciation of what the Catholic Church has to offer them in supporting their commitment in marriage."

Parishes testing Unitas over an 18-month period reported increased parishioner involvement, new resources for parish leadership, and a greater understanding of the sacrament of marriage.

Like the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults after which it is modeled, Unitas gives participants faith formation, information and a connection to the local Church, where various rituals and blessings occur during Sunday liturgies.

"When you present engaged couples to a community at Mass," Heaney-Hunter said, "it reminds couples of their own commitment" and can energize the whole community.

Francis Butler, president of

Foundations and Donors Interested in Catholic Activities, which helped finance Unitas, said the program's liturgical components "enable the whole parish to prepare the couples," with its mentoring component another plus.

"We don't leave the couple high and dry after the ceremony," Butler said. "There's helping and mentoring that goes along during those initial years, which can be very challenging."

In October, a Unitas leader's guide, couple's workbook and three-video set were published. In the first month, 400 guides and 500 workbooks were sold.

In the Fond du Lac, Wis., area, 35 churches—including its six Catholic parishes—have established a Community Marriage Covenant, which involves counseling couples before and after they marry.

"We as a Church need to make a commitment to support the sanctity of marriage and help couples when they need it most," said Father Pat Heppe, pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Fond du Lac, about 50 miles northwest of Milwaukee.

The covenant, signed this fall, is one of more than 100 such programs in communities nationwide. One of its most active promoters is syndicated religion columnist Michael McManus, a Presbyterian layman who founded Marriage Savers with his wife.

Marriage Savers stresses Church involvement in marriage preparation and the use of mentor couples to help the engaged, the

recently wed, and couples dating each other seriously—to show rough spots during a marriage, and to teach techniques to get through them.

Father Jerome Wagner, pastor of St. Louis Parish in Fond du Lac, said the covenant "is basically

trying to put all churches on the same page for marriage preparation and mentoring young marriages."

The major task for Catholic parishes is finding longtime married couples to work with newlyweds. "To do this right, each parish needs about 100 couples," Father Heppe said. "We are striving to mentor couples who can prepare young people for marriage, and keep in touch with them to

monitor their marriages."

In Florida, a new state law taking effect Jan. 1 gives couples a \$32.50 discount on their marriage license fees if they get premarital counseling.

The state will offer couples four hours of educational programs in conflict management, communication skills, financial responsibilities and children and parenting responsibilities.

It's not all that different from Catholic marriage preparation, which some Florida pastors predict will exceed what the state requires for a discount.

"I think it is important that couples understand that these aren't hoops we are making them jump through, but that we are genuinely concerned about the quality of their marriages and hope they will put a tremendous amount of effort in being well-prepared," said Anthony Marchica, a pastoral associate in the Diocese of Palm Beach, Fla.

"We will definitely exceed these standards," he added. "I hope most parishes are exceeding these standards already."

Catholic marriage preparation is generally a four- to six-month process entailing a discernment phase, an educational process, and the planning of the wedding ceremony itself. †

*'We are striving to mentor couples who can prepare young people for marriage, and keep in touch with them to monitor their marriages.'*

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## Advent invites us to welcome the Holy Spirit

By Dolores R. Leckey

The season of Advent invites us to look for signs of the Holy Spirit and to welcome that Spirit into our lives. Traces of the Spirit can be detected in the rhythms of daily life.

The Scriptures are a good place to begin looking for the Spirit. The account of the Annunciation, for example, as recorded in Luke's Gospel, offers one of the great Advent meditations. The story has inspired paintings, poetry and music from age to age.

God's "announcement" is to a young Jewish woman, immersed in her religious and cultural situation, whose world is turned upside down by the unexpected, unsought message. After Gabriel, nothing is the same.

Smaller but no less real annunciations occur in our own lives. They are described by the English scholar George Steiner in *Real Presences*, published by the University of Chicago, as a terrible beauty or gravity breaking into the small house of our cautionary being. (By and large, we humans tend to be cautious.)

But Steiner says, "If we have heard rightly the wing-beat and provocation of that visit, the house is no longer habitable in quite the same way as it was before."

Intrusions of the Holy Spirit do not simply rearrange our domestic spheres, they bring unthought of worlds into our "houses"—that is to say, into our lives.

### The Holy Spirit gives us life, energy, inspiration and hope

By Fr. Eugene LaVerdiere, S.S.S.

Without the Holy Spirit, the Bible would not exist. If it did, it would be just a collection of ancient literature, not the word of God.

In the Scriptures, the Holy Spirit is everywhere, giving life and energy, inspiring prophets and writers to speak and write the word of God.

The Holy Spirit also inspires the Church, God's people, to interpret the Scriptures, as the New Testament apostles and evangelists interpreted the Old Testament and applied it to the life of Jesus and the life of the Church.

The Holy Spirit is ever present in our

So it was for Mary. So it is for ordinary people who are surprised by their capacity for the extraordinary:

The Spirit is unpredictable and totally free.

In her new book *Amazing Grace*, published by Putnam, writer Kathleen Norris says the Incarnation (which is what the Annunciation is all about) becomes the place where fear contends with hope.

We all have our daily struggles with fears. Will my child outgrow a particular behavior? Are these worrisome physical symptoms I've been having a sign of impending catastrophe? Am I making a mess of my relationships?

Hope enables us to lean on God, to trust God, to welcome the peace that appears when we least expect it (much like the Holy Spirit).

When Gabriel encountered Mary, he told her not to be afraid.

When the Spirit inspires our own lives (via angels, perhaps) the message is the same.

Meditate on the Annunciation, and you will notice the scene is one of spare dialogue and deep silences, an environment that makes room for the action of the Spirit.

Early on in the Advent season, try to make an effort to arrange a few hours apart, in an atmosphere of relaxed silence, to begin to savor the gifts that God bestows on the earth daily. Trees, berry bushes, birds—all these can become icons

lives, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit give life to our ministries. However, we can take it for granted, as we do the air we breathe. The Holy Spirit is also very mysterious, and we might confuse its various roles in Scripture as well as in our lives.

As the Constitution on Divine Revelation said, "Holy Scripture must be read and interpreted according to the same Spirit by whom it was written."

In the Church, we pray to the Holy Spirit, who inspired the Scriptures, to guide us in our understanding of the same Scriptures. †

(Blessed Sacrament Father Eugene LaVerdiere is a Scripture scholar and senior editor of *Emmanuel magazine*.)



Giovanni Francesco Barbieri's painting of "St. Luke Displaying a Painting of the Virgin" depicts the angel Gabriel looking at an icon of Mary and the infant Jesus. The account of the Annunciation in Luke's Gospel has inspired paintings, poetry and music from age to age.

of God's winter beauty. The same attention and grateful heart—qualities of savoring—can be applied to family customs: cooking, Christmas cards and music which nourish both bodies and spirits, and strengthen our human ties.

Advent is also a good time to explore the Liturgy of the Hours, now available in easy-to-follow books suitable for lay people. This ancient form of the Church's daily prayer can also help us discern the Spirit in our midst.

The Advent hymns that introduce the morning and evening prayer are filled with expectations of God's coming to us; the intercessions, too, carry a spirit of hopeful waiting: "Lord, help us to stand watchful and ready, until your Son is revealed in all his glory."

Waiting: This is a major theme in the Church's Advent prayer; the theme also is woven into the fabric of our daily lives. Even with our best efforts to simplify the celebration of the Incarnation, we will still find ourselves waiting.

Grocery lines, hospital emergency

rooms, the post office, public transportation: These are ever with us. Observe the faces of those with whom you wait (faces often reveal the struggles and state of mind of the person), and pray for them.

Remember Mary's waiting, and pray for women who are awaiting a birth. Recall Mary's "Magnificat" ("He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has lifted up the lowly"), and pray for oppressed people everywhere.

Advent reminds us that, in some ultimate sense, all of life is about waiting.

A good checklist for reflecting on whether or not we are preparing for the Incarnation according to the true Christmas spirit can be found in Paul's Letter to the Galatians. "What the Spirit brings is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control" (Gal 6:23-24).

This is the perfect Christmas list. †  
(Dolores Leckey is a senior fellow at the Woodstock Theological Center at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.)

### Discussion Point

## The Holy Spirit inspires service

### This Week's Question

Describe a situation in which you believe inspiration from the Spirit—the breath of God—moved someone you know to do something valuable.

"I think that it happens all the time, but it doesn't get attributed to the Spirit. For example, choosing to forgive someone when they hurt you, and being tolerant of other people's limitations." (Roseanne Radgowski, Mentor, Ohio)

"The outpouring of concern for one of my co-workers who recently lost her father reminded me that the human concern we show each other is a sign of the Spirit working within us." (Carol Ingrassia, Chicago, Ill.)

"The catechists who help prepare children and adults for the reception of the Spirit through confirmation do

something valuable. When those being confirmed are open to God, their lives can change for the better, and they can become even closer to God." (Father Chakian Joy, Forman, N.D.)

"I have friends who joined their child's inner-city church, instead of the suburban one near them because they feel they can do more good being in the inner-city parish. They're willing to travel, to inconvenience themselves, to share their gifts with the needy." (Mary Ann Hamilton, Homewood, Ill.)

### Lend Us Your Voice

An upcoming edition asks: What 20th-century martyr—someone who gave his or her life for faith—would you single out for recognition?

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



CNS photo

## Perspectives

From the Editor Emeritus/John F. Fink

## The man who spread devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe

Saturday is the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. I've written before about two of the people associated with this feast—the Blessed Virgin and Juan Diego. But a third person was the one most responsible for the spread of devotion to the image that appeared on Juan Diego's cloak. He is Bishop Juan de Zumarraga, the founding bishop of the Archdiocese of Mexico.

It was Bishop Zumarraga who fell on his knees at the sight of the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. He then kept the image in his private chapel while the first church was built on Tepeyac hill, as Our Lady requested. He approved and encouraged veneration of the image, which resulted in the conversion of the native people.

Bishop Zumarraga was important in the history of the Church in Mexico. A Franciscan missionary, he wrote the first catechism in the New World, both in Spanish and *Nahuatl*, the Aztec language (although he was never able to master that language well enough to speak it). The catechism was printed on the first printing press brought to this continent, at the bishop's request.

He had a passion for the native people. He founded schools, hospitals, one of the first seminaries in the Americas, and even the University of Mexico. He was so involved in his care for the Indians that he was constantly involved in controversy with the Spanish conquistadors. Bishop Zumarraga knew that it was his duty to protect the indigenous people, a mandate given to

the Catholic Church because of the way the conquistadors had treated the Indians.

Zumarraga, then 59, was appointed bishop by the Spanish king, with the approval of Pope Clement VII, in 1527. For some reason he went to Mexico before being consecrated, so he was only bishop-elect at the time of Mary's apparition in 1531. Because of his controversies with the conquistadors, who resented the fact that thousands of Indians were being baptized, especially because of what they saw in the image of Mary, Zumarraga was called to defend himself before the Spanish court in 1532. He did so successfully and was finally consecrated bishop in 1533.

Unlike Juan Diego, who has been declared Blessed, Bishop Zumarraga's cause for canonization never got far. That is probably because, after the Spanish crown appointed him inquisitor, he recommended the death sentence for an Indian chieftain who revived the Aztec practice of human sacrifice. As a result of that one execution, the Spanish court named another inquisitor.

Some people, especially anthropologists, have criticized Zumarraga for destroying the Indians' temples and religious books. Zumarraga's defense was that the pull of the Indians' pagan religion was strong, and he didn't want his converts to relapse.

Zumarraga continued his work for the Catholics of Mexico, both the Indians and the Spanish, until his death at age 80. Toward the end of his life, he felt called to become a missionary in China and asked the pope to send him there. The pope refused. †



Cornucopia/Cynthia Dewes

## Gimme that old-time Latin

This is the third Sunday of Advent, formerly known as Gaudete Sunday. Which means, "Rejoice ye!" in case you didn't know. It's time to rejoice because we're halfway to the day when Christ is born.

The Church presents the liturgical calendar in our vernacular language, English, these days and it's well it does. But sometimes I long for "Gaudete" again. Latin, the so-called "dead" language, was one of the great pleasures of my schooling and churchgoing experiences before Vatican II, and I miss it.

For one thing, it's so orderly. That's probably because it is a dead language and doesn't change by being used and abused like other languages. It appeals to retentive detail-lovers like me.

Of course, the French are trying to keep their language pure by outlawing all foreign or "made-up" combined-language words, but they might as well quit. The language police just can't make people cooperate, especially in a country where language is a major player in every game from food to romance.

Anyway, Latin, although not as mellifluous as French, has a curiously satisfying kind of geometric sound to it. Reading Caesar's *Gallic Wars* out loud in Latin class was fun despite the northern plains accents of me and my fellows. Since our stern Latin teacher was also our stern speech teacher, we sounded passable.

Once, in a burst of unassigned enthusiasm, I made myself bookplates with

my name and "Librum Meum" on them. I thought that was the correct rendition of "My Book." When I proudly presented them for her inspection, however, the Latin teacher informed me that I had the wrong case. Oh, well.

It was also natural for us to learn a lot of ancient history in Latin class. The Romans were an energetic, ambitious and inventive bunch, so we learned about geography, philosophy, military tactics, architecture, engineering, you name it, they did it and we learned about it on the side. Not to mention understanding the nuances when we got to reading *Julius Caesar* in English class.

Latin even improved TV and movie viewing. When "I, Claudius" was on PBS, we felt right at home with all those emperors and phalanxes and tribunes. And movies like *Ben Hur* or *Demetrius and the Gladiators*, despite being no-brainers, were nevertheless enhanced by knowing some Latin.

The language of religion sounds beautiful in Latin. *Introibo ad altare Dei* turns me on. In fact, even in English, "I will go in unto the altar of God" seem to me the most beautiful words with which to begin Mass.

Whatever. All this comes to mind because two granddaughters are studying Latin. I'm thrilled. I keep asking them, "Do you love Latin yet?" and they just look kind of vague.

However, one of them recently wrote the other a letter entirely in Latin. Cool. Latin may be dead, but it ain't out for the count just yet. †

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



The Bottom Line/Antoinette Bosco

## The perfect gift for Christmas

I was already hearing people complain about how they dreaded shopping for



Christmas gifts when Robert Grant, a fine writer I met not long ago, sent me a book. The title grabbed me. It was *The Perfect Gift* (Blue Mantle Press), a children's book by Gregory Scott Sparrow.

That title, *The Perfect Gift*, raised all kinds of questions, starting with, What is the perfect gift, and how would you know when you had found it? And in a soul-searching way, Does one really care about getting a perfect gift for another, or has Christmas gift-giving descended into a sterile task of simply buying something to fulfill an obligation?

I found the book charming. It revolves around Andrew, 9 years old, a bit of a loner after his parents' divorce, not sure anymore what is important. One night shortly before Christmas he is visited by a mysterious boy his own age. He wants him to stay, but the boy cannot. He can only return, he says, when Andrew has given "the perfect gift."

As I read, I was rooting for Andrew to find the answer to that baffling task. And I felt his confusion as he wondered how he, who was so imperfect, could find the perfect gift for each one on his Christmas list.

The story is truly a magical journey, ending in joy as Andrew comes up with simple gifts that reflect each person's deepest needs. He discovers that this is, indeed, the perfect gift because it is given only to make

another person happy. Beautiful!

I have always felt that one of the special things about Christmas is that it gets us to focus on gifts and their meaning. Giving a gift is a way we become connected to each other and show that we care for others. We're actually imitating God's benevolence when we give a gift for no other reason than to express love and friendship.

It's never been a mystery to me that Christmas is a time for gift-giving. It is, after all, the season to remember again that God touched us with marvelous benevolence in a tangible way in the person of Jesus.

What we have to watch out for is falling into the trap of thinking that we're giving gifts when we're only exchanging merchandise.

When gifts are spoken of in terms of obligations, strings attached or gratitude, they really aren't gifts at all. The minute a condition accompanies an offering, it becomes a barter, a bribe or an obligation, not a gift. This kind of giving is only an exchange of a thing that does nothing to form a bond between two people.

On Dec. 25, I wonder how many gifts will be given to make someone feel better, happy, special, beautiful or enhanced in some way—delivered out of the same motivation as God's in giving us Jesus.

I'm grateful to Sparrow for his book. It spurred me to think about perfect gifts.

I pray that all our gifts, given and received, this Christmas will be acts of love, adding to the store of goodness in our lives, and thus, to the world. †

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

Stories, Good News, Fire/Fr. Joe Folzenlogen, S.J.

## Instruments of Hope: Instrumentos de Esperanza

This bilingual title was the theme for the 27th National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry held Dec. 2-5 in Cincinnati.



Marlene Stammerman, director of youth ministry for the archdiocese, and I arrived a day early to take part in a special program for diocesan personnel

on generational theory and its implications for youth ministry.

We learned that there is an emerging generation, the Millennials, already treading on the heels of Generation X. Experience is very important for them, but they also want to bring the experience home with them. Tee shirts, hats, compact discs and cassettes become icons for recalling and reliving the event.

So I thought one way to share with you some of the key elements of the gathering in Cincinnati would be naming some of the words and images that I have carried home with me:

**There aren't many people here who look like me.** An African-American woman voiced this comment in response to a question about issues the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministers needed to address. It echoed a similar comment I heard at the National Council for Catholic Evangelization in the summer and at the Reconciling Church Conference in the fall. We are already a multicultural Church, but our diversity does not always manifest itself at national gatherings.

**Instruments of hope: the inspiration and challenge of the light.** Behind the speaker's platform were four huge banners bearing the faces of Martin Luther

King Jr., Dorothy Day, Oscar Romero and Mother Teresa. During the opening prayer service, our litany of hope invoked each one of them and underlined our call to live out a commitment similar to what they modeled in our own situations.

**My grandpa is the best fisherman.** Mike Carotta used to work here in the archdiocese and is now the director of adolescent catechesis for Resources for Christian Living. One of the powerful stories in his keynote during the Vision of Hope day was about a person trying to learn the expert techniques of fishing equipment and practice, only to discover that presence, joy, and simplicity were far more fruitful.

**What is living in the Church today? What is dying in the Church today? What is rising in the Church today?**

Maria Harris, a national consultant in religious education, used these three questions as the basis for her keynote on the day dedicated to People of Hope. She offered her own responses to each of them, and she guided us in naming and sharing ours.

**I hear music over my head; there must be a God somewhere.** Msgr. Ray East, pastor of Nativity Church in Washington, D.C., used this song to lead us into his dramatic keynote on Hunger for Hope. Step by step he confronted us with the challenges facing today's youth, and had us sign up and march forth in the light of God.

**Energetic adults and a cool bishop.** These two comments from the high school student choir that sang at the first conference Eucharist underline the spirit of the gathering.

(Jesuit Father Joe Folzenlogen is evangelization coordinator for the archdiocese.)



Third Sunday of Advent/Msgr. Owen F. Campion

# The Sunday Readings

Sunday, Dec. 13, 1998

- Isaiah 35:1-6a
- James 5:7-10
- Matthew 11:2-11

The Book of Isaiah furnishes this weekend's first reading. It is no wonder that the Church employs the writings of the Book of Isaiah for its readings during Advent.



Advent is the season of great and joyful expectation. Sections of Isaiah, such as the lesson this weekend, are

magnificently expressive in their own joyful expectation.

The geography of the Middle East figures prominently in the reading. Much of the land is desert. Humans exist in this territory, but their lifestyle is severely affected by the scarcity of water. Abundance of water, of course, would be a most heavenly development.

Amid these arid conditions little blooms. The surroundings assume a stark, dry, lifeless image. Abundant flowers also would be a dramatic and heavenly development in the desert.

In the centuries before Christ, at the time of Christ, and now, advancing years or ill health cause hands to be weak and bodies are weakened. Hearts are frightened as experiences have taught people to beware.

Into all these situations comes the God of power, majesty and strength, the Creator, but also the God of life, mercy and hope. His presence opens the eyes of the blind and the ears of the deaf.

In God all disorder is repaired, all threats are removed, all goodness prevails.

Thus, Zion, the holy mountain in Jerusalem upon which was seated the temple, an image of the people themselves, will see great rejoicing. All is right. God has come!

The Epistle of James is the source of the second reading. No one knows the identity of the author of this rather brief epistle. Four persons with the name of James are mentioned in the New Testament. That the Scripture gives few clues should not astonish anyone. The holy writers were not interested in revealing details about themselves. They were interested in writing about the Lord and the Gospel.

The brevity of this epistle reduced its

popularity among the early Christians. For instance, it hardly would have been cited as often as the expansive Epistle of Paul to the Romans. Nonetheless it is not without its worth. And, by definition of the Church, it is the revealed word of God.

This weekend's reading centers upon a theme very familiar to the first followers of Christ. It refers to the Second Coming of the Lord. The early disciples yearned for this coming.

Realizing that this coming can be personal for each Christian, and at any time in anyone's life, the Church uses this text for this weekend of Advent. The Lord will come. The Lord will come to us personally if we permit it.

St. Matthew's Gospel tells the story of John the Baptist. Probably John the Baptist was similar to many at the time of Jesus who called for repentance. He was unique, however, in his faith in the Lord who was to come.

In this text, John the Baptist is clear. God is sending a Redeemer soon.

## Reflection

The Introit Verse for this weekend, the Entrance Song taken from the Epistle to the Philippians, begins "Rejoice!" The Lord is near!" In Latin, the word is "Gaudete!"—an imperative. For centuries, this day has been called Gaudete Sunday.

Traditionally, the celebrant at Mass wore vestments the color of pink roses. The color represented not a repudiation of the solemn violet of penance in Advent, but the dark violet brightened by brilliant light, as the morning sky is enlivened by the coming of the sun.

Christmas is near. In only 12 days, the Christian world will commemorate the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem 1,998 years ago. His birth as human, as the son of Mary, was the greatest event in history. It set the stage for salvation.

However, the Church reminds us in these readings, Christmas is not a time simply to remember a day long ago. It has profound personal implications if we allow it to be the occasion when Christ enters our hearts.

The Lord will not storm into our lives as an intruder or as a conqueror. We must admit Jesus into our thoughts, our days, our decisions, and our hopes. To provide for this, we must rid ourselves of sin and selfishness. But, how worthwhile the effort! In the place of our sin and fear will come the eternal Lord of life. †

## Daily Readings

**Monday, Dec. 14**  
John of the Cross, priest,  
religious and doctor  
Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a  
Psalm 25:4b-5ab, 6-7bc, 8-9  
Matthew 21:23-27

**Tuesday, Dec. 15**  
Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13  
Psalm 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23  
Matthew 21:28-32

**Wednesday, Dec. 16**  
Isaiah 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25  
Psalm 85:9ab-14  
Luke 7:18b-23

**Thursday, Dec. 17**  
Genesis 49:2, 8-10  
Psalm 72:3-4, 7-8, 17  
Matthew 1:1-17

**Friday, Dec. 18**  
Jeremiah 23:5-8  
Psalm 72:1, 12-13, 18-19  
Matthew 1:18-24

**Saturday, Dec. 19**  
Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a  
Psalm 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17  
Luke 1:5-25

**Sunday, Dec. 20**  
Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Isaiah 7:10-14  
Psalm 24:1-3, 4ab, 5-6  
Romans 1:1-7  
Matthew 1:18-24

Question Corner/Fr. John Dietzen

## Disciples who met Jesus may have been a couple



**Q** My husband and I have a question about the two disciples who met Jesus on the road to Emmaus and ate with him (Lk 24:13-35). Could they have been husband and wife? It appears they shared a home.

One of them, Cleopas, is a man, but his companion's gender is not indicated. Is there any Catholic tradition to shed light on this? (Minnesota)

**A** There is no tradition exactly, but the possibility you mention has been raised often.

You offer one reason. Another, perhaps stronger, is the statement in the Gospel according to John (19:25) that among the women standing by the cross of Jesus was the wife of Clopas—a different form of the same name as the man described in Luke.

Both Gospels seem to assume the name would be recognized by other disciples. And John would likely have been familiar with the story in Luke's Gospel, written a number of years earlier.

Naturally, we cannot know for sure. But there appears to be some likelihood that the two disciples on the road were husband and wife, both close to our Lord, who had suffered a devastating loss (so they supposed) in the death on Calvary and were now sadly heading back home.

**Q** Is it a serious sin if we miss Mass while traveling on vacation? With the shortage of priests and limited schedules, it is not always possible to attend Mass in a strange city. (Illinois)

**A** As we know, the responsibility to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation is a serious one. But there are situations which excuse us from that obligation.

It needs to be noted, first of all, that it is not proper to limit these to impossible circumstances. If I'm confined to bed with a broken leg, or if I simply cannot sit through Mass because of a physical or emotional impairment, I am not "excused." The obligation just ceases to exist, since one is never obligated to do something which is impossible.

Theologians traditionally teach that an excusing cause for the Sunday Mass

obligation should be "moderately serious" (*"mediocriter gravis"*), a reason sufficient, for example, to put aside urgent business of some importance.

Numerous examples are given involving considerable inconvenience or significant material or spiritual harm to oneself or others.

Obviously, no complete list is possible. It comes down finally to individual judgment, keeping in mind the seriousness of the obligation and the central importance of the Eucharist in Catholic life.

Interestingly, vacation travel is one excusing cause nearly always mentioned. One who takes this obligation seriously and fulfills it faithfully otherwise, and misses Mass because of a pleasure trip, can surely do so in good conscience.

Most Catholics have, I believe, innate good sense about such matters. Some others, I have learned, are less certain and maybe need to be reassured.

**Q** The feast of Christ the King was formerly celebrated on the last Sunday in October. Now it is observed on the Sunday before Advent. When was this change made, and why? (Illinois)

**A** The change of date for the Feast of the Kingship of Christ was part of the reconstruction of the missal and the Church year after Vatican Council II.

The very end of the Church's year of Sunday celebrations was chosen as the most appropriate since this feast celebrates the fact that Jesus is the Lord of the world and of all human history, and at the end of time the Father will make that title perfect and complete in the second coming and final victory of Jesus over sin and death.

Since the final Sunday of the liturgical year wraps up the long series of remembrances and celebrations for God's saving work in the world, and since our liturgy focuses attention in a special way at that time on the end of the world, there couldn't be a more fitting time to observe our recognition of Jesus as King and Ruler of the World. †

(A free brochure answering questions Catholics ask about receiving and ministering the holy Eucharist is available by sending a stamped and self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 325, Peoria, Ill. 61651. Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address.)

## My Journey to God

### Eternal Dawn

Jesus, you are the Eternal Dawn, breaking in tender compassion upon the world you fashioned in love, a world now overshadowed by suspicion, fear and hostility.

Dispel the mist which separates us from you and from one another. Open our eyes to see the sorrows of the human family, our hearts to share them, and our hands to reach out to them with kindly deeds.

Dawn of our hope, be yourself, Incarnate Compassion in us. Free us from the shadows of darkness and bring us all into the warm dawn of universal mercy and love.

By Carmel of Terre Haute

(Carmel of Terre Haute will honor the God of all compassion during an Advent novena Dec. 16-24.)

In the tender  
compassion  
of our God,  
the dawn  
from on high  
shall break  
upon us.

## The Active List

The Criterion welcomes announcements for "The Active List" of parish and church-related activities open to the public. Please keep them brief, listing event, sponsor, date, time and location. No announcements can be taken by telephone. No pictures, please. Notices must be in our offices by 10 a.m. on Monday of the week of publication. Hand deliver or mail to: The Criterion, "The Active List," 1400 N. Meridian St., P.O. Box 1717, Indianapolis, Ind., 46206.

### December 11-12

Sacred Heart Parish Center, 1125 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis, will host a Living Nativity scene from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Information: 317-638-5551.

### December 11-13

Marian College, 3200 Cold Spring Rd., Indianapolis, will host its annual Christmas Madrigal Dinner. Doors will open at 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and at 1 p.m. on Sunday. Seating is limited. Cost: \$25/person. Information and reservations: 317-955-6110.

### December 12

Seccina Memorial High School, 5000 Nowland Ave., Indianapolis, will host its Alumni Breakfast with Santa from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the school cafeteria. Admission: one new unwrapped toy per family. Information: 317-351-5976.

Seccina Memorial High School, 5000 Nowland Ave., Indianapolis, will sponsor a cookie walk at 11 a.m. Buy a

box and fill it with Christmas cookies. Information: 317-356-6377, ext. 131.

### December 13

SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, will offer Advent Vespers at 5 p.m. Information: 317-634-4519.

Mary's Rexville Schoenstatt will host a seminar on restoring Christianity, with Jesuit Father John Hardon presenting "The Liturgy and the Sacraments" at 2:30 p.m. Mass will follow at 3:30 p.m., with Father Elmer Burwinkel presiding. (Located on 925 South, .8 miles east of 421 S, 12 miles south of Versailles.) Information: 812-689-3551.

The Oldenburg Academy music department will present its annual Christmas Concert at 3 p.m. in the auditorium. Information: 812-934-4440.

Roncalli High School, 3300 Prague Rd., Indianapolis, will host its annual Holiday Concert featuring the band and chorus at 3 p.m. in the school gymnasium. Tickets: \$3 for reserved

seating and \$2 for general admission. Information and reservations: 317-787-8277.

### December 16

St. Mary Church, 317 N. New Jersey St., Indianapolis, will hold an Advent evening prayer and open house from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Information: 317-637-3983.

St. Patrick Parish Family Life Center, Terre Haute, 1807 Poplar St., will hold a presentation of the Church's teachings on abortion and contraception conducted by seminarian Dorian Knarr from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Information: 812-232-8518.

### December 20

Sacred Heart Parish, 1530 Union St., Indianapolis, will hold a free Christmas concert featuring the Sacred Heart Choir starting at 3 p.m. in the church. Information: 317-638-5551.

Mary's Rexville Schoenstatt will host the Schoenstatt Holy Hour at 2:30 p.m. followed by Mass at 3:30 p.m. with Father Elmer Burwinkel presiding. (Located on 925 South, .8 miles east of 421 S, 12 miles south of Versailles.) Information: 812-689-3551.

Holy Name Church in Beech Grove will offer Christmas Concert XXXVII with adult, girls, boys and high school

choirs directed by Jerry Craney. The tickets for the 3 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. concerts are \$5 each. Information: 317-787-1682.

SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, will offer Advent Vespers at 5 p.m. Information: 317-634-4519.

### Recurring

#### Daily

Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood, hosts perpetual adoration 24 hours a day in the parish center.

Holy Rosary Parish, Indianapolis, 520 Stevens St., celebrates a Tridentine (Latin) Mass. Call for times. Information: 317-636-4478.

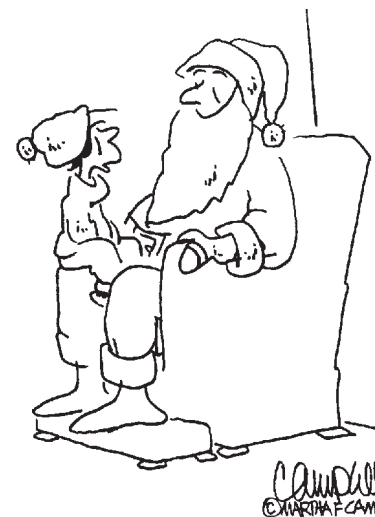
#### Weekly

#### Sundays

Holy Rosary Parish, Indianapolis, 520 Stevens St., celebrates a Tridentine (Latin) Mass, 10 a.m. (formerly held at St. Patrick Parish).

St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Clarksville, holds "Be Not Afraid" holy hour from 6-7 p.m.

St. Anthony Church, 379 N. Warman, Indianapolis, holds a rosary and Benediction for vocations at 2 p.m.



"I mind my mother, eat my vegetables and do my homework, but you won't tell the other guys, will you?"

© 1998 CNS Graphics

### Mondays

Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, Greenwood, 335 S. Meridian St., hosts a prayer group, 7:30 p.m. in the chapel.

### Tuesdays

Our Lady of the Greenwood Marian Prayer group at Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood, meets from 7-8 p.m. in the chapel to pray the rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

St. Joseph Parish, Sellersburg, 2605 St. Joe Rd. West, Shepherds of Christ Associates prays the rosary and other

prayers following 7 p.m. Mass.

St. Louis de Montfort Parish, Fishers, 11441 Hague Rd., in the Lafayette Diocese, offers adult religious education classes from 7 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. There is a minimal fee. Information: 317-842-5869.

Holy Name Parish, Beech Grove, 89 N. 17th St., holds prayer group from 2:30-3:30 p.m. This includes the rosary and other prayers.

### Wednesdays

Marian Movement of Priests cenacle prayer group has

—See ACTIVE LIST, page 19

**An invitation to a Christmas Concert featuring OPERAtunity**

**An evening of song and celebration**

**Our Lady of Lourdes Auditorium**  
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Indianapolis

**Thursday, December 17, 1998**  
8:30 p.m.

**Please come and join us!**  
**Free admission • Refreshments**

*The Parish Community of St. Mary Catholic Church cordially invites you to an Open House Celebration & Advent Evening Prayer*

*Wednesday, December 16, 1998*  
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

*St. Mary Catholic Church*  
317 N. New Jersey Street (Lockerbie)  
Indianapolis, Indiana

*Prayer begins 7:00 p.m.*  
*Open House & Tours in the church*  
7:30 - 8:30 p.m.  
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# Lent at Fatima

Men's retreat / Fr. Jim Farrell: February 19 - 21

Silent retreat / Fr. Bill Simmons: February 26 - 28

Women's retreat / Fr. Al Ajamie and Sr. Patricia O'Bryan: March 5 - 7

Women's retreat / Sr. Ruth Eileen Dwyer: March 12 - 14

Women's retreat / Sr. Norma Rocklage and Fr. Larry Voelker: March 19 - 21

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The Active List, continued from page 18

rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet and consecration from 3-4 p.m. at the Divine Mercy Chapel, 3354 W. 30th St., Indianapolis, behind St. Michael Church. Information: 317-271-8016.

**Thursdays**

St. Lawrence Parish, Indianapolis, hosts adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mass.

◆◆◆

St. Mary Parish, New Albany, Shepherds of Christ Associates gather at 7 p.m. to pray for religious and lay vocations.

◆◆◆

St. Patrick Parish, Salem, Shelby St., holds a prayer service, 7 p.m.

◆◆◆

St. Malachy Parish, Brownsburg, celebrates Liturgy of the Hours, Evening Prayer at 7 p.m. Information: 317-852-3195.

**Fridays**

St. Susanna Parish, Plainfield, 1210 E. Main, holds adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

◆◆◆

St. Lawrence Parish, Indianapolis, hosts adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel from 7 a.m. to 5:30

p.m. Benediction and Mass.

◆◆◆

A pro-life rosary is recited at 10 a.m. in front of Affiliated Women's Services, Inc., 2215 Distributors Dr., Indianapolis.

**Saturdays**

A pro-life rosary is recited at 9:30 a.m. in front of the Clinic for Women, E. 38th St. and Parker Ave., Indianapolis.

**Monthly**

**Third Sundays**

Mary's Rexville Schoenstatt has Holy Hour at 2:30 p.m. followed by Mass at 3:30 p.m. (Located on 925 South., .8 mile east of 421 South., 12 miles south of Versailles.) Information: 812-689-3551.

**Third Mondays**

Young Widowed Group, sponsored by the archdiocesan Office for Youth and Family Ministries, meets at St. Matthew Parish, 4100 E. 56th St., Indianapolis, at 7:30 p.m. Child care available. Information: 317-236-1586.

**Third Wednesdays**

Catholic Widowed Organization meets from 7-9:30 p.m. at the Archbishop O'Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Information:

317-887-9388.

◆◆◆

Holy Family Parish, Oldenburg, holds a support group for widowed persons at 7 p.m. Information: 812-934-2524.

◆◆◆

Calvary Chapel/Mausoleum, Indianapolis, 435 W. Troy Ave., Mass at 2 p.m.

**Third Thursdays**

Sacred Heart Parish, Indianapolis, 1530 Union St., holds family rosary night at 7 p.m.

◆◆◆

Our Lady of Peace Chapel/Mausoleum, Indianapolis, 9001 Haverstick Rd., Mass at 2 p.m.

**Third Fridays**

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Central Indiana gathers for Mass and healing service at the chapel in St. Francis Hall, Marian College, 3200 Cold Spring Rd., Indianapolis, at 7 p.m.

**Third Saturdays**

The archdiocesan Pro-Life Office and St. Andrew Parish, 3922 E. 38th St., Indianapolis, celebrates Mass for Life, 8:30 a.m., followed by a walk to the abortion clinic at 2951 E. 38th St. to pray the rosary, returning to St. Andrew Parish for the Benediction.

# Cubans will celebrate first Feliz Navidad as holiday after 29 years

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—The Vatican welcomed a Cuban announcement reinstating Christmas as a holiday nearly 30 years after the celebration was suspended.

"In the Holy See, this announcement was received with satisfaction," Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls wrote in a Dec. 2 statement.

The spokesman said the Cuban declaration "responds to a precise desire of the people and of the Cuban Church" and added that it "will not pass unobserved by the international community."

Cuba's Communist Party broke the news on the front page of its daily paper, *Granma*, Dec. 1. It recommended that "from this year on," Dec. 25 would be a permanent holiday in Cuba.

Christmas celebrations were banned in Cuba in 1969. Officials at the time explained that workers were needed in the fields to meet demand for the sugar cane harvest. The following New Year's holiday also was canceled.

In subsequent years, Christmas in Cuba remained a working day, though celebrations of the arrival of the new year resumed.

The *Granma* announcement reinstating the Christian holiday said its abolition "was not inspired by any anti-religious spirit," and that mechanization had reduced the need for manpower during the harvest.

Cuba's bishops said the Church in their country "appreciates" and "highly values" the Cuban authorities' gesture and "expresses its profound confidence that the road to Cuba's openness to the world will produce new motives for joy, unity and hope for the Cuban people."

In a Dec. 1 message signed by their press director, Orlando Marquez Hidalgo, the Cuban bishops said "although Christians in Cuba never ceased to celebrate this event, re-establishing the Christmas holiday is an act rendering justice to our Christian-centered culture."

"It recognizes the purest religious sentiments of Cubans and reaffirms our authentic traditions, above all our family ones,"

the message continued. "It also answers a request of the Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, of the Cuban bishops and without doubt of other Christian churches, and all those who share our feelings."

Cuban President Fidel Castro cleared the way for legal Christmas celebrations last December, 40 days before Pope John Paul II's Jan. 21-25 pastoral visit. At the time, Castro announced that he would make an "exception" and allow observances of the holiday, but he did not say for how long.

The pope had requested the step during Castro's November 1996 visit to the Vatican. †

**Vatican welcomes news that Cuba will reinstate Christmas as a holiday**

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# News briefs

## U.S.

### Collection for retired religious set

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection will be taken up at parishes in most U.S. dioceses—including the Archdiocese of Indianapolis—the weekend of Dec. 12-13. Those dioceses not involved in the collection that weekend have either had a special collection or participate in retirement assistance programs of their own. Since the first collection 10 years ago, \$256 million has been contributed by U.S. Catholics, making it the largest national collection.

### Partnership seeks to get single fathers involved in parenting

WASHINGTON (CNS)—When couples divorce, court and social service systems are set up to intervene so that both parents take a role in raising their children. When unmarried couples with children split up, however, the only structure that comes into play may be enforcement of child support laws. Hoping to address that problem, a new partnership of nonprofit organizations, child support agencies and the federal government has kicked off a \$10 million initiative to promote responsible fatherhood and help single fathers develop skills and sustainable income. The demonstration project in 10 cities

includes curriculum in values, manhood, anger management, self-sufficiency, health, sexuality, conflict resolution and substance abuse.

### N.C. State team discovers world's oldest Christian church in Jordan

RALEIGH, N.C. (CNS)—Beneath the sands of the modern city of Aqaba, Jordan, lies the ruined, ancient city of Aila. A team of archeologists—students and faculty—from North Carolina State University probed the sands, and discovered what is believed to be the oldest known Christian church. Thomas Parker, history professor at N.C. State, said that the first “circumstantial evidence” indicated that this was an early Christian church, but “the evidence now seems pervasive.” (See photo on P. 21.)

### Youths find Life Teen Masses are full of spirit, energy, music

LITTLETON, Colo. (CNS)—On Sunday nights, up to 400 teens gather around the altar at St. Frances Cabrini Church in the Denver suburb of Littleton to participate in the Mass with spirit-filled energy and prayerful reverence. Even more surprising, rather than being dragged to Church by their parents, youth ministers say that many of those teens are responsible for their families returning to Mass. The teens are part of the 13-year-old Life Teen movement, which exists in more than 500 parishes and has resulted in 50,000 teens gathering around altars across the United States and Canada every Sunday night.

## World

### Bishops say Church is fighting polygamy in Papua New Guinea

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—The Church's efforts to promote morality and to defend the dignity of women has led it to join women's rights groups in seeking a legal ban on polygamy in Papua New Guinea, bishops said. Polygamy is traditional among many of the clans in Papua New Guinea, but with changing social morals and economic factors, it has become “a major cause of domestic violence,” said Bishop Paul J. Marx of Kerema. Bishop Marx and other Church leaders from Papua New Guinea attending the Nov. 22-Dec. 12 Synod of Bishops for Oceania decried polygamy and the practice of paying dowries.

### Priest critical of drug lords kidnapped, released unharmed

MEXICO CITY (CNS)—A priest who is an outspoken critic of Mexican drug lords was kidnapped and held two days before being released unharmed. Father Pedro Lascurain Perez, 32, made his way home by bus Nov. 29 after being released in Chilpancingo, about 140 miles south of his home in Mexico City. A statement released Nov. 29 by the Archdiocese of Mexico City acknowledged that Father Lascurain had received threats and had been harassed by members of the city's judicial police force. In Mexico, judicial police are responsible for criminal investigations, but they are allegedly linked to the drug trade.

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### Canadian missionary brother murdered in Haiti with machete

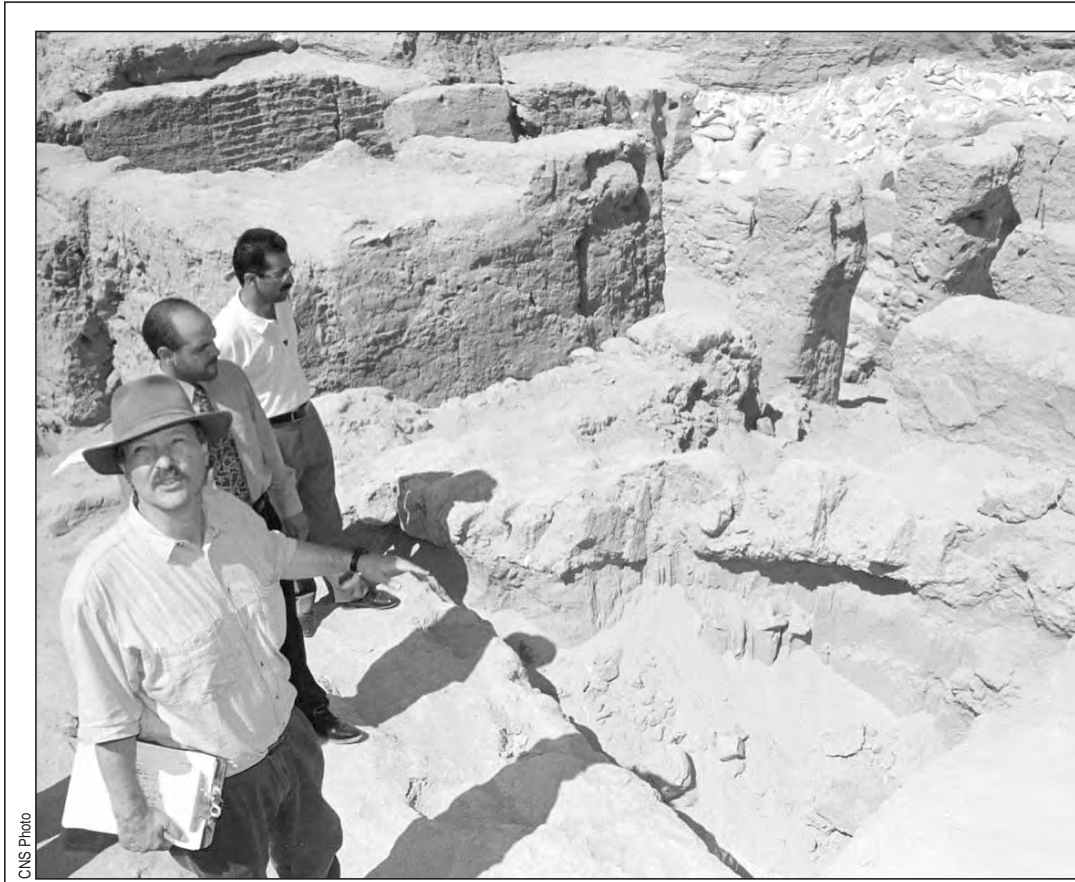
ROME (CNS)—A Canadian missionary brother who worked in Haiti for more than 30 years was murdered in late November with repeated blows of a machete. Brother Bernardin Hudon, a member of the Brothers of Christian Instruction from Montreal, died during the night of Nov. 27-28 in the village of La Vallee, Haiti, where he and two others members of the order ran a school. According to a spokesman for the brothers' generalate in Rome, as of Dec. 2 police and Church workers in Haiti had not come up with a motive for the murder nor any suspects. Nothing appeared to have been stolen from the house.

### Mexican bishops promote study of issues pope expected to address

MEXICO CITY (CNS)—Mexico's bishops are promoting a parish study of the issues they expect Pope John Paul II to address during his January visit. At the top of the Mexican bishops' list is what they called the "cruel and inhuman" economic difference between the mostly wealthy countries of the Northern Hemisphere and the mostly poor countries of the Southern Hemisphere. Between Jan. 11 and 15, all parishes in Mexico are expected to participate in a national week of catechesis. On the night of Jan. 21, the eve of Pope John Paul's arrival, Catholics can participate in a national prayer vigil.

### Holy See says archives have 'nothing to add' on Holocaust

ROME (CNS)—Responding to renewed criticism of its archival secrecy, the Holy See said there was "nothing to add" to published documents on the Vatican and the Holocaust. "Exhaustive scrutiny of documents from the Vatican archives allows the affirmation that there is nothing—I repeat: nothing—to add to that which is already published," Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said in a Dec. 3 statement. "Whoever makes insinuations contrary to those that the Holy See has already reaffirmed many times must justify them with concrete proof," the spokesman wrote. "This, naturally, has never happened."



CNS Photo

### Oldest church

Thomas Parker (front) stands at the site in Jordan where he believes he has discovered the oldest Christian church. The archeologist and his team from North Carolina State University have been excavating in the area since 1994.

#### People

### Founder of homosexual ministry calls for spiritual support

RIVERDALE, N.Y. (CNS)—Homosexuals need a support group that encourages them to live "chaste lives in a spiritual way," said the founder and director of Courage, the New York-based international Church ministry for homosexual men and women. Father John F. Harvey, an Oblate of St. Francis de Sales, said a support group is important to help homosexual people control their desires. He spoke at a mid-November conference on homosexuality at the Cardinal Spellman Retreat House in the Bronx.

### Wreath pins help New York Catholics 'take back Advent'

RENSELAER, N.Y. (CNS)—With the help of a small wreath, St. Joseph Parish in Rensselaer is standing up to the malls and shopping centers that began their Christmas merchandising before the first leaves fall. Under the leadership of Mercy Sister Julia Mary Werner, pastoral associate for administration, 70 parishioners are making wreath pins that serve as a reminder of the Advent season. "My primary goal is to help people take back Advent," Sister Werner told *The Evangelist*, newspaper of the Albany Diocese. †

(These briefs were compiled from reports by Catholic News Service.)

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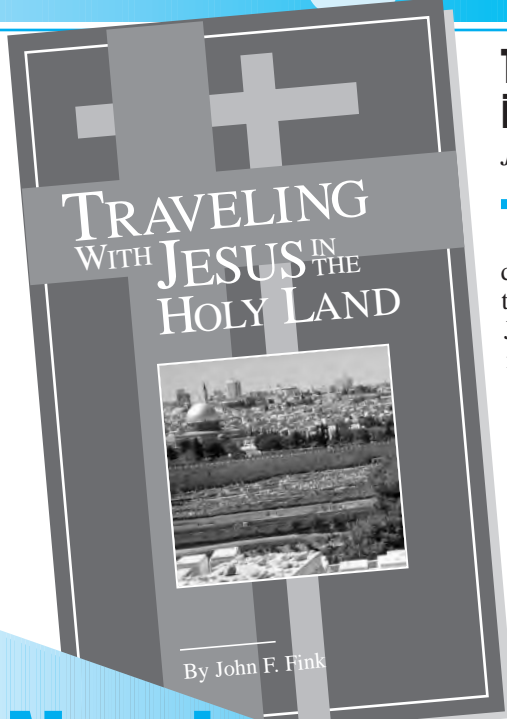
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John F. Fink, editor emeritus of *The Criterion*, is a journalist who has spent a lifetime working in the Catholic press on the local, national and international levels. He has led four tours of the Holy Land and has participated in three others. In early 1997, he spent three months there studying at the Tantur Ecumenical Institute in Jerusalem.

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# Rest in peace

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

**BANTLE, Rosa**, 86, St. Roch, Indianapolis, Nov. 15. Mother of Hilda Lowell, Erika Smith, Martha Szostak, Albert and Eric Bantle. Grandmother of 17. Great-grandmother of four.

**BORDERS, Virginia**, 81, St. Paul, Tell City, Oct. 10. Mother of Elizabeth McAndrews, Sue Heck, Patrice McCarthy, Mary Key, Gene, Bill and Michael

Borders. Sister of Helen Davidson. Grandmother of 22. Great-grandmother of three.

**CLARK, Julia B.**, 84, Holy Spirit, Indianapolis, Nov. 23. Aunt of two.

**CLEMENTS, Mary Ann**, 79, St. Joseph, Indianapolis, Nov. 20. Mother of Joy Lee Smith, Karen Guzenda, Sandra Harless, Peggy Swinford and Thomas W. Clements, Jr. Grandmother of 15. Great-grandmother of 20.

**CURD, James Gavin**, 61, Nativity, Indianapolis, Nov. 22. Husband of Martha Curd. Father of James K., Steven, Michael, Thomas, Barbara and Karen Curd. Brother of Leo, John and Mary Curd. Grandfather of one.

**DAUBY, Lucille B.**, 78, St. Paul, Tell City, Oct. 14. Mother

of Richard and Ron Dauby. Sister of Margaret Bolin, Charles and Herman Theis.

**EBLE, Marianna M. (Kubiak)**, 43, St. Michael, Indianapolis, Nov. 25. Wife of Douglas B. Eble. Daughter of Doris M. Roth Kubiak. Sister of Christina M. Clawson and Stephanie A. Cline.

**FEIX, William T.**, 66, St. Paul, Tell City, Nov. 8. Husband of Sue Feix. Father of Lisa Speaker, Laura and Spencer Feix. Brother of Evelyn Hess and Wilma Feix. Grandfather of two.

**FRANK, Charles E. Sr.**, 91, St. Gabriel, Connerville, Nov. 26. Father of Ramona Bevier and

## Mary Hall was mother of priest

Mary Elizabeth (Walpole) Hall, mother of Father John M. Hall, died on Dec. 3. She was 70.

A funeral Mass was celebrated on Dec. 7 at Our Lady of the Greenwood Church, at the parish of which she was a member.

Mary Hall was a member of the ladies auxiliary of the Msgr. Sheridan Council of the Knights of Columbus. She worked for State Distributors and L.S. Ayres & Co.

She was the widow of Joseph V. Hall. Besides Father Hall, she is survived by a son, Matthew J. Hall, and a daughter, Elizabeth "Becky" Hall; a brother Matthew F. Walpole, and a sister, Gertrude Curran.

Memorial contributions may be made to Our Lady of the Greenwood Church Building Fund or to Christ the King in Paoli or Our Lady of the Springs in French Lick, the parishes where Father Hall is pastor. †

Charles Frank Jr. Brother of Hazel Buckingham. Grandfather of six. Great-grandfather of nine.

**HIGGINS, Robert**, 91, St. Mary, North Vernon, Nov. 27. Brother of Genevieve Gilbert.

**HUDSON, Brandon Lee**, 3 days, St. Malachy, Brownsburg, Nov. 27. Son of Terry and Gina Hudson. Brother of Shane, Tyler and Chris Hudson. Grandson of Edita Jesse, John Hudson, Stanley and Clara Wilson. Great-grandson of Adela Baculanta, Charles Hudson, Les and Marie Wilson.

**JOHNSON, Helen M. (Wilson)**, 78, St. Ann, Indianapolis, Nov. 27. Mother of Tom Johnson and Roberta Hamm. Sister of Bob Wilson, Bernice Van Hoy and Franciscan Sister Mary Wilson. Grandmother of two.

**KNIERIEM, Rebecca J.**, 42, St. Paul, Tell City, Nov. 2. Wife of Donald Knieriem. Mother of Danlye Kleeman, Margie Roberts, April and Lisa Knieriem. Daughter of Aloysius Biever. Sister of Carolyn Schmidt, Marilyn Mogan, John, Bill, Steve, Paul, Mark and Carl Biever.

**KYLE, Joseph E.**, 78, St. Michael, Cannelton, Oct. 9. Father of Jeanie Hodgson, Susan Hess, Louise Dixon, Janet Schneider, Jaice Walker, Bill, Ed, Mike, Jeremy and Tim Kyle. Brother of Sudie Nix, Anita Kellems, Everett and Thomas Kyle. Grandfather of 22. Great-grandfather of 34.

**LUECKE, Charles T. Sr.**, 80, St. Paul, Tell City, Oct. 13. Father of Janet Poehlein, Duane, Mark and Charles Luecke Jr. Brother of Irene Solbring. Grandfather.

**McGILL, Charles K.**, 77, St. Joan of Arc, Indianapolis, Nov. 25. Husband of Kathryn Kelly McGill. Father of Kevin, Anne Marie, Robert, Andrew, Thomas, Daniel and Michael McGill.

Grandfather of 10.

**MOSHENEK, Nancy R.**, 55, St. Paul, Tell City, Oct 31. Mother of Alisa Johnson, Kim Reddick and David Moshenek. Sister of Michael Kessans and Mary Ann Littlefield. Grandmother of four.

**MURELLO, Michael**, 43, St. Roch, Indianapolis, Nov. 16. Husband of Theresa Murello. Father of Chassity Smith, Tina, and Angie Murello. Brother of Barbara Jo Barnette, Tony and Roy Murello Jr.

**NEWTON, Rosemary L. (Miller)**, 73, St. Michael, Indianapolis, Nov. 26. Mother of Debbie Cranfill, Susie Strong, Sherry Byrdwell, Mary Eggers, Ronald and James Newton. Sister of Vivian Hittle, Shirley Pettie, Jean Naugle, Robert and Martin Miller. Grandmother of 9.

**NORWOOD, Martha L.**, 71, St. Mary, New Albany, Nov. 25. Mother of Robert Norwood, Cathy LaHue and Jacqueline Murphy. Sister of Honora Dieckman and Mary J. Duggins. Grandmother of four.

**OBERHAUSEN, Ralph**, 77, St. Paul, Tell City, Nov. 12. Husband of Evelyn Oberhausen. Father of Sarah Keating, Emily Brown, Dan, Tom, Marty and Mike Oberhausen. Brother of Marie Clemens, Tony and Charles Oberhausen. Grandfather of eight.

**REISZ, Dekbert**, 62, St. Paul, Tell City, Oct. 22. Husband of Elaine Reisz. Father of Mariella Wehmiller, Marcella Henderson, Cindy Becker, Julie Dingman, Joan Wettstain, Laura Johnston, Andrew and Richard Reisz Jr. Brother of Margaret Payne, Martha Snyder, Nancy Harpenau, Gregory Sr., Joan Reisz, Father Leonard and Sister of Charity Mary Reisz. Grandfather of 14.

**SCHMIDT, John**, 79, St. Paul, Tell City, Nov. 15. Husband of Ilean Schmidt. Father of Carla

Trent, Paula Miller and Emily Schmidt. Brother of Ruth Braun, Ellen Peter and Mabel Wilgus. Grandfather.

**VAUGHT, Thomas J.**, 67, St. Paul, Tell City, Nov. 3. Husband of Louise Vaught. Son of Phillipine Coultas. Brother of William Vaught. Half-brother of Rita Scales, Donna Stallings, John, Jerry and Dennis Vaught.

**WHITE, Anna L.**, 81, St. Michael, Indianapolis, Nov. 15. Mother of Jerrell R. White. Grandmother of one.

**ZIEGELGRUBER, Louis Patrick "Pat."** 42, St. Paul, Tell City, Nov. 3. Husband of Cathy Ziegelgruber. Father of Cara, Kate and Jay Ziegelgruber. Son of Paul and Rose Ziegelgruber. Brother of Debra Phillips, Polly Ellison, Dori Meyer and Mark Ziegelgruber. Grandson of Veronica Rhoades.

## Providence Sister Marcia Lejman was 56

Providence Sister Marcia Lejman died on Dec. 3 at Karcher Hall at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods. She was 56.

A funeral Mass was celebrated at the Church of the Immaculate Conception on Dec. 5.

Born in Chicago, the former Marcia Karen Lejman entered the Sisters of Providence in 1960, professed first vows in 1963 and final vows in 1968.

Sister Marcia, formerly known as Sister Clarissa, ministered as a nurse for 14 years, serving in the Saint Mary-of-the-Woods Infirmary during that time. She was a director and coordinator of religious education in parishes in Indiana and Illinois and taught in schools in Illinois.

She is survived by her father, Ignatius J. Lejman, and a brother, Philip Lejman. †

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#### Director of Constituency Relations

The new Director of Constituency Relations will be externally focused and will work closely with the other members of the Office of Congregational Advancement to meet the philanthropic goals of the Congregation. He/she will:

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- Coordinate special development gatherings for the Congregation and assist the Congregation's special ministries in their development efforts.

He/she will have a bachelor's degree and ideally a minimum of three years of development experience, preferably in the area of major and/or planned giving.

#### Director of Development

The Director of Development will be responsible for the annual fund and will work closely with the other members of the Office of Congregational Advancement to meet the philanthropic goals of the Congregation. He/she will:

- Plan, implement, and evaluate the annual fund of the Congregation.
- Coordinate the ongoing work of the Development Advisory Group.
- Manage and maintain the systems for gift acknowledgement and tracking, including all financial reports and analysis.
- Create printed materials for cultivation, solicitation, and stewardship.
- Write grant applications to identified prospects.

He/she will have a bachelor's degree and ideally a minimum of three years of development experience, preferably in the area of annual giving.

The ideal candidate for either position must be committed to the mission of the Sisters of St. Francis, to collaborative planning, and to working with the other members of the Advancement team. Send letter of application and résumé to: S. Marjorie English, Sisters of St. Francis, P.O. Box 100, Oldenburg, IN 47036. Application deadline is January 15, 1999. Applications will be reviewed in February 1999.

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Nov 30 - Dec 6..... \$877

**Rome, Assisi, Florence**  
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**Holy Land**  
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## Free

**FREE ORGAN** to school or church organization. Call Msgr. Ryan, 317-636-4828.

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Southside Christian mom accepting children 2 years and up, including before and after school children. 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Nutritious meals, large fenced yard, and lots of TLC. 317-780-9249

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### Dental Receptionist

Dental receptionist needed for N.E. side perio office.

Call 317-842-5085 for information.

## Novena

**THANKS TO** Blessed Jeanne Jugan and St. Jude for favors received. - V. G.

**THANK YOU** St. Jude for prayers answered. - M. J. C.

**THANK YOU** St. Jude for prayers answered. - Les & Char

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**INCOME TAX** preparation by a former IRS agent. Prepares all returns including small business corps. Very reasonable. Call 317-877-3410.

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The Custom Canal is small enough to be cosmetically appealing and still provide the size needed to accommodate today's powerful circuitry. Canal aids are possibly the most widely recommended instrument style.

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When C.I.C. is placed in your ear canal...  
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