



The

# Criterion

Serving the Church in Central and Southern Indiana Since 1960



## A 'priceless' connection

Archbishop Charles C. Thompson celebrates Mass with high school seniors, page 15.

CriterionOnline.com

November 18, 2022

Vol. LXIII, No. 7 75¢

## Catholics' ties to the dead are strengthened in annual Indulgence Walk in Indianapolis



Father C. Ryan McCarthy, pastor of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish in Indianapolis, leads Catholics on Nov. 5 in his parish's eighth annual Indulgence Walk through Holy Cross and St. Joseph cemeteries in Indianapolis. (Photo by Sean Gallagher)

By Sean Gallagher

The overcast sky was a leaden gray. High winds blew autumn leaves through the air and around gravestones in Holy Cross and St. Joseph cemeteries in Indianapolis.

Added to the scene on Nov. 5 were dozens of Catholics weaving their way through the adjacent cemeteries. They were there to pray for what are traditionally called the "poor souls" in purgatory during the eighth annual Indulgence Walk sponsored by Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish in Indianapolis.

Part of the reason for this prayerful walk in the cemeteries was to obtain for souls in purgatory a plenary indulgence, which is a remission of all temporal punishment due to sins already forgiven.

But there were other reasons as well for the people to gather at the cemeteries for the Indulgence Walk.

In praying for the dead and learning more about them, they strengthened their ties in the communion of saints that stretch from Earth through purgatory to heaven, said Father C. Ryan McCarthy, pastor of Holy Rosary, who led the Indulgence Walk.

"A couple of years ago, Rome clarified that it's appropriate to believe that the poor souls can pray for those who pray for them," he said in an interview with *The Criterion*. "So, it also gains us their prayers and intercessions on our behalf."

He also noted that hearing these stories "puts flesh" on the need for the faithful to pray for the souls in purgatory.

See WALK, page 8

## At Mass, outgoing USCCB president encourages renewal, self-examination

BALTIMORE (CNS)—In a Mass on Nov. 14 to mark the opening of the 2022 fall general assembly of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops



Archbishop José H. Gomez

(USCCB), Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles called on his brother bishops to take time for self-examination and to renew their vocation and ministry.

Archbishop Gomez, who ended his three-year term as USCCB president

at the close of the meeting on Nov. 17, was joined by seven cardinals and more than 220 archbishops and bishops in celebrating the Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Baltimore.

At the beginning of the Mass, Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori welcomed the bishops to the basilica, the first cathedral built after the establishment of the United States.

In his homily, Archbishop Gomez noted that the Church is nearing the end of the liturgical year and he reflected on the readings for the day's liturgy, from Revelation and the Gospel of Luke.

"Today, the readings of the Mass are useful to examine ourselves and renew our vocation and ministry," Archbishop Gomez said.

In the first reading, he noted, the Lord says, "I know your works, your labor. ... Moreover, you have endurance and have suffered for my name, and you have not grown weary" (Rv 2:2, 3).

The archbishop said that because God knows us so well—"better than we can ever know ourselves—God understands that sometimes we can lose our enthusiasm and our sense of purpose; we start doing things more out of a sense of duty than out of a sense of love."

In Revelation, the Lord says, "You have lost the love you had at first" (Rv 2:4).

"Sadly, we recognize that sometimes

See USCCB, page 9

## A faith community and friendships lead a woman from despair to gratitude

(Editor's note: As Thanksgiving approaches, *The Criterion* is featuring stories of gratitude shared by our readers.)

By John Shaughnessy

Sharon Montieth knows from personal experience how someone can feel overwhelmed by life, to the point where it doesn't seem there is a way out of the tough times, the hopelessness.

She has also personally experienced the great difference that friends and a faith community can make in helping lead someone from despair to hope, from worry to gratitude.

See GRATITUDE, page 8

Sharon Montieth, left, and Brenda Henry of St. Joan of Arc Parish in Indianapolis have helped each other in their journeys of faith. (Submitted photo)



# Election Day adoration



A woman prays in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament on Election Day, Nov. 8, in Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Church in Indianapolis. The parish had the Blessed Sacrament exposed for adoration while polls were open in Indiana. (Photo by Sean Gallagher)



## Public Schedule of Archbishop Charles C. Thompson

November 19–December 1, 2022

**November 19 – 10 a.m.**  
Archdiocesan Pastoral Council meeting at St. Bartholomew Parish, Columbus

**November 20 – 2 p.m.**  
Confirmation Mass for youths of St. Bridget of Ireland Parish, Liberty; St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Richmond; St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish, Cambridge City; St. Gabriel Parish, Connersville; St. Anne Parish, New Castle; and St. Mary Parish, Rushville, at St. Andrew Church, Richmond

**November 22 – 1 p.m.**  
Council of Priests meeting at Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center, Indianapolis

**November 29 – 11 a.m.**  
College of Deans meeting at Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center

**November 30 – Noon**  
Indianapolis Eucharistic Revival Planning Team meeting at Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center

**November 30 – 3 p.m.**  
Finance Council meeting, Mass and dinner at Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center

**December 1 – 10 a.m.**  
Leadership Team meeting at Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center

**December 1 – 12:30 p.m.**  
Lunch meeting with delegates for Continental Phase of Synod at Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center

**December 1 – 3:30 p.m.**  
Catholic Community Foundation Advisory Board meeting at Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center

## Catholic leaders vow to continue fight after state abortion measures pass

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Although Catholic leaders and state Catholic conferences had pushed for the defeat of ballot measures protecting legal abortion and urged voters to pass measures restricting abortions, state voters ultimately went the other way on Nov. 8.

Voters in California, Vermont and Michigan approved abortion protections, while Kentucky and Montana voters rejected abortion restrictions.

These ballot measures were the first time voters faced the opportunity to weigh in on abortion laws since the Supreme Court’s *Dobbs v. Jackson’s Women’s Health Organization* decision in June that overturned *Roe v. Wade*, its 1973 case legalizing abortion nationwide.

Catholic bishops in states where these votes took place expressed disappointment, and renewed their commitment to keep up the fight to end abortion and to provide support to women and families in need.

“Abortion is now legal in Michigan at an unprecedented level, and millions of lives are at stake,” wrote Detroit Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron in a letter to Catholics posted on the archdiocesan website on Nov. 9.

“We awake today to the news that Proposal 3 has passed, altering our state constitution to allow for unregulated and unsafe abortion on demand in Michigan,” he wrote, saying that people of faith are “deeply saddened by this grave assault on the dignity and sanctity of unborn, innocent human life.”

The archbishop called the measure an “unjust and perverse law” and pointed out that in the last several months pro-life advocates in the state had “worked

tirelessly to spread the truth about Proposal 3, imploring voters to make an informed decision at the ballot box.

He asked Catholics to join him in prayer about this issue and to renew their “commitment to accompanying women and families in need, with greater resolve than ever,” pledging to “continue our efforts to build a culture of life in which abortion is unthinkable, all families receive the support they need, and the dignity of all people is recognized.”

The measure, also known as the Reproductive Freedom for All Amendment, modifies the state’s constitution to remove restrictions on abortion in the state and eliminate other pro-life laws.

The California Catholic Conference had similarly urged Catholics to vote against that state’s abortion measure called Proposition 1.

On its website, the Catholic conference—which is the public policy arm of the state’s bishops—said the measure “would enshrine the explicit right to abortion in our state constitution, setting a nationwide precedent. It is the most egregious expansion of abortion this country has ever seen.”

It also said the measure was the first time in California when “voters are being asked to vote for unrestricted late-term abortion, ending any real chance for California to protect unborn life in future laws.”

In Vermont, voters passed Article 22, also called the Reproductive Liberty Amendment, to protect “personal reproductive autonomy” for people of any age.

The measure came to the state’s voters

after state legislators passed a law in 2019 guaranteeing “reproductive rights.” After the *Dobbs* decision, the measure’s supporters said the constitutional amendment was needed to provide more protections for abortion.

In September, Bishop Christopher J. Coyne of Burlington, Vt., wrote to



Bishop Christopher J. Coyne

Catholics in the state urging them to vote against the abortion measure, and instead to promote laws and policies that “directly confront the reasons why people choose to have an abortion.”

He said there are “many problematic implications of this proposed addition to Vermont’s constitution. The most problematic, however, may be the explicit intent of our state’s lawmakers by this amendment to create the strongest legal precedent for keeping abortion on demand for any stage of pregnancy, even late-term pregnancies, for any reason.”

In other state ballot measures, Kentucky voters rejected a constitutional amendment that said there was no right to abortion in the state, while Montana voters rejected a measure to approve the Born Alive Infants Protection Act requiring doctors to try to save the life of infants “born alive at any state of development.”

In Montana, in urging voters to support the measure, the state’s Catholic conference issued a statement in September, saying it was “the epitome of commonsense legislation” and was

needed to “safeguard those infants who, through no fault of their own, are born into some of the most difficult and challenging circumstances imaginable.”

Kentucky’s Catholic bishops, who urged voters to vote yes on Amendment 2, said in a Nov. 9 statement that they were disappointed by the measure’s rejection by state voters, but stressed that “this is not the end of the debate or of the need to work diligently to increase respect for the dignity of each and every human life.

“We pray that the defeat of the amendment will not lead the courts to assume the role of determining public policy on abortion. The General Assembly is the proper venue to settle such deeply divisive issues,” the bishops added in the statement posted on the website of the Kentucky Catholic Conference.

They said that while the measure’s defeat “is cause for sadness,” they also saw the vote as a “call to redouble our efforts at ensuring that every Kentuckian has the support they need to thrive.”

The prelates pledged to renew their commitment “to work with legislators to pass laws that protect the unborn, support women and families, and respect human life and dignity in all stages of life.” †

### Clarification

In the Nov. 4 issue of *The Criterion*, an article about the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Carmelite Monastery of St. Joseph in Terre Haute listed the countries from which its members have come. Vietnam was not included in the list. Three of its members are from that country. †



**Phone Numbers:**  
Main office:..... 317-236-1570  
Advertising:..... 317-236-1585  
Toll free: ..... 1-800-382-9836, ext. 1570  
Circulation / Subscriptions: .. 317-236-1425  
Toll free: ..... 1-800-382-9836, ext. 1570

**Price:** \$22.00 per year, 75 cents per copy  
**Postmaster:**  
Send address changes to *The Criterion*,  
1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367

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

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

Published weekly except the last week of December and the first week of January.  
Mailing address: 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367. Periodical postage paid at Indianapolis, IN. Copyright © 2022 Criterion Press Inc. ISSN 0574-4350.

### NEWS FROM YOU!

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

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

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



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

1400 N. Meridian St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367  
317-236-1570  
800-382-9836 ext. 1570  
[criterion@archindy.org](mailto:criterion@archindy.org)

Periodical postage paid at Indianapolis, IN.  
Copyright © 2022

Criterion Press Inc.

**POSTMASTER:**  
Send address changes to:  
Criterion Press Inc.  
1400 N. Meridian St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367



11/18/22

### Moving?

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

New Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

New Parish \_\_\_\_\_

Effective Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

# Celebrations kindle ‘fire of faith’ at St. Michael, St. Francis Xavier

By Natalie Hoefer

As Carol Combs recalls, southern Indiana “had been in a drought condition for several weeks. On Oct. 30, Mother Nature chose to end that dry weather.”

It was the day that outdoor rosary processions were held at her parish, St. Michael in Charlestown, and its neighboring parish, St. Francis Xavier in Henryville.

But the drizzle did not stop roughly 70 St. Michael parishioners and 50 St. Francis Xavier parishioners from joining in their respective parish’s rosary procession. The processions—including candle-bearing servers, a crucifix and a statue of Mary borne on a platform—were the culmination of a daily rosary devotion at each parish during the month of October.

“I wanted to start new things for the people” of St. Michael and St. Francis Xavier, says Father Jeyaseelan Sengolraj, administrator of both parishes. “They told me the October daily rosary and procession had never been done” in the parishes as far as they recalled.

“People told me they want this, they’re longing for the Catholic traditions,” he says. “That’s what people expressed to me, and I felt the power of God and a community spirit of [the] people” as the monthlong devotion proceeded. “It’s kindling the fire of the faith in the people.”

The October devotion not only sparked “the fire of the faith” within each parish. It also drew together the English- and Spanish-speaking communities at St. Michael on Oct. 30.

“The rosary during the procession there was bilingual, with one mystery in English and the other in Spanish,” says Father Sengolraj, a priest of the Archdiocese of Delhi, India, who for



Father Jeyaseelan Sengolraj, administrator of St. Michael Parish in Charlestown and St. Francis Xavier Parish in Henryville, center, smiles with members of St. Michael after an outdoor, bilingual rosary procession held at the parish on Oct. 30. (Submitted photo)

nearly three years has served the Church in central and southern Indiana.

“This priest is learning about the Hispanic community and trying to learn Spanish,” says St. Michael parishioner Luz Nino. A graduate of the Pastoral Institute of the archdiocese’s Office of Intercultural Ministry, Nino helps coordinate Masses, events for special Hispanic feasts and more for the Hispanic community of St. Michael.

“When I started helping there [15 years ago] there were only 10” Hispanic members of the parish, she says. “Now there are more than 100.”

Father Sengolraj “is working to bring the [Anglo and Hispanic] communities together,” says Nino, who led the Spanish parts of the rosary during the Marian procession. “I love to share our cultures. They learn about us, and we learn about them.”

Combs, a 25-year member of St. Michael, noted the “special relationship” both groups have with the rosary. She appreciated praying during the monthlong devotion and the bilingual procession as a united community.

She also appreciates Father Sengolraj’s enthusiasm for encouraging both parishes in longstanding Catholic practices and traditions.

He is devoted to “giving the faithful opportunities for both private prayer and public worship,” says Combs. “He has scheduled days of prayer, adoration and reconciliation to assist us in our spiritual journey.”

Father Sengolraj says he is “really very happy” about the response of members of both parishes to the rosary devotion in October. “People are already excited to do this again in May.”

Meanwhile, he is enjoying celebrating

with St. Michael parishioners the Hispanic Catholic tradition of praying the rosary during the 46 days prior to the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Dec. 12.

“We’re doing it in houses of parishioners,” he explains. “We carry a statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe to each house and then pray the rosary there.”

The feast will include *mañanitas*—prayers and music—through the evening of Dec. 11 until midnight, then Mass and a procession on the evening of Dec. 12.

During the nine days before Christmas, St. Michael will also offer *las posadas*—a special novena of Hispanic Catholic tradition. And St. Francis Xavier will host a live Nativity on Dec. 22-23.

All of these traditions and devotions “bring the people together in faith and help them come to know each other,” says Father Sengolraj. “That’s the way we build the Church.” †

**Explore Women's Retreat Tuscany Italy** May 20-27, 2023

- Private villa, chef, double occupancy en suite
- Saints, Sacraments and SoulCore rosary
- Registration and \$500 non-fundable fee due

www.PeaceLovePilgrimage.com Balance \$3,476 due 1-1-23

**Shelby Upholstering & Mill End Window Fashions**

90 Years of service

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

**Experts in Commercial & Residential Projects**

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

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

Upholstering 317-631-8911 Mill End Window Fashions 317-257-4800

**United in the Eucharist**

2022-23 GOAL = \$6.3 MILLION for ministries in our archdiocese

**UNITED CATHOLIC APPEAL**

**Supporting Ministry and Mission**

COMING TOGETHER to support *ministry and mission*

That is what the **United Catholic Appeal** is all about. The needs of the ministries in our archdiocese are greater than any one person or parish can handle. But when we all come together, united, we can make a true difference in the lives of thousands of our brothers and sisters who need our love and support.

No gift is too small. Please join us in this great opportunity to share the love of Jesus with others. You can fill out the pledge card enclosed in this week's paper. It's that easy! God bless you for your generosity!

SCAN with your smartphone today to support vital ministries

Faith Formation and Catholic Education | Charity and Outreach | Seminarian Education and Clergy Care

www.archindy.org/UCA



# The Criterion

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

Greg A. Otolski, *Associate Publisher*  
John F. Fink, *Editor Emeritus*

## Editorial



Pope Francis hugs a child during lunch in the Vatican audience hall on the World Day of the Poor on Nov. 13. (CNS photo/Remo Casilli, Reuters)

## May our grace this Thanksgiving include using our blessings to help people in need

As we approach Thanksgiving on Nov. 24, now is an appropriate time to reflect on the blessings God has given us.

Family, friends and employment come to mind for many of us.

A roof over our heads, food on the table and commodities like dependable transportation are on the list for the majority of us, too.

But what about our brothers and sisters in need who go without what many consider daily necessities?

Focusing on the Gospel reading for the day, Pope Francis reminded people of faith on the World Day of the Poor on Nov. 13 that we must “break through that inner deafness which prevents us from hearing the stifled cry of pain of the frailest.”

The frailest in today’s world include the hungry, the homeless, victims of war, the unborn, the elderly and many other overlooked or forgotten segments of society. They include people on the streets of cities and towns throughout central and southern Indiana, and in towns big and small across the country and the globe. Although they may be hidden from main thoroughfares, they are not hidden from Christ and his disciples.

In his homily at the Mass, the pope recounted people asking Jesus about the end of the world, and Jesus telling them not to be terrified by disasters or deceived by false prophets.

In the Gospel, the Holy Father noted, Jesus was telling them to avoid “the temptation of interpreting dramatic events in a superstitious or catastrophic way, as if we are now close to the end of the world and it is useless to commit ourselves to doing good.”

In the face of trials, he said, Christians must ask themselves what the Lord is trying to say through this moment of crisis and “what good, concretely, can I do?”

“Don’t run away,” the pope continued. “Ask the question: What is the Lord saying to me and what can I do that is good?”

If we listen—and listening must be an integral part of our communication with our Creator—God is calling each of us to be the hands and feet of Christ to our brothers and sisters in need. We must see them with eyes of faith, remembering each time that faith is God’s work in us to which we respond.

We must not be led astray, Pope Francis noted, by “prophets of doom ... enchanted by the sirens of populism, which exploit people’s real needs by facile and hasty solutions ... not follow the false ‘messiahs’ who, in the name of profit, proclaim recipes useful only for increasing the wealth of a few, while condemning the poor to the margins of society. ... Instead, let us bear witness.”

As we bear witness, “Let us light candles of hope in the midst of darkness,” the pope said. “Amid dramatic situations, let us seize opportunities to bear witness to the Gospel of joy and to build a more fraternal world.”

As Christians, we are called to act—even in small ways—to make the world a better place, the Holy Father said.

Loved by God, “let us love his most discarded children. The Lord is there,” Pope Francis added.

This Thanksgiving, let’s indeed offer a heartfelt thanks for the many blessings our Creator has bestowed on us and our families.

But as Pope Francis said, “Let us not be content, like the people in the Gospel, to admire the beautiful stones of the temple, while failing to recognize God’s true temple, our fellow men and women, especially the poor, in whose face, in whose history, in whose wounds, we encounter Jesus.”

—Mike Krokos

Be Our Guest/Sr. Constance Veit, L.S.P.

## A new Thanksgiving meaning

Thanksgiving will soon be upon us with its cornucopia of beloved traditions—from pilgrim scenes to turkey, pumpkin pie, parades and football.



Today, however, the warm, nostalgic sentiments once associated with this holiday have been overshadowed by our 21st-century indictment of the first Thanksgiving as a regrettable example of colonialism and the oppression of Indigenous peoples.

Whatever our political preferences or historical perspective, on Nov. 24 millions of people across America will pause from their regular weekday routines—we Little Sisters included.

But how will we choose to spend the day? As believers, there is much we can celebrate this Thanksgiving without getting caught up in historical re-tellings, political debates or even football.

Looking back at a different page of Thanksgiving history, I learned that when George Washington proclaimed the first national celebration of Thanksgiving in 1789, he didn’t even mention the events of 1621.

He called for Americans to devote the first Thanksgiving “to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all good that was, or that will be.”

Washington asked Americans to unite in giving God sincere and humble thanks for his kindness and protection, for his providence and manifold mercies, and for “the great degree of tranquility, union and plenty” that they enjoyed.

Sincere and humble thanks for God’s mercies and providential care, and for the relative peace and plenty that we enjoy—aren’t these things we can all celebrate? This is not to say that our lives or our nation are perfect—far from it.

But despite a worldwide pandemic, a conflict that Pope Francis is calling a third world war, an international food crisis, natural disasters and ecological threats across our planet, we are still here.

Our lives are in God’s hands and our every breath flows from his provident love. Let us thank him for our blessings, however small we may believe them to be.

Even as we thank God, there

is something else we can do this Thanksgiving—let’s ask ourselves how we might pay it forward by sharing our blessings with others.

The collect, or opening prayer for the Mass to be celebrated on Thanksgiving proposes just this: “Father all-powerful, your gifts of love are countless and your goodness infinite; as we come before you on Thanksgiving Day with gratitude for your kindness, open our hearts to have concern for every man, woman, and child, so that we may share your gifts in loving service.”

Before we sit down to our Thanksgiving feasts, let’s mark the day spiritually by attending Mass, praying the

Psalms of thanksgiving (Ps 113-118), or at the very least, pausing with loved ones to give voice to our blessings, despite our difficulties.

And then let’s decide together how we might show “concern for every man, woman and child” in some concrete way, especially during the upcoming Advent and Christmas seasons.

As I was reading up on the history of Thanksgiving, I discovered another moving document, this one penned by Gershom Medes Seixas, the spiritual leader of New York City’s first Jewish congregation and a contemporary of George Washington.

In response to Washington’s 1789 proclamation, Seixas preached to his congregation, “Let me recommend to you a serious consideration of the several duties already set forth this day: to enter into a self-examination; to relinquish your prejudices against each other; to subdue your passions; to live, as Jews ought to do, in brotherhood and amity; to seek peace and pursue it. So shall it be well with you both here and hereafter.”

Is this not how we all ought to live?

Rabbi Seixas thus issues another challenge this Thanksgiving—to let go of our prejudices and pursue peace and amity, first with our brothers and sisters in the household of the faith, and then with all.

As we do so, let us offer our prayers, works, joys

and sufferings to God so that he may use them, according to his will, as a lever to lift up this troubled world and restore life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness to all.

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

*Our lives  
are in God’s  
hands and our  
every breath  
flows from  
his provident  
love. Let us  
thank him for  
our blessings,  
however  
small we may  
believe them  
to be. Even  
as we thank  
God, there is  
something else  
we can do this  
Thanksgiving—  
let’s ask  
ourselves how  
we might pay  
it forward by  
sharing our  
blessings with  
others.*



Thanksgiving is the perfect moment on the calendar to remind us to return to a thankful posture.

## ARCHBISHOP/ARZOBISPO CHARLES C. THOMPSON



# Christ the Cornerstone

## Christ, Lord of heaven and Earth, and a different kind of king

*“My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom did belong to this world, my attendants [would] be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not here”* (Jn 18:36).

Millions of people throughout the world recently watched with rapt attention as Queen Elizabeth II was laid to rest in majestic, weeks-long ceremonies that celebrated her 70-year reign as a monarch. Attention also focused on the quiet, drama-free ascension of Charles, her firstborn son, as king. Even citizens of the United States of America, who long ago rejected monarchy as their form of government, seemed to pay a secular form of homage to the British queen and her successor.

There is no question that most of us are fascinated by the theatrics of royalty, and whether we love them or despise them, we find the drama surrounding kings and queens irresistible.

The kingship of Jesus Christ, which our Church celebrates this Sunday, is different.

Yes, there was the pomp and circumstance of Palm Sunday, but it

didn't last even a week. In fact, it was succeeded almost immediately by abject humiliation, cruel torture and ignominious death.

And at no time during his brief life on Earth did Jesus assume anything like the style or demeanor we have come to associate with royalty. In fact, during his public ministry, our Lord and Savior explicitly rejected the attitudes and behavior of most earthly rulers.

“My kingdom is not of this world,” Jesus told Pontius Pilate (Jn 18:36). The title “King of the Jews” was not something he aspired to. It was a title imposed on him by the Romans out of pure malice, and it was bitterly opposed by the Jews as blasphemy.

So when we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King each year, we need to be clear about the kind of king that Jesus is. We know from his statement to Pilate that his kingdom transcends our earthly existence. We also know from this Sunday's Gospel reading that Jesus has the power to grant admittance to his kingdom to those he considers worthy—including the so-called Good Thief who acknowledged Jesus' sovereignty while crucified next to him.

What must we do to imitate Christ

the King? The Gospels, and indeed the Scriptures in their entirety, answer this question by revealing God's will for us and by teaching us how to live. However, we can also point to certain spiritual principles that are drawn from the words and example of Jesus and that describe vividly why Christ's kingship is unique and why we ought to imitate—and revere—this unearthly and uncommon king.

The first spiritual principle is humility. Christ the King never looks down on anyone or arbitrarily exercises his divine authority in any situation. He invites us, and tries to persuade us, to walk with him. But he values our freedom so highly that he allows us to choose—even when what we decide is clearly not in our best interests.

Secondly, our Lord is infinitely patient. He allows us plenty of time to experience his love and mercy, and to repent and follow him. When he says his kingdom is not of this world, he affirms that he has all the time in the world to forgive us and to show us the way to eternal life with him.

Third, the mind and heart of our Divine King are pure, totally uncorrupted by earthly desires. As a

result, we can trust him implicitly. Unlike many earthly rulers, Christ our King means what he says, and he will keep all his promises. We need have no hesitation or doubt that Jesus walks with us, listens to us, and responds to our prayers. He wants only what is best for us—in conformity with God's plan.

Finally, Christ the King is not an authoritarian ruler whose edicts are ill-considered or self-serving. Jesus only does the will of his Father, and his primary royal commands are that we love God and our neighbor as ourselves. We worship one who is close, not distant, and who rules exclusively by means of love and service. We acclaim him as Lord and King not because we fear his wrath but because we are in awe of his kindness and generosity to all.

When we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King this weekend, we proclaim our absolute conviction that Christ is Lord of heaven and Earth, and that his style of leadership—humility, patience, purity and obedience to God's will—is the only form of governance that can hope to be truly effective in this world—“on Earth as it is in heaven.” †



# Cristo, la piedra angular

## Cristo, Señor del cielo y de la tierra, y otro tipo de rey

*“Mi reino no es de este mundo. Si lo fuera, mis servidores habrían luchado para librarme de los judíos. Pero no, mi reino no es de este mundo”* (Jn 18:36).

Millones de personas de todo el mundo observaron recientemente con gran atención el entierro de la reina Isabel II en majestuosas ceremonias que duraron semanas y que celebraron sus 70 años de reinado. La atención se centró también en el ascenso al trono de Carlos, su primogénito, que sucedió de manera sosegada y sin aspavientos. Incluso los ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos de América, que hace tiempo rechazaron la monarquía como forma de gobierno, parecen rendir una forma secular de homenaje a la reina británica y a su sucesor.

No hay duda de que a la mayoría de nosotros nos fascina la teatralidad de la realeza, y tanto si nos encanta como si lo rechazamos, el drama que rodea a los reyes y reinas nos resulta irresistible.

La realeza de Jesucristo, que nuestra Iglesia celebra este domingo, es diferente.

Sí, vivimos la pompa y circunstancia del Domingo de Ramos, pero eso no duró ni una semana. De hecho, le sucedieron casi inmediatamente la humillación abyecta, la tortura cruel y la muerte ignominiosa.

Y en ningún momento de su breve vida en la Tierra, Jesús adoptó nada parecido al estilo o comportamiento que hemos llegado a asociar con la realeza. De hecho, durante su ministerio público, nuestro Señor y Salvador rechazó explícitamente las actitudes y el comportamiento de la mayoría de los gobernantes terrenales.

“Mi reino no es de este mundo” le dijo Jesús a Poncio Pilato (Jn 18:36). El título “Rey de los Judíos” no era algo a lo que aspirara. Fue un título que le impusieron los romanos por pura malicia y al que los judíos se opusieron amargamente por considerarlo una blasfemia.

Por eso, cuando celebramos cada año la solemnidad de Cristo Rey, debemos tener claro el tipo de rey que es Jesús. Por su respuesta a Pilato sabemos que su reino trasciende nuestra existencia terrenal. Asimismo, según se ilustra en la lectura del Evangelio de este domingo, sabemos que Jesús tiene el poder de conceder la entrada a su reino a quienes considera dignos, incluido el llamado Buen Ladrón, que reconoció la soberanía de Jesús mientras estaba crucificado junto a él.

¿Qué debemos hacer para imitar a Cristo Rey? Los Evangelios, y de hecho las Escrituras en su totalidad,

responden a esta pregunta revelando la voluntad de Dios para nosotros y enseñándonos cómo vivir. Sin embargo, también podemos señalar ciertos principios espirituales que se desprenden de las palabras y el ejemplo de Jesús y que describen vívidamente por qué la realeza de Cristo es única y por qué debemos imitar y reverenciar a este rey sobrenatural y fuera de lo común.

El primer principio espiritual es la humildad. Cristo Rey nunca desprecia a nadie ni ejerce arbitrariamente su autoridad divina en ninguna situación, sino que nos invita, y trata de persuadirnos, para que caminemos con él. Pero valora tanto nuestra libertad que nos permite elegir, incluso cuando lo que decidimos no es claramente lo mejor para nosotros.

En segundo lugar, nuestro Señor es infinitamente paciente. Nos da mucho tiempo para sentir su amor y su misericordia, y para arrepentirnos y seguirle. Cuando dice que su reino no es de este mundo, afirma que tiene todo el tiempo del mundo para perdonarnos y mostrarnos el camino hacia la vida eterna con él.

En tercer lugar, la mente y el corazón de nuestro Rey Divino son puros, totalmente incorruptos por los deseos terrenales, por lo cual

podemos confiar implícitamente en él. A diferencia de muchos gobernantes terrenales, Cristo Rey habla en serio y cumplirá todas sus promesas. No tenemos que dudar de que Jesús camina con nosotros, nos escucha y responde a nuestras oraciones. Únicamente desea lo mejor para nosotros, conforme al plan de Dios.

Por último, Cristo Rey no es un gobernante autoritario cuyos edictos son arbitrarios o egocéntricos. Jesús solamente cumple la voluntad de su Padre, y sus principales mandatos reales son que amemos a Dios y a nuestro prójimo como a nosotros mismos. Adoramos a Aquel que está cerca, no distante, y que gobierna exclusivamente por medio del amor y el servicio. Lo aclamamos como Señor y Rey no porque temamos su ira, sino porque nos asombra su bondad y generosidad con todos.

Al celebrar la solemnidad de Cristo Rey este fin de semana, proclamamos nuestra absoluta convicción de que Cristo es el Señor del cielo y de la Tierra, y que su estilo de liderazgo—humildad, paciencia, pureza y obediencia a la voluntad de Dios—es la única forma de gobierno que puede llegar a ser verdaderamente eficaz en este mundo: “en la Tierra como en el cielo.” †

# Events Calendar

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

## November 21

**Sr. Thea Bowman Black Catholic Women Monthly Prayer Gathering**, via Zoom, third Monday of each month, sponsored by archdiocesan Black Catholic Ministry, 7 p.m. Join meeting: [cutt.ly/SrTheaPrayer](https://cutt.ly/SrTheaPrayer), meeting ID: 810 3567 0684 or dial-in at 301-715-8592. Information: Pearllette Springer, [pspringer@archindy.org](mailto:pspringer@archindy.org) or 317-236-1474.

## November 23

**Group Lectio** via Zoom, 7 p.m., second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, Benedictine Sister Jill Marie Reuber, facilitator, sponsored by Sisters of St. Benedict, Ferdinand, Ind. (Diocese of Evansville). Information: [vocation@thedome.org](mailto:vocation@thedome.org)

Gabbard Park, corner of 2nd St. and Judiciary St., Aurora. **Pre-Turkey Day 5K Walk/Run**, 5:30 p.m., benefiting local food pantries and St. Vincent de Paul, sponsored by All Saints Parish, \$27.66. Information, registration: [cutt.ly/pretday5K22](https://cutt.ly/pretday5K22).

## November 24

St. Joseph American Legion Post, 28866 Post 464 Rd., St. Leon. **Gobble Wobble 5K**, 9 a.m., pick up packets at event location Nov. 23 10 a.m.-5 p.m. or day-of event 7-9 a.m., benefiting local food pantries, up to age 5 free; ages 6-17 \$20; adults \$30. Information, registration: [cutt.ly/gobwob5k22](https://cutt.ly/gobwob5k22).

Downtown Depot, 1401 J St., Bedford. **Becky's Place Run for Hope 5K**, 9 a.m., pick up registration packets Nov. 23 at Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce noon-6 p.m. or Downtown Depot on race day 8-8:45 a.m., \$12 ages 18 and younger, \$17 adult, \$10 for one-mile fun walk. Information, registration: [cutt.ly/Race4Hope22](https://cutt.ly/Race4Hope22).

## November 25-Jan. 6

St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross Parish, 23455 Gaven Ln., Bright. **Bright Lights: Christmas Light Drive-Thru Display**, 6-10 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, free.

Information 812-512-1941 or [brightlightsdcc@gmail.com](mailto:brightlightsdcc@gmail.com).

## November 27

Providence Spirituality and Conference Center O'Shaughnessy Dining Hall, 1 Sisters of Providence, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, St. Mary-of-the-Woods. **Sunday No More Turkey Please Brunch**, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., \$19.50 adults, \$18.50 ages 62 and older, \$9.50 ages 5-11, ages 4 and younger free. Information: [Events.SistersofProvidence.org](https://Events.SistersofProvidence.org) or 630-776-0811.

## November 27-Jan. 8

**Peace on Earth: Virtual Recorded Daily Advent and Christmas Reflections**, one- to two-minute video reflections led by Father Jonathan Meyer, receive link via text or e-mail; text "Advent" to 84576, free. Information: 812-576-4302 or [clairkeck.asp@gmail.com](mailto:clairkeck.asp@gmail.com).

## November 28

**The Villages of Indiana online Foster Parenting Virtual Information Night**, 6-8 p.m., for those interested

in becoming a foster parent, free. Information, registration: 317-775-6500 or [cutt.ly/villagesindyreg](https://cutt.ly/villagesindyreg).

## November 29

Indiana Landmarks Center, 1201 Central Ave., Indianapolis. **The Forward-Thinking Legacy of St. Rita Catholic Church**, 6-7 p.m., doors open 5:30 p.m., St. Rita parishioner and historian Caleb Legg speaking on parish's cultural heritage and church's historic architecture, \$5. Information, registration: [stritachurchtalk22.eventbrite.com](https://stritachurchtalk22.eventbrite.com), 317-639-4534.

## December 2

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

Our Lady of the Greenwood Church, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. **First Friday bilingual celebration of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus**, Mass 5:45 p.m. followed by adoration until 9 p.m., sacrament of reconciliation available. Information: 317-750-7309, [msross1@hotmail.com](mailto:msross1@hotmail.com).

## December 3

Holy Name of Jesus Parish, gym, 89 N. 17th Ave., Beech Grove. **Christmas Bazaar**, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., craft items, holiday items, jewelry, homemade jellies and candies, vendors, raffle, breakfast available for purchase until gone, chili and hotdogs available for purchase noon-4 p.m., proceeds benefit parish and school. Information: 317-784-5454.

## December 3-4

All Saints Parish, St. John the Baptist Campus, 25743 State Route 1, Guilford. **Christmas in Indiana Craft Show**, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., free. Information: 812-576-4302 or [emilyalig.asp@gmail.com](mailto:emilyalig.asp@gmail.com).

Christ the King School, Tuohy Hall, 5884 Crittenden Ave., Indianapolis. **Jack Schockley Warriors for Peace Memorial Blood Drive**, Sat. 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Sun. 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., also accepting gently used books and toys for Purpose 4 My Pain's Seventh Annual

Christmas with a Purpose. Information and time reservation: 317-257-9366 or [cutt.ly/blooddonorindy22](https://cutt.ly/blooddonorindy22).

## December 3-22

Benedict Inn Retreat and Conference Center, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove. **Shop INN-Spiced Christmas Sale**, Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Dec. 3 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Dec. 10, 17 and 22 9 a.m.-noon; many items 25-75% off. Information: 317-788-7581, [benedictinn@benedictinn.org](mailto:benedictinn@benedictinn.org).

## December 6

The Ritz Charles, 12156 N. Meridian St., Carmel, Ind. **Right to Life of Indiana Christmas Gala**, 6:30-8:30 p.m., CEO and founder of Babylon Bee Seth Dillon presenting, \$100 individual, \$1,000 table of 10. Information, registration: 317-413-9123 or [irtl.org/GALA](http://irtl.org/GALA).

## December 7

MCL Cafeteria, 5520 Castleton Corner Lane, Indianapolis. **Solo Seniors**, 5:30 p.m., Catholic, educational, charitable and social singles—separated, widowed or divorced—age 50 and older, new members welcome, also call about regular Friday night dinner events. Information: 317-796-8605.

## December 8-10

Our Lady of the Greenwood Church, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. **40 Hours Devotion**, 8 p.m. Thurs.-5:30 p.m. Sat., exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with talks by guest priests, free. Information: 317-888-2861.

## December 10

Providence Spirituality and Conference Center, 1 Sisters of Providence, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, St. Mary-of-the-Woods. **Teen Volunteering Opportunity**, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., ages 12-18, assist retired Providence Sisters. Information, registration: [TeenVolunteer.SistersofProvidence.org](https://TeenVolunteer.SistersofProvidence.org), [jluna@spsmw.org](mailto:jluna@spsmw.org) or 361-500-9505.

Providence Spirituality and Conference Center, 1 Sisters of Providence, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, St. Mary-of-the-

Woods. **Christmas Fun at the Woods**, 1:30-4:30 p.m., \$7, ages 3 and younger free. Information, registration: 812-535-2952, [cutt.ly/woodsfun22](https://cutt.ly/woodsfun22) or [provctr@spsmw.org](mailto:provctr@spsmw.org).

## December 13

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

## December 15

Our Lady of Peace Cemetery and Mausoleum, 9001 Haverstick Road, Indianapolis. **Christmas Mass**, 2 p.m. Information: 317-574-8898 or [www.catholiccemeteries.cc](http://www.catholiccemeteries.cc).

## Virtual Scriptural Rosary for Justice and Peace

8 p.m. every third Thursday, sponsored by the archdiocesan Catholic Charities-Social Concerns Ministry, free. Information, registration: [bit.ly/scripturalrosary](http://bit.ly/scripturalrosary).

## December 16

Northside Events and Social Club, 2100 E. 71st St., Indianapolis. **Catholic Business Exchange**, presenter TBA, rosary 6:35 a.m., Mass 7 a.m., buffet breakfast and program following, \$18 members, \$24 non-members. Register by 4 p.m. on Dec. 13. Information, registration: [cutt.ly/CBE-Reg](https://cutt.ly/CBE-Reg).

## December 18

Providence Spirituality and Conference Center O'Shaughnessy Dining Hall, 1 Sisters of Providence, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, St. Mary-of-the-Woods. **Sunday Brunch with Santa**, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., \$19.50 adults, \$18.50 ages 62 and older, \$9.50 ages 5-11, ages 4 and younger free. Information: [Events.SistersofProvidence.org](https://Events.SistersofProvidence.org) or 630-776-0811.

## The Villages of Indiana online Foster Parenting Virtual Information Night

6-8 p.m., for those interested in becoming a foster parent, free. Information, registration: 317-775-6500 or [cutt.ly/villagesindyreg](https://cutt.ly/villagesindyreg). †

## Retreat centers in archdiocese offer Advent retreats, services—and gift certificates for stuffing stockings

There are six Catholic retreat centers in the archdiocese. Below is a listing of retreats, days of reflection and services these centers are offering during Advent to help souls prepare for the celebration of Christ's birth.

Also consider giving family and friends the gift of peace and spiritual growth this Christmas by giving them a gift certificate for one of these retreat centers and/or their gift shop. Information on how to do so is included below.

Call 812-923-8817 or go to [www.mountsaintfrancis.org/gift-certificates](http://www.mountsaintfrancis.org/gift-certificates).

**Oldenburg Franciscan Center**, 22143 Main St., Oldenburg. Information and registration: 812-933-6437, [oldenburgfranciscancenter.org](http://oldenburgfranciscancenter.org).

- **Dec. 9: A Day of Quiet Renewal**, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., \$20, \$70 with spiritual direction.
- **Gift certificates for programs and retreats:** Call 812-933-6437.

**Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House**, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Information, registration: [ftr.retreportal.com/events](http://ftr.retreportal.com/events), 317-545-7681 or [loons@archindy.org](mailto:loons@archindy.org).

- **Dec. 3: O Come Let Us Adore Him: Advent Dinner and Concert**, 6-8:30 p.m., dinner, performance by Francesca LaRosa, prayer, adoration, \$50.
- **Dec. 12: Sacrament of reconciliation**, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., no appointment needed.

- **Dec. 13, 14, 15, 16: Advent Days of Silence**, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., \$40 per day, includes room, continental breakfast, lunch and use of common areas and grounds, overnight stays available for additional \$30 per night, dinner additional \$10 per meal.
- **Gift certificates for retreats:** E-mail [loons@archindy.org](mailto:loons@archindy.org), call Lisa at 317-545-7681 or purchase in-person.

- **Gift certificates for gift shop:** Purchase in-person; if not possible, call Lisa at 317-545-7681.

**Saint Meinrad Archabbey Guesthouse and Retreat Center**, 200 Hill Dr., St. Meinrad. Information: 812-357-6611 or [saintmeinrad.org/retreats](http://saintmeinrad.org/retreats).

- **Dec. 17: Service of the Longest Night**, 6 p.m. CT at Guest House Chapel, prayer service for those grieving during the holidays, Benedictine Father Adrian Burke presiding, refreshments provided, RSVP requested at 800-987-7380 or [info@abbeycaskets.com](mailto:info@abbeycaskets.com).

- **Gift certificates for retreats:** Call 812-357-6611 and ask for Corinna Waggoner, or go to [saintmeinrad.org/retreats](http://saintmeinrad.org/retreats). †

**Benedict Inn Retreat and Conference Center**, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove. Information, registration: [benedictinn.org/programs](http://benedictinn.org/programs), 317-788-7581, [benedictinn@benedictinn.org](mailto:benedictinn@benedictinn.org).

- **Dec. 5: "Emmanuel: God is With Us Advent Evening of Reflection,"** 6-9 p.m., Benedict Inn Spiritual Direction Internship director Bev Hansberry presenting, \$45 includes dinner.

- **Dec. 6: Personal Day of Retreat**, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., \$40, includes private room for the day and lunch; spiritual direction available for additional \$30, must be scheduled in advance.

- **Gift certificates for retreats or Shop Inn-Spiced Gift Shop:** Contact Helen Kite at 317-788-7581 or [benedictinn@benedictinn.org](mailto:benedictinn@benedictinn.org).

**Mother of the Redeemer Retreat Center**, 8220 W. State Road 48, Bloomington. Information, registration: 812-825-4642, ext. 1, or [motheroftheredeemer.com](http://motheroftheredeemer.com).

- **Dec. 3: Advent Day of Reflection: "Bethlehem: House of Bread,"** 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Franciscan Friars of the Immaculate Father Gabriel Cortes presenting, includes Mass, confessions available, adoration, free will offering.

- **Gift certificates for nights at the guesthouse:** Call 812-825-4642, ext. 1.

**Mount Saint Francis Center for Spirituality**, 101 St. Anthony Dr., Mt. St. Francis. Information: [mountsaintfrancis.org](http://mountsaintfrancis.org) or 812-923-8817.

- **Gift certificates for retreats:**

## Wedding Anniversaries

**KENNETH AND MARY JO (THRINE) RENNEKAMP**, members of St. Mary Parish in Greensburg, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 25.

The couple was married in St. Mary Church in Greensburg on Nov. 25, 1972.

They have four children: Cathy Clark, Joanie Martin, Daniel and Steve Rennekamp.

The couple also has two grandchildren. †

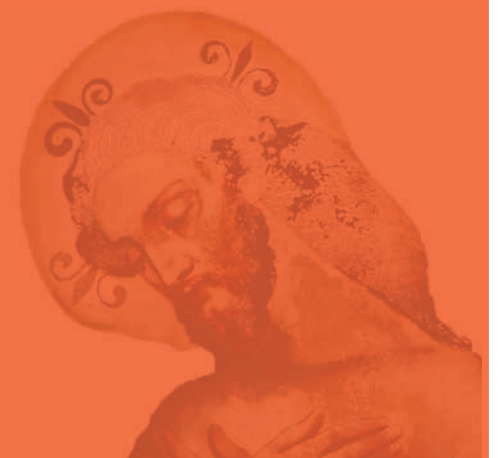


Announcements for couples celebrating 50, 55, 60, 65, 70 or more years of marriage are accepted. Go to [cutt.ly/anniversaries](https://cutt.ly/anniversaries) or call 317-236-1585.



# The Face of Mercy

By Daniel Conway



## Pope Francis teaches us how to pray always

*“Jesus told his disciples a parable about the necessity for them to pray always without becoming weary” (Lk 18:1).*

In his *Angelus* remarks on Oct. 16, Pope Francis addressed the age-old question about how to accomplish Jesus’ admonition to his disciples in St. Luke’s Gospel “to pray always without becoming weary.”

The pope’s teaching on prayer is simple. In response to the question that most of us ask, “But, how can I do that? I don’t live in a convent. I don’t have much time to pray!” the Holy Father says:

*Perhaps a wise spiritual practice for this real difficulty that the elderly, especially our grandparents, know well can come to our aid, which is a bit forgotten today. These are so-called aspirations. The name is a bit outdated, but the substance is good. What are they? They are very short, easy to memorize prayers that can be repeated often throughout the day, in the course of various activities, to remain “in tune” with the Lord. For example, as soon as we*

*awaken, we can say: “Lord, I thank you and I offer this day to you.” This is a short prayer. Then, before an activity, we can repeat, “Come, Holy Spirit”. Between one thing and another, we can pray thus, “Jesus, I trust in you. Jesus, I love you”. Really short prayers that help us stay in contact with the Lord.*

Pope Francis compares this form of constant prayer with the sending of text messages to the people we love.

“Let’s do this with the Lord as well so that our hearts remain connected to him,” the pope urges us. “And let’s not forget to read his responses. The Lord always responds. Where do we find them? In the Gospel, which should always be kept at hand and should be opened several times every day, to receive a word of life directed to us.”

Too often, we excuse our lack of prayer by saying that we are too busy or that we don’t have enough time.

Pope Francis responds by pointing out that we often focus on things that are “urgent but unnecessary.” And perhaps, the Holy Father says, “without even recognizing it, we neglect what

counts the most and we allow our love for God to grow cold, to grow cold bit by bit.”

Jesus offers us “the remedy to rekindle a tepid faith.” That remedy is prayer, the medicine for faith and the restorative of the soul. But it needs to be constant prayer, not just the occasional or intermittent recitation of formal prayers.

“If we must undergo treatment to get better,” the Holy Father says, “it is important to follow the treatment plan well, to take the medicine faithfully and regularly in the right way and at the right times. This is necessary in all of life.”

Reflecting on the closing line of this particular Gospel reading, in which Jesus asks: “When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on Earth?” (Lk 18:8), the pope comments that “It’s almost like he was saying, ‘When I come again at the end of time’—or we could also think, even now, at this time of life—‘will I find a bit of faith in you, in your world?’”

In response to this serious question, Pope Francis observes:

*Let us imagine that the Lord came*

*today on Earth. Unfortunately, he would see many wars, much poverty and many inequalities. At the same time, he would see tremendous technical conquests, modern means, and people who are always running, who never stop. But would he find someone who dedicates time and affection to him, someone who would put him in first place? Above all, let us ask ourselves, “What would he find in me, if the Lord were to come today, what would he find in me, in my life, in my heart? What priorities would he see in my life?”*

Have we made conversation with God a priority? How often do we open our hearts to our loving Father, to Jesus our brother, and to the Holy Spirit who is our advocate and guide throughout life’s journey? How often do we turn to Mary and the saints to encourage us and give us hope?

“May the Virgin Mary, faithful listener, teach us the art of praying always,” the pope says. May she help us to pray constantly “without losing heart.”

*(Daniel Conway is a member of The Criterion’s editorial committee.) †*

**“Jesus of Nazareth, by his words, his actions, and his entire person reveals the mercy of God.”**

—Pope Francis, “*Misericordiae Vultus*” (“The Face of Mercy”)



**“Jesús de Nazaret con su palabra, con sus gestos y con toda su persona revela la misericordia de Dios.”**

—Papa Francisco, “*Misericordiae Vultus*” (“El rostro de la misericordia”)

**El rostro de la misericordia/Daniel Conway**

## El Papa Francisco nos enseña a orar siempre

*“Jesús les contó una parábola para enseñarles que debían orar en cualquier circunstancia, sin jamás desanimarse” (Lc 18:1).*

En su discurso del *Ángelus* del 16 de octubre, el Papa Francisco abordó el tema recurrente y de larga data de cumplir con la exhortación que le hace Jesús a sus discípulos en el Evangelio de san Lucas “orar en cualquier circunstancia, sin jamás desanimarse.”

Las enseñanzas del Papa sobre la oración son sencillas; en respuesta a la pregunta que la mayoría nos hacemos: “Pero, ¿yo cómo hago? No vivo en un convento. No tengo tiempo para rezar,” el Santo Padre asegura:

*Nos puede ayudar, quizá, en esta dificultad, que es real, una sabia práctica espiritual, que hoy está un poco olvidada, que nuestros mayores conocen bien, especialmente las abuelas: la de las llamadas jaculatorias. El nombre está algo en desuso, pero la sustancia es buena. ¿De qué se trata? De oraciones muy breves, fáciles de memorizar, que podemos repetir a menudo durante el día, durante las diversas actividades, para estar “en sintonía” con el Señor. Pongamos algún ejemplo.*

*Nada más levantarnos podemos decir: “Señor, te doy las gracias y te ofrezco este día”; esta es una pequeña oración; después, antes de una actividad, podemos repetir: “Ven, Espíritu Santo”; y entre una cosa y la otra rezar así: “Jesús, confío en ti, Jesús, te amo.” Pequeñas oraciones pero que nos mantienen en contacto con el Señor.*

El Papa Francisco compara esta forma de oración constante con el envío de mensajes de texto a las personas que queremos.

“Hagámoslo también con el Señor, para que el corazón permanezca conectado a Él,” nos exhorta el Papa. “Y no nos olvidemos de leer sus respuestas. El Señor responde, siempre. ¿Dónde las encontramos? En el Evangelio, que hay que tenerlo siempre a mano y abrir cada día algunas veces, para recibir una Palabra de vida dirigida a nosotros.”

Muy a menudo, excusamos nuestra falta de oración diciendo que estamos demasiado ocupados o que no tenemos suficiente tiempo.

El Papa Francisco responde señalando que con frecuencia nos centramos en cosas “urgentes pero no necesarias.” “Y quizá—comenta el Santo Padre—sin darnos cuenta,

descuidamos lo que más cuenta y dejamos que nuestro amor por Dios se vaya enfriando, se enfríe poco a poco.”

Y prosigue: “Jesús nos ofrece el remedio para calentar una fe tibia.” Ese remedio es la *oración*, la medicina de la fe y el reconstituyente del alma. Pero tiene que ser una oración constante, no apenas recitar oraciones formales de manera ocasional o intermitente.

Según nos explica el Sumo Pontífice: “Si tenemos que seguir una cura para estar mejor, es importante cumplirla bien, tomar los medicamentos en la forma correcta y a su debido tiempo, con constancia y regularidad. En todo en la vida hay necesidad de esto.”

Reflexionando sobre la línea final de esta lectura del Evangelio en particular, en la que Jesús pregunta: “cuando el Hijo del hombre venga, ¿encontrará la fe sobre la tierra?” (Lc 18:8), el Papa comenta que “Sería como decir: cuando venga al final de la historia—pero, podemos pensar, también ahora, en este momento de la vida—¿encontraré un poco de fe en vosotros, en vuestro mundo?”

En respuesta a esta pregunta tan seria, el Papa Francisco señala:

*Imaginemos que el Señor viene hoy a la tierra: vería, lamentablemente, muchas guerras, mucha pobreza, muchas desigualdades, y al mismo tiempo grandes conquistas de la técnica, medios modernos y gente que va siempre deprisa, sin detenerse nunca; ¿pero encontraría quien le dedique tiempo y afecto, quien lo ponga en el primer lugar? Y sobre todo preguntémosnos: ¿qué encontraría en mí el Señor si viniera hoy, qué encontraría en mí, en mi vida, en mi corazón? ¿Qué prioridades de mi vida vería?”*

¿Hemos hecho de la conversación con Dios una prioridad? ¿Con qué frecuencia abrimos nuestros corazones a nuestro Padre amoroso, a Jesús nuestro hermano, y al Espíritu Santo que es nuestro abogado y guía a lo largo del camino de la vida? ¿Cuántas veces acudimos a María y a los santos para que nos animen y nos den esperanza?

“Que la Virgen María, fiel en la escucha, nos enseñe el arte de rezar siempre,” dice el Papa. Que nos ayude a rezar constantemente “sin cansarnos.”

*(Daniel Conway es integrante del comité editorial de The Criterion.) †*

## WALK

continued from page 1

“The people we hear about are people who might have been known for something, but weren’t necessarily people who had a large amount of personal sanctity in their lives,” the priest said. “So, it gives you the sense that there’s this big Church suffering that’s beyond us that is in need of our prayers and love.”

The Indulgence Walk is the brainchild of David Walden, the parish’s director of communications.

He and a group of parishioners do research throughout the year on people buried in the cemeteries.

“Back in 2015, I was sitting in my family room watching TV minding my own business and, like a bolt out of the blue, this whole idea came to me,” said Walden. “So, I figure it had to come straight from God.”

He recalled how he had an “affinity for cemeteries” since visiting Holy Cross and St. Joseph cemeteries as a child with his parents and grandmother to put flowers on the graves of family members going back generations.

This draw toward cemeteries grew when Walden worked as an intern for *The Indianapolis Star* in 1984, writing obituaries for the newspaper.

“That’s where I learned that everybody who dies has a story,” Walden said. “Every

one of us has something to tell. We all have a story. We all have people who loved us. We all have people we’ve loved.”

The walk includes stopping at specific graves of those buried in the cemeteries. A brief presentation about that person is given and those taking part in the walk are invited to pray for them and those who have died who were like them.

This year’s event highlighted stories of people from various walks of life: a Black Catholic who was a noted ragtime pianist, orchestra leader and composer; a firefighter who died in the line of duty in 1919 in Indianapolis; a race car driver who died in a crash in 1948 in Terre Haute; a businessman involved in politics a century ago in Indianapolis; and a woman who had been born in Beirut, Lebanon, who later emigrated to Indianapolis and owned a grocery store on the city’s east side.

Holy Rosary parishioner Jeanne Carr has helped with the research of those buried in the cemeteries. She said assisting with the research and then taking part each year in the walk has affected her faith.

“Everybody buried here has a similar story to those who are alive now,” she said. “They grew up, had some kind of education, jobs, a family. And everyone dies. Everyone alive today will go through what they have been through.”

That fact crossed Amy Kempf’s mind when she and her family took part in this year’s walk. It led her to wonder

about her legacy for her children when she eventually dies.

“For me, it helps me focus more on death ...,” she said. “What will they remember about me? What kind of mother do I want them to remember me as?”

Focusing more on the present, Kempf was also glad to bring her children to the cemeteries for the walk.

“It’s helpful for them to see other kids their age and lots of other people doing something like this,” she said.

Walden credited the prayers of the poor souls for making this year’s walk possible after rain in Indianapolis earlier that day stopped before the planned start of the walk.

“I said, ‘The poor souls are powerful intercessors. They’re clearing it up for us,’” Walden said.

Because of the threat of continued rain, Walden was surprised to see so many people take part in the walk.

“It’s all for the glory of God and for the benefit of the poor souls,” he said. “It’s rewarding to see all these people



Severin and Amy Kempf and their children take part in the eighth annual Indulgence Walk of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish in Indianapolis on Nov. 5 at Holy Cross and St. Joseph cemeteries in Indianapolis. The Kempfs are, from left, Emma, Lucy, Rita, Joseph (partially obscured), Amy, Sophia, John, Severin and Adrian. (Photo by Sean Gallagher)

come and know that they share devotion to the poor souls that I have.”

That devotion is an active part of Walden’s faith year-round, not just in November.

“When I go out to the cemetery now, it’s not just going to a cemetery,” he said. “To me, it’s going to visit friends. I have a lot of friends out there now.”

(For ordinary requirements for a plenary indulgence, go to [cutt.ly/PlenIndulgReq](http://cutt.ly/PlenIndulgReq).) †

## Amid the pain, woman savors the joys and surprises of life

By John Shaughnessy

Some memories have a way of making our spirits soar in gratitude.

Pat Browne has that feeling whenever she recalls the uplifting surprise that her husband Larry once gave her for her birthday.



Pat Browne

“He loved to surprise me,” says Browne, a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Indianapolis. “He once told me when to be ready, but he refused to say where we were going.”

On that day, Larry drove her to a location in an open field north of Indianapolis where she suddenly saw one of her dreams rising before her—the inflating of a hot air balloon that

would take them on a ride above the countryside.

“I remember the takeoff being exhilarating as we sailed up from the ground,” she recalls. “The early

evening trip lasted for about an hour, and we coasted over Cicero and Morse Reservoir. We went up pretty high traveling toward the reservoir, but we were in the treetops along the lake at times, waving at people on their second-story decks. The ride was mostly calm and peaceful until we started descending and looking for a place to set down.

“We eventually set down in someone’s front yard in a spacious addition where some folks came out to greet their surprise, after-dinner, hot-air-balloon visitors. It was definitely one of Larry’s best surprises and a birthday present to remember.”

It’s a gift that still fills Pat with joy, one of the many gifts from their 56 years of marriage. She’s grateful for every one of those gifts and every one of their years together. And her gratitude continues even after Larry’s death about five years ago.

“My life changed abruptly when my husband of 56 years died after a difficult battle with kidney disease,” she says. “The grief I feel in this loss lingers, but the joy

I feel for his release from suffering is its counterbalance. Because he loved Jesus so much, I know where he is. The veil between us is thinnest when I receive Communion and envision him standing face to face with Jesus. I am most thankful for this blessed assurance.”

She is also thankful for all the support she has received during these past five years—from their three children, from other people, from God.

“Since that day in late February of 2018, I have had to make many adjustments. I’ve had to ask for help and recognize my limitations. Through this, I’ve become aware of how blessed I am to have physical, emotional and spiritual support from a cadre of friends, family, Church and community that is beyond belief. I am grateful that I have all that I need. I’m grateful that I have this circle of love and support.

“I’m grateful for faith in the world to come. Life is full of good things even in the face of pain and loss. Thank you, Lord, for opening my heart to receive all this and more.” †

## A mother’s love blesses the life of her daughter in a lasting way

By John Shaughnessy

For anyone who has lost a mother or father, the desire strikes at some point—often unexpectedly—to be able to hear their voice on the phone or to have a face-to-face conversation with them.

Sandy Fillenwarth often has that feeling about her mom, Marilyn Fillenwarth, who died a year ago.

“It broke my heart because she was my best friend,” says Fillenwarth, a member of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in Indianapolis.

She remembers their ritual of going to Mass together on Saturday evenings at St. Patrick Church in Indianapolis, where

her parents were married in 1949. And how, after Mass, they went to a nearby drive-in restaurant for dinner, enjoying a tenderloin sandwich and a lemonade while listening to Elvis Presley belt out a song on the jukebox.

“Ah, the good old days,” she notes.

Still, the sadness that Fillenwarth feels is balanced by the memory of how her mother lived her life with joy. There is also the realization of all the ways her mother blessed her, all the gifts her mother shared with her.

“As I reflect on this amazing woman, I realize that because of her I have so many blessings in my life. Mom had five children, 11 grandchildren, 11 great-

grandchildren and many in-laws. She loved all of us and always made sure we got together as much as possible. And when we got together, all our friends were invited. She made sure everyone had fun and ate well. She wanted us to have peace, love and joy in our hearts.”

Fillenwarth views her mother’s life as one of gratitude. As her daughter, she strives to do the same.

“I am forever grateful to have the best son, daughter-in-law, grandson and granddaughter in the world,” she says. “My son is so good to me.

“As Pope Francis advised, I will think back on my life with the grace of remembrance and count my blessings.” †



Sandy Fillenwarth, left, and her mother, Marilyn Fillenwarth, share one of the many moments that brought joy to their relationship. (Submitted photo)

## GRATITUDE

continued from page 1

It’s all part of the journey that Montieth has traveled in the past eight years, starting when she began the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program at St. Joan of Arc Parish in Indianapolis, seeking to enter into full communion of the Church. That journey began after she witnessed the faith of Jamie and Richard Griffith, parishioners who also became friends.

“When I entered RCIA in 2014, I was introduced to a caring, dedicated, faithful community,” she notes.

“I was very sick eight years ago, my circumstances were quite unstable, and the anxiety for the well-being of my children was high. I give all glory to God with tremendous thanksgiving for the life-saving graces he bestowed on me through St. Joan of Arc.”

She credits the parish’s pastor at the time, Father Guy Roberts, for helping her set aside her fears, “to believe a new life was possible, and to always trust in the love of Jesus.”

She also saw how that love of Jesus was the foundation of the help that she and her children received from the archdiocese’s Catholic Charities and the St. Joan of Arc’s women’s ministry led by Melinda Rivelli.

“They helped me move last year into a safe, clean, beautiful space we are beyond blessed to call home,” Montieth says. “I’m prayer partners with several of the volunteers from my RCIA group, work with others in different ministries, and Brenda Henry, my sponsor into the Church, is a dear friend.

“My health struggles are chronic, but the staff and parishioners of St. Joan of Arc fortify me with acceptance and spur me to growth despite limitations.”

Her journey has also led her into God’s embrace, she says.

“It’s difficult to describe the complete wretchedness I felt eight years ago, though it’s important to look back and thank God for his mercies as they are truly never-ending. Being a member of St. Joan of Arc has afforded me the remarkable privilege of helping care for and serve others, humbly allowing them to do the same for me, and continually striving to take everything back to God with gratitude and then to listen.”

Part of her journey of gratitude has included becoming recently invested as a Benedictine novice oblate of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad.

“I’m more at peace when the rhythm of my days is structured around worship, and they’re made all the more sweet knowing my monks are praying during those hours,” she says.

“I’m closer to our Lord and his body because of the love I’ve received from my Church. I hope I never tire of recalling and praising Christ’s goodness.” †



# Five monks of Saint Meinrad Archabbey celebrate their jubilees

Criterion staff report

## 50-year jubilarians

**Benedictine Brother Benjamin Brown**, born in Dubuque, Iowa, made his first profession of vows on Aug. 24, 1972. He attended the Latin School in Indianapolis, the archdiocese's former high school seminary, and graduated from the former Saint Meinrad College in St. Meinrad in 1971. He also studied theology at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad.

Brother Benjamin's monastic assignments have included working on the abbey farm, plumbing, grounds crew, vestry, transportation, house prefect, lab technician, infirmary, physical facilities and the winery. He has served on the St. Meinrad Volunteer Fire Department for more than 50 years, including as Abbey fire chief.

Brother Benjamin has also served on the Spencer County Fire Chief Association and the Spencer County Board of Health.

**Benedictine Father Harry Hagan** is a native of Bardstown, Ky. He made his first profession of vows on Aug. 24, 1972, and was ordained a priest on Sept. 20, 1986. Father Harry earned a bachelor's degree in English from Saint Meinrad College, a master's of divinity degree from Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology, a master's of arts degree in religious studies from Indiana University in Bloomington and a doctorate in sacred Scripture from Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome.

Father Harry joined the faculty of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in 1979, where he has served as associate dean of students, dean of students and provost-vice rector. He also served as novice and junior master in the monastery. He is currently an associate professor of Scripture in the Seminary and School of Theology and serves as a spiritual director. He has also written a number of hymn texts.

## Benedictine Brother Martin Erspamer

a native of Iron Mountain, Mich., joined the Saint Meinrad community in 2005.

Before transferring to Saint Meinrad, he was a member of the Marianists, where he professed his first vows on Aug. 15, 1972. He earned a bachelor's degree in fine arts from St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas, in 1976, and a master's degree in fine arts from Boston University in 1986. He received a liturgical consultant certification from Catholic Theological Union in Chicago in 1995.

He is a well-known liturgical artist, working in painting, illustration, ceramics, stained glass and worship space design. His work has included the design and renovation of various churches, as well as stained-glass windows, processional crosses, murals, banners and various other appointments. In 2019, he completed a large tapestry of Christ seated in glory for the renovation of Christ Cathedral in Garden Grove, Calif.

## 25-year jubilarians

### Benedictine Father Denis Robinson

is a native of Iuka, Miss. He attended the former Saint Meinrad College and Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology, earning a bachelor's degree in philosophy in 1989 and a master's of divinity degree in 1993.

Father Denis was ordained in 1993 as a priest for the Diocese of Memphis, Tenn. From 1993-96, he served as parochial vicar for the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Memphis.

He then joined Saint Meinrad Archabbey and professed his first vows on Aug. 6, 1997. From 1997-2001, Father Denis was director of continuing education and permanent deacon formation and an adjunct instructor in systematic theology in the seminary. He also served as executive assistant to the seminary's president-rector.



Benedictine Father Harry Hagan, left, Benedictine Brother Benjamin Brown, Benedictine Brother Zachary Wilberding, Benedictine Brother Martin Erspamer and Benedictine Father Denis Robinson pose in the Archabbey Church of Our Lady of Einsiedeln in St. Meinrad. They celebrated this year jubilees of profession of vows. (Photo courtesy of Saint Meinrad Archabbey)

In 2007, he was named subprior (third in leadership) of the monastic community.

He attended the Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium, where he earned a master's degree in theology in 2002, a licentiate in sacred theology in 2003, and doctorates in sacred theology and philosophy in 2007. He is an associate professor of systematic theology in the seminary.

Since 2008, he has served as the president-rector of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology.

He is the author of numerous articles and has contributed to several theological texts. He is the editor of *Sacerdos in Aeternum: Prayers and Blessings for Priests* and co-editor of *Theology and Religious Pluralism*. In 2020, he co-authored the book, *We Will Serve the Lord: Prayers and Blessings for the Domestic Church*. In 2021, he wrote the book, *Father Manners: A Guide to Etiquette for Catholic Clergy*.

**Benedictine Brother Zachary Wilberding** was born in Dubuque, Iowa, and attended Loras College for two years

before transferring to the University of Iowa, where he earned a bachelor's degree in nursing in 1975 and a master's degree in nursing in 1984.

From 1975-77, he worked as a staff nurse at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago and then worked for two years as a staff nurse at the University of Iowa. From 1979-96, he held positions as a staff nurse, staff development educator, head nurse and clinical nurse specialist in Veterans Affairs hospitals in Iowa City and Seattle, Wash.

Brother Zachary joined the Benedictine monks of St. John's Abbey in Collegeville, Minn., in 1996 and professed his solemn vows in 2000. While at St. John's, he was director of field education, director of lay spiritual formation and involved in prison ministry.

He transferred to Saint Meinrad Archabbey in 2008. Currently, he is director of monastery vocations and director of public reading. He also continues his work in prison ministry.

(For more information on Saint Meinrad Archabbey, visit [saintmeinrad.org](http://saintmeinrad.org).) †

# Annual National Prayer Vigil for Life will take place in Washington Jan. 19-20

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The National Prayer Vigil for Life held each January will continue even with the Supreme Court's reversal of *Roe v. Wade* because there is "still a great need for prayer and advocacy" to end abortion and protect the unborn and their mothers, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) said on Nov. 11.

The vigil is hosted in Washington by the USCCB Secretariat of Pro-life Activities, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and The Catholic University of America's Office of Campus Ministry.

Scheduled for Jan. 19-20 at the national shrine, the vigil has always coincided with the eve of the March for Life, which marks the date of 1973 decision of the court's *Roe v. Wade* ruling that legalized abortion nationwide. The 2023 March for Life is on Jan. 20.

"The National Prayer Vigil is a time to praise God for the great gift of the recent Supreme Court *Dobbs* decision, overturning the tragic *Roe v. Wade* decision made almost a half-century ago," said Kat Talalas,

assistant director of pro-life communications at the USCCB.

"State and federal legislators are now free to embrace policies that protect preborn children and their mothers," she said in a statement. "Yet, there is still a great need for prayer and advocacy from the faithful, as there will be intensified efforts to codify *Roe* in legislation and policies at the state and federal levels."

She added that "many prayers and sacrifices are needed to transform our culture so that all may cherish the gift of human life and offer life-giving support to vulnerable women, children, and families."

The opening Mass for the vigil will take place at 5 p.m. (EST) on Jan. 19 with Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Pro-Life Activities, as the principal celebrant and homilist.

The Mass will be immediately followed by a Holy Hour for life. This will start off a series of nationwide holy hours throughout the night from dioceses across the country, which will be broadcast on the USCCB's website, [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org).

The nationwide vigil concludes at 8 a.m. (EST) on Jan. 20 with a closing Mass to be celebrated by Auxiliary Bishop Joseph L. Coffey of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services.



Archbishop William E. Lori

A live television broadcast of the vigil will be provided by the Eternal Word Television Network and will be available via livestream on the national shrine's website, [www.nationalshrine.org/mass](http://www.nationalshrine.org/mass).

The USCCB pro-life secretariat also is encouraging Catholics across the country to observe a nationwide prayer vigil from Jan. 14 to Jan. 20 to pray for an end to abortion and "a greater respect for all human life."

(More details on the National Prayer Vigil for Life in Washington can be found at <https://www.usccb.org/prolife/annual-pro-life-events>.) †

## USCCB

continued from page 1

that's true," Archbishop Gomez said.

However, God gives a simple way to be renewed and refreshed in love, he continued.

"He says to us, 'Realize how far you have fallen. Repent and do the works that you did at first' [Rv 2:5]. He is calling us today to come back to him, to place ourselves in his presence, to seek his light and guidance, to remember and renew our love for him," the archbishop said.

The story in Luke's Gospel of the blind man seeking healing from Jesus along the road to Jericho is a beautiful example of that renewal, he said.

"The saints remind us that this blind man is also us—you and me. This is a miracle story, but on a deeper, more

spiritual level, this is the story of our lives as disciples."

Archbishop Gomez said we are all following Jesus on the path of life, trying to walk in his footsteps. "Sometimes, in our ministries and in our lives, we have a hard time discerning the Lord's will; it's hard to know what he wants us to do.

"In his darkness, the blind man turns and looks for Jesus, he calls out to him urgently. ... As the blind man seeks Jesus, he finds that Jesus is seeking him."

Prayer such as that of the blind man opens our eyes to realize that the Lord is near, the archbishop said. "And, as we know, that means Jesus is alive. He's with us, now, as truly present as he was on that road to Jericho."

The archbishop said Jesus asked the blind man what he wanted him to do. "Brothers and sisters, Jesus puts the same question to us. He is inviting us to

look inside ourselves, to recognize our blindness, to recognize that we can't go on without his light."

The blind man's prayer, "Lord, let me see" (Lk 18:41), should also be our prayer—"especially in our darkness, in those times when we're tired, when our hearts feel restless and troubled, when our burdens feel like they're too much."

Invoking the patron namesake of the basilica, Archbishop Gomez asked Mary, Our Lady of the Assumption, to win for us the grace of being able to see and be faithful to God's will.

"May her Son give us the eyes to see that we can continue our mission of following him and serving him, and giving glory to God with our lives."

The Mass also was attended by priests and religious and members of the USCCB staff, who were in Baltimore for the meeting, which

began on Nov. 14 with a morning of prayer and an executive session.

Public portions of the meeting on Nov. 15-16 included the election of a new president and vice president for the conference, who will succeed Archbishop Gomez and Detroit Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron, current USCCB vice president, who is ineligible to be elected president because next October he will turn 75, the age at which canon law requires bishops to submit their resignation to the pope. (Because of press deadlines, results of the USCCB elections will be included in next week's issue of *The Criterion*.)

The bishops were also scheduled to hear an update on the National Eucharistic Revival and National Eucharistic Congress planned for July 17-21, 2024, in Indianapolis, among other reports. †

# Lenten penance services are scheduled at archdiocesan parishes

Parishes throughout the archdiocese have scheduled communal penance services for Advent. The following is a list of services that have been reported to *The Criterion*.

## Batesville Deanery

Nov. 29, 7 p.m. at St. Mary, Greensburg  
 Dec. 2, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. at All Saints Parish, St. Martin campus, Dearborn County  
 Dec. 6, 7 p.m. at Holy Family, Oldenburg  
 Dec. 7, 6:45-7:45 p.m. at St. Peter, Franklin County  
 Dec. 9, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Aurora  
 Dec. 13, 7 p.m. at St. Catherine of Siena, Enochsburg Campus  
 Dec. 13, 6-8 p.m. at St. John the Baptist, Osgood  
 Dec. 14, 6-8 p.m. at Immaculate Conception, Millhousen  
 Dec. 14, 6:15 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul, Shelby County  
 Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at St. Louis, Batesville  
 Dec. 15, 6-7:30 p.m. at St. Michael, Brookville  
 Dec. 16, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. at St. Joseph, Shelbyville  
 Dec. 20, 6:30-8 p.m. during healing service at St. Nicholas, Ripley County  
*Additionally, recurring opportunities for reconciliation in the Batesville Deanery are as follows:*  
 Wednesdays 5-6 p.m. at St. Charles Borromeo, Milan  
 Saturdays following 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Nicholas, Ripley County; 4-5 p.m. at St. Charles Borromeo, Milan; and after 4 p.m. Mass at St. Maurice, Napoleon  
 Sundays after 10 a.m. Mass at St. Maurice, Napoleon

## Bloomington Deanery

Dec. 7, 6-9 p.m. for St. Charles Borromeo, St. John the Apostle and St. Paul Catholic Center, Bloomington, and St. Jude the Apostle, Spencer, at St. Paul Catholic Center  
 Dec. 13, 7 p.m. for St. Mary, Mitchell, and St. Vincent de Paul, Bedford, at St. Vincent de Paul  
 Dec. 14, 6 p.m. at St. Martin of Tours, Martinsville  
 Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at St. Agnes, Nashville

## Connersville Deanery

Dec. 9, 5:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Holy Family Church, Richmond

Dec. 14, 6:30 p.m. at St. Gabriel, Connersville  
 Dec. 15, 6 p.m. at St. Mary, Rushville

## Indianapolis East Deanery

Dec. 1, 7 p.m. for Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower), at St. Therese of the Infant Jesus  
 Dec. 14, 7 p.m. at Holy Spirit

## Indianapolis North Deanery

Dec. 18, 2 p.m. at St. Lawrence  
 Dec. 19, 7 p.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary  
 Dec. 20, 7 p.m. at St. Simon the Apostle  
*Additionally, reconciliation in the North Deanery is available on the following dates:*  
 Dec. 12, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., no appointment needed

## Indianapolis South Deanery

Dec. 10, 8:30 a.m. at SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi, Greenwood  
 Dec. 14, 7 p.m. for St. Jude and St. Mark the Apostle at St. Jude  
 Dec. 15, 7 p.m. for Holy Name of Jesus, Beech Grove, and Good Shepherd at Holy Name of Jesus

## Indianapolis West Deanery

Nov. 29, 7 p.m. at St. Malachy, Brownsburg  
 Nov. 30, 7 p.m. at St. Anthony  
 Dec. 1, 7 p.m. at St. Monica

## New Albany Deanery

Dec. 1, 6:30 p.m. at St. John Paul II, Sellersburg  
 Dec. 6, 6:30 p.m. at St. Michael, Bradford  
 Dec. 7, 6:30 p.m. at St. Michael, Charlestown (bilingual)  
 Dec. 13, 6:30 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier, Henryville  
 Dec. 14, 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, New Albany  
 Dec. 14, 7 p.m. at St. Mary, Navilleton  
 Dec. 14, 7 p.m. at St. Mary of the Knobs, Floyd County  
 Dec. 15, 6:30 p.m. at St. Anthony of Padua, Clarksville  
 Dec. 19, 7 p.m. at St. John the Baptist, Starlight  
 Dec. 20, 7 p.m. at St. Mary, Lanesville



A priest hears confession from a World Youth Day pilgrim in 2016 at Park Jordana in Krakow, Poland. (CNS photo/Bob Roller)

## Seymour Deanery

Dec. 13, 6:30 p.m. for Most Sorrowful Mother of God, Vevay, and Prince of Peace, Madison, at Prince of Peace  
 Dec. 14, 6:30 p.m. at St. Ambrose, Seymour  
 Dec. 15, 6:30 p.m. for Holy Trinity, Edinburgh, and St. Bartholomew, Columbus, at St. Bartholomew  
 Dec. 20, 4 p.m. at American Martyrs, Scottsburg  
 Dec. 21, 4 p.m. at St. Patrick, Salem

## Tell City Deanery

Dec. 11, 1:30-3 p.m. at St. Paul, Tell City  
 Dec. 14, 6:30 p.m. at St. Boniface, Fulda

## Terre Haute Deanery

Dec. 3, 10 a.m. at Annunciation, Brazil  
 Dec. 4, noon-3 p.m. at St. Paul the Apostle, Greencastle  
 Dec. 13, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph, Terre Haute  
 Dec. 14, 6 p.m. for Sacred Heart of Jesus, Clinton, and St. Joseph, Rockville, at Sacred Heart of Jesus  
 Dec. 16, 9 a.m.-9 p.m., for St. Margaret Mary and St. Patrick, Terre Haute, at St. Margaret Mary  
 Dec. 19, 7-8:30 p.m. at St. Benedict, Terre Haute †



# THANK YOU 2022 SPONSORS!

Honoring Thomas Enneking, PhD. and Ruth Rodgers

## YOUR EFFORTS HELPED RAISED \$151,000 FOR MARIAN UNIVERSITY



L-R: Jamy Brase; Daniel J. Elsener, President, Marian University, Ruth Rodgers (honoree); Tom Enneking (honoree); Tom McNulty

MARIAN UNIVERSITY Indianapolis

marian.edu

Marian University is sponsored by the Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg, Indiana.

### DIAMOND LEVEL



The Drew Family

The Barry and Verna Schneider Family

The Young and Terrell Families

### GOLD LEVEL



Al Leighton '62

The Bindley Family

Denny and Donna Oklak

### SILVER LEVEL



# Faith Alive!

A supplement to Catholic newspapers published by Catholic News Service, 3211 Fourth Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20017-1100. All contents are copyrighted © 2022 by Catholic News Service.



Catholic News Service Multimedia Editor Chaz Muth works in the field while conducting an on-camera interview with nursing students at Trinity Washington University in Washington on May 12. The Catholic press gives perspectives on how the faith and the broader world interact that the secular media cannot provide. (CNS photo/Carol Zimmermann)

## Catholic press has played vital role in forming the faith of readers

By Sam Lucero

In July, I retired from a 39-year career as a journalist in the Catholic press. Those years were spent writing, editing, photographing and laying out pages at five diocesan newspapers.

While recently rummaging through boxes of mementos I acquired through the years (newspaper clippings, workshop notes and correspondence from colleagues and readers), I came across a letter written by a woman I had interviewed long ago.

Anne Borchardt was a choir member at her parish in River Falls, Wis., when she was diagnosed with breast cancer. The story, which was published in the *Superior Catholic Herald* during Holy Week in 1999, recounted her cancer journey and how it strengthened her faith.

After the story was published, Anne sent a card offering thanks.

“You have become an important part of

my faith journey by helping me to get this story out,” she wrote, “because it was a bold step for me and ever since the article, my faith convictions have increased tremendously—which is the greatest thing that could ever happen to me. ... I am eternally grateful.”

Anne died of cancer a year after her story was published. Yet even today, her words resonate clearly to me the important value of Catholic journalism.

Journalists in the Catholic press, both writers and photographers, know the important role they play in helping people in the pews to live out their faith. Telling inspirational stories such as Anne’s cancer journey is just one way Catholic publications help readers not only connect to their faith, but grow in it.

Sadly, Catholic journalism is in crisis, as news outlets—diocesan newspapers and even the domestic offices of the century-old Catholic News Service—face closure.

In the past seven years, at least 11 diocesan newspapers have been shuttered or converted to online publications.

In today’s world, where Catholic identity has greatly succumbed to secular values, heralding the good news is an epic challenge for the Church. To use a nautical term, Church leaders need “all hands on deck” to communicate news and information.

Yet, when the Church’s communication structures continue a downward spiral, with diocesan newspapers closing, cutting back on publication schedules or moving to online-only versions, who is left to proclaim the message?

The late Cardinal John P. Foley (1935-2011), who served 23 years as president of the Vatican’s Pontifical Council for Social Communications, understood the value of Catholic journalism.

The Philadelphia native, who once served as editor of his archdiocese’s newspaper, *The Catholic Standard and Times*, was a vocal proponent of the Catholic press.

“Catholics will always need publications,” he said in a preface to *The Mission and Future of the Catholic Press*, a book published by the Catholic Press Association in 1998.

“We are a people of the book, redeemed by the word of Jesus Christ,” Cardinal Foley said.

“We will continue to need the written word to inform us, to help form our attitudes in a Christian way, to help us to ‘put on’ the Lord Jesus in the modern world, to provide us with ideas and models for putting into practice—in our daily lives and in society—the teaching of Christ and of his Church.”

As it was in 1822, when Bishop John England of Charleston, S.C., founded the *Catholic Miscellany*, the first Catholic publication in the United States, the mission of the Catholic press, according to Cardinal Foley, is “to inform, form, inspire, educate and strengthen the religious identity of Catholics.”

This mission is sacred for Catholic journalists who see their work as a vocation. Yet there is a gap created when fewer Catholic publications are delivered to parishioners’ homes and online publications, while easily accessible, lack the same shelf life.

Can the Church count on secular publications to tell the story of local Catholic Charities agencies assisting incoming refugees in our communities? Or Catholic Relief Services supporting families displaced by the war in Ukraine?

Catholic journalism’s future is at a critical juncture. How can it survive when Catholic newspapers face extinction due to postage and printing costs? How do digital publications reach people in the pews who lack access, loyalty, trust or interest in online news?

Telling the story from a faith perspective is imperative for the Church. Whether it’s offering analysis on the latest papal document, updating parishioners on Church finances or sharing a catechumen’s story of conversion, journalists in the Catholic press form and inform their readers in a way the secular press cannot.

The value of Catholic journalism is really about impacting people’s lives, helping them see the world through the lens of faith. Thanks to Catholic publications, they know that their stories are important and that they are part of a community that is connected.

I believe Anne Borchardt, who witnessed the role of Catholic journalism in her faith journey, would agree with this assessment. It’s up to our Church, its leaders and the entire body of Christ, to ensure that future generations of Catholics can tell their stories in Catholic publications.

(Sam Lucero served as news and information manager of *The Compass*, newspaper for the Diocese of Green Bay, Wis., from August 2007 to July 2022.) †



The mastheads of numerous Catholic newspapers are seen in this photo illustration. The Catholic press has and continues to play a vital role in strengthening the faith of its readers.

(CNS photo/Tyler Orsburn)

Living Well/Maureen Pratt

Thankful for 17 years of sharing my labor of love with CNS readers

We're in the season for thankfulness, and this year at this time, I would like to focus this column on how grateful I am for each of you, readers and editors, who have supported "Living Well" through its nearly 17 years of publication.

With regret, but much gratitude in my heart, next month's column will be my last, as Catholic News Service (CNS) closes its U.S. operations.

I am going to miss my editors and readers, especially those of you who have reached out to me through the years with comments, questions, even challenges!

You each will have a place in my heart and prayers now and onward.

But I am deeply thankful, too, for this opportunity, that started from a simple question asked just "to see if ..."

"Living Well" began as what we call a "cold call." I telephoned CNS in early spring 2006 and asked if there might be a need for some work on the intersection of spirituality and faith, medicine and health.

My book, *Peace in the Storm: Meditations on Chronic Pain and Illness*, had just been published. I was eager to

continue to write, through experience and faith, about the many ways God's presence makes all the difference in illness, disability, medical matters and more.

There is wisdom in the phrase, "It doesn't hurt to ask." Blessedly, I was offered the opportunity to write a piece as a sort of trial. I wrote about the RxLaughter program at UCLA—how laughter can be "good medicine" and comes from our marvelous Creator. From that first article, a regular column was born.

Through the years, I have had the honor to meet many amazing, faith-filled people, from physicians and chaplains to heroic parents and patients.

As I know, sometimes it is not easy to talk about personal crises, but your openness has brought light to some very dark places. Thank you for your courage and loving fellowship!

As a Catholic journalist, I have been grateful for the professional opportunity to witness the unique ways God works in sometimes very challenging health situations.

But also, I have been personally blessed and bolstered by this ongoing work, especially during the inevitable challenges of my own health issues and losses—a "bonus" that cannot be captured on a paycheck!

But I do not mean for this column to be only about the past tense.

However grateful I am for what has been an amazing journey through these nearly 17 years, I am thankfully energized for what lies ahead, because the work (which is really a ministry or vocation or labor of love) is not finished yet. Not by a mile.

The world still feels the effects of the pandemic, and there is an acute need for spirituality in health care, God and faith in "living well," a recommitment to care for the soul as integral to care for the body.

And we people of faith can fill this need by using our unique gifts and talents to help a hurting world.

I am right there with you! New projects are already in the works, including one that brings full circle the starting point of "Living Well" and my book, *Peace in the Storm*. More on this next column.

For now, thank you for your support, fellowship and faith.

Blessings for a truly grace-filled, wonderful Thanksgiving and Advent ahead. May our Lord's peace blossom in your hearts like never before!

(Maureen Pratt's website is [www.maureenpratt.com](http://www.maureenpratt.com).) †



For the Journey/Effie Calderola

'This man welcomes sinners'

So, after two years, I finally succumbed to COVID-19.

When I woke up feeling like a cold was coming, I wasn't surprised. I'd been exposed by a grandchild. Nevertheless, since I was going out to lunch with friends, I took a quick test. Negative.

On the drive home, I started to feel bad. I yearned for a cup of cocoa and a place to crash. The next day it was worse. I stayed in bed, took another test, once again negative. COVID-19 is a weird thing.

By the third day, I felt better. But my daughter brought me another test on the fourth day, and there it was—positive, a test I never wanted to ace.

So, by Sunday, still feeling punk, I went online to a beloved Jesuit parish to "go" to Mass.

The Jesuit pastor is a quiet, gentle guy. He's tall, almost gaunt, with a beard. He could play John the Baptist in a movie.

He speaks slowly and with authority. All he had to do on this particular Sunday when he reached the altar was make the sign of the cross, say, "The Lord be with you," and then look at the assembly, and say, forcefully, "This man welcomes sinners."

It's hard to express how moving I found those words. This man. No introduction necessary, no need to speak his name. I could feel Jesus' presence in the midst of my own sin.

This preacher knows how to use a long, weighty pause. After a few seconds, he added, "And eats with them."

Then: "And he allows sinners to welcome him." Those words, he said, "have been in my mind and heart these last few weeks."

This was the Sunday we heard about Zacchaeus, a wealthy senior tax official, one of a despised class in Palestine. In my neighborhood, there are many sycamore trees. If Zacchaeus climbed a similar tree to catch a glimpse of Jesus, it must have been quite a climb.

When Jesus spots him and invites himself to dinner at Zacchaeus' house, there are the inevitable complaints. As a matter of fact, Luke says "they began to grumble" (Lk 19:7) because Jesus was going to stay at a sinner's house.

Things don't change, do they? Two millennia later, and we still fret about other people's sins. It's hard to deeply examine or admit our own sinfulness. We all need forgiveness, and Jesus welcomes us all. Again and again.

As Catholics, we know repentance is a continuing thing, not a one and done. Conversion is ongoing, always calling us deeper.

But Jesus doesn't give up on us, despite the fact that we exclude some from the table, because we think we have the right to judge others' motivations. We decide which—and whose—sins are worst.

Jesus often focused on two sins in particular: greed and hypocrisy. So, when Zacchaeus spontaneously offered to give half of his property to the poor, I wonder if Jesus ever worked on that other half. Over dinner of course.

The actual homily that day was a state-of-the-parish report, because it was stewardship Sunday. It didn't matter. We all know the shortest homilies are usually the best.

This pastor's brief introductory words were probably around 60 seconds, but it was the best homily I'd heard in weeks. He didn't have to allude to Zacchaeus. We knew to whom he referred. We knew the things he was referencing.

I let his words sink in, and in the midst of my COVID-19 isolation, I wept a bit. I, too, will keep those words in my mind and heart.

(Effie Calderola writes for Catholic News Service.) †



Worship and Evangelization Outreach/Fr. Patrick Beidelman

Enjoy Thanksgiving and leave room for the best: the Eucharist

I don't know about yours, but in my family, we have been talking about what we are having for Thanksgiving dinner for a few weeks now. The funny thing is that we are having the exact same menu this year that we had last year—and for several years before that!

We all have our favorite foods, and we love talking about them, and we love anticipating eating them. And, of course, we love eating our favorite foods!

It's fun telling the stories of relatives who made them in the past or where the recipes came from. It connects us to our history as a family and to the people who have gone home to God, but to whom we are still united in our remembering and in our eating of the familiar Thanksgiving dinner together.

And it means to me that when we talk about this kind of remembering and this kind of sharing a meal with loved ones, then you can make a bunch of connections to what Jesus commands us to be about when we celebrate Mass together, the eucharistic celebration.

Since we are in our first year of a national three-year Eucharistic Revival (next year is the "Parish Year" of the revival where most of us will experience this movement!), I want to encourage us to consider making a connection between our celebration of Thanksgiving this year and the true food that we must strive to deeply love and to treat as the most favorite thing in our lives, the holy Eucharist.

Friends, our experience of growing in our living and personal relationship with Jesus through the receiving of his body and blood in Mass, and of opening our lives to how we are being sent out on mission to carrying on the work of our Lord in the world is what this Eucharistic Revival is all about.

I believe that this is a particular (and providential!) moment in which we are being invited into conversion, a Spirit-led transformation that helps us to accept our Lord's invitation to sanctification through our worship of God and of our communion with God and one another.

During this Eucharistic Revival, we must give witness to the importance, the power and the impact of the Real Presence of Christ in our lives.

In the Eucharist, it is Christ who gives himself totally to our hearts, and he asks for our whole hearts in return. Giving witness, offering testimony to what we personally have seen and heard is the most powerful way to draw others to Jesus! So, how about this?

First, pray together right before you eat Thanksgiving dinner. Second, as you pray, give thanks for the blessing of being together with loved ones, along with blessing to have some good food to nourish our bodies. And finally, because that is so similar to giving thanks to God for his divine presence and gifts in the holy Mass, then add to your prayer a small testimony: thank God for our most favorite food for body and soul, the holy Eucharist, by naming one reason you love the Eucharist or by expressing why the Eucharist is so important to you.

Giving testimony to how you have experienced the love of our eucharistic Lord will then elevate your Thanksgiving dinner with all those favorite foods to an encounter that honors the Lord, who is the source of every blessing and lifts our minds to the most important food and drink we will ever consume: the Body and Blood of Christ!

(Father Patrick Beidelman is executive director of the archdiocesan Secretariat for Worship and Evangelization, rector of SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral Parish, and pastor of St. Mary Church, both in Indianapolis.) †



The Human Side/Fr. Eugene Hemrick

Justice is the foundation of our human existence

Tributes to justice abound on Capitol Hill in Washington. On the east side of the Supreme Court, Moses, Solon the great lawmaker and Confucius look down on us from a white marble frieze.

Above the entrance of the U.S. Capitol, liberty stands flanked by hope and the scales of justice, and on the ceiling of the House of Representatives are sculptures of famous lawmakers.

What are the principals of justice? Its foundation is based on a first principle, an indisputable fact that life by its nature consists of living with one another, and the just man is required to deal with the other.

Justice is about the community, the

social whole in which life is relational and is just or unjust depending on the nature of our relationship with each other.

Take, for example, the Ten Commandments, in which we are to relate to one God, to obey our parents, not lie to another, kill or possess his or her goods.

Solon the great lawmaker of Athens ruled wisely because he envisioned a peaceful community of citizens concerned for each other.

He pointed to avarice that destroys a society when leaders consider their own prominence and fail to serve the polis, the citizenship.

Among Greek virtues, duty ranked first because it advocates responsibility—being responsible for others. When justice happens, so does duty-driven responsibility exist.

The essence of peace is order. When life is in order, tranquility results. Statues

around Capitol Hill depicting justice are of warriors holding a sword, representing the fight for law and order needed to achieve peace.

As a youth, I once became disturbed about the number of injustices reported in the news. My grandfather took me aside one day and said, "Gini, it is all in the Bible. The prophets were forever deploring Israel's leaders for being concerned about their own prominence at the expense of Israel's welfare."

"Christ continuously berates the self-serving Pharisees for the injustice of deserting the sheep of Israel."

The movie *All the President's Men* popularized the phrase, "Follow the money." How true, money often turns heads away from duty.

(Father Eugene Hemrick writes for Catholic News Service.) †



**Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe/**

Msr. Owen F. Campion

**The Sunday Readings**

Sunday, November 20, 2022

- 2 Samuel 5:1-3
- Colossians 1:12-20
- Luke 23:35-43

The Second Book of Samuel furnishes the first reading for this feast, marking the close of the Church's liturgical year.



The two books of Samuel record major events of the reign of King David in Israel, which was from 1004 to 971 BC.

In this weekend's reading, David becomes the king of Israel. He was more than a governmental authority or political figure. His task as king was to strengthen the union between God and the people, but the people had free will allowing them to choose their actions.

David's task was to give good example and to inspire the people to acknowledge God. Such recognition, David insisted, was the doorway to prosperity, peace and life.

For its second reading, the Church presents a passage from St. Paul's Epistle to the Colossians. This epistle was written to the Christians of Colossae, a moderately important city of the Roman Empire.

Magnificent in its imagery, this reading acclaims Jesus as the "image of the invisible God" (Col 1:15). Jesus is the center of creation. Without him, human life collapses into chaos and worse. Through Jesus, all people possess the hope of eternal salvation, sharing in the benefits of his sacrifice on Calvary.

St. Luke's Gospel supplies the last reading. It recounts the trial and execution of Jesus.

Noted is the inscription placed above the head of Jesus on the cross that read, "The King of the Jews" (Lk 23:38) Roman authorities positioned this sign above the Lord's dying body to warn potential rebels of what rebellion against Rome brought. In fact, it was a proclamation of a profound fact, not connected with Roman politics. Christ is king, the Son of God, the Creator.

This title exalts Jesus in the full sweep of salvation history, that pattern of encounters between God and the

Hebrews. Jesus was of the Hebrews. He was a Jew. God promised the Jews salvation. Jesus fulfills this promise, bringing salvation to all.

The Gospel mentions the criminals executed beside Jesus. One bitterly blasphemed. The other beautifully professed Jesus as Messiah, proving that human faith, repentance, trust in divine forgiveness and realizing that God offers the only way is possible for anyone.

**Reflection**

When Queen Elizabeth II died, many stories circulated about her. In 1976, she and her husband Prince Philip visited Washington, D.C., to celebrate the bicentennial of the United States.

They stayed at the White House as guests of President Gerald R. Ford and his wife. As the queen was dressing for a festive banquet, a maid appeared, sent to assist the queen. Smiling, Elizabeth said that she was fine.

Then the maid promised to be there when the queen returned from the banquet. Elizabeth said no. The maid needed her rest. The next morning, the maid arrived at the queen's room. Elizabeth was already at breakfast. Her bed was made. Bath towels were neatly folded. Her evening gown was hanging in the closet.

Until old age overtook her, Queen Elizabeth II cared for herself, since during the Second World War, her mother never allowed her daughter a maid. Women were needed in the war effort. The future queen herself became an automotive mechanic.

After her death, thousands praised her lifelong personal sacrifices for Great Britain. Serving the good of all, whatever the personal cost, giving whatever is needed, is the ideal of a monarch.

When this feast was established, many monarchies still reigned, but despots who had all the answers were menacing innocent human beings and their rights.

Pope Pius XI created this feast as response to these despots. Christ alone is the answer. As time unfolded, ignoring Christ's teachings, the despots—Hitler, Mussolini and others—brought unbelievable horror to humanity.

Christ the king sacrificed all, even life, for us. He is the "way, the truth, and the life" (Jn 14:6). †

**Daily Readings****Monday, November 21**

The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
*Revelation 14:1-3, 4b-5*  
*Psalm 24:1b-4b, 5-6*  
*Luke 21:1-4*

**Tuesday, November 22**

St. Cecilia, virgin and martyr  
*Revelation 14:14-19*  
*Psalm 96:10-13*  
*Luke 21:5-11*

**Wednesday, November 23**

St. Clement I, pope and martyr  
 St. Columban, abbot  
 Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro, priest and martyr  
*Revelation 15:1-4*  
*Psalm 98:1-3b, 7-9*  
*Luke 21:12-19*

**Thursday, November 24**

St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc, priest and companions, martyrs  
*Revelation 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a*  
*Psalm 100:1b-5*  
*Luke 21:20-28*

**Friday, November 25**

St. Catherine of Alexandria, virgin and martyr  
*Revelation 20:1-4, 11-21:2*  
*Psalm 84:3-6a, 8a*  
*Luke 21:29-33*

**Saturday, November 26**

*Revelation 22:1-7*  
*Psalm 95:1-7b*  
*Luke 21:34-36*

**Sunday, November 27**

First Sunday of Advent  
*Isaiah 2:1-5*  
*Psalm 122:1-9*  
*Romans 13:11-14*  
*Matthew 24:37-44*

**Question Corner/Fr. Kenneth Doyle****Divorce, remarriage outside the Church affect ability to receive Communion**

(Editor's note: This column by Father Kenneth Doyle was originally published in 2011.)



**Q** If a Catholic gets married by a priest, later gets divorced, then gets married by a judge, can that person still receive the holy Eucharist?

**A** The short answer is "no," but there is so much more to it than that.

First, to explain the rule: The Church is a communion of persons linked by a shared set of religious beliefs and practices. Reception of the sacraments, particularly the Eucharist, is an indication that an individual accepts the beliefs of the Church and its teaching.

One of those teachings is that a Catholic should marry in a Catholic ceremony or in a non-Catholic ceremony but with the permission of the Church.

Assuming, as seems to be indicated, that you have not obtained a declaration

of nullity (commonly called an annulment) regarding the first marriage, that marriage is still considered by the Church as valid. As such, the second marriage would not be recognized by the Church.

I don't think this should be seen as the Church's presuming to render a judgment on the state of a person's soul before God (for only God can safely do that). It should be seen simply as an indication that the Church, like any organization of human beings, has rules that govern

membership and regulate behavior.

I would suggest that you continue to attend Mass regularly.

Too often, people in a situation like this conclude that Mass attendance is pointless since they have rendered themselves ineligible for full participation through holy Communion.

That is unfortunate, because usually the person still shares in the core beliefs of the Church and would derive spiritual satisfaction and helpful guidance by continuing to attend Mass.

I would also urge that you sit down with a priest of your choosing and discuss the circumstances of the first marriage and the reasons for its breakup. It could well be that, even if that marriage lasted several years, there might be grounds for the Church to consider an annulment—serious immaturity, for example, or emotional instability (on the part of one marriage partner or both) going back to the time of the marriage.

It seems obvious that reception of the Eucharist is important to you, so it would certainly be worth the effort to open that possibility.

It should also be noted that too often Catholics who are separated or divorced but who have never remarried refrain from receiving Communion because they feel that they have "broken a big rule" and are therefore ineligible to receive.

The truth is this: The Church believes that, in fidelity to the teaching of Jesus, marriage is forever, and that spouses should always enter a marriage with this understanding and do their best to make the marriage last.

However, there are some situations (domestic abuse is a clear-cut one, but there are certainly others) where, for the good of everyone involved, separation is advisable.

When the rift is irreparable, divorce is often a necessary consequence so that legal obligations—such as alimony, child custody or child support—can be clarified and assigned. (Sometimes this sad result happens even though the marriage partners have done everything reasonably possible to make the marriage work.)

Divorce itself, without remarriage, does nothing to disqualify a Catholic from the sacraments.

The best advice in any situation like this is for the people involved to seek the guidance of a priest so that they can assess fairly their own personal responsibility for the marital breakup, seek the grace of confession, if necessary, and be assured that they continue to be welcome in the Church and are eligible to participate fully. †

**My Journey to God****Surrendering to Thee**

By Lauren Smith

Unimportant is my will.  
 Important is Thy Will.  
 O Jesus, i surrender my will to Thee.  
 Take care of everything.

Wounded is my heart.  
 Whole is Thy Sacred Heart.  
 O Jesus, i surrender my heart to Thee.  
 Take care of everything.

Insignificant are my fears.  
 Significant is Thy Peace.  
 O Jesus, i surrender my fears to Thee.  
 Take care of everything.

Irrelevant are others' opinions.  
 Relevant is Thy Preferences.  
 O Jesus, i surrender others' opinions of me to Thee.  
 Take care of everything.

Imperfect is myself.  
 Perfect is Thee:  
 Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity.  
 O Jesus, i surrender myself to Thee.  
 Take care of everything.

Make me whole,  
 into Thy image,  
 into Thy likeness,  
 pleasing to Thee,  
 wholeheartedly.

O Most Holy Trinity,  
 i offer Thee today:  
 the past, present, and future.  
 i let it go to Thee.  
 Take care of everything.

O Most Holy Trinity,  
 i surrender everything to Thee.  
 Take care of everything.

Thy Will be done.  
*Deo gratias!*  
 Amen.

(Lauren Smith is a member of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis.)

# Rest in peace

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

**BECHT, Jeffrey M.**, 61, St. Mary-of-the-Knobs, Floyd County, Oct. 31. Father of Margo Becht. Son of Anthony and Margaret Becht. Brother of Nancy Whitaker, Kelly and Richard Becht.

**CASSIDY, Brian T.**, 56, St. Thomas More, Mooresville, Oct. 31. Husband of Gail Cassidy. Father of Hanna and Sara Cassidy. Son of Christina Cassidy. Brother of Christa and Jennifer Cassidy. Grandfather of two.

**CISSELL, James C.**, 25, St. John Paul II, Sellersburg, Nov. 2. Father of Ethan and Emily Cissell. Son of James and Michelle Cissell. Grandson of Pauline Popp and Herman Cissell.

**ENGLISH, Donna**, 84, St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower), Indianapolis, Oct. 28. Mother of Kristy Hardister, Karen Lux, Kim

Miggenburg, David, Jeff and Mark English. Sister of Della Arnold and Dick Baker. Grandmother of 24. Great-grandmother of 33.

**FARNEY, William**, 91, St. Pius X, Indianapolis, Nov. 4. Husband of Cathy Farney. Father of Laura Cook, Sarah Gaither, Sue Mokris, Chris and Tim Farney. Grandfather of nine. Great-grandfather of 10.

**GRAMELSPACHER, Andreas M.**, 40, St. Boniface, Fulda, Oct. 19. Son of Michael and Janice Gramelspacher. Brother of Anna Dodd and Katrina Gramelspacher. Uncle of several.

**MCDONALD, Jerome**, 91, St. Bartholomew, Columbus, Oct. 27. Father of Jerilyn Brewer, Jody Harmon, Jeremy Brewer and JL McDonald. Brother of James, John and Paul McDonald. Grandfather of nine. Great-grandfather of two.

**MORRIS, Brian R.**, 51, St. Jude, Indianapolis, Oct. 29. Husband of Jennifer Morris. Father of Hannah and Samuel Morris. Son of Paul Morris and Rozanne Robertson. Stepson of Jack Robertson. Brother of Anne Moyars, Julie Parker, Kevin and Jason Morris.

**MUCENSKI, Rosemary M.**, 78, St. Jude, Indianapolis, Nov. 1. Wife of James Mucenski. Mother of Mary Holt, Michelle Mucenski and Lori Otto. Sister of Mary Beth Mazurkiewicz. Grandmother of four. Great-grandmother of one.

**SHEWMAKER, Lonnia Mae**, 72, St. Joseph, Corydon, Nov. 1. Mother of Roger Shewmaker, Jr. Sister of Linda Bently, Sheila Taylor and James Cavins, Jr. Grandmother of four.

## Carmelite Sister Martha Hall lived 62 years of contemplative life in Terre Haute monastery

Carmelite Sister Martha Karin Hall, a member of the Carmelite Monastery of St. Joseph in Terre Haute, died on Nov. 7 at the monastery. She was 80.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Nov. 11. Burial followed in the monastery cemetery.

Sister Martha was born on June 19, 1942, in Bardstown, Ky. She attended and graduated from the former St. Catherine Academy in Springfield, Ky.

Discerning a call to contemplative life as a Carmelite nun, Sister Martha entered the Monastery of St. Joseph in October of 1960, and received her habit on Oct. 7, 1961, at which time she received the religious name Sister Martha of Jesus. She professed first vows on Oct. 15, 1962, and perpetual

vows on Oct. 15, 1965.

In the monastic community, Sister Martha assisted with landscaping, printing, cooking, gardening, carpentry and maintenance. Her beautiful singing voice also added to the beauty of the sacred music in the community's liturgies.

Surviving are sisters Elaine Boone and Mary Jo Krueger, and brothers Greg, Jim and Larry Hall.

Memorial contributions can be sent to the Monastery of St. Joseph, 59 Allendale, Terre Haute, IN 47802. †

## Trunk-or-treat



Emerson Brooks, left, and Levi Glaser, students at Holy Family School in New Albany, take part in an Oct. 21 trunk-or-treat event at the school that raised funds for a scholarship-granting organization that helps children become students at the school. (Submitted photo)

**SIEG, Edward B.**, 95, St. Bernard, Frenchtown, Nov. 6. Uncle of several.

**VANWINKLE, Sherry A.**, 75, St. Meinrad, St. Meinrad, Oct. 17. Mother of Kimberly Fischer and Aaron VanWinkle. Sister of Iola Gehlhausen. Grandmother of four.

**WANINGER, William A.**, 90, St. Meinrad, St. Meinrad, Sept. 24. Husband of Rowena Waninger. Father of Daniel, David and Stanley Waninger. Grandfather of four. Great-grandfather of three. †

## Providence Sister Margaret Lynch served in archdiocesan schools and parishes

Providence Sister Margaret Lynch, a member of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods in St. Mary-of-the-Woods, died on Nov. 3 at Goodwin Family Center in Terre Haute. She was 79.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Nov. 12 at the Church of the Immaculate Conception at the motherhouse in St. Mary-of-the-Woods. Burial followed at the sisters' cemetery.

Sister Margaret was born on Jan. 3, 1942, in Chicago. She entered the Sisters of Providence on Sept. 18, 1961, and professed final vows on Aug. 16, 1969.

Sister Margaret earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and a master's degree in religious education and a master's degree in pastoral studies, both at Loyola University Chicago in Chicago.

During her 61 years as a member of the Sisters of Providence, Sister Margaret ministered in Catholic schools for 13 years in Illinois and Indiana. Beginning in

1977, she began serving in parishes and adult education centers. In 2010, poor health led her to live at the motherhouse where she served her fellow sisters in many ways.

In the archdiocese, Sister Margaret served in Indianapolis at the former St. Agnes Academy from 1967-70, the former Ladywood-St. Agnes High School from 1970-73 and Father Thomas Scecina Memorial High School from 1983-84. She ministered in Terre Haute at the former Paul C. Schulte High School from 1973-76 and at Sacred Heart Parish from 1980-82.

Sister Margaret also served at Providence Self-Sufficiency Ministries in New Albany from 1994-98 and as parish life coordinator of the former St. Leonard of Port Maurice Parish in West Terre Haute and St. Mary-of-the-Woods Parish in St. Mary-of-the-Woods from 1998-2005.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Sisters of Providence, 1 Sisters of Providence Road, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, St. Mary-of-the-Woods, IN 47876. †

## New Ascension yearlong podcast starts on Jan. 1, will present the entire catechism

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Beginning on Jan. 1, Ascension Press will launch "The Catechism in a Year," taking listeners through the four parts of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and "providing explanation, insight and encouragement along the way."

Through the course of 365 daily podcast episodes, Father Mike Schmitz will read the entire catechism. Throughout 2022, the priest has hosted the popular "The Bible in a Year" podcast with Scripture scholar Jeff Cavins.

Father Schmitz read every verse of the Catholic Bible in 365 days, using a reading plan based on Cavins' Great Adventure Bible Timeline. The reading plan organizes the 14 narrative books of the Bible into 12 periods to help readers understand how they relate to one another and to God's plan for salvation.

A priest of the Diocese of Duluth, Minn., Father Schmitz is a popular Catholic speaker and author. He and Cavins created the Bible podcast with the backing of Ascension.

"We don't think it's an accident that after 'Bible in a Year,' the No. 1 requested thing from our audience was a 'Catechism of the Year,'" said Lauren Joyce, communications and public relations specialist at Ascension, a multimedia Catholic publisher based in West Chester, Penn.

Helping the faithful understand and read the Bible with Cavins' timeline learning system and the podcast format "made such a big difference for accessibility," she said at a Nov. 2 news conference via Zoom.

"Our audience is saying do the same thing for the catechism: 'We know we should like it, we know we should read it [and] struggle to do so, so help us out.'"

In the 30 days before the news conference, the Bible podcast had reached an audience of 1.5 million people via various electronic devices, such as a cellphone, a tablet with downloaded episodes or YouTube.

According to Chartable Global Reach, a podcast measurement company, "The Bible in a Year" was No. 1 in 2022 in the religious/spiritual category.

The catechism recognizes "that what God is doing in this world didn't end" with Chapter 28 of the Acts of the Apostles in the Bible, Father Schmitz said. The fifth book of the New Testament tells of the founding of the Church. "God continues to reach out to his people. ... [With the catechism] we get to love him more," he added.

"What we did with the Bible, we're going to do with the catechism," the priest said about the podcast. "For 365 days, we are going to take a little section of the catechism every single day."

"The Catechism in a Year" podcast will be available for free on all major podcast platforms as well as the Hallow app. Ascension also is providing Catholic schools and parishes free materials promoting the podcast, including flyers, posters, media graphics and bulletin announcements.

(More information about "The Catechism in a Year," the new catechism edition and resources available to parishes and schools can be found at [ascensionpress.com](http://ascensionpress.com).) †

### Online Lay Ministry Formation

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

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

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



### REPORT SEXUAL MISCONDUCT NOW

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

- 1 Ethics Point Confidential, Online Reporting**  
[www.archdioceseofindianapolis.ethicspoint.com](http://www.archdioceseofindianapolis.ethicspoint.com) or 888-393-6810
- 2 Victim Assistance Coordinator, Archdiocese of Indianapolis**  
P.O. Box 1410, Indianapolis, IN 46206-1410  
**317-236-1548 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1548**  
[victimassistance@archindy.org](mailto:victimassistance@archindy.org)

# Archbishop Thompson offers priceless reminder to high school seniors

By John Shaughnessy

BROWNSBURG—For high school seniors, this last year can be a time to shine, to lead, to make the most of the friendships and experiences that are at the heart of this pivotal point in their lives.

It can also be a year when seniors can be overwhelmed by questions and doubts about their future, the increased demands on their time, and the struggles and challenges that can come with being a teenager.

Knowing both these realities, Archbishop Charles C. Thompson offered a timely reminder to nearly 1,200 seniors from across the archdiocese on Oct. 26—a reminder of just how extremely valued they are.

Speaking to the seniors during his annual Mass with them, the archbishop shared this quote that Pope Francis had once addressed to the youths of the world: “Young people, beloved of the Lord, how valued must you be if you were redeemed by the precious blood of Christ. Dear young people, you are priceless.”

Throughout the Mass at St. Malachy Church in Brownsburg, the archbishop reinforced the pope’s message by both celebrating the seniors and gently challenging them.

At the beginning of the Mass, Archbishop Thompson told the seniors, “We’re here to celebrate, to celebrate all that you have accomplished, to celebrate who and what you are at this very moment. And celebrate your faith as you continue your journey.”

Later during his homily, the archbishop reminded the seniors that God is always

with them on their own unique journey. He also asked the seniors to reflect on this question, “As you look back upon your four years, what are my foundations, what is it that I believe, what are my values and principles?”

Then pointing to the altar, he offered another reminder to the seniors in reference to the Eucharist being the foundation of the Catholic faith: “This is the center of our universe. This is the center for our foundation and our message. Because here, the bread and wine are transformed into the body and blood of Jesus Christ. We believe this is the real presence of Christ himself.”

And just as the bread and wine are transformed into the body and blood of Christ, so are we called to transform the world by our faith and our life, the archbishop told the seniors.

“Don’t take for granted that your life has been purchased by Jesus Christ,” the archbishop said. “With each chapter of your life, remain rooted in Christ. Stay Christ-centered.”

That message was appreciated and embraced by the seniors who attended the Mass from 11 Catholic high schools in central and southern Indiana: Bishop Chatard, Brebeuf Jesuit, Cardinal Ritter, Cathedral, Father Michael Shawe Memorial, Father Thomas Scecina Memorial, Oldenburg Academy of the Immaculate Conception, Our Lady of Providence, Providence Cristo Rey, Roncalli and Seton Catholic.

“I thought his homily was beautiful,” said Olivia Fields, a senior at Father Thomas Scecina Memorial High School in Indianapolis. “It’s really going to help a lot of us as we graduate, especially how God and other people are helping you move on to that path that’s chosen for you.”

Will Rees said he has already seen in his own life the wisdom of the archbishop’s message about staying rooted in Christ.

“If we keep Jesus at the center of our lives, everything else will fall into place,” said Will, a senior at Oldenburg Academy of the Immaculate Conception in Oldenburg. “That’s something I try to do. When I keep Jesus at the center of my life, it works.”

“When I put other things above him, that’s when I tend to fall out of line and find myself far from God and have to center myself back on Jesus. And my relationship with him just becomes better after that.”

In his remarks during the Mass, Archbishop Thompson also voiced his extra appreciation for the schools and the seniors who traveled from far outside the Indianapolis area to attend the Mass,



Archbishop Charles C. Thompson joins the seniors of Seton Catholic High School in Richmond for a photo following the archbishop’s annual Mass with high school seniors from Catholic schools across the archdiocese on Oct. 26 at St. Malachy Church in Brownsburg. (Photos by John Shaughnessy)

citing Oldenburg Academy, Our Lady of Providence in Clarksville, Seton Catholic in Richmond and Shawe Memorial in Madison.

Seeing that unity among the Catholic high schools also stood out to the seniors.

“It’s very interesting to see all of the other seniors from the surrounding Catholic schools,” said Marissa Eckstein, a senior at Oldenburg Academy. “It just shows how many young people are still interested in their faith and take pride in it.”

John Walther of Our Lady of Providence High School echoed that sentiment: “It was a great experience getting to be with a lot of other schools from the Catholic community. You realize there’s a lot more people in that community in Indiana than you think. So it was great being together and a pretty good sermon as well. I connected with that part about when we make choices, we need to keep Christ at the center of that.”



Archbishop Charles C. Thompson and three seniors from Cardinal Ritter High School in Indianapolis share a photo after the archbishop’s annual senior Mass. The seniors are Lizet Avila, left, Angela Malvaez and Lizbeth Huerta.

Before the seniors returned to their schools, Archbishop Thompson had one more reminder for them as the Mass ended.

“What you do day in and day out is sacred because you are sacred,” the archbishop said. “No matter how sometimes you get down on yourself, don’t let anybody make you ever forget that you are indeed priceless, that you have been bought at a great price.

“You have meaning. You have purpose.” †



Archbishop Charles C. Thompson and Brandon Fitts-Ramsey, a senior at Father Thomas Scecina Memorial High School in Indianapolis, are all smiles as they share a conversation after the archbishop’s annual Mass with high school seniors.

## Discalced Carmelite professes solemn vows

Discalced Carmelite Sister Marie Therese Miciano professed solemn vows on Nov. 5 as a member of the Monastery of St. Joseph in Terre Haute.

A native of the Philippines, Sister Marie Therese, 49, was previously a member of the Missionaries of St. Charles Borromeo, also known as the Scalabrinian sisters. She entered that order in 1999 and professed perpetual vows in 2009.

As a Scalabrinian, Sister Marie Therese served in the Philippines, India and the U.S. as a nurse, an infirmarian and as a vocations director.

She entered the Monastery of St. Joseph in 2016. In addition to her life of contemplative prayer, which is at the heart of the Carmelite vocation, Sister Marie Therese has ministered in the monastery in service to the sick and in maintenance, gardening and cooking. †



Discalced Carmelite Sister Marie Therese Miciano smiles while wearing a garland of flowers on Nov. 5, the day on which she professed solemn vows as a member of the Carmelite Monastery of St. Joseph in Terre Haute. (Submitted photo)

## Classified Directory

Call  
317-236-1585  
TO ADVERTISE IN  
The Criterion

### Home Improvement

**D & S ROOFING**  
24-hour service!  
Rubber, torch downs, hot tar roofs,  
roof and tearoffs.  
• Any large or small repairs  
• Wind or hail damage repairs  
Call Dale for free estimates!  
317-357-4341  
Licensed • Bonded • Insured  
47 years experience • References available

### Special Care

**Huser Special Care**

Trusted and Compassionate Care

Serving people with Autism & Developmental Disabilities

- Medicaid Waiver ( CIH & FSW)
- Residential, Community, Respite and PAC Services
- Staff screened and trained

Kathy and Terry Huser  
(317) 255-5700

www.HuserSpecialCare.com  
Career Opportunities Available

### Employment

#### BISHOP CHATARD HIGH SCHOOL TUITION MANAGER

BCHS is currently accepting applications for the position of Tuition Manager. This is a full-time position and reports to the Executive Director of Finance. The Tuition manager is responsible for proper billing of tuition & fees as well as timely payment confirmations. This position is a resource to parents regarding questions about fees, tuition, grants, and financial aid opportunities.

For a full job description and application deadline, visit [www.bishopchatard.org/about/employment/](http://www.bishopchatard.org/about/employment/).

Interested individuals are asked to send a resume and cover letter to Christa Wynk, Executive Director of Finance, at [cwynk@bishopchatard.org](mailto:cwynk@bishopchatard.org).

# Brebeuf celebrates back-to-back state championships in boys' soccer

By John Shaughnessy

When Carlos Zavaleta boarded the bus with his players after the state championship game, a wealth of memories from the day filled the thoughts of the head coach of the boys' soccer team of Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School in Indianapolis.

Before the game on Oct. 29 in the Michael A. Carroll Track and Soccer Stadium in Indianapolis, Zavaleta had shared a succinct message to his team, telling them, "I believe in you, and you need to believe in yourselves. And if we do our best, we can beat anybody."

Zavaleta's belief was forged in the stunning reality that the Brebeuf team had won its first six games in the Class 2A state tournament of the Indiana High School Athletic Association by scoring 27 goals and giving up just one.

And the coach's confidence continued in the state championship game even as Brebeuf's opponent—the team from Marian High School in Mishawaka in northern Indiana—took a 1-0 lead in the early part of the second half. Almost immediately, Zavaleta turned to one of his assistant coaches and said, "We're going to tie this up, and then we're going to win it."

And that's just what happened. After tying the game in regulation, Brebeuf scored the winning goal in overtime—a 2-1 victory that made the Braves back-to-back champions in Class 2A boys' soccer.

"I just *knew*," Zavaleta would say later about the comeback. "There are certain things you believe in, and that you *know* are going to happen. And lo and behold, it turned out that way."

In the celebration that followed, the head coach watched in pure joy as teammates hugged each other, embraced their parents, raced to the stands to share the moment with their fellow students who had cheered them on, and posed for



The boys' soccer team of Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School in Indianapolis celebrates winning the Class 2A state championship of the Indiana High School Athletic Association on Oct. 29 in Michael A. Carroll Track and Soccer Stadium in Indianapolis. (Photo courtesy of MJH/DoubleEdge Media)

picture after picture that captured beaming smile after beaming smile.

"There is a peace that comes to you and a joy that comes to you when you see their faces in that moment," Zavaleta says about that scene. "That was a great, great thing. And then I thought of the parents and the great support we've had from them."

All those joyous thoughts and images stayed with Zavaleta as he and his players boarded the bus with the state championship trophy, to make the journey to Brebeuf. In the midst of all the celebration on the field, Zavaleta never had the opportunity to talk with his team. As the bus headed to Brebeuf, he made

sure to tell them what he thought of them.

"I let them know how proud I was of them—and how much they mean to me," he recalls. "I love them like family, and the same for the coaches. They're an elite group to do what they did. And it wouldn't have happened if it wasn't for their unity, their camaraderie and the family-like atmosphere that we've had for the past two seasons. This season was even more special because of the unity we had."

Zavaleta pointed to the six seniors on the team as a major factor in creating that unity: Stefan Boes, Ian Houle, Josh Pang, Jake Rosenberg, Aidan Wade and Jack Weeter. "We have a wide variety of personalities

on this team," says Zavaleta, who has coached soccer for more than 40 years. "But they all love each other, and they all work for one another. I feel we're lucky as coaches to mentor them. They're like my kids. They're like my family. And I love them."

"They won it twice, and that's icing on the cake, but we are lucky to be doing this with this special group. I'm so happy for them. They will remember this forever."

(A story about the state championship victory of the girls' volleyball team of Our Lady of Providence High School in Clarksville will be featured in next week's issue.) †



## Get to know Ascension Complete

Ascension Complete is a Medicare Advantage Plan made by doctors you trust, so you get the coverage you need. Check out the benefits we offer.

- ✓ \$0 plan premiums
- ✓ \$0 primary care physician visit copay
- ✓ Telehealth appointments
- ✓ Prescription drug coverage
- ✓ More money back in your Social Security check every year
- ✓ Dental services with no annual maximum, including exams, fillings, extractions, implants, and dentures (\$0 copay for preventive services, 30% cost share for comprehensive services)

- ✓ Preloaded Visa Flex Card to help pay for dental, vision, and hearing benefits not covered by the plan
- ✓ Vision and hearing coverage
- ✓ Spiritual Care - Connect virtually with a professionally trained chaplain for your spiritual and emotional needs, anytime, from anywhere
- ✓ Fitness membership at no additional cost

Get the Medicare Advantage coverage you deserve. Call Ascension Complete today to enroll.

Benefits vary by plan.

☎ 1-877-841-6283 (TTY: 711)

🕒 7 days a week, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

🌐 [medicare.ascensioncomplete.com](https://www.medicare.ascensioncomplete.com)

**Don't miss out. Annual Enrollment Period:**

October

15

December

7

## Ascension Complete

Ascension Complete is contracted with Medicare for HMO and PPO plans. Our D-SNP plans have a contract with the state Medicaid program. Enrollment in Ascension Complete depends on contract renewal.

