Serving the Church in Central and Southern Indiana Since 1960

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# Vatican's positions stated at conference

Vatican urges women's conference to heed needs of wives and mothers

By Cludy Wooden, Catholic New Service

BEIJING—The head of the Vatican delegation to the Beijing women's conference said fear of reinforcing stereotypes about women must not lead the UN. conference to ignore the challenges and needs of women who are vives and mothers.

Mary Ann Glendon, the Harvard law professor who led the Vatican's delegation to the Fourth World Conference on Women, said any realistic discussion of women's lives must refer to the family roles carried out by the majority of women in the world.

Glendon addressed the conference plenary session Sept. 5, saying. The historical oppression of women has deprived the human race of untold resources:

She told conference delegates Pope John Paul II "has acknowledged the deficiencies" of past positions or individuals is the Catholic Church regarding women and that he has called on church health, educational and social agencies to make special efforts on behalf of women and girls.

But society must not go overboard and, in suremore to emphasize women's impurature, deny their importance as vives and mothers, she said.

"To affirm the dignity and rights of all women requires respect for the roles of women whose quest for personal fulfillment and the construction of a stable society is inseparably linked to their commitments to God, family, neighbor and especially to their children." Clendon said.

The Vatican delegation to the conference, she said, supports the rights of women to work outside the home, to



Page John Paul III reaches out to great after servers Aug. 29 in St. Pater's Square. He told the young tom European countries, that serving at Mass use a "procleas commitment."

# Louisville archdiocese plans to close 11 parishes

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (CNS)—Eleven arishes in the Louisville Archdiocese will ose and six others will merge into three nder a restructuring plan released Sept. 7 y the archdiocesan Planning

Commission.

The plan also proposes 10 new clusters in which a priest serves as pastor of two or more parishes. A total of 23 parishes are affected by the clustering plans.

Thirteen of the parishes to be closed or merged are in Afferson County, where three-fourths of the architocese's Catholics live and where the city of Louville is located. Population in the city has declined by more than 120,000 since 1960, while population in the rest of the county has increased by more than 180,000 over the same period.

Final decisions on the plan are expected in November. The 16-member planning

ecisions on the plan are expected 16-member planning nced that it will hold

hearings in October with any affected parish that wants to seek modifications in the draft plan.

Effectiveness of parish mission, stewardship, demographic changes and declining numbers of priests were the four major factors used in developing the plan.

A 1994 study projected that the number of active diocesan priests will decline from 141 at the start of 1995 to 104 in the year 2000. Of the 104, 77 are expected to be available for work in parishes. If the draft plan is adopted without changes, the total number of parishes and missions in the archdiocese will drop from 136 to 122.

136 to 122.

Of the proposed new clusters, two are in Jefferson County, eight in other areas. The archdiocese covers 24 counties in central

Kentucky.
Archbishop Thomas C. Kelly of
Louisville said the declining number

priests has been a factor in the reorganiza-tion but "it does not have to be the main thing now. If we wait a couple of years, we then will become numbers-driven. That is why we want to do this while we are still able to think in terms of mission."

still able to think in terms of mission.
"We have to be conscious of the church's presence (in an area) and of the community's ability to preach the Gospel and to give witness to others," he said.

He told The Record, Louisville archives are supported by the halanded con

He told The Record. Louisville archdiocesan newspaper, that the planned consultation with parishes before a final
decision is "essential," and their input will
be taken into account.

The planning document says that most
parishes slated for closing in Jefferson
County are within a mile of a neighboring
church, and none is more than two miles
from another. Outside the county, it says,
all churches to be closed are within a 10to 15-minute drive from another church.

The parishes slated for closure in Jefferson County have congregations ranging from 55 households to 413. The four to be closed outside the county have from 21 to 92 households.

Archbishop Kelly sent out letters about the plan to a total of about 14,000 parishioners who will be affected by a planned closing, merger or cluster.

"There is a great deal going on in many of our parishes" including construction of new facilities, he said. "This is not a dying diocese. There is lost of vitality." (Contributing to this story were

(Contributing to this story were Roy J. Horner and John R. Karman III.)

archbishop Buechlein Active List . . . 18 ...4 ...... 22 rich Pr 17 th and Young Adults . . 20 & 21

#### **Vatican's position**

Twelve areas of concern on women's issues discussed

Page 7



#### **Computer Scout**

Matthew Kelley worked to put together computers from parts donated to St. Mary Child Center as an Eagle Scout

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

# **Sunday's theme** reminds us that we lack **God's generosity**

write this on the third anniversary of my installation as Archbishop of Indianapolis. I set the day aside as a prayer day, something It yo to once a mouth. As I was praying I couldn't help but annoval in how quickly time files by Hoteo overwhelming is a review of so many marved at how quickly time files by Hoteo overwhelming is a review of so many marved and the properties of the given on a rachdisonse in these specifies there years. Most of those beasings tide files the through so many sometherful people. I thank Ged for all of you. This anniversary column is the 15th I have written for The Criterion and the topic as proporpiate to my ministry as archidatop. Next Smally is Canachetted Sunday. You may be a superprise to my ministry as archidatop. Next Smally is Canachetted Sunday. You may of my deep intensent in still gious education. Offindic estigation education is discussed of the church both in our actuods and in our with religious calcustation programs.

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Catecholoral Student forces on religious education programs. Catecholoral Student forcess on religious education a result forces on religious education as set of the catecholoral Student forces on religious education as set of the catecholoral student force than study of religiou. Catecholoral se away of militing that is insteaded to move the learner yellong pursonal fash, flore procisely at means to help the learner experience a personal relationship with God. Catecholoral set of the catecholoral set of

I want to support and thank you who direct our religious -ducation programs and our climbile schools. What a tremendous gift you are. You provide this leadership generously and with a spirit of sacrifice

-Griterion

We'll be there waiting if you give us two weeks' advance notice!

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Moving?

because of your love for God, for our faith and our church. Heartfelt thanks to you four thousand and some catechetical teach-our (professional and volunteers) in the purish and school programs of our arch-diocese. I rust that you are aware of the termendous impact you have as mentors of the faith. We treasure you! A strategic plan for our Archdiocesan Religious Education mission is in the works. In fact is in the

as tants. We treasure you?

A strategic plan for our Archdiocesan Religious Education mission is in the works. In fact, it is one of severe priorities for completion during the coming year. With the sare guidance of "The Cancchism of the Catholic Church," the plan will direct our archdiocesan mission of catechesis into the third millennium. Of opasily practical importance is a newision of the guals and guidelines for our religious colation curriculum at all levels. In an personally involved in this project. The first effect of the complete of the compl

the committee of the committee of the committee of the Archifocours.

I chair the ad for committee of our Rational Conference of Carbotic Biology. The committee of the Carbotic Biology for the committee of the Carbotic Biology for the committee of the Carbotic Charch. We have been given the task of greviewing new and revised catechetical materials which intend to conform to the catechism. This work is a great service for our archifocours projects as well.

All of this sounds so technical and to accomplish our catechetical mission it is necessary. But let's not forget the fundamental fact. We are proclaiming Jesus Christ and the Gospel of Christ. The fundamental fact we are proclaiming Jesus Christ and the Gospel of Christ. The fundamental fact about Jesus is that He is the incurration of God's love and marry. The theme chosen for this Catechetical Sundamental fact about Jesus is that He is the incurration of God's love and marry. The theme chosen for this Catechetical Sundamental fact of Jesus's exching is the consoling fact that God loves us and forgives or human failaiters even when other prople would give up on us. We find it hard to imagine that God could be so generous with his mercy because so few people are like that. And so we need to be catechized to the incredible love of God whose very Son died for us.

#### Connersville Deanery plans educational program

The Connersville Deanery Faith
Formation program for 1995-96 is:
Tuesday, Nov. 14, Franciscan Sister Norma
Rocklage, director for mission effectiveness at
Marian College, will discuss "Prager."
Thursday, Feb. 29, 1996, Pather Lawreince Voelker, pastor of Holy Name in
Indianapolis, will talk about "Spiritual
Disciplines."
Thursday, April 18, 1996, Comboni

Disciplines."
Thursday, April 18, 1996, Comboni
Father Todd Riebe, pastor of the Richmond parishes, will discuss "Missionary
Experiences."
All adult religious education sessions
will be held at St. Gabriel, in Connersville

Editorial Commentary/John F. Fink, Editor

## We must educate all of our Catholic children

It bothers me a bit when we run articles out the academic excellence of Catholic schools in comparison with public schools. It's great, of course, that Catholic schools do such a good job of educating children and that enrollment in those

schools do such a good job of educating children and that enrollment in those schools continues to increase, but the fact is that such articles tend to increase the frustration of parents who would like to be able to send their children to Catholic schools, but cannot.

Most of our Catholic schools are full and have long waiting lists. Besides that, more parishes in the archdiocese do not have schools than do have them. Of the 152 parishes, 74 have schools—or access to consolidated schools—and 78 do not.) We simply don't have the facilities to permit all Catholic children to attend Catholic schools, as much as we would like to do so. If we could accommodate all the children whose parents would like to have them in Catholic schools, the enrollment would skyoocket.

That's why the religious education of the children who do not attend Catholic schools is so important. According to the latter figures, there are 22.654 children in Catholic schools is not important. According to the latter figures, there are 22.654 children in Catholic schools in two are participants in religious education of all parishioners (including adults, by the way, see my column on page 9), Pautors in this archdiocese take than responsible for the religious education of all parishioners (including adults, by the way, see my column on page 9), Pautors in this archdiocese take than responsible for the

make sure the opportunity is there for every child to learn about his or her faith.

make sure the opportunity is there for every child to learn about his or her faith. Some of the ways that responsibility is being carried out are spelled out in the articles in the religious education supplement in this week's issue.

As part of the revision of governance structures that is one of Archbishop Bucchlein's prorities this year, some of our parishes are separating their boards of education into school commissions. This change has come about because of the difficulty many parishes have had in bringing appropriate attention to religious education formation commissions. This change has come about because of the difficulty many parishes have had in bringing appropriate attention to religious education programs under the structure of boards of total Catholic education. This is because the boards often concentrate on the parishes' schools, a natural thing to do since the school's expenses are such a large part of the parishes' budgets.

Frankly, the change in governance is an attempt to didness the problem that some parents feel thus their children have been treated as second-class naturels of the parishes' budgets.

Frankly, the change in governance is an attempt to didness the problem that some parents feel thus their children have been treated as second-class naturels of the parishes of the parishes they don't attend the Catholic school—even when it's not their fault that they can't attend the school; it's felt and there's no room for them.

We will continue to run articles about the excellence of our Catholic cchools. But we hope that our readers understand that we six equally proud of the excellence of the religious education those children who cannot antend Catholic schools receive.

## Fr. Ullrich, who served in parishes, hospitals, dies at age 72

Futher Robert J. Ullrich, priest in the archdiocese since 1973 and in another diocese since 1973, deep Robert St. Augustine Home chapel in Indianapolis at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 13, with Archbishop Daniel M. Buschlein presiding. Burial was at Calway Cemetry.

Father Ullrich was ordained on Oct. 11. 1953, for the Corpus Christi Diocese. He attended Notre Danie University, Kendrick Seminary, St. Louis; and Catholic University, Washington, D.C. In 1973, he became associate pastor of SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral here, also serving as partime chaplain at Winona Memorial Hospital.

In 1978, he became pastor of Assumption Patish, continuing his work at Vinnoa. In 1979, he became associate at St. Anne, Hamburg, continuing his chaplaincy and assisting at two Indianapolis nursing homes.

Father Ullrich was named associate pastor of St. John, Osgood; St. Magdalen, New Marios; St. Charles, Milan; and St. Plus, Ripley County in 1983, In 1987, he became pastor of St. Michael, Cannelton; and St. Plus, Troy.



In 1988, Father Ullrich became purtime associate pastor at St. Michael in Indianapolis. In 1990, he was named administrator of St. Joseph, St. Leon. He served two years as associate pastor of St. Mary, Greensburg, before he retired. Father Ullrich had been living at St. Augustine since his retirement in 1973. He is survived by two brothers: Charles William "Bill," and James A. Ulrich, as well as 23 nicces and nephews.



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## Child Center computers become Eagle Scout project



One student's Eagle Scout project went way beyond what Pat Welch ever imagined. The director of St. May. Child Center, Welch said, "Jennifer K-Iley called, asking me if we had any project that her son might do to earn his Eagle Scout badge."
Matthew Kelley is a 13-year-old student at St. Matthew School, Welch suggested land-scaping and other routine tasks. Then she thought about the many pieces of computer equipment people had donated to the diagnostic clinic and peschool for at-risk children. Jokingly she said, "He doesn't know anything about computers, does he?" Jennifer

Jokingly she said. "He doesn't know any thing about computers, dees Er." Jennifer Kelley answered that that was his special interest. In fact, he's been busy at their home computer since he was 4 years old. "Matthew came and took all the processors, computers and monitors home and cleaned them. He organized the equipment that worked and brought it back to the office." Welch said.

Matthew found software with educa-tional games for children in the 3- to 5year-old range— appropriate for the children St. Mary serves. Then he set up

the units in the rooms with some help from his sister and a couple of friends. The eighth-grade student then prepared and presented an easy-to-understand train-ing session for the teachers. "He instructed

ing session for the teachers, "in instructed every single one of our teachers," she said. "He made us feel smart while he was don't start the start of the start of the start of of St. Mary's Early Childhood Program. Welch said that St. Mary doesn't have

the children sit in front of computers much but, "It will give them a little boost" when

they go to school. And the games will help quiet some children on occasions when

Young Kelley also checked out the

Young Kelley also checked out the printers and put them in two of the offices at the child center.

To cap it off, "Matthew left a three-rine, simple language," said Welch.
Jennifer and Jim Kelley upgraded their own home computer late last year, but Matthew was alteady versed in their use by then.

Having spent 93 hours at St. Mary and 188 other volunteer hours on the computer project, Matthew seems to have merited the Eagle Scout award—and more.



## St. Lawrence mission focus to be 'God's Image and Likeness'

St. Lawrence Church is offering an open mission featuring Father Walter Bratus on Sept. 24-27. Father Bratus, of Sanibel Island, Florida, will talk on "Created in God's



Image and Likeness," beginning after the 5:30 p.m. Sunday youth Mass.
At 7:30 p.m. Sunday, a penance service is scheduled for the entire community.
On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. mission topics will be: "The Word," "The Eucharist," and "The Community," There will be benediction on Tuesday.

Father Bratus was a Greensburg. Pen diocesan priest for 39 years, serving as assistant pastor, pastor, and high school teacher. He was chaplain in a state ment assistantion for 13 years, Since his retirement in 1994, he has done selectife pastoral ministry in Sanibel Island. Interested individuals and families are invited to attend.

## Holy Cross begins centennial

Holy Cross Parish will start its centennial year celebration with a parish mission his weekend. Benedictine Father Nosh Carey will Lecilitate the mission. On Friday. Sept. 15. they will gather at p.m. with the them: "Celebrating the Past." Rather than renewal, the parish-toners will "reflect on the history of the parish from building upon the grace of salvation history as it has been lived here, bringing the best forward; and understanding grief as an important means of recognizing" what could impede progress. The planning committee has a them:

"Let us together celebrate who our past has called us to be, how God lives amou us in our present, to form our future

us in our present, to form our reason together.

At 2 p.m. Saturday, there will be a reflection on "Living in the Present," divided into three segments: orientation, disorientation, and reorientation, before the pizza supper. Afterwards there will be a candle light procession into church for evening prayer.

On Sunday at the 10 a.m. Mass the pastor, Father J. Peter Gallagher, will make a proclamation to begin the centennial year. The Sunday theme is "Looking to the future." Brunch will be served after the liturg.

Separate and joint activities are planned.

Separate and joint activities are planned for the children during the mission.

## Divine Mercy chapel to mark sixth year anniversary

On Wednesday, Sept. 20, a Mass will mark the sixth anniversary of the Divine Mercy Adoration Chapel adjacent to Cardinal Ritter High School on the west side of Indianapolis.

Vicar General Father Joseph Schaedel, the archbishop's liaison for the apostolate of perpetual adoration, will preside at the 7 p.m. liurgy. Priests from neighboring parishes will concelebrate.

p.m. liturgy. Pressis from neighboring parishes will concelebrate.

On Sept. 14, 1989, perpetual adora-tion of the Blessed Sacrament began in the chapel with the blessing of the late Archbishop Edward T. O' Meara. Since that date at least one person has been praying in adoration 24 hours a day, seven days a week (except during the Easter Tridium, when adoration is not allowed).

parishioners from St. Gabriel, St. Michael, and St. Monica parishes. Now, people from all over central and southern Indiana

participate.
The Benediction of the Blessed
Sacrament and the rosary are held on the
first Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

Confessions are heard before and atter uncarvoco.

On Nov. 1, 1993, an adoration chapel opened at Little Flower Parish on the east side of Indianapolis. Our Lady of the Greenwood will begin perpetual adoration in the convent chapel on Oct. 2, 1995. St. Lowis de Montfort in Fishers will begin the veneration on Sept. 28, bringing perpetual adoration sites in or near all four Indianapolis deameries.

A reception will be held in Kavanaugh Hall after the Sept. 20 ceremony at the west side chapel. All are invited to attend. Those wishing further information may call Mary Ann Schumann, who assists Father Schaedel in the apostolate.



Proto by Margarer reviews Zandejas, separistandent of gottle Public Schools, gosals in to the percent of St. Mary Park ing them that they are the prime see their children. Paster Fathe Rodes invited the educator in se to her tother to area pricets ing prayer. She said that it is in it interest of all citizens to botter in the children of the city.



in Brookville, to be cole brated on Sept. 17. This quilt, made by Joyce Ba and Edith Volk, depicts the history of the church Arc.bishop Daniel M.

to by Gordon Taylor

## noivetive. 87: Most Rev. Duniel M. Buechlein, O.S.B. to Publisher: Duniel Conway

r In Chief: John F. Finh

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ant: Louie Stumpf ible: Phyllis Huff

oger: Jo Ann Schra

# **Religious education shouldn't** stop at childish stage

resignoss totossurers, and some secutar ones as well, ascock the most significant books written by s: inits and decologians of earlier ages.

Among these are St. Francis de Sales' "Interduction to the Devout Life," Thomas a Kempis' "Imitation of Christ," St. Teres of Avia's "The Way of Perfection," St. Augustine's "Confessions" and "City of God," St. Teres of Avia's "St. Thomas Aquinas' "Summer Theologies," and Cardinal John Henry Neumann's." Elsays on the Development of Christian Dancisis" and "Apoctage pro Vita Sas. "Thom as books that educated Catolics should be familiar with Chrowith that educated Catolics should be familiar with Chrowith that educated Catolics should be familiar with Chrowith familiar with Chrowith of the Catolic Wideliam". They should also have read the documents of Vatican II.

Another good development in the fact that Catolics are not as ignorant about the Bible as they once were. Sorphuse sanky thes become popular. I believe the best recession for the private study of the Bible is "The Catholic Widely Bible," published at \$29.95 by Oxford University Pleas.

The Bottom Line/Antoinette Bosco

## No more coffin sticks for kids

The business of smoking made the news yet again when the Food and Drug Administration got a sympathene the Food and Drug Administration got a sympathene the Food and Drug Administration got a sympathene the Control of the Control o

A View from the Conter/Dan Conway

# Work is for us; we are not for work

I am writing this column on Labor Day. The discerning reader will no doubt ask why I am working on a national holiday, and there are many answers I could give. This column is not really work." I might say. Or, "I had a brilliant insight this morning, and f couldn't wait to write it down." Or, as one of my colleagues puts it (most indelicately), "Conway is a workaholic."

But the truth of the matter is that I'm writing this column today because tomorrow is the deadline the editor gave me. Once again. I put off writing this column until the very last minute, and the price I must pay for this sin of procrastination is that, while others are on the golf course or at the beach. I must sit in front of a word processor and work.

course or at the beach. I must sit in front of a word processor and work.

Work. It is a curse, the Bible tells us, that came as a result of the priedful disobedience of Adam and Eve. But it is also a great blessing. According to the "Catechism of the Catholic Church" (@2427). "Work honors the Creator's gifts and the talents received from him. It can also be rodemptive."

In his encyclical letter, "Laborem exercens." Pope John Paul II says that in work human persons exercise and fulfill (in part) their nature. "The primordial value of labor stems from man himself, its author and beneficiary," the Holy Frather says. "Everyone should be able to draw from work the means of providing for his life and that of his family, and of serving the human community. ... Work is for man, not man for work."

Most of us learn about work from our parents. Their antitudes, habits and experiences regarding work can

strongly influence our perceptions about the meaning of work. As a child, the famous English author, Charles Dickens, was deeply shaken by his father's financial difficulties (which at one time landed him in glebtor's prison). As a result, Dickens worked like a Trojgr, all his life, and his stories described in vivid detail the trag (c and humorous) stories of pozo and middle-class people who struggled daily to make ends meet. I also have vivid childhood memories. My father worked for a large supermarket chain in Cleveland, and

I also have vivid childhood memories. My father worked for a large supermarket chain in Cleveland, and on weekends he used to take us children with him to scout out new sites for stores. My father's love for his work was contagious, and he was loyal to a fault. Unfortunately, his loyalty was a trait that did not serve his well when the company was sold to new owners and he was suddenly out of a job. Like the young Dickens. I observed at a very young age that, in the job market, it's "every man for himself."

My father weathered this and several other job-related storms, and he is still working today with the same love for his work and the same loyalty. And the lessons I have learned from him about the meaning of work (and about the virtues of patience, perseverance, self-discipline, and collaboration, with others) are priceless and irreplaceable.

discipline, and collaborate. With Outpersonal irreplaceable. Pope John Paul says, "By enduring the hardship of work in union with Jesus... man collaborates in a certain fashion with the Son of God in his redemptive work." The pope also observes that "work can be a means of sarctification and a way of animating earthly realities with the Spirit of God." Thanks to my father's hard work and his continuing good example, I can honestly say that on this Labor Day (and every day) I know what the pope is talking about!

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## AIDS patients' home is gift of love

(Editor's note: The fifth annual AIDS Walk, endorsed by the Archdiocess of indiamangolis, is scheduled for Oct. 8 in Downstown Indiamapolis, Below is a story from the mother of a man who died of AIDS. Although she isn't from this part of the country, we thought her story was worth telling.

the country, we thought her story was worth telling.)

This story is dedicated to every parent who has heard his or her son or daughter say, "Mom, I've tested positive for the HIV virus," and to the memory of my beloved son Erik.

My husband and I have five children, and to our total devastation, we learned that one of our sons had tested positive for the deadly virus in 1989. It was a death sentence for him as well as for our family, and it one moment the hopes and dreams of all that might have been were totally shattered. My heart started to break, and I knew I would never be the same. We began this journey living in fear of the unknown.

What would happen? When? Where would he be? Would he be able to get home in time for us to care for him? We know that we would care for him when the time came because he was our child. The cross became so heavy and yet life had to go on for his sake and ours. Our son's life now became a series of doctors' appointments and medications far too numerous to mention. Phone calls became here. We love you. You can come home whenever you want.

He was in New York. We were in California. I found I went to bed with it. I got up with it; in ever left my mind.

AIDS! How could this happen to my beloved child? He was a child of extra-ordinary talents, and he always used them to the very best of his ability. He had its way. AIDS changed his life in a Tlash. It is clear to me now that God gave our son the kills to deal with this illness with tremendous discipline. He possessed great spiritual strengt, and it belog him to maintain dignity and gracefully cope with

all of his ordeals. I recall hearing him say one time, "I know there is a God and he has a plan for me and I will just follow." What was I, his mother, going to do through all of this? There was only one through all of this? There was only one answer and that was to turn to God and the Blessed Mother. She is a mother. She must know how I hurt. Please carry me for I can't do this alone. They heard me. They answered me. An inner voice said. "Come to me." I stopped saying, "Please cure Erik of the virus," and instead said, "Thy will be done." I started attending daily Mass and never stopped praying.

Priesas cure Enk of the virus, and instead said, "Thy will be done." I started attending daily Mass and never stopped praying.

Erick remained in New York until Dec. 8, 1992 (no coincidence, the feast of the Immaculate Conception). On that day, Our Lady brought him home. Then another chapter in this journey began. Any mother who has watched her child deteriorate can feel what I felt. There are simply no words. Only hug my child. No matter how old they are they are still your children, and this illness has a way of bringing the child back again. So helpless. Help me to accept the things I cannot change. So I hugged my child and I told him how much I loved him and that it tortured me to see what was happening to him. The doctors and nurses said, "Just be there," and so this is what we did. We were there as family and Erik was not alone.

April 23, 1993, was the last day, and we were all there. Our daughter Beth had taken a 30-day leave from work to help care for her brother, and she had arrived on Monday of that week. She even took Erik to a movie matinee on Wednesday. On Thursday our other daughter, Jean, spent an hour or so with Erik alone in his room. They visited and laughed over "I Love Lucy" revnus.

Friday was a bad day, with much agitation and pain. It was the first time it had been like flist. Morphine was administered in the early evening hours; this was the first time in the add we evening hours I stood in the middle of my kitchen and said aloud. "Where is God's mercy in all this?" He

heard me and answered.

We were all around his bed: my husband, Beth, Paul, John, and Janet, the band, Beth, Paul, John, and Janet, the night nurse. Within two hours, God calmly and very quietly took our son to his eternal home. This happened to be the birthday of my father, and Erik had dreamed about him just two nights before. I like to belive that my father

came to get his first grandson.

About a month after Erik's death, I went to San Francisco to stay with Beth. The to San Francisco to stay with Beth. The main purpose was to attend an AIDS support group session at a center there. While on the way, we passed the house that my maternal grandparents had owned and lived in from 1890 to about 1929. My mother and her sisters had been hom and raised there. My grandfather was a baker, and his bakery was undermeath the two-story Victorian home.

I noticed a groun of sisters standing on.

story Victorian home.

I noticed a group of sisters standing on the corner by the house. I recognized their habit as that of Mother Teresa. I recalled that, while Erik was ill, I had read a book in which Mother Teresa was quoted as saying that "AIDS patients were the suffering Christ in disquise," and, "AIDS patients are wanted and they are loved and they will go to God with pure hearts."

As we passed the house, I commented to my daughter, "It wonder what those sisters are doing there?" She asked if I had seen the plaque in the window, but I hadn't.

hadn't.

On July 4, 1993, I was again in San Francisco and again saw two of the same sisters I had seen by my grandparents'. home. I approached them and asked where they lived. The reply was the address of my family home. I then told them my story and said I had been so comforted by what Mother Teres had said about AIDS patients. The sisters then told me that they

took care of dying AIDS patients in my grandparents' home.

The house is run by the Missionaries of Charity, and they care for the dying AIDS patient who has no one else. I made an appointment to go there, and my son Paul (who had been Erik's main caregiver) went with me. I brought the sisters a photo of my grandparents, take on their wedding day on Feb. 14, 1890. They received us so graciously in their living quarters which, along with their humble chapel, was in what once was the bakery.

hiving quarters winch, along with metrhumble chapel, was in what once was the bakery.

Sister Raphael told us, "Judy, your grandfather was a baker, so this was once a house of bread. It is a house of bread once again because Jesus is the Living Bread and the patient is the broken bread and we bring Jesus to them so that they do not die alone."

They took us through the house and we met all the patients. Sister shared our story with each one of them.

Later, Sister Raphael told me, "God wanted to touch you very tenderly." This he did by directing me to the house that I had not seen or thought of in many years. Even in death blessings and graces continue. Our son's spirit lives in all our lives and it is no coincidence that the home of his grandparents has been given to these blessed sisters to care for the pones of the poor in their suffering.

All of my prayers were answered many times over and I thank God for sparing Erik from so much that could have happened. It gives me a very warm feeling to know that my son is doing his heavenly work and showering I lessings upon all of us who loved him so.

By the way, the plaque in the window is a small sign that says very simply, "Gift of Love."

Light One Gandle/ Fr. John Catoir, Director, The Christophers

## The pope's visit to the United States

When Pepe John Paul II comes to New York, New Jerney and Maryland early in October, he does not come ancely as the pope of frome, or even as the pope of the Western world. He comes as the head of the universal church which includes many Eastern Rite churches, touching millions of necote from

millions of people from
millions of people from
Catholics are one billion in all.
For the Melitite Catholics in the Near
East, for the Copts in Ethiopia, for Cajun
Catholics in New Orleans, John Paul II is
their father, too.

When I visited Australia earlier this year, I saw huge posters of his 1986 visit in many of the churches. Pope John Pual is audilia, with a Koala bear cudded in his arms. For the people down-under, the pope is their "papa," too. Catholics all over the world come alive when he visits their someland.

The nation's arms.

The nation's secular media may assure you that the church is in decline, but perhaps they exaggerate. There have been defections, it's true, but according to The Official Catholic Directory, there were 1,178,710 receptions into the U.S. Catholic Church last year. That includes 1,029,694 infant baptisms, 73,332 adult baptisms, and 75,684 already-baptized persons who reunited with the church. That does not look like a decline to me persons who reunited with the church. That does not look like a decline to me. The church is alive and well.

Curs is a rich 2,000-year-old tradition of faith. We are a universal church which has withstood the test of time. Everywhere in the world there is growing spiritual anager. Americans are especially hungry for spiritual nourishment. Half of the top 15 best-selling books are on spiritual or religious topics.

New Age searchers may be disenchanted with institutional religion, but as they look for better answers many of them are coming up empty, falling prey to neo-Canosticism and some of the antiquasted superatitions of the pagan world. They may call it progress, but time will tell if they've improved their lot.

St. Bernard called the church "a hospital for wounded humanity," because it offers a disciplined way of life, and an integral vision which proclaims every humans life to be sacred. The church is communal, eucharistic, evangelical, and universal, and the Holy Spirit holds us all together, telping the church to preserve its apostolic succession from St. Peter to Pope John Paul II.

God sends us his Holy Spirit to empower us to heal, teach, and love; to give to the poor, to forgive, to resist evil, and one day to gain eternal happiness.

We welcome Pope John Paul II as Christ's vicar, he comes as head of the universal church and we are happy to great him in the name of the Lord.

(For a free copy of the Christopher News Note: "Living Peace," write to The

(For a free copy of the Christopher News Note "Living Peace," write to The Christophers, 12 E. 48th St., New York.

## Is God—are we—holy, wholly, holey?

According to research by Karen Armstron for her book "A History of God," some peo-ple, especially in Wes-



According to research by Karen Armstrong for her book "A History of God," some people of the people

If I theorems to revery, an example:

Medicine includes many specialties. Let's say a hand is injured. A good doctor will treat not only the hand but will consider the condition of the whole person—general health, personality, emotional stability. If the healer is even more preceptive, he or she might also be aware of the patient's sprintality. Thus, the doctor is treating the patient, holistically/wholistically.

God is three persons in one: the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. This mystery, called the Trinity, is a Catholic/Christian view of God. The Trinity is an integral part

of opirituality.

The book by Karen Arrastrong is also holistic and holy. Under the full title of "A History of Got." The 4,000-Year Quest of Judasm. Christianity, and Islam" (Afried A Knofp, New York), her study expands the horizons of philosophers, theologians, and lay thinkers. She helps readers understand the ever-changing concepts of God, doing as with research mentrial, maps, personal anecdotes and perceptions, and an impressive background for her work.

After seven years as a Roman Catholic man, Armatrong took a degree at Oxford University, taught modern literature, because one of the foremost British commentations or religious affairs, and now teaches at the Leo Bacck College for the Study of Judaism and the Training of Rabbis and Teachers. She is shoo as honorary member of the Association of Muslim Social Sciences and author of eight other books.

and an author of eight other books, and of hutalim Social Sciences and author of eight other books.

Those who struggle with her book, no matter what their opinion of it, are strucking their spirituality. Those who cannot believe in God but who recognize the "God-shaped hole" created by a divine abence are limiting their spirituality. Those who my to project God's holiness in their lites are, through the help of the Holy Spirit, leating the light of Christ shine through them.

According to a "Christopher News Note" titled "Saints: Past, Present, Pasture," a holy person "is prayerful, loving, fragiving, just, faithful to commitments, full of peace and joy, and, above all compassionate."

Father John Catoir, director of The Christophers, writes that holiness isn't what comes from doing good, nor is it what we get by avoiding or all fire of sarvice. He says we are good, avoid evil, pray, show kindness, act courageously, build character, and give service because we are holy.

"Our holiness is God with holiness carries with it both the cross and the Resurrection, it is more a gift than a reward."

God's gift of holiness fills our "holes" and makes us whole.

# Unplug, but stay turned on

Technology, that modern object of preshate so conspicuous in the world today, has finally gone too far. It's time to turn off,

It's time to turn off, tune out, and trade it in. Why? Because there are sinister indications that books will soon be as obsolete as stone tablets became, shortly after Moses did all that rock-breaking work. Did you hear that?

Books!! O woe, O de

Books!! O woe, O desecration!
This is particularly terrifying for people
like me who have accrued, and continue to
store up, great quantities of books which we
plan to read when we get too old or decrepit
to do anything else.
It started innocently enough with all those
classics we put aside, or read the Cliff Notes

DAMIEN PRODUCTIONS P The Last Canticle of St. Francis

Sacred Heart Church 1530 Union St., Indy Tuesday, September 19 @ 7:00 PM FEATURING MR. CHARLES D. BAKER

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or comic book versions of, in high school and college. (We all know the average person must be inert or at least permanently immobile in order to get past the first page of "Silas Mamer.")

Then it was the favorite books we were urged to read by others, or the best sellers we thought we should read, or the books we received as gifts over the years. There were those handsome library-quality leather-bound volumes we bought from ads in classy magazines, and the piles of unejected selections from book clubs, and the irresistible bargains from the half-price bookstore.

bookstore. We have the sinking feeling that we already own more books than we can poss-bly get through in this lifetime. And yet, fools that we are, we continue to read book reviews, salivate until we can stand it no longer, and then go out and buy again.

At the same time, we are told constantly about cyberspace and networking and whatever. Trendy technobabble washes over us at every turn, while we're still recling from all the psychobabble that preceded it in

all the psychonousus uniform the psychonousus uniform of all ages understand technology intuitively, and are in electronic touch with instruction, fun, peers and predators worldwide CD-ROMs can hardly wait to worldwide CD-ROMs can hardly wait to worldwide CD-ROMs can hardly wait to escort all of us through the great museums of the world or enchant us with lullables rendered by the major symphony orchestras. Talk about nachmusid! What's really scary is that Congress, ever alert to the latest in money-saving efficien-cy, is thinking of putting computers to work for themselves big time. They've discussed

holding hearings a over the network, stituents and colleg with co

over the network, communicating with or situents and colleagues without ever neo ing to see another human being in the fle-Some congressmen have said, "Why can't we vote from our offices? Our homes?" And by extension, no doubt, their—gasp—beds? Think what that wou mean for the Bob Packwoods and Gary Harts in our nation's capitol?

Maybe it would be nice to deal with some aspects of living through computerized technology. There certainly are people and situations which we'd rather not meet up close. But just because God gave us the wit and the nerve to produce certain technologies, do we need them and must we use them? Remember the atom bomb!

Think about it. How could we replace the heft of a book, the feel of turning its pages, or the smell of fresh binding? And most of all, how could we ever duplicate the experience of thought, emotion and imagination filtered through written words?

VIP's ...

Benedictine Archabbot Lambert Reilly of St. Meinrad Archabbey has appointed Benedictine Father Kelth McCtellan as

prior—to oversee the daily life of the Benedictine daily life of the Benedictine monastery. Father Keith will retain his position as associate director of spiritual formation in St. Meinrad School of

Meinrad School of Theology. The new Prior Keith spent 12 years at Abbey Press, the last 11 as man-ager of the publications division. Ordained in 1979, Father Keith has directed many retreats for semi religious, and the laity.

Sam (Asselme) and Rose Publis marked their 50th wedding anniversary with a Mass on Sept. 3 at St. Bernadette Church, Indianapolis. They were marrie in Chicago on Sept. 2, 1945, soon after 3 am was discharged from the military. The couple has four children: Roberta Green, and Ronald, Raymond and Vino Fabis. The have eight grandchildren.



The Indiana state Court of Catholic Order of Foresters (COF) will celebrate its 100th anniversary at St. Janies Church, Highland at the 2 p.m. Mass on Sept. 24. After the liturgy, there will be a banquet and program in the parish auditorium. Those wishing further information may call 70a-983-4900.

St. Philip Neri will hold its first Family Night of the year on Sept. 19 in the parish hall with a pitch-in dinner beginning at 6 p.m. and a storytelling session immediately afterwards.

Linus Mundy, author of "Prayer-Walk-ing," will autograph copies of his book at Ab-bey Press Gift Shop in St. Meinrad on Sept. 23. At the 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. book-signing sessions, Mundy will give a short talk.

Charles Gardner will present a workshop on the Communion rie at Sunday Mass—
"Joyfully We Come to the Table of Life"—at St. Matthew Church at 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 22. Sponsored by the local chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians, the event costs \$3 to non-members. For further information, call 317-895-8914.

A Mass will be held on Sept. 20 at 2 p.m. at the Calvary Mausoleum Chap

in Indianapolis.

Wayne Weible will speak at St. Joan of Arc Parish in Kokomo on Sept. 20 at 7 p.m. and on Sept. 21 at 9:30 a.m. He p.m. and on Sept. 21 at 9.50 a.m. He investigated the alleged apparations of the Blessed Virgin in Medjugorje and came away believing in the miracles. He and his wife converted to Catholicism in 1991. Those wishing more information may call Marilyn Chavez at 317-457-1375.

The Ladywood Alumnae Association is hosting an all-class reunion on Sat. Sept. 16 at Cathedral High School (formerly Ladywood). A liturgy, reception, auction, and tour are planned. "Ladywood Memories," artist Jeffrey Lake's depiction of the manor house where students once lived and studied, will be auctioned. Those wishing more information may call Providence Sister Jane Bodine, 317-283-4708,

A Charismatic Retreat for men and women will be held on Sept. 22-24 at Mt. St. Francis Retreat Center in the New Albany Deanery. "A Journey to Holiness" will begin at 7 p.m. Friday and conclude at 12:30 p.m. Sunday. Those wishing further information may call 812-923-8817.





# The Vatican's positions on '12 areas of concern'

By Glady Wooden, Catholic News Service

BEUING—Here is the list of the 12 "critical areas of concern" bein, discussed at the Fourth World Conference on Women and key Vatican positions related to each:

1. Poverty: According to the Vatican, the conference must put the branks on "the feminization of poverty." Essential elements of the effort include promoting family stability and, in cases of migration, re-unification, education for women and improved international aid for develoring construction.

oping countries.

2. Education: The Vatican fully supports, and Pope John Paul II has pledged to increase, efforts to guarantee girls and women equal access to education at all levels.

3. Health: The Vatican says the conference should for on all aspects of the health of girls and women, includin pre-natal and early childhood health and the cradication tropical and other diseases that aff.ct millions of women

The church opposes efforts to increase access to legalized abortion and to expand use of artificial con-traceptives. It wants a recognition of chastity as a key element in the fight against AIDS and other sexually

traceptives. It wants a recognition of chastity as a key element in the fight against AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.

4. Violence: The conference should condemn all forms of violence against women, including forced abortion, sterilization and birth control, says the Vatican.

5. Armed and other conflicts: Women are the first victims of war and other conflicts: Women are says. They also are the first teachers of peace, educating their children to love, respect and help others.

6. Economic participation: Women's access to employment, equal pay for equal work and special support for working mothers will do more to ead women's poverty than expanding use of contraceptives will.

7. Prower sharing and decision-making: Women have a right to an equal voice in the decision-making structures of society, especially as they affect women themselves, according to the Vatican.

8. National and international machineries: National economic activity apports should include statistics on the unpaid work women perform in the home. The needs of women, particularly of mothers and refugee women, should be given

special attention in national social and economic policies and in international development projects.

9. Human rights: The Vatican says women, created in the image and likeness of God, enjoy an equal dignity with men and should enjoy equal protection of their human rights as defined by the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Birkhuman.

rights as defined by the 19-to Other Charles 10. Mass Media: The media should prompte positive images of women, including mothers, and efforts should be made to end pornography and other media depictions of women as objects.

11. Environment and development: Any sustainable

development must have human beings, not profit, as its central focus. The fruits of the earth, created by God for all, must be safeguarded and shared more equitably as a matter of justice, as the key to development and as the birthright of future generations.

12. The girl child: According to the Vatican, concerns cultural, political and economic policies are needed to guarantee females have the same rights as males to be born, survive childhood and receive proper mutrition, education and health care. Practices such as female genital mutilation, arranged or early marriage and prostination of girls must be halted.

## WOMEN

tion and to have the opport

ceive equal compensation and to have the opportunity or career advancement. But guaranteeing women's equality in the workplace rithout undermining their role within the family requires not accept more of their own responsibilities as husands and fathers, she said. Glendon also urged the conference to push national governments to give concrete recognition to the unpaid work omne perform within the home or in family fields. The Vaticens, she said, wants the conference to adopt a attement recognizing that women share with men the full inge of universally recognized human rights. "What is to be said of the situation in which the simple cut of the part of the simple control of the simple of universally recognized the things of the property of the situation in which the simple cut of the part of the situation in which the simple cut of the part of the situation in which the simple cut of the part of the situation in which the simple cut of the part of the situation in which the simple cut of the part of the situation in which the simple cut of the part of the situation in the simple cut of the part of the situation in which the simple cut of the part of the situation in which the simple cut of the part of the situation in which the simple cut of the part of the situation in which the simple cut of the part of the situation in which the simple cut of the part of the situation in which the simple cut of the part of the situation in which the simple cut of the part o

cultural and legal obstacles which impair the economic security of women."

In every region and every country of the world, she said, women form the majority of poor people.

While most of Glendon's test focused on areas where the Vatican was in agreement with or wanted a strengthening of statements in the Beijing draft document, she raised concerns about its discussion of women's health, specifically as its relates to reproduction.

The Vatican, she said, sees women's health care as a priority for the conference, especially because so many women lack basic health care and good nativition.

The Vatican delegation supports the Beijing document's statement that responsibility in exaual mattern belongs to both women and men, she said.

Women, more often than men, are "the victims of irresponsible sexual behavior in terms of personal suffering, of disease, powerty and the deterioration of family life," Glendon said.

The Vatican delegation thinks the conference should strengthen its acknowledgement of the threat to women's health poned by sexual permissiveness, the said.

She also tried to explain to the conference the frequently misunderstood teaching of the Catholic Church regarding birth control and family planning.

"To say that it (the church) supports procreation at all costs is indeed a travesty of its teaching on responsible paraenthood," Glendon said.

The church, she said, demands respect for human life and for its transmission, an attitude that requires self-restraint and ecoperation between husband and wife. Glendon said the conference should condemn swerry form of coercion used to enforce government population policies and called on the conference to uphold the consensus reached at last year's U.N. populations conference to abortion is not a means of family planning.

"All efforts must be made to climinate those factors which lead women to seek abortions," she said, and the guilt of men involved in unwanted pregnancies must be made clear.

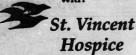


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- The Lees

#### Whatever happened to Orville & Mary Ruth Lee? They met in 1946 at a Sunday School Class called the

They met in 1946 at a Sunday School Class called the Metholite Group. Orville Lee later spotted Mary Ruth Peek at a social gathering across the shuffle board court and decided she was the one for him. Six months later, Orville convinced Mary Ruth they were meant to be together and they married on October 23, 1946! They were blessed with two sons and one daughter. Chaill. were blessed with two sons and one daughter. Orville was employed by L.S. Ayres & Co. as Head Cashier in their Downtown Indianapolis store for over 20 years after having worked for National Hostery Mills for 26 years. Mary Ruth enjoyed teaching as she taught piano to beginning students and English to foreign students through the use of picture primers. These days, Orville and Mary Ruth call Westside Retirement Village home,

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Indianapolis South Deanery

# Our Lady of the Greenwood has a large and vibrant congregation

"Let the children come to me," said Jesus. Our Lady of the Greenwood parishioners do exactly that as: • Mothers and babies attend morning Mass; • Children and teens learn at Sunday religious education

ts attend Our Lady of the Greenwood Catholic

School; and

Adults seek to enrich their faith.
 "We have a large and vibrant congregation," said Fath
Harold Knueven, who has served as pastor at OLG since

Harold Knueven, who has served as pastor at OLG since 1993.

Pather Knueven credits his predecessors, especially Pather Joseph Riedman who served from 1980-1993, for the successful parish, which boasts 1,507 families.

"I inherited this parish and its very effective staff and benefit from the work of those who have gone before me, said Father Knueven.

Our Lady of the Greenwood, Queen of the Holy Rosary Parish, lying just south of Indianapolis, was established as a mission of 40 families in 1948. Located in the territory that was part of St. Rose of Lima Parish in Franklin, its people had altended St. John, Indianapolis. Today it is one of the largest parishes in the archdiocese. To accommodate its ever-growing population. OLG ensures that newcomers are welcomed. New Parishioner Packets are available at the church's main entrance. The first Sunday of the month is our official sign-up day, when Pather asks people to register," explained parish secretary Peggy Henninger." Jet tiler names and pass them on to the welcoming committee."

On the third Sunday, ecope are welcomed at Mass and posted on a bulletin board along with a brief biography. Henninger is constantly impressed with the volunteer direct of the carrisdioners. "It's funt to work for all of

Henninger is constantly impressed with the volunte efforts of the parishioners. "It's fun to work for all of

efforts of the parishioners. "It's fun to work for all of them," she said.

In 1990, a church—an architectural masterpiece built of St. Meinrad sandstone—was blessed and dedicated. In 1995, OLLO Officially became a parish with Tather Richard Mueller as pastor. The small church, now used as a chapel, was the main worship space until a multipurpose building. Madonan Hall, was crected in 1976.

In 1993, this burgeoning parish was divided and the new parish of SS. Francis and Clare, with Father Stephen Jarrell as pastor, was established southwest of the Christmas 1998, when they will celebrate their golden

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anniversary with a new church. A current pledge campaign is striving to raise funds needed to break ground and begin construction of a church for 1,000 capacity plus 200 overflow, filled with nature's light, connected to Our Lady of the Greenwood Chapel and Madonna Hall.

Other plans include demolishing the rectory, constructing office space in the basement; and building a tunne! to connect all buildings. The pastor will occupy the vacated convent.

Connect all outsidings. The position will excupt the values convent.

Father Knueven ponders the growth, challenge and demands of his parish. "Like all parishes, Our Lady is like a sleeping giant: we need to let people develop their talents and use them," he said. Father Knueven serves on the Archdiocesan Stewardship Committee.

Our Lady is a team ministry parish. Father Knueven describes himself as the orchestra leader who keeps the harmony going, saying he often has to tell his dedicated people to go home and rest.

Parish bookkeeper Mary Ann Albers witnesses the parish's Laily vitality. "I attend meetings and see these people coming together to share their talents," said Albers. "We are a live, moving, working group." Administrator of Religious Education Ludy Koch is beginning her fifth year providing instruction from "cradle to tomb." She is responsible for preschool through junior high religious education and sacramental prepuration.

Koch, who has served OLG 10 years, believes lifestyles today demand more programs that accommodate a busy found to the control of the year.

today demand more programs that accommodate a busy family life. One or two major programs just don't work anymore, she believes. A 25-member Adult Catechetical Team assists religious



is exiside of Our Lady of the wood, a suburb south of

education in presenting challenging programs throughout

This fall, while their children attend Sunday morning reli-gious education classes, purents can attend "Path Through Catholicism" sessions, developed by Jesuit Father Mark Link on faith topics such as the Trinity, the Eucharist, and the Ten Commandments. Six ACT facilitators will lead the group in lecture, discussion and questions.

Commandments. Six ACT facilitators will lead the group in locture, discussion and questions.

Koch and her team are particularly excited about a new 36-week program based on the spiritual exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Jesuits. The program seeks to connect people more intimately with Jesus and encourage participants to grow in love and service to God and neighbor. It begins Sept. 14 and ends, appropriately, May 26, Pentecost.

Two mothers' groups exist. One group, which homeschoots children, gathers to pray the rosary as the children play around them; the other is a more social group that seeks mutual support.

reks mutual support.

Koch knows that church ministry touches all age gro



Photos by Millie Harm

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and specifically recails a Lenten Stations of the Crc.s and Benediction service: "I noticed an elderly lady at the stations.

on noticed an elderly lady at the stations.
When we began singing a familiar Latin hymn, tears went down her face."
Working alongside Koch is the newly-hired youth ministry coordinator, Ray
Bessenbach, who became the first full-

Bessenbach, who became the first full-time coordinator after serving as a volun-teer for five years in this ministry, sessenbach, whose life has benefited from youth ministry, wants others to expe-rience the reward of being Christ-cealered. "I d like to see a tor more youth involvement," said Bessenbach, who over-sees the religious, social and community service activities for high school students and the social and community service activities for junior high students. Chief importance is given to a weekend retreat for high school teens. In its sixth year, the retreat offers an examination and reflection on the teens' faith. Our Lady's teens are involved in teaching

effection on the teens: Tath.
Our Lady's teens are involved in teaching
tunday morning religious education, RCIA
huby-sitting, and this summer helped at the
Triasi Pregnancy Center in Indianapolis.
Beginning Oct. 2, Our Lady of the
accentwood will embark on a new and chalenging path: perpetual adoration of the

Blessed Sacrament in the convent chapel. Coordinator Helen Cerimele had no dif-

Coordinator Helen Cerimele had no dif-ficulty recruiting people to pray with Jesus: Two hundred twenty-five parish-ioners, and more than 30 non-parishioners will fill the 16s hours needed each week for continuous adoration. The convent chapel has been renamed 'Our Lady of the Blessad Sacrament Chapel." Cerimele credits Father Knueven for starting perpetual adoration. "Father is a real man of prayer, he just said. "We are going to do it." she explained. The first Carbolic school was built in 1955 and was staffed by the Sisters of Providence. In 1959 and again in 1988, the school was enlarged to accommodate increased enrollment. With a preschool through eighth grade program, it has full occupancy with 492 students and 22 on the waiting list.

through eighth grade program, it has full occupancy with 492 students and 22 on the waiting list.

Principal Kathleen Fleming knows the school thrives because of its excellent academic and sprintial programs and parental involvement.

"We teach our children to question and not to just accept; to make decisions based on conscience, not on the carrent fad." said Fleming, who has been involved in education more than 20 years, and is beginning. cation more than 20 years, and is beginning



her seventh year as the school's principal.

Parents see the benefit of a faith-filled environment located in a sometimes fright-eningly amoral world, she said.

From planting flowers surrounding the grounds, creating a new school sign, building a trophy case, to having computers installed, the stewardship is the source of the school's success, said Fleming. "We absolutely couldn't afford to do these things," said Fleming. "Our people believe in stewardship and want us to teach their kids to give to others."

There is a strong sense of stewardship of time and talent, even though Greenwood has the largest percentage of working mothers in Indiana, according to the Chamber of Commerce.

"People come after work to help out,"

the Chamber of Commerce.

"People come after work to help out,"
said Fleming, who never hesitates to ask
for assistance. Faced with a complicated
computer situation, she wrote a letter to
parents revealing her lack of knowledge.
The supportive response was overwhelm

parents revealing her lack of knowledge. The supportive response was overwhelming, she said.

To help working parents, Our Lady's Board of Education conducts a summer program. "Eagle's Nest," for kindergarten through eighth grade. Children visit state parks and museums and participate in a fine arts program. One week is devoted to Vacation Bible School.

A phenomenal fundraisser occurs every second Saturday in November when the

school parents unite to sell made-from-scratch pizzas. It's something to see every-one, from all walks of life, rolling dough, mixing sauce, and finishing pizzas on our assembly line, said Fleming. The school netted \$2,0,000 last year.

Visioning is important to Fleming, who tells her teachers to share their dreams with her. "It's only by dreaming that we can improve things. God's Spirit works through us," said Fleming.

Being part of the leadership in Catholic education in a busy, ever-growing suburb challeages Fleming, who says we have moved from blaming others for our mis-takes to facing ourselves and accepting responsibility.

takes to facing ourselves and accepting responsibility. Paraphrasing Dan Elsener, archdio-cesan director of total Catholic educa-tion. Fleming said. "We went through the stage where all emphasis was placed on self-esteem. Now we are also concen-trating on self-respect. It comes from being personally responsible for our own actions."

actions."

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# Pope and Arafat meet to discuss Middle East peace

They also discuss hopes for end-of-the millennium celebration in Jerusalem

#### By Catholic Hours Service

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy—Pope John Paul II met with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to discuss the latest peace prospects in the Middle East and hopes for an end-of-the-millennium interfaith

ebration in Jerusalem. The pope and Arafat conferred privately celebration in Jerusans.

The pope and Arafa conferred privately for 25 minutes Sept. 2 at the papal summer residence in Castel Gandolfo outside Rome. It was their fourth meeting, and the first since Palestinians began self-rule in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho. Arafat and Israeli officials have recently been trying to remove obstacles to an expansion of Palestinian self-rule. They wissend a July 1 target date for such an

expansion of Palestinian self-rule. They nissed a July 1 target date for such an greement, which would widen the ralestinian Authority's jurisdiction. After Arafas briefed the pope on the emaining problems, the Vatican issued a tatement expressing hope that "both "Alestinians and Israelis can soon enjoy the concrete fruits of peace."

The Vatican said it was ur that the peace process was difficult and "extremely slow." It said the pope told Ar of his continuous concern for the Palestini of his continuing concern for the Palestinian people and his appreciation for the courage shown so far by both sides in the talks. Arafat has come under fire from radical

Palestinians who oppose the peace treaty with Israel and who have carried out term

attacks in an attempt to derail peace talks.

The Vatican said the pope also underlined that in order for peace to work, the The Valican said the pope also mark the international community will have to offer economic support for the region.

It was Arafat who brought up the sub-

ject of celebrating the year 2000 in Bethlehem and Jerusalem, as well as a possible interfaith meeting. The pope unveiled these and other proposals in a

unveiled these and other proposals in a document earlier this year.

The status of Jerusalem is considered the thorniest of all the issues that remain to be negotiated between Israelis and Palestinians. Arafat told reporters he wanted the jubilee year 2000 to be "an event of peace for all Muslims, Christians and Jews."

"This jubilee should be celebrated in Bethlehem and Jerusalem, starting from Rome and with Rome as a protagonist. I am asking the pope for this very thing. I have come here especially for that," he said.



's summer home in Cactol Gandelle, viset peace prospects in the succession.

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pe 11: The Great Battle in Heaven and The World's First Revelation (Original Sin) Tage 12: How We Got That Way (Effects of Original Sin) and How to Load a Double Life (Sanctifying Grace)

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Sage 22: Is Christianity Easy? and The Ultimate in Compa

Tage 23: Washing Our Baptismal Robes (Purgatory) and Heaven is Not So Far Away

Tage 24: The Hell There Is and The True Feminine Mystique (Mother of Jesus)

Tape 25: Prayer is a Dialogue and God Loves You

# Who Was Archbishop Fulton Sheen?

One of the best educated American



bishops of the 20th century. Archbishop Sheen earned graduate degrees in theology and philosophy from the Catholic University of America, the

University of Louvain in Belgium and the Collegio Angelico in Rome. A priest of the diocese of Peoria, Ill., Sheen was chosen to preach on "The Catholic Hour" on the NBC radio network in 1930. He was consecrated a bishop in 1951. The next year, he began a series of radio and television broadcasts that achieved great popularity with both Catholics and non-Catholics. The author of more than 100 books and pamphlets, Sheen's imposing physical presence and magnificent voice made him one of the most influential preachers in America. He attended the entire Second Vatican Council. Archbishop Sheen died on December 9, 1979.

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# Vatican delegation, Catholic NGOs meet in Beijing

We believe in helping the poor through development, not getting rid of poor people.'

Bu Clade Wooden, Catholic News Service

BEUING—The Vatican delegation and Catholic tongovernmental organizations at the Fourth World Conference on Women held a family gathering Sept. 8, complete with hugs, applause and laughter. Crowded into a small hotel meeting room were representatives of the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, Catholic relief and development assessies and relieious orders.

cons, Catholic relief and development geneties and religious orders.

The tone was set by Mary Ann litendon, head of the Vatican delegation, tho said she was very happy to gather rith "saiters and Sisters." The NGO representatives had spent a week before the main conference at a round no women in Hairous, a small town bout an hour's drive from Beijing, at a maddy site with tents for meetings and all-finished accommodations.

"The two events were two different worlds," said Donna Hanson, a representa tive of Caritas In Spokane, Wash.

The difference in facilities, dress and occedure, she said, "really reflects the or different worlds in which women

live."

After listening to one another's stories in Hairou, many of the delegates came to Beijing to lobby cusference delegates in an attempt to influence the final document. In her introductory remarks, Glendon described the Vatican delegation as consisting of 14 women and "eight token men," to the delight of her overwhelmingly female audience.

"We are the most representative and diverse delegation at the conference," she said, with members from five continents, married, religious and single, working for the church, at home or in other professions.

One of the more heated topics put by NGO members to the Vatican delegatio regarded the Vatican's commitment to involving women in church decision-making.

Glendon said, "it has been my obser-vation that there are many more oppor-tunities for decision-making open to women than women have taken advan-

women than women have taken advan-tage of, "especially on the parish and diocesan level." "Oto bless the (Roman) Curia and it's important work, but the church lives in the parish," she said. But a French nun was applauded when she replied: "We women have no influ-

ence in church politics or decision-mak ence in church pointies or decision-mak-ing. We are not equally in this church with the men in this church. "Women are infected by this virus of equality," she said, and the Vatican should

equality," she be forewarned. Glendon defended her earlier with a qualifying statem remarks with a qualifying statement, offer what I have to say knowing and cting the fact that many of you have a greater involvement, commit ment and personal investment in the church than I have.

"But if you want to talk about power—the power, energy and the very life blood of the church flows from the bottom up," she said.

A representative of Catholics for a Free Choice, which has been denound by church leaders, asked if the Vatican was willing to change its teaching on contraception and abortion, and anothe participant asked why the Vatican dele gation was so preoccupied with sexual issues at the conference when the agenda was much wider.

was much wider.
"It is the press that is preoccupied with pelvic issues," Glendon said.
"We are interested in action for equali-ty, development and peace, all of which find powerful support in Catholic social teaching. aching.
"We believe in helping the poor through

people: through about the first of the delegates wondered about statements from the Vatican and other delegations about preserving the consensus achieved at last year's U.N. conference on population and develop-

The Vatican joined the consensus, w specific reservations, after the negotiate agreed to include language saying abor should not be promoted as a means of

should not be provinced as a means of family planning.

"The question of the relationship of Beijing to Catro is trivial in comparise to the relationship of Beijing to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights," Glendon said.

Rights. Glendon said.

Among other things, she said, the
1948 international document recognizes
the "equal dignity" of men and women,
the right of mothers and children to special protection, the right of people to
marry and form families, religious freedom and the right of parents to control
their children, seducation.

dom and the right of parents to control their children's education. Each of those issues has been bracket-ed by the Beijing conference, meaning delegates could not agree to include them or could not agree on the language offered.

offered.
"Marriage, motherhood and fam tend to be presented as an impedie women's self-fulfillment," Glendo

The document includes a reference to family as a theater of violence, which unfortunately it can be, she said.

"But the family is also a theater in which we realize our potential to be brothers and sisters to each other, to give and receive love, to be good citizens," she said.

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Sept. 24	Rev. Douglas McCormack	Members of St. Alphonsus Parish, Zionsville
Oct. 1	Rev. David Lawler	Friends and Staff of Office of Pro Life Activities
Oct. 8	Rev. John Ryan	Members of St. Anthony Parish, Indianapolis
Oct. 15	Rev. Donald Schmidlin	Members of St. Metthew Parish, Indianapolis
Oct. 22	Rev. James Dede	Members of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Shelbyville
Oct. 29	Rev. Clement Davis	Members of St. Monica Parish, Indianapolis

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Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14 • 1 Timothy 1:12-17 • Luke 15:1-32

# Catechists 'Imagine God's Mercy'

The readings for Catechetical Sunday, Sept. 17, are appropriate for those who teach God's word. The readings about the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the "lost" son, show how "unreasonable" God is in a worldly sense. We don't have many people in our lives who are that merciful. The readings show the unbelieveableness of God's mercy. We don't want to believe that, no matter what our sins, God takes us boak. Catechists need to experience this kind of mercy to be able to model it.

Eventually, I'd like to have an event every year where we recognize our catechists, where we have a major celebration on Catechetical Sunday. These religious eductors could be recognized in their own parishes. But we should come together as an archdiocese to recognize these long-time catechists and newly-certified catechists. We need to recognize the gifts they offer.

The strategic plan suggests a training process for those poole in Carholic schools who do not teach religion. Many of our teachers are trained to trach social subjects and some

did not attend Catholic schools themselves. In some way, we need to give them an understanding of what the mission of the Catholic school is, what ministry is about. Even of those who attended Catholic schools, most do not continue their fath education after high school. It is important that those involved in Catholic education are living the Gospel message out to the point that we have fair rules—that we treat people fairly. That modeling is just as important as the content we teach in religion class.

We need to recognize more frequently the gift that these people are to the archdiocese. Too often these catechists are the only experience of God's mercy and love. What are we doing to support them in this awesome role? In this age I believe we face a unique and difficult challenge in the area of catecheties. It seems to me that the challenges come from a variety of fronts.

First, the support systems which have traditionally been the cornerstones of religious education/catechesis are falling agant.

been the Corners own are falling apart. The family, which has been the mainstay of religious education, is changing rapidly. No longer are we working with two-parent families where one parent, traditionally the mother, stayed home. In addition, there are so many long CATEGISTR, page 38

The Kappels are (frent, from felt) Sarah; Joseph, 9; Booky, 12; Jos; Josh, 14; and Jossica, 16.

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# CATECHISTS

continued from page 2:

cher activities which compete for the
attention of children and their parent(s).

There is not the affiliation or commitment to the church that there once was.
Instead of seeing the parish as the gathering, people now tend to go to 12-step or
self-help groups or therapy.

In addition, the neighborhood does
not provide the stability it once did. It is
no longer the ethnic or geographical
gathering place where we shared common values and traditions.

With these cornerstones breaking
down, we need to look at what is taking
their place. I am afraid that we are religious educators have become comfortable with the classroom model and that
we are afraid to explore other alternatives. We must seriously develop tools
which assess our success both academically and effectively.

There are many good, committed,
qualified religious educators in the field.
But the field is shrinking and colleges
are abandoning formal programs of studies in religious education because people
are not ensering the field. We need to
develop top quality religious educators
in a variety of ways. This must be one of
Our priorities.

Parents are not attending Sunday
litting on a regular basis. Recent sur-

in a variety of way. In a search of the order of our priorities.

Parents are not attending Sunday liturgy on a regular basis. Recent surveys show that only 26.7 percent of Catholics attend Mass every week. In Indianapolis, this figure is about 29.2 percent. About 16.9 percent of the Indianapolis population is Catholic. This presents a bigger challenge to us.

Children need role models. They cannot get to church unless their parents send them. We must do a better job at evangelization. Catholics must see the importance of celebrating their relationship with Jesus in community. Unless we get our parents on board, we will continue to have problems.

This means our parishes must be places of welcoming. We must continually work to

provide opportunities for creative and dynamic worship experiences. We must help parents to understand that conversion is an ongoing process and not a once-in-a-lifetime event. We don't reach Catholic maturity at age 21. We don't have all the answers once we are confirmed. It is a lifelong journey. This means that maybe we have been placing emphasis in the wrong place. Adult catechesis is the primary form of catechesis. Pope John Paul II in "Catechesi Tradenda" says: "Catechesis of adults is the primary form of catechesis, because it is addressed to persons who have the greatest recognition and the capacity to live the Christian message in fully-developed from (Ct 43). What are we doing in our parishes in the area of adult religious education? Where is our emphasis? Does it continue to remain on children?

the area of adult religious education?
Where is our emphasis? Does it continue
to remain on children?
We need to provide opportunities for
our catechists to deepen and renew their
faith. Many of our catechists, in both
Catholic schools and religious education programs, have had little or no formal training in their faith since high
school. Why?
Our teachers in our schools are required
to have regular ongoing education in order
to heep up their certification. They are
well trained in the secular areas that they
teach. Why do we not demand the same in
the area of religion?
Since they have not developed in their
own faith lives since the 12th grade, they
are often incapable of bringing high school
students to the next level since the teachers
themselves have not moved. We can't give
what we don't have. It seems to me that a
more intentional process for ongoing
development is necessary. A process does
exist, but it needs to be strengthened.
We have come a long way in the area
of content. The "Catechism of the
Catholic Church" and other church docone what needs to be taught. They lave
been extremely helpful.

However, sharing faith is difficient
than sharing math or science. There is
more than facts to be learned. It is a way
of life we must learn. Do we have ade-

quate role models? It is like learning a sport. It is one thing to learn all of the moves on paper, but it is an entirely dif-

sport. It is one uning to rearn act or the moves on paper, but it is an entirely different matter to put those plays into practice. We must actually do it to perfect the skills we need. There is nothing different when it comes to sharing faith. We also need to do a better job at assessment. We cannot easily measure our progress. However, there are some aspects of our progress that we can measure. We can measure how well students learn the content of our faith. Recent studies have shown that both Catholic schools and parish religious education programs do an equally good job of passing on the content.

But what about the other areas? We

need more research to discover just how good a job we have done in the areas of word, worship, message, and service. It seems from the above cited studies with regard to Mass attendance, that if that is one of the criteria we use, then we are

one of the criteria we use, then we are not succeeding.

We face many more challenges. However, we must also recognize that we have come a long way. There are success stories out there. Religious educators have made a significant difference in the passing on of the faith.

Catholics must not be afraid to tell others that knowing Jesus personally has made a difference in their lives—that his presence in the lives—that his presence in their lives his presence in the lives—that his presen

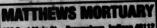
## Parishes train catechists together

It's been about two years since Maria Blake, coordinator of the religious education team at Holy Angels Parish in Indianapolis, and Lillian Highes, pastoral associate at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, started talking about the benefits of inter-parish cooperation in staff training events. From this dialogue came a new model for catechist training. Although much material existed regarding the areas of expertise needed to become effective catechists, little of it addressed the needs of the African American community. Blake and Hughes were concerned that catechists become proficient in the basics. Equally important to them was that this be done in an atmosphere of inclusion—one that incorporated flour elements of African American culture that would speak most deeply to the participants in a spiritual sense.

The result was a curriculum that included the truditional course content, but also retied heavily on "sharing the old, old stray." The concept was that catechist from all levels, and those who were exploring the call to become catechist naing program. Several of the participants were already certified catechists, but chose to improve their skills and to bring their acquired wisdom to the class.

Catechists from both parishes, black and white, came together on Saturday mornings to pray, to learn, and to share their faith stories. Father Clarence Waldon spoke to the group about the sacraments, and Father Kenneth Taylor shared his insights about the Catholic faith. Inservice days were pleaned for each month following the completion of the basic catchiat untaining. In one of them, Father Rick Clasher willed about church hisnory. Next on the agends was petting evaryone signed up for the catechism certification wortshops. For the assessors, the original group was joined by purchisoner from Immacrate Heast of Mary, Holy Spirit at Geist, and St. Simon parishes. A day of reflection was ted by Joseph C. Hager Jr. from Washington, D.C. Participants spent the day discussing the spirituality of being catechists, as well as the challenges and rewards. This time brought members of the group closer and allowed for continued faith sharing in a supportive environment.

portive environment.
Plans are now underway to begin a sec-d basic casefuls training program and sign inservice days for the coming year. According to Black, the project has young that much can be accomplished when rishes work together for the greater good.



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# Christ Renews His Parish thrives at St. Pius X

'The person, spiritual, and communal growth that takes place through Christ Renews His Parish is phenomenal.

#### Illiam R. Bruns

ething's afoot at St. Pius X Parish in Sometining's atoot at St. Pius A Parish in Indianapolis—and at approximately 20 other parishes in the archdiocese. People are excited. People are enthusiastic about God's role in their lives, about their Catholic faith,

excited, People are enthussasts amount out of voice in their lives, about their Catholic fath, about being part of a faith community. These people are participating in an ongoing parish renewal process called Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP).

"We experienced our first CRHP weekend in the fall of 1993," said Beth Rettz, pastoral associate at St. Pius. "This fall, we are preparing for CRHP 9. The women's weekend is full—about 40 women have signed up. And the men's weekend is coming along fine; we usually average about 25 to 30 participants. So far, 240 St. Pius parishiomers have experienced this spiritual renewal process." Christ Renew His Parish began in 1969 at Holy Family Parish in Parma, Ohio, when Pather John Jacoby gathered ag noup of parishioners to pray and plan for the spiritual renewal of their parish. The men formed a team, outlined a weekend of prayer and sharing, and lived together at the parish

from a Saturday morning until Sunday after-noon with 28 other men. The results were dramatic. The group witnessed what its members called "numerous miracles of grace" and came away with a new apprecia-tion of the love of God and the power of the Holy Spirit. Since those early days, hun dreds of thousands of Catholic men and

dreds of thousands of Catholic men and women have taken part in this spiritual renewal process that came to be called Christ Renews His Parish. CRHP is based on Cursillo, a renewal program begun in Spain in the 1940s. According to Jim DuBach, a St. Pius parish ioner deeply involved in the process. 'I orig inally thought of Christ Renews His Parish as sort of an abbreviated Cursillo, but there's more to it than that.

"CRHP differs from Cursillo in that "CRHP differs from Cursillo in that all the participants are from your own parish, where Carsillo draws participants from multiple parishes," he said. "So, after the weekend experience with CRHP, all the participants continue to be present for each other through the parish. CRHP has taken the best from Cursillo and placed it squarely in a parish setting. That, I believe, is one of the added benefits of CRHP." Following the initial weekend, partici-pants are invited to spend time together forming a new team that will direct the next weekend. This formation period typiis taken to pray, share, and discern individual's role on the next team.

Why are there separate weekends for men and women? "That doesn't sound wing action men and women? "That doesn't sound very politically correct these days, does it?" Reitz asked. "The CRHP process is undifficult Cursillo model. it? Retz asked. The CRIP process is based on the traditional Cursillo model. At first, I questioned the wisdom of sepa-rate weekends, since my own lived expe-rience in Drazil with small faith communities showed that mixed faith-

communities showed that interest attains sharing groups work well.

"But I found the wisdom of CRHP's sep-arate weekends is the recognition of the dif-ferent approaches of women and men to spirituality," she said. "Women, for instance, tend to be more relational. It's instance, tend to be more relational. It's important to women how other persons feel about something. Women will be attentive to the relationships in a group.
"Men, on the other hand, tend to be

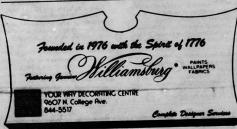
"Men, on the other hand, tend to be more directive, more take-crive, more take-crivented." Reizt said. "In a group, men will concentrate on getting the task done. In mixed groups, especially in the tightly packed 30-hour CRHP experience, these different ways of being can cause a lot of confusion about what's going on in the group."

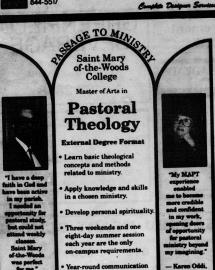
Marlene Gallagher experienced the first women's CRHP weekend at St. Pius in 1993. That weekend was conducted by a 1993. That weekend was conducted by a team made up of people from three other parishes. 'I wasn't all that touched by it.' she confessed. 'But I decided to go through the formation. I loved the music that was used during the weekend, and was pretty sure that the Lord was calling me to be the team member to handle the music for the next women's weekend. "Well, as the formation meetings continued, we all discussed how we would have constructed the weekend, what we would have done a bit differently, and so

would have done a bit differently, and so on. Before I knew it, I realized that God was really calling me to something much more difficult for me than coordinating

more difficult for me than coordinating the music. I had a sense that the Lord was calling me to a leadership role," the said. Gallagher became the director of the second women's CRHP weekend at St. Plus. "In the director's role, I quickly found that God is in charge of Christ Renews His Parish." she said. "Some people might think of the director as the overall leader who makes all the decisions. "But it doesn't work that way. After all, it is no accident that this renewal process is called Christ Renews His

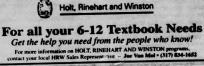
all, it is no accident that this teleway his process is called Christ Renews His Parish," said Gallagher. "I discovered that the director's role is the most sub-servient of all. The director's job is to





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bring out the best in everyone else—and to stay out of the Holy Spirit's way."

DuBach agreed. The whole process is very much a powerful experience of the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives, he said. "And this presence of the Spirit really transforms people. The weekend it self is great, but the experience of the five-month formation process is even greater. "When the new team conducts the next weekend, the team members almost invariably come to the realization that something more powerful is happening than their preparations—as thorough as they may be—could ever account for. You just end up sitting back in awe in the face of it all," he said.

Reits asid that "the personal, spiritual, and communal growth that takes place through the Christ Renews. His Parish process is phenomenal. Often," she said, "this is the first time outside their families that participants have felt the unconditional love of God and of another person. For many Catholics, this is the first time they both know the love

of God in their heads and feel the love of God and of their sisters and brothers in their hearts. Then, when they come to

their hearts. Then, when they come to Sunday litturgs, it is truly a celebration for them. The CRHP process is really renewing our parish."

DuBach laughed and said, "Yes, that's true. In fact, we have the most wonderful 'problem' of what to do with all the folks who want to be more active in the parish after experiencing CRHP.
There's a real hunger for Bible study,
faith sharing, and service through, for
example, the parish council, liturgical ministries, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, and the crea

small faith-sharing groups."
"Personally," said Gallagher, "I've identified two great things that have come out of CRHP for me. First of all, I've become much more tolerant of this I've become much more tolerant of this diverse group of people who are members of the Catholic Church. I find that I'm now very tolerant of people with whom I probably would have disagreed irritated at one time

"But through this process, you come to love the people first because you've heard their stories and you've come to know them as persons. That makes it very difficult for me to be intolerant of them. I guess you could say that you come to know and understand them precisely as sisters and brothers—as family,'s she said.

"The second great discovery for me, is the hugs," she continued. "CRI" manticipants do a lot of hugging. An expectably wonderful to see."

DuBach agreed enthusiastically, but he quickly pointed out, "You don't do CRIHP to feel good," he said. "You do it to evangelize. Renewed people take responsibility for their own discipleship. These are people who want to do more for their community.

"Participants come away asking them-But through this process, you come

selves the question 'Where do I believe the Lord is calling me to be involved?' he said. "Many respond to that call to work within the parish; others feel called to carry out their discipleship outside the parish—at the Damien Center or Companion House at Holy Cross Parish (a transitional housing facility for the homeless) or with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul."

'Christ Renews His Parish," said Reitz, "is about disciples taking their discipleship seriously. It's not about competition, and it certainly isn't about getting more volunteers for the parish. That's a wonderful benefit, but it's not the heart of the process. "Christ Renews His Parish helps peo

of the state of th exist despite all the things in society that work against it. It also is a living demonstration that people really car work together—pastor, parish staff, parishioners," she said.

"Christ Renews His Parish has been a wonderful experience for St. Pius X Parish," said R. itz. "We're becoming a different kind of parish because of it."



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# Adolescent program set for sixth graders

#### By May Ann Wyand

An adolescent growth program which encourages youth to postpone sexual involvement until marriage will be offered to sixth-grade students enrolled in parish religious education classes this year.

"A Fromise to Keep: God's Gift of Human Sexuality," a peer-ministry chastity program developed by the archidocesan Office of Catholic Education, was introduced to sixth-graders in Indianapolis-area Catholic schools last year and received positive comments from students, peer ministers, teachers, and parents.

olic schools last year and received positive comments from students, peer ministers, teachers, and parents. Eve Jackson, coordinator of adolescent growth programs for the archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education, said the religion-based chastity curriculum presented to early adolescents by high school students complements pursh religious education programming in the archdiocese.

St. Vincent Hospital and Health Care Centers, operated by the Daughters of Charlity, provided a grant to fand "A Promise to Kong" for three years so this peer-ministry chasticy curriculum could be made available to adolescents enrolled in school's and religious education clauses in the 11 denaeries.

"The curriculum is presented in five one-hour assistors," Jackson said. "The first sension offices an overview of human sexuality as God's design for us. It talks about how God loves us, knows what's best for us, and wants us to be healthy and happy."

Subsequent sessions focus on positive and negative peer pressures, social pressures, media messages, assertiveness training, and the negative consequences of premarital sexually-transmitted diseases, and emotional problems:

"The session on peer pressure deals with what a good friend is, how importan it is to have the right friendships, and how we should look for friends who share our

with what a good friend is, how important it is to have the right friendships, and how we should look for friends who share our values and not just try to it into any group just to belong." Jackson said. "The peer ministers talk about making choices which reflect Christian values and establishing with friends the poal of being chaste until marriage."

Curriculum also advises adolescents on ways to be assertive and confidently state values, she said, and encourages young people to focus on self-respect in order to stand firm in their beliefs.

"The sessions combine research-based information, games and activities, and discussion times so the high school peer ministers can initiate a lot of good conversation and abstract thinking with the sixth-graders, Jackson said. "Last year 118 peer ministers from six Casholic hachoic grade schools in Marion County."

During the summer months, Jackson coordinated a pilot program in the Indianapolis South Deanery, for the religious education classes in the South Deanery.

"Satring in October, this group of peer ministers from a component of "A Promise to Keep."

Satring in October, this group of peer ministers for each deaners who are trained to present the program and can travel to the different parishes."

A parent handbook and a new video fitmed last summer with archidocesan teen-agers who have served as peer mini-



sters supplement the classroom sessions presented by the high school students. The video was undervritten by a grant from St. Francis Hospital and Health Centers. This fall the Office of Catholic Education will present two workshops to introduce the religious education component of 'A Promise to Kep' to religious educators and youth ministry coordinators in the archdiocese. A workshop for parish staff members in the northern half of the diocese is scheduled on Oct. 24 at the Archbishop O'Meara Catholic Center. The seminar will be repeated on Nov. 29 at St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Clarksville for religious educators and youth ministers in the southern half of the diocese.

"The students who have volunteered as peer ministers have exceeded my expectations." Jackson said. "They're wonderful. They are committed to the chastity program, they believe in what they're doing, they have worked hard to learn the curriculum, and they know how to communicate this value. They interact beautifully with the adolescents to present life skills which will help the younger students make the right choices."

(For more information on the "A Promise to Keep" curriculum or the full worksheps, contact Eve Jackson at the archdiocesum Office of Catholic Education at 317-256-1478 or 800-382-9836, extension 1478.)

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MARIAN HEIGHTS ACADEMY

# 'Confirmed means becoming actual part of church'

By Mary Ann Wyand

Confirmation, the process of becom-ng a full member of the Catholic Church, was a memorable faith journe for Sacred Heart parishioner Michelle

Church, was a memorable faith journey for Sacred Heart parishioner Michelle Ehringer of Jeffersonville.

The Jeffersonville High School senior was confirmed by Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein on May 21 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in the New Albany Deanery with teen-age candidates from Sacred Heart and St. Augustine parishes in Jeffersonville. Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in New Albany, and St. Paul and St. Joseph Hill parishes in Sellersburg.

"I knew that being confirmed meant becoming an actual part of the church, but I didn't know all of the details," Michelle said. "To perpet for confirmation, we had monthly meetings and service projects with teen-agers from St. Augustine Parish. At the time, I didn't realize how much it would affect me. A lot of things touched me during that time, but I can't say the genual data. I felt like I was a went age to the control of the control of the church was the genual data. I felt like I was a went and the control of the church was the genual data. I felt like I was a supplied to the church was the genual data. I felt like I was a supplied to the church was the genual data. I felt like I was a supplied to the church was the genual data. I felt like I was a supplied to the church was the genual data. I felt like I was a supplied to the church was the genual data. I felt like I was a supplied to the church was a supplied to the church was the genual data. touched me during that time, but I can't say the actual day I felt like I was a changed person. It was something that has

happened over tume."
Preparing for confirmation reminds
teen-agers that they have more ownership
in the purish, she said, and helps them feel
more connected to their faith.
"That final day! knew that I am a part
of the church now," Michelle said, "but at
the same time I felt like I was all along."
As part of their secramental preparation
for confirmation, candidates from Sacred
Heart and St. Augustine parishes shared
instruction time and worked together on
service projects.

instruction time and worked together on service projects. "I enjoyed the service projects because I like helping people." Michelle said. "Helping others mado me realize how much I take for granted in my own life." Confirmation candidates from the two pair-thes cleaned the grounds and fossil bed as the Falls of the Ohio State Park near Clarksville for one service project, she said, and also helped deliver food baskets to seedy families during Advent. "I couldn't befire how much litter we picked up at the park." Michelle said. "I just couldn't understand why people would throw stuff away along the trails." Advent took on a whole new meaning this year, she said, after the confirmation candidates visited people in need and delivered holiday food baskets. "I met an older lady named Rosa."

Michelle said. "It took her a long time to get out of her chair. That put me in my place because sometimes I take for grante the fact that I can do all types of sports. I play volleyball and run track, and sometimes I get finstrated and mad at myself when I don't play well or run fast enough After I met Rosa, I realized that I should be grateful for even being able to play sports. When we gave her the food, she insisted on giving us all hugs. She hugger me like she'd known me for years, and I started cryine." d crying.

The teen-agers also worked at the Wayside Christian Mission in New Albany, Michelle said, and enjoyed organizing a new shipment of donati to gaining a to supplied to the thrift store. On another day, they staffed a rest station for a walkathon fund raiser and offered water and encouragement to the participants. While helping at the walkathon, the confirmation candidate walking the course.
"She was the ver

"She was the very last person in the walk, but she kept going," Michelle said. "She didn't stop. She was participating in the walkathon when she could barely walk

e wateration when she could bately wan reself, and she was doing it to help other tople. That gave me goosebumps." By participating in service projects, lichelle said she better understands

By participating in service projects.
Michelle said she better understands
what it means to be church and the
importance of serving others.

"The service projects made me feel
grateful for what I have." she said.
"Especially at the Wayside Christian
Mission, I realized that the little things
you do for others really help a lot. When
I was helping people, it was a great feeling to know that Louid change somebody's life for the better. I could see
God through all those people, even
though I was the one helping them, just
by looking in their yess. I realized that I
had made a difference in their lives."

At Sacred Heart Parish, youth ministry
coordinator Cindy Black works with Monica Graf, the parish director of religious
education, to provide sacramental preparation classes and coordinate service
projects for confirmation candidates. For
the past two years, Sacred Heart and St.
Augustine parishes have combined their
confirmation classes and utilized curriculum developed by Black and Larry Lene when he served St. Augustine as their
coordinator of youth ministry.

"Our program lasts nine months and is
based on opportunities to learn about the

"Our program lasts nine months and is based on opportunities to learn about the onths and is bigger picture of church," Black said.
"During the first session, we talk about self and meet with the candidates individually. At the next session, we discuss family, then in the third class we move on to a discussion of how their lives are affected by peers. During the fourth and fifth ses-sions, we discuss the parish and the larger church and challenge them to consider where they fit in to the bigger picture of church. Our last session focuses on com-munity, and we take the teens to a soup kitchen for a discussion with several adu

kitchen for a discussion with several adult who are big community volunteers."
Service is a "big factor" in the confirmation program, she said. "We also ask the candidates to give 30 hours of service apart from the monthly service project we do as a group. We challenge them to do more as individuals. The confirmation program is designed to bring about their awareness of serving others."
Spiritual growth opportunities include participation in a deanery retreat, Black said, as well as creative ideas to stimulate reflection on faith and value.

"After we discussed peers, we gave the teens a pack of gum and challenged them to give pieces of gum to students they normally don't talk with at school,"

she said. "The next month we asked them to discuss what happened when they gave the gum away."

Father James Farrell, paster of Sacred Heart Parish, and young adults from the two parishes joined the confirmation candidates for a fun session featuring a talk show format about peer relationships. Black said. "They also spent time with Father Jim during the day of reflection, and they got to see him not just as a presst but as a person and a friend."

Discussions about self and faith with sponsors and other candidates center on how the teen-agers see God as a part of their lives, she said. "We try to get a basis of understanding about what they believe so we can address their personal needs."

Curriculum also highlights stewardship, and confirmation candidates receive "time and talent" cards and are asked how they fit into parish life and how they would like to serve the parish as volunteers.

"We also have a follow-up session with the teen-agers after they have been confirmed." Black said. "At that time we challenge them to constore again what they can do to help their parish, how they fit it, and how they can be more connacted to their faith community."



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Catholic Schools Communities with Memories

# Workshops set for new religious curriculum guide

#### By Mary Ass Wyand

Much love and hard work went into the reparation of the new archdiocesan Religion Curriculum Guide." Scheduled to be introduced in October by searchdiocesan Office of Catholic Eduation, the guide reflects counties volunteer owns on the part of Religion Subject Area foundation, the pude reflects counties volunteer owns on the part of Religion Subject Area foundation, principals, Catholic school teachers, and youth mainlesty coordinators from roughout the archdiocese. Literally years in the making, the "Religion Subject Area for the principals of the principal of the princip

oughout the archdiocese. Literally years in the making, the "Reli-on Curriculum Guide" was recently proved by Archbishop Daniel M. methies and will be an invaluable tool unifying religion instruction in the atholic achools and parish religious edu-tion programs for preschoolers through

treasing "The Family Perspective in unch and Society." Workshops to train teachers and cate-sts in the use of the new religion guide scheduled from 8:30 a.m. until moon on 1. 21 at Oldenburg Academy in Bates-le, Oct. 26 at Roncalli High School in

Indianapolis, Nov. 4 at Marian College in Indianapolis, and Nov. 11 at Our Lady of Providence High School in Clarksville.

"With the introduction of this guide, we are teaching children how to live the Catholic faith and be articulate about what they believe and know," said Diane Burns, director of religious education at St. Why Parish in Brownsburg and chairperson of the Religion Subject Area Committee convened by the Archdiocesan Council for Educational Excellence (ACEE).

"Our Catholic school teachers and parish

Religion Subject Area Committee convened by the Archdiocesan Council for Educational Excellence (ACEE). "Our Catholic school teachers and parish religious educators will be able to follow the catecherical process using this guide and help children be good Catholics and leaders in their faith." Burns said.

Religion Subject Area Committee members are also working on an adult religion guide, she said. "We want to help people grow closer to God, more involved in their faith commitment, and more active in their chusch."

Peggy Crawford serves the archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education as the associate director of religious education in the areas of seamments, family, and childhood catechesis. In that role, she worked with Burns, other Religion Subject Area Committee members, and Sister for Christian Community Michelle Fallus, the associate director of Catholic coduction, curriculum and assessment, to complete the comprehensive "Religion Curriculum Guide." While serving the archdiocese as executive director of religious education.



Catholic children of all ages will benefit from the cation, Father Jeff Godecker reviewed the document from the pricests' perspective.

"Twenty committee members completed 300 interviews with Catholic school teachers and religious education catechiests and stadded surveys returned by close to a thousand other religious educations in a cumulative information-gathering process that combined ideas, suggestions, and experience from virtually every teacher of religion in the diocese." Crawford said.

"Its foundation is the catechism and it is organized in the same format as the catechism." Crawford said. "This document will take the catechism and break it down into manageable lesson plans for use in Catholic school and religious education classes."

Religious Subject Area Committee members were committed to the idea of one document for use in both Catholic schools and parish religious education programs, he said. Committee members also were determined to unify purish and family life with this curriculum.



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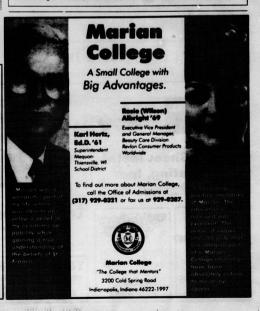
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# Faith Alive!

Question Corner Sunday Readings . . . . . . . . . . . . . 17 A Supplement to Catholic newspapers published by Catholic News Service, 3211 Fourth Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 2017-1100. All contents are copyrighted © 1995 by Catholic News Service.

# Prayer and support help faithful discover God's will

#### By Mary Miller Pederses

Is this the man I should marry? Should we adopt another child? How do we advise our 20-year-old who

Should we arrange for a nursing home or our aging parents?

In every stage of our family's growth, here have been difficult decisions. Some

there have been difficult decisions. Some are major decisions like a change in jobs. Others are minor, like letting a child go on vacation with another family. Most of us take decisions seriously. We want to do the right thing.

As Christians, we believe that God knows us intimately and has a plan for our lives. We also believe that each of us has the gift of free will, along with intelligence, to help us choose the right path. That's the tough part!

How do we align our will with God's will? How do we even know what God's will? How do we even know what God's will for us is?

will for us is?

will for us is?

Our son's decision to join a rock band in high school didn't look much like God's will to us. We wondered whether we should allow this. What if he lost interest in school or got addicted to drugs?

We voiced our fears and concerns to him. We prayed for guidance (for our son and for us). We set some limits on his time and activities as a condition for his joining the hand.

ad the Holy Spirit to help us live out

Now, three years later, he's halfway grough college, getting superior grades, riting his own music, and playing in two

ands. Things would definitely be easier if we new for certain whether a decision is God's ill, like Mary knew when the angel nounced she was to be the mother of God. But God's will is not stored on a com-uter CD Rom somewhere that we can

But God's will is not stored on a com-puter CD Rom somewhere that we can access upon demand.
God's plan has to do with how God shapes and directs human history and all creation, including our families.
No one has a complete grip on that! But there are some steps—suggested by our Catholic Christian tradition—that will aid us in knowing God's plan for us.
First, we should use our heads.
We can use our God-given gift of intel-lect to gather information about options come to us.

A knowledge of church teachings about the important vocation of marriage and family life can help guide parents when making choices that concern their

These teachings help us develop a well-formed conscience, which in turn attunes us to God's will.

Catholic teaching and tradition is a kind of wisdom that guides us in making good decisions, a sort of backdrop for the stages

Think how hard it would have been for Mary to say yes to the angel if she hadn't been familiar with Scripture stories about a promised Messiah!

Second, look in the right place

Second, look in the right place.
To find God's plan, we need to look for it' One place to look is among believing friends in our church community.
Society often has profit and pleasure as goals. It is easy to become confused in directing our lives.
Belonging to a community that takes God's plan seriously helps! Going to Mass, receiving the sucraments, attending an adult education class, or joining a small faith-sharing community is all part of looking for God's will.

iooxing for God's participation in a faith com-munity may not provide specific answers to daily questions, dialogue with members of a believing community is an excellent environment for finding out where God is leading us.

• Third, we should ask for what

Pray for guidance. When major life events take place beyond our control, like sickness or accidents, prayer helps us to see God's compassion and care despite our

When we must make difficult choices, prayer gives us confidence that our deci-sions will be good ones.

One mother told me that her family's prayers at meals or before bedtime always include asking for guidance in making large and small decisions.

In decisions involving our children, I figure they are God's creation as much or more than ours. God knows better than we do about what is best for them. so we should turn to God in prayer to discern important decisions affecting their lives.

The challenge as children grow up is to allow them to use their will (and the con-sciences we helped them form) in making

That isn't easy for any parent, but



CNS illustration by Caole La

surely it must be in God's design that they ultimately desire to follow God's lead themselves. I must admit that I have yet to be vis

ited by a winged messenger telling me what God's plan is for me is in such

matters.

But using my intellect, looking for a plan, and asking for what I need makes it easier to align my will with God's.

Using that approach, a sense of serenity follows in times of family deci-

sions.

Many people pray this popular prayer to ask for help in following God's plan in difficult family circumstances:

"God, grant me the strength to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference."

(Mary Miller Pedersen is the coordinator of the Leadership in Family Life Training Program for the Archdiocese of Omaha, Neb.)

#### Sometimes it's hard to discern God's will

God's plan is clear when we are given a choice between good and evil. But God's plan seems less clear when we must choose between two good possibilities. The ways of divine "providence are often unknown to us," according to "The Catechism of the Catholic Church" (No. 314). However, God plans that we "journey" toward deatiny by making choices and exercising love (No. 311). Most people find this journey entails struggle, and part of the struggle is discovering God's will. Sometimes we need to wait a while for God's will to become clearer. Trust is needed that, over time. God will help us find a course of action. (David Gibson edits "Faith Alive!")

#### **Discussion Point**

# God offers comfort in times of need

Why do bad things happen to good people?

"We have a little boy with cancer, and we've really struggled with that. Bad things happen because we're no better than anyone clse. If you take away all the bad stuff, then you take away all the good stuff, the joy. I have found through all the bad stuff, that's what strengthens your faith." (Joan Broek, Urbandale, Iowa)

Looking at the ire of Critist, insteripation and ret-trayal and revilement, all these things happened for a good purpose. We can see that in retrospect. When I look at Peter's betrayal, I see the new dimensions of friendship Peter discovered through Christ's forgiveness. There is a reason for the evil and bad things that happen in my life." (Katrine Stewart, Alexandria, Va.)

"Though we don't understand why, (suffering is) an op-portunity to absorb more of God into ourselves in imita-tion of Jesus who endured the ultimate suffering. ring, like death, is a door to God." (Lorrie Carroll, Polk City, Iowa)

"Sometimes we do have to suffer to gain the good things in life. I have gone down the wrong path, and God allowed these things to happen to show me the way back because I have free will." (Candy Plew, Des Moines, Iowa)

An upcoming edition asks: What is your idea of the good exercise of power or authority by parents, employ and employees, or others?

If you would like to respond for possible publication, write to "Faith Alive!" at 3211 Fourth St. N.E., Washington, D.C. 20017-1100.



CNS photo by Lisa K-ssle

By Fr. Robert L. Kinest

Beth and her husband, Tom, were having extreme difficulty with their 17-year-old daughter. Despite their best parenting efforts, Linda experimented with drugs, skipped school regularly, and compiled a long list of misdemeanors.

Then Linda asked her parents to sign papers allowing another woman to become her legal guardian. This woman ran a commune of teen-agers whose parents had authorized her to be the teens' legal guardian.

negal guardian.

In desperation Beth and Tom signed the papers, fearing that if they didn't Linda might do something worse than she utreastly had done.

Six months later, Linda asked her parmater than the same she was a disaster. The commune experience was a disaster. The scene and ready to take reagonability for her life.

Reflecting on her daughter's commune experience, Beth admitted that she felt disad and discouraged by Linda's erratic enhavior.

Talmost gave us benefit that the felt disaster gave us benefit that the felt of the same sharior.

behavior.

"I almost gave up hope that God was hearing me," Beth said. "Now I see that this was all part of God's plan. It was a roundabout way of reuniting us."

Is Beth correct? Did God plan for Linda to experience trouble, disown her perents, and then come back?

What about situations that don't turn out as well? Are they part of God's plan?

What about situations like the bombing

of the federal building in Oklahoma City?
These are theological questions that no one has answered fully. St. Augustine affirmed that God created all people for happiness and salvation. But Augustine also believed sin had so disordered human nature and corrupted free will that it takes a special act of grace to save those people. God seitre to save. If Linda is one of those people, God's plan for her includes a special act of grace.

Later theologians, like St. Thomas. Aquinas. retained Augustine's view that God's original plan is to save all people, but held that the deciding factor is not God's decision but whether the person cooperates with grace.

God land the strength of the strength of the cooperates with grace.

God shows who will cooperate, but God's knowledge does not force anyone to do so. That would mean that God knew what would happen in Oklahoma City, though that knowledge nether caused nor prevented the deaths of innocent people. Some Protestant reformers, like John Calvin, held that God predestines some people to salvation and others to damnation. Among Catholics, the Council of Trent rejected this teaching and affirmed that God offers each person sufficient grace for salvation but that each person must accept it.

Modern theologians like Jesuit Father Karl Rahner put this in a more dynamic context. Thus, God's plan is that each person enjoy the fullest experience of life possible, given the particular circumstances. But because circumstances keep



changing, God's plan constantly reacts a adjusts to decisions people make in life. That would mean God does not pre-determine or pre-plan anyone's life in detail. Rather, God responds to everyon life as it develops and works out the de-tails of the divine plan for each person a commentance occur in their lives.

tails of the divine plan for each person as circumstances occur in their lives. In this view, God did not plan that Linda would disown her parents, but once she did God tried to help Linda and Beth and Tom see how they might still be a family—and in so doing fulfill God's plan. In this sense Beth is right that Linda's

cision to come back is part of God in. It is roundabout, not because G inted it that way, but because Lin-and perhaps Beth and Tom—ma

same vantage point.
(Father Robert Kinast is the director of the Center for Theological Reflection at Indian Rocks Beach, Fla.)



Saturday, October 14, 1995

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#### Question Corner/ Fr. John Dietzen

# Minors cannot be excommunicated from the church



In a recent column, you dis-agreed with a Catholic high school that proposed to establish a policy of expelling pregnant stu-dents after seven months of preg-

As a mother, I agreed with your

As a mother, I agreed with your answer. However, our parish priest said you should have mentioned that this Catholic girl would be excom-cated if she had an abortion, and that this should tour decisions on allowing her to continue in our

scnoots. Is it really true that a high school girl like this would be excommunicated from the church because she had an abortion? I find that hard to believe. I find it harder to believe that a priest would feel this way, and that somehow this should "affect our decisions" on how we deal with such children. Can you enlighten us on this?

First let's look at the matter of excommunication. Several lay people and some other priests directly or indirectly told me I should have included the fact that the girl was excommunicated. They are mistaken. Many peo-ple are misinformed about this. According to the law of the church, if this student was not at least 18 years old, she was not, and could not be, excommunicated.

excommunicated.

At the risk of being overly academic, let me be a bit more explicit about what Catholic Church law is in the matter. It is true that according to the Code of Canon Law a person who procures a successful abortion incurs an

e person who procures a successful abortion incurs an "automatic excommunication."

Several other requirements need to be fulfilled, however, before any excommunication takes place, and one them is age. Concerning the age of excommunication for abortion, it is essential to keep in mind the following regulations.

Anyone who has not completed the 18th year of age (in her words, reached his or her 18th birthday) is legally a inor in the church.

Another law lists certain persons for whom a penalty must be tempered or a penance substituted. "Among em are minors who have completed the age of 16 ears, in other words, persons who are between 16 and

Family Talk/Dr. James and Mary Kenny

## Mindless cruelty is always hard to understand

Dear Dr. Kenny: How do you explain the death of an unimal to a child when the death is caused by mindless rucely? We saw a motorist deliberately swerve to kill a quirrel. My child was horrified. Now when we see a 'road kill," he acts confused and sad. What can I say?

Answer: Tell your child he is right to feel confused and sad by such meanness, and that you share his feelings. There is no rational answer to explain such behavior. What makes it possible are two efficiencies: lack of knowledge and lack of compassion.

Sharing your own failure to understand is a start at helping your child learn that there is random, even frivolous, meanness and violence in the world. The next step is teaching him about his place in God's creation and his relationship to all living and non-living things.

Life is precious. It is so brief and so fragile. To end life is to play havoc with a universe we do not understand. Compassion is another important lesson. One essential part of growing up and reaching maturity is the ability to "put on" the feelings of other people, even of animals. After all, we share with them the gift of life.

We learn compassion by experiencing pain and joys

After all, we share with them the gift of life. We learn compassion by experiencing pain and joys ourselves, hearing others describe their feelings, and assuming that their feelings are similar to ours. As we grow, we find "sympathy" for others till we reach the mature ideal of "loving others as we love ourselves." Everything on this planet, in this universe, was made by God and merits our caretaking. Irresponsible destruction is

People are stewards, not masters, of what we see. Let your child know that life is precious, deserving reverence, and that it is good to grieve for others, even animals. (Send family life questions for this column to the Kennys, 219 W. Harrison, Rensselaer, Ind. 47978.)

95 by Catholic News Service

Thus, a minor (anyone under the age of 18) does not incur the excommunication for abortion.

Even after reaching the age of 18, the excommunica-on would be incurred only if all other conditions are

fulfilled.

For example, if the person procuring an abortion is unaware that he or she is excommunicated if the act is carried
through, the excommunication would not be incurred.
To put it briefly, according to Catholic Church law no
one under age 18 is subject to penalties like this one for
abortion. Even after 18, several other requirements must

abortion. Even after 18, several other requirements must be present for that to happen. I admit to feeling very uncomfortable speaking so legalistically of these matters as they involve high school students or older women who contemplate abortions. Some Catholics seem almost anxious to declare people like this separated from the church.

I don't deny or belittle in any way the seriousness of excommunication. St. John and other New Testament wri-

excommunication. St. Joint and outseters speak of something similar.

Still, even were it true that young women like this are excommunicated, they are still our sisters as human beings and as Christians.

For them as for anyone else, to offer support, wise help, and compassionate presence remains our first obligation

in charmy.

(For those interested in checking references, the sections of canon law referred to here are Canons 97, 1323, 1324 and 1398. Note carefully the relation of Canon 1324.1.4 and Canon 1324.3.)

Canon 1324.1.4 and Canon 1324.3.3 (Address questions for this column to Father John Dietzen, Holy Trinity Church, 704 N. Main St., Bloomington, Ill. 61701.) 0 1995 by Catholic News Service



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he bestud Procestage State on direct as of support. 1 WH are 10.7% for ince of 5,000 to \$19.99; 10.2% for love of \$20,000 to \$20,



Viewing with Arnold/James W. Arnold

# 'Kids' shocks viewers by featuring harsh realism



hour summer day and night. They break all the rules, but not really with malice. They just don't think about it. It is, of course, the ner of parents' tmares. In its tour

nightmars. In its tour of casual depravity, "Kith" somewhat recalls Fellini's "La Dolce Vita" (1961), which described a night among the amoral wealthy in Rome. The intention is similar—detached description of ugly social reality—but here, maybe with some chance in could do some good.

Like Fellini's expose, "Kith" can be accused of overtill. The danger is occasionally slipping into voyeurism and exploitative use of the non-professional actors (the leads are about 16 or 17). Very little lighteens the unpleasantness or puts things in perspective, as you might expect from an art-film. Kitch" is more like slice-of-life journalism, with the unrelieved grismens of a street-life documentary.

the unrelieved grimmess of a street-life documentary.

This is a debut film for director Larry Clark, S2, a well-known "downbeat reality" photographer who met 19-year-old writer Hammory Korine while shooting photos in Central Park of stateboarders. He gained access to the stateboard culture, and Clark and Korine claim that the film tells the truth. (Well, part of it, surely).

"The kids in this movie aren't immoral, they are amoral." Clark told an interviewer. "Kids are out there trying to have fun and to experience things. They don't think about ramifications. They don't think about morality. They don't think about consequence."

This is, of course, the horror of a world which some (many?) young people are ised without direction—or rather, with

only random direction, from peers and the impulse to pleasure. The kids in the movie are "out"—away from home and unmonitored. The only parent in sight is a distracted mother, breast-feeding a child and easily satisfied that her son is out looking for a job. She refuses to give him scarce money, but he steals it, anyway, from her room.

The boy is Telly (Leo Fitzpatrick), the

The boy is Telly (Leo Fitzpatrick), the film's anti-hero, a gangling, cheerful, foul-mouthed youth whose only interest is sex. As he says, "Take that away from me and I really got nothin." During the day, he liets and sweet-talks two girls who are virgins into having sex with him. His fascination with virgine is mostly as a safeguard against AIDS.

These macho kids, who think even less about health than they do of morality, are highly vulnerable to disease. The irony of the story is that Telly is being pursued throughout the day by a petrified, weeping girlfriend, Jennie (Chloe Sevigny), who has just learned the is HIV positive. She's had sex only once in her life—with Telly. But she's too late to stop him from infecting someone else.

some see soo tase of soo shop nim from infecting someone else.

Sobbing, she tries to call her "mommy," who of course is not home. The only
one to console her is her friend, a promiscuous girl who—as fate dictates—is for
now free of the disease.

The camera monthy follows Telly and
his obnoxious pal, Casper (fustin Pierce),
as they wander through the crowded
streets to various apartments or a public
pool (after hours) or park hangout area.
The fabric of the day is hugely negative:
gross language and sex talk, drugs and
alcohol, petty theft and violence. (The
larger group gangs up on a btack kid and
leaves him all but dead.)

Everything about the context is repulsive. The streets are noisy, dirty, crowded.
The flats and apartments are littered with
junk. People spit and urinaste in public.

They're surrounded by garbage and trash:



it's their habitat. All that is disordered and edgy about teen-agers is magnified here. The girls are equally foul-mouthed, and talk and laugh about their exploits as sex objects. They don't see it that way; sex is the best only? thing in their lives. Obviously, nothing here is glamorous or fun. It's exposed with an angry but compassionate adult's eye. Particularly pittiful are the even younger children on the edge of the vortex: an unkempt little girl playing with a doll outside Telly's house, four younger boys watching in awe and passing around a joint at a sex and drugs party.

and passing around a joint at a sex and drugs party.

Clark and Korine even provide curious moments of grace of open in the final sex and admire a blind subway musicain sing "Danny Boy."

- Casper gives a coin to a legless beggar.

- A grandfatherly cab driver tell: Jennie to "be happy". Life's too short." (But he can't imagine the horror of her life.)

- A neck chain with a crucifix prompts a matter-of-fact comment on Jesus. "Believe in him? Sure, that guy is the savior, you know."

As in "La Dolce Vita," the film ends with a long, bottom-of-the-barrel dope-and-sex orgy, followed by a harsh, realistic dawn. Casper has pathetically raped poor, stoned Jennie, and wakes with a shock. He'll soon know, if he doesn't already, that he, too, is probably infected and doomed. How ironic that AIDS, in this drama, serves as the AVRentine Anex.

AIDs, in this second Avenging Angel.
(Brutal, frank and possibly too much; but an alarming wake-up call.)
USCC classification: O. morally

#### Film Classifications

Recently reviewed by the USCC To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything! Julie Newmar 

#### Guide to New Shop

6000	Brotherly Love	Sun. 7-7:30	1880 1880 1890 1870
BETS	Miner Adjustments	Sun. 7:38-8	MBC
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	Sheen	Sun. 8:30-0	we
HOLDS	Space: Above & Boyand	Sun. 7-8	Fes
PROMISE	Nowhere Men	Mon. 9-10	UPS
MARKET MARK	John Grisham's The Client December	Tue. 8-0	CBS
a reaction and the	Strongo Luck	Fri. 8-0:30	CBS
	Marie Carr	Pri. 8-0	Fee
SOME	Pertners	Mon. 9-9:39	NBC
DOTEREST	Deadly Games	Tue. 8-9	NBC
mili ENESI	Hudson Street	Tue.8:30-9	UP
a paraconal and a second	Live Shot	Tue. 9-10	ABC
	Persuit of Happiness	Tue. 9:30-10	1000
	The Drew Carey Show Courthouse	Wed. 8:30-9 Wed. 10-11	ABC
	Charle Grace	Thu. 0-0	ABC
	Caroline in the City	Thu. 9:30-10	NOC
100	Murder One	Thu. 9-10	ASC
	American Gothic	Fri. 10-11	CBS
	The Jeff Facoverthy Show	Sec. 8:300	ABC
	IAG	Set. 8-0	MBC
	Maybe This Time	Set. 84:30	ABC
	Almost Perfect	Sun. 8:30-0	CBS
DONT	Too Something	Sun, 0:300	Fee
BOTHER	First Time Out	Sun. 9-9:30	WB
	Misery Loves Company	Sun. 9:30-10	Fox
	Can't Hurry Love	Mon. 8:30-0	CBS
	Ned and Stacey	Mon. 9:30-10	Fox
TOTAL SECTION	Bless This House	Wed. 84:39	CBS
	Central Park West	Wod. 9-10	CBS
		- Wed. 9:30-10	ABC
	The Crew	Thu. 8:30-9	Fox
	The Single Guy	Thu. 8:30-9	NOC
	The Monroes	Thu. 9-10	ABC
C 32 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	The Home Court	Sat. 9:30-10	NBC

The U.S. Cathelic Conference guide to new fall televis gramming lists the shows when they air Eastern time.

# 'Listening to Children' offers insights

By Heavy Herz, Catholic News Service

A program no parent can afford to miss in the documentary "Listening to Children: A Moral Journey with Robert Coles," airing Friday, Sept. 22, from 9 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. on PBS. (Check local listings to verify the program date and time for PBS broadcasts in various areas of the archdiocese. WFYI. Channel 20 in Indianapolis will air the program on Sept. 22 from 10 p.m. until 11:30 p.m.) The program affords author and child psychologist Coles a vehicle for sharing what he has learned in a career dedicated to exploring the question of how a child grows up to become a good person.

The inner lives of children has been his field of study since 1960 when he watched 6-year-old Ruby Bridges walk unafradia past howling white mobs as one of the first African-American children to integrate a New Orleans school.

school.

While working with Ruby to learn how she had developed such strength of character, Coles found she had the support and guidance of her community, church and family. He also learned from her something about the moral energy inherent in all children.

From the example of Ruby Bridges, the documentary follows Coles as he listens to how eight children from diverse backgrounds describe their lives verbally and in drawings. Insights Coles derives from this makes viewers aware not only of what children learn from their adult surroundines but also of their inner strength and adult surroundings but also of their inner strength and

In the final segment of the program, Coles answers a umber of practical questions put to him by a group of parents and teachers.

The last question focuses on the effect of television on

oungsters.

After acknowledging that he shares "the same sense of

Coles says that it can only be solved ultimately in eac Coles says that it can only be solved ultimately in eac American home by parents or guardians who teach their children what is good and bad on TV so that each child "knows to turn it off or isn't interested in turning it on." "Listening to Children" is a program worth turning or

"Listening to Children" is a program worth turning on.

TV Programs of Note
Monday, Sept. 18, 9-10-30 p.m. (PBS) "The Way
West." The rebroadcast of the series continues with "The
War for the Black Hills," in which treaty violations set the
stage for a final showdown between the Arnsy and the
Indian tribes of the Great Plains.
Monday, Sept. 18, 10-30-11 p.m. (PBS) "Gandy Dancers."
The documentary features the musical traditions and verbal
recollections of eight retired African-American railroad track
laborers, or "gandy dancers," whose occupational fold music
was heard along railroad lines of the South.
Tuesday, Sept. 19, 9-10-30 p.m. (PBS) "The Way
West." The series rebroadcast concludes with "Ghost
Dance," chronicling the decline of the Plains tribes from
their defeat of Custer in 1876 to the final massor, er at
Wounded Knee in 1890.
Wednesday, Sept. 20, 10-11 p.m. (PBS) "Songs of the
Homeland." This special tells the story of the Mexican-American experience in Texas through its v. hrant
"Tej:no" music from the early 1900s to the present.
Thursday, Sept. 21, 4-5 pm. (ABC) "Fast Forward." A
teen-aget who enjoys drinking is given the opportunity to
see his future and the consequences alcohol will have on
his life in this "ABC Afterschool Special."
(Check local listings to verify program dates and times.
Some TV stations may opt not to air scheduled network
programming. Henry Herrs is director of the U.S. Catholic
Conference Office for Film and Broadcasting.)

#### Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time/Fr. Owen F. Campion

# The Sunday Readings

Sunday, September 17, 1995

· Ezekiel 32:7-11, 13-14

• 1 Timothy 1:12-17 • Luke 15:1-32

The Book of Ezekiel is the source of this weekend's first reading.

Ezekiel is regarde



as one of the greatest of the Hebrew prophets. His work is lengthy; it also is high ly expressive and reli-giously very moving. Ezekiel was a resi-

iy expressive and religiously very moving. Eackiel was a resident of Jerusalem when the Babylonian invaders kidnapped him and so many others and took them as hostages to Babylon. His prophecy was written in Babylon, in modern Iraq, about seven centuries before Christ.

This sufforced exile from homeland and all things familiar was especially disturbing to the pious Hebrews caught in pagan Babylon. Not only was there the indignity of being held as housage, the deprivation of livings as a humbled people in the very center of the enemy's empire and culture, but also there was the intense religious anguish of realizing that all this hardship and disgrace had come despite the promises of God always to protect the Chosen People. In this environment, Ezekiel preached and wrote. Amid sugust, the prophet called the people to renewed faithfulness in the mercy and power of their God. This must have seemed a foolish appeal when everything surrounding the Chosen People spoke of the triumph of their enemies. Central to the sense of identity among God's people was the event of the Exodus, when God led the people away from Egyptian slavery. So, in Hebrew long, symbols of Egyptian slavery and references to the Exodus appear often. In this weekend's reading, the vanquished will be the king of Egypt, the pharaoh. His successes and victories will be laid low, It is interesting that the prophet use Egypt as the symbol of God's righteous in such a light would have been far too risky.

In any event, the people certainly understood the message—Babylon or Egypt. The message was that in the end God would rescue them from all their foes.

The First Epistle to Timothy provides this weekend's Liurgy of the Word with its second reading.

Timothy was a follower of Paul in the early days of the church whom Paul commissioned to lead a local Christian community. Timothy was one of the first whose name is recorded in history.

In this reading, Timothy is assured that the Lord Jesus is the source of all strength for believers. It is a strength extended despite the ignorance and selfishness of any human being. The Lord, in everlasting mercy, offers this strength to those who are fauthful and loving. The Strength nertical control of the strength of the strength

Reflection
For many weeks the church invited us to follow the Lord Jesus. This was the theme of its scriptural messages read during the weekend Masses. Then the church changed the theme. Almost ast if in warning, the church told worshipers that discipleship was not easy, not absent of struggle. On the contrary, the true disciple must very often act and move in a way opposite that pursued by the culture all around.

and move in a way oppose that pursued by the culture all around.

This blunt and frank observation of the demands of discipleship can be daunting. To reassure us in Christian discipleship, the church this weekend through these readings tells us that God in all power and majesty stands ready to assist us in our Christian resolve.

## **Daily Readings**

Monday, Sept. 18 1 Timothy 2:1-8 Psalm 28:2, 7-9 Luke 7:1-10

Tuesday, Sept. 19 Januarius, bishop and martyr 1 Timothy 3:1-13 Psalm 101:1-3, 5-6 Luke 7:11-17

Wednesday, Sept. 20 Andrew Kim Taegon, presbyter and martyr Paul Chong Hasang, catechist and martyr and companions, martyrs 1 Timothy 3:14-16 Psalm 111:1-6 Luke 7:31-35

Thursday, Sept. 21 Matthew, apostle and evangelist Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13 alm 19:2-5 Matthew 9-9-13

Friday, Sept. 22 1 Timothy 6:2c-12 Psalm 49:6-10, 17-20

turday, Sept. 23 1 Timothy 6:13-16 Psalm 100:2-5 Luke 8:4-15

The Shaping of the Papacy/John F. Fink

## Adrian II dealt with many of the problems of his predecessor

After the death of the dynamic Pope Nicholas I at the age of 47, he was suc-ceeded by Adrian II (sometimes called Hadrian II), who was already 75 when elected to the papacy on Dec. Id. 867. Adrian faced many of the same problems Nicholas did, but the outcomes were sometimes, but not always, far different.

Nicholas did, but the outcomes were sometimes, but not always, far different. Adran was very highly regarded by the clergy and people of Rome, so much so that they tried to elect him pope twice before, in 855 and again in 858. Both times he declined. He accepted in 867 because there were violent disputes between the critics and the supporters of Pope Nicholas's policies. Adrian was a compromise candidate acceptable to both sides.

His pontificate started disastrously from a personal standpoint. Adrian had been married before his ordination, which was permitted at the time. For reasons that are not clear. Dute Lambert of Spoteto pillaged Rome after Adrian's election. Adrian's dupler was reped and then murdered, along with her mother, by a brother of Ansatsius, Ansatsius was the man who had been an antipope after Pope Leo IV's Geath but was then rehabilitated by Nicholas; he was then papal archivist. Duke Lambert of Spoteto pilled and order was re-established. Pope Adrian then fired Ansatsaius because it was the papal archivist, and formally eccommunicated him (the second time he had been excommunicated). However, less than a year later. Adrian restored Ansatsaius to his office.

ond time he had been excommunicated). However, less han a year later, Adrian restored Anastasius to his office. Pope Adrian also had to deal with the same marriage case that Nicholas had dealt with so decisively—the marriage of King Lothair II of Lorraine. Although Lothair had reconciled with his wife for a while, he later went back to his mistress Waldraka and managed to get the Svrod Waldrada and managed to get the Synod of Metz to approve his divorce and remarriage. When this was reported to Adrian, he promptly nullified the acts of the synod. Once again Lothair took his wife ack. And once again a pope had upheld

the sanctity of marriage.

Adrian was not as successful in his dealings with Archbishop Hincmar o dealings with Archbishop Hinemar of Rheims as wa Nicholas, Adrian's de-mands, written by Anastasius, that civil and ecclesiastical disputes within the empire be brought to the papal court met with a sharp retort from Archbishop Hinemar that the pope should mind his own business and stop interfering where he had no authority. The pope backed down and discound the letter down and disowned the let Anastasius had written.

Just before Pope Nicholas died, the church in Constantinople passed a sensence of excommunication on him for interfering in Byzantine affairs by sending missionaries into Bulgaria. Nicholas's death prevented him from learning about it, but Pope Adrian had to deal with the matter. He called a synod in Rome that condemned Patriarch Photius for his impudence. Pope Nicholas had already excommunicated Photius.

With the pope and the patriarch having deposed each other, Byzantine Emperor Basil I called the eighth ecumenical council, the Founth Council of Constantinople. Pope Adrian sent two personal representatives to the council and Anastasius was there representing the western emperor. Louis II. The council completely upheld the decision of the Roman synod to condemn Photius and it demanded that Patriarch Ignatius be restored. (This was, by the way, the last ecumencial council to be held in the east.)

This council also, however, did somethine that Rome didn't want: it placed the

the way, the last climicitations with the held in the east.)

This council also, however, did something that Rome didn't want: it placed the church's patriarchates in the order of precedence that was already accepted in the east. Rome, Constantinople, Alexandria, Antioch, Jerusalem, Rome objected to Constantinople being placed ahead of Alexandria, but its objections did little good and the ranking remained. There was another fall out from this council: Three days after it was over. Emperor Basil called the delegates of the eastern patriarchates together and they ruled that Bulgaria was to in the spiritual jurisdiction of Constantinople and not of Rome. The Latin priests there were expelled and Bulgaria was tost to the Roman church.

However, Adrian was able to secure the

Roman church.
However, Adrian was able to secure the Slavic nations for the Roman church, thanks to the brothers Cyril and Medica. In 867–68 the brothers visited Rome and Pope Adrian sanctioned the use of the Slavonic translation they had made in the Mass and other liturgies. After Cyril's death. Adrian consertated Methodius an archbishop and papal legate to the Slavs. This paved the way for the conversion of the Slavic nations. the Slavic nations

the Slavic nations.
(Pope Stephen V was to condemn the use of Slavonic in the liturgy in 885. This result ed in the disciples of Methodius moving to Bulgaria where they were able to use the Slavonic language in the Byzantine rite. This church would eventually spread to Russia and become the Russian Orthodox

Pope Adrian II died in 872.

My Journey to God Song for the Children

Somewhere in me is a song, but it too, I fear, is dying. My song lies in a poet of blood on a patch of eaphalt, beside the body of a lifeless chil Please help stop the killing.

By Jon R. Myers

(Jan Myers is a member of St. Ga Parish in Indianapolis.)

#### The Active List

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

A pro-life rosary will be prayed today and every Friday morning at 10 a.m. in front of the Affil-iated Women's Services, Inc., n Dr. h

Parish Altar Soci lis, will host a Fus son sponsored by ermarket. Tickets information, ca at 317-241-9528.

wrence Church, 4650 N. land Ave., Indianapolis, metand Ave., Indianapol hold adoration of the need Sacrament in the ch n 7 a.m. to the 5:30 p.m. s. Everyone is made.

#### September 15-17

Fatima Retreat House, Indianapolis, will host a Tobit Weekend designed to prepare engaged couples for a success full marriage. Fee is \$195 per couple. For information, call 317-545-7681.

#### September 16

Secred Heart Parish, 1530 Union St., Indianapolis, will hold a holy hour with the rosary at 2 p.m. in the church. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call Dorothy at 317-356-5110.

n Sister Sandra er will offer an

Design workshop from 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. The workshop will be held at the Archbishop O'Meara Catholic Center, Indianapolis. Fee is \$15 per person. For infor-mation, call 317-236-1483.

A pro-life rosary will be prayed every Saturday morn-ing at 9:30 a.m. at the Clinic for Women, 38th and Parker Everyone is welcome.

he Singles and Friends of St. hristopher Parish, Indianapol ill attend Fiesta '95 on the ircle downtown. For informa on, call Jorge 317-388-8101.

The Positively Singles, Indianapolis, will meet for Putt Putt Golf, 6320 W. 34th, fol-lowed by Karaoke singing. For more information, call Ruth Ann 317-257-9566 or Byron 317-635-1712.

ie Ladywood Almunee will eet at Cashedral High School, dianapolis, starting with an 11-n. social followed by a lan-neon program with closing urgy at 4:30 p.m. For more formation, call Sister Mary axine Teipen at 317-784-7226

The Rexville Schoenstatt Center and Shrine will hold "Mary With

Christ Makes the Home The Home Church" at 2:30 p.m. Mar with Father Elmer Burwinkel at 3:30 p.m. The center is, 08 mile east of 421 on 925 south at Rexville, south of U.S. 50 at Versailles. For more information call 812-689-3551.

St. Paul Parish, Sellersburg, will hold prayer and praise from 7-8:15 p.m. in the church. Come worship and share in fellowship. For more information, call 812-246-4555.

St. Louis Parish will hold its annual fall festival on the parish grounds in Batesville from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Good food, games, raffles. Contact Pranciscan Father William J. Farris at 812-934-3204.

Joan of Arc Parish, iannpolis, will hold its wal French Market festival m 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. Games adults and children, rides, les and ethnic food will be ured. For more infor-tion, call Molly Seidel at 192 Sept. 1921

St. Lawrence Church, 4650 N. Shadeland Ave., Indianapolis, will hold adoration of the Bless Sacrament in the chapel from p.m. Everyone is welcome.

The "Focus Love" Outreach Committee at Sacred Hee Invites you to our 2nd annual

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d Heart Parish, Indian will hold a free Christ concert from 4-7 p.m. shments will be availa

is \$10 per person. For information, call 317-236-1483.

The Family Life Office will hold a six week program "Divorce and Beyond" at the Archhishop O'Meara Catholic Center, Indianapolis, from 7-9 pm. Fee for the series is \$20. Pre-registration is required. For information, call 317-236-1586 or 1800-382-9836.

he prayer group of St. wwrence Parish, 4650 addeland Ave., Indianapolis ill meet at 7:30 p.m. in the aspel. All are welcome. For ore information, call 317-5 165 or 317-842-8805.

Marian College, Indianapolis, will present Mature Living Seminars dealing with Looking Back—Looking Berder and from 10 a.m.-2 part of 10 a.m. 2 part of 10 a

10 ACTIVE LIST, page 19



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Sacred Heart Parish, Indiana-polis, will hold a One Person Play on the life of St. Francis at 7 p.m. in the church. Donations will be accepted. For informa-tion, call 317-638-5551.

Fatima Retreat House, Indianapolis, will hold "What Does The Sacrament of Penance Mean?" Presenter will be Archbishop Daniel Buechlein. Fee: \$20. For information, call 317-545-7681.

The sixth anniversary of perpetual adoration in the Divine Mercy Chapel, located next to Ritter High School, will be celebrated with a Votive Mass of the Triumph of the Cross at St. Michael Church, Indianapolis, at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will follow.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Par-ish, 57th and Central, Indianapolis, will meet to pray the rosary from 1-2:15 p.m. All

St. Mary of the Woods College, Indiana, will host a production of "Twelfth Night" by Shenandoah Shakespeare Express touring company in the O Shaughnessy Dining Hall at 8 pm. Tickets are 56 for adults, \$4 for children, students with ID and senior citizens. For more information, call Ann Marie Foote 812-535-5212.

Christ the King Parish, Indianapolis, King's Singles will meet at the 5:30 p.m. Mass with dinner following.

The Catholic, Widowed Organization, Indianapolis, will hold its monthly meeting at the aschbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Canter from 7:30-9 p.m. No cost.

Sacred Heart Parish, Indianapolis will hold a Family Rosary Night at 7 p.m. All are welcome.

St. Roch Parish, 3600 S. Pennsylvania St., Indianapoli will hold a Family Eucharist Holy Hour with rosary and Benediction from 7-8 p.m. in the church. Everyone is wel-come. For information, call 317-784-1763.

St. Lawrence Church, 4650 N. Shadeland Ave., Indianapolis, will hold adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel every Thursday from 7 a.m. to the 5:30 p.m. Mass. Everyone is welcome.

A pro-life rosary will be prayed today and every Friday morning at 10 a.m. in front of the Affi-iated Women's Services, Inc., 2215 Distributors Dr., Indiana-

The Positively Singles Group, Indianapolis, will meet at 6 p.m. at Shapiro's, 86th St. and Township Line Rd., for dinner

#### September 22

St. Lawrence Church, 4650 N. Shadeland Ave., Indianapolis, will hold adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the chaps from 7 a.m. to the 5:30 p.m.

#### September 22-23

Fatima Retreat House, Indianapolis, will hold "Celebrating African American Spirituality" presented by Fr.

38th and Parker. Everyone is

Cyprian Davis, Order of St. Sacred Heart Parish, 1530 Union St., Indianapolis, will hold a holy hour with the rosary at 2 p.m. in the church. Benedict. Fee is \$25. For more information, call 317-545-7681. September 22-24 Everyone is welcome. For more information, call Dorothy at Fatima Retreat House, Indiana-poits, will hold "Entertaining Angels Unawares," a guided retreat for men and women, pre-sented by Megan McKenna. Fee is \$130. For more information, call 317-545-7681.

#### September 24

September 28
Groups, Christ the King's
Single Adults, St. Gabriel's
Adult Fellowship, and St.
Monica's Young Adult Group,
Indianapolis, will participate in
an Interact Pitch-In Picnic starting at 2 p.m. at Holiday Park.

The Secular Franciscans will meet in Sacred Heart Parish Chapel, Indianapolis, at 1 p.m for ongoing formation classes. Benediction, service and busin

St. Lawrence Church, 4650 N. Shadeland Ave., Indianapolis, will hold adoration of the Bless Sacrament in the chapel from p.m. Everyone is welcome.

St. Lawrence Auxiliary and Knights of St. John will hold their Annual Fall Festival at 312 S.

Wilder St., Greensburg. Dinners will be served from 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Adults \$6, children 6-12

St. Anthony's Church, Clarks-ville, will hold The Apostolate for Family Consecration at 6 p.m. Novena title will be "Knowledge of Mary."

St. Paul Parish, Sellersburg, will hold prayer and praise from 7-8-15 p.m. in the church. Come worship and share in fellow-shap. For more information, call 812-246-4555.

#### September 24-27

St. Lawrence Church, Ind.

in God's Image and Likene presented by Father Walter atus. Youth Mass Sunday 5:30 p.m. Comm anal Pen Service Sunday 7:30 p.m. Monday-Wednesday 7:30-9 p.m.: The Word, The Euchar unity. Benediction

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September 23 A pro-life rosary will be prayed every Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m. at the Clinic for Women,

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## Foreign exchange visits end in emotional farewell

"Parting is such sweet sorrow," as the saying goes, especially for teen-agers who are foreign exchange students and must say goodbye to their American host famiturn to homes halfway around

Three Catholic teens from Argentina Three Catholic teens from Argentina, Italy, and Germany who spent the year in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis as Ameri-can Field Service exchange students said recently their year of study in Indiana was "a great opportunity" and "a wonderful experience."

experience."

During brief interviews on the campus of Brebeuf Preparatory School last summer, the teen-agers said they will never forget their wonderful American families and the friends they made during their street in Indiana.

aid he enjoyed country life in rural

"I lived in the city in Argentina," he said. "Here I came and lived in the coun-try. I met a lot of farmers and other very

nice people."
Indiana is "too hot in the summer,"
Jeronimo said, "and too cold in the winter."
In spite of the weather, he said, it would be nice to visit Indiana again some day and see his American family and friends

again.
Italian student Elena Spano, who hails from southern Italy, spent a year living in Indianapolis and studying at Lawrence Central High School.
"I really enjoyed this year in the U.S." she said. "It will probably be coming back because I fell in love with my American family and now it's hard to say goodbye. The weather is cold here compared to Italy. It's really cold, but I like it here."
Attending a Catholic wedding with her American family was among her favorite

Attending a Catholic wedding with her American family was among her favorite memories, and Elena said she also liked the Eszer Mass and American liturgies. "E prayed a lot during my time here." he said. "I have been very lucky in my life. I believe that God is protecting me during this year and taking care of my family at home."

Porein exchange students, "eet to knot "Porein exchange students," eet to

Foreign exchange students "get to know so many young people from many dif-ferent countries and different cultures,"



a Lerken of Ger

Elena said. "It is good to know that we are

Elena said. "It is good to know that we are all the same and can get along well." This fall Elena will continue her studies to complete her last year of high school. "I still have to graduate in Italy," she said. "I will probably study chemistry at the university next year, I want to become a doctor.

German foreign exchange student Nina Lorken, who studied at both North Central and Monrovia high schools, knows how to speak four languages and wants to become a foreign correspondent some day.

Back in Germany, Nina will complete two more years of high school and continue her education at a university.
"We have 13 grades in Germany," she said. "I still have to finish the 12th and 13th grades before I go to the university."
When it was time to board the bus for the first part of her journey home. Nina hugged her American family one last time and exchanged tearful farewells.
"They are the best bing that happened to me here," she said of her host family. "I'm going to come back and see them."

# Cardinal Ritter's Raiders plan special gridiron events

Cardinal Ritter High School's varsity football game ver-sus Northwest High School at Northwest Field in Indianapolis has been awarded a contract as WNDV-TV game of the week on Sept. 16. To accommodate the live television broadcast, the game has been rescheduled from the original Sept. 15 date.

To accommodate the live television broadcast, the game has been rescheduled from the original Sept. 15 date.

Kick-off is set for 8 p.m. on Saturday.

Raiders fans who can't attend the game will be able to tune in to WNDY. Channel 23 to view the gridiron contest between the longtime westside rivals.

WNDY sports director Vince Welch, who is a 1982 Cardinal Ritter High School graduate, will report on the Raiders' effort to triumph over the Pioneers on their home

On Sept. 30, Cardinal Ritter High School will spon-

sor a "Grade School Night" during the Raiders' varsi-ty football game against the Brebeuf Preparatory School Preparatory

hool Braves.

All grade school students will be admitted free to watch
e Raiders take on the Braves. Kickoff is set for 7:30

the Raiders take on the Braves. Kickoff is set for 7:30 p.m. at Northwest Field.

Cardinal Ritter senior football players, cheerleaders, and soccer team members will be recognized in a pregame ceremony. During halftime, boys who play Catholic Youth Organization football for Indianapolis West Deanery grade schools will be introduced to the crowd and are asked to wear their parish team uniforms. Cheerleaders from West Deanery schools are also invited to wear their uniforms to the game so they can cheer with the Raider cheerleaders.

Youth As Resources is offering project funds to central Indiana youth groups with not-for-profit sponsors to plan and implement volunteer community service projects. Applications for grants of up to \$5,000 are available from the Youth As Resources office by calling Annie Smith at 317-920-2565. Oct. 20 is the deadline for return

ing completed grant applications in order to qualify for project consideration for the fall funding cycle.

Project applications will be reviewed and selected by a 27-member advisory board which includes teen-

agers.

The board will look for projects which are planned, developed and implemented by youth, with adults sering as guides or facilitators; allow youth to identify a community need and creatively use their skills and energy to design a project around that need; provide a variety of roles and responsibilities for youth volunteers to perform; and target program and geographic areas with critical needs.

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#### Young Adult Scene

# Catholic young adults seek greater faith connections, spiritual guidance

By Mary Ann Wyand

Second of two parts
A place to belong in the church, the desire for direction
in life, and opportunities to hear and respond to Gospel
challenges through retreats and service are among the
"wish list" items expressed by about 200 Catholic young
adults during an archdiocesan Young Adult Town Hall on
Aug. 28 with Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein and other

diocesan leaders.

Representing a number of archdiocesan parishes, the young adults gathered in the Assembly Hall of the Archbishop O'Meara Catholic Center said they want to learn more about the Catholic faith, experience greater unity and fellowship, and find new ways to serve their parishes.

Their comments will help strengthen young adult ministry in the archdiocese and assist Archbishop Buechlein as he develops a national plan for young adult ministry with other U.S. bishops later this year.

"Young adults in each of the dioceses throughout the United States have been gathering for similar town meetings with their bishops," Julie Szolek-Van Valkenburgh, director of the archdiocesan Office for Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministries, told the forum participants. "That information will go together to make up the national plan."

"Inst intormation will go utgetier to time by opplain."

Dan Endris, coordinator of older adolescents and Young Adult Ministries for the New Albany Deanery, also serves the National Catholic Young Adult Ministry Association as the Region VII coordinator. Before Town Hall participants began the task of formulating lists of young adult issues and needs, he spoke to them about their roles and challenges as young adult Catholics.
"It's not always easy to define young adults," Endris said. "Who are young adults and what are they in our church? Pope John Paul II has defined young adults in the broad term of youth of our world. He places them in the age category of 15 to 40. The U.S. bishops have defined young adults as 18 to 30 year olds. Within that largoup, we have several distinct groups by definition of where they are in life stages. We have college students, singles, marrieds, parents, separated, divorced, and single parents, to name a few categories."

Young adults can best be described as "a vast group

with a lot of different developmental, social and spiritual needs." he said. "Young adulthood is described best by using phrases, such as 'a time of searching." Many young adults are searching for the right career, the right spouse, the right place to live, and the right faith community. They are asking questions like 'How do I fit into my church? What is my place? What is this faith that I believe in?" It is definitely a time of searching and of asking questions of ourselves, of authority, of our church, and of those who minister to us." se who minister to us."

those who minister to us."

Young adult ministry is "very much a peer ministry,"
Endris said. "This November and December the U.S. bishops will complete the first draft of the national Pastoral Plan for Young Adult Ministry. It will be very important for Archbishop Buechlein to have input from you so that when he is reviewing the draft he can say 'yes' o' 'Dury young adults didn't say that at all. They said this..."

Town Hall participants were asked to respond to three onestione:

questions:

• What do you think are the most important issues and/or concerns of young adults today?

• What do you think young adults need from the ch in order to lead a good life?

• What is your measure experience of church either

and/or concerns of young adults today?

What do you think young adults need from the church in order to lead a good life?

What is your present experience of church either in your parish or your campus setting?

What is your present experience of church either in your parish or your campus setting?

Small-group discussions followed by brief reports from table leaders surfaced a variety of topics.

"Our concerns were about family life and vocation choices." Holy Spirit parishioner John Boucher of Indianapolis aid. "We really felt strong that we need to know that our choice of our vocation, whatever we choose to do with our life, is right. It's very important that we have a sense of what that is and where we're headed in life."

Citing the need for self-respect on the intangible level and the more tangible concern about financial security, Boucher said young adults at his table expressed the desire for "additional faith formation and education about the teachings of the church, a lively eucharistic Mass that is fun and inspires young adults, support and interaction from our peers and from the church, and a sense of belonging and ownership with the church."

His comments were echoed by dozens of other young adults, who expressed the need to:

"I'ind ways to put our faith into our everyday lives and put our faith into action through social justice."



address concerns about vocations in rstand the lack of priests and resource a changing role of priests and of wor ate a cha hurch,"

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Indianapolis said young adults face a variety of social
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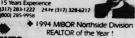
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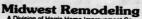
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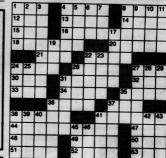




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Book Reviews/By John Nilson, Catholie News Service

## Book on sexuality exemplifies polarization it decries

SEXUALITY AND CATHOLICISM, by Thomas C. ox. George Braziller (New York, 1995). 381 pp.,

Thoras C. Fox wants to meet a real need: "to tell the Catholic sexuality story in a straightforward, comprehensible way." In his new book. "Sexuality and Catholicism," he brings an excellent background and vantage point to his task, since he has been editor of the National Catholic Reporter for 15 years. His book offers descriptions and analyses of contemporary controversies over sexual issues within the church, mainly in the United States and Europe. The first chapters furnish historical perspectives to establish the contemporary context. Then come chapters devoted to the headline issues: birth control, abortion, homosexuality, etcheay, the ordination of women, "carnal love," world population and authority, While these may not be the most important questions facing the church today. Fox is right in contending that they profoundly affect people's lives and the church's future. His deep concern for the church and his view of the present moment as a crisis, however, have led to premature publication. The book's basic argument is that the church's teachings on sexuality are the chief cause of the current discouragement and polarization within the church. Those who proclaim and enforce these teachings—mainly Pope Paul VI in "Humanner Vilme" as well as the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Pope John Paul II, et al.—are obstructionis, in Fox's view, while the heroes of the story are those who struggle for reform in pews, rectories and seminar rooms.

But the account tends to reduce complex events and per-

sonalities to simple terms and stereotypes. The issues and actors are more complex than this work lets on. The book is better categorized, then, as a rallying cry for change in the church's sexual teachings and its style of change in the church's sexual teachings, and its style of exercising authority. It is born of love for the church. Yet the relatively few resources listed in the notes and the nar-row range of views which they represent (nearly a quarter of the citations are from the Reporter) make it understand-able—but saddening—that the text sometimes exemplifies the very polarization that it decries. It is not intended for specialists, since terms like coitus interruptus, scholasticism, and even Vatican II are described. Basic notions like the two de a bishow are

interruptus, scholasticism, and even Vatican II are described. Basic notions, like the role of a bishop, are explained. Specialist readers will, however, puzzle over omissions, like Dietrich von Hildebrand's pioneering work on marriage before Vatican II and Archbishop Rembert Weakland's hearings in Milwaukee on women's concerns.

The information it provides can be helpful, but the occasional errors are disconcerting. For instance, Anglicans and Catholics have not differed on sexual issues since 1534, as claimed by Fox on page 29, their disagreements have emerged in this century. The Vatican's first significant statement on homosexuality came in 1975 (pp. 138-9)—or was: it 1986 (p. 148)? And Vatican II surely did not change the church's image of God from one of judgment to one of compassion and love.

Fox has the background, skills and contacts needed to unpack these controverses. This reader hopes that he will utilize and expand the research he did for his book into another study that explains the issues in a more balanced and comprehensive way.

(Nilson is an associate professor of theology at Loyola University, Chicago, who specializes in contemporary Roman Catholicism.)

(At your bookstore or order prepaid from George Braziller, Inc., 60 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10010, Add \$2 for shipping and handling.)

## Religion helps seniors in retirement areas

PORTLAND. Ore. (CNS)-Anxiety about death a elderly people who live in retirement communities is re-duced significantly by participating in religious rituals, according to a University of Portland sociologist. Robert W. Duff, with colleague Lawrence K. Hong of

California State University in Los Angeles, interviewed 700 residents in six retirement communities, two in Organ and four in Southern California. Their findings are published as "Age Density, Religiosity and Death Anxiety in Retirement Communities," an article in the September issue of the journal of the Communities," an article in the September issue of the journal of the Communities, and article in the September issue of the journal of the Communities, and article in the September issue of the journal of the Communities, and article in the September issue of the journal of the Communities, and article in the September issue of the journal of the Communities, and article in the September issue of the journal of the Communities, and the Communities of the Commun

Communities." an article in the September issue of the jour-nal Review of Religious Research.

The professors focused on residents of retirement communities or of neighborhoods where many elderly people live because they "are surrounded by neighbors and friends vulnerable to health problems and sudden death, and they may suffer death anxiety and stress as a consequence."

nsequence."
The average age of study participants was 76.

Ret in peace

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DUGAN, Agnes Ann. 94, St. Malachy, Brownsburg, August

. Aunt to John E. Riley, Rita ley, Jane Laraway, Ann

FEESER, RIBE L., OU, St. Pius X, Indianapolis, September 1. Mother of John, Mark, Sally Schoen, Kathleen Voight, Marg Moses; sister of Patricia Zapapas, Suzanne Wood; gradmother of 12; great-grandmother of one.

Woos: programmother of on.
FRICK, Mary E. (Burns).
75, St. Lawrence, Indianapolis, August 27, Sister of John W. Burns, David G. Burns; grandmother of four. GEILE, George, 88, Prince of Peace, Madison, August 2. Father of Kathleen, Susan Ann

GEDIG, Hilden, 86. Holy Trinity, Indianapolis, Sep-tember 1. Mother of Jerry: grandmother, great-grand-mother and great-grand-grandmother.

GIESTING, Richard (Dick), 75, St. Gabriel, Connersville. September 2. Husband of Rita, father of Jerome R. Dale A., Marvin A., Robert J., Barbara Brown, Phyllis Knechtly; brother of Albert, Clarence; grandfather of eight.

GLASS, Bernard, 76, St. Martin of Tours, Martinsville. Father of David, Dennis, Bernard; grandfather of four. HINDERBERGER, Charles MINDERBERGER, Charles T., 68, St. Michael, Brookville, September 1. Husband of Laverne; father of Jill, Tom, Tim, Jan Mitchell, Gene Quinlan, Regan Abernathy; brother of Martin; grandfather of 12.

grandfather of 12.
LASLEY, Theodrew Wesley,
71, St. Andrew, Indianapolis,
August 26. Husband of Betty
L.; father of Theodore A.
Charles L.; brother of Bettie
W. Jones; grandfather of four
LAWRIE, Elbun Louke, 53.
Mary, Queen of Peace, Dan-ville, August 19. Wife of Jim;
mother of Melinda, Angie
Lawrie Miller, daughter of
Bertha Ford: Sister of Richard
E. Ford, Bill Ford, Chuck

Ford, John Ford, Paul Ford, Jim Ford, Catherine Riggs, Jenny Ford, Sarah Bennett, Nancy Lindsey; grands

Of two.

LAWSON, Leonard S., 39,
St. Mary of the Knobs, Floyds
Knobs, August 31, Son of
Leona M.; brother of Jerome
Sarles, Charles Myler, Jeff
Dangler, Lenay Willaverd,
Roger Banks, Linda
Terwitigar, Barbara Histe,
Penny Myler, Annette Corrad.

LECHNER, Helen B., 81.
Holy Spirit, Indianapolis,
August 26. Mother of Edward
L. Utter, Larry J. Utter; grand-

monter of 11.

LEPPERT, Mary M., 89,
Holy Spirit, Indianapolis,
August 23. Mother of Connie
Archer, Mary Driver, Joan
Sedberry and Sherry Wyn, sister of Raymond Schwab:
grandmother of 14: greatgrandmother of 29: greatgrandmother of 29: greatgrandmother of two.

MEYER, Clem J., 89. St. Gabriel, Connersville. September 1. Husband of

Rosalind; uncle of several nieces and nephews. MORICAL, Joan A., 68, St.

Pius X, Indianapolis, September 2. Wife of Charles A.; mother of James C., Michael P.; uister of James McGarrell, Patrick McGarrell.

PEETZ, Merle, 78, St. Massrice, Napoleon, August 19. Husband of Wilms: father of Andrew, Joan Menchhofer: beother or Bernice Young, De

only Molen; grandfather of five. PERRY, James Richard, 69. St. Jude/Holy Cross. Indianapolis, September 3. Hushand of Agnes Josephine (Coffey) Perry; father of James R. Jr., Patrick J., Kevin F., Rev. Michael A., Maryama Succinou; brother of Robert, Fred, Charles, Joseph, Jack, Margery Zeigler. Dorothy Duucan, Janet "Dolly" Hangy. Sister Jean Perry; grandfather of eight.

PIETRO, Anthony, 78, Holy Spirit, Indianapolis, August 25. Husband of Rosemary, father of Anthony Michael, Dalene Zinkan; grandfather of five.

ROGERS, Betty Ann. 59. St Anne, Hamburg, September 5 Wife of William M.; daughter of Clarence and Bessie

(Wirth) Dwenger; sister of William Dwenger, Donald Dwenger, Robert Dwenger, Thomas Dwenger, Lloyd Dwenger, Adolf Dwenger, Doris Biddle, Rita Livers, Mabel Sunderhaus.

PRESIDENCE TO TO TO THE SECOND STATES OF THE SECOND

Louise Malaney.
WINDISCIR, Joseph F., 87,
Holy Trinity, Indianapolis,
August 25. Father of Michael,
Donna Bush, Rita Hafan.
Carolyn Miller, stepfafter of
Myril Weller, Judith Moore;
grandfather of eight; stepgrandfather of six; greatgrandfather of six; greatgrandfather of seven.

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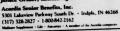
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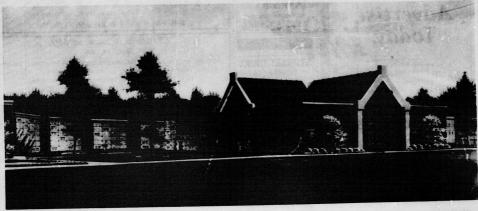
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