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# Financial leaders must build unity

Bishop Gettelfinger challenges financial managers to commit to collaboration, building community

By Daniel Conway

"No matter what your job is-bookkeeper, computer operator, finance council member or maintenance person—your pri-mary responsibility is the same as your bishop and your pastor. It is to ensure the unity of the church."

With these words, Evansville Bishop

Gerald A. Gettelfinger challenged those responsible for the financial affairs of parishes in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis to contribute to the building of church unity. "The toughest job each of us has is to break down parochialism in order to serve the greater good. Thus, the greatest loyalty we must have is to the cause of unity—not through blind obedi-ence but through commitment to collaboration and building the faith community."

Bishop Gettelfinger, a native of Frenchtown, Indiana, served as high school principal, pastor, superintendent of schools, chancellor and vicar general of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis until his appointment as bishop of Evansville by Pope John Paul II on March 8, 1989. During his years of service in the archdio-cese, Bishop Gettelfinger was known as a "straight-shooter" whose boundless energy and enthusiasm influenced all those who worked with him in parish, school and archdiocesan ministries.

In his keynote address during the arch-diocese's second Fiscal Management Conference, on Saturday, April 19, Bishop Gettelfinger reminded his audience of the dramatic contrast that exists between the way parishes and dioceses were organized when he was ordained a priest 36 years ago and today. "Things were a lot simpler then, but they were not necessarily better" he said. "The pastor was the CEO, the house keeper was chairman of the board, and a cigar box and general ledger were the

parish's accounting system. If necessary, a security alarm was provided by the rectory dog.'

This extremely simple system of financial manage ment was made pos-sible, he said, by the abundance of cheap labor provided by priests and religious who worked for next to nothing. (In 1961, an assistant pastor was paid \$66.66 a month plus \$30 in Mass stipends. Religious women were paid \$600 a year.)

According to Bishop Gettelfinger, these dedicated women and men served as the church's "living endowment." With-out these generous gifts of time and talent, the bishop said, the church in central and southern Indiana would be a very poor church indeed!

"Unfortunately, this low maintenance, no-planning approach to church manage-ment did not prepare us for the cata-clysmic change that swept through the church in the years following Vatican II," Bishop Gettelfinger said. "In the 1960s, we had no idea where we were going, and we were not at all prepared for the finan-cial and personnel implications that fol-lowed the loss of priests, loss of religious, and loss of Catholic school students." As a result, Bishop Gettelfinger said, the church in the 1970s operated mainly in "a survival prode" as pastors and newly recruited law mode" as pastors and newly recruited lay leaders struggled to deal with rising costs

leaders struggled to deal with rising costs and declining school enrollments.

"Avant-garde parishes and pastors instituted reforms in the liturgy and in parish governance, but they frequently moved too quickly for people to adjust to the cultural sea-changes that were taking place." And, according to Bishop Gettelfinger, one of the most revolutionary concepts to emerge from the experience of Vatican II was the idea that Catholics in more affluent parishes. that Catholics in more affluent parishes should share their resources with poorer inner-city and rural parishes. "One of the hardest things we Catholics have had to learn in recent years is to share our gifts of time, talent and treasure with othersno strings attached. This was not part of our church culture, and we still tend to resent things like deanery and archdiocesan assessments, which are meant to share our resources across parish boundaries." The 1980s and 1990s were years of

transition, Bishop Gettelfinger said, in which diocesan and parish finance councils became normative in church law. As a result of this professionalization of church management, parishes and dioceses have

See UNITY, page 2



Evansville Bishop Gerald Gettelfinger talks with St. Augustine Parish Administrative Assistant Virginia Trump, of Jeffersonville, during a the Archdiocesan Fiscal Management Conference on April 19 at the Archbishop O'Meara Catholic Center in Indianapolis.



# Celebrating First Communion

Brittney Hinkel and Zachary Douglas kneel with their hands folded after receiving their First Communion April 12 at St. Mary-of-the-Knobs Parish in Floyds Knobs.

Forty-three children at the parish cele-brated their First Communion. Several hundred children in the archdioces will receive their First Communion this spring.

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slowly begun to embrace basic management concepts like planning, accounting and personnel management.

"Great strides have been made in these areas," the bishop said, "but we still have a long way to go to ensure that we are truly being good stewards of our church's resources.'

Bishop Gettelfinger's concluding challenge to the fiscal managers concerned the appropriate use of technology in church management. "Your greatest opportunity

is provided by modern technology," he said. "We should use our machines to do what they do best-track and analyze information. And we should encourage our pastoral leaders to do what they do best make decisions based on accurate, helpful information." According to Bishop Gettelfinger, the church has traveled light years in the past generation, but our fundamental mission as stewards and fiscal managers has remained the same.

"We must be faithful witnesses," he concluded, "to the unconditional generosity that Jesus demands of us in the Gospels, and we must always work together to build up, and defend, the unity of Christ's church.

## Oldenburg's Michaela Farm to host Earth Day family event April 26

will host an Earth Day celebration on April 26, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. EST. Families are invited, and there is no charge for the event.

Activities include earth craft work-

Children will be able to see farm animals up close. Baskets, bowls, and platters will be for sale at the annual benefit sale. For more information call 812-934-5016.

### **Official Appointments** & Announcements

Effective April 9, 1997 Rev. Mark Weaver, OFM Conv. appointed associate pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Terre Haute

Effective July 2, 1997 Rev. Ronald Ashmore, currently serving in special ministry to the archdiocese with residence at St. Simon, Indianapolis, appointed pastor of St. Margaret Mary Parish, Terre Haute.

Effective July 3, 1997

Rev. Mark Svarczkopf, appointed to second term as pastor of St. Lawrence, Indianapolis.

Rev. Larry Crawford, appointed to second term as pastor of St. Simon, Indianapolis.

Effective August 1, 1997 Rev. William Stumpf, currently serving on staff at St. Luke Institute, Suitland, Maryland, appointed as vicar of ministry personnel and pastor of St. Luke Parish, Indianapolis.

The above appointments are from the office of the Most Reverend Daniel M. Buechlein, O.S.B., Archbishop of Indianapolis.

### Correction

Part of a sentence was inadvertently omitted from an Archdiocesan Youth Conference story printed in the April 11 issue of The Criterion.

St. Luke parishioner and Archdiocesan Youth Council member Megan Friedmeyer of Indianapolis was the mistress of ceremonies for the conference, and youth and adults from St. Louis Parish in Batesville served as the music ministers for the youth conference liturgy.

### Vacation memories

The Criterion invites readers to submit their favorite summer vacation memories for publication in the 1997 Vacation/Travel Guide. Please limit submissions to two pages. The dead-line to submit is May 9. Address to The Criterion, Susan Bierman, P.O. Box 1717, Indianapolis, IN, 46206-1717, or fax 317-236-1593.

# Staffers earn awards

The two Criterion staffers who are members of Woman's Press Club of Indiana earned 13 prizes at the group's annual communications awards luncheon Saturday in Columbus.

Assistant Editor Mary Ann Wyand won a first place award for her work in compiling the 1995 Christmas sup-plement featuring readers' holiday

Senior Editor Margaret Nelson won first prize for her color photo of the old St. Joseph Chapel at St. Joseph Cemetery in Indianapolis.

First place winners advance to the

National Federation of Press Women communications contest. The competi-tion covers work from Dec. 1995 through Nov. 1996.

The California judges for the con-test wrote of Wyand's Christmas sup-plement entry: "Beautiful . . . topnotch. The layout was appealing and well-organized."

Comments for Nelson's chapel hotograph included: "Good photo. All the elements go together for a

very pleasing shot."
Wyand earned a second place for her news story on the Indiana guber-natorial candidates' speeches at a political forum.

The youth supplement, "Revelations," brought Wyand a sec-ond prize for stories she edited that had been submitted by high school students.

Nelson won a second place award for a three-sample religious category which included a story about the funeral for Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein's father; an introduction to the archbishop's executive assistant, John Gonzalez; and a Cornucopia column about the archdiocesan pilgrimage, titled, "A 90-person support

Nelson took a third for her August feature story about the new St. Simon the Apostle Parish location. She also earned an honorable mention award for her three-part series about the pilgrimage.

A black and white photo of speakers at an AIDS awareness program at Cardinal Ritter High School earned

Wyand a second place prize.

Wyand and Nelson tied for second place on color photo essays. Wyand won for her photos of children attending the Catholic Youth Organization summer camp in Brown County.

For her second place color photo essay, Nelson submitted a color print of the cross-shaped layout of six of her photos depicting ceremonies during Holy Week at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral.

Nelson earned two additional second prizes for color photos—one for a photo of members of the archdiocesan Pilgrimage of Hope saying the rosary, led by the archbishop, as they walked near the grotto at Lourdes, France. She also took a second place for a photo of Camille Drake, a kindergarten student at Holy Trinity School Indianapolis dressed up for a Black History Month program.

Wyand won a first place award in the general publications category for a fea-ture story about her mother's near-death spiritual experience which appeared in Centerings, the national newsletter for the Sisters of Providence. The judges wrote: "The quotes and conversations made a very effective point."

## Verkamp joins advertising staff

Mary Verkamp has joined the advertising department of The Criterion as an account



Mary Verkamp

executive. She succeeds Don Bramlage, who was promoted to director of marketing and sales for the newspaper. A native of

Jasper, Verkamp was a parishioner of St. Joseph Parish there. She graduated from Jasper High School and Indiana

State University, where she majored in elementary education. After teaching for several years in Indianapolis and in Dallas, Texas, she began working in sales.

Verkamp comes to The Criterion with seven years of sales experience with BETA Group Inc., Bonnie Bell, Inc., and Laser Solutions.

The sales department of The Criterion can be reached at 317-236-1572.

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ISTEP+ includes short-answer essay questions and arithmetic problems in fall assessments

Catholic school students in Indiana have been participating in the Indiana Statewide Testing for Education Progress

(ISTEP) for eight years.

Again this year, students in all grade levels in archdiocesan schools ranked higher than those in other schools participating in tests conducted by the state.

In all areas tested-reading, language, and mathematics—the scores across the four grade levels are significantly higher than the national norm group scores and several normal curve equivalents (NCEs) higher than the state scores in all cases. In grade 10, the archdiocesan mathematics scores are nearly 11.1 NCEs above the state

average.
The 71 archdiocesan schools comprise one of the largest, most diverse school districts in the state.

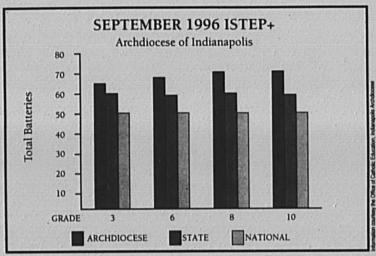
Beginning last year, the testing has

been a more comprehensive assessment, known as ISTEP+. It is a slightly different format, including short answer essay questions and arithmetic problems. Only grades 3, 6, 8 and 10 are being tested. Beginning this year (1996-97), testing was done in the fall instead of the spring.

The first cycle was given Sept. 24

Remediation will not be mandatory, and it will handled during the school year. Since it is not during the summer as in the past, students in non-public schools will not benefit from state funding for remediation.

The tests are designed primarily to gauge performance of individual students and to pinpoint areas which need attention, as well as areas of strength. The Office of Catholic Education warns that scores can be misused when comparisons are made in performances of schools.



The most dramatic differences in ISTEP+ results are at the higher grade levels. Here, the normal curve equivalencies (NCEs) on total test batteries of the archdiocesan and state schools are compared by grade level to the national norm rank of 50 (shown at right at each grade level). Total batteries include

# Nativity starts 50th year with Mass, dedication of 'Big Room'

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ Parish on Indianapolis's southeast side celebrated two occasions on April 19: the begining of the 50th year of Nativity's found-ing and the dedication of the parish's new multipurpose facility, known simply as the "Big Room."

An evening Mass of dedication and thanksgiving was celebrated by Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein, with the

pastor, Father Steve Schwab, and former pastor Father James Bonke concelebrating.

The Mass was followed by a dedication ceremony in the Big Room. Nearly 500 parishioners and guests joined to celebrate at the banquet.



As Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ Parish in Indianapolis begins marking 50 years as a parish community, Father Steven Schwab (from left), Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein and Father James Bonke celebrate Mass on April 19. After the liturgy, the archbishop dedicated a new multipurpose community Big Room, which was added to the school.

The history of Nativity Parish began 50 years ago on Dec. 5, 1947, when the Archdiocese of Indianapolis purchased 16 acres of farmland that included a farmhouse and a barn.

For a parish named "The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ," it seemed appropriate that the barn was chosen to be used as the church structure. Repaired with a new addition, the barn-turned-church was dedicated May 16, 1948.

There were 60 families in the parish at that time, led by founding pastor Father Louis T. Gootee.

In 1955, Nativity opened a new school. Three Sisters of Providence operated the school. The parish continued to grow, and the school received an addition in 1963. Then on Nov. 17, 1965, tragedy struck. A short in the wiring started a fire that destroyed the church. The cornerstone

was laid for the current church building in June 1968.

Father Gootee, who retired in 1978, was followed as pastor by Father James Bonke, who served until 1987. Father Donald Schmidlin succeeded him as pastor for the

next six years.
In 1993, Father Steve Schwab became pastor of

Shortly after his arrival, a committee was formed to research and coordinate the construction of a multipurpose "That name just didn't fall off my tongue very easily," says Mark Bohnert, chairman of the committee, "so I just started calling it 'the big room' and the name

The dedication of the Big Room was the culminating event of a campaign that raised more than \$962,000 in 1995 and saw the construction of the facility begun and completed in 1996. In his address during the dedication, Father Schwab recognized it as a tribute to the "commitment of so many here in this parish and what this parish

means to so many people."

A time capsule buried in 1955 was opened, revealing newspapers, financial statements and pictures. Other speakers included Bohnert, Ed Tinder, director of Catholic Youth Organization, the principal of Nativity School, Lois Weilhammer, and Archbishop Buechlein, who blessed the The highlight of the evening was the surprise announce-ment that the gym within the facility would be named Weilhammer Hall, dedicated to Nativity's outgoing principal of 22 years.

Father Schwab recognized Weilhammer as a " person," and thanked her for sharing her time and talent for two generations at Nativity. Weilhammer was a teacher at the school for 15 years prior to becoming principal. She will retire in June.

"I think that's the first secret that's ever been kept at

Nativity," Weilhammer said in reaction to the announcement. "All the kids knew."

As for her years at Nativity, Weilhammer said, "It's been marvelous, like a dream. Imagine if you were asked, 'How would you like to spend the next 40 years of your life?' This was it for me."

Several important persons in Nativity's 50-year history were present for the occasion, including the school's first principal, Providence Sister Brendan Harvey. Many longtime parishioners were in attendance, including Martina Schreiner, a member of one of the 60 founding families. "Nativity is very special," she said. "I always felt like this is where I belonged."

In 1947, the process of starting a parish began in a structure as simple as a barn. In 1997, the process has come full circle with the opening of a new multipurpose facility called simply the Big Room.

"This is the beginning of a two-year celebration of 50 ears of a Catholic presence in Franklin Township," said Father Schwab.

"It is an opportunity to remember the past and to recom-mit ourselves to the future of the church in Franklin

From 1947 to 1997, from barn to Big Room, Nativity has shared 50 years of celebrating the Catholic faith. Parishioners now look forward to continued growth in the

(Natalie DeHart is a parishioner of Nativity Parish. Historial information was gathered by parishioner Ilene Davis for the 40th anniversary of the parish.)









Official Weekly Newspaper of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis Rev. Msgr. Raymond T. Bosler 1915 - 1994 Founding Editor

Most Rev. Daniel M. Buechlein, O.S.B., Publisher William R. Bruns, Executive Editor John F. Fink, Editor Emerius Daniel Conway, Associate Publisher Peter Agostinelli, Managing Editor

# Editorials

# A clear vision of human sexuality

A recent vote by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) stimulated strong reaction in the news media.

A majority of the regional bodies, or presbyteries, which make up the Presbyterian Church in the United States voted to change their church's constitution to firmly establish as law a practice they believe is rooted in the Scriptures and in Christian tradition. As a result, ordination in the Presbyterian Church is restricted to married women and men or to single people who agree to live celibate lives.

Media coverage of this decision was focused on two main issues: the implications for gay people who wish to be ordained as Presbyterian clergy, and the fact that the voting was split along regional lines.

Although church leaders repeatedly stressed that their intention was positive—to affirm traditional Christian teaching about the meaning and purpose of human sexuality, many of the stories that appeared in the secular news media referred to this action by the Presbyterians as simply "a ban on gays in the electric."

in the clergy."

Lost in all of this discussion is the
Christian vision of human sexuality
(and the role of church leaders in giving
witness to this vision). It is easy to get

confused about these issues, especially in a culture that promotes sexual freedom as a civil right, but when all the smoke clears, the Christian view remains remarkably clear and simple: The dual purpose of human sexuality is to unite a man and a woman in marriage (so that the two become "one flesh") and to bring new human life into the world (to participate in the miracle of God's creative love). And any attempts to make sexuality more than this (or less) are headed for trouble.

True to this vision, Christians have traditionally asked their leaders either to refrain from sexual activity (through the promise of celibacy) or to give witness to its meaning in Christian marriage. This is the tradition that the Presbyterians have voted to affirm in spite of its unpopularity.

The Latin Rite of the Roman Catholic Church goes a step further and requires its clergy to promise celibacy before ordination. This is also an unpopular stance, frequently misunderstood by the news media, but it is intended to be a positive witness, not a negative statement about either sexuality or marriage.

Our Presbyterian sisters and brothers have made a difficult decision about an issue that is very important to Christianity. They deserve our support.

-Daniel Conway

# A confused vision of human sexuality

A "media event" is something which, in reality, has little or no significance, but which the news and entertainment industry treat like a major occurrence.

industry treat like a major occurrence.

The hoop-la that is currently being given to "Ellen" the main character of the sitcom Ellen and her supposedly shocking revelation that she is a lesbian is a prime example of this kind of media fiction. Indeed, this carefully orchestrated "coming-out" event has little or nothing to do with the complex reality of homosexuality. But it has a lot to do with TV ratings and with a media culture that is clueless about the real meaning of human sexuality.

real meaning of human sexuality. We Catholics believe that every human being, regardless of his or her sexual orientation, is made in the image and likeness of God. We also believe that every one of us is called to witness to the virtue of chastity and to "the successful integration of sexuality" into our personal lives (cf., Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2337-2365) No one achieves this integration of sexuality easily, and everyone—regardless of his or her state of life—has challenges to face in the effort to live a chaste life.

We urge readers of The Criterion to impore the boon-la over "Ellen" and.

We urge readers of *The Criterion* to ignore the hoop-la over "Ellen" and, instead, to spend a few moments thanking God for the gift of sexuality and praying for the grace to be truly chaste.

-Daniel Conway

### Seeking the Face of the Lord

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

# Annual appeal is opportunity to reach out to others

his coming Sunday, the Gospel records Jesus' teaching about the vine and the branches. "I am the vine, you are the branches...." Over and over again, Jesus stresses the unity of the human family. As I mentioned in "Seek the Face of the Lord," my pastoral word about spiritual renewal for the Journey of Hope 2001, Jesus expands our ordinary notion of family when he teaches that whoever hears his word and keeps it is his "mother and father and sister and brother." Any serious Christian must take these challenging teachings quite seriously.

In our culture it is so very difficult to get beyond a merely theoretical nod of agreement to these "nice" sayings of Jesus. Individualism is so pervasive. A "me first" attitude, however courteous, is almost a presumption. For some who are politically minded, capitalism would seem to preclude any kind of social concern, especially if it means taxation. For some, the church's broad range of social teaching smacks of a much to be feared socialism. For some, life is just much too busy or much too difficult or much too painful for them to be concerned about other folks.

Yet, the teaching of Jesus makes no exceptions. He doesn't say, "Help your neighbor if and when you have time." He doesn't say, "Give to the poor when you have some leftover money." He tells us about the widow's mite.

Jesus doesn't teach that if you don't see or don't know the poor or the sick or the imprisoned, you don't need to care about them. He does teach that the whole body is called upon to help a member in need. When the heart aches, the whole body hurts. When the head aches the whole body aches. When an arm or leg is in trouble, the whole body is in trouble. The teaching of Jesus is admittedly mystical and therefore requires a response of faith, but that doesn't make it any less real. We have only to look around in our more truthful and reflective moments to know that his teaching makes sense. We also realize that we can't go it alone and we don't need to.

You may have noticed that I speak of the teaching of Jesus in the present tense. The Word of God is a *living* word. We believe that in the words of the Bible God is truly present to us. And so we take the teaching of Jesus as a living word for us in our own day, and it requires a timely response from us.

I want to point out another dimension of blessed and practical timeliness for us in our archdiocese. Beginning this Sunday, we initiate the parish phase of our 1997 United Catholic Appeal. In a real sense, this annual appeal expresses the reality that we are one Body of Christ here in central and southern Indiana. Even as we are spread out throughout 39 counties and 11 deaneries, we are united as an archdiocesan family of faith.

The United Catholic Appeal is our larger, family operating budget. We need grocery money to help meet the physical hungers of large numbers of homeless and other poor people who live in our archdiocese. We need to provide for the spiritually hungry (all of us) through sacramental ministry and spiritual direction. We must help the emotionally down and out through our counseling services and other Catholic Charities programs. We need to take care of the intellectual hunger in the family through our schools and religious education programs and also reach out to lots of unchurched people. Then, of course, there are the utilities and other costs of facilities upkeep and other expenses to keep on doing God's work. The annual appeal carries on what no individual family or even a parish could do on its own.

We welcome the United Catholic Appeal for another reason. It reminds all of us, in our parishes and individually, that we share a large responsibility for our church's mission. Most of us know that we are obligated to help our foreign missions, but too often we forget that we have a home missionary obligation too. Right in our midst are members of our larger family who are spiritually, morally, physically and emotionally starving, and some parishes cannot meet these needs by themselves. The United Catholic Appeal reminds us that we have "home missions" that need our help in some of our more rural communities and in some of our urban

By our baptism all of us are configured to Christ and become one with him. The grace of confirmation and the repeated graces received in the Eucharist strengthen us and give us the generous courage to help our extended family. That's not just a nice theory to be practiced by some.

(Copies of Archbishop Buechlein's "Seek the Face of the Lord, A Pastoral Word About Spiritual Renewal for the Journey of Hope 2001," are available by writing or calling The Criterion.)

### Matters Liturgical/Sherie Berg Cross and Crucifix at Easter

For centuries the cross has been a central symbol for Christians. We all



seem to know this. We place it in our churches, wear it on chains, keep it in our pockets, trace it on our bodies. It is sad, then, that something so basic, so central, should ever divide us, but some-times it does.

For some of us, it is the crucifix, the cross with a representation of Christ's body, that defines us as Catholics. For others, the empty cross allows for a fuller theological understanding than a crucifix.

The question "Cross or Crucifix?" is not new. The first Christians, respecting the Jewish prohibition of any representa-tion of God, had neither cross nor crucifix. When the cross did become a Christian symbol, it was the empty cross. Later Christians incorporated the cross with symbols of Christ like the lamb or alpha and omega, or decorated the cross with jewels. In the seventh century, in order to combat heresies that denied Jesus' humanity and suffering, a church council ordered that any symbol of Christ on a cross must be human. By the 14th century, the crucifix had almost replaced the cross. And in the 16th century, cross or crucifix became one of the points of dissent during the Reformation.

Today, we still seem to be fighting the battle. Liturgists, artists, theologians and the faithful have theologies, opinions and feelings aplenty. Parishes building and renovating are well aware of this. In one parish in the archdiocese, someone disliked the parish's cross/crucifix so much they removed it from the church. Four years later the parish still hasn't decided how to replace it.

Some say that a crucifix with a suffering corpus [body] fixes too much on the theology of Good Friday, that only a plain cross, or one with a resurrected Christ, can symbolize Jesus' triumph over sin and death. Others reiterate what the Council of Constantinople ordered, saying that if we are uncomfortable with a crucified Christ, it might reflect our discomfort with Jesus' true humanity, or with suffering and death. It is the crucifix that shows us the depths of God's love for us.

With regard to church buildings, most of the church's documents, the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, for instance, use the word cross to mean either cross or crucifix. The Ceremonial of Bishops, and the Book of Blessings, the most recently published documents to take up the issue, give preference to a crucifix. Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein's preference for churches in the archdiocese is that they display a prominent crucifix and use a processional cross. In this holy Easter season, in fact in

all seasons, we might try to embrace the contradictions of the cross-crucifix. An instrument of death that gives us life. A symbol of reconciliation with God and with each other. A simple tree-ornately jeweled. We might embrace the contradictions and find right judgment and the whole of the Paschal Mystery in the empty cross and the suffering crucifix.

### In Other Words/William'R. Bruns

# It's about ministry

On April 11, Mickey Lentz, associate director of Catholic Education and chair of



the Family Division of the 1997 United Catholic Appeal, reported that pastors, parish life coordinators and employees of the archdioces exceeded their appeal goal this year by giving or pledging more than \$121,000.

Last week, the lead-gifts phase chaired by St. Luke parishioner Mary Young, came to what appears to be another very successful conclusion. (Preliminary figures show gift totals of more than \$412,000, with the average gift of about \$1,400.)

This weekend, with the launching of

the general parish phase of the campaign, all parishioners in our 151 parishes and missions will be invited

to participate in the ssion and ministries of the church in central and southern Indiana by responding to the appeal with gifts of their treasure.

The appeal gives all of us a yearly opportunity to reflect on the meaning of our

stewardship of our personal treasure, the place of money in the church and the relationship between faith and finances.

Many Christians, and certainly many Catholics, are uncomfortable-bothered might be a better word-when money and religion are talked about in the same breath. It seems somehow unseemly to many. One often hears the claim that 'Jesus never talked about money.' fact of the matter is that Jesus talked about money quite a bit (more than half his parables deal with money, property or investments). Jesus also used other downto-earth examples in his teachings of

what real people—then and now—deal with in their day-to-day lives. Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein con-

sistently emphasizes that the purpose of the fund-raising efforts of the church "is to help do God's work, God's ministry. It's not the other way around. While we have real and serious financial needs," the archbishop points out, "the bottom line is always faith, not finances." Money, then, is nothing more (or less)

than a tool, a means, of carrying out the mission and ministries that Jesus entrusted to the church; it's a way of helping

Not everyone in the church is called to minister in specific, specialized ways; for instance, not everyone is called to be a priest, sister, brother, parish life coordinator, pastoral associate, social worker, school principal, director of religious education, catechist or teacher. But all the baptized are called to carry out the mis-sion of the church; all

are called to serve, or minister, to others; all are called to be Jesus for others—to "put on the Lord Jesus Christ," as St. Paul says. The annual United

Catholic Appeal is one way each one of us can

serve others. The appeal is vitally important to the church in central and southern Indiana because it alone accounts for 37 percent of all the funds available for ministry in the archdiocese. Our gifts support a variety of ministries: education and life-long faith formation; pastoral leadership; worship and retreat services; and the many social services of Catholic Charities that feed the hungry, clothe the naked and perform the other works of

So the United Catholic Appeal isn't essentially about money. It's about ministry. Be generous this year. So many need your help.

### To the Editor

### 'Bravo' to bishops of northern Canada

I just finished reading your editorial in the April 11 issue of *The Criterion*, "Speaking Out Against Family Violence." All I can say to the Catholic bishops in northern Canada is BRAVO!

I lived in an abusive relationship (physically, verbally and mentally) for 11 years. I, too, was raised Catholic, and even though we were not married in the church, I believed that you stuck it out no matter what. Thanks to the many prayers of my family and friends, I survived without any broken bones, but my spirit has definitely suffered a great deal. I am currently in a women's group, which meets once a week, sharing stories and gaining more and more encouragement and confidence in knowing that the violence wasn't because of me or

I just thank God every day for my children, my family and my new life.

Name withheld Indianapolis

### See Catholic Update about RCIA sponsors

Father John Dietzen's "Question Corner" in the April 11 issue of The Criterion responds to a query about the role of confirmation sponsors and whether the church has any recommended responsibilities for sponsors.

Criterion readers interested in the role

of godparents and sponsors might like to read the April 1997 issue of Catholic Update, published by St. Anthony Messenger Press (1615 Republic Street, Cincinnati, OH 45210; http://www.AmericanCatholic.org/

icanCatholic.org).

This issue discusses godparents for infant baptisms, sponsors for confirma-

tion, and sponsors for those coming into the church through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA).

Paul J. Galanti Indianapolis



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### Spirituality for Today/Fr. John Catoir

# Cloning human beings

"The bottom line

is always faith,

not finances."

When Dr. Ian Wilmut, the 52-year-old embryologist from Midlothian, Scotland,



scraped a few cells from the udder of a 6year-old ewe, then fusing them into a specially altered egg he and his colleagues began a new chapter in the age of genetic

engineering.
The pope immediately labeled these experiments "dangerous," saying that creation belongs to God and it must not be manipulated for business purposes. Respect for human life should not be sacrificed to money and

power, the pope warned.

President Clinton was also quick to speak against human cloning. He barred the spending of federal money on such experiments and urged a halt in private research until the ethical impact is better understood. The president said, "The cre-ation of life is a miracle that reaches

beyond laboratory science."

I wish he felt the same way about the abortion industry.

The scary part of all this is that many scientists are ignoring the ethical considerations. The cry from the laboratory is, "If it advances my career, let's do it."

Hitler felt the same wa

Not too long ago a professor in Washington actually cloned human embryos. He was able to take 17 embryos and divide them into 48. He dis-posed of the original 17 embryos a week after they were fertilized. The disposal of even one fertilized human ovum is a seri-

In the 1980s an Italian anthropologist named Brunetto Chiarelli of Florence said that scientists were conducting secret experiments in an attempt to produce a subhuman class made from an ape mother and a human father. The purpose here was to use these creatures as a slave labor force to do the menial work of

Who knows what other experiments are going on throughout the world right

A few years ago I was invited to give a talk in Australia. On the flight down I sat next to a scientist who told me about his experiments with human semen and sheep. He hoped to produce a quasi-human animal for organ transplant purposes. So far these experiments have not produced satisfactory results.

Human cloning is a more serious matter. A human clone would not be an animal. No matter how the conception was achieved, he or she would be a human being with human rights. Scientists cannot claim rights over a human clone

President Clinton is wise to send up a red flag about this issue, but I notice he did not condemn it outright. He simply said we need a better understanding of the ethical impact of these experiments.

The Holy Father's words were stronger. We know enough right now to take a stand against human cloning. The evil potential for this experimentation is horrifying.

We need more than a committee to study the ethical implications. We need widespread moral outrage.

# Listening to what our hearts tell us

How long has it been since we heard a young man or woman announce, "I have a vocation?" Any voca-





Declaring a vocation today seems as out of fashion as wearing a hair shirt. Indeed, we might think such a per-son was slightly off, or at least not the usual well-rounded free spirit we're used to reading

about in the papers and seeing on TV

The cast of Friends doesn't spring to mind as the kind of people who'd announce they had vocations, let alone the so-called men on Men Behaving Badly. On "Sensitivity," as the title suggests, the char-acters sense that things like personal voca-tion exist, but they waste all their time

Tsk. Lucy and Desi and Ma and Pa Kettle

may have been silly, but they understood vocation to marriage and family. Even TV characters like John-Boy Walton, who knew he had a vocation as a writer, are long gone in our cultural past.

or cultural past.

Vocation to priesthood or religious life seems to be particularly far out of the mainstream of career choices these days. Where we used to have high school convents and seminaries, and Father Bing Crosby role-modeling with Sister Ingrid Bergman in popular movies, we now take end runs on religious careers.

Men and women work as accountants and archaeologists and plumbers, some-times for many years, before they finally give in to the Hound of Heaven. Anyone declaring religious vocation at the age of 19 or 20 might be viewed today as needing

Of course this follows the present trend in which young people delay commitment to specific college majors or life work, marriage, having kids, church involvement, or whatever else smacks of entrapment. Nobody seems willing to make an adult decision, stand by it proudly, and make it rewarding for a lifetime.

Announcement of a religious vocation may be rare enough, but I'll bet we'd be may be rare enough, but I il bet we'd be really startled if a young married man or woman publicly declared, "I have a voca-tion to parenthood." After all, in previous generations, parenthood followed marriage as dawn follows night. It didn't need

announcing.

But the fact is parenthood, like religious life, is a calling which is sometimes ignored by those who receive it. We all know cou-ples who have "chosen" not to have kids. They have what they perceive to be good reasons: the desire to maintain a career, physical beauty, or financial comfort.

Others haven't given parenthood that much thought. Their eyes are on each other and they can't believe there would be enough love and attention to go around. Still others reason that, "It would be criminal to bring kids into a world as bad as this," or,

"The world is already over-populated."
The problem with all these scenarios is that these poor young people believe that the entire burden of the choices they make is on their shoulders. They think they must control every moment of what follows their desirates.

They fear if they decide to enter reli-gious life they may be lonely or counter-cultural. If they marry they'll be vulnerable to another with whom they must share everything. And if they have children they may suffer pain, grief or reduced affluence, not to mention separa-tion when the kids finally leave home.

They forget that no vocation in human life is entirely our own responsibility. God will help with whatever we need if we only say "Yes" to the truthful decisions we know

### Check It Out . . .

St. Bartholomew Parish in Columbus will host "A Reflection on Mother Teresa and the Missionaries of Charity," from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. April 30 at the St. Columba Oratory in Columbus. Anne Ryder, an Indianapolis news anchor of WTHR-Channel 13, will offer a reflection. The event begins with music at 7 p.m. At 7:30 p.m. there will be a Mother Teresa video viewing. Ryder will offer a reflection at 8 p.m. The program will conclude at 9 p.m. followed by a reception. The program is free; however a free-will offering will be accepted. Those needing child care should call 812-372-2207. All proceeds will be donated to the Missionaries of Charity. The event is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

St. Monica's Community Life Commission and Father Clem Davis of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis will host a "Dessert and Coffee" to discuss the Indiana Citizens for Life and their plans to air pro-life TV ads in the Indianapolis area. Carol Everett, a nationally known prolife speaker, will speak. The program is from 1 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. April 27 at St. Monica Parish, 6131 N. Michigan Road. Call 317-876-8892 for reservations.

The drill team at St. Rita Parish in Indianapolis will host a city-wide drill team exhibition at 11 a.m. on April 26. A concession stand will be available. The price for adults is \$2, \$1 for children, and five and under are free.

The St. Roch Youth Athletic Board will host a spring Monte Carlo night at 7 p.m. to midnight in the school cafeteria, 3600 S. Meridian St. in Indianapolis. Proceeds

will benefit St. Roch CYO athletic programs for elementary and high school students. For more information call 317-784-9144.

"Mary and Pentecost Today," a reflection Tuesday for women and men, will be held May 13 at the Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., in Indianapolis. The presenter is Benedictine Sister Mildred Wannemuehler, the pastoral associate at St. Agnes in Nashville. The cost is \$20 payable

by May 3. Child care is available. For more information call the retreat house at 317-545-7681.

St. Francis Hospital and Health Centers will hold a special skin care clinic at 7 p.m. April 29 at the St. Francis south campus. Dr. Kim Short, a specialist in plastic surgery, is the presenter. The skin care clinic is free to Celebrating Women members and costs \$5 for nonmembers. Call 317-865-5865 for more information or to register.

VIPs . . .



Mr. and Mrs. Leonard E. Tracy of Indianapolis celebrated their 50th anniversary with Mass and renewal of vows April 12 at St. Anthony Parish in Indianapolis. A family dinner followed. The couple was married in 1947 at St. Mary Church

in Richmond. The Tracys have two children: Leo and Kathy Tracy. They also have four grandchildren.

Benedictine Sister Mary Cecile tor of religious education at St. Lawrence Church in Lawrenceburg, was honored during a Vocations Week celebration at the parish last week. Sister

Mary Cecile has been a Benedictine for 50 years. Sister Mary Cecile was honored at a dinner on April 19. The Benedictine formation group spoke at all weekend Masses to invite parishioners to consider religious vocations.

Thomas J. Meier of Good Shepherd Parish in Indianapolis was recently certified as a chaplain by the National Association of Catholic Chaplains. After earning a master's degree in pastoral theology from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, he completed a year of clinical pas-toral education at Methodist Hospital and presently serves as a weekend chaplain at St. Francis Hospital while continuing his ministry as an interim pastoral associate at Good Shepherd.

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# 'Here I am doing what I never envisioned'

God's grace prompts priest to seek HIV/AIDS ministry of advocacy, care and education

Being a priest has been the adventure of my life. Never did I imagine that the Lord would lead me to where I find myself today. The reassuring thing is that, at the most troubling times, God has made his presence known to indicate the direction to go.

Almost three years ago, God shook me from a period of self-satisfaction and complacency. Perhaps I'd been in the same parish assignment too long—12 years—or maybe God was leading me to new insights into ministry.

All I know is the Lord nudged me to seek

out a ministry for people living with HIV and AIDS.

It was not an area of pastoral care that others wanted to talk about or get too close to. People, I found, run scared when they hear the word "AIDS." It seemed easier to pretend it doesn't affect us, the church, or anyone we know. HIV and AIDS also touches on other

issues we'd rather avoid: human sexuality and substance abuse

So, here I am doing what I never envi-sioned: a ministry of advocacy, care and education for and with people on the fringes of church and society.

On a day-to-day basis, I visit with people who are alone, sometimes disowned by family and friends, lost even to organized religion. The stories of the people I have encountered in the past three years would make you laugh, cry, and gasp in disbelief at the hurt and pain inflicted on them by others.

Having said all that, this is the most spiri-tually rewarding time of my priesthood. The Lord has given me insights into his ways that I've never experienced previously.

I have the opportunity to journey with people who have re-evaluated everything in their lives in the face of possible death, who

have chosen between hope and despair, who have embraced a God who loves them just as they are. I've initiated new members into our faith, welcomed back those who felt unwelcome, and walked to the bound-aries of the other side with the dying.

These folks have enriched me with their humanity, their insights and their spiritual awareness. Almost every day I wonder who is ministering to whom.

(Father Carlton Beever coordinates the archdiocesan Office of HIV/AIDS Ministry.)



Father Cariton Beever talks with AIDS patient Bob Creasey during a recent visit at Parkview Manor, an Indianapolis health care facility for persons with HIV and AIDS. The hand-painted mural depicts the hand of God, a detail from Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel painting of the creation of Adam.

## Lafayette Diocese plans May 31 evangelization congress

The Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana is holding an evangelization congress on the theme of "Parishes Alive for the Year 2000!"

People from the Archdiocese of Indianapolis are welcome to join in the program, which will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 31, at Our Lady of Grace Parish, 9900 E. 191st Street, Noblesville, Indiana

Paulist Fr. John Hurley will develop the theme in a keynote address based on the United States bishops' evangelization plan Go and Make Disciples. He also will present an afternoon workshop titled "Revitalizing the Parish," in which he will look at evangelization as the primary mission of the parish and explore ways to bring new life by focusing on evangelization in present ministries

rather than adding programs.

In the second workshop, Jane Bensman, evangelization and parish renewal coordinator for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, will treat "Evangelization, Parish Renewal, and Small Christian Communities-They Have in Common?" As she follows the thread of evangelization through these topics, she will include an explanation of small Christian communities and how to implement them to evangelize active and not-so-

Fr. Hurley founded the Paulist

Evangelization Center in Portland, Oregon, in 1976 to help parishes in the most unchurched area of the nation become active evangelizing parishes. Old St. Mary's in San Francisco became known as an evangelizing and reconciling parish during his pastorate. He presently serves as special assistant to the Committee on Evangelization for the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Jane Bensman is a wife and mother. She served as Cincinnati Archdiocesan RENEW coordinator, pastoral associate at a parish, and with her husband, as a member of a small Christian community for 28 years. Her responsibilities as coordinator for evangelization and parish renewal for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati include providing resources and training for evangelization, parish renewal, development of small Christian communities, and consultation for the Third Millennium Committee.

The \$6 fee for the day includes lunch and a copy of Go and Make Disciples.
Registration deadline is May 15. Indianapolis people can obtain a brochure and registration form by contacting Jesuit Father Joe Folzenlogen, at the Evangelization Commission office, 317-236-1489 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1489, or e-mail him at evangelize@archindy.org.

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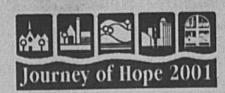
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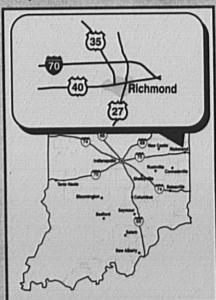
Richmond Catholic Community

Holy Family, St. Andrew and St. Mary parishes Richmond

By Joyce Ann Fessler and Margaret Nelson

### **Fast facts:**

Kathyrn Schlichte is principal of St. Eliz-abeth Seton School, which serves nearly 300 students from the three Richmond parishes. Children from kindergarten through third grade attend school next to St. Mary Church, called Seton East. And those in grades four through eight go to Seton West, near Holy Family Church.



# **Richmond Catholic Community collaborates** through joint council

Collaboration works well for the Richmond Catholic Community. Comboni, Missionary Father Todd Riebe, administrator of the three parishes, calls it "the ve of the future.

Holy Family, St. Andrew and St. Mary parishes not only share the same priests but they also have a joint pastoral council. They share the same parish director of reli-

gious education, youth ministry coordinator and music director, as well.

Father Gregory Bramlage is associate pas-tor. Sue Deitsch is parish administrator of religious education, Mary Williams is youth ministry coordinator, and Debbie Hanneman is music director.

Children from all three parishes attend the same Catholic school which holds classes at Holy Family and St. Mary in Richmond.
But the three parishes are distinct entities

by themselves.

Dan Bach, president of the St. Andrew pastoral council said, "The more we work together on the joint council, the greater the individual benefit to St. Andrew Parish and to the entire Richmond Catholic Community.

"It is in working together that we ensure the continance of each parish entity," said Bach. "It is the more effective and efficient "He said it conserves limited resources, both human and financial.

The joint meetings are held every other month, usually at St. Andrew. The week before, the presidents, vice presidents and secretaries of the three parish councils meet at the rectory for a joint executive committee meeting and dinner.

The presidents of the three parish councils take turns as president at the joint meetings. And the three councils have their own monthly meetings after the larger group has finished.

Bach said that many times the joint pastoral council agrees to use a standardized approach in each parish.
"Since many St. Andrew parishioners attend Sunday Mass at other parishes, a standardized program is more easily communicated and understood. He believes that communication is improved and simplified.

Even when similar approaches are not adopted, core ideas and timetables are often taken from those common meetings and adapted to one or more of the parishes by their council(s), he said.

Joan Bertsch, council president for Holy Family Parish, said that the collaboration helps all three parishes accomplish more in the way of fundraising and community service activities.

St. Mary Council President Mike Pappin said that the joint council "helps us see that we are not alone in the trials—and also the ices, that we averginge in parish life."

s—that we experience in parish life." Each parish still maintains its own "per-

sona," according to Bach. And the other parishes respect that. He said the respect comes from developing a knowledge and

understanding for each other.

Bach said that, a few years ago, he knew 10 or 20 people in his own parish and even fewer in "the other two Catholic churches in town."

He said that, because of the interaction required by the joint Richmond Catholic Community council, he now knows 200 people by name from all the parishes.

"Many people, from all the parishes, have widened their focus," he said. "As we interact, we learn more than people's names. We learn how they feel about church, about their church, and about God. Based on this grassroots knowl-edge, the people in the three parishes have learned how to trust each other."

Asked what St. Andrew offers to the total community, Bach said, "The same respect for their uniqueness that it offers us."

Bertsch said that Holy Family is responsible for repairs and maintenance at Seton West, the building where children in grades four through eight from all parishes attend school.

Pappin said that St. Mary, like the other

two parishes, contributes to the school and the

joint parish choir. The younger children attend school in the St. Mary building.

Bach calls the youth program—which combines the young people of all three parishes—one of the strongest ministries held at St. Andrew, along with the social committee and the outreach program.

Medicina Shoppa

- Constant

mittee and the outreach program. The Holy Family Women's Club is known for its annual

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fund-raising salad smorgasbord. There, parishioners may request a dinner after the funeral of a family member.

Mary Williams is youth ministry coordinator for all three parishes. She said, "To the youth, it's just one group. "I think it's great. We used to all meet together every

month," she said. Williams can send a report to the joint

council, but she tries to attend in person.

"It's good for us to let people know what we're doing," she said. "When we need financial support, people know what we're doing."

St. Andrew Parish asked Williams to suggest a couple of young people who could attend the parish council meetings.
The young people will present the reports about the ministry.
Williams considers it a good situation that three members of the (adult) youth commission are on their own

parish councils. The commission, along with the parish councils, supervises her work.

councils, supervises her work.

Hanneman, who began playing the organ as a fifthgrade student at Holy Family, is music director. Since the Richmond parishioners do attend other Catholic churches, she thinks it is important that the music is similar.

"It helps them participate well," she said.

Bach calls the joint council "a group of caring people trying to solve parish problems under the leadership of our

"We are working to serve the needs of our three parishes," said Bach. "The joint pastoral council co-exists equally with the individual councils of the parishes. It is the leadership of the pastor and the attitudes of the people that

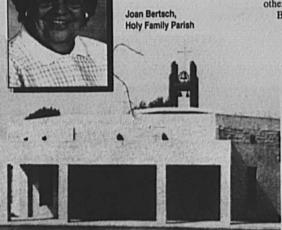
leadership of the pastor and the annual make the concept work."

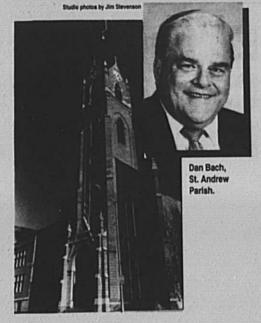
Bertsch said, "The joint council is great. We work together on most things." Mike Pappin said the three-parish council "wholeheartedly gives support to [St. Elizabeth]

Seton School." The board of

education makes regular reports, he said.

Baptism, confirmation and First Communion for all parishes are scheduled in





a different church each year.

During Holy Week, the Richmond Catholic Community joined in one church for the Holy Thursday Mass, as well as the Easter Vigil. The Lenten soup dinners and talks are com-

munity events as well.

The Richmond Catholic Community operates a food and the Richmond Catholic Community operates a food pantry. The three parishes have a common men's club. And the whole community works together for the Seton Fest.

"Speakers and days of reflection are always shared events in the Richmond Catholic Community," said Bertsch.

Pappin said, "By doing things together, we work for a common goal and we get to know more people from the other two parishes."

Bach said that working together "concernes on the content works."

Bach said that working together "conserves our most limited resource—our priests." He added that sharing the staff helps St. Andrew provide for the needs

and preferences in a cost-effective manner.
"We feel united in our efforts to do Christ's work," said Bertsch of Holy Family. At St. Mary, Pappin said, "By working together, we can do more things for more people, and have more resources to do them.

Bach said that, because of the collaboration, Richmond Catholic Community is now studying the feasibility of a Catholic high school in Richmond.

He sees the positive effect of such activities as the Richmond Community Choir singing in a non-Catholic church. The pastor there expressed surprise that the group could sing so well and that three different parishes could be brought together to sing.

The youth group "spreads the Gospel by strong example," said Bach.

He said that the process is not perfect and admitted that

it has been difficult for many parishioners.
Father Todd said, "The mode we see here in Richmond is what we're going to see more and more in places where the pastoral teams care for two or three places

He said that parishes feared losing their own pastors because they thought they would experience the loss of their identities. "Instead, they gained something—the identity of belonging to a larger Catholic community. It changed to things they gained rather than to a loss."

Father Todd said people have told him they never want to go back to the former structure.

"United one of the really bright each is how wall the

go back to the former structure.

"I think one of the really bright spots is how well the councils work together on projects. It gives everyone a tremendous sense of belonging to something," he said.

Like Father Todd, Pappin sees this collaboration as a model for others. "In this time of increased need and of

greater concern, the prospect of three parishes working as

one should be very appealing."

Bertsch said, "I think our three parishes are unique, and I don't know if we could be a model for other parishes.

"When we had a pastor at each church, we worked for our own parishes, but now we work more as a Catholic community," said Bertsch.

She said that the change from three pastors to one was unnerving, because each parish feared losing its identity.

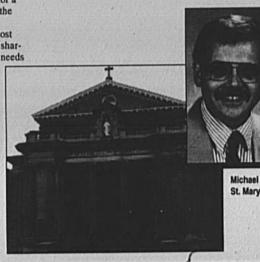
"Our fears were unfounded, as we have maintained our individuality." Bertsch said. Calling the callebration.

individuality," Bertsch said. Calling the collaboration "very rewarding," she said, "I'm sure this is what being a Christian is all about."

"It does work, but the process still can be improved," said Bach. "It takes patience from our pastor, it takes com-mitment from community members, and it takes hard

work. . .but it is very rewarding.

"It absolutely could not have happened without God's help," said Bach.





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# **News briefs**

### Children's health focus of next Stand for Children

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Children's health will be the focus of what could become an annual series of Stand for

Children rallies around the nation. Marian Wright Edelman, who organized the first Stand for Children last year, said in an April 15 conference call with reporters that at least 200 events had been scheduled to take place in all 50 states and the District of Columbia June 1—the anniversary date of last year's march in Washington — or during the weekend days preceding it. Edelman called on the religious community to be the "moral locomotive" guiding the rest of the nation into protecting children's health.

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### Senate passage of assisted suicide funding ban hailed

WASHINGTON (CNS)-The U.S. Senate sent "a strong message to courts and legislatures around the country" with its 99-0 vote April 16 to ban federal funding of assisted suicide, according to an official of the U.S. bishops Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities. The message is "that the federal government does not see assisted suicide as a legitidoes not see assisted suicide as a legiti-mate medical procedure," said Richard M. Doerflinger, associate director for policy development in the pro-life office. The bill also tells people "that there will always be havens even in the secular health care system where patients cannot be killed by their doc-tors—VA and military hospitals, federal enclayes, Medicare, federal employees" enclaves, Medicare, federal employees' health plans, and so on," he added.

### Both sides in dispute hopeful after meeting

ST. LOUIS (CNS)—A dispute over recognition of a teachers union by the St. Louis Archdiocese led to a recent meeting between Archbishop Justin F. Rigali and Catholic school elementary teachers, and both sides in the dispute termed it a constructive beginning. Teachers at the April 7 meeting represented each of the 13 regions of the archdiocesan school system and the fledgling union, the Association of Catholic Elementary Educators.

Archbishop Rigali said the meeting with the 14 teachers was "very cordial." The purpose was not to discuss the union issue but to have an explanary with the control of th but to have an exchange with teachers, he said. Robin Heimos, a fourth-grade teacher at St. Francis of Assisi School in Oakville and union president, called the meeting a positive first step.

### World

### Cardinal Ratzinger: Mass reform seriously damaged church

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—The drastic manner in which the Mass was reformed in 1969 provoked "extremely serious damage" to the church, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger said. While many of the liturgical changes were needed, the suppression of the old Mass marked a "break in the history of the liturgy, the consequences of which could only be tragic," the head of the Vatican's doctrinal congregation said in an autobio-graphical book released in Italy in mid-April. "I am convinced that the ecclesial crisis in which we find ourselves today depends in great part on the collapse of the liturgy," the German cardinal said. The book's German title translates to From My Life: Remem-brances 1927-1977.

### Guatemalan bishops defend peasants' right of access to land

GUATEMALA CITY (CNS)—
Guatemala's bishops have defended the right of the country's peasant population to have access to land, but denied they were inciting the rural population into illegal squatting.
"The peasants have a right to demand land, se it is a claim which is still latent, said the bishops in a pastoral letter published April 14 in the capital, Guatemala City. "The Catholic Church respects private property," the document said. But it added that land 'should have a social function; its use and ownership should be for everyone's wellbeing. However there are many people with no land." The bishops' letter comes amid accusations from the powerful Chamber of Agriculture that four priests and a former head of the bishops' conference, Bishop Gerardo Humberto Flores Reyes of Vera Paz, are encouraging landless peasants to occupy properties in the northern Peten and Verapaces regions.

### Peruvian bishops pray for remaining hostages

LIMA, Peru (CNS)—Peru's bishops have expressed their solidarity with and constant prayer for more than 72 hostages who have been in the Japanese Embassy since December. "One hundred and 20 days of captivity of innocent hostages has become an open wound that hurts the whole country and is a source of suffering for 72 families," the bishops said in an April 16 statement. As a Peruvian archbishop shuttled between the Japanese Embassy and the presidential palace, one Peruvian official said he believed the hostage crisis was nearing "a peaceful end."

### Vatican official urges caution when taking government funds

ROME (CNS)—Catholic charitable agencies should be cautious when considering political involvement or accepting government funding, said the president of the Pontifical Council Cor Unum. "Political action can imprison its actors," said Archbishop Paul J. Cordes, president of the council, which promotes and coordinates charitable giving. Charitable groups that seek political alliances to improve their effectiveness "are moving on dangerous ground," the archbishop said. During the council's April 16-19 plenary meeting in Rome, Archbishop Cordes presented a paper on Christian charity, its relationship to the faith and the dangers of it becoming too closely tied to secular political or social movements.

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



### Boggs next Vatican anbassador

Former Congresswoman Lindy Boggs would make a fine U.S ambassador to the Vatican, said current Ambassador Raymond L. Flynn. Boggs, 81, was reported to be President Clinton's choice for the post.



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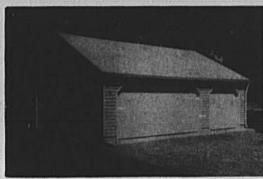


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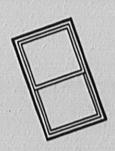
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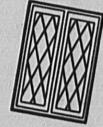




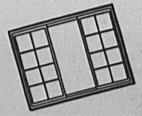
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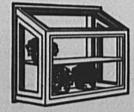
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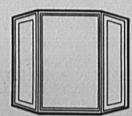


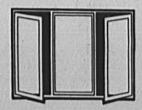
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# Cardinal's approach to death example for all

NEW YORK (CNS)—A physician who specializes in care of the dying cited the open way Chicago Cardinal Joseph L. Bernardin dealt with his approaching death as an example for others coping with terminal illness.

Cardinal Bernardin was a wonderful story," said Dr. Joanne Lynn, director of the Center to Improve Care of the Dying at George Washington University Medical Center in Washington.

She said the cardinal's case was unusual in that it was so widely known she could use it in talking with her patients.

Lynn said care of the dying could be improved by physicians treating pain better and by a social accep-tance of life's last stages as an emotional and spiritual experience.

She also said inadequate funding for care of the dying was "a major issue in the way of doing a good job."

Lynn spoke April 17 in New York at a symposium

held by the Coalition for Quality End-of-Life Care. Organized by the American Medical Association in Chicago last August, the coalition is made up of national and state organizations in the health field that oppose physician-assisted suicide. The Catholic Health Association is among the members.

The symposium was held for reporters in an effort to increase their awareness of issues facing the public and to update them on efforts by health professionals to offset calls for physician-assisted suicide by providing better care to the dying.

Funding for the symposium came from the Project on Death in America, which is directed by Dr. Kathleen

Foley of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.
Foley spoke on palliative care for the dying and called on media representatives to help stimulate a "national discourse" about the issues involved in their care.

She said pain experienced by patients dying from can-cer and other diseases is often "inadequately treated," and she has found "enormous fear out there."

But she also called attention to the social issues involved when people want to end their lives because they feel they are a burden and are losing control.

Patients, their families and physicians need to be more sophisticated in handling the depression that is often a factor in requests for suicide, she added.

New York State Attorney General Dennis C. Vacco, who argued against physician-assisted suicide in one of

the cases before the Supreme Court, announced at the symposium that he was establishing a commission to study the issues that he said would endure however the

While the general goal of symposium sponsors was to focus attention on alternatives to suicide, they did include advocates of physician-assisted suicide in the

Dr. Timothy E. Quill, professor of medicine and psy-chiatry at the University of Rochester, N.Y., talked about improving care of the dying, but said he always assured his patients he would help them end their lives if they got to the stage that their pain was intolerable.

He said that a few patients do suffer severely despite the best care and want a commitment from their physician that "if they are in a bad situation you won't abandon them.

"It almost never leads to suicide," he said. "But even when they do not make that choice, they find it "liberating" to know they could choose to do it, he said

Quill is the first of three physicians named in the suit challenging the New York law so the case is called Vacco v. Ouill.

In his remarks, Vacco said for the first time he was meeting the man whose named was linked with his in the case and praised him as among the best physicians.
But Vacco said too much potential for abuse would be unleashed if every physician had the legal authority to assist in suicide.

The symposium also included a debate between two people in wheelchairs who spoke from the special perspective of the disabled.

Andrew Batavia, a Miami lawyer who submitted a friend-of-the-court brief to the Supreme Court on behalf of a disabled group, argued that the goal of the handicapped was gaining the right "to control our lives."

He said "autonomy of the individual" is the primary

value and that such autonomy must prevail over potential

dangers of a "slippery slope."

Diane Coleman, a lawyer who founded an organization of the disabled called Not Dead Yet and who also submitted a brief to the Supreme Court on behalf of them, argued that the disabled would be disproportionately

affected by legalization of suicide.

While other people who talked of suicide would be given counseling, physicians would agree with the dis-abled who came to feel their lives were not worth living and would help them end them.

Coleman complained that the media frames the physician-assisted suicide issue as a battle of "compassionate progressives" against "religious conservatives." She said the debate is "not about suicide" but about discrimination against the group of people she represents.

Batavia and Quill suggested that physician-assisted

suicide was similar to ending life support systems and giving heavy pain sedation, which were accepted by opponents of suicide.

But that drew a strong objection from Dr. John W. Hoyt, chairman of the Critical Care Medicine Department at St. Francis Medical Center in Pittsburgh. He said that in the case currently before the Supreme Court, circuit court judges made no distinction between physician-assisted suicide and "turning off the ventilator."

If the Supreme Court treats those two approaches as the same, and the result is either that both are made illegal or both legal, the result will be objectionable to

# Rome diocese sets up office to counter cults

ROME (CNS)—The Diocese of Rome—and of Pope John Paul II-has established a pastoral task force to counter recent inroads made by religious cults among

young people.

The Rome Vicariate, which runs the diocese on the pope's behalf, said in mid-April it was setting up a section for "Sects and New Cults" to respond to the growing interest in the occult, seers, prophesies and even Satanism.

"Our young Catholics are among those subject to risk, and they are being targeted by the directors of sects, cults, alternative religious movements and the like," said Sandro Leoni, head of the new pastoral

Recent publications of the diocese have cited an increase in membership in religious cults, which often combine promises of career success with a vague reli-

A respected Italian magazine, Prospettive nel Mondo (Perspectives in the World), recently estimated that some 250,000 people in Rome are directly involved to some degree in the activities of cults or sects.

The Rome vicariate said the new pastoral office would focus on "preventative" programs, primarily in parishes and schools.

The Vatican newspaper recently ran a series of arti-

cles on satanic cults, warning that they were a real phe-nomenon. Reports on esoteric cults and Satanism are common in Italian daily newspapers.

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# Faith Alive!

A supplement to Catholic newspapers published by Catholic News Service, 3211 Fourth Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20017-1100. All contents are copyrighted © 1997 by Catholic News Service.

# Listen with an open mind in order to learn

By Fr. Robert L. Kinast

At the local barber shop, I get more than a haircut. I get the opinions of year-round residents and seasonal tourists on all the current events.

During the O.J. Simpson trial, there were more heated debates in that barber shop than occurred in the Los Angeles courtroom.

Not long ago, some people thought they saw the image of the Madonna and

child on the window of an office building in our area.

Reactions in the form of judgments

about this ranged from unquestioning belief to scoffing ridicule. Judgments. We all make them, we all hear them, we all deal with them. Parents make numerous judgments in raising children.

Employers judge among qualified applicants for a job. Citizens judge hich candidates deserve their votes.

Yet as Christians we have been cautioned by Jesus about making judgments: "Stop judging, that you may not be judged" (Matthew 7:1). judged" (Mattnew What did he mean?

Just before that biblical passage, Jesus encouraged his listeners to trust in God's care for them and seek the kingdom of God rather than worrying about things excessively.

When Jesus warned his followers not to judge others, it was a reminder that our human judgments should contribute to the fulfillment of God's desires for all

According to God's covenant, all people are destined for a blessed life. This is what Jesus joyfully proclaimed as the coming

of God's reign.

But not all people act worthily. They lie, they exploit others, they are unfaithful, they steal, they kill. They provoke God's judgment.

The judgment of God must be understood in relation to the covenant of God. When God's judgment is pronounced, it is first of all an affirmation of the covenant, a restatement of God's intentions.

It is in relation to this covenant that a person's behavior is exposed as incompatible or sinful. But even then the purpose of God's judgment is to persuade people to change their way of life.

Following God's example in making our own judgments is not easy, but a friend of mine who recently retired as a court judge offered some helpful

Good judgment includes three charac-

teristics, he believes.

· Listening is the first characteristic, he said. An open mind is needed as well as the discipline to let the facts speak for themselves.

The standard representation of justice as a blindfolded person with an extended arm holding scales typifies this characteristic. The evidence in each case should be the basis of judgment, not personal preference.

In religious terms we should first listen to the word of God before presuming to judge others according to it.

The opposite of this mentality is prejudice. A prejudiced person has a closed mind, already made up without considering or caring what the facts are.

It is widely believed that some people

judged O. J. Simpson guilty just because

he is an African-American, while others judged him innocent for the same reason.

 this is true, they prejudged him.
 Learning is the second characteristic of good judgment. This requires an informed mind and the willingness to gain new knowledge.

Good judgments are made in the frame-work of established values, but no one completely grasps the meaning of those values and how to apply them. This is why court judges review prior cases, medical doctors consult one another, and test cases are used to teach moral and business prin-

In religious terms we are always learning what God's covenant means

gnorance is the opposite of the attitude of learning that characterizes good judg-ment—not the absence of knowledge, but the refusal to learn.

Sometimes this form of ignorance stems from insecurity, sometimes from a fear that new knowledge will force a person to

make unwelcome changes.

Some people criticize the computer age simply because they are not familiar with it. Some professionals judge continuing education a waste of time because they don't want to rethink what they were

taught when they earned their degrees.

Third, good judgment looks ahead. This requires a broad mind, the ability to look beyond the immediate situation and see the implications for the future.

In jurisprudence, court decisions set legal precedent; in government, laws determine public policy; in business, deci-sions affect people's livelihoods and

In all areas of life, especially religion, judgments should envision how everybody

can benefit both now and in the future.

The opposite attitude is self-serving. In this case people make judgments to benefit themselves, assuming that there are only winners and losers, and that only their opinion is right and all others are wrong.

It happens when one group outshouts all other groups so that only its opinion will be heard. But most of us need to ask at one time or another how self-serving our

approach to other people is.

Exercising good judgment is not always easy. But listening with an open mind, learning with a willing mind, and looking ahead with a broad mind are great assets-

even at the local barber shop. (Father Robert Kinast is the director of the Center for Theological Reflection at Indian Rocks Beach, Fla.)



Judgments. We all make them. We all hear them. We all deal with them. Parents make judgments in raising children. Employers judge among qualified applicants for a job. Citizens judge which candidates deserve their votes. Yet as Christians we have been cautioned by Jesus about making judgments.

### Discussion Point

# Constructive advice helps others

### This Week's Question

Was there a time when someone attempted to exercise "fraternal correction" of you? Was the person effec-

"The head of a church committee . . . insist(ed) I continue serving on the committee. I accepted his authority and remained, so in that sense he was effective. However, the manner in which he approached me left something to be desired: I felt steamrolled instead of being treated in a respectful way." (Lori Mainiero, Shreveport, La.)

"My best friend . . . . We are both capable of giving each other heartfelt, constructive advice. We do this for each other in a very gentle, loving manner." (Patty Sosenheimer, Fort Wayne, Ind.)

"It was my mother, who explained to me that all peo-ple are children of God. I learned not to judge people

by their appearance. She helped me not to let peer pressure influence my attitude." (Debbie Greenwood, pressure influence i West Chicago, Ill.)

'Jesus showed us that we have to be gentle and understanding in our approach. Then, if grace is operating, a person is open to change. Every exercise of tough love is an instance of fraternal correction." (Father John Oldfield, OAR Suffern, N.Y.)

### Lend Us Your Voice

An upcoming edition asks: Is there a Gospel story or passage that you return to again and again? What draws you to it?

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### Entertainment

Viewing with Arnold/James W. Arnold

# Grosse Pointe Blank examines morality

Grosse Pointe Blank (a double pun, it turns out) is so cool it's cold. It's a cynical .



dark comedy on the moral state of society that, in the end, seems nihilism it wants to attack.

This is basically a movie about a guy (John Cusack) who is

going home to Grosse
Pointe (the Detroit
suburb that symbolizes all affluent suburbs) for the "horror" of his 10th high school reunion.

That the experience, which most people do for fun, is considered "horrible" is just the starting point for the film's megaton style of irony.

In irony, much that is shown or said is meant to be taken the opposite from the way it's normally intended. Thus, "fun" is ghastly, "success" (e.g., making it in some dull or disreputable profession) is failure, "progress" is regression. In short, nothing is taken at face value: we're asked to be is taken at face value: we're asked to be

skeptical about every word and image.

The major joke is that Cusack's Martin Blank is a professional hit man-slick and skilled, as we see in an opening action sequence involving three different killers working at cross purposes.

When he introduces himself to his old schoolmates and matter-of-factly tells them what he does, nobody even blinks.

"Need post-grad work for that?" one old pal, now in real estate, asks him.

To get perspective on this, consider the scenario if Blank had been female and described herself as a professional hooker, and gotten the same nonreactions. The film's point, via comic exaggeration, is that the moral sense has been lost. Killing is now not that much different, on the ethical level, from other jobs. You do what you have to do.

Allusions are made to more conventional business. A rival assassin, an old Army pal, Grocer (Dan Aykroyd), argues that the "market is flooded" with killers since the collapse of the Soviets, and they should form a club to share the available work. Aykroyd plays his hit man with a roly-poly comic incompe-tence, in contrast with Cusack's graceful surgeon-like dispassion.

Blank has a "secretary," Marcella (played by Cusack's sister, Joan), who manages the office and schedules his assignments. She can be sweet or nasty, e.g., dealing with ammo suppliers on the

"Her job is to arrange the execution of human beings," the Cusacks have said in an interview, "but she has a good work ethic about it."

The others we meet at the reunion are corrupt and unhappy in different but more conventional ways. A major exception is Blank's old girlfriend, Debi (Minnie Driver), who for some reason he



### The Saint

Actor Val Kilmer stars as Simon Templar in the action-adventure film *The Saint*. Here he hides under a manhole cover. The U.S. Catholic Conference classifies the film A-III for adults.

stood up on prom night before disappearing. Perhaps he couldn't face the prospect of commitment; what we see of his own parents is depressing. (For example, he goes to his father's grave and pours out a bottle of wine.)

In any case, when a girl classmate shows up at the dance with a baby and says a child "does not mean the loss of freedom" and "things just get better and better," we don't know whether to believe

The baby and Blank stare ambiguously at each other, and we're not sure if he's getting the itch to be a daddy or we're

supposed to laugh.

Driver's salt-of-the-earth Debi seems meant to be the film's moral center. (Even Blank has his own moments of con-science). Eventually, she realizes who Blank really is, after a bloody scene in which he kills off a rival in a brutal fight in the high school hallway and stuffs the corpse in the school incinerator.

"How come you never learned that it was wrong?" she asks in outrage, ". . . t

was wrong?" she asks in outrage, "... that there are some things you don't do?"

But by the fadeout, a few minutes later, she forgives him and goes off with him, because his skills have saved her father's life, or maybe just because Greene British life, or maybe just because Grosse Pointe needed a happy and trite ending (high angle shot, they drive off out of town in a convertible).

Heaven knows, we need moral comment, and at its best, for a minute or two, this movie hopefully recalls the black comedy tradition of Dr. Strangelove or (more recently) To Die For. But Grosse can never successfully make fun of anything but assassination, which is not yet (at least) in danger of being a national pastime.

The dark comic violence is laid on

rather heavily by director George
Armitage, with endless gunfights, shattering crockery and glass, and extremely
expensive explosions providing a frequent
counterpoint to the suburban homecoming and chitchat. (Armitage has not been heard from since 1990's Miami Blues, which was described as "violent and cynical.") In their climactic shootout, Blank and Grocer must rattle off a thousand rounds each, but neither conveys the impression that he's fired a weapon in anger before.

(Dark satire wants to spoof the terror of reunions, as well as how kids without moral roots slip easily into a pointless material culture, but overdoses on hip irony and offers mostly two hours of familiar Hollywood violence; adult content, language; not recommended). USCC classification: O, morally

# Classifications

reviews and ratings by the United States Catholic Conference.

### Recently reviewed by the USCC

Crash	.0
Liar, Liar	-III
Mandela	-11
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Mass with Bishop Jacques Perrier, Bishop of Chartres.

- Prayer Vigil in Paris, Bercy Sports Stadium

   Meeting of the five routes organized by the Emmanue Community from Paray-le-Monial, Lisieux, Beauraing Altotting, Loreto.
- Special international evening with Jean Vanier, Guy Gilbert, Sister Emmanuelle.

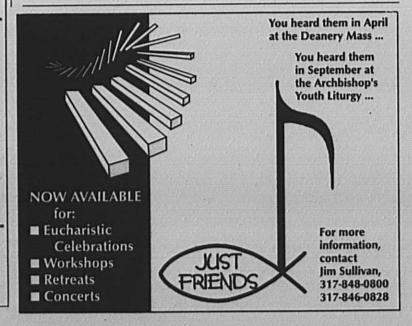
- sands of young people with John Paul II for a vigil at the Longchamps hippodrome.
- 8/24/97. Closing Mass, cele-brated by John Paul II with cardinals and bishops from all over the world.



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# The Sunday Readings

Sunday, April 27, 1997

- · Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31
- 1 John 3:18-24
- · John 15:1-8

The Acts of the Apostles is the source of this weekend's first reading.



Saul of Tarsus. Saul, a Jew born and reared in Tarsus-in the first century A.D. an important city on the Mediterranean coastonce persecuted Christians, However, after an encounter with Jesus, Saul converted

to Christianity. He spent some time in Damascus, today the capital of Syria.

When he returned to Jerusalem, Christian leaders there remembered him as a persecutor. They understandably

were afraid of him.

Barnabas, one of the Christians, then reassured the others that they had nothing to fear. (Barnabas was a Jew, a Levite, from Cyprus who himself had converted

to Christianity.)
Accepted by the Christians, Saul remained in Jerusalem for a while, moving freely throughout the city. He debated with pagans, speaking to them in Greek. Having been reared in a Roman city, and having been well-educated, Paul spoke Greek well. When he was threatened, Christians

took him to Caesarea, near today's city of

Tel Aviv, and sent him back to Tarsus.
The reading stresses that the church in Jerusalem was at peace. The revelation here about peace might seem to imply that all was well because Saul was preaching. Actually, it implies a link between Saul's preaching and peace. All was at peace because God's will was being served and the message of Jesus was being pro-

claimed. Jesus brings peace.

The First Epistle of John provides this weekend's Liturgy of the Word with a gracious and eloquent message. It gently begins by greeting readers as "little chil-dren." Then, strongly but kindly, it calls God's children to live their lives with love for others and in obedience to God.

St. John's Gospel gives this weekend its Gospel message.

Last week, the Lord was presented as the Good Shepherd. This week the Lord is the vine of life. An imagery involving vines would have been very familiar to Jews of the first century A.D. In their society, wine was a common beverage, so grapes were grown to produce wine.

grapes were grown to produce wine.

Jesus is the "true" vine. This one word adds considerable meaning to the text. In the past, other holy writers spoke of vines. The nation of Israel, for example, was a vine.

The Lord is the true vine, attached to those who love God, bringing them the sap which is the life of God. This life builds belieses in people. However, to

builds holiness in people. However, to connect with God, more is needed than lip service. Truly to unite with God means in all reality to live as Jesus lived. A Christian who is not living in the example of Jesus is indeed a withered vine.

The message of the church for this Easter season moves in somewhat of a different direction. For weeks since Easter the church excitedly has proclaimed the fact that the Lord lives. He is risen!

The church this weekend underscores the centrality of Jesus in the Christian life. He is the "true vine." In Jesus, all believ-ers are God's "little children."

However, in these readings, the church tises the issue of discipleship. Those who follow Jesus commit themselves to the example of Jesus, to the love of Jesus, to the obedience of Jesus. Jesus is indeed the true vine, the link with God. In Jesus flows the life of God.

Sadly, some who have identified themselves as Christians fail themselves. They reject the life of God, They sin. They become withered branches on the vine.

The justice of God is perfect. God prunes away deadwood. But, as the second reading says, all life, and only victory awaits those who are faithful to God.

Paul is furnished as an example of the

true Christian. Even though other Christians looked at him with suspicion, he nevertheless boldly proclaimed the person and message of Jesus. He fulfilled his Christian commitment by answering his Christian calling. Because of this, all was at peace. When Christians obey God, when they entrust themselves completely to God in faith, all is at peace.

### **Daily Readings**

Monday, April 28 Peter Chanel, presbyter, religious, missionary and martyr Acts 14:5-18 Psalm 115:1-4, 15-16 John 14:21-26

Tuesday, April 29 Catherine of Siena, virgin and doctor of the church Acts 14:19-28 Psalm 145:10-13, 21 John 14:27-31a

Wednesday, April 30 Pius V, pope and religious Acts 15:1-6 Psalm 122:1-5 Iohn 15:1-8

Thursday, May 1 Joseph the Worker Acts 15:7-21 Psalm 96:1-3, 10 John 15:9-11

Friday, May 2 Athanasius, bishop and doctor of the church Acts 15:22-31 Psalm 57:8-12 John 15:12-17

Saturday, May 3 Philip and James, apostles 1 Corinthians 15:1-8 Psalm 19:2-5 John 14:6-14

Sunday, May 4 Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 Psalm 98:1-4 1 John 4:7-10 John 15:9-17

Question Corner/ Fr. John Dietzen

# Mother wonders about her unbaptized infant



Q Although it is 13 years since my child died, I am my child died, I am still haunted by what the hospital chaplain told me

Our child died before birth, so he or she could not have been baptized. As

you have explained in your column, the sacraments are for the living. I can understand that.

What I didn't expect was his answer to my question, "What happens to these children?"

He said unbaptized people, including children, spend forever in purgatory, with no hope of entering heaven.

I love the church and am convinced the

priest was wrong. But what he said still hurts. I hope you can give me some peace of mind. (Indiana)

Alt's difficult to believe any priest could say that, especially the part about purgatory. Sometimes we don't hear things well, particularly in moments of great stress.

If what you said is accurate, however, I apologize to you and others who have written with similar stories.

The fact is, we know very little about such matters except the one overriding certainty that people who die without bap-tism are in the hands of a loving, merciful and saving Creator.

Not many are aware, for example, that the "Catechism of the Catholic Church" says baptism is necessary for salvation "for those to whom the Gospel has been proclaimed and who have had the possi-

bility of asking for this sacrament."

Obviously, little children have not had that possibility. And we know God's pur-poses frequently are accomplished in ways we cannot imagine.

As the catechism teaches, "God has bound salvation to the sacrament of baptism, but he himself is not bound by his sacraments" (1257). Pope John Paul II, in his book

"Crossing the Threshold of Hope," speaks of God's intense desire that all people be saved.

God has told us much about his plan for salvation, and expects us to believe

But there is also much God has not told us. God is unendingly at work in the sacraments, says the Holy Father,

"as well as in other ways that are known to him alone" (p. 134).

As we learn in many other matters of faith as well, it is often possible to be fairly certain about what God has

done, is doing or can do.

It is when we pretend to be certain about what God cannot do that we quickly find ourselves way out of our depth in mystery.

I hope this is of some help for you. God created your child out of love. That love, we trust, has touched your child with the same blood that offers

salvation to the rest of us. Perhaps more than any other event, the death of a child like yours can, if we let it, put us immediately in touch with the mys-tery and graciousness of God's salvation.

My wife and I have been married more than 50 years. We have four beautiful children, all grown and good

people.

My wife has always been a Catholic, and I, a Protestant. My question is, when we both die, am I allowed to be buried with her in a Catholic cemetery? (Illinois)

A From the beginning of Christianity, believers in Jesus Christ have set aside specific areas for their dead, a custom our church has preserved right up to the present.

However, its policies are not so strict as to preclude what you suggest. People who are not Catholic may be, and often are, buried in a Catholic cemetery.

Since some policies vary from place to place, it will be wise to consult your parish priest about details.

(A free brochure, published in English or Spanish, outlining marriage regulations in the Catholic Church and regulations in the Catholic Church and explaining the promises in an interfaith marriage is available by sending a stamped and self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Holy Trinity Church, 704 N. Main St., Bloomington, Ill. 61701. Questions for this column should be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address.)

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### My Journey to God

# A Gown of Silk

A child lies nestled in his mother's

womb, shielded from the world outside. A heart beats gently in his tiny body as he sleeps and grows and waits.

And angels sing a lullaby
as heaven waits in anticipation
for the birth of its Master's creation.

gown of purest silk is woven to clothe the soul of the soon-to-be-born. Lavender and rose light up the sky. Angels lift their trumpets high as the tiny creature clinches his fist and stirs within his mother's womb.

Then thunder rumbles and heaven is shaken

as the angels watch in horror. The child is torn from his mother's

and his body mutilated by hands that

made to heal-hands that God created.



And heaven hangs its head to cry, A veil of blood now covers the sky, and angels come down with their gown

to wrap the soul that now lies still.

(Elizabeth Nix is a member of St. Paul Parish in Tell City. Her poem was written in memory of the 35 million babies who have lost their lives in abortion since it was legalized in 1973.)

### The Active List

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

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### SUNDAYS

Sacred Heart Church Indianapolis, will hold Marian Prayer, 2-3 p.m.

Holy Guardian Angels Church, 203 U. S. 52, Cedar Grove, will hold eucharistic adoration Sunday, from 6-8 p.m.

### MONDAYS

Benedict Inn, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove, yoga classes from 7-8:30 p.m. Information, fees, registration:

Qty Album Title

Address

Telephone Number ( )

City

TUESDAYS

Benedict Inn, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove, follow-up to centering prayer. Information: 317-788-7581.

Our Lady of the Greenwood Marian Prayer group will meet from 7-8 p.m. in the chapel to pray the rosary and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

### WEDNESDAYS

At Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 57th & Central Ave.,

Indianapolis, a Marian Cenacle will meet to pray the rosary from 1-2:15 p.m.

St. Francis Hospital & Health Center Hospice will hold a bereavement support group 3 -4:30 p.m. at 8111 S. Emerson Ave., Indianapolis; or 6:30 - 8 p.m. at 438 S. Emerson Ave., Indianapolis. Information, registration: 317-865-2092.

### THURSDAYS

St. Francis Hospital & Health Centers weight management program, 6 - 8 p.m, in the St. Francis Food & Nutrition Conference Room, 1600 Albany St., Beech Grove Information, registration, 317-783-8961

St. Lawrence Church, Indianapolis, will have adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel from 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Mass.

### FRIDAYS

St. Susanna Church, 1210 E. Main, Plainfield, will hold ado ration of the Blessed Sacrament from 8-a.m.-7 p.m. every Friday.

St. Lawrence Church, Indianapolis, will have adora-tion of the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel every Friday from 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Mass. Benediction before Mass.

A pro-life rosary will be prayed every Friday morning at 10 a.m. in front of Affiliated Women's Services, Inc., 2215 Distributors Dr., Indianapolis.

### SATURDAYS

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

### MONTHLY

### FIRST FRIDAYS

Holy Guardian Angels Church, 203 U. S. 52, Cedar Grove, will have eucharistic adoration after 8 a.m. Mass until 5 p.m.

St. Roch Parish, 3600 S. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis, will hold First Friday Vigil adoration from 7-8 p.m.

Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 5333 E. Washington St., Indianapolis, will hold a Sacred Heart devotion from 7-8 p.m.

St. Thomas Parish, Fortville, will hold Mass, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament starting at 6:30 p.m., followed by dis-cussion of the Eucharist. Information: 317-485-5102.

SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral Council and Court #191 of the Knights and Ladies of Peter Claver will sponsor the First Friday rosary at 5:15 p.m. in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, 1347 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis.

Apostolate of Fatima will hold holy hour at 2 p.m. in Little Flower Chapel, 13th & Bosart, Indianapolis. Information: 317-784-9757.

Holy Angels Parish, 740 W. 28th St., Indianapolis, will hold exposition of the Blessed crament from 11 a.m. to noon.

St. Joseph Hill, 2605 St. Joe Rd. West, Sellersburg, will hold First Friday eucharistic adoration following 8 a.m. Mass and closing with 3 p.m. benediction.

Sacred Heart Church, 1530 Union St., Indianapolis, will Sacrament following 8 a.m.

Mass in the chapel, closing with benediction at 5:15 p.m.

### FIRST SUNDAYS

St. Nicholas, Sunman, will hold a S.A.C.R.E.D. Meeting at 7:30 a.m.

### SECOND SUNDAYS

Benedict Inn, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove, will hold a monthly family gathering, 2-6 p.m. Fee: Adult, \$10. 12 and under, \$5.

St. Patrick Parish, Indianapolis, will hold a Tridentine (Latin) Mass at 1:30 p.m.

### FOURTH SUNDAYS

The Sacred Heart Fraternity of Secular Franciscans will meet at 3 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Parish chapel, 1530 Union St., Indianapolis. Benediction and

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Pigeon Forge/Dollywood... July 11 (214 days) ....

Berne, IN ... July 26 (2 days) ... Bear Creek Farm

Myrtle Beach... Sept. 2 (6 days) ... 4 shows .....

Cape Cod ... July 12 (9 days) ... Whales, Martha's Vineyard ...

Niagara Falls... Aug. 30 (3 days) ... Labor Day Escape .....

Yellowstone... July 19 (12 days) ... our first national park.....

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Franciscan service followed by business meeting and social. Information: 317-888-8833.

### FIRST TUESDAYS

Divine Mercy Chapel, next to Cardinal Ritter High School, Indianapolis, will hold benedic-tion of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:30 p.m. Confession at 6:45 p.m.

### THIRD MONDAYS

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

### THIRD WEDNESDAYS

Catholic Widowed Organization will meet at 7-9 p.m. at the Archbishop O'Meara Catholic

Center, 1400 N. Meridian St. Indianapolis. Information: 317-887-9388.

Calvary Cemetery Chapel, Indianapolis, Mass at 2 p.m. . . .

Our Lady of Peace Cemetery and Mausoleum, 9001 N. Haverstick Road, Indianapolis, Mass at 2 p.m. Information: 317-574-8898.

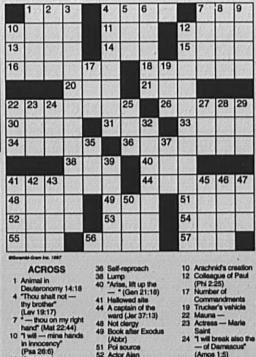
### THIRD THURSDAYS

Benedict Inn, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove, will hold a Women in Ministry and Women in Healthcare Breakfast, 7:30-9 a.m. Fee: \$5. Information: 317-788-7581.

Sacred Heart Church, 1530 Union St., Indianapolis, will hold Family Rosary Night, 7 p.m.

-See ACTIVE LIST, page 17

# Catholic<sup>o</sup> Crossword



### **ACROSS**

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- ACHOSS
  Animal in
  Deuteronomy 14:18
  "Thou shalt not—
  thy brothes"
  (Lev 19:17)
  "— thou on my right
  hand" (Malt 22:44)
  "I will mine hands
  in innocency"
  (Pas 26:6)
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  Otherwise

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- 36 Self-reproach
  38 Lurrp
  40 "Arise, lift up the
   " (Gen 21:16)
  41 Halkowed sile
  44 A captain of the
  ward (Jer 37:13)
  48 Not dergy
  49 Book after Exodus
  (Abbr)
  51 Pol source
  52 Actor Alan
  53 Have debts
  54 Single item
  (Num 21:29)
  56 Decorative pitcher
  57 Jesus walked on this
  (Mat 14:25)

### DOWN

- 1 Unclothed 2 There were seven churches here (Rev 1:4) 3 Biblical city (Acts 17:1) 4 Texas city 5 Commercials 6 "Break their , O God" (Psa 58:6) 7 One from Belgrade 8 of Capri 9 Relate a story

- 24 "I will break also the
   of Damascus"
  (Amos 1:5)
  25 "He shall not strive,
   cry" (Mat 12:19)
  27 Packde
  28 Holy people (Abbr)
  29 Golfing need
  32 "— us from evi"
  (Luke 11:4)
  35 Joshua's father
  (Num 11:28)
  37 Scratch, dent
  39 Underneath
  11 Cabbage salad
  42 Angelic ring
  43 "They upon
  horses" (Jer 62:3)
  45 Tarzan's male
  46 Opera highlight
  47 "And my wrath shall
  wax " (Ex 22:24)
  50 Ram's male

Answers on page 22 Appeal of the raise of the colognia

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Assign value to Miriam's brother (1Ch 6:3)

### The Active List, continued from page 17

St. Francis of Assissi Newman Center at Ball State University, Muncie, will sponsor a faculty development workshop "Understanding the Forces
Developing Generation X", presented by Linda Furge, beginning with 5:15 p.m. Mass. Information, reservations: 765-288-6180.

### April 26

April 26
St. John Starlight Educational
Center Child Care Ministry,
will sponsor a community yard
sale in the gymnasium, 8409 St.
John Rd., Borden, 8 a.m. - 4
p.m. Information: 812-9238988.

St. Maurice Church, Napoleon, will hold the Spring Smorgasbord and Bake Sale, 4:30 - 8 p.m. Adults: \$6; 6-12: \$3; 0-12: 20 cents per year.

St. Rita Church, 1733 Dr. Andrew Brown, Indianapolis, parish drill team will host a city-wide drill team exhibition beginning at 11 a.m. Adults: \$2. Children over 5: \$1.

Marian Heights Academy, 812 E. 10th St., Ferdinand, will host an information open house for girls and their families. Information: 812-367-1431; 800-467-4MHA.

### April 25 - 27

Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis, will hold a Tobit weekend. Information, fees, registration: 317-545-7681

### April 27

St. Pius Church, Troy, will hold a chicken and dumpling dinner in the parish hall from 11 a.m. -3 p.m. Information: 812-547-

At Mary's Rexville Schoenstatt, "The Covenant of Love - 2". Mass beginning at 2:30 p.m. Information: Fr. Elmer Burwinkel 812-689-3551. Directions: .8 mile E. of 421 on 925-S, 10 south of Versailles.

Scecina Memorial High School, 5000 Nowland Ave., Indianapolis, will hold a spring open house from 1 - 4 p.m. Information: 317-351-5976; 317-356-6377

### April 29

St. Christopher Parish, Indianapolis, Singles & Friends will hold a peer faith sharing evening in the Parish Activity Room, 7:30 p.m. Information: 317-879-8018.

Marian College, 3200 Cold Springs Rd., Indianapolis, Mature Living Seminar, "The Diversity of Hoosiers in Indiana History and Culture" presented by Dr. Brent Smith, 10 a.m. - 12 on, in Room 251 of Marian Hall. Information: 317-929-0123.

### April 30

St. Bartholomew Parish and the Knights of Columbus will host "A Reflection on Mother Teresa and the Missionaries of Charity" by Anne Ryder of WTHR-TV, 7 - 9 p.m. in St. Columba Oratory, 845 8th St., Columbus. Child care available. Information: 812-372-2207.

### May 1 - 4

Sacred Heart Church, 2322 N. 13-1/2 St., Terre Haute, Annual Spring Fling. Information: 812-466-1231.

### May 2

St. Christopher, Indianapolis, Singles & Friends Eagle Creek Bike Ride, 6:30 p.m. Information: 317-299-9818.

St. Mary Church, New Albany, will hold adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Reparation to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary from 9 p.m. - 1

St. Susanna Church Women's Club will hold the annual Kentucky Derborama Raffle and Pig Roast, from 5 - 8 p.m., in Zore Hall, 1212 E. Main St.,

### May 2 - 4

Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th Street, Indianapolis, will hold a Koinonia (community) Retreat. Information, registra-tion: 317-545-7681.

St. Michael School will hold a garage sale at St. Michael Church, 3354 W. 30th St., Indianapolis, from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

St. Roch Church, 3600 S. Pennsylvania, Indianapolis, will hold an auction and spaghetti dinner beginning at 6 p.m.

St. Christopher Parish Speedway, Singles & Friends will volunteer at St. Vincent de Paul distribution and service center. Information: 317-

Little Flower Parish, Indian-apolis, Ladies Club will hold a spring dinner and dance in the social hall, 13th & Bosart, 7 -11:15 p.m. Reservation deadline is April 27. Information, reservations: 317-359-4096; 317-356-9812; 317-356-8058.

Holy Cross Central School, 125 N. Oriental St., Indianapolis, will hold a chili supper/auction in the gymnasium from 5 - 10 p.m. Information, donations: 317-638-9068.

CYO Camp Rancho Framasa, 2230 N. Clay Lick, Nashville is having a "Work-A-Thon" from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Information: 812-988-2839

### May 4

Benedictine Oblates and friends of Our Lady of Grace
Monastery will gather at 2 p.m.
for the bi-monthly meeting at
1402 Southern Ave., Beech Gove. Information: 317-787-3287.

St. Barnabas Church & School, 8300 Rahke Rd., Indianapolis, will hold Playground Prix '97, a 5K and 1 mile walk/run fund raiser at 3 p.m. Information: 317-882-3797.

Saint Meinrad Archabbey, St. Meinrad, will conduct pilgrim-ages to honor Our Blessed Mother at the Monte Cassino Shrine. The first pilgrimage will be "Mary, Sign of Contradiction," by Benedictine Brother Anselm Russell, beginning at 2 p.m. Information, directions: 812-357-6585: 812-357-6501.

St. Nicholas Parish, Sunman, will have a pancake and sausage breakfast in the parish hall from 7:30 a.m. - 12 noon. Freewill offering.

CYO Camp Rancho Framasa,

2230 N. Clay Lick, Nashville, Open house from 1 - 5 p.m. Information 812-988-2839; 317-632-9311.

St. Augustine Guild will hold a luncheon and fashion show fundraiser for Little Sisters of the Poor at the Ritz Charles, 12156 N. Meridian, Carmel, :30 a.m. Reservations: 317-842-3136.

Saint Meinrad School of Theology, St. Meinrad, will offer a crisis intervention workshop from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Advanced registration: \$75; at the door registration: \$85. Information, registration: 812-357-6599; 800-730-9910.

### Bingos

MONDAY: Our Lady of Lourdes, 6:30 p.m.; TUES-DAY: K of C Council 437,

1305 N. Delaware, 11 a.m.; St. Michael, 6 p.m.; St. Malachy, Brownsburg, 5:30 p.m.; Msgr. Sheridan K of C Council 6138, Johnson Co., 6:15 p.m.; St. Pius X K of C Council 3433, 6 p.m.; K of C, 1040 N. Post Rd., 9 a.m.-noon. WEDNESDAY: St. Anthony, 6:30 p.m.; K of C Council 437, 1305 N. Delaware, 5:45 p.m. THURSDAY: Msgr. Downey K of C Council 3660, 5:30 p.m.; Holy Family K of C, American Legion Post 500, 1926 Georgetown Rd., 6:30 p.m.; FRIDAY: St. Christopher, Indianapolis, 6:30 p.m.; Holy Name, Beech Grove, 5:30 p.m. SATURDAY: K of C Counci 437, 1305 N. Delaware, 4:30 p.m. SUNDAY: St. Ambrose, Seymour, 4 p.m.; Ritter High School, 6 p.m.; Msgr. Sheridan K of C Council 6138, Johnson Co., first Sunday each of month, 1:15 p.m.

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## We've Made Room for New Arrivals



### A new era of care has begun at the new St. Francis Women and Children's Center

We've relocated the St. Francis Women and Children's Center from Beech Grove to our new South Campus.

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The new Women and Children's Center includes all of these services in one convenient location:

- · Labor & Delivery
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- Gynecological Services
- · Women's Health Services
- Breast Diagnostics

All St. Francis women and children's services are now provided only at South Campus. Call us anytime at 865-5541 to arrange for a personal tour of our spacious, brand-new facilities. For more information about our full range of prenatal classes, call 865-5554.





# Growing number of teens contract AIDS

By Mary Ann Wyand

American teen-agers are contracting AIDS in increasing numbers, and Father Carlton Beever, coordinator of HIV/AIDS Ministry for the archdiocese, is concerned about this alarming health trend.

Statistics on new HIV infections

among Hoosier youth are even more disturbing.

"Nationally, 19 percent of all new infections [during 1996] are among teen-agers aged 13 to 19," Father Beever said, "but in Indiana 46 percent of all the new infections are among teen-agers aged 13 to 19. Nationwide it's 19 percent, but here in Indiana it's so much higher. Those statistics came from the Ryan White Foundation."

When he talks with high school students

dents about AIDS, Father Beever said he

dents about AIDS, Patter Beevet said inc tells stories about people whose lives have been dramatically affected by Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

"A lot of times I'll take AIDS patients along for the talks, people who are close to their own age who are HIV positive," he said, "because they can tell their story and that has a lot more effect on the youth. They talk in terms of absti-nence, which is what the church

By sharing stories about persons living with HIV and AIDS, the priest said

he hopes to personalize the many faces

"I talk about some of the things that have happened to persons with AIDS," he said, "the discrimination, the way they've been treated, the alienation they have sensed, and a lot of that has to do with families. A lot of people with AIDS are not accepted by their families. Their parents abandon them, they don't want to see them. One young man died at Parkview Manor in Indianapolis and his family was unwilling to come see him.'

Recently Bishop Chatard High School students visited Parkview Manor to film an AIDS education video for use at the Indianapolis North Deanery inter-

parochial high school.

Archdiocesan Youth Conference participants also had an opportunity to learn more about HIV and AIDS during an educational program on April 5 presented by Cathedral High School students Eileen and Sarah Watson, St. Michael parishioners who volunteer for the American Red Cross Teen HIV/AIDS Advisory Council. The sisters also presented an educational pro-gram about HIV and AIDS at Cardinal Ritter High School last year.
Father Beever said he appreciates all

the AIDS education efforts in place in the archdiocese, and hopes more youth will be able to learn about the disease.

Young people don't always apply the



This poster prepared for a past AIDS Awareness Day illustrates how people walk toward the HIV virus that causes AIDS by practicing at-risk behavior. Teen-agers are contracting Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome in greater numbers

reality of AIDS to their own at-risk behavior, he said, because they mistakenly believe HIV won't affect and infect

"I went to Jay County High School last week with Providence Sister Ann Michele Kiefer from the Damien Center to speak during an AIDS Awareness Week pro-gram," Father Beever said, "I can do AIDS gram," Father Beever said. "I can do AIDS education and young people can be aware of it, but that doesn't mean they apply it to themselves. Teen-agers don't think it will happen to them. They think it's going to happen to somebody else."

Right now the greatest growth of HIV infection is in rural areas, he said, but

young people think AIDS is only going to happen to people who live in urban

"They don't think, 'This could happen to me,'" Father Beever said. "They think, 'It's not my problem. It's not my problem in this rural area. It's not my problem with this girl or boy.' They think it doesn't happen to heterosexuals."

National Centers for Disease Control statistics indicate that the greatest growth of HIV infection is in rural areas and not in cities, he said. "It's growing quite a bit here in Indiana, but people don't think of it that way.

"When teen-agers engage in sexual relations, they are having sex with every person their partner has had sex with," he said, "but teen-agers don't think about that either. All it takes is one atrisk time to be exposed to the AIDS

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# Students excel in music contest

Over 900 participants competed in the Catholic Youth Organization's Archdiocesan Music Contest at Bishop Chatard High School in Indianapolis earlier this year, and 23 students were invited to perform in the 1997 CYO Honors Music Recital at Marian College in late February.

Honors recital participants, listed by category, were: Cello solo—Reid Turner, St. Thomas Aquinas School, Indianapolis.

Piano solo—Victoria Patino, St. Malachy School, Brownsburg; Kayla Harmeyer, Jac-Cen-Del School, Osgood; Laura Wade, Batesville Middle School,

Batesville; and Jocelyn Chuang, Carmel Junior High School, Carmel, in the Lafayette Diocese. Trumpet duet—Chris Beauchamp and Pat Murphy, Our Lady of Mount Carmel School, Carmel, in the Lafayette

Trumpet solo-Emily Krauser, Our Lady of Mount Carmel School, Carmel, in the Lafayette Diocese.
Vocal trio—Ryann Foster, Ashley Orton and Alexis
Mills, St. Thomas Aquinas School, Indianapolis.
Vocal duet—Sarah Drew and Kristen Leone, St. Pius X

School, Indianapolis.
Vocal solo—Mark Stoner, Northview School,
Indianapolis; Mary Francis Luisi, St. Louis de Montfort
Parish, Noblesville, in the Lafayette Diocese; and Amy
Hayes, Holy Spirit School, Indianapolis.

Clarinet duet—Lindsey Morgan and Julie Brenner, St. Vincent de Paul School, Bedford.

Clarinet solo-David Osburn, St. Barnabas School, Indianapolis.

Flute solo—Mary Ellen Sleva, St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Bedford; and Suzanne Knollman, Our Lady of Mount Carmel School, Carmel, in the Lafayette Diocese. Violin solo—Erica Cook, St. Luke School,

Indianapolis. Saxophone solo-Jane Martin, St. Malachy School, Brownsburg.

Saint Meinrad College will host a "Come and See Weekend" May 10-12 to allow prospective students and their parents to visit the college and learn more about Saint

Meinrad's Catholic liberal arts programs for men. Students will tour the campus, have an opportunity to participate in community service, and meet students, fac-

ulty and staff in a personal, informal setting.

For more information, contact Brian Lohr in the Office of Enrollment at 1-800-MEINRAD (1-800-634-6723).

# Line set up for young adults

Committee on the Laity has set up a toll-free telephone line to provide information on church efforts for young

The phone number-888-942-3858-is just one part of the committee's steps to implement "Sons and Daughters of the Light," the bishops' recently published pastoral plan for young adults.

The committee has also provided training for several men and women, who are members of a new implementation team, to assist dioceses, parishes and campuses and to respond to inquiries about the plan's content and practical implications.

Callers using the toll-free line will hear a taped message and can leave questions on a message line about the plan's content and practical implications such as how to

set up young adult ministry programs.

Central and southern Indiana residents also can call the archdiocesan Office for Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministries at 800-382-9836, ext. 1439, or 317-236-1439

for information about young adult ministry.

Young adult ministry is intended for single and married persons in their late teens, 20s and 30s, and includes prayer groups, study groups, community service ideas,

marriage preparation programs and leadership development opportunities.

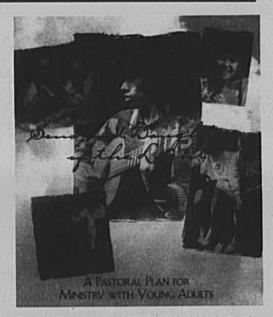
Bishop G. Patrick Ziemann of Santa Rose, Calif., who is chairman of the Laity Committee, said in a statement that, with their pastoral plan, the U.S. bishops signaled their commitment to "hear and respond to the needs and concerns of young adults."

"Now we need to move ahead," he said, "with creative ideas and programs that will attract and keep young adults in the church.

Sheila Garcia, assistant director of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat for Family, Laity, Women and Youth, said the committee established the toll-free number because interest in the area of young adult ministry has grown since World Youth Day '93 in adult ministry has grown since World Youth Day Denver, and especially with the publication of the bish-ops' young adult ministry plan.

"This is a vehicle for church professionals, people seeking

young adult ministry programs and those willing to put effort into establishing programs in their area," Garcia said. "It's becoming clearer that the church needs to do all that it can for young Catholics who sometimes feel left out of the parish world. We've seen ample evidence that young adults have much to offer the church and are willing to do so."



"Sons and Daughters of the Light," the U.S. bishops' pastoral

# Chastity guarantees a priceless life insurance plan

By Andrew Traub Special to The Criterion

I've never had sex and I'm glad.
We hear about people who keep having
"unplanned" pregnancies, getting "unexpected" diseases and "surprising" results
from AIDS tests.

These are things I'll never have to worry about because I've chosen chastity. I've chosen to abstain from sex until I find the woman with whom I will spend the rest of my life: my wife. I never worry about sex and its dangers because I've eliminated it from my life. Chastity is a

decision I can live with.

So what should a person do if he or she is already sexually active? Use a condom, right? Wrong! A condom doesn't completely protect both people from sexually transmitted diseases

Indiana University biology professor Michael Tansey explained that the AIDS virus can get through latex condoms and nat-ural holes in lamb-skin condoms.

And according to a February 1995 Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, more than half of sexually active teen-agers don't even wear condoms

I think college is pretty difficult at times, and I can't imagine going through college as a new parent or with a sexually transmitted

disease that might never go away. I'm sure having sex can be enjoyable, but if you want sex the way it's supposed to be, there's only one way to get it: within marriage.

Here's the scenario: You've waited to

have sex and have this awesome gift of your sexuality to share with a person who loves you and wants to spend the rest of their life with you. Sound impossible? It's not. If marriage, a monogamous relation-ship is the perfect union between two people, then chastity is naturally the only way to maintain that perfect union. When you wait until marriage, there's no

comparing former partners, which mean less jealousy and mistrust. The bond created by waiting is a strong and beautiful one. Who wouldn't want that?

I used to think there was no way I could choose abstinence because that's not what women want. They want an experienced man, right?!

In a conversation with a few female friends, I mentioned my choice of chastity. They didn't say I was a loser, or hint I was just an ugly guy who couldn't get a date. Each said, "I wish there were more guys like you around."

The power chastity gives a woman is wonderful. Women's bodies have been treated only as objects of desire and lust for far too long. Chastity gives women the power over their bodies they deserve.

Women, if you tell a guy who is interested in you that you've chosen abstinence until marriage and he sticks around, he's probably a keeper. What a fantastic way to weed out those sex-crazed losers! You'd be surprised how many men will simply go looking for a different victim.

In a way, we are all victims. The world tells us condoms work and "safe sex" is completely safe, but it's lying. If you are in a life-and-death situation (and having sex is just that) you should demand 100 percent safety. Because of human error, condoms aren't anywhere near 100 percent. Chastity is.

We are a generation dying for intimacy. We want to be loved, accepted and made to feel important. Some think sex can provide that intimacy, but it does not. Prostitutes have sex, but does that mean they have the intimacy we desire? We are all prostitutes if we believe love and devotion can be bought by having sex. Not exactly the most ideal life, is it?

Chastity is the ideal. We can have this

ideal because we have been supplied with a

plan called marriage.

Are we mature and strong enough to abstain from sex until marriage? Many of us will never get a chance to find out because we are taught instead to be "safe" and use condoms. We are taught to fail, to take chances with our lives and our futures. We are taught how to kill ourselves.

Sex isn't a game. It never has been. Sex can be fun, exciting and deadly.

Maybe nothing will happen to you, but
maybe something will. I'm positive my odds are a lot better than yours. My mar-riage will be worth waiting for. Will yours? For your sake, for your life, for your future, I hope you choose absti-nence. It's worth the wait.

(Andrew Traub is a freshman majoring in rnalism and religious studies at Indian University in Bloomington and a columnist for the Indiana Daily Student. This column is reprinted from the I.U. student newspaper with permission. He is a graduate of Bishop Chatard High School and a member of Christ the King Parish in Indianapolis.)

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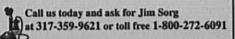
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# Pope set to travel to Lebanon for talks with Muslim leaders

Two-day visit will include liturgy, meeting with young Lebanese people

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope John Paul II will meet with government officials, hold talks with Muslim leaders and deliver a major document to Catholics dur-

ing his May 10-11 trip to Lebanon.

The long-awaited—and once canceled—visit will feature 11 papal events or ceremonies. The itinerary includes an outdoor Mass celebrated next to a Beirut naval base.

The pope's official schedule was released at the

Vatican April 21.

Among the main events is an evening meeting with Lebanese young people May 10, at which the Holy Father will sign his apostolic exhortation on the church in Lebanon. The document is based on the special Synod of Bishops for Lebanon, held at the Vatican in

The pope had planned to make a pastoral visit to Lebanon in 1994, but security worries forced him to

The trip this year is being limited to Beirut and the

rimediately surrounding area. It will be Pope John
Paul's 77th trip outside Italy during his pontificate.
Here is the pope's schedule as announced by the
Vatican. Times listed are local, with Eastern Daylight Time in parentheses.

Saturday, May 10

- 8 a.m. (2 a.m.)—Departure from Rome's Leonardo da Vinci international airport for Beirut.
- 12:15 p.m. (5:15 a.m.)-Arrival at Beirut international airport.
- 1 p.m. (6 a.m.)—Welcoming ceremony at Presidential Palace at Baabda. Speech by pope.
- 1:30 p.m. (6:30 a.m.)—Meeting with Lebanese President Elias Hrawi at Presidential Palace. · 1:50 p.m. (6:50 a.m.)-Meeting with president of the

Chamber of Deputies at Presidential Palace. 2:05 p.m. (7:05 a.m.)—Meeting with Prime Minister Rafic Hariri at Presidential Palace.

- 2:20 p.m. (7:20 a.m.)—Meeting with leaders of Muslim religious communities at Presidential Palace.
- Presidential Palace to heliport at Bkerke.

  3:05 p.m. (8:05 a.m.)—Transfer by helicopter from Presidential Palace to heliport at Bkerke.

  3:05 p.m. (8:05 a.m.)—Arrival at Bkerke heliport, in front of patriarchal residence, and transfer to apostolic nunciature in Harissa.
- 7 p.m. (noon)—Prayer meeting with youth of Lebanon and signing of post-synodal apostolic exhortation in the Basilica of Our Lady in Harissa. Talk by pope.

### Sunday, May 11

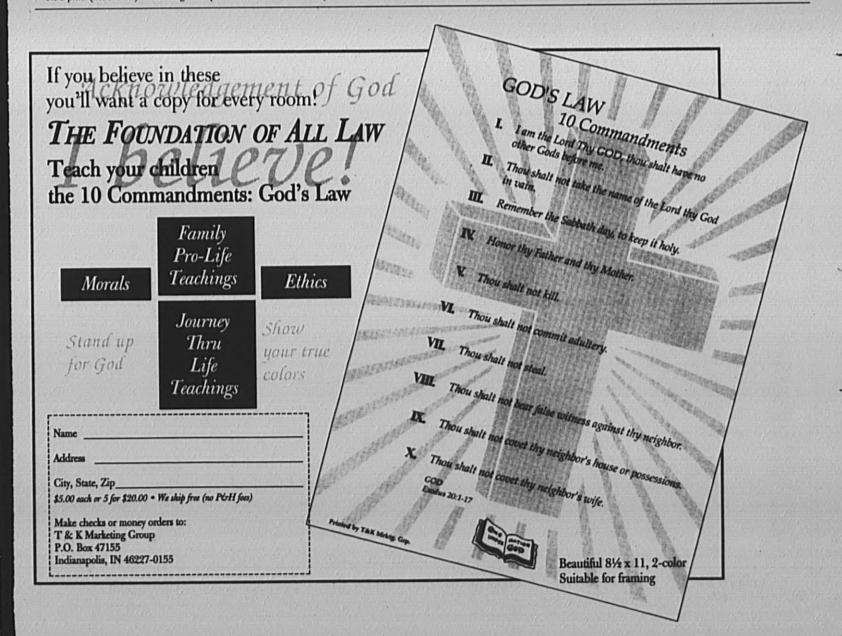
- 9:30 a.m. (2:30 a.m.)—Mass marking the conclusion of the special Synod of Bishops for Lebanon, in the open area near Martyrs' Square and the naval base in Beirut. Sermon by pope. Recital of Regina Coeli.
- 12:30 p.m. (5:30 a.m.)—Departure by helicopter from naval base to patriarchal residence in Bkerke.
- 12:45 p.m. (5:45 a.m.)—Arrival at patriarchal residence in Bkerke.
- 1:30 p.m. (6:30 a.m.)—Meeting with members of Assembly of Catholic Patriarchs and Bishops in -Meeting with members of the
- Lebanon, in patriarchal residence.
  5 p.m. (10 a.m.)—Ecumenical meeting in apostolic nunciature in Harissa.
- 5:45 p.m. (10:45 a.m.)—Blessing of new chapel in apostolic nunciature.

- apostolic nunciature.
  6:40 p.m. (11:40 a.m.)—Transfer by helicopter from Bkerke to Beirut international airport.
  7 p.m. (noon)—Arrival at Beirut international airport, and departure ceremony. Speech by pope.
  7:30 p.m. (12:30 p.m.)—Departure from Beirut international airport for Rome.
  10:15 p.m. (3:15 p.m.)—Arrival at Rome's Ciampino



First pitch

Italian Cardinal Achille Silvestrini throws out the first pitch of the Pittsburgh Pirates and San Diego Padres game April 15 at Three Rivers Stadium in Pittsburgh. The cardinal, who was in town to present an award to U.S. Rabbi A. James Rudin and to speak at a Catholic hospital, was invited to throw the ceremonial pitch.



# Rest in peace

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

ARMSTRONG, Ann, 79, St. Vincent, Bedford, April 12. Mother of David, Paul, Daniel, Tom, Margaret, Ellen Armstrong, Louise Young. Grandmother of six.

ARNETT, William, 73, St. Augustine, Jeffersonville, April 7. Husband of Ruby R. Arnett. Father of Mary Paula Dix, Tina A. Cunningham. Grandfather of four, great-grandfather of one

BACKER, G. Helen, 79, St Paul, Tell City, April 15. Wife of Charles I. Backer. Mother of Mick, Ron, Tom Backer, Sister of Ralph, Lloyd Zuelly, Opal Mae Volz Grandmother and great-grandmother.

BEYER, Magdalena "Lena," 89, St. John the Baptist, Osgood, April 8. Sister of Gertrude Strunck, Agnes

BRYANT, Theresa A., 70, St. Mary, Richmond, April 11. Mother of Cecil, Jr., Larry, Patsy Bryant, Merinda Farmer, Theresa Mercer, Fannie Marshall. Sister of Samuel Rodanello, Mary Collins. Grandmother of 15, great-grandmother of eight.

BURKHARDT, Jessie, 79, Prince of Peace, Madison, April Mother of Larry Burkhardt. Sister of June Stephan.

CONNOLLY, Thelma E. (Golay), 79, St. Jude, Indianapolis, April 11. Mother of Larry L., Edward, Michael P. Connelly, Dee Anna Inglert. Grandmother of 10, greatgrandmother of five

DOSEN, Stephen Thomas, 71. St. Mark, Indianapolis, April 15. Husband of Margaret Plesha Dosen, Father of Thomas, Michael Dosen, Patrice Thomas. Brother of Michael, Peter Dosen, Mary Serdar, Kate Kucek Grandfather of five, step-grandfather of five; step-greatgrandfather of five.

ECK, Joseph H., Sr., 75, St. Rose of Lima, Franklin, April 11. Husband of Mary Katherine Eck. Father of Joseph H., Jr., Bernard, James, William, Jason Eck, Jeanette Barnett, Margaret Rechter, Mary Ellen Long, Louise Smith. Brother of Bernard, Leonard Eck, Catherine Wagner, Gertrude Schonecker. Grandfather of eight, stepgrandfather of two.

FAYTAK, Julia, 92, Annunciation, Brazil, April 11. Sister of Agnes Iacinuo. Aunt of nieces and nephews.

FREIBERGER, Melvin G., 62, St. Mary of the Knobs, Floyds Knobs, April 11. Husband of Betty Lou Freiberger. Father of Melvin G., James M., Gregory Freiberger. Brother of Willis, Vincent, Wilford, Evans, Omer, Eugene Freiberger Geneva Gullett. Grandfather

GERLACH, Lawrence Edward, 75, St. Luke, Indianapolis, April 12. Husband of Joan (Connor) Gerlach.

Father of Lawrence Edward Alberta Murphy, Rosalyn Walsh. Grandfather of three.

GOFFINET, Mildred, 76, St. Augustine, Leopold, April 14. Mother of Judy Quinlin, Dianna Arthur, Dennis, Lee Goffinet. Sister of Hilda James Grandmother of six.

HALL, Dolores H., 86,Prince of Peace, Madison. Mother of Nora Davidson, Norma Luke, Faye Seaton. Sister of Lillian Miller, Ethel Reed, Merritt Taylor. Grandmother of 10, great-grandmother of 19, greatgreat-grandmother of seven

HARRISON, Ruby L., 86, Little Flower, Indianapolis, April 10. Sister of Robert Harrison.

HAUGHEY, Helen M. (Hegarty), 87, Holy Spirit, Indianapolis, April 2. Sister of Marie H. Trowbridge, Joseph G. Hegarty. Aunt of nieces and

HUDSON, Helen B., 79, St. Paul, Tell City, April 10. Sister of Mildred Gramelspacher.

INGRAM, Donna Jean, 60, St. Paul, Tell City, Jan. 14. Wife of Don Ingram. Daughter of Amy Cunningham. Mother of Brian Ingram, Mary Kathleen Hagan, Vicky Blair, Stacy Brinksneader, step mother of Teddy, Roy Ingram, Michey Simmons, Fleta Jordan. Grandmother, great-grand-

MANNERS, JOSEPH A., 85, St. Augustine, Jeffersonville, April 11. Father of Joseph A., Jr., Phyllis A. Manners, Theresa M. Walker. Brother of Trini Mayflower, Florence Rhoades, Mary Felock Davis. Grandfather of three.

McQUEEN, Christine, 96, St. John the Baptist, Osgood, April 4. Mother of Kathleen Hopkins, John McQueen. Sister of Charles Burnes. Grandmother

MELBARDIS, Janis, 73.

Christ the King, April 11. Husband of Br (Sventeckis) Melbardis. Father of Andis Melbardis, Astra Plucis. Brother of Ansis Melbardis, Vija Stephens. Grandfather of four.

Vincent, Bedford, April 14. Husband of Dorothy (Kutis) Merrell. Father of Katherine Merrell, Parier of Katherine Lewis, Margaret Stout, Virginia Harrington, Karla Hubbard, Brian, Philip Merrell. Grandfather of 10, great-grandfather of one.

MILES, Patrick Ellis, 73, Nativity, Indianapolis, April 8. Husband of Rose A. (Fenwick) Miles. Father of Patrick David, Christopher L., Daniel D., Charles "Chuck" A. Miles, Sharon K. Mandabach, Donna J. Povinelli. Brother of Dorothy McCauley, Elizabeth Dyne, Barbara Garrett, Clara Coke, Leonora Baurte. Grandfather of 16, great-grandfather of four.

MOORE, Lillian K., 86, St. Augustine, Jeffersonville, April 8. Mother of John C. Moore, Lois J. Ash. Grandmother of five, great-grandmother of one.

NELSON, Mary W., 86, St. Paul, Sellersburg, April 11. Wife of Bill Nelson. Cousin of Maxine Rudd.

OSKAY, Howard J., 77, St. Jude, Indianapolis, April 15. Husband of Bernadine Husband of Bernadine (Huffington) Oskay. Father of Eugene A., Ronald J., Timothy W. Oskay. Grandfather of eight.

PRITCHARD, Mary Frances, 79, St. John the Evangelist, Indianapolis, April 8. Mother of Mary Belle Gentry, Barbara Elery. Sister of Patricia Cangany. Grandmother of three.

REDDING, Margaret (Hemmelgarn), 88, Holy Name, Beech Grove, April 6. Mother of James A. Redding, Jr., Helen Houtekier, Elizabeth Hueston. Sister of Ernest, Leonard, William Hemmelgarn, Mary Bruce, Ann Horner, Frances Beamn.

Grandmother of 13, great-grandmother of 26, greatgreat-grandmother of five.

SPICER, John Arthur, 74, Holy Name, Beech Grove, April 13. Father of Diane M., Paul R., Anthony Spicer. Grandfather of two, great-grandfather of one.

STERGER, Paul A., 53, Christ the King, Indianapolis, April 10. Husband of Rose A. (Walker) Sterger.

SWARTZ, Rose Marie, 77, Holy Name, Beech Grove, April 11. Mother of Thomas R., Robert P. Swartz. Grandmother of four, great-grandmother of

WEBER, Blanche (Knight), 87, St. Augustine, Jeffersonville, April 13. Mother of Michael Weber, Sharon Patterson. Sister of Bud, Helen Knight, Virginia Stemler, Dorothy Koch. Grandmother of two, greatgrandmother of five.

WHITE, Sherman, 64, St. Elizabeth, Cambridge City, Mar. 29. Husband of Janice White. Father of Kenneth White, Sharor Blevins. Brother of Floyd White. Grandfather of two.

WILSON, William F., 69. Christ the King, Indianapolis, April 11. Husband of Marianna (Stout) Wilson. Father of Anne, Larry, Patrick, Mark Wilson, Brother of Robert J., James R. Charlene Wilson, Carol Duttlinger, Rosemary Clegg.

WOLFSCHLAG, Alma Marie, 76, Prince of Peace, Madison, April 14. Mother of Linda Smart, Tom, Dave, Bob, Bill Wolfschlag, Grandmother of 10, great-grandmother of

WOLFSCHLAG, Glenna, 64, Prince of Peace, Madison, April 13. Wife of George L. Wolfschlag, Mother of Chris Wolfschlag, Bruce Wolfschlag, Half-brother of Preston Smitha.

ZOLLMAN, Ralph, 71, St. Augustine, Jeffersonville, April 6. Husband of Jo Ellen Zollman. Father of Gregory, Larry, Michael Zollman. Step-father of Tina Wheeler, Shelenka Rak, Gregory Daniels. Brother of Geneva Johnson, Half-brother of Red Stone. Grandfather of 19, great-grandfather of three.

### Pope sends greetings for Rome's anniversary

VATICAN CITY (CNS)-Pope John Paul II sent birthday greetings to the city of Rome as it celebrated the 2,750th anniversary of its founding.

"It is the feast of Rome," the pope said in his April 21 message to Mayor Francesco Rutelli. The city celebrates its millennia-long history as well as its modern identity, "its Latin as well as its Christian civilization, reaching toward the future and determined to remain faithful to its heritage of high civil and spiritual traditions," the pope

The anniversary, "according to tradition," as the pope noted, commemorates the date when the legendary figure Romulus marked out the city's boundaries. Archeological evidence points to the existence of a settlement on the site at least from the eighth century before Christ.

As the year 2000 approaches, the pope said, "Rome is committed to preparing itself to offer the world the concrete image of a *caput mundi* (head of the world) which characterizes it."

Rome's city government still has its headquarters on the its name from its designation as the caput mundi. The English word "capitol" to describe the seat of any government derives from the

Roman usage. Pope John Paul said the upcoming Jubilee Year celebrations in 2000 are "a providential occasion to renew Rome's mission of peace and solidarity in the awareness of its vocation as a crossroads of

culture and faith. "Throughout the millen-nia," he said, "the city always has been open and

welcoming to all."

The attitude of openness must increase, especially toward those who are with-out work, without a suitable home or without adequate

assistance, the pope said. Pope John Paul also promised he would "personally go up the historic (Capitoline) hill to render homage to the city, although he did not say when that would be.

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All applicants must be high school graduates or equivalent with at least 2-3 years of bookkeeping experience. Other requirements include ability to work independently, ability to perform highly detailed work with accuracy, and knowledge of personal computers. Please send résumé and salary history, in confidence, to: Rev. Steve Giannini, St. Ann Parish, 2862 S. Holt Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46241. Position available mid-May.

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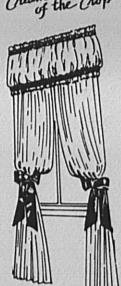
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