‘We will build on the incredible foundation’

Archbishop-designate Charles C. Thompson of Evansville will be installed on July 28

By Sean Gallagher

Pope Francis has appointed Bishop Charles C. Thompson of Evansville as the seventh archbishop of Indianapolis. The appointment was announced on June 13 at the Vatican and in Washington.

That same day, Archbishop-designate Thompson spoke to priests, deacons, religious and laity from across central and southern Indiana about his appointment during a press conference at the Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center in Indianapolis on the eve of the start of the spring general assembly of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in Indianapolis.

“I pledge to dedicate myself to you without hesitation or reservation,” said Archbishop-designate Thompson, 56. “Together, we will build on the incredible foundation that already exists, striving to discern the signs of the times and make every effort to participate in framing the essential questions of faith and life, in order to promote a shared vision rooted in word, sacrament and service that enables us to respond rather than react to opportunities and challenges.”

He will be installed as archbishop of Indianapolis on July 28 during a Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis.

Prior to that, he will ordain 21 men as permanent deacons for the archdiocese on June 24 at the cathedral. (See related story on page 2.) The next day, he will travel to Rome to participate on June 29—the Solemnity of SS. Peter and Paul—in Pope Francis’ blessing of palliums to Roman and metropolitan archbishops appointed during the past year.

Archbishop-designate Thompson’s pallium, a woolen band worn over the shoulders that symbolizes an archbishop’s pastoral care for the people of his archdiocese and his sharing with the pope of the shepherding of the universal Church, will be placed on his shoulders during the June 28 installation Mass. Archbishop-designate Thompson’s remarks during the press conference were at times marked by self-deprecating humor.

When asked how he would describe himself, the archbishop-designate said, “I kept saying, ‘Wow. OK. Wow. Wow.’ He just started giggling. He was very patient with my nervousness.”

Archbishop-designate Thompson expressed a humble reaction to it provoked much laughter among his listeners. Archbishop-designate Thompson expressed a humble modesty in a different way in soberly reflecting on changing from leading the Evansville Diocese to the archdiocese.

“Going from 12 counties to 39,” he said. “Going from half a million people to over 2 million people. Going from about 80,000 Catholics to about 225,000 Catholics. I prayed the rosary at that point. His humility was also seen in his recognition of the necessity to collaborate with others in leading the Church in central and southern Indiana. “Anywhere I go, what always sustains me is obviously prayer,” Archbishop-designate Thompson said. “I rely on the prayer of the Church and the intercession of the saints.”

He will be installed as archbishop of Indianapolis on July 28 during a Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis. Earlier in the day Pope Francis had named the Evansville bishop as the seventh archbishop of Indianapolis, succeeding Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, who was appointed to lead the Archdiocese of Newark, N.J., last November. (Photo by Sean Gallagher)

Defining experiences in life help to shape archbishop-designate’s journey of faith

By John Shaughnessy

Two diverse experiences may be the most defining influences in the life of Archbishop-designate Charles C. Thompson—the new archbishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

The first most influential experience for the archbishop-designate occurred while he was growing up in a family that he describes as “very Catholic”—a family in which he has 90 first cousins and more than 200 second cousins.

In describing the phone call he received on June 3 from Archbishop Christoph Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the United States, in which he learned of his appointment, Archbishop-designate Thompson said, “I kept saying, ‘Wow. OK. Wow. Wow.’ He just started giggling. He was very patient with my nervousness.”

Earlier that day, Archbishop-designate Thompson had ordained two men priests for the Evansville Diocese.

“My homily that day was on missionary discipleship,” he recalled. “I talked to them about how the Lord sends, and we have to be prepared to go where the Lord sends us and not to become complacent.

“I got off the phone and I thought, ‘Who was I talking to this morning?’ ”

The modest way he described his homily and his later reaction to it provoked much laughter among his listeners. Archbishop-designate Thompson expressed a humble modesty in a different way in soberly reflecting on changing from leading the Evansville Diocese to the archdiocese.

“Going from 12 counties to 39,” he said. “Going from half a million people to over 2 million people. Going from about 80,000 Catholics to about 225,000 Catholics. I prayed the rosary at that point. His humility was also seen in his recognition of the necessity to collaborate with others in leading the Church in central and southern Indiana.

“Anywhere I go, what always sustains me is obviously prayer,” Archbishop-designate Thompson said. “I rely on the prayer of the Church and the intercession of the saints.”

Yet beyond those eye-popping numbers are the deep roots of a faith that has sustained him.

“I’m from a very Catholic family,” the 56-year-old archbishop-designate said in an interview on June 13, the day he became the spiritual leader of the Church in central and southern Indiana.

“Growing up, it never dawned on me to miss Mass. My parents have just a wonderful ease. They’re very salt-of-the-earth kind of people. They just live their faith day by day. We prayed
U.S. bishop: Media can counter fears by showing refugees as real people

By Sean Gallagher

It was nine years ago that 25 men from central and southern Indiana were ordained as the first class of permanent deacons in the history of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

In the years since, the diocese has become an ordinary part of life in the Church in the archdiocese, with 16 more being ordained in 2012. Permanent deacons ordained in Indianapolis have also moved to the archdiocese and ministered in some parishes.

Deacons across central and southern Indiana have expanded the ministry of charity into new areas, and led Catholics to participate in it.

They have also spurred the discernment of other men, helping them hear God’s call to the diaconate. On June 24, 21 men will be ordained as the archdiocese’s third class of permanent deacons in a Mass beginning at 10 a.m. at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis.

Archbishop-designate Charles C. Thompson, whose appointment to lead the archdiocese was announced on June 13, is scheduled to be the principal celebrant of the ordination.

A limited amount of public seating will be available for the Mass. It can be viewed online live atarchs.indy.org.

“It will be good,” said Deacon Kerry Blandford, archdiocesan director of diaconate formation.

“They’re ready to go out there to minister and serve. We’ve done as much with them in formal formation as we can.”

The men to be ordained have completed four years of formation and participated in an intensive year-long application process before that.

Personally, I believe that these men will be a real blessing to those parishes and pastors that do not currently have a deacon assigned to them,” said Deacon Michael East, archdiocesan director of deacons.

“I am personally looking forward to working with these men and their wives as they enter deeper into the service of the people of the Church and the communities they serve.”

After the June 24 ordination, 52 parishes in the archdiocese will have at least one deacon assigned to minister in them. That includes 16 parishes that do not have a deacon in them before the ordination. In all, there will be 58 deacons assigned to parishes and other charitable ministries in the archdiocese.

Deacon candidate Oliver Jackson has known the influence and support of retired Deacon Donald Dearmar over the past nine years. Deacon Dearman ministered at St. Mary Parish in Lawrenceburg, where Jackson is member, for many years.

Jackson said Deacon Dearman encouraged him in his discernment.

“He was a good role model for me,” Jackson said. “He would tell me about his own experiences, the way he ran into same questions. He said that each time you trust in God. You’ll feel that he’s directing you.”

Deacon candidate Tom Scarlett, a member of the linked St. Mary Parish in Mitchell and St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Bedford, is also among those who will be ordained on June 24. He gives credit for deepening his life of faith and his discernment to Deacon David Ressing, who has ministered in both Lawrence County faith communities since his ordination in 2008.

“He is a steadfast and wonderful deacon who asks others to get involved, like a good deacon should,” Scarlett said. “He put me on this path.”

Scarlett is looking forward to becoming a brother deacon to Deacon Dearman and other deacons across central and southern Indiana.

“Reforming, absolutely humbling,” Scarlett said. “Throughout the course of these four years of formation, we’ve encountered deacons from different communities around the archdiocese.

Each one is unique in his own right. But you see this beautiful and warm brotherhood amongst them. It’s extremely humbling.”

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — By telling individual stories and putting a human face on migrants and refugees coming to our home, the media can help inspire communities to address resistance to the immigrant and refugee, one men says.

“There are a few things we need to do in order to attract the media,” said Deacon Ricardo Ramirez of Las Cruces, N.M. “The media can be a game changer if they want to be.

“One thing we really need to work on, especially in the United States, is to do advocacy work and education of the community. What is the resistance there to the immigrant and refugee? There is still a lot of resistance to the welcoming of the immigrant and refugee. But you see this beautiful and warm brotherhood amongst them. It’s extremely humbling.”

Archbishop Ramirez, who is a member of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ (USCCB) on Migration and Refugee Services, was one of dozens of participants who attended the conference, which met on June 12-13.

Participants were asked to present ideas and best practices for safeguarding the rights of refugees, migrants and trafficked persons.

The strategies were going to be presented at Pope Francis for approval and then to a meeting working on a proposed U.N. global compact on migration.

Bishop Ramirez, who retired in 2013, was the first bishop of the Diocese of Las Cruces when it was created in 1982. Las Cruces is less than 50 miles north of the border with Mexico and is the second-largest city in New Mexico.

The 80-year-old bishop recalled how the diocese mobilized to help hundreds of refugee children fleeing from Central America in 2014. His successor, Bishop Oscar Cantu, set up “Project Oak Tree” to offer assistance to the children and their mothers along with the Diocese of El Paso.

“The community was wonderful in their generosity, bringing baby clothes and diapers, and things,” he said.

“They even brought cosmetics and everyday things for the refugee children, because they were going to be reunited with husbands after so many years and they wanted ‘to look good,’ he said.

When asked how the program got such an outpouring of help and support from the community, Bishop Ramirez said, “I think the media helped us.”

“The media did human interest stories and it’s the human face of the migrant, not just numbers, not just the legislation,” he said. “It’s stories, speeches or slogans, ‘but real faces of people, that is what we want to convert’ani means or indifference into helping people in need, he said.

The bishop, who was previously a member of the Basilian Fathers, was born in in Bay City, Texas. Both his parents and their families were migrant workers in southern Texas.

“I preach a lot on hospitality,” he said, and on how “so many wonderful things happen when hospitality is extended,” and how the nation, communities and the Church benefit from the welcoming of strangers.

“I believe in Project Oak Tree,” he said. “It’s this idea of not just letting people in to feed themselves. A local community needs to reach out and help newcomers navigate the new culture and bureaucracy so their basic needs can be met, he said.

For example, parishioners can act as sponsors, taking an active role in helping a new family enroll the children in school, find a dentist, get a doctor’s appointment, open a bank account, “simple things, we take for granted,” but which are critically important.

One way the Church does that in the United States is through the Migration and Refugee Services program, “POWR,” which stands for Parishes Organized to Welcome Refugees.

“Catholic Charities locally across the country are very engaged with both the U.S. government and other parishes, and also with many volunteers,” who help refugees and others, said Matthew Wilch, refugee policy adviser for the Office of Migration Policy of the USCCB, who also attended the Vatican conference.

“One thing that helps a lot is not just the support we can give,” but it is also helping immigrants and refugees build up their own networks of support and collaboration, he said.

“A lot of times, it’s not just individuals who are coming, but it’s a whole community that’s coming” or a group that becomes a new community, Wilch said. Often together, they can better confront the cultural challenges they face.”

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Men being ordained permanent deacons for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis kneel on June 23, 2012, in SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis. On June 24, 21 men will be ordained permanent deacons in the cathedral as part of the third class of deacons for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

(File photo by Sean Gallagher)
Personal story shows how giving today builds tomorrow’s Church

By Natalie Hofer

Did you ever wonder, as you wrote a check for the annual archdiocese’s United Catholic Appeal (UCA) or to an archdiocesan Catholic Community Foundation (CCF) fund, what it would be like to meet someone who directly benefits from your donation? Or as you benefited from the many ministries assisted by UCA and CCF funds, did you ever wish you could thank someone who helped make the ministry possible?

Two people had such an opportunity in May: Art Berkemeier, a strong supporter of Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis, and archdiocesan seminarian Joe Huelseman, a 19-year-old Marian University sophomore who is enrolled in the college seminary. At two Circle of Giving Mass and Celebration events held in May, Berkemeier and Huelseman had the opportunity to read aloud letters written to one another.

“I want you to know that you are not alone in your discernment to a religious vocation,” read Berkemeier to Huelseman, a member of St. Nicholas Parish in Ripley County.

“Above all and foremost, thank you!” wrote Huelseman to Berkemeier, a member of St. Mark the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis. “Your generosity makes the lives of every seminarian and priest at Bishop Simon Bruté far less stressful than it could be.”

The Circle of Giving Mass and Celebration events were held in Indianapolis at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral and the Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center on May 4, and at St. Mary-of-the-Knobs Church and ball in Floyd County near New Albany on May 25.

The event replaced the former separate celebrations for Miter Society donors to the annual United Catholic Appeal: Christ Our Hope, and for Legacy Society contributors to the Catholic Community Foundation.

Combining the Miter Society and Legacy Society events ‘has come about because we want to do something a little more special to recognize our donors, to show them the impact they’re making on other’s lives with their gifts,’ said Elisa Smith, CCF director.

“Although we have many, many ministries that [the UCA and CCF] support, we just can’t tell all the stories in one evening, so we chose one story, and that’s seminarian education.”

Prior to Berkemeier and Huelseman reading their letters aloud, their story was introduced through a video with sweeping overhead views of the hills and fields of Berkemeier’s farm in Decatur County, and shots of Huelseman and other Bishop Bruté seminarians at prayer and in community at the former Carmelite monastery that now serves as their home in Indianapolis.

“Growing up on a farm, you were connected with God’s creation with the crops that grew, the animals you had,” Berkemeier narrated in the video. “And you learn that, somewhere along the line, you have to decide your level of commitment to the Church. Are you going to be a disciple or not? If you’re truly a disciple, you’re going to give your time, talent and treasure.

“Growth or the values that change you come from getting involved in the parish, serving others, doing things. It becomes fundamental to being a disciple. … Just like being a farmer, you’ve got to prepare the field. Time, talent and treasure—it’s all important.”

To a backdrop of shots of the Indianapolis college seminary, the voice of Father Joseph Moriarty, the college seminary’s rector, spoke of how “the excitement in the hearts of these men is palpable, because they desire to give their lives to God enough to do that in the context of the community of the Church.”

In an interview on the video, Huelseman described the community life at the college seminary as “fantastic.”

“It’s something I grew up in with seven siblings,” he said. “I’ve only ever felt calm and love here. You can see God here every day in my brother seminarians, in the priests—there’s a general appreciation to be here. For a lot of seminarians, it’s important to have this time to really focus on formation and becoming closer to Christ, so that we can help others with our charity someday.

“Bruté [seminary] would not exist without donations. It’s awesome to have good Christian people showing charity. It’s like Christ on the cross.”

During the May 4 and 25 events, Jolinda Moore, executive director of the archdiocesan Office of Stewardship and Development, described the importance of the “three buckets” of giving within the archdiocese:

The first bucket—the annual United Catholic Appeal—“helps fund the basic, immediate, annual needs for so many archdiocesan ministries,” she said.

In terms of Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary, UCA funds help archdiocesan seminarians with immediate needs like room and board, and tuition assistance at nearby Marian University.

The second bucket includes program fees charged by some ministries, as well as special agency appeals, such as the second Mass collection sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Catholic Home Missions Appeal, which contributes to seminarian training in the United States, including Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary.

The third bucket is the Catholic Community Foundation, which provides “in perpetuity” for future needs of parishes, schools, agencies and archdiocesan ministries.

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The Criterion Friday, June 16, 2017 Page 3

Numerous ministries aided by three ‘buckets’ of giving in archdiocese

Jolinda Moore described three “buckets” of giving for members of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis during two Circle of Giving Mass and Celebration events in May.

The executive director of the archdiocesan Office of Stewardship and Development said the first bucket—the annual United Catholic Appeal: Christ Our Hope (UCA)—helps fund the basic, immediate, annual needs for archdiocesan ministries.

The second bucket includes program fees charged by some ministries, as well as special agency appeals, such as the second Mass collections sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The third bucket is the Catholic Community Foundation (CCF), which provides for future needs of parishes, schools, agencies and archdiocesan ministries through bequests, annuities, trusts and endowment funds.

Following are lists of the ministries supported by the UCA and CCF:

Twelve ministries supported by UCA funds:

• Room, board, tuition assistance and the general operating fund for Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary
• Clergy retirement
• Clergy sabbaticals, studies and retreats
• Dragon formation
• Young adult and college campus ministry
• Intercultural ministry
• Parish catechetical programs
• Pro-life and family life ministry
• Youth ministry
• Office of Catholic Schools
• Catholic Charities programs and services
• Notre Dame Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) Academies

Examples of ministries supported by CCF funds:

• Home mission needs
• Spiritual director training
• Post-graduate seminarian scholarships
• Catholic Youth Organization camp in Brown County
• Parish operating budgets
• Catholic school operating costs
• Notre Dame ACE Academies tuition assistance
• Catholic Charities
• Catholic cemeteries

(For more information about the United Catholic Appeal: Christ Our Hope and also about the Catholic Community Foundation, visit www.archindy.org/stewardship.)

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See CIRCLE page 16
Welcome, Archbishop Thompson

Pope Francis didn’t have to look very far to find Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin’s successor as shepherd of the Church in central and southern Indiana.

Archbishop-designate Charles C. Thompson, formerly the bishop of the Evangeline, Louisiana, was introduced as the new Archbishop of Indianapolis on June 13 at the Archdiocese of Edward T. Miere Catholic Church in Indianapolis.

After listening to Archbishop-designate Thompson’s acceptance speech, Cardinal Tobin thoughtfully answered questions during a press conference attended by approximately 300 people in the Archdiocese of Edward T. Miere Catholic Church in Indianapolis on June 13. The hour-long event ended with a blessing and hearing him reflect on his 30 years of priestly life and ministry in an interview with The Criterion shortly thereafter.

...thing clear to us. We believe you’re going to like our new shepherd.

His episcopal motto, “Christ the Cornerstone,” signifies how it is his “first and foremost prayer that we be centered in all aspects of our identity, mission and witness in proclaiming the joy of the Gospel.”

Faith, hope, and charity were evident as he discussed his vocational journey that began as a teenager in the Diocese of Evansville and led him to Saint Meinrad Archabbey and School of Theology in St. Meinrad, where he was formed for the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Louisville.

There at Saint Meinrad, he was mentored by bishops such as Daniel M. Buechlein of Indianapolis, who served as the president-rector of the seminary at that time. They have maintained their friendship, and Archbishop-designate Thompson still regularly visits Archbishop Buechlein, who resides in the infirmary of Saint Meinrad Archabbey since he retired because of health concerns in 2011.

“He’s such a witness to me, even still,” the new archbishop said of Archbishop-Emeritus Buechlein, who continues to live out his ordained ministry in the infirmary.

He also spoke fondly of his predecessor, Cardinal Tobin, whom he also called a “mentor,” adding “following [him] is more than a daunting task.”

Before being named to lead the Diocese of Evansville in 2011, he was vicar general in the Archdiocese of Louisville. His ministry assignments have also included serving as vicar judicial and director of the archdiocesan tribunal, and as a pastor of parishes—both large and small—in his ministry. Archbishop-designate Thompson was also a visiting professor of canon law at Saint Meinrad.

While ministering in the Archdiocese of Louisville, Archbishop-designate Thompson was priest-chaplain for a time at three Catholic high schools. The young people “always energized me,” he noted.

Youths, he said, “are the young Church of today,” who need to be involved in the dialogue and vision of the Church as it moves forward. “They [young people] need to be willing to be engaged,” Archbishop-designate Thompson added.

During the press conference, our new shepherd also shared words of greeting in Spanish with students of Church’s growing Latino community.

When asked about immigrants and refugees and how they continue to be a concern for many, Archbishop-designate Thompson talked about our roles as Catholics to welcome our brothers and sisters in Christ and later added, “How do we let them touch us?”

He noted the “rich culture” and strong sense of family that so many groups, including Hispanics, bring to our community, and said, “‘It’s important for us to not only recognize them, but to embrace them and learn from them and reach out to them as well.”

One thing that Archbishop-designate Thompson made clear was that he is not perfect. “I plead for prayers and patience. I will make mistakes, and hopefully, I have the ability to recognize them at some point and reconcile them and move forward.”

Our new spiritual leader can be assured that we will keep him in prayer as he begins his new ministry of shepherding the 129 parishes and 69 schools spread over nearly 14,000 square miles in 39 counties that comprise the Church in central and southern Indiana.

We pray his time here bears much fruit, and most importantly, that this humble servant of God helps us all grow in our lives of faith.

--Mike Krokos

Reflection/Sean Gallagher

Golfer shows sacrificial love is at the heart of fatherhood

It’s not unusual to see the family of a professional male athlete rush to view their love after he has achieved greatness on the field of play. Spectators can see such a touching display of family love, and conclude that the athlete is a praiseworthy family man. And, in many cases that is true.

Professional golfer Phil Mickelson took this to a higher level recently. Instead of having his family come to him where he was competing for a championship, he left the field of play to spend time with them.

Mickelson had the chance to compete on golf’s biggest stage at the United States Open Championship at Erin Hills, Wis., which began on June 15.

The U.S. Open is the only of the four major golfing championships that Mickelson hasn’t won. And having just turned 47, there may not be many more chances for him to compete among the few golfers to have completed what is called the “career grand slam.”

On the same day that the tournament began, his daughter Amanda graduated from high school in California. Mickelson chose to be in his daughter’s life on her special day rather than compete at Erin Hills for a chance at golf immortality. As this newspaper went to press there was a slight chance Mickelson could attend the graduation on June 15, then fly to Wisconsin to tee off for the first round of the tournament—if there is a significant rain delay.

In discussing this possibility, though, Mickelson indicated that it is “wholeheartedly at peace if he misses the tournament.”

His dedication to his family isn’t new, though. In fact, it can be traced back to 18 years ago when his wife Amy was about to give birth to Amanda, the oldest of their three children.

Mickelson was competing at the time in the U.S. Open in Pinehurst, N.C. At the time, he had the unwelcome moniker of the “left-handed professional golfer to have never won a major.”

During the final round, he was dueling with a European star for the title while wearing a special beeper. It had been arranged that it would only go off if Amy went into labor. In fact, Mickelson had been told that he would walk off the course to be with his wife no matter where he stood in the tournament.

As it turned out, the beeper never went off during the final round. Stewart, a great family man himself, sank a long putt on the 18th hole to win the championship by one stroke.

Moments later, after receiving Mickelson’s congratulations, Stewart took Mickelson’s head in his hands, looked straight into his eyes, and told him, “You’re going to be a great dad.”

Mickelson’s adventure of fatherhood began the next day when Amy gave birth to Amanda. And it continues now as he chooses to watch his daughter achieve her own greatness rather than compete for his own.

Self-sacrificial love. That is the challenge presented to all of us. It is the call to like our new shepherd. It is the charge to live the “wholehearted” life of the every mother and father.

It’s a challenge because the world constantly tells us to achieve greatness only through self-assertion, not self-giving. But the experience of mothers and fathers, and the experience of the world tells us that they experience a fulfillment far beyond any worldly success when they place their children first and live their vocation and witness them pass various stages of success into adulthood.

Mickelson is living out this challenge...
Convocation delegate takes evangelization cues from Pope Francis

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Cindy Black’s copy of “Evangelii Gaudium”—Pope Francis’ apostolic exhortation on the Mission of the Church to evangelize the modern world—is worn from use, marked up and with notes in it.

Black, executive director of Redeemer Radio, a Catholic radio station based in Fort Wayne, Ind., said she is inspired overall by the 2013 text, which she considers a guide, but one sentence particularly stops her in her tracks. The line reads: “If something should rightly disturb us and trouble our consciences, it is the fact that so many of our brothers and sisters are living without the strength, light and consolation born of friendship with Jesus Christ, without a community of faith to support them, without meaning and a goal in life” (#49).

That quote, for her, sums up why Catholics need to share their faith, and it has been her own motivation in recent years. She also takes to heart a message that “without meaning and a goal in life” (#49).

Cindy Black

Black said she feels “anyone who will listen” that story, emphasizing that Catholics need to find some way to reach out beyond those already in the Church, which requires re-thinking the way things are usually done.

Unpacking more of what the pope is saying in “Evangelii Gaudium” or “The Joy of the Gospel” and gaining a deeper understanding of how Catholics can effectively evangelize in the modern world is something Black hopes to gain during the “Convocation of Catholic Leaders: The Joy of the Gospel in America” in Orlando, Fla., on July 1-4.

The Fort Wayne native and mother of two is attending the convocation, sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, with a delegation from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. In a June 5 interview with Catholic News Service, she said she hopes delegates are “open to the Holy Spirit,” and willing to be reinvigorated in their mission.

She has been to enough conferences over the years in her work at the Indiana diocese in adult faith formation, youth ministry and evangelization offices to wonder: “How many times can we strengthen the same people over and over?”

She hopes the convocation will not be so much about making the 3,000 delegates stronger in their faith, but equipping them to go back and enliven their parishes and ministries and reach out to those no longer in the Church, especially young adults.

At Redeemer Radio, where she has worked for a year and a half, in her work in diocesan ministries for about a decade and anecdotesly among friends and parishioners, Black often has had people ask her for prayers for their grown sons or daughters who no longer go to church.

This is not an isolated trend either. She points out that the Church has an 85 percent attrition rate for young adults, adding that “it is no different for people who attended Catholic schools, went on missions, or not.” As she sees it, the Church needs to really face this fact and listen to these young people to find out what prompted them to walk away. To reverse this trend, she said, Church leaders are going to have to make changes, take risks and try new things.

That’s what Pope Francis is calling us to, she said, to go out not with the idea that “we have the truth in the upper hand,” but to recognize where others are in their faith journey and to get them to a deeper relationship with Jesus.

When she applied for the job at the Catholic radio station, she was already accustomed to reaching out beyond the parish walls. She said in her interview: “If your goal is to put the one [sheep] on the back, I’m not your person.”

Instead, she hoped to challenge the listener, those on the peripheries that just happen to tune in, which she hopes will only be further reinforced at the convocation.

LETTER

continued from page 6

States, but also globally? Rising sea levels are not the only effects of global warming. Already, both in the United States and across the globe, we have experienced severe drought, devastating hurricanes, massive wildfires and other “extreme weather” issues. All of these events related to climate change are already disrupting the well-being of U.S. citizens and our global neighbors, and the United States has been a major contributor to the problem.

Yet, the World Health Organization asserts that economically undeveloped countries—with significantly smaller populations—will disproportionately bear the effects of climate change because they lack the resources to rebound from the altering of the geographic range and seasonality of certain infectious diseases, disturbances of food-producing ecosystems, and increases in the frequency of extreme weather events. Moreover, the predicted that by 2030 and 2050, climate change will cause approximately 250,000 additional deaths per year from malnutrition, malaria, diarrhea and heat stress.

As U.S. citizens who have been among the major polluters since the Industrial Revolution, we should be among the leaders in reducing greenhouse emissions and in making the Earth inhabitable for all people. The Sisters of Providence join others around the globe in recognizing that climate change is a grave moral issue. Catholic social teaching calls us to protect human life, health and dignity—both now and for future generations: to exercise a preferential option for the poor; and to care for creation. Pope Francis, in his recent TED [Technology Entertainment and Design] talk, reminded us: “The more powerful you are, the more your actions will have an impact on people.”

We are a powerful nation . . . and thus our actions will, indeed, have a strong impact on others. We beg President Trump to reconsider his decision to withdraw from the Paris Climate Accord, recognizing that any short-term “gains” achieved from such a retraction threaten the long-term health and stability of all nations of the Earth.

Let us remember that “. . . to whom much is given, much will be required,” and act accordingly.

The General Officers of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods and The Justice Coordinating Commission

LETTER

continued from page 4

and fulfilling aspect of fatherhood on Father’s Day weekend in a way that all the world can see and benefit from. Most parents give of themselves in ways that are hidden from the world and anecdotally among friends and family, caring for ailing little ones in the middle of the night.

But our heavenly Father sees all of these acts of loving self-sacrifice and, in fact, makes them possible in the first place through the power of his grace. Lean on that grace to achieve greatness as a parent that our world says isn’t even possible.

(Sean Gallagher is a reporter and columnist for The Criterion.)

REFLECTION

continued from page 3

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The General Officers of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods and The Justice Coordinating Commission

The United Catholic Appeal provides support for the five regional Catholic Charities agencies and their programs and services. New numbers indicate 209,000 people benefit annually, an increase in need of 16% in a 12 month period.

• family counseling
• caregiver support
• adult day services
• school social work
• hot meals
• community mental health training
• child, individual and family counseling
• household budgeting
• food bank and food pantries

Let It Shine. Let It Shine. Let It Shine.

United Catholic Appeal
Christ Our Hope

GIVE TODAY!
Training on sidewalk counseling at abortion centers set for July 15

Sidewalk Advocates of Indianapolis will host a sidewalk advocacy training at 1st Choice for Women in the Polaris building at 5455 W. 86th St., Suite 121, in Indianapolis, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on July 15.

The training is intended for those who wish to reach out in love to those experiencing an unplanned pregnancy, helping them discover the wide array of support or help available to them. Sidewalk advocates are asked to commit to 2 1/2 hours a week counseling outside the 86th Street Planned Parenthood facility.

The cost is $10, which includes transportation, a light breakfast, and lunch.

Registration is required by July 11. Space is limited, so an early reservation is suggested.

To register, call Marcia at 317-545-7681.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish offers tours of Marian-themed windows on June 25

A guided tour of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church’s Marian stained glass windows and their history will be presented during the Parish Feast Day Celebration at the church, 5692 Central Ave., in Indianapolis, at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. on June 25.

The windows were created and donated by members of the Byrne family, parishioners who own owning Byrne Glass Company in Indianapolis.

Among the nearly 40 stained glass windows are images of Our Lady of Fatima, St. Catherine Labouré, the Miraculous Medal, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Proclamation of the Immaculate Conception dogma, Our Lady of Einsiedel, Our Lady of Lourdes and other depictions of the Blessed Mother and events related to her in the history of the Church.

Doors will remain open, and tour and devotional material will be made available, for those who wish to take a self-guided tour of the windows from noon-4 p.m.

Connecting Link celebrating 20 years of ministry with open house on July 8

The Connecting Link, a sponsored ministry of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, will celebrate its 20-year anniversary of service to the West Terre Haute community with an open house at 830 W. National Ave., in West Terre Haute, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on July 8.

Since opening in 1997, The Connecting Link has assisted more than 3,500 individuals in need of food, money, furniture, clothing or basic services. The ministry provides information and referrals to and from other not-for-profit organizations, and advocacy within the community to address needs related to social services.

During the open house, gift bags that highlight ministry partners, including Providence Food Pantry, The Helping Hands and Providence Housing Corporation, will be provided. Refreshments will also be served.

Providence Sister Dorothy Rasche, director of The Connecting Link, is selling sponsorships for a newsletter to be handed out during the celebration. For more information on the ministry or open house, contact Sister Dorothy at 812-535-4401.

Public hearing on use of Owen’s Hall at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods set for June 21

The Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods will conduct a public forum regarding the use of Owen’s Hall in the Providence Hall Community Room of the Providence Spirituality and Conference Center, 1 Sisters of Providence, at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, at 6:30 p.m. on June 21.

The purpose of the forum is to discuss the proposed plans for Owen’s Hall.

Currently, the congregation is considering repurposing the building for alternative uses. At this time, the main proposal is to develop Owen’s Hall for use as affordable and market rate housing for seniors ages 55 and older.

The main proposal anticipates incorporating optional assisted living services, which will help the seniors age in place, and ideally keep them from having to enter institutional care.

There are financing opportunities to make those optional assisted living services available to older persons on fixed income.

The forum will include an opportunity for the public to attend and discuss other viable alternatives, and to offer input into what services are needed for as long as the housing approach is considered the best use of the building. The sisters welcome public opinion.

Written comments on this project will also be welcomed by sending them to Owen’s Hall Project, Sister of Providence, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, 47876.

VIPS

Paul and Dottie (Senit) Fullenkamp, members of St. Louis Parish in Batesville, will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary on June 26.

The couple was married in the former St. Anne Church in Hamburg on June 26, 1952. They have five children, Greg, Paula Trenkamp, Leo, Mark and Steve Fullenkamp. The couple also has 17 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren.

The couple will celebrate with a blessing at Mass and a reception at a later date.

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House to host pilgrimage to Oldenburg on July 13

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Mary in Fatima, Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House in Indianapolis is sponsoring a pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady of Fatima at the motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Francis in Oldenburg on July 13.

A chartered bus will leave the retreat house, 5533 E. 56th St., at 9 a.m. Father James Farrell will celebrate Mass at 11 a.m. Time will be allowed for lunch and shopping in downtown Oldenburg, followed by prayers at the shrine. The bus will return to Fatima by 5:30 p.m.

The cost is $59, which includes transportation, a light breakfast, and lunch.

Registration is required by July 11. Space is limited, so an early reservation is suggested.

To register, call Marcia at 317-545-7681.
Mary, mother of Jesus, mother of hope

Last month, Pope Francis made a two-day pilgrimage to Fatima in Portugal to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Mary’s appearance to three shepherd children there in 1917. During this May 12-13 trip, the pope also presided over the canonization of two of the child visionaries, Francisco and Jacinta Marto. 

“In [Christ’s] name, I come among you and have the joy of sharing with everyone the Gospel of hope and peace,” the pope said. “May the Lord bless you, and the Virgin Mother protect you!”

This historic trip to Fatima provided Pope Francis with an opportunity to reflect on the role of Mary in the history of our salvation—as well as her ongoing role in our lives as Christians. 

In his general audience remarks, just a few days before his trip to Fatima, Pope Francis said Mary’s “yes” at the annunciation was more than a yes to bearing the Son of God, but was also an acceptance of everything she would endure after—something every mother experiences with a new child. 

In his trip to Fatima the pope said Mary was not only a “yes” to the angel’s invitation; yet she, a woman still in the flower of youth, answers with courage, despite not knowing anything about the fate that awaited her.

“Mary at that moment looks like one of the many mothers of our world, brave to the extreme when it comes to welcoming in her womb the story of a new human being who is growing,” the pope said. “Her ‘yes’ to the angel at the annunciation was just the first step in a long list of obedience leading to the moment she stood at the foot of her Son’s cross.”

According to Pope Francis, the Gospels show Mary to be a powerful figure who speaks only occasionally, but always with profound import, and whose actions show great character strength.

She simply stands at the foot of the cross, for example, not weeping or crying out but standing there, silently confident that God’s plan is being carried out in the person of her son. 

Throughout history, great poets and artists have imagined this moment in vivid and passionate detail, but “the Gospel writer Luke was more ‘standstill’.” She was there, in the worst moment, in the cruellest time, and suffered with her son, and according to Pope Francis her mere presence spoke eloquently without words or gestures. 

“Mothers do not betray, and at that moment, at the foot of the cross, none of us can say whose was the cruellest passion; whether that of an innocent man who dies on the scaffold of the cross, or the agony of a mother who accompanies the last moments of her son’s life,” the pope said.

Amazingly, she doesn’t get angry or protest—as she certainly would have the right to do. Mary simply stands there. Mary was present at the foot of the cross at this crucial moment in the history of our redemption when many others had fled. 

Despite everything, even the “deepest darkness,” Mary does not leave, but stands faithfully. “That’s why we all love her as a Mother. We are not orphans: we have a Mother in heaven, who is the Holy Mother of God.”

Although she didn’t know what the outcome of her son’s Passion would be, she was loyal to the kingdom of God, just as she promised to the angel “on the first day of her vocation,” the pope said.

“The suffering of mothers: We have all seen young women who bravely endured many of the sufferings of their children!” he said.

Even in the first days of the Church, before Christ’s resurrection was known, when the disciples are all afraid, hiding in a room behind locked doors, the “Mother of Hope” stays, Pope Francis said. “She is simply there, in the most normal of ways, as if it were a natural thing.”

So, “in moments of difficulty, Mary, the Mother Jesus has given to us all, can always support our steps, can always say to our heart: ‘Get up! Look ahead, look at the horizon,’ because she is a Mother of Hope.”

As mentioned a hundred years ago, the children of Fatima saw the Mother of God and our mother “standing there,” and calmly inviting them to be her messengers of holy hope. Today, may we look at Mary our mother and through her example find signs of God’s love for us and the profound hope for the future.

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

El rostro de la misericordia/Daniel Conway

María, madre de Jesús, madre de esperanza

El mes pasado el papa Francisco realizó una peregrinación de dos días a Fátima, en Portugal, para celebrar los 100 años de la aparición de María a los dos pequeños visionarios, Francisco y Jacinta Marto. 

Según el papa Francisco, el viaje a Fátima le brindó al pontífice la oportunidad de recordar la aparición de María a la niña Jacinta Marto, el 13 de mayo de 1917.

“El rostro de la misericordia” es una iniciativa que se lleva a cabo en el Vaticano para conmemorar el 100 aniversario de la aparición de María. 

Esta iniciativa permitió a los fieles de todo el mundo compartir en línea imágenes y videos de la aparición de María y recordar su mensaje de amor y perdón.

El viaje de Fátima fue una oportunidad para recordar la importancia de la devoción a María, la Madre de Dios, y su papel en la historia de la salvación del mundo.

El papa Francisco expresó su gratitud a la Virgen María por su presencia en la aparición de 1917 y por su continuo apoyo en la vida de la Iglesia.

“María nos muestra un rostro de misericordia, un rostro de esperanza, un rostro de amor infinito,” el papa dijo.

Pese a no saber cuál sería el futuro, María permaneció allí, “en el peor momento, el más triste,” el papa dijo.

“Ella no se fue, ella no se retiró, ella simplemente estuvo allí, en el peor momento, en el momento de mayor necesidad,” el papa dijo.

La aparición de María en Fátima es recordada cada año el 13 de mayo, el día de la aparición original.

(Ahora en línea: www.maridadios.com)
Archbishop-designate Charles C. Thompson is welcomed by transitional Deacon Jeffrey Dufresne on June 13. Looking on is Father Eric Augenstein, archdiocesan director of vocations. Deacon Dufresne is scheduled to be ordained a priest for the archdiocese in 2018. (Photo by Sean Gallagher)

JOURNEY continued from page 1

the rosary every night together. We said grace at all meals. It was just natural. It was almost like breathing for me."

Then there’s the experience that stands in stark contrast to that grace-filled family life—an experience that had initially stunned him and turned his life to thoughts about social justice and the priesthood.

It happened when he attended high school during a period of desegregation. "We moved to Louisville just a year or two before busing," recalled Archbishop-designate Thompson, the eldest of his parents’ three children. "The very first year of busing I was bused as a freshman downtown to one of the two schools that were considered the worst in the whole educational system at that time in Louisville, if not Kentucky."

It was an era of violence and fear. Just to give you a couple examples, but not to get too graphic, there was a stabbing once. A teacher disciplined a student and the next day all four tires were slit. There was a rape on one floor. There were drug dealings. It was the first time I thought of priesthood in a whole different light.

"I remember asking myself, 'All this violence and all this immaturity to humanity, how does my life speak to this behavior, to this kind of violence?' That’s when priesthood came to me in a whole different light. I went on and dated through high school and college. But halfway through college, that’s when I went to my cousin [who is a priest] about the seminary. It triggered that whole notion of a witness—how does my life speak to something other than that violence?"

Archbishop-designate Thompson shared those two defining experiences in an extensive interview with The Criterion. He also shared his thoughts and insights about a wide range of issues and concerns as he prepares to be installed as the spiritual leader of the archdiocese on July 28: the focus on youth and young adults, the role of women in the Church, the importance of marriage and family life, the will and efforts to embrace immigrants and refugees, and a continuing emphasis on vocations and Catholic education.

Here is the first of two parts of an edited conversation with the archbishop-designate.

Q. From the press conference, you seem to have an abundance of humor, a foundation of humility, and a commitment to dialogue and collaboration. Talk about the importance of these qualities to you as a leader, especially in leading people to Christ.

A. "When you’re my size, you’re better humble or you’ll be humbled. I’m also in awe of the people I’ve worked with over the years. I’ve got an incredible family. I’ve got incredible brother priests, deacons, lay people I’ve worked with over the years. I’m always humbled by wonderful, holy, brilliant men and women in the Church."

"The dialogue is necessary because no one person can do this on their own. For me to think I can change my own life and I can lead a parish let alone a diocese without collaboration, without working with others. I can’t imagine myself and the Church. So I think it’s necessary for us to form that vision together and walk together. Pope Francis, I love his word, ‘accompaniment’—that notion of a culture of encounter, that connectedness and the missionary discipleship.”

Q. What impressions do you have of the Church in Louisville and the archdiocese as you begin to walk together. Pope Francis, I love his words, how do I make a difference, to be part of carrying forth this mission of Jesus Christ, to proclaim this good news and transform the world. It’s that two-way respect and understanding and willingness to work together."

"The Church has a great reputation nationally in the area of Catholic education, having more Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence than any other diocese in the nation. What are your thoughts about the importance of Catholic education in the lives of children and youths?"

A. “Just about every parish I’ve been in has had a school. And I was the chaplain of three different Catholic high schools. I loved that ministry. It was always energizing and refreshing. If I was having a bad day, I’d just go over there, and they would pick me up, inspire me and renew my spirit."

"Both in the Archdiocese of Louisville and in the Diocese of Evansville, I’ve been with very strong Catholic school systems. As a result of that, you see the value of Catholic schools and Catholic education, not only on our Church, but on our community, upon our society. The schools are not only striving to produce good members of the Church, we’re striving to produce good citizens. It’s the holistic approach of mind, body and spirit.”

Q. The archdiocese has a strong history of immigrants building up the faith in many ways in central and southern Indiana. And new immigrants and refugees are a growing part of the present archdiocese. What are your thoughts on the importance of diversity in the life of the Church in central and southern Indiana?"

A. "St. John Paul II began World Youth Day. I was just at my first one last July in Krakow, Poland. My understanding is that when St. John Paul II began World Youth Day he began it because he wanted young people to experience the universality of the Church—to experience the richness of cultures and languages, and all the beauty of the Church beyond one’s own backyard, one’s own parish, and one’s own diocese. Just that richness of the diversity."

"It’s the same thing here with immigrants and refugees and migrants. Pope Francis also says in ‘The Joy of the Gospel,’ in serving the poor, don’t think about what we’re giving them, but how we listen to them and allow them to touch us. With immigrants and refugees and migrants, how do we let them touch us? How do we allow them to bring the richness of their culture and languages to our communities as well?”

Q. In the Catholic newspaper for the Evansville Diocese, you wrote a column that appeared in both English and Spanish. At the press conference today, you also made comments in Spanish. Talk about the importance of being connected to the Hispanic members of the archdiocese.

A. “They bring so much to the table of our faith and our communities. Very much at the core of the Hispanic experience. The Latino experience, is family—extended family and that caring for others. We talked earlier about humility and dialogue and those qualities that are so necessary to leadership. I see that in the Hispanic community. The people I know, I see a lot of humility. I see a lot of reaching out and caring for others. We don’t want to lose that richness. We want to build on that. That’s not to say there’s not a great sense of family and solidarity and service among other cultures, other traditions, other people. They bring so much to us. And that community is growing leaps and bounds. So I think it’s important for us not only recognize them, but to embrace them and learn from them and reach out to them as well.”

(The second part of the interview with Archbishop-designate Thompson will appear in the June 23 issue of The Criterion. A video of the full interview with him is also available with this story at www.criteriononline.com.)
Reactions confirm Archbishop-designate Thompson as ‘perfect fit’

By Natalie Hoefer

The crowd may have numbered around 300, but the reaction seemed unanimous: new Archbishop-designate Charles C. Thompson will be a “perfect fit” as the new spiritual leader of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

From lay persons, priests and staff members of the Diocese of Evansville, Ind., to the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, reaction to the news of the new archbishop-designate was positive and hopeful.

“He’s a total package.”

“I was very happy, very excited,” says archdiocesan chancellor Annette “Mickey” Lentz. “I’ve had the pleasure of knowing Bishop Thompson since Archbishop Emeritus Daniel M. Burke’s 51 days. I think he’s a perfect fit.”

According to comments in an earlier interview with The Criterion, Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, former archbishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, agrees that Archbishop-designate Thompson has an advantage “being from this area of the country, and having worked in Indiana. As a canonist, he assisted Archbishop Buechlein in a lot of ways. So he has some knowledge of the face of the archdiocese.”

Cardinal Tobin also notes that Archbishop-designate Thompson is “a man of dialogue.” He found evidence of this in the 56-year-old leader’s handling of a process in the Evansville Diocese similar to the archdiocese’s “Connected in the Spirit” planning process, which examined ways in which the local Church could best serve its communities in changing times.

“One difference was there were no appeals from it, even though people could appeal—which I found significant at the time,” says Cardinal Tobin. “That meant he prepared the people, he listened to them, and he could make a coherent argument for these difficult decisions that he had to make.”

While Cardinal Tobin’s acquaintance with the new archbishop-designate extends far back, he also found evidence of Thompson “going way back” through their shared background in canon law. “I think he will fit in with our longstanding culture,” he says. “I think he’ll be a good combination of a continuance [of Cardinal Tobin’s direction] but with a new perspective. I think he’ll be sympathetic to a lot of our concerns here, and he’ll be a person who makes decisions that need to be made.”

Msgr. Easton says he was “delighted” when he heard the news of the archbishop-designate. “I thought it was a good choice,” he says.

So did Glenn Tebbe. As executive director of the Indiana Catholic Conference, Tebbe has worked with Archbishop-designate Thompson since he was appointed bishop of Evansville in 2011.

“This is good news,” he says. “He’s a total package, a very faithful man. He listens and is able to bring the essence of what needs to be done to the forefront and makes good decisions. I think he’ll be a strong shepherd for the archdiocese.”

“A wonderful gift from Evansville”

Tim McGuire, chancellor and chief operating officer of the Evansville Diocese, attests to Archbishop-designate Thompson’s ability to shepherd a diocese. “He’s very pastoral in his approach, whether it’s with the diocesan staff, whether it’s with the priests, lay people,” McGuire says. “He’s always concerned with what would Jesus do, how would Jesus approach this. … He has probably the best mix of skills I’ve seen as far as someone being pastoral, but also able to administer a diocese.

“We in Evansville are very sad to lose him, but we’re very happy he’s staying in Indiana, and we’re very happy for him as a person.”

So is Bishop Emeritus Gerald A. Gettelfinger, shepherd of the Diocese of Evansville prior to Bishop Thompson’s arrival in 1980 and previously a priest of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

“He’ll be a great leader and a wonderful gift from Evansville to Indianapolis and to the state of Indiana,” says Bishop Gettelfinger. “In witnessing then-Bishop Thompson take over leadership in the Diocese of Evansville, the retired bishop says he’s found the younger man to be “a great listener, a collaborator. He’s not a dictator.”

The reassignment of the Evansville shepherd does continue the gap in leadership within the dioceses of Indiana, says Bishop Timothy L. Doherty, shepherd of the Diocese of Lafayette, Ind.

Nevertheless, he says, he is “wonderfully sure that Pope Francis has made the right choice. I’m personally tickled. He’s a very good priest, a very good bishop and a very thoughtful leader. ‘I’m pleased for the archdiocese and for the people of the state of Indiana,’ he adds. ‘We’ve needed the archdiocese to continue its leadership in serving areas that affect everyone in the state, not just Catholics.’

In the southwest region of the state, not far from the Diocese of Evansville, is Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology, where Archbishop-designate Thompson both received his priestly formation and served as a visiting professor of canon law.

Mary Jeanne Schumacher, director of communications for Saint Meinrad, has become familiar with Archbishop-designate Thompson during his visits there. “I think the people of the archdiocese are going to be very happy to have someone leading them who is very much of the people, is very comfortable being in both a rural and urban area,” she says.

“This man is in solidarity” with us

Norbert Krauf can relate. The member of St. Mary Parish in Indianapolis grew up in the Diocese of Evansville. Sadly, he experienced sexual abuse from a priest there in the 1950s.

Years later, after writing a book of poems and a memoir to help in his own healing and that of other abuse victims, he was invited by then-Bishop Thompson to read from his work to the staff of the Evansville Diocese’s chancery.

He found the young shepherd to be a “hospitable, kind, understanding and congenial” man who “relates to people on their level, does not present himself as above them, but is also a fine leader. … I hear nothing but positive opinions about him from Jasper relatives and friends (in the Diocese of Evansville).”

Krauf says that he and his wife Katherine “have even said to one another about a successor to Cardinal Tobin, ‘Wouldn’t we be all lucky if it could be Bishop Thompson? We are extremely delighted.’


“He is very handsome,” the member of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis and a French-speaking native of the African nation of Togo. “He’s just open. It’s another blessing to us. We wanted [seven] months, but we’ve got another good one.

Also present at the press conference was Casey Foley, a member of S.S. Peter and Paul Parish in Indianapolis. Foley addressed Archbishop-designate Thompson during the press conference, and later met him in person.

The new archdiocesan leader made a great impression on him. “He is very charismatic and engaging,” says Foley. “There’s something magnetic about his personality and his demeanor. He’s very approachable and unassuming.”

Foley admits he was “totally nervous in meeting him, but he met me at ease. He is so reassuring and so humble.”

“The idea came to me that this man is in solidarity with me. He felt like a companion, like we are on a journey together.

“He’s about as friendly a companion as I could imagine.”

(Criterion reporter Sean Gallagher contributed to this story.)
on the people around me for great counsel and advice, working together, collaborating. I don’t do this by myself. We do this together. Ultimately, it’s Christ’s Church, not mine.”

Two people with whom Archbishop-designate Thompson will work closely in the archdiocese are chancellor Annette “Mickey” Lentz and Msgr. William F. Stumpf, who will continue to serve as archdiocesan administrator until the July 28 installation Mass.

“I was so thrilled when I knew that he was going to be our new archbishop,” Msgr. Stumpf said. “He brings so many wonderful qualities. He’s an extremely humble man, very personable. He’s a very prayerful man, which is absolutely essential in that type of job. He brings a wide variety of pastoral experiences. I know we’re in good hands.”

During the press conference, Archbishop-designate Thompson said that Msgr. Stumpf will serve as his vicar general, a position he held under Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, archbishop of Indianapolis from 2012-16.

Lentz appreciated Archbishop-designate Thompson’s continuity with previous leaders of the archdiocese going back to Archbishop-Emeritus Daniel M. Buechlein, who was president-rector of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad when the new archbishop received his priestly formation there for the Archdiocese of Louisville, Ky.

“I’m hopeful,” Lentz said. “For me, it’s a continuation of what we had through Archbishop Emeritus Daniel and Cardinal Tobin. It’s an exciting time. He’s a good man.”

Although many spoke his praise after the press conference, Archbishop-designate Thompson placed the focus on Christ during the press conference when reflecting on his episcopal motto, “Christ the Cornerstone.”

“I try to keep before myself that we have to be Christ-centered,” he said. “not self-centered, ideology-centered, not to be driven by my agenda, but to be driven by God’s will, the mission of Jesus Christ and the grace of the Holy Spirit.”

(For more coverage of the appointment of Archbishop-designate Charles C. Thompson as archbishop of Indianapolis, including photos and a video of the June 13 press conference, visit www.CriterionOnline.com “)
Faith!

Spiritual direction can help us move forward in life toward God

By Effie Caldarola

Have you ever sat down for coffee with a good friend and found yourself sharing a problem with her? This friend is a good listener, and as you talk, she shows you how your problem, perhaps in your own words, but in a new light. She tells you what to do. But she’s looked at the prism of your life from a different angle than you have, and she turns it gently toward you so that you see the light from that side, too.

In a very real sense, that is what spiritual direction can be.

Spiritual direction is an ancient practice, but for years it was mainly used by priests and religious. After the Second Vatican Council, the laity became more aware that God was calling them to a deep and active life of faith and prayer. So it became important that they find help and guidance in listening to how God was speaking in their lives.

It’s important to know what spiritual direction is not. A spiritual director is not a psychologist or a therapist, although you might find some who are also trained in those practices. And although this is a little controversial, a spiritual director does not actually “direct” you, in the sense that they tell you what you must do. Rather, by conversation and questioning, a good spiritual director may help you make your own decisions and discernment. For this reason, some directors prefer the title “spiritual companion.”

Some people believe they aren’t “prayerful” enough or far enough along in spiritual practices to seek spiritual direction. No one should feel this way. If you are reading this article or thinking about spiritual direction, you are obviously a person who wants a relationship with God.

If you are beginning to realize that the Jesus maxium of “finding God in all things” is what you want for your life, but life is messy and sometimes confusing, and you need some help, you’re ready to seek spiritual direction.

So what should you expect from direction? You may meet for an hour, perhaps four or five times. You will meet in a quiet, prayerful environment and your session may begin with a period of silence and prayer. Then, you can expect your director, at your first meeting, to ask you what’s going on in your life, how you pray, where you find God—or where you feel God’s absence.

Although you want to be honest with your director, direction in and of itself is not confession. Receiving spiritual direction from a priest, though, can involve participating in the sacrament of penance.

A good spiritual director is an active listener. You do most of the talking; the spiritual director listens closely and asks insightful questions. It becomes a sacred conversation about your whole life—you begin to see God in decisions both great and small.

Where to send your child to school? How to resist returning to doughnuts? For spiritual direction can be. It can be helpful in resisting the weight and cholesterol and those doughnuts you can’t resist.

As you grow in a deepening friendship with God, you know God cares about all aspects of your life. Does your director do more of the asking of you or your thoughts and experiences? Good directors employ complete confidentiality and discretion. They may make suggestions to you about prayer or about a helpful book.

Sometimes, they may call your bluff if you sense you’re dishonest with yourself. Eventually, you’ll feel you’re in conversation with a good friend, and you’ll leave feeling you’ve glimpsed the other side of that prism.

How do you find a spiritual director? It’s best to find someone who has trained for spiritual direction. It may surprise you to know that not all priests and religious have been trained in this practice. Some of them, like your friend over coffee, may have a natural gift for listening and engaging in spiritual conversation, but for the most part it’s good to find a trained director.

Ask your pastor if he can recommend a director, or call the pastoral center or chaplaincy of your diocese for a list. Many Catholic universities offer courses in spiritual direction, and you might contact a theological department or the campus ministry office in your area.

Or ask any religious sister you know, as most religious communities have trained directors in their ranks and sisters all have experience with directors themselves.

You might wish to inquire about fees or donations up front.

Don’t worry that if you find someone isn’t a good fit, you’re stuck. Any director worth their salt will offer to spend a couple of sessions getting acquainted and will understand if you choose to keep looking.

Why is spiritual direction a good thing? Often we become bound up in false prescognitions about our lives and God’s will for us. We navel-gaze and don’t see the big picture.

We can’t stand back and see God who is right in our midst. We procrastinate about moving ahead with our spiritual lives and forget how fleeting life is.

A spiritual director helps us see and listen and move forward toward God. That’s a good thing.

(CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz)

Johanna Chao, a Catholic spiritual director from Hanyang, China, second from right, and Sister Clara Zhang Jin Ping, right, a member of the Sisters of the Blessed Virgin Mary, pray the Lord’s Prayer during Mass at the Cenacle Retreat Center in Ronkonkoma, N.Y. A spiritual director helps us see, listen and move forward toward God.

(Old photo/Theresa Laurence, Tennessee Register)

Praying with Scripture can deepen your experience of spiritual direction

By Mike Nelson

What is the Bible, if not about spiritual direction? Open up to any page, and you are bound to find something that offers insight and guidance of one form or another.

Of course, with 73 books (46 in the Old Testament, 27 in the New Testament) from which to choose, plus any number of commentaries, interpretations and analyses for each, Scripture can, for some, seem rather intimidating.

In an essay titled “Using Scripture in Prayer and Spiritual Direction,” Sulipican Father Richard Gula, author of The Call to Holiness and a moral theologian, suggests that while the Bible’s text and interpretations can be overwhelming, that “should not frighten us away from praying with Scripture, nor smother imaginative application to our lives.”

Spiritual direction, says Father Richard, offers believers an opportunity “to become more consciously aware of the presence of God in their life, more deeply in love with God, and more alive in the Spirit of God.”

According to his understanding of the Bible, “can serve as a special resource for spiritual direction.”

But effective spiritual direction begins with prayer—more specifically, Father Richard suggests, “contemplative-like” prayer that “listens, pays attention and opens our hearts to the deeper dimensions of our experiences where we meet God.”

And, he adds, because Scripture expresses the word of a living God seeking to engage in dialogue with us, "we need to approach the Bible in prayer as a word addressed to us personally calling for a response: 'What do I hear the Lord saying to me?' is the fundamental question we bring to Scripture when we pray.”

Thus, it is important to pay attention not simply to the words of Scripture, but to the mood and feelings of those we read about; to how we feel ourselves as we read, “Where am I in this story?”; and to ask, “How does the Lord seem to me in this text?”; and to how we respond to God (“Lord, what I hear you saying to me is...”) in the process, a healthy balance of “left brain” (imagination and intuition) and “right brain” (logic and analysis) thinking is necessary.

To that end, both spiritual director and directee, though likely not certified in biblical scholarship, should be “biblically informed” and aware of ongoing critical examination of scriptural texts. Both should also have an honest understanding of what the director is seeking through this exercise.

If that search, ultimately, is for a closer relationship with God, it is unlikely that any sincere, prayerful effort at reading Scripture will be for naught. How, after all, can time spent with the spiritual director of all spiritual directors be anything but productive?

To that end, Father Richard offers us, "I will tell you great things beyond the reach of your knowledge" (Jer 33:3).

(Catholic journalist Mike Nelson writes from Southern California.)

Craig Bethwell, a Vietnam War veteran, flips through a Bible during a Soul Care meeting offered every week at Operation Stand Down Tennessee headquarters in Nashville, Tennessee. Scripture, as a place of encounter with God, can serve as a special resource for spiritual direction. (CNS photo/Thomas Lawrence, Tennessee Register)
The key, doesn’t it? More common ground naturally finding understanding among the differences for the other. And as movement toward relations exist and thrive through dialogue. Ecumenical and interreligious dialogue. As has been said before, not winning an argument about differences (ideologies), it is merely laying out a system of beliefs (that can be talked about). Dialogue is about finding common ground, following the way of the world, by listening intently to another’s beliefs, traditions and values. Next comes one’s own beliefs, traditions and values. And then, pondering what was received, a movement toward mutual understanding begins. Ultimately, this engenders a deep respect for the other. And as movement toward finding understanding continues, more common ground naturally follows. Differences remain. But the differences do not end the relationship. And therein lies the key, doesn’t it? One might imagine that dialogue is the work of professional theologians and leaders of denominations. As described above, that could be the correct for the most part. However, we are all included in dialogue. The document “Dialogue and Proclamation,” released on May 19, 1991, by the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, identifies four forms of dialogue: 

• Dialogue of life, where people strive to live in an open and neighborly spirit, sharing their joys and sorrows, their human problems and preoccupations.

• Dialogue of culture, in which Christians and others collaborate for the integral development and liberation of people.

• Dialogue of faith, where specialists seek to deepen their understanding of their respective religious heritages, in order to appreciate each other’s spiritual values.

• Dialogue of religious experience, where persons, rooted in their own religious traditions, share their spiritual riches; for instance, with regard to prayer and contemplation, persons share their faith and ways of searching for God and the absolute. Granted, this document addresses dialogue among Christians and non-Christians. However, the four forms are universal in character.

The third form of dialogue is for the professionals. The first, second and fourth are for everyone:

The neighbor is the root of the first form. “Who is my neighbor?” (Lk 10:29) the scribe asked Jesus. The neighbor is the one closest to us. You live next door, down the street, work next to us. They are a part of our life, if we simply engage them as described.

Risk of dialogue with the faiths can bear much fruit.
The Sunday Readings

Sunday, June 18, 2017

- Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14b-16a
- 1 Corinthians 10:16-17
- John 6:51-58

This weekend, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, or as perhaps it is better known by its Latin title, Corpus Christi.

Deuteronomy recalls the passage of the Hebrews from Egyptian slavery to the Promised Land. Moses is the central figure in this book, in the Pentateuch and in the list of ancient Hebrew prophets. He is the principal figure in this weekend’s reading.

To understand this book, and indeed to grasp the plight of the Hebrews as they fled from slavery in Egypt across the Sinai Peninsula—and eventually to the Promised Land—it is necessary to realize how bleak and sterile the Sinai was, and still is for that matter. The fleeing Hebrews were virtually helpless. They faced death from starvation and thirst. Food and water were in short supply at best.

God supplied through Moses. The people lived as a result. They did not starve. They eventually arrived at the Promised Land.


The presence of this record in First Corinthians indicates how important the Eucharist was in the early Church. The similarity among all the accounts shows how important the Last Supper was to the first Christians.

St. John’s Gospel is the source of the last reading, and it is powerful and eloquent. Jesus states, “I am the living bread. He who eats this bread, he shall live forever; the bread I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.” (Jn 6:51) Jesus used no symbolic phrases, no vague illusions. The biblical texts are clear. He said, “I am the living bread come down from heaven,” directly and exactly. It is a simple, straightforward declaratory sentence. Not surprisingly, the first Christians, as does Catholic teaching today, remembered the Lord’s words as literal.

Reflection

Few Americans die of starvation, despite the chronic poverty endured by many. With the world food and water, without any direction as to where to go, they faced death itself.

God supplied them with food and water, pointing them on the right path to the Promised Land. God gave them life.

Even if we experience material plenty, we all are in circumstances similar to those confronted by the ancient Hebrews. Today, as humans have been in any time, we are lost in our own stark and sterile Sinai Peninsulas created by sin and human limitations.

Perhaps the worst danger is that we so often assume that we know where we are, and where we should go with our lives, and that we have more control than we actually have.

In fact, we are too at the mercy of harsh, even deadly, conditions surrounding us. In the spiritual sense, we all are vulnerable to the eternal death created by sin.

Here, God enters the picture. He gives us himself in Jesus and especially in the Eucharist. As the early Christians so firmly believed, the Eucharist is not merely a symbol. The Eucharist is the Lord’s “body, blood, soul and divinity.” In the Eucharist, we enter intimately into communion with Jesus. Jesus gives us life.†

Daily Readings

Monday, June 19
St. Romuald, abbot
2 Corinthians 6:1-10
Psalm 98:1-4
Matthew 5:38-42

Tuesday, June 20
2 Corinthians 8:1-9
Psalm 146:2, 5-9a
Matthew 5:43-48

Wednesday, June 21
St. Aloysius Gonzaga, religious
2 Corinthians 9:6-11
Psalm 112:1-4, 9
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday, June 22
St. Paulinus of Nola, bishop
St. John Fisher, bishop and martyr
St. Thomas More, martyr
2 Corinthians 11:1-11
Psalm 111:1-4, 7-8
Matthew 6:7-15

Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, Corpus Christi/
Msgr. Owen F. Campion

Question Corner

Fr. Kenneth Doyle

Non-Catholic Christians not required to become Catholic to be married in Church

I am trying to learn the requirement in regard to a forthcoming wedding. In this case, the husband-to-be is Catholic, and the wife-to-be is Baptist.

The marriage have to be blessed before the wife can convert to Catholicism? Or is it the opposite? (City of origin withheld)

A The wife-to-be may become a Catholic at any point she wishes—either before or after the marriage ceremony; but there is no requirement that she do so all.

To be received into the full communion of the Church, she would need to enter into a process of formation in the Catholic faith—referred to as the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Typically, that would include weekly sessions over a period of eight or nine months, but the length is somewhat flexible depending upon the seeker’s familiarity with Catholic teachings.

My Journey to God

Thank You, Priests, on Father's Day

By Natalie Hoefler

Thank you, priests, for in the myst'ry of the eucharistic banquet:

• John 6:51-58

Father not through child’s birth
Nor to a few upon the Earth,
But of each soul to whom life has been blessed.

No little one do you tuck in
With blanket gathered to the chin,
Yet many souls you lay to final rest.

You do not work to bring home food
To waiting wife and hungry brood,
But to a world in need of nourishment—

Not of food that man has made
But of the food that Jesus gave—

The food of desp'tate souls' encourage-

The very body and the blood
Of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord—
A Father's gift of everlasting life.

And as a Father you advise,
With words so Holy Spirit wise,
All who confess their acts of sin and strife.

As a father for his offspring
Lays his life out as an off'ring,
So, too, you give your life to all your

Thank you, priests, for in the myst'ry Of serving in persona Christi
The Father's love will be forever told.

(© 2017 Fr. Kenneth Doyle)

John Fisher
1469 - 1535
Feast - June 22

Privately austere, John held several high offices: chaplain to a king’s mother, vice chancellor and chancellor of Cambridge, bishop of Rochester, counselor to Catherine of Aragon during King Henry VIII’s divorce proceedings against her. But John steadfastly refused to accept Henry as head of the church in England, and was imprisoned. The pope named him a cardinal, which further enraged Henry, who ordered John’s beheading.

Thomas More
1478 - 1535
Feast - June 22

Born in London, Thomas studied at Oxford, married and had four children. King Henry VIII took this brilliant lawyer into his service in 1518, knighted him and named him lord chancellor. But Thomas broke with the king when he divorced Catherine of Aragon and set himself up as supreme head of the church in England. In 1534 he was imprisoned in the Tower of London; more than a year later he was convicted of treason and beheaded.

My pastoral instinct—and I have conveyed this to couples—is to put off the spouse’s reception into the Catholic Church until after the wedding. With the proper permission from the bishop of the diocese, the couple can be married—in a Catholic church and by a Catholic priest—in a ceremony recognized by the Church as a sacramental marriage, even though the bride is still a Baptist at the time of the wedding.

There are really two vital decisions being made—one, to marry, and the other, to become a Catholic. These decisions are separate and distinct, and should not be conflated.

Waiting until after the marriage assures that the program of convert instruction will not be rushed. Also, I would not want the wife to feel, some years later, that she had become a Catholic mainly so that the marriage ceremony could be “nicer.”

(Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 30 Columbus Circle Dr., Albany, New York 12203.)†
Rest in peace

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


STER, Peter, 92, St. Bartholomew, Columbus, May 15. Father of Carolyn Massengale, Don and Thomas Ster. Brother of Janet Kegler and John Ster. Great-grandfather of eight.


Thomas H. Hausladen, 77, father of Father Robert Hausladen, died on June 3

Father Robert Hausladen, the father of Father Robert Hausladen, pastor of St. Ann and St. Joseph parishes, both in Indianapolis, died June 3 at his residence in Lafayette, Ind. He was 77.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on June 8 at St. Mary Cathedral in Lafayette. Burial followed at St. Mary Cathedral in Lafayette.

Hausladen was born on Jan. 20, 1940, in West Union, Iowa. He graduated from Sacred Heart High School in Waterloo, Iowa, and earned a bachelor’s degree from Lotus College in Dubuque, Iowa. He married Phyllis Van Dom on June 9, 1962, in Waterloo. She survives. He is also survived by his five daughters, Virginia Hoycke of Lafayette, Ann Marie McDonnell of Pikeville, Ky., Dorothy Touch of Brownsburg, Tammy Switzer of Parker, Colo., and Theresa Walters of Zionsville, Ind., and his three sons, Anthony, Michael and Father Robert Hausladen. Also surviving are two sisters, Germaine Hausladen of Iowa and LaVonne Wayne of New York, along with 14 grandchildren.

Hausladen worked as a retail manager for J.C. Penney from 1962-86 and for Dictograph Security/Multiplus from 1986-2003. A member of St. Mary Cathedral Parish in Lafayette, Hausladen was also a past president of the Lafayette Serra Club and served in leadership at the district and regional levels of Serra International.

He enjoyed high school sporting events, fishing and spending time with his grandchildren and family. Memorial gifts may be sent to St. Joseph Parish, 1401 Mickley Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46241.
Investing with Faith/Joanna Feltz
Making stewardship affordable and your legacy

In my role as planned giving director of the archdiocesan Catholic Community Foundation (CCF), I’m always meeting new people in our archdiocese. When I introduce myself, they often ask, “So what does the Catholic Community Foundation do?”

Well, if I had to pick just one word to describe what we do, it would be “stewardship.” What comes to mind for me is the parable of the talents in Mt 25:14-30.

A master about to go on a long journey calls together his servants. Based on their abilities, he entrusts each of them with an amount of money—called a talent—to manage while he is away.

Most of his servants wisely invest the money, and increase the amount of what they were given.

Just as the servants in the parable are called by their master to care for his kingdom, we are all called by our master, Jesus Christ, to do the same.

CCF is a resource for people to create long-term, financial stability for the Church’s ministries in central and southern Indiana.

What kind of ministries? For you, maybe it’s the parish where your children were baptized. A Catholic school you attended. Or a Catholic agency dedicated to caring for those in need. Through endowment funds held by CCF, you can perpetually support a mission like one of these and impact the lives of others.

Getting started is easier than you might think. You can contribute to an existing endowment fund with no minimum amount, or you can create a new endowment fund as with as little as $5,000.

That may not sound like much, but when modest gifts are combined, they become a much larger display of faith.

Case in point: June marks CCF’s 30th anniversary. During the last three decades, we’ve been blessed to award more than $105.5 million in grants to the more than 469 funds we manage. Yes. $105.5 million. Small gifts add up.

Anyone can be a good steward to the Church because many of the gifts our donors make are part of their estate plans. If you can’t sacrifice the money today for an endowment, it’s okay. You can earmark funds to be distributed after your death from planned gifts such as bequests, individual retirement accounts, life insurance policies or charitable trusts.

If there’s a ministry in our archdiocese to which you’ve dreamed of providing long-term financial support—but didn’t know how to do it—

Money and investment funds through CCF might be the way to go.

My team and I will be happy to sit down with you and show you your options. Feel free to reach out to me by e-mail at feller@archindy.org or by phone at 317-264-9212 or 317-256-1482. Together, we’ll figure out how to make stewardship part of your legacy.

Joanna Feltz, J.D. is director of planned giving for the archdiocesan Catholic Community Foundation, and consultant to the law firm Woods, Weidenmiller, Michetti, Rudnick & Galbrelli PLLC.

For more information about planned giving, log on to www.archindy.org/plannedgiving.

Tax information or legal information provided herein is not intended as tax or legal advice and cannot be relied on to avoid statutory penalties. Always check with your legal, tax and financial advisors before implementing any gift plan.

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Classified Directory

Home Improvement

HOOSIER FENCE CO.
Wood & Chainlink New & Repair
IN: 1962
317-926-2434

Masonry & Chimneys
Concrete Steps & Walks
317-357-3669

ADVERTISE IN The Criterion
317-236-1454

Employment

St. Pius X Parish Maintenance Position Available
Located on the north east side, near 71st and Keystone Ave.
St. Pius X is looking for a Full Time Maintenance Assistant.
This position reports to the Maintenance Coordinator. Job responsibilities include light/medium plumbing, electrical, HVAC work; setting up meeting space and changing outdoor sign, as well as grounds work including cutting grass, maintaining beds, shoveling snow and other duties as assigned.
Experience preferred.
Please send resume and contact information to: rogers@spwp.org

D & S ROOFING
Bulldog Torch Team, flat roof repairs, new flat roofs. 30 years in business
IN: 1967
317-357-4441
License & Bonded

Director of Liturgy and Worship
St. John Paul II Parish in Sellersburg, Indiana
A master about to go on a long journey calls together his servants. Based on their abilities, he entrusts each of them with an amount of money—called a talent—to manage while he is away.

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Health Care

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
Director of Music Ministry
Part Time / Approximately 20 Hrs. per week
St. Simon the Apostle Church
Indianapolis / Geist Community
Candidate will plan, coordinate and conduct music, including coordination of choirs, cantors, responsibility for all aspects of liturgy and liturgical music, including coordination of choirs, cantors, liturgical ministers, and liturgy committees.
For additional information and submission of resume please contact:
employment@saintjohnpaulparish.org

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For Sale

TWO MAUSOLEUM CRYPT SPACES
at Calvary Cemetery, 335 W. Troy Avenue, Indianapolis. These crypts are located in Building II, Calvary Mauseolium, Corner Clett. Crypt Numbers 13 and 15, Tier D (2 entombments- side-by-side).
Currently valued at $14,000.00 for the pair will consider $12,000.00.
Contact Fr. eisakson@archindy.org at 317-781-9724 or e-mail eisakson@archindy.org

FC - 435

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTARY

The Tribunal is seeking a full-time Ecclesiastical Notary. Responsibilities include clerical duties, assembling marriage cases according to canonical and office procedures and interacting with clients on the telephone or in person.
Qualifications include strong typing skills, experience using personal computers, ability to maintain a high level of confidentiality and well-developed interpersonal and organizational skills. A college degree or commensurate work experience is required.

Canon law requires that the person in this position be a baptized Catholic and, if married, be married validly according to the laws and teachings of the Catholic Church.
The position is an opportunity to work directly in Church ministry that serves people’s human and spiritual needs.
Please e-mail cover letter, resume, and list of references, in confidence, to:

Ed Isakson
Director, Human Resources
Archdiocese of Indianapolis
1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202
E-mail: eisakson@archindy.org

The deadline to submit resumes is July 14, 2017

~ POSITION OPENING ~

The Indianapolis Council of St. Vincent de Paul is now seeking candidates for its presidency. This position is voluntary in nature and has a 3-year term beginning October 1, 2017.
Candidates for this position must be able to:
• lead a team of Vincentians who are committed to serving the needy within the Central and Southeastern communities of Indianapolis
• work through District and Conference Presidents, as well as operating unit leaders and board members, to be the Council’s voice to the Catholic, social services, and legislative communities (at both regional and local levels).

The president’s responsibilities also include the spiritual growth of its members, financial solvency of the organization, and compliance with governance requirements.
Interested candidates are invited to send a letter of interest to:

Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Attn: Council President Nominating Committee
3001 E. 30th St. – Indianapolis, IN 46218
or one can email: cmun2007@hotmail.com

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Knights begin campaign to raise funds for Christians in the Middle East

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The Knights of Columbus has begun a nationwide television and digital ad campaign to spread awareness of the situation of Christians in the Middle East and raise funds on their behalf.

Because of attacks by Islamic State militants, Christians in Iraq and other targeted groups in Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria have fled their homes, escaping both destruction and lack of safety.

The Chaldean Catholic Archdiocese of Irbil and other private entities are working to provide displaced Christians with necessary means of survival, but a lack of funds prevents them from supplying refugees with all that they need to remain in Iraq and other areas. Without means of survival, Christians are forced to leave the country, putting the numbers of Christians in the Middle East at unsustainable levels.

“We must act and act quickly if Christianity is to survive in the Middle East,” Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, the Knights of Columbus CEO, said in a statement. “Three years after ISIS rolled through their country, these minority communities of Christians could face extinction without our help, and if they disappear, the chance for a pluralism and tolerance of religions will be increasingly lost in that country.”

The ad features Father Douglas Bazi, a Chaldean Catholic priest from the Kurdistan region in northern Iraq. He tells the story of how he was taken by Islamic militants and tortured for nine days. “Help my people and save my people,” Father Bazi says in the ad.

The Knights also are encouraging Congress to pass the Iraq and Syria Genocide Emergency Relief and Accountability Act, known as H.R. 390, which would provide U.S. government funds to groups in Iraq that provide displaced Christians with the basic humanitarian needs of food, shelter and medicine.

The House of Representatives unanimously passed the bill on June 6, and the Knights hoped the Senate will approve the bill and send it on to President Donald J. Trump to sign into law.

In an interview with Catholic News Service (CNS) on June 5, Stephen Rasche, who works for the Chaldean Catholic Archdiocese of Irbil in Iraq under Archbishop Bashar Warda, said the bill needs to be passed as soon as possible to get humanitarian aid to the people who need it.

“If it gets bogged down in procedures, and ends up taking months and months to get to here, it would be too late,” said Rasche, who works for the Chaldean Catholic Archdiocese of Irbil in Iraq under Archbishop Bashar Warda.

Without the support of groups such as the Archdiocese of Irbil, which provides goods to the displaced Christians, Christians must decide if they will leave Iraq or if they can stay.

“We face a serious shortfall in the money needed just to cover the costs of feeding food to the displaced Christians in our care,” said Archbishop Warda in a statement. “Having to decide between rebuilding homes and feeding the displaced is not a choice; it is a potential death sentence for our Christian communities.”

In 2003, there were about 1.5 million Christians in the area, and now numbers have decreased to about 200,000. Rasche said the archdiocese is trying to keep those Christians in Iraq and resettle them into their homes or other safe places.

“If we don’t continue to support them and take care of them throughout the next couple of months, all the indications say that they will leave and move on to what is next,” Rasche told CNS in a phone interview during a visit to the United States.

The Knights of Columbus will match $1 million in donations made before July 1. It said each dollar spent goes directly to food programs for Christians in Iraq.

“This campaign that the Knights are running now is a campaign that can make a historical difference as to whether or not Christianity survives in Iraq,” Rasche said.

“There are people that have been there since the first century, they received their Christianity from the Apostle Thomas and the Apostle [Jude] Thaddeus and they are in danger of disappearing. That is a real thing, and that can happen within the next year.”

(Ad campaigns can be viewed at https://youtu.be/Uhst4k2coCc)

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CIRCLE
continued from page 1

The CCF distributes funds from its 466 endowments, which totaled more than $161 million as of June 30, 2016. Last year, $7.5 million was distributed from CCF funds. Endowments benefiting the seminary include the Bishop Simon Bruté Endowment Fund and the Rev. Augustine J. Sansone Endowment Fund.

Mgr. William F. Stumpf, archdiocesan administrator, presided over both Circle of Giving events.

“The Archdiocese of Indianapolis and its ministries are so important to so many people—Catholics and non-Catholics—throughout central and southern Indiana,” he said in his closing remarks. “We’re not just another charitable institution trying to do good work. We have a mission to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

“The United Catholic Appeal and the Catholic Community Foundation are the two most important ways we have to take care of our immediate and future financial needs. When you give your time, talent and treasure, you are making a difference.”

He quoted a statement made recently by Pope Francis: “A single individual is enough for hope to exist, and that individual can be you. And then there will be another ‘you’ and another ‘you,’ and it turns into ‘us.’

“We let us help each other, all together, to remember that the ‘other’ is not a statistic, or a number. We all need each other.”

Mgr. Stumpf described the words of Pope Francis as “a great reminder of what we can accomplish together.

“God built his Church upon the faith of ordinary people, but with God’s help we are able to achieve something extraordinary!”

(For more information on the United Catholic Appeal: Christ Our Hope and the Catholic Community Foundation, visit www.archindy.org/stewardship. To see the video highlighting the story of archdiocesan donor Art Berkenmeer and Bishop Simon Bruté College seminarian Joe Huelsman, visit www.archindy.org/ycg and click on the Circle of Giving video.)

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Marriage

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Be a part of our Fall Marriage Edition

July 14, 2017, issue of The Criterion

If you are planning your wedding between July 1 and Dec. 31, 2017, or if you were married between Jan. 1 and June 30, 2017 and did not have your announcement published in The Criterion, we invite you to submit the information you were married between Jan. 1 and June 30, 2017 and did not have your announcement published in The Criterion.

We look forward to seeing you at our new location!

Name of Bride (first, middle, last)   Daytime Phone

Please print or type:

June 23, 2017, at 10 a.m.

The Criterion

City   State

Name of Bride's Parents (first, last)

Mailing Address  City State Zip Code

No announcements or photos will be accepted after this date

All announcements and photos must be received by 10 a.m. on Friday, June 23, 2017, at 10 a.m.

For more information on the United Catholic Appeal: Christ Our Hope and the Catholic Community Foundation, visit www.archindy.org/stewardship.

You can only include one wedding announcement per family. Note: there is a $5.00 fee for all announcements.

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