Father Matthew Tucci debated whether to drive to two different ones. "I missed the nursing home and drove to two different ones."

"I was tired," recalls Father Tucci, "but I didn't care. They were just happy to have me."

"Whoops!"

"I arrived embarrassed, but then the people can see that their father could meet Christ on his cross that night. I witnessed an outpouring of grace not only on the man being anointed, but his sons, too. They felt Christ's love and touch as well through the anointing of their father."

"My first week at the parish included meeting the people there. Lots of Islanders, Samoans, Punahou kids. Our group has over 17,000 people in its community."

"People sing like I haven't experienced."
Q. As someone who appreciates the outdoors, what has been your impression of the Alaskan weather and landscape during your first winter and first spring there?

A. “This isn’t the Alaskan winter they like. We had lots of snow. I think we had about 90 inches of snow, and of course a lot more in the higher elevations. But overall it was rugged beauty to it. The city is surrounded by mountains and the inlet. They just dropped this huge city in the middle of that. So we’ve got moose around. I just bought a house. I’ll get moved into a new residence in July. We had some snowflakes and bear scat in the backyard.”

Q. Talk about the transition you’re making to living in Alaska and leading the Church there.

A. “I’m just trying to enjoy the experience. The people have been wonderful. Someone asked me in the opening press conference how I felt about living in Alaska. I said, ‘You know folks, the Church is my home. If this is where the Lord has called and led me, then I’m following. I’m in. I’m yours.’ That doesn’t make it easy. It’s been a challenging transition, but it’s just doing my best to give myself over to it. Now that those long, dark days of winter are over, all the Alaskans say, ‘This is why we live here.’ It’s beautiful.”

Q. In the Archdiocese of Anchorage, there are about 40,000 Catholics spread out across 140,000 square miles. Talk about the challenges of connecting with them, and any other challenges that you have faced so far.

A. “When I’m in Anchorage, it’s no problem to stay connected to people. I only have about 30 parishies, and 12 of them are in the Anchorage bowl or nearby. ‘By the end of the summer to early fall, my hope is that I will have been to all of the parishes. I’m going to start getting in the planes now and flying out. I’ve got one parish that’s four hours out in the Hawaiian time zone, at the end of the Aleutian Islands. It’s a 3 1/2 hour plane ride from Anchorage. It’s out below Russia.’

Q. “In August, it’s a long flight to get down to a parish called Dillingham. And then we’re going to fly into villages over five days. This is what’s called the real bush territory, going into those native Alaskan villages, and just seeing how they live, meeting the people, celebrating Mass with them, and doing some fishing with them.”

Q. There’s this pioneer spirit about Alaskans—that we’re here to help people. They know that if you’re going to survive in Alaska, you can’t survive on your own. You need the help of your neighbors. You need the help of your community. That’s the upside of people not wanting to move.
Camp ‘commissions’ high schoolers as missionary disciples

By Katie Rutte

Special to The Criterion

This was the fourth day that they had woken up at seven in the morning. Considering that these were high school students on summer break, that early morning rising alone was monumental. Even more shocking was the energy that these young people had at this early hour. “I love it so far!” said Elliana Alesi, her eyes sparkling with excitement.

Elliana is a member of SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi Parish in Greenwood and will be a sophomore at Indianapolis’ Roncalli High School in the fall. “The talks are just so engaging, and you just get a wide variety of views from all these different people, and it’s just really interesting to hear their takes on everything.”

Thirty-five high school students journeyed to the campus of Marian University in Indianapolis from across the state as well as Ohio and Kentucky. They were the inaugural class of the new, weeklong Missionary Disciples Institute on June 12-17 hosted by the staff of the university. The goal of the camp, which was funded by a grant from the Lilly Endowment, is to equip young people with the theological knowledge and practical skills necessary to become ministers in their own communities.

“We’re really digging into ‘The Joy of the Gospel,’” said Adam Setmeyer, referring to the 2013 apostolic exhortation by Pope Francis also known as “Evangelii Gaudium.”

Setmeyer is the campus minister for Marian University and the campus minister for Marian University and the

In a unique move, camp organizers gave the teenagers power to direct their own learning. Each student was asked to choose a breakout group, or “track,” based on the aspect of ministry they wanted to focus on.

“The five tracks are the five types of ministry found in the Acts of the Apostles,” explained Setmeyer, who had helped to name each group with a Greek word. “The ministry of Diakonia, which is service, the ministry of Didache, which is teaching, the ministry of Leitourgia, which is prayer, the ministry of Koinonia which is sometimes known as community and sometimes known as partnership, and the ministry of Kerygma which is that of proclamation.”

Act now to get tax benefit and help children attend a Catholic school

By John Shaughnessy

The opportunity has begun again for people who want to get the double bonus of helping children attend Catholic schools, and maximize the tax benefits of making a contribution to that effort.

Starting on July 1, the Indiana Tax Credit Scholarship program opened with an available $12.5 million in funds to support the effort of helping students attend a private school—an option that may not have been possible for their families without the program.

When donors make a contribution to the program, they will receive a tax credit that could be up to 50 percent, according to Kim Pohovey, director of the Catholic Education Initiatives.

“Through this innovative program, every donor is able to maximize their giving,” Pohovey notes. “For instance, if a donor contributes a gift of $1,000 and receives the $500 state tax credit plus a federal deduction—which varies according to the individual donor’s tax status—that donor’s net gift, in terms of cost to them, may only be $150 to $360.”

At the same time, the tax credit scholarships help “struggling families to afford quality, values-based Catholic education for their children,” she says.

“It not only offers them education options, it provides hope and a future. In turn, our schools prepare these students to be productive citizens and the future leaders of our community. This cycle of generosity benefits everyone.”

In the 2016-17 school year, contributions to the program raised more than $7 million in tax scholarships that supported students in the 69 Catholic schools in the archdiocese.

Pohovey is encouraging potential donors to make contributions to the program as soon as possible.

“As awareness of this program increases, we see these funds run out quicker each year,” she says. “The $9.5 million allotted for the program last year exhausted on December 12, even though the program runs through June 30 of each fiscal year.

“State funds have increased to $12.5 million in 2017-18. However, with competition increasing among private schools throughout the state, we anticipate that the funds may run out even earlier this year. Historically, many donors like to wait until December to make their end-of-year contributions. We want to emphasize that this great tax advantage option may not be available by the end of this year.”

(For more information, about tax credit scholarships, contact Kim Pohovey at 317-236-1415 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1415. A video on the tax credit scholarship program can also be viewed through the link: http://bit.ly/2aQLKXn.)

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Pope Francis, President Trump, and humanity’s mission of mercy

We’ve heard about the differing opinions Pope Francis and President Donald J. Trump have on some very important issues.

Immigration—excluding building a wall on the southern border of the United States—economic policy, and climate change all immediately come to mind.

But there is common ground, too. Both spoke of their hopes for world peace during a meeting at the Vatican in May, and both expressed a joint commitment to life, freedom of religion and freedom of conscience.

And most recently, the plight of now 11-month-old Charlie Gard of England has brought the world leaders to the forefront of those offering support to the infant and his family.

As has been reported by media outlets in recent weeks, Charlie was born with mitochondrial DNA depletion syndrome, which causes progressive muscle weakness, brain damage and respiratory or liver failure. It is typically fatal.

His parents, Chris Gard and Connie Yates, have lost every legal battle in the fight to prolong the life of their son, including a request to send him to the Vatican-owned Bambino Gesù Hospital in Rome, or to the United States for experimental treatment.

Great Ormond Hospital in London and an independent guardian appointed to represent Charlie have argued that the infant’s life support system should be switched off, and that he should be allowed to die with dignity. Courts have thus far agreed.

It should be noted that parents in Britain do not have the absolute right to make decisions for their children. According to media reports, it is normal for courts to intervene when parents and doctors disagree on the treatment of a child.

The parents’ continued request to the hospital was to allow them to take Charlie home to die. That request has also been denied, and the hospital had said it would suspend life support on June 30—a date that has since been extended.

The official Twitter account of Pope Francis, @Pontifex, posted a tweet on June 30: “To defend human life, above all when it is wounded by illness, is a duty of love that God entrusts to all.”

Pope Francis also later called for respecting the wishes of the terminally ill child’s parents, and expressed his closeness to them, saying he was “praying for them, hoping that their desire to accompany and take care of their own baby until the end is not disregarded.”

Trump used his Twitter account to offer a message of support. “If we can help little @CharlieGard, as per our friends in the U.K. and the Pope, we would be delighted to do so,” the president tweeted.

Helen Ferré, director of media affairs at the White House, said, “Upon learning of baby Charlie Gard’s situation, President Trump has offered to help the family in this heartbreaking situation. Although the President himself has not spoken to the family—he does not want to pressure them in any way—members of the administration have spoken to the family in calls facilitated by the British government. The President is just trying to be helpful if at all possible.”

As this newspaper went to press, a judge was hearing another appeal from the family to allow medical professionals in the U.S. to use an experimental drug in Charlie’s case. A British judge told the parents he had until July 12 to submit what he called “new and powerful evidence” demonstrating that Charlie should be kept alive to receive experimental treatment.

Through donations, the infant’s parents have raised nearly $1.7 million in four months to finance having the baby treated in the United States. More than 350,000 people have signed a petition demanding that the infant be allowed to get treatment here.

Though many are debating whether they believe Charlie’s situation is tragic, unfortunate and unfair or being handled appropriately as laws in Britain dictate, we are encouraging people of faith to follow our Holy Father’s lead.

During the four years of his pontificate, Pope Francis has made mercy a cornerstone of his universal ministry. He even had us celebrate a Holy Year of Mercy during 2015-16, saying he wanted to make evident that the Church’s mission is to be a witness of compassion.

Compassion, mercy and love should be at the heart of our prayers for Charlie and his family.

Pope Francis is demonstrating it. President Trump is showing it here, too.

We must never forget Christ’s mission on Earth—which is to spread mercy. If we are truly to be his disciples, it should be ours as well.

Remember Charlie and his family in your daily petitions. And let us especially pray that God’s will, not man’s, be done.

—Mike Krokos

Be Our Guest/John Garvey

The company of good people

St. Bonaventure says, in his little treatise “Bringing Forth Christ,” “Seek the company of good people. If you share their company, you will also share their virtue.” With this thought in mind, we used to pay close attention to whom our children’s friends were.

We encouraged them to invite kids to our house, so we could make a close inspection. When they were old enough to do sleepovers, we had a lot of those. In 24 hours, you can learn a good deal about a child’s table manners, personal hygiene, prayer habits, disposition, comfort around adults, intellectual interests and a dozen other things.

We sent the children to Catholic school, not just for instruction in the faith, but also because the friends they made there would come from families whose faith mattered to them.

We volunteered to drive the car pool. Young passengers in the back seat tend to think of you as a kind of taxi driver, and the conversations you overhear are unscripted and revealing.

We got involved in school affairs, mostly for selfish reasons. Teachers whom we got to know would sometimes share tips on which children would make good friends and which were less eligible.

And of course, we met the parents, and they were the best measure of what the children were like. In the ideal case, we would find a three-way match: mothers, fathers and children would all get along. These families are still our best friends.

I have been thinking about these relationships in a new way as our own children go through the same process. My mother once told me, when she was about 80, that you never stop being a mom. What she meant was that she was worrying about one of her children, and the exercise was not very different from that it had been when she was 40.

Recently, I have been paying close attention to the adult friends our children are making. I suppose I should have foreseen this, but only now has it dawned on me how important this is. When our children got married, we hoped they would find spouses they could lean on, to strengthen their faith. It is good to have friends who provide the same support.

It’s more than that. These friends are part of what we mean by the Church. Our communion with them helps us fulfill our vocation as Christians. We learn from them the example of holiness. We discern it, as the Catechism of the Catholic Church says, “in the authentic witness of those who live it” (2030).

But our children face a greater challenge than we did in making the right kind of friends, for two reasons. One is that fewer families send their children to Catholic schools. It’s harder to find and cultivate Catholic friends when they are not concentrated in one place.

The other is that even among self-identified Catholics, attachment to the faith is a looser thing than it was a few decades ago. If you want to find friends who are not just baptized but in love with the faith, you need to be as intentional as you are about choosing a spouse.

What my mother didn’t tell me was how much harder it is to help your adult children sort out things like this. You don’t have good intelligence about suitable candidates for friendship.

You can’t set up play dates. You can’t make the right contact orders. All you can do is offer advice. And you shouldn’t even do that unless you are asked for it.

One thing she didn’t tell me was that, once it’s out of your hands, you just have to trust what you’ve done with your children. They may turn out to be better than you.

She probably didn’t say that because at the time, it would have gone to waste. (“Mom, I’ve got a headache.”) Today, it’s a more humbling thought.

(John Garvey is president of The Catholic University of America in Washington. Catholic University’s website is www.cua.edu)
The consoling presence of Christ

There was a little boy who was very anxious and sad,” recalls Father Brockmeier, who served as the first-year priest as associate pastor of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis. “So I said to him, ‘I heard confessions, celebrated a quinceañera [a traditional celebration of a girl’s 15th birthday], and I’m not sure I want to be a priest.’”

“Those sins of omission are particularly painful, because they are the times when I fail to live out my primary identity, which is to be a father to God’s children.”

Father Hunter, now associate pastor of Our Lady of the Assumption Parish in Columbus, explains, “I was able to go to confession with Father Matt one day when these sins of omission were abundant. He was so insightful, so piercing and so merciful that I felt I was being deeply touched by God in that moment. It reminded me of the clay of which I am made and the mercy of God which is the cornerstone of my own vocation.”

Father Anthony Hollowell also felt Christ’s consoling presence during a defining moment when he confessed his sins to his friend and classmate, Father Tucci. “I processed out of the funeral and arrived in the narthex, the little boy— who was still clinging to his father—all of a sudden calmed down, ran over to me and surprised me with a hug. From that moment, he was calm. I had a palpable sense that the consoling presence of Christ’s priesthood was working through me in that moment.”

Journeys of the heart and soul

The dynamic of sin that I began to feel most strongly after being ordained were sins of omission, the times when I missed a moment of grace that God wanted to bring into someone’s life,” says Father Hollowell, who continued to pursue graduate studies in Rome and spent a pivotal year as a priest, and is now associate pastor of Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish in Greenwood. “As a priest, I have been blessed to be a part of so many intimate moments between God and his beloved children which have all shown me the hidden ways in which God is at work in the world. 

These intimate moments would never make the nightly news, but they change the world and are accomplishing the Father’s will. St. Paul tells us that “where sin abounds, grace abounds all the more,” and our age is no exception. These are privileged moments in which to live as a Catholic and to serve as a priest.”

Stay young at heart

“I walk through the halls and see the classrooms at Saints Francis and Clare School almost every day, and I love getting to know the kids and finding out their hearts, their thoughts, their love of their Catholic faith,” says Father Brockmeier, who served as a first-year priest as associate pastor of SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi Parish in Greenwood during his first year as a priest, and is now associate pastor of St. Bartholomew Parish in Columbus. “Our students are always asking me great questions about the faith and about the priesthood. Both before Mass and walking in the halls of the school, I encounter so many conversations about vocations that start with ‘Why are you wearing that?’ or ‘Do you have to wear that?’ or ‘What do you do?’ or ‘Do you have free time?’ or ‘What is your day like?’ and I always provide without fail.”

Make prayer a part of your life

“The sacrament I have enjoyed the most has been Confession,” says Father Rodden, associate pastor of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis. “I was most attracted to the diocesan priesthood because of the opportunity to minister to the Body of Christ through the liturgy and the sacraments, primarily the Eucharist. At St. Monica, the opportunity for this ministry is lively, perpetual and diverse. In celebration, it has been overwhelming— the many and varied ways by which I am called to serve. But I am always more overwhelmed by the Lord’s grace working through my weaknesses—my introversion, my limited abilities in speech, my timidity— and how his grace is never outward, how he always provides without fail!”

A close bond has formed among the six priests who were ordained on June 16, 2016. Father Douglas Hunter sometimes has dinner with Fathers Tucci and Tzoc, and talks by phone with members of his class. “I need that sense of community with my brother priests,” says Father Hunter, who served as associate pastor of SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi Parish in Greenwood during his first year as a priest, and is now associate pastor of Holy Spirit Parish in Indianapolis. “Each sacrament has been a blessing in a different way: baptizing a baby, seeing a marriage and how they look forward to it, and being able to translate for them and minister to them in that difficult time. We prayed together, and in the midst of their crisis, something took place to give them hope and comfort. It was an experience of blessing.”

Father Anthony Hollowell shares two stories that show the depth of relationships that have marked his memorable first year as a priest in the archdiocese.

“I got a call from the police chaplain at 11 in the morning one Sunday,” says Father Tzoc, who is now associate pastor of Holy Spirit Parish in Indianapolis. “He said, ‘Fr. Douglas Hunter’s defining experience didn’t come in one specific situation. Instead, it was all within a four-hour window.’ 

“My first year as a priest has been overwhelming,” says Father Rodden, a close bond has formed among the six priests who were ordained on June 16, 2016. “I’ve mostly learned the importance of being present to the people in the parish in the good times and the bad.”

“A new experience of blessings

By John Shaughnessy

As the six priests marked the completion of their first year as priests in the archdiocese, they were asked by The Criterion to share their defining moments and impressions from that pivotal year.

Here are eight guidelines to live a life of faith, gleaned from the first-year experiences of Fathers James Brockmeier, Anthony Hollowell, Doug Hunter, Tucci, and Ajpacaja.

1. Let God work through you

“The work of God has never been accomplished in my number,” says Father Tucci, who pursued graduate studies in Rome and spent a pivotal year as a priest, and is now associate pastor of Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish in Greenwood. “As a priest, I have been blessed to be a part of so many intimate moments between God and his beloved children which have all shown me the hidden ways in which God is at work in the world. 

2. Savor your bonds

“A close bond has formed among the six priests who were ordained on June 16, 2016. Father Douglas Hunter sometimes has dinner with Fathers Tucci and Tzoc, and talks by phone with members of his class. “I need that sense of community with my brother priests,” says Father Hunter, who served as associate pastor of SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi Parish in Greenwood during his first year as a priest, and is now associate pastor of Holy Spirit Parish in Indianapolis. “Each sacrament has been a blessing in a different way: baptizing a baby, seeing a marriage and how they look forward to it, and being able to translate for them and minister to them in that difficult time. We prayed together, and in the midst of their crisis, something took place to give them hope and comfort. It was an experience of blessing.”

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4. Forgive—and let God forgive you

“Prayer is vitally important,” says Father Tucci, associate pastor of St. Christopher Parish in Indianapolis. “We have to intentionally seek Christ out, form and keep a relationship with Him. We can’t introduce Him and don’t know him.”

5. Celebrate the sacraments

“Celebrating the sacraments, from baptism to a funeral Mass, has been a great joy for me,” says Father Tzoc, who served as associate pastor of St. Simon the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis during his first year as a priest, and is now associate pastor of Holy Spirit Parish in Indianapolis. “Each sacrament has been a blessing in a different way: baptizing a baby, seeing a marriage and how they look forward to it, and being able to translate for them and minister to them in that difficult time. We prayed together, and in the midst of their crisis, something took place to give them hope and comfort. It was an experience of blessing.”

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Father Kyle Rodden celebrates the Eucharist during a Mass at St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis, where he is associate pastor. (Photo by Natalie Hoefler)
Events Calendar

For a list of events for the next four weeks as reported to The Criterion, log on to www.archindy.org/events.

July 22
St. Thomas More Parish, 1200 N. Indiana St., Mooresville, Golden Jubilees Mass and Dinner. 5 p.m. Mass followed by dinner in the gymnasium. Information: 317-697-4914, pweber946@gmail.com.

July 23-24
St. Ambrose Parish, food booth at Jackson County Fair on S.R. 250, Brownstown, 2-10 p.m. Information: 812-522-3304.

July 24
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis, Sierra Club. Breakfast and lunch will be served by reflection by Father Joe Moritany. 6-7 p.m. Information: 317-748-1478 or mcmahalao@holyspirit.cc.

July 24-28
St. Lawrence Parish, 4650 N. Shadeland Ave., Indianapolis. Earthkeepers Vacation Bible School. Ages 4-10, songs, games, snacks, crafts, Bible stories, 9:10 a.m. to noon. Register by July 19, 317-546-4065 or vickyding@indy.com.

July 25-29
All Saints Parish, Dearborn County, St. Martin Campus, 8044 Yorkridge Road, Guilford, Festival. July 25, 8:30 p.m. Dinner Meeting. July 26, 8:30 a.m. Breakfast Fundraiser. July 27-29, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., used book sale.

July 26
Best Rail Brewery, 5301 Wabash Ave., Indianapolis. Theology on Tap Catholic Speaker Series: “Life and Faith,” retired Colts player Joe Reitz presenting, 7-8:30 p.m., free admission. Information: 317-748-1478 or mcmahalao@holyspirit.cc.

July 29
St. Mary Parish, 777 S. 11th St., Mitchell, Hog Roast and Indoor Yard Sale. 9 a.m.-3 p.m., pulled pork dinners with salads $5.00, raffle, door prizes, silent auction, cake walk, 3 p.m.-4 p.m. Information: 812-849-3570.

July 29-30
All Saints Parish, Dearborn County, St. Martin Campus, 8044 Yorkridge Road, Guilford. Festival. July 29, 8:30 a.m. Breakfast Fundraiser. July 30, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., used book sale.

August 3
Mission 27 Resale, 132 Leota St., Indianapolis. Senior Discount Day, every Tuesday, seniors get 30 percent off clothing, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., ministry.

August 4
Women’s Care Center, 4901 W. 86th St., Indianapolis. First Friday Mass, 5 p.m., Msgr. Joseph Schaedel presiding, optional tour of center to follow. Information: 317-243-0777.

August 4
Russel and Catherine (Forthofer) Niese, members of St. Nicholas Parish in Ripley County, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on May 20. The couple was married at St. Nicholas Church in Ripley County on May 20, 1967. They have three children: Mary Bratcher, Matthew, and Sam Niese. The couple also has 15 grandchildren.

August 7
Veterans Memorial Park, 4901 W. 86th St., Indianapolis. Food Pantry and Changing Lives Forever program.

August 27
St. Meinrad Archabbbey Guest House and Retreat Center, 200 Hill Drive, St. Meinrad. Benedictine Spirtuality, Benedictine Father Adrian Burke presenting, $255 single, $425 double. Information: 812-357-6685 or mssiebert@ saintmeinrad.org.

August 31

September 2
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Day of Prayer, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., $42 includes continental breakfast and lunch. Information and registration: 317-545-7681, ext. 107 or www.archindy.org/retreats.

VIPS

Walter and Trudy (Hibert) Davis, members of St. Joseph Parish in Indianapolis, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 17. The couple was married at John the Baptist Church in Vincennes, Ind., in the Evansville Diocese, on June 17, 1967. They have five children: Stephanie Everman, Staci Guimond, Terri Ridge, Scott and Todd Davis. The couple also has 15 grandchildren.

Secretary of Human Life in the parish community should be recognized for their leadership in promoting the dignity and sanctity of human life in the parish community and the archdiocese for the Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Respect Life Award. Please also consider nominating a high school student whom you believe demonstrates leadership in promoting the dignity and sanctity of human life in the parish, community, school community and in the archdiocese for the Our Lady of Guadalupe Pro-Life Youth Award. A downloadable nomination form is available by logging on to www.archindy.org/retreats. Completed nomination forms can be returned to The Office of Pro-Life and Family Life, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202. Email completed nomination form to sseibert@archindy.org by Aug. 31.

Office of Pro-Life and Family Life seeks nominations for Respect Life awards

Each year, the Office of Pro-Life and Family Life honors an adult or married couple and a high school student at the annual Respect Life Sunday Mass, which is held the first Sunday in October. The Mass will be celebrated on Oct. 1 this year. Please consider nominating an adult or married couple whom you believe should be recognized for their leadership in promoting the dignity and sanctity of human life in the parish community and the archdiocese for the Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Respect Life Award. Please also consider nominating a high school student whom you believe demonstrates leadership in promoting the dignity and sanctity of human life in the parish, community, school community and the archdiocese for the Our Lady of Guadalupe Pro-Life Youth Award.

NFP Awareness Week Honored by Mass and reception on July 26

In honor of National Family Planning week, the Couple to Couple League of Indianapolis will sponsor a Mass and reception at St. Alphonsus Liguori Parish, 1870 W. Oak St., in Zionsville, Ind., in the Lafayette Diocese, at 6 p.m. on July 26. During the dinner, a transitional deacon will speak on “Family and Theology of the Body.” RSVP by calling 317-492-9527 or e-mailing julieandmatt@nfpindy.org.

Secular Discalced Carmelites profess vows

The Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites in Indianapolis celebrated Promise Day with a Mass celebrated by Father Francis Joseph at St. Thomas More Church in Mooresville on June 3. Pictured in the front row are those who received scapulars to begin their novitiate: Forrest Tucker, left, Kelley Smody, Mary Ann Smith, Toby Bedford and Geralynn O’Connor. In the back row, Stella Font, left, and Audrey Lowe, third from left, professed promises, and John Wickland, right, renewed promises. Father Joseph is pictured second from left. (Submitted photo)
Pope Francis to beatify Colombian martyrs during September visit

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope Francis will beatify a priest and a bishop martyred in Colombia when he visits the country in September, a Vatican spokesman said.

In an e-mail to Catholic News Service on July 13, Vatican spokesman Greg Burke confirmed that Pope Francis will beatify Bishop Emilio Jaramillo Monsalve of Aracataca and Father Pedro Ramirez Ramos. The beatification Mass will be at Villavicencio on Sept. 8, Burke said.

At a meeting with Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints’ Causes, the pope signed decrees acknowledging the martyrdom of Bishop Jaramillo, who was murdered by Colombian Marxist guerrillas in 1989.

The Colombian bishop, along with a local priest, was kidnapped by members of the Lord of the Left, a group known by the Spanish acronym ELN, because of his criticism of the rebel group’s violent actions.

Although his companion was freed, Bishop Jaramillo was shot twice in the head. His body was found by local peasants near the Venezuelan border.

The pope also recognized the martyrdom of Father Ramirez, known as “the martyr of Aracataca,” who was killed at the start of the Colombian civil war in 1948.

Pope Francis also recognized a miracle attributed to Anna Chrzansowa, a Polish laywoman who was an Oberammergau Passion Play actress and a member of the Ursuline Sisters of St. Benedict, clearing the way for her beatification.

In causes just beginning their way toward sainthood, the pope signed decrees recognizing the heroic virtues of two men and three women, including:

• Archbishop Ismael Paredes of Bogota, Colombia, who died in 1950.
• Louis Kosiwa, a Polish layman and professor of the Order of Friars Minor, who died in 1939.
• Sister Paola de Jesus Gil Cano, a Spanish nun and founder of the Congregation of the Little Apostles of the Immaculate Conception. She died in 1913.
• Sister Maria Elisabetta Mazzia, an Italian nun and founder of the Congregation of the Little Apostles of the Christian School.
• Sister Maria Cristina Cacciafesta, an Italian nun and founder of the Congregation of the Apostles of the Sacred Heart.

From Pope Francis’ papal bull “Misericioardiae Vultus”

Obras de misericordia y participar en el sufrimiento del prójimo

Realizar obras de misericordia no significa sencillamente dar limosna para tranquilizar la conciencia; también significa participar en el sufrimiento de los demás, aunque esto implique un costo personal para nosotros.

La “misericordia” es un tema constante del papa Francisco, y a partir de sus escritos y comentarios verbales, resulta claro que la palabra está muy cargada de sentido; es mucho más que un simple “sentimiento” y práctica. En “El resto de la misericordia,” el papa nos dice que Jesús es el amor misericordioso del Dios encarnado: vemos la misericordia del Padre en el rostro de Jesús y sentimos su amor en todas nuestras palabras y en las acciones de su Hijo.

La misericordia que se nos revela en la vida y el ministerio de Jesús no son sus situaciones sentimentales, actividades diseñadas para ayudarnos a “sentirnos bien.” La misericordia de Dios es real, y como tal, puede entrar en un costo real, tal como lo demostró el propio Jesús en la cruz.

“Una obra de misericordia no es hacer alguna cosa para tranquilizar la conciencia; una obra de bien así estoy haciendo para tranquilizar a la conciencia de otro.”

Para ser misericordiosos, debemos estar dispuestos a participar en el sufrimiento de los demás, lo que podría significar estar allá cara a cara con ellos, de formas físicas, mentales, emocionales o espirituales de los demás, lo que a menudo conlleva un costo personal para nosotros.

Las obras de misericordia corporales son eminentemente prácticas: alimentar al hambriento y dar de beber al sediento, visitarlo al enfermo, dar albergue al indigente, visitar a los enfermos y a los presoneros, y dar sepultura a los muertos. Para ser genuinamente misericordiosos, el papa Francisco nos recuerda que no basta con enviar cheques a la Caridad Católica o a la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paúl (si bien estos gestos son importantes para el éxito continuado de estas organizaciones).

Obras de misericordia es esencial para el crecimiento personal: debe asumir riesgos y es posible que el papa Francisco también haya sufrido. Sin embargo, también nos dice que “La Iglesia sugiere siete ‘obras de misericordia corporales,’ y otras siete ‘espirituales’ que nos llevan a abandonar nuestra comodidad y a atender las necesidades físicas, mentales, emocionales o espirituales de los demás, lo que a menudo conlleva un costo personal para nosotros.

Lo que nos dijo el papa Francisco también nos recuerda que no basta con escribir comisiones, sino que también debemos estar dispuestos a participar en el sufrimiento de los demás. En otras palabras, debemos estar dispuestos a sufrir molestias, así como el papa Francisco hizo en la misión apostólica a Cuba.

“¿En la situación de un enfermo, un herido, un huérfano, un exiliado, en una situación de ‘situaciones sentimentales,’ actividades diseñadas para ayudarnos a ‘sentirnos bien’ la vida y el ministerio de Jesús no son eminentemente prácticas: alimentar al hambriento y dar de beber al sedento, visitarlo al enfermo, dar albergue al indigente, visitar a los enfermos y a los presoneros, y dar sepultura a los muertos. Para ser genuinamente misericordiosos, el papa Francisco nos recuerda que no basta con enviar cheques a la Caridad Católica o a la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paúl (si bien estos gestos son importantes para el éxito continuado de estas organizaciones).

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Los ministerios de formación, orientación, consuelo y orientación, consuelo, sanación, perdón y oración por los vivos y los muertos también requieren un alto grado de entrega y estar dispuesto ser humillados por el bien de los demás. En el Padre Nuestro le pedimos ayuda a nuestro padre celestial para perdonar a aquellos que nos han ofendido, precisamente porque esa obra de misericordia espiritual es muy difícil.

En ocasiones, ser autenticamente misericordioso también implica tomar riesgos.

Al recordar los años de la Segunda Guerra Mundial en Europa, el papa Francisco destacó la labor de todas las personas, comenzando por el Papa Pío XII, que arriesgaron sus vidas para salvar a los judíos de la deportación y la muerte, y considera esta labor un ejemplo muy práctico de nuestra historia reciente de lo que significa asumir riesgos para demostrar misericordia.

Quienes realizan obras de misericordia deben asumir riesgos y es posible que otros se burlen de ellos. El papa considera que realizar obras de misericordia significa estar dispuesto a sufrir molestias, así como todos los santos y mártires se sometieron a humillaciones, sufrimientos e incluso a la muerte para compartir la misericordia de Dios con quienes más lo necesitaban: los pobres, los vulnerables y los marginados de la sociedad.

“Quien es capaz de hacer una obra de misericordia—subraya el papa Francisco—es que no es el Señor el que le ha dado la misericordia a él. Pensemos en nuestros peones, en nuestras equivocaciones y en cada acción que realizamos por nuestro trabajo; nos hemos perdido todo, ha tenido esta misericordia y nosotros hacemos lo mismo con nuestros hermanos.

Las obras de misericordia nos alejan del egoísmo y del pecado pues es el reflejo más fiel de Jesús y, por lo tanto, una forma de compartir su vida a plenitud.”

(Daniel Conway es integrante del comité editorial de The Criterion.)
**Cardinal-Wilson**

Hanna Clare Cardinal and Evan John Wilson will be married on July 22 at Holy Spirit Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Michael and Katelyn Cardinal. The groom is the son of Jeffrey and Anna Wilson.

**Carpenter-Eades**

Amber Lynn Carpenter and Christopher Alan Eades will be married on Sept. 8 at Sacred Heart Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Steve and Karen Carpenter. The groom is the son of Mark and Nancy Eades.

**Dibble-Gomez**

Grace Dibble and Eric Gomez will be married on July 22 at Holy Spirit Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Dilloway Dibble. The groom is the son of Cousins Gomez and Rosann Pellenzer.

**Dinkel-Pulskamp**

Sara Elizabeth Dinkel and Michael James Pulskamp will be married on Dec. 30 at St. Brigid’s Church in Louisville, Ky. The bride is the daughter of Gregory and Barbara Dinkel. The groom is the son of Kevan and Kathleen Pulskamp.

**Frick-Ricketts**

Brooke Marie Frick and Michael James Rickett will be married on Oct. 21 at Holy Spirit Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of David and Diane Gorman. The groom is the son of Joseph and Elizabeth Rickett.

**Gallegos-Raffeld**

Sara Elizabeth Gallegos and Michael Gabriel Raffeld will be married on Sept. 23 at the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Don Shares and Juanita Raffeld. The groom is the son of Patrick Liphard and Mary Colleen Liphard.

**Lawrence Padilla**

Dana Elizabeth Lange and Michael Gabriel Padilla will be married on Sept. 9 at St. Joseph Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Richard Lungay and Glenna Ryan. The groom is the son of Michael and Marla Lange Padilla.

**Lancaster**

Alexandra Michelle Shears and Ryan Patrick Lancaster will be married on Oct. 28 at St. Luke’s Chapel in Brownsburg. The bride is the daughter of Don Shares and Jame Lancaster. The groom is the son of Scott and Michelle Smith. The wedding is at the home of Scott and Michelle Smith.

**Meager-Cermack**

Kristin Marie Meager and William Joseph Luther Cermack will be married on Oct. 18 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Mark Meager and Edith O’Brien Weimer. The groom is the son of Philip Cermack and Mary Beth Gippus Webster.

**Patterson-Smith**

Madeline Ann Patterson and David Joseph Smith will be married on Aug. 19 at Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of David and Catherine Patterson. The groom is the son of Andy and Jennifer Patterson.

**Quinonez-Perez**

Kendall Angela Kinos and Charles Anthony Perez will be married on Oct. 21 at St. Brigid’s Church in Dubois, Ind. (Evansville Diocese). The bride is the daughter of Deane and Trudi Quinonez. The groom is the son of Dr. Carlos and Jane Quinonez.

**Ricke-Barnett**

Anna Marie Ricke and Aaron Russell Barnett will be married on Sept. 15 at Holy Spirit Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Michael and Kathleen Ricke. The groom is the son of John Barnett and Elaine Lefler.

**Racker-Farriss**

Josephine M. Racker and James Edward Farriss will be married on April 22 at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Dr. Bruce and Beverly Farriss. The groom is the son of Thomas and Kathy Farriss.

**Roll-Jennnings**

Niki Boone Roll and Jacob Nicholas Jennings will be married on Oct. 5 at Our Lady of St. Charles Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Dr. Bruce Roll and Beverly Roll. The groom is the son of Dr. Bruce and Beverly Jennings.

**Vogt-Seipel**

Kristina Leigh Vogt and David Joseph Seipel will be married on Sept. 2 at St. Joseph Chapel of St. John Paul II Parish in Sellersburg. The bride is the daughter of Jeffrey Vogt and Lisa Conrad. The groom is the son of Dr. Joseph and Carla Seipel.

Sarah Elizabeth Walley and Leo Francis Seipel will be married on Nov. 4 at St. John the Evangelist Chapel of St. Catherine of Bologna Parish in Decatur County. The bride is the daughter of Joe and Lisa Walley. The groom is the son of Neil and Beth Seipel.

**Wallege-Bennett**

Charles Tommassen Webb and Brian Matthew Kaltenecker were married on April 8 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Daniel Tommassen and the groom is the son of Stephen Webb. The wedding is at the home of James Kaltenecker and Theresa Kaltenecker.

**Kaltenecker**

Marriage Supplement continues on page 10.
Serra Club Vocations Essay

Priest offers example of what Christ’s disciple should be

By Abby Hanlon

Special to The Criterion

Being a disciple means accepting and following the teachings of a teacher, and in this case that teacher is Jesus. Jesus had 12 disciples who showed him and listened to his teachings to spread his message to the people of the world—although there are not just 12 “disciples of Christ,” because all who believe in him and spread his word are disciples.

I have learned to be a disciple of Christ through the example of those living in the ministry. One of those who has taught me to be a disciple of Christ is the priest at my church, Conventual Franciscan Father Joseph West. Father Joe is a disciple of Christ because he spreads the word which he has learned to all the children at school and at all in the parish through “Wedding Announcements.”

An engagement or wedding photography session may be sent to eclairc@archindy.org. Digital photos must be clear, high-resolution images with the proofs close together. Xerographed copies of photos will not work.

There is no charge for the engagement or marriage announcements.

Couples may announce engagement of marriage in The Criterion

Engagement announcements for couples who are planning to be married at a Catholic church between Aug. 1, 2017, and Jan. 31, 2018, will be published in a February edition of The Criterion.

Couples who were married at a Catholic church in recent months may announce their marriage with a second announcement. If an engagement announcement was not published in The Criterion, The wedding announcement form is available online at www.criteriononline.com by selecting “Send Us Information” from the menu on the left side of the website. The wedding announcement should be named “Wedding Announcements.”

For questions, please contact Keri Carroll or Kcarroll@archindy.org. Call her at 302-382-9836, ext. 1521, or 317-236-1521.

Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass set for Aug. 27 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral

For more information about the program, contact Cheryl McSweeney at 317-545-7681, ext. 106, or cmsweeney@archindy.org. To register, log on to www.archindy.org/fatima.

In One Christ-three-day marriage programs are scheduled on Oct. 7 and 14 at St. Luke the Evangelist Parish, 5757 Holliday Dr. E., in Indianapolis. The first day of the program is from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., the second day is from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and the third day is from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The cost is $220 and covers meals and materials.

For more information call 317-495-1901, e-mail info@OFCIndy.com, or log on to www.OFCIndy.com.

Bishop Braxton: Micah’s words on justice, love must be ‘written in our hearts’

ORLANDO, Fla. (CNS)—The theme of the 12th National Black Catholic Congress on July 6-9 in Orlando focused on a passage by Micah, known as the prophet of social justice, whose writings of political corruption and criticism of political corruption and urging officials to care for the poor still ring true 2,700 years later.

Although he recognized the museum had an underground passage, he said, “I have learned to accept my sins and do penance. He has also taught me to spread the word of God to others as he has done with me, and taught me to pray and read the Scriptures.”

I am grateful to have Father Joe as my role model in faith. He has taught me to be a disciple of Christ. He has guided me through my religious journey and helped me to know and follow Jesus. He has shown me the way of Christ by supporting me through my first Confirmation and reconciliation.

He has helped me to keep my faith and trust in God when I have doubts. I have learned to accept my sins and do penance.

The history presented at the museum is actually underground, and it is on a passage by Micah, known as the prophet of social justice, whose writings of political corruption and criticism of political corruption and urging officials to care for the poor still ring true 2,700 years later.

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Bishop Bruté Days brings together teens considering priesthood

By Sean Gallagher

Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis was brimming with life from June 21-23 as 40 teenage boys from across central and southern Indiana and beyond participated in the 12th annual Bishop Bruté Days.

Sponsored by the archdiocesan vocations office, Bishop Bruté Days gives high school-aged boys open to the idea of the priesthood an experience of what daily life is like in the archdiocesan college seminary, including Mass, the Liturgy of the Hours (also known as the Divine Office), eucharistic adoration, opportunities for the sacrament of penance, recreation time, shared meals and presentations on the faith.

It was the third time that James Hentsz, a member of St. Michael Parish in Greenfield who will be a junior at Father Thomas Seccina Memorial High School in Indianapolis, attended Bishop Bruté Days.

“It kind of gives an early taste of what seminary life is like,” said James, who attended the event with his younger brother Anthony. “You have all of these guys here who are actively discerning.

“It balances the prayer life, the Mass and the Divine Office every day. You also have the recreational time. It gives you time to both prayerfully discern, and also spend time with people who are in the same boat with you.”

Isaac Nord, a member of St. Gabriel Parish in Louisville, Ky., in the Archdiocese of Louisville, participated in Bishop Bruté Days for a second time.

“It doesn’t even matter if you’re going to the seminary or not,” said Isaac, who will be a high school senior in the fall. “It’s going to have a good impact on your spiritual life. They put an emphasis on the Mass, confession and adoration, which are all essential parts of growing closer in your relationship with God.”

Will Yunger, a member of St. Gabriel Parish in Louisville, Ky., in the Archdiocese of Louisville, participated in Bishop Bruté Days for a second time.

“I really like the atmosphere,” Will said. “I’m probably the only one left with my family, so we’re all together. We have a lot of fun. And we also have good, prayerful time. It’s a good, spaced-out combination of the two.”

Father Eric Augenstein, archdiocesan vocations director, said the annual gathering helps him get to better know young men who have participated in other gatherings helps him get to better know young men who are willing to spend a time period that is. So important is bringing people to this vocation.

“The Liturgy of the Hours uniting the youth. Now I think I might start adopting some of that into my daily life.”

Father David Marcotte, chaplain at Roncalli High School and the University of Indianapolis, both in Indianapolis, celebrated Mass at the seminary during Bishop Bruté Days and shared lunch with the participants.

An alumnus of Bishop Bruté, Father Marcotte appreciated the way the summer gathering helps teenage boys discern their vocation.

“When I was in high school, I don’t remember talking to anyone about it or hearing anyone talk about it,” he said.

“It offers me hope to see that there are more guys who are in high school each year that are open to discerning. We know how difficult and important of a time period that is. So to see this many young men here is encouraging.”

“There is good discernment taking place among young guys in our archdiocese and in our parishes and schools,” said Father Augenstein.

“So to have 40 guys who are willing to spend three days at a seminary in the summer tells me that families, parishes and young men are open to the possibility of a priestly vocation.”

To encourage this support of discernment in families, this year’s Bishop Bruté Days included for the first time the involvement of the families of the participants. At the end of the event, Father Augenstein addressed the parents and siblings of the participants and then welcomed them to a cookout at the seminary.

“Vocations come from families,” Father Augenstein said. “The first support for a lot of kids in considering the priesthood, or any vocation, is in family life. And so we think it is important to include families in this process of discernment and introducing families to the seminary.”

More families than just those of Bishop Bruté Days’ participants are coming to know the college seminary.

Father Augenstein anticipates that around 10 new seminarians will enter priestly formation for the archdiocese in the upcoming academic year, with the majority of them being enrolled at Bishop Bruté.

Father Joseph Moriarty, Bishop Bruté’s rector, added that the seminary is expected to be at its capacity with 52 seminarians in the fall, an increase from 42 during the last academic year. One religious order and 10 dioceses from five states are expected to have seminarians at Bishop Bruté beginning in August.

“Men are responding to the call. In truth, I think this is a favorable response to seeds sown and nurtured,” Father Moriarty said. “Now they’re coming to fruition.”

Seminarian Charlie Wessel, a member of St. Simon the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis who will be a junior at Bishop Bruté in the fall, was encouraged by seeing so many Bishop Bruté Days’ participants and getting to know some of the new archdiocesan seminarians who helped lead it.

“I love having new guys to have as my brothers,” said Wessel. “It’s hopeful. Christ is bringing people to this vocation. This is something that brings people life. This family of the priesthood and seminarians is growing.”

For more information about Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis, visit bishopsimonbrute.org. For more photos from Bishop Bruté Days, visit www.criteriononline.com.†
Living in God’s presence guided Native American saint

Today, July 14, is the feast of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, the only Native American to be canonized.

Ten years after the Mohawk Indians made peace with the French and John de Lalande in the village of St. Ignace in modern Aurisville, N.Y., a baby girl was born there in 1656, the daughter of a Mohawk chief. She was given the name Tekakwitha. Her father, who had been a Christian, an Algonquin Indian who had been captured during a raid by the Mohawks on her village.

When Tekakwitha was 4, a smallpox epidemic broke out in the village. Her parents and brother died of the disease and Tekakwitha caught it, too. She survived, but the illness left her severely blind in one eye and deaf. For the rest of her life, she saw only shadows, and sunshine hurt her eyes.

Tekakwitha’s uncle and his wife cared for her after her parents died, and she lived a normal Indian child’s life. But she was withdrawn from other children. From the time of her childhood, she enjoyed the solitude that the wilderness provided. As she matured, the women in the village made plans for her marriage, but Tekakwitha refused to even discuss marriage. From then on, she received harsh treatment from the women. She lived in the presence of the eight Jesuit martyrs, missionaries who had stayed away from Iroquois, and particularly Mohawk territory. Father Lampherei thought that Tekakwitha had a peace treaty in 1667, and the Jesuits decided to make another attempt to convert the Indians.

One day, as Father Jacques de Lambergue passed Tekakwitha’s longhouse, he felt compelled to go in. Tekakwitha welcomed him and told him about her Christian mother. She also said that she wanted to become a Christian.

Father Lambergue gave her instructions and baptized her on Easter Sunday of 1676. She took the Christian name Catherine, or Kateri, in honor of St. Catherine of Sienna.

At 24, Tekakwitha left her namesake, a true mystic and contemplative, to emigrate to France. She spent her youth in the presence of God. She became, as Father Lambergue said, “a true mystic and contemplative.”

We know that as Christians we must help the poor. Scripture tells us, “We are all in this together,” and we will always be with us, and we are obligated to contribute to feeding, clothing, housing and helping those else is necessary in aiding them.

I believe that this is our duty as fellow children of God. The thing is, many of us simply don’t know anyone or help them who are really poor. Down on their luck, maybe unemployed or on welfare, but no one who is a real victim of poverty. So we don’t bother to look for them in the poor box, or answer a plea from a religious order and hope that will do.

On the other hand, our family received a gift of God’s grace when we met Billy and saw the real face of the poor.

One of our local community programs is an extracurricular activity while he was attending college. He introduced us to Billy at a dance they were attending at the University of Notre Dame in 1982.

We were silently dubious, but went to see a movie we’d never even considered. “When it comes to our religion, the answer, ‘I’ll give you something to do.’”

You know.

Your Family/Bill Dods

Dealing with summer boredom and the workplace grind

My mother-in-law was a widow running her own boarding house in Fort Atkinson, Wis. She was a Gray Day Depression. My mother-in-law knew how we should answer, “I’ll give you something to do.”

Thoughts are but a whisper to the mind.

Or movies for money. Or permission to download a new app.

A new what for her what? That’s a 21st-century solution.

And to this point about a 21st-century student’s vacation, the days can start to drag. The options and activities that were there for a few weeks or so each year for the school year ended, seem...

Sometimes there are no words. His or her life has become...

Your You know. And you do. Whether you’re 10 or 40 or 80. Whether you’re a child, a middle-aged employe...
The third and last section of the Book of Isaiah is the source of the first reading for this weekend’s Mass.

This reading was composed when pious Jews easily could have become disillusioned and uncertain in their devotion to God. For decades, Jews exiled in Babylon, capital and center of the once powerful Babylonian Empire, longed to leave the pagan environment of this great city, coincidently in present-day Iraq, and return to their own homeland. At last, as ancient political fortunes changed, these Jews were allowed to go back to their ancestors’ homes. Upon returning, however, they found no “land flowing with milk and honey.” Life was harsh. Difficulties were many. They had dreamed for so long of leaving Babylon for security, order and peace in the Jewish land, yet they instead found destitution and misery. God had spared them, but for what? Certainly many were angry with God. Isaiah was likely one of several prophets who reminded them that God’s work must be their own. God had freed them, but they had to create a society of justice and prosperity.

St. Paul’s Epistle to the Romans supplies the second reading. Written to the Christians of Rome about two generations after Jesus, Paul refers to the Christians of Rome about two centuries after Jesus. It was a time when pious Jews of the Roman Empire in the first century stood on the very threshold of persecution. It was a time when the Roman Christians. He reminded them that God’s work must be their own. God had freed them, but they had to create a society of justice and prosperity.

The first step to being redeemed is to be humble enough to admit the need for God. The second step is to be humble enough to live according to God’s word, not by personal human instincts or hunches. We all are in the story of this parable. A saint once said that Christians should pray as if salvation depended solely upon God, and live as if salvation depended solely upon our own virtue.

Reflection

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Question Corner/Fr. Kenneth Doyle

Common artistic images of Mary shaped by a European experience of the faith

Q

A

had they wanted instead an exact likeness, they would have known even in the Middle Ages that Palestinian Jews at the time of Christ had darker skin, with darker eyes and a dark hair color. What they might not have known then—but what nearly all biblical scholars believe today—is that, based on Jewish marriage customs of the time, Mary was most likely 14 or 15 years old when she gave birth to Jesus. There is, of course, a range of artistic images of Jesus, especially of Mary with non-European features. Probably the best known of these is the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. In 1531, Mary appeared to an indigenous named Juan Diego on a hill outside Mexico City. When the local bishop was skeptical and asked for a sign, Mary directed Juan Diego to collect roses in his cloak and bring them to the bishop. As he unfolded the cloak, dozens of roses fell to the floor and revealed the image of Mary imprinted on the inside—dark skin of the indigenous people.

Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 20 Columbus Circle Dr, Albany, New York 12203.†
Rest in peace

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


Joaquin Navarro-Valls, former Vatican spokesman, dies of cancer

He became a correspondent for the Spanish newspaper ABC, and was elected twice as president of the Rome-based Foreign Press Association in Italy before becoming the first lay journalist to become director of the Vatican Press Office when he was appointed by St. John Paul II in 1984.

After leaving his post at the Vatican, he served as president of the advisory board of the Opus Dei-affiliated Campus Bio-Medical University in Rome until his death.

Worshipping the Lord

Hortencia Hernandez, left, and Manuela Vargas of Holy Trinity Parish in Peachtress City, Ga., and Aekeli Udehe of St. Gregory the Great Parish in Williamsburg, Va., pray before the Blessed Sacrament on June 16 during the Atlanta Archdiocese's Eucharistic Congress in College Park, Ga. (CNS photo/Michael Alexander, Georgia Bulletin)


LEVIESQUE, Louise, 81, St. Bartholomew, Columbus, June 28. Mother of Ruth Bevan and Daniel Levesque. Sister of Marilyn Chapman and Natalie C宜昌。Great-grandmother of one.


If you are a victim of sexual misconduct by a person representing on behalf of the Church, or if you know of anyone who has been a victim of such misconduct, please contact the archdiocesan victim assistance coordinator.

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Catholic Charities offers counseling to those ‘in most critical need

By Katie Rutter
Special to The Criterion

BLOOMINGTON—A young mother stared into space, clearly preoccupied with her own worries. Her daughter, a girl maybe 8 years old with bright blonde hair and worn-out pink leggings, wandered among the toys strewn about the waiting room.

This young woman came to Bloomington’s Catholic Charities for counseling. She was seeking help, but the help she wanted was not food, housing or monetary assistance. She needed mental healing for herself, and perhaps her young daughter as well.

“We want to inspire hope in people that they’ll get better, that they’ll overcome their barriers,” said O’Connell, Case, a licensed clinical social worker who serves as clinical director of the office where the young mother sought refuge.

Mental Health America estimates that nearly one in four adults in the country has some sort of mental illness, a number that has risen in recent years. However, access to care, especially for the poor, has plummeted.

Bloomington is no exception. In response to higher health care costs, most private practices in the area either limited the number of Medicaid patients that they would accept or stopped treating them altogether.

“These are the people in most critical need,” said Cherib Bush, who oversees mission advancement for all of Archdiocese of Indianapolis agencies. “These folks that qualify for Medicaid may have multiple issues going on. Maybe they’re underemployed or unemployed. Maybe they’ve faced home loss due to a delay that creates a challenge in getting a job. We’re here to help no matter what.”

Catholic Charities in Bloomington aims to fill the need and make mental health services accessible to all members of the community. The office is located among the city’s low-income housing and accepts clients in need of psychological counseling services, even if they cannot afford the care.

“If somebody doesn’t have insurance, we work on a sliding fee,” said Kara Baertsch, a licensed mental health counselor who works with adults trying to overcome trauma.

The walls of the agency are painted in calming beiges and blues accented by framed pastel images of landscapes and flowers. Some rooms contain overstuffed sofas, while others are lined with brightly-colored toys and costumes.

“Far more than just play things, these toys are actually therapy,” said Baertsch. “Play is like a second language, so it’s a way to help our clients in the office.

“[Play] is like a second language, so it’s a way to help them understand their process,” said Kara Baertsch, a licensed mental health counselor who works with adults trying to overcome trauma.

According to the apostolic letter, any cause for beatification according to the new pathway of “offering of life” would have to meet the following criteria:

- A miracle attributed to the candidate’s intercession is needed.
- Evidence of a reputation for holiness, at least after death.
- At least five years have passed since the candidate’s death.
- At least six competent theologians approve of the candidate’s life.
- The candidate’s life is to be lived in accordance with “new horizons and opportunities for the edification of the people of God, who, in their saints, see the face of Christ, the presence of God in history and the exemplary implementation of the Gospel.”

By situations that would not otherwise get care,” said Emma Bush, director of the office where the young mother sought refuge.

“A lack of stability makes it impossible to hold down a job, makes it impossible to be a good parent, makes it impossible to engage in self-care,” said Kara Baertsch, a licensed mental health counselor who works with adults trying to overcome trauma.

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SAINTHOOD

According to the apostolic letter, any cause for beatification according to the new pathway of “offering of life” would have to meet the following criteria:

- Free and willingly offered by a charitable order, congregation or religious association or by a recognized Christian reason.
- Evidence of having lived out the Christian virtues—at least in an ordinary and not necessarily heroic—way before having offered one’s life to others and until one’s death.
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For more information on services offered by Catholic Charities Bloomington or for information on how to donate to Catholic Charities Bloomington, visit www.archindy.org/cc/bloomington.

Kara Baertsch, a licensed mental health counselor who works with adults trying to overcome trauma, explains a new therapy technique to the staff at Catholic Charities in Bloomington on May 23.

“I really feel in my heart that Catholic Charities in Bloomington answers the call of Christ,” Bush said. “It’s our privilege to say, ‘There’s always hope, there’s always a better tomorrow. I’m not going to listen to this story, and be so repulsed by it that I can’t hear anymore. I’m going to stand in the gap with you. You’re not alone.’”

(Katie Rutter is a freelance writer and member of St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Bloomington. For more information on services offered by Catholic Charities Bloomington or for information on how to donate to Catholic Charities Bloomington, visit www.archindy.org/cc/bloomington.)

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317-926-2434
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Sacred Heart Parish in Bloomington
1451 E. 30th St.
Indianapolis, IN 46218

Church of the Gesu Parish in Bloomington
1701 E. 30th St.
Indianapolis, IN 46218

St. Vincent de Paul
Elementary School in Bedford
The agency also partners with the pediatric offices of Indiana University Health Southern Indiana Physicians. A Catholic Charities therapist works alongside the pediatricians, evaluating at-risk patients and providing counseling in four of their offices.

“They’re providing that counseling to the community for people who just can’t afford it any other traditional way,” said Rolfe, who played a key role in kick off the collaboration with Catholic Charities in Bloomington.

Rolfe also emphasized that the Bloomington area needs more mental health services, but acknowledged that less and less people are willing to provide these services because “behavioral health is not a moneymaker.”

In order to support the services they provide, Catholic Charities in Bloomington hosts regular fundraisers. The organization also applies for local grants and receives funding through the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

Still, as the need for services increase, the need for funding increases as well. The office expects to see about 1,500 clients in 2017, up more than 500 from last year.

“With every year, it’s more difficult. If I had more money, I would hire more staff to help more people,” Case noted.

“We are in need of more supporters,” Bush added. “I think that the best support is a consistent monthly gift almost like a tithe. That’s really important to keeping our doors open. We are also looking for sponsors, banks and businesses that lie to partner with us.

For the staff at Catholic Charities in Bloomington, however, their work is more than a paycheck. When asked, every therapist speaks of people they have served as if they were family. Some staff members have attended celebrations and theatrical performances to support their former clients. The office consistently hosts “graduation” ceremonies when a child overcomes a difficulty and no longer needs therapy.

The Criterion Friday, July 14, 2017 Page 15
The students attending the Missionary Disciples Institute hosted by Marian University in Indianapolis participate in morning prayer on June 15. (Photo by Kait Rutter)

Parenting:
A Little Encouragement along the way

Wednesday, August 23, 2017

As families settle into a new school year, Mary Schaffer and Fr. Jeff Godecker invite you to take a deep breath and reflect on the gift, the challenges and the joys of one of life’s greatest blessings, parenthood.

Using Ignatian spirituality—which encourages us to see God in all things—as the backdrop, please join us as we reflect on the goodness of our children as created in the image of our loving God and our role as parents in helping them live out their unique and inherent dignity. We will also look at opportunities to strengthen our relationship with our children in the midst of daily family life.

Morning Presentation: 9:00 am - Noon
 Fee: $42 (includes continental breakfast, buffet lunch and program)
 OR
 Evening Presentation: 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
 Fee: $35 (includes light dinner and program)

Add an Afternoon of Silence to either program registration at no charge!

Registration is required:
To Register go to www.archindy.org/fatima

The students attending the Missionary Disciples Institute hosted by Marian University in Indianapolis ready to do ministry in a new way,” said Matthew Sherman, the Marian University professor in charge of the Diakonia, or service, track. A blank wall of a community center for a low-income neighborhood was the subject of the Diakonia track’s experience. Recruiting local kids to help, the students traced their silhouettes in black paint then brushed vibrant hues in the background for a bright kaleidoscope-like effect. Laughter filled the air as some of the students ended up nearly as colorful as the mural.

“I’m serving with a purpose, and I’m serving with joy, and I’m willing to serve...” summarized Patrick Schedler, a member of St. Bernard Parish in Crawfordsville, Ind., in the Lafayette Diocese.

Another group, the Didache, or proclamation track, helped to lead fellow high school students in a theological book discussion at Cardinal Ritter Jr./Sr. High School in Indianapolis. The teens studying preaching on the Kerygma track worked with middle school students at St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish in Indianapolis to find creative ways to express the Gospel. The Letourgia, or prayer, track headed to Our Lady of Grace Monastery in Beech Grove where the Benedictine sisters taught them about a specific form of prayer and gave them a tour of the monastery.

The students learning about community on the Koinonia track visited a community of women who were recovering from addictions, imprisonment, homelessness and other trying circumstances. These students met some of the residents of the Unleavened Bread Café in Indianapolis, a building that functions as a coffee shop, a home for women, and a meeting place for people who want to turn their lives around.

“We all have our own personal demons, so it was kind of cool to be able to compare our struggles in life to their struggles in life,” said Hadley Hawkins, a senior at Bedford North Lawrence High School and member of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Bedford. “It was very helpful.”

“It’s like the Lord has hand-picked these students to come,” said Elise Womack, the founder of the café, who had arranged for several women to give testimonies to the students. “They all were so attentive to what we were saying. It’s like they can see, ‘Wow, she’s been through something, and how can I be of help?’

Other adults also spoke highly of the high school students as they increasingly embraced the role of missionary discipleship throughout the week. The staff of the Missionary Disciples Institute started the camp because they believed that the teenage years are the perfect time to train young people to be leaders in the community.

“It’s coming to that age where they’re realizing they’re going to have to take charge of what they’re doing, take charge of what they believe,” said Kevin Elfrin, an assistant track leader and the children’s faith formation coordinator at St. Susanna Parish in Plainfield. “They’re still very open to learning about the faith, but they’re recognizing that if they don’t take it on themselves now, they aren’t really going to have it once they reach college.”

“Archbishop-designate [Charles C.] Thompson said, ‘The youth is not the Church of tomorrow, they are the Church of today,’ and I honestly believe that,” agreed Rachel Gehret, a member of St. Mark the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis and a religion teacher at that school. “So many people can be inspired by these high schoolers.”

Many of the students agreed that the camp made them feel more equipped to handle ministry roles within their community. Some departed with concrete plans to put their knowledge into action. Emma Lashley, who is a member of St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Bloomington, has said that she wanted to inspire her fellow members of a girls’ youth group, “I want to get more people involved and more people to experience what prayer and the Gospel and service can do.”

Emma said the camp concluded with a “commissioning service” that, mirroring the actions of Christ to the Apostles, sent 35 young people into the world to “make disciples of all nations” (Mt 28:19).