Bishops ask for peace after white nationalist rally turns deadly

WASHINGTON (CNS)—In the aftermath of a chaos- and hate-filled weekend in Virginia, Catholic bishops and groups throughout the nation called for peace after three people died and several others were injured following clashes between pacifists, protesters and white supremacists in Charlottesville, Va., on Aug. 11 and 12. A 32-year-old paralegal, Heather Heyer, was killed when a car plowed into a group in Charlottesville on Aug. 12. Various news outlets have identified the driver as James Alex Fields, who allegedly told his mother he was attending a rally for President Donald J. Trump. Reports say the car driven by Fields plowed into a crowd during a white nationalist rally and a counter-rally the afternoon of Aug. 12.

Attorney General Jeff Sessions said early on Aug. 14 the “evil attack” meets the legal definition of domestic terrorism, and suggested pending charges for Fields who was in custody and has been charged with second-degree murder, among other charges. He was being held without bail.

“You can be sure this Department of Justice in this administration is going to take the most vigorous action to protect the right of people like Heather Heyer, to protest against racism and bigotry,” Sessions said on NBC’s “Today” show on Aug. 14. “We’re going to protect the right to assemble and march. And we’re going to prosecute anybody, to the full extent of the law, that violates their ability to do so.

On Aug. 14, President Trump said, “We condemn in the strongest possible terms this egregious display of hatred, bigotry and violence. It has no place in America.” He added, “Racism is evil, and those who cause violence in its names are also evil. And there’s a great spirit among the men,” he said. “We have a good group of new men joining a good group of returning seminarians who’ve come from all different parts of the archdiocese, from different backgrounds. There’s just a great spirit, a lot of excitement among the men to be able to be in seminary together.”

Father Augenstein shared his thoughts on the opening day of the annual archdiocesan seminarian convocation, which took place on Aug. 7-9 at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House in Indianapolis.
And one of the works of mercy is visiting people in prison. It sounded kind of scary, but I thought I should be open to it.

Their choice was reinforced through Providence through two other moments, Katie says. The first one came when she attended a meeting on how young adults can become involved in their parishes, and a speaker talked about prison ministry. Then she e-mailed Matt Faley, the archdiocese’s director of young adult and college campus ministry, for contact information to get started in prison ministry.

Faley replied quickly, noting her timing was amazing because just a few minutes earlier the chancellor of the archdiocese, Annette “Mickey” Lentz, had asked him if he knew any young adults interested in prison ministry to be a part of that task force. Faley told Lentz, “No, but I’ll check around.

That’s how Danny and Katie became the first member of the special task force—a group that met regularly for six months in 2016 to formulate a plan to help individuals, parishes and the broader archdiocese itself make an even deeper commitment to prison ministry.

They considered it “humbling” to be part of a group in which some of the members had been doing prison ministry almost as long as the siblings had been alive.

Seeds of friendship

“I could see how passionate the other task force members were about ministering to them and everyone who was affected by crime. I could tell Danny was really moved. The concern was, ‘How do we get people to see this is an important ministry, and that Christ sees it as important?’

That question and concern led Danny and Katie to make their first visit to the Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility in 2016. They were led there by Ron Greulich, another member of the task force and a member of St. Simon the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis, who has been volunteering at the prison for 12 years.

They were both apprehensive as they prepared to enter the prison for the first time.

“You see the physical facility and the barbed wire,” says Danny, who is married and has an infant son. “And there’s a sense of doors you go through and then sounds of them closing and locking. Then we finally get in the facility and Ron leads us to meet with the teenagers there.”

“I remember being scared, not knowing how they were going to react to us,” Katie notes.

Their fears soon faded as the Bible study and the conversation flowed.

“They have no resistance or hesitancy in talking about their faith,” Katie says. “And they’re so eager to have outside people come in.”

Danny adds, “We go into the prison worried and scared. Coming out, it’s a transformative thing. There’s so much richness in the conversation. With all the starkness there, there’s a warmth there of welcoming us in.”

Their visits have continued. So has the connection.

“We’ve established these seeds of friendship, even to the point of talking about these deep elements of faith,” Danny says. “You feel a commonality.”

“We’re seeing Christ

“It’s a connection that they’re talking about with their students, a connection that is sometimes challenging for their students to completely embrace.

“My students are baffled that someone like me would walk into a prison,” Katie says. “They’re personifying, ‘Why, in your free time, would you do that?’

Danny nods and says, “Growing up, we’re taught there are good people and bad people. The bad people are in prison. Why would you go there? But that’s the grace the Klees have found in that sharing—the fear that they won’t get the support they need when they get out.”

—Katie Klee

‘One of the kids reflected about how he feels so weak. For him to share that was so mature. As a teacher, I’m someone who needs to be in control, but he taught us how to embrace the weakness you have—because it’s through that weakness that God will help you and strengthen you in your life.’

—Danny Klee

As Archbishop Aidan Joseph Comerio is set to be canonized next year, the Lord by giving himself completely for his people.

Still, he told the congregation in London celebrating the 100th anniversary of Blessed Romero’s birth, “Romero was not a Superman. He was afraid of dying, and he confessed that to his friends on a number of occasions. But he loved Jesus and his Father more than he loved life. This is the meaning of martyrdom.”

‘Love for Jesus and the poor is greater than fear for death. This is the power of Romero’s message,’ Archbishop Paglia said. ‘A simple believer, if ever there was one, Rachel, becomes strong becomes unbreakable.’

The archdiocese will host a Corrections Ministry & Conference from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Oct. 28 at St. Bartholomew Parish in Columbus. All volunteers involved with jail and prison ministry are invited, as are anyone interested in learning more about these ministries. The day will begin with a reflection and celebration of Mass. For more information about this day of prayer, support and education from experts in corrections ministry, contact Lynne Wexenbach, archdiocesan coordinator of corrections ministries, at 317-592-4012 or lwexenbach@archindy.org. |
VATICAN CITY (CNS)—In a week in which natural disasters, war and racial conflicts dominated the headlines, Pope Francis prayed that Mary would bring peace to a divided world.

After reciting the Angelus prayer on the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the pope asked Mary to obtain “for everyone consolation and a future of serenity and harmony.”

“To Mary, Queen of Peace—who we contemplate today in the glory of her Assumption, I entrust again the anxieties and sorrows of the people who suffer in many parts of the world due to natural disasters, social tensions or conflicts,” the pope told thousands of pilgrims gathered in St. Peter’s Square on Aug. 15.

Pope Francis did not name any specific location, but as he spoke, the search for survivors continued in Sierra Leone after a devastating mudslide engulfed the outskirts of the capital, Freetown, killing more than 300 people. Flooding and landslides also struck southern Nepal, killing at least 70 people.

In Charlottesville, Va., clashes between white nationalists and counter-protesters resulted in the death of three people, including a 32-year-old paralegal, Heather D. Heyer, who was killed on Aug. 12 when a car plowed into a group protesting the white nationalist rally.

In her stump speech, the pope reflected on the day’s Gospel reading, which recalled Mary’s visit to her cousin Elizabeth.

The joy felt by Elizabeth and the child in her womb reflects the interior joy Christians feel in Christ’s presence, the pope said. “When Mary arrives, joy overflows and bursts from their hearts because the invisible yet real presence of Jesus fills everything with meaning: life, family, the salvation of the people. Everything!”

In response, Mary proclaims the Magnificat, her hymn of praise to God for his great works. Pope Francis said it is the hymn of “humble people, unknown to the world, like Mary, like her husband Joseph as well as the town where they live, Nazareth.”

God accomplishes “great things with humble people,” the pope said, inviting people in St. Peter’s Square to reflect on the state of their own humility. “Humility is like an empty space that leaves room for God. A humble person is powerful because he is humble, not because he is strong. This is the greatness of humility,” he said.

The joy Mary brings because she brings Jesus to the world gives all Christians “a new ability to pass through the most painful and difficult moments with faith” as well as the “ability to be merciful, to forgive, understand and support each other.”

“Mary is a model of virtue and faith,” Pope Francis said. “We ask her to protect and sustain us that we may have a faith that is strong, joyful and merciful. May she help us to become saints, to meet her one day in paradise.”

Informational meeting for permanent diacate set for Sept. 10 in Indianapolis

The archdiocesan Office of Deacon Formation is beginning a period of inquiry and discernment for those interested in the permanent diaconate.

In the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, formation for the permanent diaconate is a five-year process beginning with a year of inquiry and discernment.

The first year includes a series of monthly meetings, beginning in September and concluding in April, which are held in various locations around the archdiocese. The sessions are open to all those who wish to enter into discernment. Serious applicants are expected to attend all the meetings. If they are married, it is asked that their wives also attend.

Formal application packets will be distributed in January of the discernment year to those who have actively participated in the discernment process.

The applications will then be reviewed by a selection committee, and those who are selected to enter formation will begin the formal four-year process in August 2018.

The first inquiry session will take place at 2:30 p.m. on Sept. 10 at St. Lawrence Parish, 6654 E. 46th St., in Indianapolis. The topic will be the “Diaconate as Vocation,” and will also discuss necessary qualifications and the four-year formation process. A finalized schedule of monthly meetings will be published soon.

No prerogation is required for these sessions, and each session will begin at 2:30 p.m. and end by 4:30 p.m.

For more information, contact the archdiocesan Office of Deacon Formation at 800-382-9836, ext. 1492, or e-mail Deacon Kerry Blanford, archdiocesan director of deacon formation, at kblanford@archindy.org.

Support your local seminary with more than prayers.

God calls us to share the gifts we’ve been given. A wonderful way to do that is by creating or contributing to an endowment fund. With a fund held and managed by the Catholic Community Foundation you can support your preferred Catholic ministry. Last year, for instance, endowments helped support the Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary so seminarians in our Archdiocese could participate in a formation program while discerning a priestly vocation. Start giving back today and make an impact in your Catholic Community. We can show you how.

Women in traditional dress are seen during a feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary celebration in Kochel, Germany, on Aug. 15. (CNS photo/Alessandro Brianti, EPA)

Pope Francis gives a blessing during his Angelus prayer on the feast of the Assumption, on Aug. 15, at the Vatican. (CNS photo/Alessandro Brianti, Reuters)

The gospel of John

Saturday, Sept. 9
9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
Providence Hall Conference Room

Explore John’s writings and examine the most unique story of Christ in the Bible.

Facilitator: Sister Cathy Campbell, SP
Cost: $45 (includes lunch)

Register by Sept. 4 at Events.SistersofProvidence.org or call 812-535-2952

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The Criterion Friday, August 18, 2017
Be Our Guest/Bruce Scifres

Youth football changes lives

After spending 37 years of my life as a high school teacher and football coach, the last 27 years as the head football coach at Roncalli High School in Indianapolis, I feel compelled to write to share thoughts on the value of youth athletics in general, and would like to focus on youth football in particular.

As I was driving to work recently, I heard a radio host mention a story that included that out of 111 brains of former NFL players, all but one showed signs of CTE (chronic traumatic encephalopathy) from repeated head trauma. She shared that all three of her sons play youth football, but after hearing this report, she wasn’t sure if she wanted her sons to continue playing.

As the father of two sons who played Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) high school and college football—and I likewise played high school and college football—I hope to address some of the misleading information that is running rampant in today’s media.

As I read this study by Dr. Ann McKee, she admits that “there is a tremendous selection bias” in the study, in that most of the brains had been donated specifically because they had shown symptoms of CTE, so it was not a random sampling of former NFL players’ brains. They knew beforehand there were problems.

Secondly, a majority of the brains were taken from players who were over 70 years old at the time of death. This means most of these men had played back in the 1950s and 1960s when they were just phased from leather helmets to plastic. The padding in these early plastic helmets was very different from today, and some of the helmets did not have face masks at the time.

I am in no way trying to diminish the importance of protecting our youth from injury, especially head injury. But the fact the game of football is safer today than it has ever been.

The millions who fit in that category must pray fervently for those who want to deny others of their God-given dignity and harbor thoughts of hurting others because they are different. We need to let them know we will not accept this intolerable behavior under any circumstances. And we must continue to teach our younger generations that they must be beacons of light when such darkness emerges.

Provisionally, our church celebrated the memorial of St. Maximilian Kolbe on Aug. 14, a few days after the Virginia tragedy. The saint was martyred in Auschwitz after taking the place of a young father who was sentenced to die by the Nazis. St. Maximilian’s love for his neighbor and his insight into humankind’s battle with good and evil as is so relevant today as it was when it was shared in the last issue of his Marian magazine, Knights of the Immaculate, published just before the Nazis arrested him in 1941: “The real conflict is the inner conflict. Beyond armies of occupation and the hecatombs of extermination camps, there are two irreconcilable enemies in the depth of everyone’s soul: good and evil, sin and love. And what use are the victories on the battlefield if we ourselves are defeated in our innermost personal selves?”

—Mike Krokos

Letter to the Editor

Bipartisan effort addresses impacts, causes and challenges of climate change

Our universal shepherd Pope Francis is recognized as a global leader on climate change.

In his encyclical letter, ‘Laudato Si’, on Care for Our Common Home,” he writes that “…every form of life has value regardless of its worth to human beings.” He reaffirms that “…all creatures are connected, each must be cherished with love and respect, for all of us as living creatures depend on one another.”

I think this is the essential change of heart that must take place if we are to slow climate change. This is what my Catholic faith and my life as a Sister of Providence calls me to do. I am called to value both the diversity and interconnectedness of the whole web of life.

A bipartisan House Climate Solutions Caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives provides an opportunity for conversation. This group is exploring policy options that address the impacts, causes and challenges of our changing climate. Currently, 25 Republicans and 25 Democrats are members, an even number by design.

Two weeks ago, we had 40 CYO football coaches at the Indianapolis Colts facility receiving this “Heads Up” training.

Also, through the generosity of Indy Sport Foundation, CYO small coaches in the archdiocese will be getting their USA Football Heads Up certifications paid for, providing technique and safety training for every coach in the league.

As the new executive director of CYO, I am very proud that the league is following through with this initiative. Without question, the health and safety of our players is top priority, and we want parents to know we are doing everything we can to keep your children safe.

One final thought I would like to share: A couple of years ago, our athletic trainer at Roncalli shared that football was ranked third that year on the list of girls’ sports. At the top of the list was girls’ soccer, next was girls’ cheerleading, then football was next.

My point here is that almost all youth activities that are physical in nature—including bicycling riding and skateboarding—carry some risk of injury.

We know that the CYO is doing everything possible to make football as safe as we can—you’re your kids deserve that! In my 37 years of coaching football, I have learned the game is an unrelievable platform to change lives for the better. Few activities can match the game’s ability to transform young athletes physically, mentally, emotionally, and perhaps most importantly, spiritually.

It is our hope that our families will consider this in light of the misleading information that has been splashed across the media in recent months. Again, I am very honored to be a part of these safety measures taken by the CYO for your children. God bless!

(Bruce Scifres is executive director of the Catholic Youth Organization.)

Coal and coal ash disposal seriously impact climate change, and are also critical economic and health issues in Indiana.

I believe one of the solutions is to provide financial support to coal miners desiring to obtain new job skills. They have risked their health and their lives to provide this country’s energy needs. This would be similar to the recent Carrier layoffs in Indianapolis. A task force has joined with Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett to offer training to those who lost their jobs would be eligible for $1,000 while they look for new work. They also announced the city would provide additional monies for those employees while also offering incentives for local employers who wish to hire them.

Therefore, I call upon you, the reader, to urge your U.S. House of Representatives member to join this caucus to make Indiana part of the solution.

Providence Sister Donna Butler
Saint Mary-of-the-Woods

The photographs are upsetting. The video is even more disturbing. Add an element of unbridled chaos, and the result is the sad and tragic events that occurred in Virginia over the weekend. Sadly, the hate-filled protests and violence in Charlottesville resulted in the death of 12-year-old Heather Heyer and at least 20 injuries. Just as unsettling, the tragedy demonstrated that we still have racist fringe groups in our country who are intent on setting America back instead of moving us forward. Two Virginia State Police troopers also died when a helicopter they were in crashed while trying to help with the violent events on the ground.

The clashes between white supremacists and counter-protesters on Aug. 11 and 12 are a stark warning to us all. As we, as a nation, decide where we want this country to go in the coming days, weeks, months and, yes, even years ahead.

As we reflect on the weekend’s events, we ask: What has happened to the tenet of Galveston-Houston, president of the Knights of Columbus, to “love your neighbor as yourself” (Mt 22:39)?

We, Catholics—like several of our bishops have already done—must condemn these heinous and racist actions by a group that felt emboldened enough to display the hatred and anger that were evident in Charlottesville.

“We stand against the evil of racism, white supremacy and neo-Nazism. We stand with our sisters and brothers of other faith traditions to ‘love your neighbor as yourself’ (Mt 22:39).”

Former Ku Klux Klan (KKK) leader Chicago’s Cardinal Blase J. Cupich said as much.

As the father of two sons who played Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) high school and college football—and I likewise played high school and college football—I hope to address some of the misleading information that is running rampant in today’s media.

As I read this study by Dr. Ann McKee, she admits that “there is a tremendous selection bias” in the study, in that most of the brains had been donated specifically because they had shown symptoms of CTE, so it was not a random sampling of former NFL players’ brains. They knew beforehand there were problems.

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I am in no way trying to diminish the importance of protecting our youth from injury, especially head injury. But the fact the game of football is safer today than it has ever been.

Two people comfort Joseph Culver of Charlottesville, Va., on Aug. 12 as he kneels at a late night vigil to pay his respects for a friend injured in a car attack on counter-protesters rallying against white nationalists. (CNS photo/Jim Bourg, Reuters).

The Criterion  Friday, August 18, 2017

Page 4

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Editorial

Standing strong against the evil of racism in our time

TheCriterion
El palio nos recuerda que debemos seguir el camino de Dios, no el propio

"La sonrisa del papa Francisco cambió todo para el arzobispo designado Charles C. Thompson. El 29 de junio, en la Plaza de San Pedro en el Vaticano, a medida que se acercaba al Santo Padre, todavía se sentía aturdido por el ‘torbellino’ en el que se había visto envuelto desde que el papa lo designó el 13 de junio para convertirse en guía de la Arquidiócesis de Indianápolis. Con todo, el arzobispo designado procuró disfrutar al máximo todos los eventos que conllevarían al momento culminante en el que el papa Francisco le entregaría el palio, una faja de lana que se ata sobre los hombros y que simboliza su nueva y más íntima conexión con el sumo pontífice, así como su responsabilidad como el pastor que guiará la Iglesia en el centro y el sur de Indiana. (John Shaughnessy, The Criterion, edición del 7 de julio, 2017)

Mientras me acercaba al papa Francisco para recibir el palio, me fijé en el palio que él mismo llevaba puesto y pensé: “Ahora me va a dar uno a mí!” En ese momento sentí una enorme responsabilidad, pero lo que verdaderamente me impactó fue la sonrisa del Santo Padre a medida que me acercaba a él: era una sonrisa reconfortante, muy tranquilizadora. Esa sonrisa significó mucho para mí. Al verlo con su palio, pensé en el hecho extraordinario de que él es responsable de toda la Iglesia —y todavía sonrisa! Eso me infundió tranquilidad.

El papa Francisco me entregó el palio después de la misa de la Solemnidad de San Pedro y San Pablo, el 29 de junio de 2017. Estaba doblado dentro de una pequeña caja de madera atada con una cinta café. Si bien el papa lo bendijo en Roma, este humilde símbolo de autoridad pastoral y responsabilidad no me fue colocado sobre los hombros sino hasta casi un mes después, durante mi misa de instalación, el 28 de julio en la Catedral de San Pedro y San Pablo en Indianápolis. Qué honor ser llamado a servir a la Iglesia de esta forma y al cuidado de estos dos grandes santos: Pedro, la roca, y Pablo, el primer gran discípulo misionero.

En palabras del cardenal Joseph W. Tobin, el palio es un símbolo de “la obligación del obispo de buscar al que se ha extraviado y regresar con él a casa.” Al entregarme el palio a los nuevos arzobispos, el papa Francisco dijo durante la homilía: “Pregúntenos si somos cristianos de salón de esos que comentan cómo van las cosas en la Iglesia y en el mundo, o si somos apóstoles en camino, que confiesan a Jesús con la vida porque lo llevan en el corazón. Quien confiesa a Jesús sabe que no ha de dar sólo opiniones, sino la vida; sabe que no puede creer con tibia, sino que está llamado a ‘arder’ por amor; sabe que en la vida no puede conformarse con ‘vivir al día’ o acodarse en el bienestar, sino que tiene que correr el riesgo de ir mar adentro, renovando cada día el don de sí mismo. Quien confiesa a Jesús se comporta como Pedro y Pablo: lo sigue hasta el final; no hasta un cierto punto sino hasta el final, y lo sigue en su camino, no en nuestros caminos. Su camino es el camino de la vida nueva, de la alegría y de la resurrección, el camino que pasa también por la cruz y la persecución.”

Este es el desafío que todos los obispos están llamados a aceptar como pastores del rebaño que les han confiado. Para quienes hemos recibido la responsabilidad adicional de desempeñarse como arzobispos metropolitanos (en mi caso, de la Provincia de Indianápolis, que comprende las cinco diócesis católicas de Indiana), el palio representa un recordatorio vivido de que, si bien el camino hacia la nueva vida de alegría y resurrección de Jesús pasa por la cruz y la persecución, al final su yugo se hace más fácil y su carga se aligeró. Me siento profundamente agradecido con el papa Francisco por haber depositado su confianza en mí y por el gran obsequio que me ha entregado a través de esta Iglesia arquidiocesana. En uno de sus artículos para The Criterion, el editor adjunto John Shaughnessy se refirió al ‘torbellino’ de las semanas y los meses que precedieron a mi designación como arzobispo el 13 de junio, la entrega del palio que recibí el 29 de junio y mi instalación como arzobispo de Indianápolis el 28 de julio. La palabra “torbellino” describe perfectamente las circunstancias de ese período, pero por la gracia de Dios y gracias al increíble apoyo de mi familia y amigos en Kentucky, en el sur este de Indiana y en los 39 condados del centro y el sur de Indiana que ahora llamo mi hogar, “puedo decir con propiedad que el yugo que se me puso sobre la espalda no es un yugo que me acarrea con trabajo, sino que verdaderamente me acarrea con la alegría y la carga es liviana!” Para mí, la autoridad siempre ha significado servicio. Los nefro recen por mí, para que sea un buen y fiel servidor de esta arquidiócesis. †
Fourth vow, Aug. 30, Sept. 6 and Sept. 13, from 6:45-8:15 p.m., at the Get Your Greens on Work of Angels Dinner in Plantation Hall, 541 W. 101st St., Indianapolis. Dinner, wine and presentations will be offered. Cost includes dinner for $25. For more information or to register, call 317-546-7328, mkeyes@indy.com or visit Ike and Jonesy’s, 17 W. Jackson Place, Indianapolis. Curiosity After Work Talk Series, (first of four), Aug. 30, Sept. 6 and Sept. 13, Deacon Brad Anderson presenting, 6 p.m., free, will offering. Information: 317-223-9235, deacon@indycatholic.org.

August 24 St. Mary, 250 W. Tonn St., Indianapolis. Monthly Eucharistic Adoration, 2 p.m., Benediction, 7 p.m. Information: 317-926-7359 or recen@minhumchurchindy.org.

August 24-26 St. Ann Parish, 6350 S. Mooresville Road, in Borden, at 6 p.m. on Aug. 24. Music and message, guests, raffles, cash raffle, beer tent. Information: 812-265-4166.

August 24-26 Camp Rancho Framasa, 2230 Clay Lick Road, in Nashville, will be offering a Fall Family Camp Weekend from Sept. 1-3, and a Fall Family Camp Day on Sept. 2. Activities include camping, canoeing, crafts, archery, horse rides, games, Mass, prayer, campfires and evening activities. The cost for the weekend is $50 per child under age 18 and $75 for adults. Check-in is from 7-7:45 p.m. on Sept. 1, and check-out is at 2 p.m. on Sept. 3. Camping sites are available for tent camping (tents not provided). Private family cabins are available for an extra $100 per family. The cost for attending just on Sept. 2 is $30 per child under age 18, and $55 per adult. Check-in is from 8-9 a.m. and check-out is after the campfire activity. For more information or to register, log on to www.campranchoframasa.org, or call 888-988-2899, ext. 122, or e-mail info@campranchoframasa.org.

August 25-26 Father Michael Shave Memorial Jr./Sr. High School, 2230 Clay Lick Road, in Louisville. Pope and John XXIII Summertime Festival, 5 p.m. - midnight, food booths, live music, 1960s style band, cash raffle, free beer. Information 812-265-4166.

Knights of Columbus Mater Dei Council 437, McGowan Hall, 1 N. Delaware St., Indianapolis. Cantor Workshop, for all church cantors. Information: 317-257-2266.


VIPS
Harold and Linda (Olszewski) Becker, members of St. Barnabas Parish in Indianapolis, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 5. The couple was married on Aug. 5, 1967, in St. Thomas Church in Grand Rapids, Mich. They have two children, Melissa Becker Likens and Ryan Becker. The couple also has four grandchildren.

Cosmo and Sharon (Johnston) Piazza, members of St. Roch Parish in Indianapolis, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Aug. 5. The couple was married at the former St. Catherine of Sienna Church in Indianapolis on Aug. 3, 1957. They have two children, Jill Conaway, Jill Good, Robin Oncalle, Laurie Ray and Kelli Wilson. The couple also has nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Camp Rancho Framasa offers three-day and one-day Family Camp in September
Catholic Youth Organization’s (CYO) Camp Rancho Framasa, 2230 Clay Lick Road, in Nashville, will offer a Fall Family Camp Weekend from Sept. 1-3, and a Fall Family Camp Day on Sept. 2. Activities include camping, canoeing, crafts, archery, horse rides, games, Mass, prayer, campfires and evening activities. The cost for the weekend is $50 per child under age 18 and $75 for adults. Check-in is from 7-7:45 p.m. on Sept. 1, and check-out is at 2 p.m. on Sept. 3. Camping sites are available for tent camping (tents not provided). Private family cabins are available for an extra $100 per family. The cost for attending just on Sept. 2 is $30 per child under age 18, and $55 per adult. Check-in is from 8-9 a.m. and check-out is after the campfire activity. For more information or to register, log on to www.campranchoframasa.org, or call 888-988-2899, ext. 122, or e-mail info@campranchoframasa.org.

Mass, open house in New Albany on Aug. 20 to celebrate Cardinal Ritter anniversaries
A Mass commemorating the 125th anniversary of the birth of Cardinal Joseph E. Ritter and the 100th anniversary of his ordination as a priest will be celebrated at St. Mary Church, 415 E. Eighth St., New Albany, at 10 a.m. on Aug. 20. This year also marks the 50th anniversary of the cardinal’s death on June 10, 1967.

After the Mass until 2 p.m. all are invited to attend an open house in the Cardinal Ritter Birthplace and Museum, 1218 E. Oak St., in New Albany. Tour guides will be available to answer questions about the only Hoosier-born cardinal and the dynamic impact he had on desegregation, social justice and the Second Vatican Council.

World Day of Prayer for Creation prayer service to be held in Indy on Aug. 31
A World Day of Prayer for Creation prayer service will be held at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 4625 N. Kenwood Ave., in Indianapolis, at 7 p.m. on Aug. 31. The ecumenical prayer service is being hosted by the St. Thomas Aquinas Creation Care Ministry, in conjunction with Fairview Christian Church and Common Ground Christian Church, to begin the Season of Creation, which begins from Sept. 1-Oct. 4. To learn more, call 317-979-5144 or sttereatchurch@mail.corp.com.
Retreat offered for widows ‘no matter where you are in life

By Natalie Hoefer

Jennifer Trapuzzano, 28, has learned many things since she became a widow three years ago, when her husband Nathan was shot while on a morning walk in Indianapolis. Among those lessons, she says, is that “no matter the age, experience or how long it’s been, widows share a common bond. Until you’ve been a widow, you can’t understand.”

But the young mother—Trapuzzano’s daughter was born just one month after Nathan’s death—says she has found strength in two things: “Faith has held me up, and fellowship has gotten me through.”

That is why she is coordinating a retreat for widows called “Peace in the Mourning,” with help from the archdiocesan Office of Pro-Life and Family Life. It will be held at the Benedict Inn Retreat & Conference Center in Beech Grove on Sept. 22-24.

The member of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish in Indianapolis notes that the weekend retreat will be “very Catholic,” including the rosary, adoration, confession and Mass.

However, she says, “those not in a good place with their faith, or Christians who don’t understand the Mass, could still benefit from this retreat more than a secular widows’ group or conference.”

Trapuzzano knows this firsthand. She attended a non-religious widow’s retreat in the spring of 2016, where she got to meet some of the widows she had come to know through St. Paula’s Young Catholic Widows, an online group or conference.

She attended a non-religious widow’s retreat more than a secular widows’ retreat, and found that people could grow in bonding together.

“Retreatants can share their story,” she says. “It’s so important for each person’s story to be heard in that bond together. We’ll give different ages time to talk about their experience, what it’s like to be an older widow versus a younger widow.

“And there will be activities in which that people can grow in bonding together. To have faith and fellowship come together—every widow needs that.”

Trapuzzano says she expects there will be “some sad moments. But there will also be lots of laughter and love. Through the tears and laughter, we’ll find fellowship that will last beyond this retreat.”

For widows hesitating to come to the retreat, she advises they keep other widows in mind.

“Regardless of age, regardless of whether the widow has children, regardless of Christian faith background, Trapuzzano encourages widows to attend the retreat.

“I tell every woman, ‘I hate we had to meet this way, but we’re here to walk with you,’ ” she says. “No matter where you are in your faith or journey as a widow, we want you at this retreat.”

(For more information or to register, visit PeaceInTheMourning@gmail.com).

Thank you
for your work with Archbishop Charles C. Thompson’s Prayer Service and Installation Mass

The Chancellor’s Office would like to thank the numerous offices and volunteers who donated their time and talent in helping with the many activities surrounding the Prayer Service and Installation Mass. These liturgies and other accompanying events were great successes because of your commitment. These groups include:

- Mass of Installation Celebration Steering Committee
- Archdiocesan Choir
- Ushers and Greeters
- Bishops’ Transportation
- Office of Stewardship and Development
- Office of Communications/ The Criterion
- Office of Worship
- Young Adult Ministry
- Maintenance Staff
- Police and Security
- SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral staff
- Archdiocesan Priests
- Archdiocesan Deacons/and Parish Life Coordinators
- Archdiocesan Seminarians
SEMINARIANS
continued from page 1

He also noted that the excitement of the seminarians was increased by the presence of Archbishop Charles C. Thompson, who had been installed as the seventh archbishop of Indianapolis less than two weeks earlier. Archbishop Thompson spoke with the seminarians on the first day of their convocation, telling them that he had gotten with them and blessed the nine new seminarians.

“These guys are showing great courage and generosity in being willing to discern this call to service in the Church,” he said in an interview with The Criterion. “So it’s important for me to be here with them to support them, and also to give them guidance and direction, what we expect of them so they know what they’re getting into.”

Pope Francis talks a lot about accompaniment. We have to accompany our seminarians in their formation and education if we want good, solid, healthy priests for the archdiocese.

Although he is pleased by the increase in seminarians, Archbishop Thompson is encouraged even more by the quality of the men entering into priestly formation.

“The first thing we want is quality,” he said. “It seems like we have good quality here. We need the numbers, but we most especially need the quality. I’m encouraged by the numbers and the quality that our young people are still discerning and being open to the Spirit.”

The annual seminarian convocation has contributed to the discernment over the past five years of transitional Deacon Jeffrey Dufresne, a member of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis who expects to be ordained a priest for the St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis who expects to be ordained a priest for the archdiocese.

For him, it’s time to build up fraternity “with guys that I’ll probably be ministering with for years to come,” by praying together, sharing meals, giving of themselves together in service to people in need, and having times of recreation amongst each other.

As the archdiocese’s senior man in priestly formation, Deacon Dufresne has already built up fraternity with his fellow seminarians. But adding nine new men to the group, he said, has “brought a little bit of new life into our time together. There are plenty of guys to get to know.”

One of the seminarians who has spent much of the time thinking about the start of his ministry in the archdiocese is Fr. Joseph Moriarty, a member of the St. Gabriel Parish in Connersville, who starts formation at St. Meinrad Archabbey this week.

“He’s a very active in the hearts” of the seminarians during the Aug. 7 Mass. Wessel is a member of St. Lawrence Parish in Lawrenceburg. (Photo by Sean Gallagher)

“Faith plants the seed,” Father Moriarty said. “Openness is their willingness to consider it. And the course is moving in. They’re going to take a step and realizing what this call might mean in their life.”

Bishop Bruté began in 2004 with a handful of seminarians. By the time the seminary moved to its current location, a former Carmelite monastery on a mile south of Marian, of the seminarians was increased by the arrival of an archdiocesan seminarian.

The seminarians spent much of the morning of second day of the convocation volunteering at the Society of St. Vincent de Paul’s Pratt-Quigley Client Choice Food Pantry in Indianapolis, which serves around 3,000 families in need each week.

“It helps to keep us focused,” said new seminarian Samuel Rosko. “What we’re ultimately discerning is a call to the priesthood, which is a call to a service, service to God and service to people. So it helps us keep focused on what our ultimate goal in seminarian formation is.

Rosko, a member of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish in Indianapolis, is starting priestly formation as a sophomore at Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary and Marian University, both in Indianapolis.

Not far from where Rosko and other seminarians were boxing drinks, Deacon Dufresne was bagging food that would be distributed to the pantry’s clients.

His thoughts went to the Gospel proclaimed at Mass the previous day when the seminarians worshipped with Archbishop Thompson. It told of Jesus multiplying five loaves and two fish to feed 5,000 people. “Jesus recognized in his ministry that, in order to feed people spiritually, we also need to make sure that they’re fed physically,” said Deacon Dufresne.

“That’s something for us to reflect on as we prepare for ministry.”

Dewayne Boyer, a member of St. Mark the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis and a regular volunteer at the pantry for more than two years, was glad to see the archdiocese’s future priests being guided by the Holy Spirit and listening to that Spirit.”

“To learn more about a vocations to the priesthood in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, visit HearGodsCall.com.”

Indianapolis college seminary starts new year with record enrollment
By Sean Gallagher

With nine new seminarians beginning priestly formation this month, the Church in central and southern Indiana is experiencing the largest one-year increase in seminarians in more than a decade.

At the same time, the Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis has a record enrollment of 49 seminarians from 10 dioceses and one religious order.

The seminary moved five years later to its current location, a former Carmelite monastery on a mile south of Marian.

Of the 49 current seminarians at Bishop Bruté, 13 are archdiocesan seminarians, an increase of six from the previous academic year. Seven archdiocesan priests received priestly formation at Bishop Bruté.

Sponsored by the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, the seminary was founded by Archbishop Emeritus Daniel M. Buechlein. Father Robert Robeson, pastor of Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Beech Grove, served as its first rector through the end of the 2015-16 academic year.

Father Moriarty says the confidence that so many dioceses who send seminarians to Bishop Bruté have in it is rooted in the priestly formation developed there by Father Robeson that embodied the vision of Bishop Buechlein.

For us, formation is a one-on-one experience of prayer during the Aug. 7 Mass. Wessel is a member of St. Simon the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis. Daily is a member of St. Lawrence Parish in Lawrenceburg. (Photo by Sean Gallagher)

“Father Andrew Syberg

It also tells me that, amid all the messages of the world out there, our young people are still being guided by the Holy Spirit and listening to that Spirit.”

“Father Andrew Syberg

The formation that Bruté offers can do great things. There’s great joy to be experienced when you find out what God wants from your life.”

Along with Father Syberg, other archdiocesan priests are serving the seminary on a part-time basis as spiritual directors. It also draws on the experience of religious order priests, such as vice rector Benedictine Justin DuVall, former archabbot of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad, and director of spiritual formation Jesuit Father Thomas Widner.

“Vocations are growing again,” said Father Syberg. “Indy has more guys. Bruté has more guys. To recognize that this is where we’re going, and that hopefully we’ll keep going in that direction, shows how seriously the archdiocese takes formation.”

“For more information about Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis, visit bishopbuxomtn.org.”

Transitional Deacon Jeffrey Dufresne, second from left, and Archbishop Charles C. Thompson elevate the Eucharist during an Aug. 7 Mass in the chapel at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House in Indianapolis. The Mass was part of the annual archdiocesan seminarian convocation. Concelebrating the Mass at left is Father Joseph Feltz, archdiocesan vicar for clergy. (Photo by Sean Gallagher)
HAGATNA, Guam (CNS)—The Catholic Church in Guam is urging its members and all people on the island to be prayerful and stay centered in Christ amid threats of missile attacks by North Korea.

Coadjutor Archbishop Michael J. Byrnes of Agana asked all priests to promote prayers of peace at all Masses on Aug. 13 as tensions continued, following threats by North Korea dictator Kim Jong Un to attack this American territory in the Marianas Islands.

“In your Masses this Sunday, especially in the prayer of the faithful, please offer prayers for peace between our nations, just resolution of differences, and prudence in both speech and action,” Archbishop Byrnes said in a message to all priests of the Archdiocese of Agana on Aug. 11.

“Please also offer prayers for the men and women of our military, especially those whom we host on Guam, that they might find grace for diligence and courage as they execute their respective duties,” he said.

Guam has long had a high strategic military importance to the United States because of its location near eastern Asia, and has been home to several U.S. military bases for many decades. B-52 bombers were regularly deployed from Andersen Air Force Base in Guam during the Vietnam War in the 1960s and 1970s.

Residents of this predominantly Catholic island community first woke up to the alarming news of North Korea threats to Guam on Aug. 9. The archdiocese issued a message to all Catholics and the community in general that same day, urging everyone “to stay grounded in the peace of Christ.”

“In the last 24 hours, hatred and violence have been on display in the city of Charlottesville,” said Richmond Bishop Francis X. DiLorenzo in a Aug. 11 statement. “Let us pray for peace.”

Charlottesville is in Bishop DiLorenzo’s diocese.

“Look to God during these difficult times when world peace is threatened, and pray always,” the archdiocese said.

That message by Father Jeff San Nicolas, the coadjutor archbishop’s delegate general, cited the Gospel of John: “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid” (Jn 14:27).

The archdiocese also echoed the message of Guam Gov. Eddie Calvo asking everyone to remain calm and trust that the security of the island is in good hands with local and national defense forces in place to address such threats.

In his Aug. 11 message, Archbishop Byrnes said, “Ever since being appointed the Coadjutor Archbishop of Agana, I have been both struck and encouraged by Isaiah 33:2-6. ... It speaks to our current situation very well.”

“The Lord, be gracious to us; we wait for you. Be our arm every morning, our salvation in the time of trouble. At the tumultuous noise peoples flee; when you lift yourself up, nations are scattered, and your spot is gathered as the caterpillar's gather; as locusts leap, it is leapt upon. The Lord is exalted, for he dwells on high; he will fill Zion with justice and righteousness, and he will be the stability of your times, abundance of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge: the fear of the Lord is Zion's treasure” (Is 33:2-6).

“We have strong encouragement from the Lord Jesus to trust that our Father is the source of our salvation both spiritually and practically,” the archbishop continued. “Jesus is still on the throne, and we can be confident that he will work out his will in every situation.” — Coadjutor Archbishop Michael J. Byrnes of Agana, Guam

White nationalists clash with counter-protesters at a rally in Charlottesville, Va., on Aug. 12. Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, condemned the violence and hatred and offered prayers for the family and loved ones of the person who was killed, and for all those who were injured. (CNS photo/Jacqueline Roberts, Reuters)
Experts say law-abiding migrants at greater deportation risk

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The stories come in dribs and drabs on the evening news or in timelines via Twitter, but they’re steady.

On Aug. 2, two young popular soccer players, brothers living in Bethesda, Md., were deported to their native El Salvador. In mid-July, Jesus Lara Lopez, a 37-year-old father of four in Detroit, was deported to Mexico. On Aug. 1, Lourdes Salazar Bastista, a Michigan mom with three U.S. citizen children, also was deported to Mexico.

At some point, they all had contact with immigration authorities, but none had criminal records or a violent past, and regularly checked in with Immigration and Customs Enforcement, known as ICE, to inform the agency of their whereabouts.

During President Barack Obama’s administration, migrants like them, in the country without documentation, were not priorities for deportation, said John Sandweg, former acting director of ICE. They had been granted stays or were under supervision by immigration officials likely for humanitarian reasons—they were taking care of family or had extenuating circumstances.

“Individuals in this group had mostly been checking in with us…very rarely are these individuals convicted criminals,” said Sandweg during a July panel titled “Immigration Policy and Practice Under the Trump Administration: Understanding What’s New. What’s Not and Why It Matters,” sponsored by the Washington-based immigration reform group America’s Voice.

Under President Donald J. Trump, however, the fate of these migrants has changed, said Sandweg.

“What we’ve seen is lots of those individuals getting picked up, and the reason those individuals get picked up is they are the lowest hanging fruit,” said Sandweg. “They are the individuals who ICE can arrest most quickly and deport within a matter of two, three weeks. They’re also the most sensitive cases, and the cases least likely to pose a public safety threat.”

But it’s part of a strategy, Sandweg believes, by the Trump administration to increase the total number of deportations to a level that will be difficult to match since Obama was given the moniker “deporter-in-chief.” The fear of records on deportation that took place under his administration

“It’s very clear to me that their mission is to transcend the number of deportations. How do you do that? You don’t focus on criminals,” said Sandweg. “Criminals are slow to remove. Criminals who are at-large are very difficult to find, and it’s very time-consuming, difficult work.”

Some migrants and their supporters already are sensing a shift.

In early August, when Maria De Loera was called to a deportation hearing in Texas, Bishop Mark J. Seitz of El Paso attended the meeting in her place, so she could stay at the bedside of her cancer-stricken 8-year-old daughter at the hospital. De Loera left Mexico in 2014 after her husband was assassinated and fled to the U.S. seeking asylum, which was later denied.

Some supporters had feared De Loera would immediately be deported if she showed up to the meeting with immigration officials, meaning her daughter would be left to attend cancer treatments alone at the hospital.

After Bishop Seitz met with immigration officials, De Loera was granted a six-month stay so she could continue to care for her daughter. These days, it seems as if “the most obvious humanitarian reasons for allowing a person to stay are no longer sufficient,” said the bishop, while also expressing worry about the people who seem to be the new focus of deportations.

“The Church certainly is going to be very concerned about action leading to prioritization of people who are really not any threat and who have not committed any crime, and who are productive members of our community,” Bishop Seitz said in an Aug. 7 phone interview with Catholic News Service.

The emphasis, he said, should be on criminals “who are really a threat to our citizens,” not spending time and energy going after people who are law-abiding.

David Leopold, partner and chair of the Immigration Practice Group and former president of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, said the Trump administration would like others to believe “we’re focusing on criminals. That’s our priority.”

But the focus is on “non-criminals, folks who have worked hard, have done everything they were supposed to do, played by the rules, have been here for a long time,” said Leopold, who was also part of the America’s Voice panel. “They’re the easiest to arrest because they comply. They’re going after those cases.”

And while there may not be much talk about raids taking place, they’re happening in the lobbies of immigration offices, he said.

“I call them silent raids because where they’re occurring is at these check-ins,” said Leopold.

While fathers and mothers and children wait for their ICE removal orders, meetings that never yielded unusual developments now turn into meetings in which many have ankle bracelets placed on them, and given a date to leave, he said.

In a July 31 essay for America, a national Jesuit-published Catholic magazine, Kevin Appleby, senior director of international migration policy at the Center for Migration Studies of New York, said that under the Trump administration, Catholics must shift their focus toward opposing mass deportations because it’s clear that under this presidency, steps have been taken “to implement a major deportation campaign targeted at all undocumented immigrants, including the population the U.S. bishops have sought for years to make citizens.”

For fiscal year 2018, the administration has asked for 1,000 more ICE agents, 500 more Border Patrol agents, plus more than 10,000 more detention beds, not to mention $1.6 billion for a border wall, wrote Appleby.

“It is clear where this administration is headed on immigration,” he wrote. “The goal is not to legalize 11 million mass deportations.”

Some migrants and their supporters have been on the front lines during critical moments involving the deportation of non-criminal migrants who have been long-term residents and contributing members of certain communities. Appleby urged the participation of all bishops, so as to have a plan for what to do when deportations take place in their respective dioceses and to lead other Catholics to support vulnerable immigrant families.

“We are entering a dangerous time in the history of our immigrant nation,” wrote Appleby. “The stakes for our immigrant brothers and sisters, and their children, are high. History will judge whether Catholics stood up and protected their neighbors during this dark period.”

Parishes are a great place to talk about those issues, to listen to “unheard narratives,” said Bishop Seitz, while acknowledging that sometimes it feels as if people are listening to two different Gospels in Church pews: one that says we have limited resources and we have to protect ourselves from outsiders, and one that says we’re called to love others. But a person cannot call him or herself Catholic without expressing the compassion of Jesus, he said.

“When a person loves others and gives of oneself for others ‘God will care for ourselves, and one that says we’re called to love others. But a person cannot call him or herself Catholic without expressing the compassion of Jesus, he said.

“If I don’t think those elements are to be found in the dumbed-down Gospel that’s out and about today,” said Bishop Seitz.
Father Wilfred "Sonny" Day celebrates Mass on May 5 at St. John the Baptist Church in Starlight to mark the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. Concelebrating the Mass are retired Msgr. Paul Richard, left, Father Eric Johnson and Father Thomas Clegg. Father Day is pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish in Starlight and dean of the New Albany Deanery. (Submitted photo by Paul Bierman)
Catholic contributions to the Battle of Vincennes in 1779

Welcome back! Or better yet: “I’m back.” In July, I am on hiatus from this column. My vacation is for the body and soul. It’s now time to share in the “fruits” of rest. I have, and continue to be, able to share our non-Christian and Christian faith traditions. They bring us comfort and inform that we are not the only ones to do what we perceived was right. Two opportunities to ponder this are appearing in this column. First is a talk to be given by Bishop Gafkjen titled “The Meaning and Enduring Significance of the Reformation.” The lecture will be held in Lecture Hall 150 of the Evans Center on the campus of Marian University in Indianapolis at 4 p.m. on Sept. 17. This lecture is free and open to the public.

The second is a four-part series created by the magazine Christian History. This月中旬, the magazine was recommended to me by an evangelical pastor who is very involved in the ecumenical movement in our area. I have read through three of the four parts. They are excellent, balanced and clearly good historical writing. I look forward to looking at the other four. The same as Issue 115 of Christian History: “Luther leads the way.” Issue 120: “Calvin, Councils, and Confessions: How the Church became the churches.” Issue 122: “The Catholic Reformation: Art, piety, and the fight for renewal.” Issue 123: “The Reformation: Power, money, and the struggle for a modest $15. It was money well spent.

When we approach the actual dates of the anniversary—on Oct. 31, 2017—we may continue to pray for the ongoing reform of hearts and minds, and one day, we shall again be "one." (Father Rick Ginther is director of the archdiocesan Office of Ecumenism. He is also the pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Indianapolis.)

Eccumenism may one day lead to time when all will be one.
Christian population was not Jewish in arguably the major portion of the last third of the first century, similar efforts by his disciples and by Jewish birth or religion. outreach to Gentiles, to persons not of Hebrew religion required. therefore by God to observe all that the prophets and they were expected by the prophets and not of the revealed religion, and even people of great sin. Jesus says that the Messiah’s mission is to bring salvation to God’s people. the woman persists. She believes in Jesus. She was doubly excluded. Yet she went to Jesus. She knew her true needs. She knew that he needed God’s mercy, and she devoutly believed that Jesus bore this mercy. He could dispense it. He was the “son of David;” the voice of God and the agent of God’s redemption. Times have not changed. We have our deep spiritual needs. Only Jesus can meet these needs with peace and hope. He loves us all. †

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time/Msgr. Owen E. Campion

The Sunday Readings
Sunday, August 20, 2017

- Isaiah 56:1-6, 7
- Romans 11:13-15, 29-32
- Matthew 15:21-28

The third section of the Book of Isaiah provides this weekend’s liturgy with its first reading.

Understanding this part of Isaiah requires some knowledge of the cultural context for the people of Israel of the time. It was not as bad as life for the Jews had changed very much from what it was when Solomon was king. Long gone were the prosperity, peace and tranquility known under these kings. Invading neighboring states had swept into and across the two Hebrew kingdoms that had come to compete for the political structures of the Holy Land after Solomon’s death. These invasions continued without respite or independence. Untold numbers of Jews died in the process. Others were taken to Babylon, the capital of the great Babylonian empire. At last, Babylonia itself was conquered. The descendants of the first Jews taken to Babylon returned home. But desolation and hopelessness awaited them. Living was much more pluralistic than it had been centuries earlier. The Jews at the time this section of Isaiah was written indeed lived amid religious and ethnic diversity. So “foreigners” were in many places, and they were “foreign” in several respects. Apparently from this reading, some of these “foreigners” embraced the ancient Hebrew religion. They were accepted, but they were expected by the prophets and therefore by God to observe all that the Hebrew religion required. St. Paul’s Epistle to the Romans provides the second reading. Throughout Christian history, the great Apostle Paul has been remembered especially for his outreach to Gentiles, to persons not of Jewish birth or religion. His efforts in this regard—and surely similar efforts by his disciples and by others—resulted in the fact that by the time of the last third of the first century, arguably the major portion of the Christian population was not Jewish in origin. It cannot be forgotten, however, that Christianity sprang from Judaism, was built upon Judaic themes, and contained within its ranks many Jews, including Paul, the Blessed Virgin and the other Apostles.

Paul, nevertheless, in this letter re-committed himself to evangelizing the Jews. Why? Because God promised salvation to the Jews, and Paul, as an Apostle, was an agent of God. St. Matthew’s Gospel furnishes the last reading. In it, Jesus, an arena populated by many as if not more Gentiles than Jews. Not surprisingly, the Lord encounters a Canaanite woman. The Evangelist’s use of this term to describe the woman underscores that she is an outsider. “Canaanite” time to promote the ideas of people not of the revealed religion, and even people of great sin. Jesus says that the Messiah’s mission is to bring salvation to God’s people. the woman persists. She believes in Jesus. She wants and needs God’s mercy. Jesus responds to this need.

The reading closes by establishing the common denominator among all humans. It is that all humans sin, and so all need God’s mercy.

Reflection

We cannot overplay the references in these readings to ethnicity. Another element of separation within society at the time was the fact that the Canaanite woman was female. In the culture of the time, a woman’s approach to a male stranger was extraordinary. Did sin set her apart? Perhaps. Regardless, she was set apart, a woman, and a foreigner at that. She was doubly excluded. Yet she went to Jesus. She knew her true needs. She knew that he needed God’s mercy, and she devoutly believed that Jesus bore this mercy. He could dispense it. He was the “son of David;” the voice of God and the agent of God’s redemption.

Times have not changed. We have our deep spiritual needs. Only Jesus can meet these needs with peace and hope. He loves us all. †

My Journey to God

What the Mass Means to Me

By Dorothy Donnelly

The Mass is a haven from troubles and care. Princes and paupers alike find solace there. A poor visitor, my Host, never rude, He graciously receives me and offers me food. His house may be small or again or again may be grand, But His house is honored all over the land. I knelt at His table, laid out in avo. I bow in acceptance to His divine law. His hands are simple— just lead a good life. His reward—a freedom from earthly strife. It’s presumption to consider myself of such worth As to be of any consequence to the King of Heaven and Earth. My prayer is as follows, it’s very simple, you see: O God in Your pity, have mercy on me!

(Dorothy Donnelly is the deceased sister of Patti Hourigan, a member of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis. Dorothy wrote this poem in 1939 at the age of 18. She died in 1975. Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori concelebrates the Fortnight for Freedom Mass on July 3 during the “CatholicIlluminating Catholic Leaders: The Joy of the Gospel in America” in Orlando, Fla. Leaders from dioceses and various Catholic organizations gathered for the July 1-4 convocation.) (CNS photo/Bob Roller)

Daily Readings

Monday, August 21
St. Pius X, St. Louis
Judges 2:11-19
Psalm 106:34-37, 39-40, 43ab, 44
Matthew 19:16-22

Tuesday, August 22
The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Judges 6:11-24a
Psalm 55:5, 11-14
Matthew 19:23-30

Wednesday, August 23
St. Rose of Lima, virgin
Judges 9:6-15
Psalm 21:2-7
Matthew 20:1-16

Thursday, August 24
St. Bartholomew, Apostle
Revelation 21:9b-14
Psalm 145:10-13, 17-18
John 1:45-51

Friday, August 25
St. Joseph Calasanz, priest
Ruth 1:1-3, 6-14, 6-22
Psalm 146:5-10
Matthew 22:34-44

Saturday, August 26
Ruth 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17
Psalm 128:1-5, 6
Matthew 23:1-12

Sunday, August 20
Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
Isaiah 22:19-23
Psalm 138:1-3, 6, 8
Romans 11:33-36
Matthew 16:13-20

Question Corner

Fr. Kenneth Doyle

Married men may be ordained as priests in limited circumstances

I have been a Catholic since birth (over 50 years), but I am still learning things about my faith. Recently, we were at a wedding in another city, and the priest who performed the ceremony told us that he has been a priest for 10 years, but has been married for 30 years. Did I miss something here?

I have never heard of married Catholic priests. He said that there are a few of them around. Can you enlighten me?

(Answer: Father Kenneth Doyle ol at ask_fd Doyle @ email.com and 30 Colombiana Circle Dr., Albany, New York 12203.) †

Married men may be ordained as priests in limited circumstances in the Church. In 2009, Pope Benedict XVI established the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter, a diocese-like structure in the Church for Anglicans and Episcopalians received into the full communion of the Church in the U.S. and Canada. There are similar ordinariates in Great Britain and Australia. They retain much of the spiritual heritage of the Church of England, including the tradition of ordaining married men as priests while being in full communion with the Church. Another possibility is that he belongs to one of the Eastern Catholic Churches (there are more than a few) that are in union with Rome (Maronites, Ukrainians, etc.), which for centuries have allowed the ordination of married men. From 1929 until 2014, such priests were generally not permitted to minister outside their rite’s country of origin, but in 2014 Pope Francis quietly lifted that ban, opening the door for them to serve in the U.S. It should be noted that men may not be married after ordination, and that only unmarried men may serve as bishops.

(Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at ask_fd Doyle @ email.com and 30 Colombiana Circle Dr., Albany, New York 12203.) †

Rose of Lima

Feast – August 23

Born in Lima, Peru, the infant Isabel de Flores got her more familiar name from an Indian maid who said she was “like a rose.” As a child Rose was given to fasting and mortification. Only Jesus can meet these needs with peace and hope. He loves us all. †

Bartholomew

First Century

Feast – August 24

Though Bartholomew is listed among the Twelve Apostles in the synoptic Gospels, little more is known about him. Some scholars identify him as the apostle Nathanael, whom Jesus famously described in John 1:47: “Here is a true Israelite. There is no duplicity in him.” According to popular tradition, Bartholomew evangelized in Lycasia, India and Armenia, where he reportedly was flayed alive. The image of his martyrdom was a subject of Renaissance artists. He is a figure of humble faith and commitment.
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. Obligations of archdiocesan priests serving our archdiocese are listed elsewhere in The Criterion. Order priests and religious sisters and brothers are included here, unless, as it once was, they are natives of the archdiocese or have other connections to it; these are separate obituaries on this page.


Conventional Franciscan Father Simon Sauer served as missionary in southern Africa

Conventional Franciscan Father Simon Sauer died on Aug. 7 in New Albany. He was 87. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on August 10 at the chapel of the Conventional Franciscans at Mount St. Francis. Burial followed in the friars’ cemetery.

David Anthony Sauer was born on Feb. 5, 1930, in Louisville, Ky. He entered the Conventional Franciscans’ Our Lady of Consolation Province, based at Mount St. Francis, on July 4, 1950, professed simple vows on July 6, 1951, and solemn vows on July 8, 1954.

After six years of priestly formation at the former Assumption Seminary in Chaska, Minn., Father Simon was ordained a priest on June 1, 1957, in St. Paul, Minn.

After serving for two years in parish ministry in Louisville, he was assigned in 1959 to mission work in present-day Zambia in southern Africa. This ministry included serving for a period as the custos, or leader, of the fledgling Conventional Franciscan community in Zambia.

Returning to the United States in 1982, Father Simon served for the next 25 years as chaplain at several hospitals and retirement facilities, including Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, and the St. Joseph Home of the Little Sisters of the Poor in Louisville.

Although he retired from formal ministry in 2008, Father Simon continued to serve mass at nursing homes and to serve those in need three days each week at the Franciscan Kitchen in Louisville, and as a confessor for three communities of women religious.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Conventional Franciscan Friars at The Province of Our Lady of Consolation, Development Office, 103 St. Anthony Drive, Mount St. Francis, IN 47146.

DODDS

international Catholic organization that promotes care for family caregivers.

To Monica and me, it seemed that was what we had been moving toward all our adult lives. A ministry we were led to and, thanks be God, were able to do, one that, in 2013, became a core part of her legacy.

That year, I wrote a lot of columns about widowhood because, although I thought I was prepared for Monica’s death, I—like most new widows and widowers—was clueless. It was a blessing to me to be able to share a part of that journey, to receive e-mails from fellow “club members” telling me their stories and thanking me, and to have so many people remembering Monica, me and our family in their prayers.

I’m nearing the 600-word limit. Feel free to visit me at BillDodds.com. Information on my books is available there. Or contact me at BillDodds@BillDodds.com.

(Wow, do columnists have big egos or what?)

(Bill Dodds and his late wife, Monica, were the founders of the Friends of St. John the Caregiver.)
Serra Club Locations Essay

Inspiration of priest leads student to mission trip to Honduras

By Reilly Trieloff

Special to The Criterion

I have learned what it means to be a disciple through the ministry and witness of the former priest at my parish, Father Jeffrey Godcke. Not only was I baptized by him, but he was the priest for my first reconciliation and First Communion. I remember hearing his homilies every Friday during my first three years at Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM) School in Indianapolis. I also remember listening about his mission trips to Nuevo Paraiso, Honduras. Being so little, I did not fully understand what exactly the trips were about, but I knew they were good, and I would like to help less fortunate children sound like something right up my alley. Every Friday at Mass, I donated the coins I earned that week to the mission that Father Jeff brought to IHM. “Young Heart of Mary” located in Indianapolis was the apostolate. Father Jeff, through Father Jeff’s witness, I knew I would one day be called to travel to Honduras myself. This calling finally came true for me on June 6, 2016. I remember waking up at 3 a.m. that morning to head to the airport to travel to Honduras with a youth group from IHM.

I was beyond excited that I was finally going to be able to experience the incredible things that Father Jeff had talked about and time and time again. I did not have to wait, expect, but the trip exceeded any and every preconceived notion I had. The landscape was magnificent. The people were kind. I saw how much each and every child I had the honor of meeting that week in Honduras. I really bonded with one child in particular. He was a twin, like me. He was a tiny, weak little 5-year-old boy named Jefferson. He loved when I would push him on the swings, or when I would play tag with him around the playground.

It was not until about the fifth or sixth day that I learned where Jefferson had gotten his name. He was named after Father Jeff Godecke.

I got goose bumps when I realized this. It truly showed me the impact Father Jeff has had on the wonderful people of Honduras, and how much his mission has changed all of their lives. I thought it was really special that the little one I bonded with was named after one of my childhood heroes. Even though I do not see Father Jeff anymore, I really do appreciate the impact he had on my childhood and his love for mission work. He has instilled the same passion in me, and I will forever be grateful for that.

I hope I will live on forever through the Immaculate Heart of Mary community, and I am beyond excited to go back to Honduras this summer to continue my ministry there.

(Reilly and her parents, Scott and Donell Trieloff, are members of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Indianapolis. She completed the 12th grade at Cathedral High School in Indianapolis last spring, and is the 12th-grade division winner in the Indianapolis Serra Club’s 2017 John D. Kelley Vocations Essay Contest.)

Human Resources Assistant (part-time)

The Human Resources Office of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis is accepting applications for a Human Resources Assistant who will work 25-30 hours per week. This position will report to the Human Resources Operations Manager and will provide assistance with the implementation of the archdiocese’s health plan. This position will also provide general administrative support to the office as well as assist with completion of various projects as they arise.

Candidates with the following qualifications should apply:

- Knowledge of general human resources practices.
- Knowledge of state and federal employment laws and regulations.
- Proficiency with databases, payroll systems, and other technology related to human resources administration. 
- Attention to detail and accuracy.
- Experience in Microsoft Office applications including Excel.
- Strong organizational skills and the ability to develop effective processes.
- Ability to maintain confidentiality and exercise discretion.
- Ability to communicate both verbally and in written form in English and Spanish (preferred).
- A bachelor’s degree in human resources or a related field is preferred.
- Previous experience in human resources, benefits administration or payroll is preferred, but not required.

Please e-mail cover letter, resume and list of references, in confidence, to:

Andrea Wannenberg, HR, SHRM-CP, HR Operations Manager
Archdiocese of Indianapolis • 1400 N. Meridian • Indianapolis, IN 46202
317-261-3389 (Ext. 1402) • awannenberg@archindy.org

Please e-mail cover letter, resume and list of references, in confidence to:

Director of Music Ministry
Holy Spirit Catholic Church
The Holy Spirit Catholic Church is accepting applications to fill the vacant Director of Music Ministry. Holy Spirit is a vibrant parish with 2,300+ families located on the east side of Indianapolis, Indiana. A practicing Catholic is preferred to lead in the effective preparation, coordination and implementation of liturgical music. The director is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Music Ministry.

The position offers a full-time position at a salary of $40,000 and includes benefits, health care benefits, retirement plan, and additional benefits.

Please send applications to: Andrea Wannenberg, HR, SHRM-CP, HR Operations Manager, Archdiocese of Indianapolis • 1400 N. Meridian • Indianapolis, IN 46202 • 317-261-3389 (Ext. 1402) • awannenberg@archindy.org

Please e-mail cover letter, resume and list of references, in confidence to:

Cardinal, Archdiocese of Indianapolis, Catholic Community Foundation and the Cathedral High School Foundation.

Please e-mail cover letter, resume and list of references, in confidence to:

E-mail: pkoetter@holyspirit.cc • Website: www.holyspirit-indy.org
American community finds a new home in Rome

Father Apparcel told CNS that he appealed to Cardinal Piero Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, who in turn asked Pope Francis to intervene in the matter and allow the American community to return to the parish.

However, the Paulist priest said, “We were discouraged from coming back there because the Cistercian community owns the church, and they felt that they just wanted it to be them.”

Instead, the Vatican encouraged Father Apparcel to move to St. Patrick’s Church, a parish operated by Augustinian priests from Ireland who decided in 2012 to leave their ministry in Rome due to a lack of priests.

Several meetings between the Paulist Fathers and the Augustinian community led to an agreement that the church would become the new parish for American Catholics residing in Rome. The Augustinian community, Father Apparcel added, leased to the U.S. community the church and a hall currently being renovated to house offices, a library and classrooms “rent-free.”

“They have been incredibly generous and hospitable to us. No question about it,” the Paulist priest told CNS.

While the disagreement with the Cistercian monks at Santa Susanna left at times strained, Father Apparcel said there are no hard feelings between the two communities.

“We had a very nice, very friendly conversation,” he told CNS. “They said they had nothing but good feelings for the Paulist Fathers and the American community. And [they] offered their prayers and asked us to pray for them. They were sincere.”

The nearly 400 families that make up the American parish in Rome, Father Apparcel added, are also “relieved” that they finally have their own church rather than attending Mass in different parishes.

Despite the odds, Father Apparcel cared for the spiritual needs for the flock during that five-year period, often racing from one parish to another to celebrate Mass in English while Santa Susanna remained closed to the American community.

“I’ve gone through all the emotions from A-Z. The first year was really rough because I felt like, ‘How much worse can it get?’ I mean, basically, you’re kicked out of your church!” he said. “In the beginning, I felt like I was a failure, that it was my fault.”

However, with the support of his parishioners and Paulist Father Steve Boss, his good friend and vice rector of the parish, Father Apparcel said he realized that “even though we weren’t altogether in one place, we were still an identifiable Catholic community in Rome. This is a very realizable example of the fact that the Church is not a building; that the people are the Church, that the community existed and even thrived during this period.” Father Apparcel told CNS. “It doesn’t matter that we didn’t have a church. Though I’m glad we do now!”

—Paulist Father Greg Apparcel

Above is a photo of the interior of St. Patrick’s Church. After leaving the Church of Santa Susanna, which American Catholics had called its parish since 1922, the community will now call St. Patrick’s home. (CNS photo/Lenoo Archee/Eskimo)