Margie Pike lives the blessing of feeding the poor in a kitchen overflowing with joy

By John Shaughnessy

The story of what happened after the water pipe burst tells you everything you need to know about Margie Pike’s determination to help the homeless people she serves.

The pipe broke inside the Cathedral Kitchen during a stretch of sweltering summer days in 2016, which meant there was no water with which to cook, wash dishes or flush toilets in the volunteer-driven outreach that is open every day of the year, serving meals to about 130 people daily.

“They told me I had to close the kitchen, and I said, ‘No way!’” recalls Pike, who has served 11 years as the volunteer director of the food ministry of SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral Parish in Indianapolis.

“There’s no other place serving breakfast, and you can’t say it’s closed. So we brought the kitchen to the street that day—in the parking lot. We brought in portable toilets, and we made sandwiches, desserts and salads. And it worked out fine.”

Then Pike flashes the smile that has used to welcome and soothe thousands of people who have lived in desperation on the streets of Indianapolis. “We always find a way,” she says, her face beaming.

“The dignity of every human person”

That exceptional spirit and dedication led Pike to be honored by parish and diocesan officials after the Aug. 17 attacks in Barcelona and Cambrils, where cars drove into pedestrians. The Islamic State group claimed credit for the attacks.

“People are deeply shocked and saddened by this totally random event,” said Msgr. Josep Ramon Perez, dean of Barcelona’s Catholic cathedral. “While many are naturally asking what’s happening to the people...”

‘Irish poet,’ former archabbot leaves legacy of building up the faith, foundations of Saint Meinrad

By Sean Gallagher

Benedictine Father Timothy Sweeney, a monk and former archabbot of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad, died on Aug. 17 at the monastery. He was 82.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Aug. 22 at the Archabbey Cemetery. Father Timothy was a jubilarian both of monastic profession and ordination. He had lived as a monk for 61 years and as a priest for 56 years.

After serving for a decade on the faculty at the former Saint Meinrad College and in different leadership positions in the monastery, Father Timothy was elected on June 2, 1978, as the seventh abbot and fourth archabbot of Saint Meinrad Archabbey and served as its leader until he resigned in 1995.

That same year, Father Timothy began nearly 20 years of parish ministry in the dioceses of Gary, Ind., and Owensboro, Ky., and in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

“He lived the Rule of St. Benedict by example and by his words,” said Benedictine Archabbot Kurt Stasiak, Saint Meinrad’s current leader, of his predecessor.

“Even when working in the parish he brought the ‘Benedictine way’ with him,” Archabbot Kurt joked.

Archabbot Kurt began to learn the “Benedictine way” from Father Timothy, who was Saint Meinrad’s novice master when the current archabbot entered the monastery in 1975.

“I enjoyed having him, especially this last year, by reminding him that when he was my novice master he told me three times I’d never make it to Christmas,” Archabbot Kurt joked.

Archbishop Charles C. Thompson came to know Father Timothy when he was a seminarist at Saint Meinrad from 1982-87 when Father Timothy was serving as archabbot.

“He always struck me as being a very gentle, humble, prayerful and deeply reflective man of steadfast faith,” Archbishop Thompson said. “He had a nice sense of humor and embodied the

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Pope Francis leads prayers for end to ‘inhuman violence’ of terrorism

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Let us beg the Lord, God of mercy and peace, to free the world from this inhuman violence.

Pope Francis prayed after a week of deadly terrorist attacks in Africa and Europe.

Receiving the Angelus prayer at midday, the pope asked an estimated 10,000 people in St. Peter’s Square to pray in silence, and then to join him in reciting the Hail Mary for the victims of the attacks during the previous week in Burkina Faso, Spain and Finland.

At a restaurant in Ouagadougou on Aug. 13, gunmen opened fire on people eating outside. Authorities in Burkina Faso said 15 people died and 20 were injured. The gunmen were believed to be part of a group known as “al-Qa’ida in the Islamic Maghreb.”

In Spain, 14 people died after a van mowed down pedestrians on Aug. 17 on Barcelona’s famous Las Ramblas street, and another woman died in a vehicle attack the next day in Cambrils. Five suspects were killed by police, and other members of what authorities described as a 12-man terrorist cell were being sought.

In Turkia, Finland, on Aug. 18, two women were stabbed to death and eight other people were injured in what police described as a terrorist attack.

Among the pilgrims at St. Peter’s Square for the midday prayer were the 50 first-year seminarians of the Pontifical North American College, the seminary in Rome sponsored by the U.S. bishops.

Spanish Church leaders also urged prayers and national unity after the two terrorist attacks in their country.

U.S. bishops and others weighed in with prayers and rejection of the Aug. 17 attacks in Barcelona and Cambrils, where cars drove into pedestrians. The Islamic State group claimed credit for the attacks.

“People are deeply shocked and saddened by this totally random event,” said Msgr. Josep Ramon Perez, dean of Barcelona’s Catholic cathedral. “While many are naturally asking what’s happening to the
Margie Pike, longtime director of the Cathedral Kitchen, poses for a picture with her niece, Sharon Valentine, in the kitchen of the rectory of SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral Parish in Indianapolis. (Photo by Jon Shaughnessy)

PIKE
continued from page 1

planned by others, she did make one request that was close to her heart. She asked for the same blessing she was given when she started as the director of the Cathedral Kitchen. “It’s a blessing of the hands,” Pike says. “There’s something extraordinarily holy about being blessed to serve the poor. If you serve as a gift —out of love— you can’t do it with any strings attached. You do it because you love them.”

Pike’s love for the people she serves is easily evident to anyone who has watched her interact with the large group that comes to the soup kitchen every morning. “Margie has a clear understanding of the dignity of every human person,” says Father Patrick Beidelman, rector of the cathedral and the person who recruited Pike to lead the kitchen. “She sees through what many in society might find off-putting or suspicious of, and looks at each individual with the eyes of faith. She has a clear understanding of the dignity of every human person. She sees through what others aren’t in her vocabulary. She never shies from the grunt work, a quality that she never shies from the grunt work, a quality that she cares for everyone, she smiles just as much—a self-acknowledged “general” who never shies from the grunt work, a grandmother whose gentleness to all is matched by her willingness to laugh at herself.

She glows when she points out the cereal boxes that were part of her recognition program, cereal boxes picturing her face and one of her favorite quotes, “Don’t just stand there! Find something to do!”

There’s always work to do in Pike’s world, but there’s always even more laughter, says longtime volunteer and friend, Eddy Wiltcher. And beyond the laughter, it’s the caring that defines Pike. “We share parts of our lives here that we don’t share with anyone else,” says Wiltcher, a member of St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis. “She always remembers all our intentions—the joys and trials of our lives. She always asks about us.”

Making a salad nearby, Regina Isenberg of St. Barnabas Parish in Indianapolis adds, “She even called me at home when my son was going through a bad illness. And she said that she and Frank [Pike’s husband and a longtime volunteer, too] were praying for us. As busy as she is, she makes you feel you’re really important to her.”

“I’ve often said this would make the best book I could write,” she says. “She has a lot of fun and laughs together.”

That joy and camaraderie shined through on a recent morning at the Cathedral Kitchen where Pike was her usual whirlwind. She welcomed the guests, listened to them, led the prayer with them, and brought food for them to the serving lines, all the time scurrying back and forth to help and give orders to the other volunteers cooking eggs, creating salads, cutting cakes and scrambling huge pots and pans. As hard as Pike works and as much as she cares for everyone, she smiles just as much—a self-acknowledged “general” who never shies from the grunt work, a grandmother whose gentleness to all is matched by her willingness to laugh at herself.

“Among all the suffering and sorrow, it’s just a joyful place to be. It has been a gift—absolutely a gift.” So is Pike, who gave her heart to a kitchen and the people it serves. 

As part of a recognition program in Margie Pike’s honor, cereal boxes were created with the image of the longtime director of the Cathedral Kitchen, including one of her favorite quotes.

‘Margie has a clear understanding of the dignity of every human person. She sees through what many in society might find off-putting or be suspicious of, and looks at each individual with the eyes of faith. She has a clear understanding of the dignity of every human person. She sees through what others aren’t in her vocabulary. She never shies from the grunt work, a quality that she cares for everyone, she smiles just as much—a self-acknowledged “general” who never shies from the grunt work, a grandmother whose gentleness to all is matched by her willingness to laugh at herself.’

—Father Patrick Beidelman, rector of SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis

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Pope Francis’ prayer intentions for September
• Parishes — That our parishes, animated by a missionary spirit, may be places where faith is communicated and charity is seen. (To see Pope Francis’ monthly intentions, go to www.apostleshipofprayer.org/2017-intentions)
Cardinal urges Salvadorsans to pray, make time for family, remember roots

WEST ISLIP, N.Y. (CNS)—In his easy interactions with thousands of enthusiastic immigrants during a whirlwind three-day pilgrimage, visit to the Diocese of Rockville Centre on Long Island, Salvadoran Cardinal Gregorio Rosa Chavez repeatedly urged people to make time for family, express love and remember their roots.

Cardinal Rosa Chavez, 74, an auxiliary bishop since 1992, was named his country’s first cardinal by Pope Francis on May 21. At that time, he dedicated his appointment to his longtime friend and mentor, Blessed Oscar Romero, who was archbishop of San Salvador, El Salvador, when he was killed by a right-wing death squad in 1980 while celebrating Mass.

The archbishop’s death came near the start of a bloody 12-year civil war that killed 75,000 men, women and children, including four U.S. Churchwomen in 1980, and his householdkeeper and her daughter in 1989.

Throughout the New York visit, which included four public Masses for more than 4,000 people and several smaller pastoral events, the cardinal invoked the memory of Blessed Romero’s steadfast commitment to nonviolence and his work with and among the poor.

In a message read throughout the Salvadoran community, which has experienced gang violence and a criminal population estimated at 100,000 Salvadoreans have settled on Long Island, where the Catholic church has 1.5 million members.

The Mara Salvatrucha gang, known as MS-13, which operates both in the United States and El Salvador, has been linked to 12 brutal killings of young Latinos and African-Americans on Long Island since 2016.

Cardinal Rosa Chavez said some youths turn to gangs to get the love and attention they do not receive at home.

In opening remarks at St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School in West Islip on Aug. 19, he encouraged parents to play and pray with their children, share meals as a family and turn off cellphones to listen to God. Prayer is an occasion to listen to God, he said.

“If we listen, we learn,” Cardinal Rosa Chavez said. “It is a mistake to not listen to the poor when they seek help. The poor are the body of Christ and should not be ignored, he said.

The cardinal described charitable distributions of bread and coffee to the poor as archdiocesan charity. He said recipients don’t come for the nourishment, but for the love they receive in the process.

The cardinal said one must learn to share, he said because having a Catholic majority, as in his country, means nothing if the people do not act on their faith. Without action, Catholics will always be a minority, he said.

Cardinal Rosa Chavez said Blessed Romero’s three-year ministry had a lot in common with the three-year public ministry of Jesus. They both made an effort to share meals with the poor, he said.

The cardinal’s episcopal motto is “Christ is our peace,” and his new crest represents the Salvadorean martyrs, his devotion to Mary, his connection with Blessed Romero and his embrace of a preferential option for the poor.

In his homily at the Mass in West Islip, Cardinal Rosa Chavez made a distinction between being illegal and being undocumented. He said Moses was an undocumented man of God.

Congregants smiled and laughed at the cardinal’s self-deprecating remarks and knew the size of the undocumented population.

Cardinal Rosa Chavez said El Salvador today has an energy of unity. He urged people on Long Island to work together in their Church communities and families, and bear their crosses. It’s not easy to be a disciple of Christ, but people should be happy and unafraid, because nothing is impossible for God, he said.

The Mass at St. John the Baptist drew more than 700 people on a sunny Saturday. Cardinal Rosa Chavez celebrated Mass on behalf of estimated Bishop John O. Barres of Rockville Centre, his host, and three other bishops.

Before and during the Mass, worshippers used cellphones to record the event. At a reception afterward in the cafeteria, people enjoyed coffee and pastries and lined up to have their photo taken with the cardinal.

Deacon Francisco Cales, the director of Rockville Centre’s diocesan Office for New Evangelization and a 20-year friend of Cardinal Rosa Chavez, directed the animated well-wishers and their pictures taken with the cardinal.

Blanca Fuentes came to the United States at age 14. In El Salvador, she was baptized in the parish where Blessed Romero was pastor years earlier.

The member of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Center Moriches said: “It’s beautiful that someone from our country who knows our roots and culture is here to speak with us. I couldn’t hold back my tears when Cardinal Rosa Chavez said we have to hold onto our roots and have memory and know that our faith is wherever we are.”

Announcing the San Salvador auxiliary bishop’s visit, Bishop Barres said it was intended, among other things, to celebrate the prelate’s elevation as cardinal, raise consciousness about Blessed Romero, promote immigration reform based on human dignity, and encourage a “culture of life” in response to gang violence.

Cardinal Rosa Chavez visited a Catholic Charities immigration facility and the Nassau County jail, and celebrated increasingly crowded Masses at two high schools and two parishes with large Hispanic congregations.

Father Bill Brisotti worked with Cardinal Rosa Chavez more than 30 years ago in camps in San Salvador for people displaced by the civil war. He is the pastor at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal in Wyandanch and accompanied 75 parishioners to the Mass at St. John the Baptist.

Father Brisotti told CNS he hoped the cardinal’s visit would bring attention to the considerable gifts the Salvadoreans bring to Long Island, especially in light of government immigration policies that threaten their continued presence.

“I hope people in the diocese will value the visit of a cardinal from a humble background in Central America, like the cardinal, who’s working here in landscaping,” he said.

Father Brisotti said the Salvadoreans in the camps called the new cardinal “Padre Gioyto,” an endearing nickname that reflects his easy rapport with the people and willingness to work on their behalf.

Today, “he has the moral authority and is now in an ecclesiastical position to make a difference,” Father Brisotti said.

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

The archdiocesan Office of Deacon Formation is beginning a perinatal inquiry session 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 the process.

Serious applicants are expected to attend all the meetings. If they are interested, it is asked that they register to 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 two-year process in August 2018.

The first inquiry session will take place at 2:30 p.m. on Sept. 10 at St. Lawrence Parish, 6944 E. 46th St., in Indianapolis. The topics will be the “Diaconate as Vocation,” and will also discuss necessary qualifications and the four-year formation process.

Other sessions are as follows:

• Oct. 15, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, 1752 Schleter Lane, in New Albany
• Nov. 12, St. Mary-of-the-Woods Parish, 3827 North Arms Place, in St. Mary-of-the-Woods.
• Dec. 10, St. Louis Parish, 13 St. Louis Place, in Batesville.
• Jan. 14, Holy Angels Parish, 740 W. 26th St., in Indianapolis
• Feb. 12, St. Paul Catholic Center, 1413 E. 17th St., in Bloomington.
• March 11, St. Joseph Parish, Jennings County, 1875 S. County Rd. 700 W., in North Vernon.

No preregistration 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 for additional information at 800-382-9836, ext. 1492, 317-736-1492, or e-mail Deacon Kerry Blandford, archdiocesan director of deacon formation, at blandofer@archindy.org.
Couples who struggle to get pregnant are turning with greater frequency to in vitro fertilization, or “IVF,” for assistance. In some cases, they can end up feeling that they are “too pregnant” when twins, triplets or quadruplets are born. This occurs from the practice of implanting more than one embryo at a time to improve pregnancy success rates. Since multiple pregnancy can involve significant risk, both for the unborn children and the mother. Because of these risks, the pregnant mother will sometimes be advised to opt for a “selective reduction,” where potassium chloride is injected into one or two of the growing babies to cause their hearts to cease, followed by death and the gradual re-absorption of their bodies during the remainder of the pregnancy. This can allow the one or more remaining brothers or sisters to grow more safely and avoid further complications during the pregnancy. Given the incredible ethical dangers expressed by the couple to become pregnant in the first place, these lethal practices often draw gasps of disbelief from others.

A New York Times Magazine article from 2011 chronicled the saga of a woman who selectively reduced her pregnancy from twins to a single. Even though she tried to not think too much about the two ultrasound shadows within her, she was forthright about her justification for doing it: “I had come to love these two girls. It I wouldn’t have reduced this pregnancy, because you feel like if there’s a natural order, then you don’t want to disturb it.

But we created this child in such an artificial manner—in a test tube, choosing an egg donor, having the embryo placed in—well, and somehow, making a decision about how many to carry seemed to be justified, even to an extent that was all so consumers to begin with, and this became yet another thing we could control.

We were almost, I think, in some cases, trying to be God on the Earth, trying to control—well, you’re not controlling; you’re responsible to this creature. The ‘expendable children’

Standing with victims of racial hatred and violence

“Catholic social teaching makes clear that we must not assuage racism, hatred and violence, but also stand in solidarity with the victims.” (Archbishop Charles C. Thompson)

There is something especially odious about “white supremacy.” Evil takes many forms, but few of these are as foul-smelling and repugnant as this blatant form of racism.

Fundamental to our Christian belief and practice is the conviction that every human being is made in the image and likeness of God. No individual, ethnic group, race or nationality is inherently superior—or inferior—to any other. We are all equal in dignity and in our potential to thrive and grow as sons and daughters of God, brothers and sisters to each other.

The tragic events in Charlottesville, Va., were sparked by a racing gathering of groups who are acutely deluded about their imagined superiority and their need to assert dominance over minorities and other diverse communities in the United States today. Fortunately, the number of white supremacists who avowed in Charlottesville was relatively small, but the enormity of the hatred they displayed provoked counter-protesters and resulted in the violent death of a young woman, 32-year-old Heather Hayer, and the injury of at least 20 others.

As The Criterion’s editor, Mike Krokos, wrote in this space last week: “Although much progress has been made in the United States to combat racism, we are reminded once again that some people will do whatever it takes—including hate mongering—our fellow citizens—to achieve their narrow-minded objectives.

“We believe the number of good, decent and loving Americans—who don’t look at the color of someone’s skin, their nationality or their faith tradition and immediately judge that person in a negative light—far outnumber those who allow the evil of prejudice to shape their lives.”

“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.”

In one of his last acts before his death on Aug. 17, Richmond, Va., Bishop Francis X. DiLorenzo was one of the first to call for peace following the violence in Charlottesville late on Aug. 11, which only became worse the following day. “In the last 24 hours, hatred and violence have been on display in the city of Charlottesville. I earnestly pray for peace.

Racism, sexism, anti-Semitism and all other forms of hatred and bigotry should be vigorously condemned by all American citizens regardless of their race, religion, economic or social status. But as Indianapolis Archbishop Charles C. Thompson said, ‘Catholic social teaching makes clear that we must not assuage racism, hatred and violence, but also stand in solidarity with the victims.’

Actions speak louder than words, so what we do to express our solidarity with victims is as important—or more important than what we say.

What can we do to end the kind of racism and violence that erupted in Virginia? How do we most effectively stand in solidarity with victims of this evil?

‘Only the light of Christ can quench the torches of hatred and violence,’ the pope said.

I pray that those men and women on both sides can talk and seek solutions to their differences respectively.

Prayer, dialogue, and mutual respect are essential to the healing of wounds caused by bigotry and injustice. Unfortunately, as the Charlottesville tragedy showed all too clearly, the immediate response of political leaders (fueled by the news media) is not to unite opposing sides, but to further divide us by name-calling and casting blame on those who disagree with them.

And the hatred and violence we witnessed in Charlottesville is an outgrowth of the bitterly divisive talk and behavior we witnessed in the 2016 presidential campaign and in the nonstop animosity on all sides since the inauguration last January. We will never achieve peace or justice until the politicalفحע in the laboratory and transferred to the womb, our children can become an abstraction, mere pawns to be played in the end game of seeking what we want. This is the sort of seeing our offspring as expendable is becoming more widely accepted not only among IVF customers, but also among biomedical researchers themselves.

In August, a highly troubling report was released by the New York Times about the successful editing of DNA in human embryos. The experiments were carried out by a group of scientists at the University of MIT in August, a highly troubling report was released by the New York Times about the successful editing of DNA in human embryos. The experiments were carried out by a group of scientists at the University of MIT in August, a highly troubling report was released by the New York Times about the successful editing of DNA in human embryos. The experiments were carried out by a group of scientists at the University of MIT in August, a highly troubling report was released by the New York Times about the successful editing of DNA in human embryos. The experiments were carried out by a group of scientists at the University of MIT in August, a highly troubling report was released by the New York Times about the successful editing of DNA in human embryos. The experiments were carried out by a group of scientists at the University of MIT in August, a highly troubling report was released by the New York Times about the successful editing of DNA in human embryos. The experiments were carried out by a group of scientists at the University of MIT in August, a highly troubling report was released by the New York Times about the successful editing of DNA in human embryos. The experiments were carried out by a group of scientists at the University of MIT in August, a highly troubling report was released by the New York Times about the successful editing of DNA in human embryos. The experiments were carried out by a group of scientists at the University of MIT in August, a highly troubling report was released by the New York Times about the successful editing of DNA in human embryos. The experiments were carried out by a group of scientists at the University of MIT in August, a highly troubling report was released by the New York Times about the successful editing of DNA in human embryos. The experiments were carried out by a group of scientists at the University of MIT in August, a highly troubling report was released by the New York Times about the successful editing of DNA in human embryos. The experiments were carried out by a group of scientists at the University of }
During the homily for my installation last month, the pope and I were confronted with an “either/or” mentality, a growing polarization in our society and in the Church that promotes division and radical individualism in place of unity and the common good. This either/or mentality breeds fear, distrust, hatred, indifference, prejudice, selfishness, despair, violence and radical ideologies.

I believe our role as people of faith—and I especially hold myself accountable here as a bishop—is to be willing to stand in the breach of division, drawing people back from the edges of extremism by serving as bridges of unity, ambassadors of hope and instruments of peace. To do so, we must allow the seed, the word of everlasting life, to take root in our hearts and minds. To do so, we must first be motivated by gratitude and appreciation for divine grace in our midst while seeking to engage rather than react or recede from the world of cultures, economics, politics, science and the world religions.

Amid structures, policies and programs, we must not lose sight of the person. Nothing of humanity and creation must escape our focus and outreach. Our task is not so much to resolve the world’s problems as to lead people and peoples to personal encounter with the person of Jesus Christ, Savor of the world.

Apart from God, our task is more than munificence. It is impossible. With God, however, all things are possible. Here we celebrate the very presence and grace of God in word and sacrament, giving us the direction and sustenance to carry out the task first handed on to the Apostles by Jesus Christ; “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Holy Spirit” (Mt 28:19).

We must leave no one behind, especially being attentive to the unborn, the poor, the young, the elderly, the migrant, the immigrant, the refugee, the sick, the dying, the addicted, the abused, the disfavored, the lonely, the imprisoned and all who suffer. We must be concerned about the well-being of each and every person as well as creation itself. What we do or fail to do for the least of our brethren and sisters, we fail to do for Christ himself (cf Mt 25:31-46).

The Catholic Both/And is a simple concept, but it can be difficult to apply to tense situations. Still, the Lord calls us to try. Let’s pray for the grace to promote unity rather than division in all that we say and do as missionary disciples.

Let us pray: “Catholic Both/And” as the vantage point for seeing the world as our Creator intended it to be.
Events Calendar

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

August 29
St. Lawrence Parish, 6944 E. 17 W. Jackson Pl., Indianapolis.
Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Indianapolis, Life in the Spirit Seminar, session six of eight, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Information: 317-456-7238, twholley@indycatholic.com.

August 30
Ike and Joney’s, 17 W. Jackson Pl., Indianapolis.
Catholic Charities After Work Talk Series, (second of four), Sept. 6 and Sept. 13, Father C. Ryan Smith will be presenting, 6 p.m., free will offering. Information: 317-222-0015, srsmith@archindy.org.

August 31
St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 4625 N. Kenwood Ave., Indianapolis.
World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, ecumenical prayer service hosted by the St. Thomas Aquinas Creation Care Ministry, 7 p.m. Information: 317-787-5114, stetcreationcare@gmail.com.

September 1
Women’s Care Center, 4901 S. W. 66th St., Indianapolis.

September 2
SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral church, 1347 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis.

Holy Name of Jesus Church, 89 N. 17th Ave., Beech Grove.
First Friday devotion, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 3:30 p.m.; reconciliation, 5:45-6:45 p.m.; Mass, 7 p.m., Liturgy of the Sacred Heart and prayers for the Holy Father, 7:30 p.m. Information: 317-784-5454.

Our Lady of the Greenwood Church, 315 S. Steely St., Greenwood.
First Friday, Sept. 8, 9-10:30 a.m. Mass, 11:30 a.m. reconciliation, 12:30-2:30 p.m. lunch, 2:30 p.m. Mass, 3 p.m. conversation, 5 p.m.草地. Information: 317-898-2389.

St. Joseph Parish, 1401 S. Mickley Ave., Indianapolis.
A party with family and friends will be held in their 70th wedding anniversary on Sept. 14. They have six children: Diana Akel, Widad Farah, John H. and Martha Sufan, members of Holy Spirit Parish in Indianapolis, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 26. They have five children: Denise Borng, Karen Robertson, Amy, Michael and Dave Beauregard, Jr. The couple also has 11 grandchildren. †

John H. and Martha Sufan, members of Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Beech Grove, will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary on Sept. 14. The couple was married at Ann Ark Catholic Church in An Ark, Ramallah, the West Bank, on Sept. 14, 1947. They have six children: Diana Akel, Widah Farah, Anura Kehoe, Sonya Kunkel, Kamal and Jim Sufan. The couple also has 16 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. A party with family and friends will be held in their honor. †

Steve and Mary Lou (Hickey) Beauregard, members of Therese Infant Jesus (Little Flower) in Indianapolis, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 26. The couple was married at Ann Ark Catholic Church in An Ark, Ramallah, the West Bank, on Sept. 14, 1947. They have six children: Diana Akel, Widah Farah, Anura Kehoe, Sonya Kunkel, Kamal and Jim Sufan. The couple also has 16 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. †

Register by Sept. 1 for Birthing for Babies to benefit Great Lakes Gabriel Project

Biking for Babies, a bicycle ride across Indiana hosted by Knights of Columbus Council 437 to benefit Great Lakes Gabriel Project, will take place on Sept. 8-10. Participants will ride from Terre Haute to Richmond, covering 160 miles at a pace of 45-65 miles per day. They are asked to seek donations to support the Great Lakes Gabriel Project, which helps mothers in need with materials including diapers, formula, toys, and textbooks for children. For more information or to register, visit CatholicRadioIndy.org or call 317-855-2942 or email provctr@spsmw.org or www.archindy.org/events.

Seasons of Hope sessions for those grieving scheduled for Sept.-Oct.

Six-week day and evening sessions of Seasons of Hope grieving ministry will be held in the St. Clare Room of St. Simon the Apostle Parish, 6155 Indianola Road, in Indianapolis, starting on Sept. 13. Seasons of Hope sessions offer consolation after losing a loved one. This Christ-centered faith sharing group offers prayer, scripture, faith sharing and fellowship. The daytime sessions will be held from noon-2 p.m. on Sept. 13, then the five following Tuesdays, ending on Oct. 17. The evening sessions will be held from 7-9 p.m. on Thursdays during the daytime sessions. Participants choose either the afternoon or evening session—they are not interchangeable. To gain the full benefit of the group process, participants commit to attend each week. To register, contact Susan Csinn at 317-443-3900 or hoosier96@ comcast.net.
Catholic Radio Annual Dinner
Tuesday, September 12th
Reception/Silent Auction-5:30 PM – Dinner at 7:00 PM
North 3 Miles, Follow Signs
St. Peter's Franklin County Indiana
79th Annual Labor Day Picnic Monday–Sept. 4, 2017
Take I-74 to Sunman Exit, Indiana 46 East to Lawrenceville, North 3 Miles, Follow Signs
Newly renovated • Air-conditioned Country-Style Chicken Dinner
10:45 AM to 2:30 PM
Catered 10-30-40-50-80
Quilts • Crafts • Basket Booth • Games • Good Food • Family Strolls
$28,000 Major Raﬄe $100 each (Only 560 tickets will be sold)
Handicapped parking and on-site transportation available
For tickets call 317-870-8400 or online at CatholicRadioIndy.org
Please RSVP by September 7, 2017

The Criterion Friday, August 25, 2017 Page 7

Members of Our Lady of Grace Monastery celebrate jubilees

JAMAICA, N.Y. (CNS)—Fostering vocations to the priesthood and religious life is the “biggest challenge” for the Catholic Church in Jamaica, said retired Passionist Father Robert E. Carbonneau, executive director of the U.S. Catholic China Bureau.

“Many colleges will give tests on Christmas Eve so people won’t spend time in churches and seminaries,” he said. “That’s what they mostly invest themselves in, and not receive them all for final vows. Some of them left on their own accord. That left them with a much smaller number.”

Concerns about their futures have prompted some women to reconsider their vocations.

“They begin to think about retirement and how they’re going to support themselves,” said Sister Janet. “Bishops in many dioceses don’t have the funding [to support religious in their retirement].” And if they do, they think it’s a priority. The thought is “Sisters should work for bread and for God,” and not expect to be salaried or anything like that. The sisters worry about being provided for in their old age and illness.

Though their numbers may be down, women’s religious communities “hold great hope for the Church in China,” Sister Janet said.

Biggest challenge for Chinese Church? Fostering vocations, speakers say

Two Benedictine sisters of Our Lady of Grace Monastery in Beech Grove recently celebrated jubilees marking anniversaries of profession of vows.

Sister Anna Marie Megel

Sister Anna Marie was born in Seekonk and graduated from the former Benedictine Academy in Seekonk, Mass., in the Diocese of Fall River. She later entered a bachelor’s degree in education at the University of Indianapolis and a master’s degree in education at Ball State University in Muncie, Ind. She entered Our Lady of Grace Monastery in 1965, professed simple vows in 1967 and perpetual vows in 1972.

However, in dioceses that have one or two priests per parish, it’s a challenge for priests to ﬁnd time to do so or to ﬁnd fellow priests to ﬁll in for them.

Father Xu said Church leaders in his diocese arrange ﬁve-day retreats, Monday through Friday, so priests won’t be absent for weekend Masses in their parishes. These retreats are also scheduled to coincide with the harvest seasons, when farming families are extremely busy in the ﬁelds, which reduces the number of calls from parishioners seeking the services of a priest.

In an interview with Catholic News Service, Maryknoll Sister Janet Carroll, founding executive director of the U.S. Catholic China Bureau, spoke about the status of vocations for women’s religious communities in China, which are “not as numerous as they were.”

In the past, when educational opportunities were limited and materialism had not taken root, pursuing a vocation in the Church was an attractive option for many young people, she said.

“Kids are into the latest technology, social media and pop culture,” she added. “Modernity has its tentacles in the Church. That’s what they mostly invest themselves in, and not receive them all for final vows. Some of them left on their own accord. That left them with a much smaller number.”

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Sisters Jennifer Mechtild Horner

Sister Jennifer was appointed her community’s vocation director in 2009, and was serving in that capacity in 2015 when she was elected the ninth prioress of Our Lady of Grace.

“I am looking forward to serving as chairperson at the University of Indianapolis and director of its Lantz Center for Christian Vocation and Formation,” Sister Jennifer said.


In 2004, Sister Jennifer transferred her vows to Our Lady of Grace.

Sister Jennifer later served as director of spirituality at the monastery’s Benedict

St. Peter’s

Franklin County Indiana

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Please RSVP by September 7, 2017

Take I-74 to Sunman Exit, Indiana 46 East to Lawrenceville, North 3 Miles, Follow Signs

Father Paul Xu Yinchen, a priest from the Diocese of Shenyang, China, speaks at the U.S. Catholic China Bureau’s 27th biennial national conference at Aug. 12 at St. John’s University in Jamaica, N.Y. (CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz)

“We are the vanguard of the social mission of the Church. That’s what they mostly invest themselves in, and that’s acceptable and really appreciated by the authorities in China and by the people. It’s the sisters that are doing the AIDS ministry and the orphan ministry and caring for the elderly and setting up clinics,” she said.

Father Paul Xu Yinchen, a priest from the Diocese of Shenyang, China, speaks at the U.S. Catholic China Bureau’s 27th biennial national conference at Aug. 12 at St. John’s University in Jamaica, N.Y. (CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz)

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St. Peter’s

Franklin County Indiana
Eclipse thrills, inspires viewers to admire the precision of creation

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. (CNS)—Science teacher Jane Irwin isn’t often left without words, but the total solar eclipse left her in a quiet reflective mood.

“Awesome. God’s amazing” was the best she could muster after the sun disappeared from behind the moon after totality on Aug. 21.

“I’ve got to synthesize this myself,” she said minutes after the sun reappeared as the moon moved away from obscuring Earth’s closest stellar neighbor. “How can people deny the existence of God seeing this? I’m not a terribly emotional person, but I got choked up seeing it.”

Irwin was among about 50 people gathered at Sts. Peter and Paul Parish in Hopkinsville, the town near the point of maximum eclipse. She planned to have her students write about the eclipse when classes resumed on Aug. 23. Her inspiration for the assignment was Jesuit Brother Guy Consolmagno, director of the Vatican Observatory, who spoke at the parish on Aug. 20 during a pre-eclipse program.

“Brother Guy said if you didn’t write about it, it didn’t happen. Hopefully, in 10 years when they pull that out, they’ll remember and be inspired by what they saw,” Irwin said.

Joining her was one of her students, Tim Sunderhauses, a 8th-grader at the parish school. Tim was accompanied by brothers Luke, 12, in seventh grade, and Peter, 10, in fifth grade, and their father, Todd. Luke called the eclipse an amazing sight.

He found the sun’s corona—the intensely hot outer atmosphere visible from Earth only during a total eclipse—most interesting to observe. “I was thinking it finally happened because people have been talking about it for such a long time,” he told Catholic News Service (CNS).

Cheers and whistles erupted in the parking lot as the moon’s shadow deepened, and the corona appeared around a black hole. Three bright red prominences appeared along the right edge of the sun during totality.

People called out the planets as they appeared. First there was bright Venus very close to the eastern limb of the sun. Crickets began chirping, thinking night was approaching. The air cooled several degrees as the moon’s shadow deepened.

The entire event was impressive for Franciscan Father Richard Socias, vocation director for his order’s St. John Baptist Province based in Cincinnati.

“Everyone wants to enjoy it,” he said. “We just want a lecture on hydrology. You just want to enjoy it.”

But he was leaving the physics of the eclipse out of any discussion as he observed the event.

“I don’t want to spoil it with too much science,” he said, “I want to enjoy it.” He said.

In another corner, Jayden Braga, 5, patiently waited for the eclipse as his parents, Derrick and Alissa Braga of Rochester Hills, Mich., tended to housekeeping chores in their tent. The family traveled all night to arrive in time for the celestial wonder.

The youngster explained how important it was to view the eclipse with special glasses until the moment of totality. Then he became more animated.

“I’m so excited,” he said, “I could fly off the chair.”

In his presentation the evening before, Brother Guy urged people to let the eclipse be an example of God’s design for the universe and to appreciate the beauty of ongoing creation.

“This is more than just an emotional sense,” Brother Guy told the audience. “It’s a sense that speaks to your soul. It’s a sense I get when I’m doing science … the sense I feel in these rare unforgettable moments of prayer and God finds the time to find me to speak.”

The presentation before a full house in the church was one of several special events leading to the eclipse. The city also planned a downtown festival over the weekend before the skies darkened. Vendors hawked T-shirts, Christmas tree ornaments, plaques, jewelry, posters and anything else they could creatively tie to the event.

Sts. Peter and Paul parishioner Maureen Leamy took time on Aug. 19 to visit the vendors during the downtown festival. An assistant county attorney for Christian County, Leamy was looking forward to seeing the eclipse, even though it meant that Tuesday will be a busy day for hearing criminal cases from the long weekend the court was closed.

“This is time for Hopkinsville to shine,” she said. “We never had an event like this.”

Andra Gold, owner of Accessories Plus in Hopkinsville, made several dozen T-shirts with a snappy message: “Keep calm. It’s only the eclipse.” He said he sold a few shirts, but more importantly the eclipse and the celebration surrounding it was a way to meet people, some of whom traveled hundreds of miles to southwest Kentucky, and impart a few words of wisdom.

“If they can travel that distance, why can’t we walk out our back door and be hospitable?” he said. “We can be hospitable and understand each other.”

Local coverage of the 2017 eclipse will be included in next week’s issue of The Criterion.
Angel of Grace event celebrates 10 years of recognizing women

By Natalie Hoefler

Throughout the three, three archangels are noted by God, as the number of good news to Mary and Zechariah; Michael, defender of heaven who cast the devil into hell; and Raphael, the traveling messenger, defender and companion, and recognized their service with an “Angels of Grace” award.

This year’s recipients are three Mothers Against Violence Healing Ministry founder Donita Royal for the “defender” Archangel Michael Award winner in Indianapolis; Tina McIntosh for the “companion” Archangel Raphael Award and Amanda Evans-Clark for the “messenger” Archangel Gabriel Award winner in Muncie, Indiana.

These women were the beneficiaries of three of the 10 categories of the Angel of Grace event celebrating 10 years of recognizing women in a luncheon fundraiser honoring all women award on Sept. 30 at a fashion show and for the “companion” Archangel Raphael & Chemo Foundation founder Amanda Evans-Clark for the “messenger” Archangel Gabriel Award winner in Muncie, Indiana.

Angel of Grace event celebrates 10 years of recognizing women

Do it with such respect and dignity that maybe make you feel not alone, that maybe make you feel special, that maybe make you feel like it’s what your supposed to do, for recognition.

The Angel of Grace event celebrates 10 years of recognizing women in a luncheon fundraiser honoring all women award on Sept. 30 at a fashion show and for the “companion” Archangel Raphael & Chemo Foundation founder Amanda Evans-Clark for the “messenger” Archangel Gabriel Award winner in Muncie, Indiana.

Archangel Michael Award winner Donita Royal

It is said that no parent should have to bury their child. But when that child’s life is cut short in college by gun violence, the unexpected loss makes the pain and grief even more unbearable.

Donita Royal knew firsthand. Her son, Walter Harris, was killed in the middle of the night at the age of 21 in 2013 in the-neighborhood of Indianapolis, along with his best friend, 20-year-old Darion Lloyd.

But Royal turned her mourning into ministry: Mothers Against Violence Healing Ministry.

“Out of the pain and the spiritual healing, you find your purpose and turn it into something positive,” says Royal, 32. “I decided [to do more] instead of talking about stopping the violence. The Lord just led me to work with the mothers because of what I went through. My heart went out to them. Every time I see a child get killed, I think why not me, and what is she’s going through.”

A year after her loss, Royal began checking into the Indianapolis 31st Police Point Coalition, whose mission includes reducing violence and homicide through direct engagement.

“A lot of things I was doing with them was going to the community, going to headquarters, working with young people, neighbors in high crime areas,” she says.

That’s when it started. When the funerals would come up, I would give them a card. Let’s collect money and put it in the card. ... Let’s take the mother flowers.

After a year, she felt called to replace her involvement with the coalition and focus on ministering to the mothers of the victims. Her ministry now includes hand-delivering flowers to “the mother at the funeral,” giving her a sympathy card with a monetary offering, and making a dish to bring to the family. She also gives them a Mothers Against Violence business card with her contact information.

“I just call them, and they get back to me the next day, and they come around to the house, and they want their guests and guests’ families to experience the fact,” she says.

“‘You can feel it.’ For us, what we do well is take care of people every minute of the day, but then, also, to have such recognition for people, like they’re family and friends. We say we become family. But saying it and living it, having lifelong relationships with it—It’s just something wonderful.”

Joy’s House—which recently opened a second facility at the University of Indianapolis—also offers caregivers support to the families of their guests. Such services include retrieving medical records, documents, informational sessions, and even a weekly radio show called “Joy’s Joy Crossing,” omitting 8 a.m. on Saturdays on 93.1 WBIC FM.

McIntosh is particularly proud of the free CARE (consistency, advocacy, reassurance and education) kit they developed for caregivers, a binder to keep important information in one place, while also providing templates to track medications, sleep patterns, behavior changes and more.

“I liken it to taking a 101 class or a pre-marital class,” she explains. “It took us a while to put it together. You want to find anything like it. It’s free, and if you can’t pick it up, we can mail it.”

Call 317-254-0828 or go to www.joyhouse.org for more information.

McIntosh struggles to find words to convey her gratitude for being selected for the Archangel Raphael Award.

“To be recognized by anyone is an honor and humbling for me to be recognized by the sisters in this way is very big all at the same time. I think the sisters would understand when I say that you do what you do because you feel like it’s what your supposed to do, not for recognition.

“But recognition is fueling. It helps you put one foot in front of the other, helps you make bold steps.”

“To say it’s an honor, I don’t think it’s an understatement.”

Archangel Gabriel Award winner Amanda Evans-Clark

Planning a wedding can be stressful. For two months after getting married, your husband-to-be has cancer that stress into perspective for what that's happened to us. Amanda Evans-Clark, founder and president of Cocktails & Chemo, in 2011, just two days before her fiancée Joe’s 28th birthday, he was diagnosed with colon cancer.

Joe began receiving chemotherapy and Amy became a caregiver.

“We were two months into our marriage,” she says. “And we were so new, and there’s a two-by-four being raised and you taps and taps and taps, until you feel like you’re going to lose your mind. And then all of a sudden it’s something pretty incredible we’ve is something I’ve learned while attending St. Barnabas School and Roncalli High School, both in Indianapolis.

“A lot of times we look at Jesus prayer, but nobody got to work more than Jesus; he explains. "He went out there and worked with the people and made a difference. I’ve always been really inspired by it.

“Prayer is crucial, but it was the people that lived the message by helping and seeing that making things better, making things real. And you.”

A world of support.

The organization now has chapters in Florida where the Clarks lived. Chicago and Minneapolis-St. Paul.

And now that Clark and her daughter live in Westfield, Ind., in the Lafayette Diocese, a chapter is starting in Indianapolis.

With Joe’s health back to her roots, receiving the Archangel Gabriel Award from the Sisters of St. Benedict in Beech Grove, she says, “I’m still so in shock by it,” she says. “When I found out [about the award] I really couldn’t believe it. To come back to [the south side of Indianapolis] is really special.”

(Tina McIntosh is a freelance writer and a long-time volunteer for the non-profit organization—which provides caregiver support to the families of their guests.

She knew she couldn’t care, says Clark. But she could help the caregivers. So the blogs evolved into a non-profit organization called Cocktails & Chemo, with a mission of helping caregivers.

“I immediately made it in my life when someone would stop in and help, or send a card, how much that refilled my tank. And the people that are there now, they’re amazing.”

The non-profit organization—which Clark operates while working full time at a law firm—brings caregivers through surprise gift packages, a night of pampering at a spa, and support groups.

Caregivers can be nominated to receive a care package on the Cocktails & Chemo website, www.cocktailsandchemo.com. Those wishing to donate items for the packages can refer to a wish list on the site.

The care packages—which are 100 percent donated items—are “a big hit,” she says. “They’re going to be filling a void where fun items that remind you that you are not alone, that maybe you make feel special.”

“Some immediately call, some wait a couple months then...”

Amen.
The archbishop and Msgr. Cenini met with representatives of the Polish and Vatican embassies in Warsaw about their plight using her connections. She worked closely with the Vatican nuncio in Bern, Archbishop Filippo Bernardini, who "understood that I needed to help, and he didn't expect anything in return," said Wallace. It was the archbishop, he said, who introduced Sternbuch to Jean-Marie Misy, a Fascist and fiercely anti-Bolshevik, devout Catholic and former president of Switzerland, whose father in law had been a Swiss Guard and a "papal count," giving him a close connection to the Vatican. Because Misy knew Himmler, he could have great influence over him, Wallace said, Sternbuch quickly enlisted Misy's help to arrange transportation for the Jews on the group's behalf to save the Jews. Based on evidence gleaned from archival research conducted by his brother, Father James Sweeney and the papal nuncio in Bern "received promise to cease evacuation of Jews from Germany!"

"In interim secured promise to cease extermination in concentration center," the cable reads. "On basis of intervention by nuncio in Bern the German government concurred this promise to respect."

Another cable from Sternbuch to the Vatican dated Nov. 22, confirmed that the papal nuncio in Bern "received promise soldiers will cease." Three days later, Himmelri ordered stops to further mass killings of Jews and to destroy the gas chambers and crematoria at Auschwitz, Wallace said. "Therefore, that may not be a coincidence, but may be linked to the negotiations."

The Nazis discovered death camps to hide the evidence of their heinous crimes, but that usually was done right before Allied forces closed in. With Himmler's death, it was still at least another two months away when the extermination apparatus at Auschwitz was dismantled, said the Vatican Secret Archives.

"That's why there are survivors," he said, estimating that as many as 300,000 Jews may have been saved in efforts linked to the secret negotiations. While Wallace said there has "never been smoking gun evidence definitely proving Himmler's motive," he believes more details or insight might be found in the Vatican Secret Archives. Documents of Pope Pius XII's pontificate from 1939 to 1958 have not been opened to scholars yet, but the Vatican has said for years that it was making the necessary preparations to open them.

A source told CNS in July the preparations have been completed, and the archives likely will be opened in 2018. However, Pope Francis must approve the opening and set the date.

Even though Wallace's book does not focus on the Vatican's work during the war, he said that with his extensive research, "I saw the efforts of the Church behind the scenes and how they were incredibly influential," especially in saving the remains of the Jews. "I gained a lot of respect for the Vatican and the Church," said Wallace, who was raised Catholic.

Jesus Father Gerald Fogarty, an expert in Vatican-American relations, who is completing a book on the United States and the Vatican during World War II, said the nuncio, Archbishop Bernardini, was an important figure in history, but there is little documentation about the role he played during the war.

The U.S. priest said he scoured archives wherever the archbishop lived: in Switzerland, Australia, and Washington, D.C., where he taught canon law at The Catholic University of America and was aide to the apostolic delegation in Washington for 25 years. Being posted in a neutral country meant Archbishop Bernardini had regular contact with representatives of the Axis powers and Allied nations, giving him not only access to important information, but also the possibility of relaying messages between the two powers, according to archival research Father Fogarty sent to CNS.

The Vatican's policy was and continues to be "impartiality both sides" in world affairs, the Jesuit said. The eventual opening of the Vatican's archives for the World War II period, he added, will be extremely helpful for researchers.

The archdiocesan Secretariat for Spiritual Ministry Father John Farrell, pastor of St. Pius X Parish and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis. He is a priest of the Diocese of Fort Wayne, Ind., and serves as director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.tnchcenter.org •

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For more information, please log on to www.archindy.org/hayministry
Knights donate $13,600 to New Albany Deanery youths for NCYC

By Natalie Hoefert

The temperature may have been in the 90s, but for Father Douglas Marcotte it seemed like Christmas in August.

“It looked like Christmas Eve Mass,” says the pastor of St. Augustine Parish, and Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, both in Jeffersonville. “We used every single chair we had at the Mass.”

He is referring to a special Mass celebrated at his church on Aug. 13 for any New Albany Deanery youth attending the upcoming National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) in Indianapolis in November. Their parents were also invited.

Following the Mass was a breakfast hosted by Knights of Columbus Council 1348. The menu included an unusual, special treat for the 136 youths—$100 for each of them to help cover their costs to attend NCYC.

Pat Lilly, deputy grand knight of the council and a member of St. John Paul II Parish in Clark County, says “it all started” when “a gentleman from St. Anthony’s [of Padua Parish in Clarksville] approached us asking about possibly donating money for NCYC.”

Knowing that Council 1348 includes members from many parishes in the New Albany Deanery, Lilly says he suggested that, “since we have a more diverse membership, why don’t we spread the love more across the deanery?”

The council approved $9,000 to be distributed evenly among any NCYC-bound youth who attended the Mass and breakfast.

“But if we had 200, people we would have given $20,000,” notes Lilly.

Father Marcotte, who serves as chaplain for Knights of Columbus Council 1348, says the group is “very generous. They gave $35,000 to Sacred Heart School [in Jeffersonville] for iPads last year.”

Lilly attributes the council’s ability to be generous to the Thursday and Sunday bingo nights they host.

“None of this would have happened if it wasn’t for members working bingos,” he says. “That’s a list of 60-some men and women. The members working the bingo is crucial, raising that money to give back.”

And by helping teens attend NCYC, Lilly says he feels like they’re both giving back and investing in the future.

“I went to NCYC back in my day,” says the 55-year-old deputy grand Knight. “It was huge for me. I think NCYC is great in engaging kids in leadership roles.”

Lilly is not alone in his praise for the biannual gathering. His 33-year-old nephew, Ben Kraft, spoke at the breakfast about the impact NCYC had on him and his brother.

Father Marcotte calls the $13,600 donation a contribution to a “noble cause.”

“When we talk about how we [as a council] want to be charitable, what we want to use our charity donation for, that is a very noble cause, to help our kids in our deanery to experience in a way they may never have experienced it before,” he says. “To come together with several thousand young Catholics is a very positive experience. We want to get our students there so they can have that experience.”

Holy Family Parish in New Albany had the largest turnout, with 31 youths and their parents participating in the Mass and breakfast.

Sara Raelson, youth minister of the parish for the past four years, says she felt “humbled” by the generosity of the Knights.

“I was humbled, really, that they want to invest in this experience,” she says. “I think it meant a lot to the kids. Sometimes they kind of feel that their involvement [in the Church] isn’t appreciated. That these adults wanted to have this Mass and breakfast for them, and put themselves out there and say, ‘We value you, and we value what you’re going to bring to our Church and our faith,’ was really amazing.”

Raelson says the $100 per youth can affect whether or not a person is able to attend NCYC.

“We have a cost of about $550 per kid,” she explains. “They have to do fundraising. If they don’t reach that total, they won’t be able to go.”

“This [donation] made the experience reachable for some of these kids. We have a couple sibling groups. One family is sending three kids. The cost can add up for some families. [The kids] were all really grateful.”

Lilly felt that gratitude—literally.

“I can’t tell you how many kids and parents thanked us,” he says. “Several of them as they were walking out made a special effort to come give me a hug saying, ‘Thank you so much for doing this for us.’”

“It was too cool!”

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Kosovo to dedicate cathedral in September named for Mother Teresa of Calcutta

WARSAW, Poland (CNS)—A cathedral named for St. Teresa of Calcutta is scheduled to be dedicated in Kosovo on the 20th anniversary of her death.

The cathedral will be dedicated on Sept. 5 in Pristina, Albanian-born Cardinal Virtuoso Simoni will represent Pope Francis at the dedication. Celebrations of the neo-classical cathedral, on Pristina’s Bill Clinton Boulevard, will begin on Aug. 26, the saint’s birthday.

“This will be a great event for our Church and all people, whatever their faith and background,” said Msgr. Shan Zefi, chancellor of Kosovo’s Prizren-based Catholic apostolic administration.

“She is a unifying figure who worked among Christians and Muslims and was admired by everyone. A cathedral in her honor is a great gift for this country.”

Cardinal Catholic News Service on Aug. 16 that Catholics were grateful to Kosovo’s government for backing the cathedral, its foundation stone was laid in 2005 by the late President Ibrahim Rugova, a Muslim.

Bishops will come from throughout the region, as well as Muslim and Orthodox leaders, in a sign of majority approval.” Msgr. Zefi said.

“St. Teresa’s sisters have worked for many years here and enjoyed strong support, especially at a time of unemployment and hardship.”

Mostly ethnic Albanian Muslims make up at least 90 percent of the 2.1 million inhabitants of Kosovo, whose 2008 independence from Serbia has been recognized by 111 of the United Nations’ 193 member-states, but not by the Vatican.

The Catholic apostolic administration, founded in 1990 with 35 parishes, officially accounts for 3.5 percent of the population, although Church leaders put numbers higher.

The cathedral was daubed in Islamist graffiti at its September 2010 opening.

However, in his interview, Msgr. Zefi insisted opposition had come “only from a few individuals.”

“Our Church’s ties with Kosovo’s Islamic community are developing toward ever greater dialogue and tolerance,” he said.

Once fully completed, the building will have two 30-foot bell towers, making it one of the city’s largest, as well as a stained-glass window depicting St. Teresa with St. John Paul II, and will become the seat of a full Catholic diocese, relocated from Prizren. †
Scary diagnosis? Kids to tell? Here’s one way that works

I’d been concerned about the kids’ reaction, especially since my own mother died of cancer. But my concerns were unfounded.

Before I finished the first sentence, my 5-year-old slipped off her seat and was crying under the table.

At the end of my talk, our 9-year-old asked, “Can I go next door and play with my [friend]? Emiliano?”

Only the oldest remained, pondering the information. “Oh, it’s onlyigit,” she finally said, her voice having the HPS yawn but it’s not really full blow AIDS yet.” (That was headline news at the time.) And with that—indignant—my son moved on.

I was glad I was up front. It was one of those teachable moments that showed them how to handle these types of things. It helped build a trust between us. After all, wouldn’t I want them to be truthful and candid with me—especially when they were in trouble?

Later, when they questioned if I was afraid and I admitted I was, I realized this gave them permission to talk to me when their own fears surfaced.

Looking back, I understand that my pain, even the one existing in the table, learned much that day. They heard the tone of my voice. They grasped the seriousness. They sensed the fear. They felt the camaraderie.

However, a bigger message surfaced.

As I spoke, they detected my genuine concern for their well-being. They learned while scary things do happen, we can be upheld by a strength far greater than our own. By the year’s end, my son remained honest and straightforward. This diagnosis, scary as it was, helped me grow in faith. We’ve learned that when we have faith, all point toward the overriding love of God.

I know this life isn’t forever. I delight in the love that I’ve experienced from the God I know. I know that you will grow strong in faith when you have faith.

Catholic families can promote healing in society

The shockwaves caused by deadly violence in Charlottesville and counter-protesters on Aug. 11 and 12 in Charlottesville, Va., still reverberate in the conscience of the American people across our country. That tragic confrontation was a sad reminder that, as philosopher G.K. Chesterton put it, “the ugly, original sin of our country, and illness that has never fully healed.”

We Catholic Americans should be all the more sensitive to this troubling reality and help prevent the victims of God’s grace because of the checkered history of the Church in this country.

On the one hand, Catholics have experienced discrimination and social intimidation throughout American history from the same kind of hate groups that were represented in Charlottesville.

In recent years, Catholics applying their faith to their lives have experienced pressure from secularizing forces in government and society in general. Many Catholic Americans easily have given in to dehumanizing aspects of the culture that are not in accord with the faith of Catholic Americans—myself included at times—by the acceptance of legalized abortion and euthanasia, or an embrace of a consumerist and materialist mentality in which the poor around the world and the environments in which they live are victims.

In the knowledge that we and our ancestors have been the victims of unjust discrimination ourselves, we can repent of our sins and move forward in faith, seeking with the help of God’s grace to treat all people as children of God created in His image and likeness.

G.K. Chesterton, an early 20th-century English Catholic convert, is said to have responded to the question, “What is wrong with the world?” put to readers of The Times of London by answering simply, “Dear Sir, I am. G.K. Chesterton.”

The reform of society must begin in the human individual heart or it will never succeed. Seeking to change society through legislation or peaceful protest, let us remember the lesson of the kind seen in Charlottesville, is doomed to failure.

The heart is healed, first and foremost, in the family. If we Catholic families embrace our faith more fully in our daily lives, if we avail ourselves of the grace found in prayer and the sacraments, then our homes will become powerhouses of positive change, powerful examples of the world in which we live.

When we allow our hearts to be changed in this way through the help of God’s grace, then the light of faith will ultimately overcome the darkness of
The Sunday Readings

Sunday, August 27, 2017

- **Isaiah 22:19-23**
- **Romans 11:33-36**
- **Matthew 16:13-20**

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

In this passage, Isaiah speaks for God. With God’s authority, Isaiah declared that a new master of the royal court should be named. The master functioned as the king’s chief representative and exercised the authority of the crown. The symbol of office was a key.

Having a master of the palace, along with subordinate figures, enabled the king to reign more efficiently. In the sight of Isaiah and of all the prophets while the monarchy existed, the ultimate purpose of the monarchy was to draw people to God. Maintaining the nation’s faithfulness to God was the king’s first duty.

As part of the nexus of government, the master shared in this duty. The royal duty also bound the master, who would be the king’s delegate. Hence, the appointment of the master was a serious decision.

This reading is hardly the only occasion when God speaks through human instruments to people. Such occasions fill the Scriptures. It is a situation reminding us of our own needs, and of God’s willingness lovingly to supply for our needs.

St. Paul’s Epistle to the Romans provides the second reading. The Christian Romans lived in what then was the most imposing city in what is now Europe. North Africa and much of the Middle East. Much of Rome’s splendor lay in the great temples within the city dedicated to the various gods and goddesses. Even today, tourists marvel at the Pantheon, an ancient temple in Rome intact after so many centuries largely due to the fact that it was converted to a church in the early Middle Ages.

Paul constantly had to draw Christians away from the practice of religious materialistic, liberal Roman culture to the God of Jesus. In this reading, Paul extols the glory of God that ultimately transcends all human understanding.

For its third reading this weekend, the Church offers us a selection from St. Matthew’s Gospel.

The setting is Caesarea Philippi, a place northeast of Capernaum, quite picturesque and pleasant. At the time of Jesus, it was a resort. The River Jordan forms here from springs and small creeks. Even today, Israelis go there to relax.

Jesus and Peter enter a dramatic exchange. The Lord asks his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?” (Mt 16:16) Jesus identifies with the “Son of Man” of the Old Testament, who was God’s special agent, and who unfailingly was true to God.

The disciples reply that the people are confused. Some see Jesus as a prophet, as John the Baptist, or as Elijah. Peter then speaks for the disciples, declaring that Jesus is the “Son of the living God” (Mt 16:16).

Jesus blesses God for revealing this profound truth to Peter and vows to build his Church upon him, a Church that will resist all evil.

Reflection

Placing these Scriptures before us, the Church makes two points. The first is that, come what may in our lives, we are not alone. God speaks to us. Such is the long history of salvation.

It is important to hear God in this process, more easily said than done since we are inclined to listen to our own instincts, wishes, fears and misconceptions.

Still, God speaks to us, guides us, and warns us. Throughout the years, God has spoken through representatives, such as Isaiah or Paul.

The Lord’s greatest representative was Peter, the bearer of the keys, the rock on whom the Lord built his Church. The Lord commissioned him. Peter’s strong faith, spoken at Caesarea Philippi, underscored the choice.

Peter was the “master of the king’s house,” to use Isaiah’s imagery. The role has continued through the ages in the role of Peter’s successors, the bishops of Rome. Such continuance itself is a sign of God’s love. He provided for those in Peter’s generation and, in the Church, provides for all the generations that have followed.

Pause

Whenever you’re having doubts, pause and look around.

God’s presence is everywhere through sight, touch, and sound.

The infinity of the sky as the clouds form shapes— A slide show from heaven.

You feel God’s gentle caress from a warm summer breeze; Leaving a sense of calm, from a warm summer breeze;

You feel God’s gentle caress showing a wondrous skyscape.

As the clouds form shapes— The infinity of the sky through sight, touch, and sound.

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Charlottesville's Catholic students ready to heal wounds, chaplain says

WASHINGTON (CNS)—After the weekend of mayhem in Charlottesville, Va., the town’s college Catholic community was wondering—like many others around the nation—what to do.

The protest and counter-protests marking national news were unfolding right in their hometown, and the rally’s torch-lit march and angry chants on the night of Aug. 11 were even closer to home—on the grounds of their campus, the University of Virginia.

“Each other, making sure this type of sin, which had already been a taking place, which had also be the end of the week’s discussion of what just preparations for move-in days beginning Aug. 19, two state troopers and 250 of them gathered for a prayer vigil and rosary for peace on Aug. 13 at St. Thomas Aquinas, the university’s parish church.

The prayer service was in direct contrast to what had happened the previous day when a car plowed through a crowd of counter-protesters, injuring 19 people, one woman was killed and more than 19 others. Two state troopers monitoring the events also died in a helicopter crash.

Father Joseph-Anthony described the prayer service as a chance to “be united in the presence of God (CNS) to hear from you,” he added, noting that the path ahead is not insurmountable with faith.

Dominican Father Joseph Barrarr, pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, had a similar message posted on the parish website on Aug 13, stating: “These terrible events show us how far we still are from the kingdom of God.

“Thank your prayer can help us refocus,” he added, noting that the path ahead is not insurmountable with faith.

Dominican Father Joseph Barrarr, pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, had a similar message posted on the parish website on Aug 13, stating: “These terrible events show us how far we still are from the kingdom of God.

“Walking out of that prayer vigil was a beautiful moment for me because of the spiritual life of those who came together,” he said, adding that he was full of Christian hope and believed from seeing the people there praying that “we can overcome evil with good if we stand together.”

That’s not to say he doesn’t know there’s a tough road ahead. As he put it: “It’s obviously been a tough week here in Charlottesville.” He also said the Catholic campus community appreciated and needed the prayers and support from across the country.

He noted that tensions have been building since there had already been prayers over the town’s decision to remove a statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee from a downtown park, but he also put the events of Aug. 12 in a spiritual context, saying it “helps us realize how far we are from the Kingdom of God.”

“We are going to address it and support each other, making sure this type of sin, which had already been a major topic at a student-leader retreat, the chaplain said.

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St. Joseph Parish in Rockville celebrates 150 years … and crullers

By Natalie Hoofer

Every year in October, thousands of people take in the Parke County Covered Bridge Festival in Rockville. While there, they’re likely to grab a tasty pastry called a cruller from St. Joseph Parish’s “Cruller Shack.”

The parish’s annual presence at the 60-year-old festival marks just a portion of the faith community’s history. Founded in 1867, St. Joseph Parish is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year.

“I was involved in planning our 125th anniversary celebration,” says Dorothy Padan, 85, a member of the parish since 1974. “It’s hard to imagine 25 years have gone by.

A look back at its 150 years reveals a parish with tenacity.

According to a history compiled in 1957 by then-pastor Father Flavian Strange, the parish was founded as a mission church by Father Meinrad McCarthy. It would not have its own pastor until 1904, and even then, there was a time between 1917-1947 when the parish did not have a resident pastor.

By 1879, the parish’s congregation numbered 18 families. The railroad industry kept Rockville steadily growing, increasing from a population of 1,187 in 1870—three years after the parish was founded—to 2,045 in 1900, keeping the congregation on the rise. The parish history notes that in 1955, due to crowding in the church building, the parish was given permission by the apostolic delegate to Washington to hold three Masses on Sundays and holy days of obligation.

According to an additional history of St. Joseph from 1957-1992 compiled by parishioner Sharie Law, “From the moment of its founding in February 1968, the mission of the parish council was to research the possibility of replacing the old frame [church] building that had been erected in 1866.”

Their planning proved fortuitous when, in February 1970, the church was damaged from a fire that gutted a gas station immediately next to the 1866 structure. The gas station was built on the church property in 1933 when the parish leased a corner of its lot.

By June 1971, $130,000 had been raised for the structure that now stands along U.S. 36. The construction cost of $290,000 was paid off by 1975.

Meanwhile, money was raised for the former wood-frame church building to be moved down the road to Billie Creek Village, a former wood-frame church to be moved along U.S. 36. The construction cost of $130,000 had been raised to renovate the structure that now stands along the Covered Bridge.

According to Law’s history, the move was made possible thanks to “a last-minute [financial] intervention by Tony Hulman” of Indianapolis Motor Speedway and Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology fame.

The 1866 structure was restored, and even served as the site for the parish’s 125th anniversary that Padan helped organize. A call to Billie Creek Village confirmed that, as funds diminished and the historic site’s hours were cut back, the church has unfortunately fallen into disrepair.

A portion of the money to build the new church and move the older one came from the parish’s main annual fundraiser: selling crullers during the Covered Bridge Festival.

Making and selling the crullers—a round, twisted pastry—involves a massive, parish-wide effort for the 10 days of the festival. “That is quite a thing,” says Padan.

“It’s our money-maker for the year. We’ve been doing it every year since the festival began” in 1957.

To make enough of the circular, twisted pastries, she says 30-32 buckets of dough are needed each day on the weekends, and around 15-20 buckets are used per weekday.

“At $7.5 [per cruller], we’re the bargain of the town square,” says Padan, who puts her time in at the “Cruller Shack” every year. “Just being there is fun. The camaraderie is good.”

Such camaraderie defines St. Joseph Parish for the longtime parish member. “It’s a family parish,” says Padan, who, Padan, who raised nine children there with her late husband. Bob. One of their sons is currently president of the parish council.

The parish celebrated their sesquicentennial on June 25 with a special Mass, followed by a blessing of the parish’s 150th anniversary Marian grotto and a banquet. The Mass was concelebrated by the parish’s pastor, Father Varghese Maliakkal; retired Msgr. Lawrence Moran, pastor of the parish from 1967-1985, now age 90; and Father Joseph Felts, archdiocesan vicar for clergy, religious and parish life coordinators.

“I wouldn’t want to be anywhere else,” says Padan. “I enjoy the people. They’re all my friends. If I go to a parish I’d been in before, I wouldn’t know anyone. But if I left and came back here in 10 years, I’d still know people. Everyone is very close and helpful.

“I think we’re all pretty great.”

(Submitted photo)

Members of St. Joseph Parish bow their heads in prayer during a blessing of the parish’s Marian grotto as part of the parish’s 150th anniversary celebration on June 25.

(The St. Joseph Parish Cruller Shack will be open on the square of downtown Rockville from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. on Oct. 13-22.)

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To find out more about Wheeler, visit www.wheelermission.org. To apply, please send your cover letter and resume to humanresources@wmm.org.

The Criterion Friday, August 23, 2013 Page 15
Benedictine charism in both word and action. Pope Francis denounced the “cruel terrorist attack” in Barcelona, and said such “blind violence,” which sows death and pain, is “a great offense to the Creator.”

The papal message, sent by Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, included prayers for the eternal repose of the dead, and for their families.

Pope Francis, it said, also prayed that “God would help us continue working with determination for peace and harmony in the world.”

In an interview on Aug. 18, Msgr. Perez said the Archabbot’s cathedral and neighboring churches had been closed after the attack as part of a security lockdown, forcing visitors and pilgrims to remain inside until late evening.

“The terrorists who carried out this action have nothing to do with the majority people here,” Msgr. Perez, noting that “local Muslims are just as shocked and horrified as everyone else.”

Candles, flowers and messages of solidarity were placed in memory of victims at various locations in the city.

Meanwhile, the Taibasconese bishops’ conference, grouping bishops from Spain’s Catalonia region, said members were “completely dismayed” by the “barbarity of the attack and the contempt it implies for human life and dignity.”

adding that Barcelona and its inhabitants had always been “committed to the cause of peace and justice.”

In an Aug. 18 interview with the Spanish Church’s COPE news agency, Cardinal Ricardo Blázquez, president of the Madrid-based bishops’ conference, said Spaniards would be “especially bearers after the faithful” from which had “inflicted a wound on everyone.”

He urged citizens to remember that Muslims were “the main victims” of Islamic State, and not to “criminalize” them for the attack or “identify terrorism with Islam.”

“Far from being terrorist violence, the true road to building a future of peace, now and forever, lies in respect for all people,” Cardinal Blázquez said.

Following the first attack, Bishop Oscar Cantó of La Seu Vella, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ (USCCB) Committee on International Justice and Peace, said his bishops’ conference “unequivocally condemns this morally heinous act and places itself in solidarity with the people of the Archdiocese of Barcelona and Spain at this terrible time of loss and grief.”

“Terrorist attacks on innocent civilians can never be justified,” he said. “To directly attack innocent men, women and children is utterly reprehensible.”

The attack is the latest of several in which trucks and vans had been driven at high speed through pedestrian zones in Europe.

In an Aug. 18 message, Archbishop Georges Pontier of Marseille, president of the bishops’ conference in neighboring France, said the Barcelona atrocity was “an insult to the Creator,” and would unite Catholics in their determination that “evil will not have the last word.”

In Nice, France, in July 2016, 86 people were killed and 458 injured in a similar attack with a 19-ton truck.

The Las Ramblas attack was Spain’s worst since March 2004, when Islamist militants detonated 10 bombs on commuter trains in Madrid, killing 191 people and injuring more than 1,800.

people pay tribute in Barcelona, Spain, on Aug. 18, to victims on the site of a deadly van attack the previous day. (CNS photo/Dani Garcia, EPA)

After his ordination in 1998, Father Beidelman continued to be influenced by Father Timothy in the way his cousin served in parish ministry.

“I was really struck by how life giving parish ministry was for him, how people absolutely loved him in his service as their parish priest and how committed he was to ordinary parish life,” Father Beidelman said. “He was an inspirational brother.”

Father Beidelman seeks now to carry on his cousin’s legacy and has a tangible reminder of him in a chalice he frequently uses in the celebration of the Eucharist.

It had belonged to Father Timothy’s brother, Father James Sweeney, an archdiocesan priest who died in 2004.

“Remember his words to me when he presented me with that chalice at my first Mass of Thanksgiving,” Father Beidelman said. “He said I should use it in the celebration of the Eucharist.”

“arid my intention to do so for my entire life. And the best way that I could do that is to have the same level of commitment as him to those under my care.”

Robert Joseph Sweeney was born on July 24, 1935, in Indianapolis and grew up as a member of St. Philip Neri Parish on the city’s near east side. After spending six years in the former Saint Meinrad High School and College, he was invested as a novice in the monastery on Aug. 14, 1955. He professed simple vows on Aug. 15, 1956, and solemn vows on May 7, 1959. Father Timothy was ordained a priest on May 7, 1961.

He earned a bachelor’s degree in philosophy at Saint Meinrad College and a master’s of divinity degree at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology.

After ordination, he earned a licentiate in sacred theology at the Pontifical Athenaeum Saint’Anselmo in Rome, and a licentiate in philosophy at the Institute Catholique in Paris.

From 1968-78, Father Timothy taught philosophy at Saint Meinrad College. During that same time, he served from 1970-75 in the monastic community as subprior (third in authority) from 1970-75, novice and junior master from 1972-75 and as prior starting in 1975.

In 1978, the monastic community elected Father Timothy as Saint Meinrad’s seventh abbot and fourth archabbot.

After resigning as archabbot, Father Timothy served for some two decades in parish ministry. In 1996, he served as administrator of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Hammond, Ind., in the Gary Diocese.

In that same year, Father Timothy began service as pastor of the Parish of the Immaculate Conception in Owensboro, Ky., which he served until 2005.

In the archdiocese, Father Timothy served as administrator of St. Bridget of Ireland Parish in Liberty in 1995; as pastor of St. Paul Parish in Tell City in 2006-09; and as administrator of St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Bloomington in 2011. From 2013-14, he was the sacramental minister of St. Isidore the Farmer Parish in Perry County. And from 2014-17, he ministered as the administrator of St. Isidore Parish and St. Martin of Tours Parish in Siberia.

Father Timothy taught philosophy at Saint Meinrad from 2009-11 and, beginning in 2012, maintained and managed the archives of Saint Meinrad Archabbey and the Swiss-American Congregation, a group of monasteries to which Saint Meinrad belongs.

Memorial gifts may be sent to Saint Meinrad Archabbey, 200 Hill Drive, Saint Meinrad, IN 47577.