Milan couple with grown children find blessing in adopting young siblings

By Natalie Hoefner

MILAN—At 45 and 40, Dave and Holly Siegel were almost there. With the youngest of their two children being a senior in high school, they were almost empty nesters.

Then the couple of St. Nicholas Parish in Ripley County met 2-year-old Mason in November 2014, and their lives changed forever.

It started simply enough when the Siegels gave Dave’s brother Bill, then 50, a weekend break from fostering the little boy.

By June of 2016, they were the proud adoptive parents of not just Mason, but also his 6-year-old half-sister Riley.

“It’s all through God”

Dave, left, Mason, Holly, Haylee, Riley and Kirk Siegel, all members of St. Nicholas Parish in Ripley County, pose for the camera in their Milan home. Dave, 48, and Holly, 43, adopted half-siblings Mason, 5, and Riley, 8. (Photo by Natalie Hoefner)

Dave, 48, and Holly, 43, adopted half-siblings Mason, 5, and Riley, 8. (Photo by Natalie Hoefner)

“The scene always leaves Scott Williams with a feeling of awe and hope. For three days, more than 20,000 youths from across the United States come together to share their faith at the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC)—taking over Lucas Oil Stadium and the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis with a joy and a spirit that offers so much promise for the future and the present of the Church.”

By John Shaughnessy

“Some days I look at [Dave] and say, ‘What were we thinking? We could be lying here, sleeping in, we were almost empty nesters, we could be traveling.’” Holly, now 43, says with a laugh.

“But at the end of the day, that stuff doesn’t matter. I think the most important thing is we met [Mason], we fell in love, and it’s all through God. We know his hand was through all of this. It’s a story of love shared through adoption, and faith shared through love—a faith that didn’t exist for the Siegels until 2000.

“I’d been praying about more kids”

It all started with the couple’s desire to seek a faith community when their first two children, Kirk and Haylee, were around ages 7 and 3.

“We needed them to be in a church,” says Holly. “We weren’t doing them any justice by not raising our family in a church. This decision came in part through something Dave noticed as a youth baseball coach.

“We saw a lot of broken homes in the community,” Dave, 48, recalls. “We had 13 boys on the baseball team, and nine of them were from divorced families. We saw that it was getting worse, so we knew we had to do something different to swim against the current.

“We weren’t looking for the Catholic Church,” he adds. But they had friends going through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) at St. Nicholas Parish who invited them to come to some sessions in 1999. In 2000, the four family members were received into the full communion of the Church.”

USCCB president decries mass shooting at Texas Baptist church

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The Catholic Church in the U.S. stands “in unity” with the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas, and the larger community after a shooting during Sunday services took the lives of at least 26 people and injured at least 20 others.

“Those who died ranged in age from 18 months to 77 years old, and included 14-year-old Annabelle Pomeroy. Her father, Frank Pomeroy, is pastor of the church, but he was not at the service.

“We stand in unity with you in this time of terrible tragedy—as you stand on holy ground, ground marred today by horrific violence,” said Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

With San Antonio Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller, “I extend my prayers and the prayers of my brother bishops for the victims, the families, the first responders, our Baptist brothers and sisters, indeed the whole community of Sutherland Springs.”

Calling the mass shooting an “act of senseless violence,” Pope Francis asked Archbishop García-Siller to convey his condolences to the families of the victims and to the injured.

Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, also sent assurances of the pope’s prayers in a message to the San Antonio archbishop.

Pope Francis also prayed that the Lord would “console all who mourn,” and “grant them the spiritual strength that triumphs over violence and hatred by the power of forgiveness, hope and reconciling love.”

Law enforcement officials told CNN that a lone gunman entered the church at about 11:30 a.m. CST while 50 people were in attendance.
**UNIVERSAL CATHOLIC APPEAL:**

**Nov. 11-12 is Catholic Appeal intention weekend in local Church**

The weekend of Nov. 11-12 is the archdiocesan annual Universal Catholic Appeal (UCA) intention weekend in parishes across central and southern Indiana.

**Your support is needed!**

The goal for this year’s appeal is $6.5 million. The money will be distributed to various archdiocesan programs and organizations throughout central and southern Indiana that provide help to those单身 parishes or dioceses could independently offer.

Archbishop Charles C. Thompson notes that diocesan appeals are “about how we continue to reach out to the dignity of persons through our ministries and services.

“Yet all it takes one good person to restore hope’ to all those who so often feel uncared for and undervalued,” saying, who is questioning this year’s appeal theme—a line from Pope Francis' encyclical letter, “Laudato Sì,” on Care for Our Common Home.”

Those in central and southern Indiana are said to be through funds raised in the UCA: faith formation and services.

After the UCA, education continues in diocesan and religious education of funds raised in the UCA: faith formation and services.

A wide array of charitable and outreach ministries across central and southern Indiana also benefit from the UCA, including more than 210,000 people in need of food, clothing, shelter and support, as well as a growing number of people in need who attend the archdiocesan Notre Dame ACE Academies.

“On behalf of all of those who do not have a voice, I thank you for your voice,” says Archbishop Thompson.

(For more information on the Universal Catholic Appeal, visit archindy.org or call the Office of Stewardship Development at 317-236-1415 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1415.)

**TEXAS**

On page 1

were attending Sunday services. Almost everyone in the congregation was shot.

Sutherland Springs is 30 to 40 miles southeast of San Antonio.

Two law enforcement officials told the Associated Press the suspect was Devin Kelley, described as a white male in his 20s. He parked at a gas station across the street from the church, crossed the street and allegedly began firing as he walked toward the church and then continued firing once inside. He was wearing black tactical-type gear and used an assault weapon, AP said.

After he left the church, he was confronted by a local resident who had a rifle “and engaged the suspect,” AP said, quoting Freeman Whin, who is with the Texas Department of Public Safety. The suspect was later found dead in his vehicle.

**Public Schedule of Archbishop Charles C. Thompson**

**November 10-17, 2017**

**November 10 – 16:**

USCCB General Meeting, Baltimore

November 16 – 4:30 p.m.:

National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC)

Opening Mass for Archdiocese of Indianapolis delegation, St. John the Evangelist Church, 126 W. Georgia St., Indianapolis.

**November 16 – 8 p.m.**

Opening Prayer and Welcome at NCYC, Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis

**November 18 – 8 p.m.**

Closing Mass for NCYC, Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis

**Police:**

Before he could be apprehended, he was shot by police. He was taken into custody and admitted to a hospital for treatment of his wounds, which were not life threatening.

He who is from Uzbekistan and has been in the United States on a visa since 2010. He allegedly drove about a mile along a busy street, and was said to be a paintball gun and a small pellet gun.

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By Katie Rutter
Special to The Criterion

It started as a request by the archdiocesan Vietnamese Catholic community to install a small statue inside St. Joseph Church on the southwest side of Indianapolis, where they worship in their native language on Sundays. Today, the entire front lawn of the parish is dedicated as a shrine to the Virgin Mary under the title Our Lady of La Vang.

“Everything is just like a miracle,” said Lienh Ngo, the president of the Congregation of Vietnamese Martyrs of Indianapolis. “We asked for one corner of the church somewhere where we could put Our Lady of La Vang. And they said we could do it outside.”

Archbishop Charles C. Thompson journeyed to the new shrine on Oct. 15 as part of his first visit to St. Joseph Church. About 300 parishioners filled the pews as the archbishop celebrated Mass, rededicated the newly-renovated church building (see related story on page 10) and blessed the new shrine of Our Lady of La Vang.

Just a short distance from the church’s main doors stands an elegant, white marble image of the Blessed Mother. Installed on a large pedestal, the structure stands about 12 feet tall and is surrounded by a paved area, benches and fresh landscaping.

“If you have problems in your life, you want to come here to ask Mary to help you take care of your problems,” said Chau Kachelmyer, who helped organize a celebration for the shrine’s completion. “She’s the first one that we always run to. We ask our mother first. I always run to her, and whatever I asked she granted.”

True to the accounts of the apparent apparition, the new statue depicts Mary clothed in traditional Vietnamese garb. She gazes down with a kind, warm expression, her head surrounded by a halo of stars. The Christ Child, held in her arms, smiles warmly, his right hand raised in a blessing. His left hand points to his chest, which displays the Greek Alpha and Omega letters— a traditional symbol of his divinity.

The statue was carved by hand in Vietnam. Even the stone itself is unique to that country; it was mined from mountains famous for marble that are situated just south of the coastal city of Da Nang.

Vietnamese Catholics have asked Our Lady of La Vang for help during difficulties since the late 18th century. At that time, a wave of persecutions in the country caused Christian families to flee their hometowns, many taking refuge in the La Vang forest.

In 1798, suffering from cold weather, sickness and starvation, these Christians petioned the Blessed Virgin for help. Tradition says that during one of these prayers, a beautiful woman holding a child appeared to them. The woman, believed to be present to be the Virgin Mary holding the Child Jesus, spoke words of comfort to the Christians, instructed them to boil leaves to cure their ailments, and assured them that their prayers were heard.

“Love of Mary by the Vietnamese people, it’s huge, you can’t even describe it,” said Chau Kachelmyer, who helped organize a celebration for the shrine’s completion. “She’s the first one that we always run to. We ask our mother first. I always run to her, and whatever I asked she granted.”

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The Criterion
Friday, November 10, 2017

Page 4

ARCHIPELAGO

Letters Policy

Letters from readers are published in The Criterion as part of the newspaper’s commitment to provide a responsible exchange of freely-held and expressed opinion among the People of God. (Concinnus et Progressus, 1:16.) Letters from readers are welcome and every effort will be made to include letters from the people and representing as many viewpoints as possible. Letters should be informed, relevant, well-argued and temperate in tone. They must reflect a basic sense of courtesy and respect.

The editors reserve the right to select the letters that will be published and to edit letters from readers as necessary based on space limitations, pastoral sensitivity and content (including spelling and grammar). In order to encourage opinions from a variety of readers, frequent writers will ordinarily be limited to one letter every three months. Concise letters (usually less than 300 words) are more likely to be printed. Letters must be signed, but for serious reasons, names may be withheld.

Letter to the Editor

Lett

Editorial

A tale of two popes

Greg A. Otolski, Editor Emeritus

Almost 40 years ago, a Polish pope, a man from a far country, came to Rome and presented a new vigor and a new attitude. He not only told us not to be afraid, he accomplished with his vitality and his willingness to take on the big challenges facing the Church. I was one of many attracted to his self-assured vision of what some called a “Catholic restoration.”

I challenged the politically powerful in the East and helped to topple governments. He shook his finger at political clerics he judged disobedient. He was not afraid to discipline theologians. He appointed new bishops and called symbols to address the major issues of the day, invariably pleasing some and outraging others.

I lived as everyone embraced him. Some said he was too Polish, too much a product of the Church-state conflicts of his homeland, with an insularity that was insensitive to Western democracies. Others said he was busy appointing bishops in his own image, and they worried that the Church would be irreversibly locked into what they saw as an anti-modern agenda.

Some claimed he had abandoned the Second Vatican Council—at least as they understood it. When critics challenged him in public forums, his defenders fought back. They talked about papal authority in his own time, and they worried that the Church would be irreversibly locked into what they saw as an anti-modern agenda.

Forward a few decades, and I start to hear the rhyme. We have another pope, a young man when he was elected, but he rivaled the world with his humility, with his willingness to eschew the trappings of the office, to reach out to the poor, the disfigured, the marginalized.

He emphasizes the joy of the Christian life, and rallied against sourpuss Pharisees. His use of concrete images to describe a pastoral reality has been electrifying: the shepherd who smells like the sheep, the Church as field hospital.

People are drawn to his emphasis on joy and mercy, but his emphasis on pastoral concerns has pleased some, worries others. He has challenged powerful forces in the Church by reorganizing the Vatican, or trying to, and by appointing new bishops who are often in his mold.

He has called the synods to talk about the crisis of the family and about youth. He also has challenged the politically powerful. He has shaken his finger at Catholics who see more interest in their own Church as a fiefdom than in building the kingdom of God.

Not everyone embraced him. Some say he doesn’t understand the United States, that he has a Latin American bias. Others worry that he is embracing the heresies of modernity, or undermining doctrinal teaching. His refusal to accede to critics, his failure to fight back, his approach to engaging with their concerns, while pleasing to some, worries others. He has challenged powerful forces in the Church by reorganizing the Vatican, or trying to, and by appointing new bishops who are often in his mold.

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"I only ask that people try to put themselves in the shoes of others... Would you do this if it happened to you? How would you react? Would you help someone in need, even your own mother, your father, your sister or your brother? Or would you just walk by?" (Kemal El Shairy, chief translator for Catholic Relief Services in Serbia)

“Share the Journey,” a two-year campaign initiated by Pope Francis in collaboration with Caritas International, is designed to help us “see the faces” of migrants and refugees. More than 65 million people are now displaced from their native lands due to natural disasters, political upheavals and economic crises. Pope Francis believes it is a terrible mistake for us to consider migrants and refugees as an anonymous mass of homeless people.

In fact, these are our sisters and brothers, members of the one family of God. Christ is their brother—whether they know him or not. That makes us siblings who share in their hopes and sorrows as well as their joys. The “Share the Journey” campaign serves as a vivid reminder that we are all brothers, members of the one family of God. Christ is their brother—whether they know him or not.

La campaña “Compartiendo el viaje” funciona como un recordatorio de que los hermanos y hermanas, miembros de la una masa anónima de personas sin hogar. Considera que es un error garrafal ver a los inmigrantes y los refugiados. Hoy en día, más de 65 millones de personas se han desplazado de su tierra natal debido a desastres naturales, revueltas políticas y crisis económicas. El papa Francisco considera que es un error garrafal ver a los migrantes y refugiados como una masa anónima de personas sin hogar.

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"Solo pido que la gente intente ponerse en el lugar del otro. ¿Qué haría usted si le hubiera ocurrido esto? ¿Cómo reaccionaría? ¿Ayudaría a alguien que podría ser su madre, su padre, su hermano o su hermana? ¿O sencillamente se alejaría?" (Kemal El Shairy, traductor principal de Catholic Relief Services en Serbia)

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November 13  
St. Joan of Arc Church, 441 Center St., Indianopolis.  
Indianapolis. Mid-North Catholic Community Mass for the Unborn, for all who lost a child or family member through miscarriage, stillbirth, abortion or early childhood loss, 7 p.m. Information: Joe Shehan, jsheehan@sjoa.org  

November 14  
St. Paul Hermitage, 501 S. 17th Ave., Beech Grove. Ave Maria Guild, 11 a.m. Mass for deceased members of the Guild, 12:30 p.m. meeting. Information: 317-223-3687, vlgmimi@aol.com  

November 15  
Holy Name of Jesus Parish, School Cafeteria, 89 N. 17th Ave., Beech Grove. “Leaving a Legacy—Are Your Plans in Order?” presented by the Catholic Community Foundation, Inc., basics of estate planning and options for supporting ministries, 6-4:30 p.m. check-in, 7-7:15 p.m. presentation, free, reservations requested. Questions and registration: call the parish office 317-784-9078 or cff@archindy.org  

November 16  
Our Lady of Peace Cemetery and Mausoleum, 9001 Haverstick Road, Indianapolis. Monthly Mass, 2 p.m. Information: 317-784-4489 or www.catholiccemeteries.org.  

November 17  
St. Joseph Church, 1401 S. Mckiley Ave., Indianapolis. Third Thursday Adoration, interceding for women experiencing crisis pregnancy, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m., with Mass at 4:35 p.m.  

November 18  
Knights of Columbus Hall, 2100 E. 31st St., Indianapolis. Business Exchange, Indianapolis Inspector General Lori Torres presenting.  

The Cypress Place, 237 N. East St., Indianapolis. Art Auction benefiting St. Mary Parish, art preview, 7:30 p.m. auction begins, all price ranges, $20 admission includes hors d’oeuvres, cash bar. Tickets: www.saintmarys.org, Kathy Ruiz, 317-847-4923.  

St. John the Evangelist Parish, 126 W. Georgia St., Indianapolis, in cooperation with Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish, Indianapolis. Pro-Life Film and Discussion, featuring the documentary 100, 6:30 p.m. free. Information: 317-407-6851, jmykel@gmail.com  

November 19  
Helpers of God’s Precious Infants, Indianapolis. Mass and Divine Mercy Chaplet at 8:30 a.m. at St. Michael the Archangel Church, 3354 W. 30th St., followed by prayer at a local abortion center, and continued prayer at the church for those who wish to remain  

St. Bartholomew Church, 1306 27th St., Columbus. 12th Annual Concert Series: “Off the Cuff: Points on Jazz featuring The Minut Piano Duo.” 7 p.m., free. will offering. Complete list of all concerts: www.saintfrancisbasilica.org, Music Ministry or btparish.net  

November 20  
Holy Name of Jesus Parish, 1401 S. Mckiley Ave., Indianapolis. Pre-Canar Preparation Conference, $255 with overnight accommodations (two rooms), $185 for commuters, includes meals, snacks and materials. Information, registration: www.archindy.org/pdf/marriage-precon.html  

December 1-2  
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Silent Self-Guided Day of Reflection, $32 includes room for the day, continental breakfast, lunch and use of common areas, additional $57 extends stay to include the night before or night after day of silence and includes light dinner. Information and registration: 317-545-7681, ext. 107 or www.archindy.org/tatiana.  

December 3  

December 4  
Benedict Inn Retreat & Conference Center, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove. Advent (an “FBI” program: Faith Building Institutions), in partnership with Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, Ken Ogurek presenting, join the sisters for evening prayer followed by dinner, presentation and discussion, 5-9 p.m., $35. Information and registration: 317-545-7681, ext. 107 or www.archindy.org/tatiana.  

December 9  

December 10  

December 13  

December 17  
Benedict Inn Retreat & Conference Center, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove. “Leaving a Legacy—Are Your Plans In Order?”  

Our Lady of the Greenwood Catholic Art exhibit on Nov. 17  
Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, 335 S. Meridian St., in Greenwood. will present “Our Lady’s Gallery: Catholic Art is Alive” in Madonna Hall from 7-10 p.m. on Nov. 17. This exhibit will feature sacred works of art by four local Catholic artists. Our Lady of the Greenwood School students and community members are also featured. The Mother of the Redeemer Retreat Center in Monroe County. All pieces will be for sale. The evening will allow people to browse, learn about quality art and the importance of having art in the home.  

For a complete list of retreats as reported to The Criterion, log on to www.archindy.org/retreats.  

For all events listed for the next four weeks as reported to The Criterion, log on to our website www.archindy.org/events  

Sisters of Providence to celebrate last day with Mass on Nov. 18  
The Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, 1 Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, in St. Mary-of-the-Woods, will celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Providence with a Mass in the Church of the Immaculate Conception at 1:30 p.m. on Nov. 18. The sisters have the commitment of its Providence Associates. For more information, call 812-253-2952 or e-mail ljfoley@supserv.com.  

Volley for the Cure  
Members of the girls varsity volleyball team from Seton Catholic High School in Richmond smile as they raise money for IWIN. IWIN is an annual tradition experience crisis pregnancy, and will continue with the commitment ceremony of its  

Retreats and Programs  
For a complete list of retreats as reported to The Criterion, log on to www.archindy.org/retreats.  

VIPs  
Jack and Rita (Bertsch) Wright, members of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Richmond, will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on Nov. 16. The couple was married at St. Andrew Church in Richmond on Nov. 16, 1957. They have six children: Joyce Deitz, Mary Flechman, Beth Heister, Judy Houser, Cindy Johnson and John Wright. The couple also has 22 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. They will celebrate with Mass and dinner and a trip to French Lick.  

Dave and Mary (Ante) Johnson, members of St. Ann Parish in Indianapolis, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 11. The couple was married at St. Roch Church in Indianapolis on Nov. 11, 1967. They have three children: Kathy Byrd, Christy Wilson and David Johnson. The couple also has four grandchildren.  

Volley for the Cure  
Members of the girls varsity volleyball team from Seton Catholic High School in Richmond smile after raising $6,025.13 for the Indiana Women in Need Foundation (IWIN) during their Volley for the Cure match where 50 percent of the gate admission was donated to IWIN. The foundation supports women statewide currently receiving treatment for breast cancer by securing and paying for individual services that relieve emotional, physical and financial burdens. Supported and organized by the volleyball players and their families, raising money for IWIN is an annual tradition at the high school. (Submitted photo)
World War II, Korea and Vietnam War vets greeted with hero’s welcome

LIN THICUM, Md. (CNS)—As the orange glow of sunrise breached the horizon at Baltimore-Washington International (BWI) Thurgood Marshall Airport, waiting travelers watched a Southwest Airlines jet taxi beneath a water cannon salute from the airport’s fire department.

“Good citizens of Maryland, travelers from afar,” announced Fred Taylor, a member of St. Mark Parish in Catonsville and the city of Annapolis town crier. “I bring news of great importance! Now arriving in the airport terminal: Honor Flight Cleveland, carrying veterans from World War II, Korea and Vietnam!”

Well-wishers, volunteers and active military personnel cheered, waved flags and held thank-you signs. Many in a crowd that numbered hundreds deep reached out to shake the hands of beaming military veterans as they came off the airplane from Ohio on Oct. 21.

The flight’s arrival was the first of seven scheduled for “Super Saturday,” a day when four or more flights carrying veterans travel to the region for a day visit to Washington.

Honor Flight Network is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to sponsor veterans travel to the region for a day visit to Washington. (CNS photo/Kevin J. Parks, Catholic Review)

Honor Flight BWI is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to sponsor veterans travel to the region for a day visit to Washington. (CNS photo/Kevin J. Parks, Catholic Review)

“The arrival ceremony ended with the town crier ringing a hand bell as he led veterans to waiting tour buses near the baggage claim area. Approximately 100 Naval Academy midshipmen and military personnel saluted as the U.S. Park Police led the escort for the veterans. “It’s all worthwhile,” Taylor said, acknowledging the smiles and tears evident on the faces of the veterans.

“A related video can be found at youtube.com/watch. More information about the Honor Flight Network can be found at HonorFlight.org or on Facebook by searching Honor Flight BWI.”

To RSVP and/or to make a donation, please visit www.archindy.org/CCF/EveningOfLights

For God. For Others. Forever.

Archbishop Charles C. Thompson
SIEGEL
continued from page 1

“Before, we were just living in the world and not thinking about the Lord,” Dave says. “Now he is number one in our family. We agreed to take them until [the birth mother] could get things in line and return them. The birth mother’s addiction that led to the legal separation from her children is an incredible story in itself.”

The children were both admitted to the hospital, and Holly started the process of becoming a foster parent. “I’d been praying about more kids for a long time,” she says. “I’ve seen so many children in need, and Holly agreed to help him by taking Mason temporarily—and then to become certified to foster, Holly started a youth group a few months later.”

But as long as there is hope for reunification with a parent, Holly says, “we will not be eligible for adoption. In the case of Riley’s birth mother, she would have had to have changed her life for a certain amount of time before being able to resume her role as Riley’s mother.”

Riley’s foster mother came to NCYC after six months. The birth mother had still not managed to make the changes in her life necessary for court approval with Riley. Her parental rights were being terminated, so Riley was up for adoption, and her birth parent foster parents were not ready to adopt her.

By October 2015, the Siegels were fostering both children. And in 2016, they were officially the parents of Riley and Mason.

“The need is so great!”

The birth mother’s addiction that led to both children being placed into care and ultimately being adopted is a growing trend in Indiana as the opioid crisis continues. According to statistics provided by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the opioid crisis has led to Indiana being ranked second in the nation in terms of an increase in the number of children in care, climbing from 2013-15. In 2013, the state’s foster care population was nearly 12,400. In 2016, that number had risen to more than 17,000—an increase of 27 percent.

And a number of those children were born addicted to drugs. “That number is Mason, who was born heroin-dependent. ‘As we go forward, it’s like peeling an onion,’ Dave says of raising Mason. ‘People need to hear about this. Twenty percent of preemies are born addicted to drugs, and number is Mason, who was born heroin-dependent. Twenty percent. And that’s why I’m here.’

The figures he cites are supported by recent findings from a task force and pilot program enacted by the Indiana General Assembly in 2018. The new law mandates that all hospitals, the hospitals, the program found that one in five infants born to at-risk mothers had opiate in his or her system.

“There are so many children—the need for foster parents is so great,” says Dave. “Every day I’m getting e-mails, even after I said we can’t take any more children, asking if we could take more.”

Recalling a girl the family cultivated for a few months—a situation called an emergency placement—Holly notes that adults can “go into this knowing you’re just doing it to help these children—you don’t have to adopt.”

For those who do wish to adopt through the foster care system, there is help to do so. “I don’t think people realize—and we didn’t realize, either—how much help you can get through the state for the adoption,” Dave says. “They pay for the lawyer. They pay for the fees. The private adoptions are a lot more expensive. [The financial help] made it comfortable for us.”

“The greatest blessing”

As for 5-year-old Mason and the circumstances in which he was born, all seems well, says Holly.

“So far he’s perfect,” she notes. “He has sensory processing [issues], but if you look at it at the end of the day, everyone has something. He gets help for those issues. The teacher says his teacher’s biggest fear is, ‘He needs to be with studies and socially.’

“He wants to be just like Daddy. Usually, he’ll say, ‘I wanna be a priest like Daddy.’” Holly says he wants to be a priest. “And the need for foster parents is so great,” says Dave. “Every day I’m getting e-mails, even after I said we can’t take any more children, asking if we could take more.”

The community, our church, everyone has embraced the kids,” says Dave, who serves as a leader for a tri-parish youth group and is involved in a Bible study at St. Nicholas. “Everyone” includes Kirk, 25, and Haylee, 21.

“I’ve always wanted a little sibling,” says Haylee, a junior at Indiana University-Purdue University Columbus who is studying elementary education with a focus in special education. The recalls “hearing Dad say a prayer of protection for us in the car in the morning [when she and Kirk were younger], and he would always add, ‘And the children you’ve intended for our home.’

‘It’s just a miracle that they’re here. They’ve been through so much, so just can’t imagine what they’ve been through. I just try to love them and let God work through me when I’m around them.’

Kirk, who will graduate in May from Cincinnati State College with a major in computer administration and networking, says he “couldn’t imagine [with Mason and Riley] not being in our lives. Sometimes if they go visit relatives, it’s quiet, which is kind of nice, but the house feels empty.”

And a number of those children have lived with the Siegels for more than a year. “It’s hard,” Holly says. “But as long as there is hope for reunification, we don’t have to adopt.”

For more information on NCYC and how to get involved, contact the NCYC office at sjparish@archindy.org or call 317-236-3433.

Q. What does it mean to you personally to be involved in NCYC, and what impact has it had on your faith?

A. “I’ve been involved with NCYC as a coordinator of youth ministry at St. Jude Parish, as program coordinator at the archdiocese, and heading our delegation of 1,000. This year, I’m chairing the local steering committee that oversees the aspects of the conference we organize locally. I’ve seen this conference from every angle, and yet I’m always blown away by how amazing the young Church is. They inspire me to live my faith authentically, encourage me to live in the moment, and lead me in a beautiful prayer.”

Dave Siegel, left, smiles as his wife Holly and their other children play a card game with the young half-siblings he and Holly adopted in 2016. Playing the game are, clockwise from left, Haylee, Riley, Holly, Mason and Kirk. (Photo by Natalie Hoefer)
Gathering helps middle schoolers dive deeper into their faith

By Katie Rutter

CHICAGO—Hundreds of teenagers rushed toward the stage as colorful spotlights swirled upward in fog-filled air. Excited cries mixed with the booming of speakers at Chicago’s massive arena known as the UIC Pavilion. The onstage artist prompted the mass of young people to jump up and down with him.

“You were made for more, no, you were made to soar,” rapped Joe Melendrez. “No, you were made to relate and to praise the Lord.”

“It was really cool,” said Sydney Schauten, a young member of Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish in Greenwood, her energy still high from the excitement of the crowd. “I like how it’s Catholic rapping, which I never knew existed until today.”

Known as a Catholic performer, Melendrez’s lyrics are filled with references to faith, Jesus and salvation. His attempt to reach middling schoolers through their own culture began with the liturgy should look like Holy Fire or have that type of music,” explained Scott Williams, director of the archdiocesan Office of Youth Ministry. “It is to say, ‘I love you, young people,’ from the Church.”

The attempt to reach middle schoolers through their own culture began with the first Holy Fire last year. While similar high-energy assemblies existed for high school students, organizers saw that there were no events aimed to excite younger teenagers and invite them to make their faith their own.

“Research has identified the age of 13 as a critical age for having young people make a choice about whether they will remain in the Catholic faith,” said Theisen. “Many, as we’re hearing from the research, are unfortunately choosing to opt out.”

Mustering members of nine parishes for the three-hour drive to Chicago, the Archdiocese of Indianapolis made a pilgrimage to Holy Fire on Oct. 21. To the roar of thousands, excited teenagers squeezed into every available seat in the Windy City again in 2018. The long-term goal is to hold the conference in cities across the country in order to reach teens no matter where they are located.

“You have great power to influence each other for good, to encourage each other.”

As teenagers from St. Jude Parish in Indianapolis open their hands in silent prayer during the Holy Fire on Oct. 21. Pictured are Cate Lehner, left, Luke Russell and Patrick Meek.

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As thousands of teens streamed from the arena, the organizers of Holy Fire asserted that the event would take place in the Windy City again in 2018. The long-term goal is to hold the conference in cities across the country in order to reach teens no matter where they are located.

“You have great power to influence each other for good, to encourage each other.”
Renovation gives new life to one church, ‘continues work’ of another

By Katie Rutter

A church filled to overflowing greeted Archbishop Charles C. Thompson for his first visit to St. Joseph Parish on the southwest side of Indianapolis. About 300 parishioners squeezed into newly-installed pews and filled the extra chairs set out for the occasion on Oct. 15. The archbishop made the visit to bless the church after an extensive renovation this spring. Members were proud to show Archbishop Thompson the results of their hard work.

“It’s the most beautiful thing I have ever seen in this church. Just wonderful,” said longtime parishioner Jeanette Clements, describing the changes to the church.

The renovation took place during the season of Lent and concluded just before Palm Sunday. In that short period of time, the parish was quite literally flipped on its side.

Originally, the rectangular church was constructed to have the sanctuary located along one of the shorter walls of the space, which allowed all of the pews to face the same direction. In 1971, the sanctuary was moved to one of the longer walls with the seating arranged around it. “Because it’s a rectangular church and it was sideways, it didn’t really fit,” explained Father Robert Hausladen, the parish’s pastor.

“Part of the plan when they started was to customize pews that would fit the space better, and that space was actually going to be longer but they weren’t able to complete that,” he said.

The recent renovation restored the sanctuary to one of the shorter walls, increasing the amount of seating for the growing congregation and avoiding expensive pew customization. In another cost-saving move, members decided to reuse pews from St. Anthony Parish in Indianapolis. They had been used in the church building of the nearby former Holy Trinity Parish, which was merged with St. Anthony in 2014 as part of the Connected in the Spirit process.

“Instead of purchasing new pews for about $50,000, we purchased theirs and helped out St. Anthony as well as us,” Father Hausladen said.

Desiring to preserve Holy Trinity’s liturgical art, St. Joseph also acquired the altar, ambo, baptismal font, Stations of the Cross and side altars with statues of the Virgin Mary and St. Joseph from the former worship space.

“I’ve been amazed by the response that I’ve heard of from [former] Holy Trinity parishioners that they like to see their pieces being used and they like to see their work continue on,” said Father Hausladen.

During the blessing Mass, Archbishop Thompson incensed the newly-installed altar and blessed the space with holy water. With lifted hands, he prayed that the worshippers gathered would continue to experience God’s presence.

The archbishop also experienced another improvement as he mounted the step of the new altar to deliver his homily. “This is a good step here, makes me feel tall, or at least normal size,” laughed Archbishop Thompson, who often makes jokes about his approximately 5-foot-1-inch stature.

St. Joseph parishioners were involved in the renovation from start to finish. Ideas were passed through a parishioner committee, and members themselves completed much of the labor. This allowed construction to stay within a $70,000 budget.

“We couldn’t have done it without hundreds of members kicking in,” said Bob Plummer, who organized the renovation. He described the process of removing the dozens of old pews: simply asking everyone to lend a hand after one of the Sunday Masses.

“We’re a big family in church, and we help each other,” summarized parishioner Diane Whitis. “Everybody wanted it, and we all pitched in.”

Father Hausladen and the community expressed the hope that, with the new seating provided by the renovation, the parish will increase attendance while remaining the same tight-knit family.

Newly-installed pews are used by worshippers at St. Joseph Church in Indianapolis on Oct. 15. The pews are marked with “HT,” recalling that these pieces were originally used in the church building of the former Holy Trinity Parish in Indianapolis, which was merged with the nearby St. Anthony Parish in 2014.

STATUE

continued from page 1

“It’s top quality. It’s only in that mountain,” said the treasurer for the Vietnamese congregation, Khoa Vo. “You go out, you see how shiny [the statue] is. Really beautiful.”

“Our Lady points us in the right direction, pointing us to put our faith, our confidence in God during all the adversity we experience,” Archbishop Thompson told the congregation in his homily, which was also translated to Vietnamese. “She was there to provide them that comfort during their adversities.”

In a reception following the event, the group presented Archbishop Thompson with his own statue of Our Lady of La Vang, delicately painted and standing about 2 feet high.

“We’ll find a wonderful place for this. Thank you very, very much,” he said.

The congregation itself represented the stunning display of unity that went into the shrine’s completion. Worshipping alongside the Vietnamese Catholics were English-speaking members of St. Joseph Parish, many of whom donated to complete the shrine. Also present for the Mass were two Buddhist monks from a local temple representing another community that gave funds to the project.

“A lot of Vietnamese here, Catholic and non-Catholic, appreciate Our Lady of La Vang because in the history she protected us from persecutions,” explained Father Minh Duong, who serves the Vietnamese congregation.

For their part, the Vietnamese parishioners continually affirmed that this shrine was not just for people from their country, but for all those desiring to show devotion to the Blessed Virgin.

“Tell people in other parishes in Indianapolis, if they want to stop by, please Lady of La Vang, Our Lady of Fatima.…. it’s Our Lady. Invite them to stop by.” (St. Joseph Church is located at 1401 S. Mckeeley Ave., in Indianapolis.)

The Archdiocese of Indianapolis has partnered with the University of Notre Dame and Catholic Distance University (CDU) to offer not-for-credit online theology classes:

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• All 12 classes for a Certificate in Lay Ministry available online
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• Employees also receive reimbursement upon course completion

For more information, please log on to www.archindy.org/layministry

Archbishop Charles Thompson incenses the newly-installed altar of St. Joseph Church in Indianapolis on Oct. 15 following a two-month renovation of the worship space. (Photo by Katie Rutter)

Online Lay Ministry Formation

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

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Build relationships with priests, religious to foster vocations

By Fr. Geoffrey A. Brooke, Jr.

“Have you ever thought about the priest? Most people do not have a personal relationship with a priest. And yet, the priest is a spiritual leader who can guide us in our journey of faith. The priest is there to listen, to offer advice, and to provide comfort in times of need. So why don’t we make an effort to cultivate a relationship with a priest?”

The key to building a successful relationship with a priest is to establish trust and respect. This can be achieved by showing appreciation for the priest’s efforts and acknowledging the value of his or her guidance. It is important to remember that the priest is not a perfect person, and that we should not expect him or her to be a role model. Instead, we should focus on the positive qualities that the priest possesses, such as his or her wisdom, compassion, and dedication to the spiritual well-being of others.

One way to cultivate a relationship with a priest is to participate in religious activities. This can include attending Mass, praying with the priest, and participating in group celebrations. Additionally, it is important to seek out opportunities to talk with the priest. This can be done through one-on-one meetings or group discussions. The priest can offer guidance on a variety of topics, such as faith development, personal growth, and spiritual challenges.

The priest can also be a valuable resource for personal guidance. This can include advice on career decisions, marriage, and family matters. The priest can also offer guidance on spiritual matters, such as prayer, meditation, and spiritual reading. It is important to remember that the priest is not a divine being, but a human being who is also struggling with the same challenges as we are. However, the priest can offer valuable insights and guidance that can help us navigate our own spiritual journeys.

In conclusion, cultivating a relationship with a priest can be a valuable experience. By establishing trust and respect, and by seeking out opportunities to connect with the priest, we can begin to build a meaningful relationship that will benefit us in our personal and spiritual growth. So let us take this opportunity to reach out to a priest and begin this important conversation today.”

Discovering one’s vocation opens a person to the beauty and love of God

By Sr. Faustina Maria Pia Bianchi, SV

A few years ago, I came across a paper I wrote in high school. The topic was, “If you were a pilgrim in The Canterbury Tales, what would be said of you?”

As a 15-year-old girl, I did not write about career aspirations or goals. I simply wrote that I had fallen madly in love with the man of my dreams and that was who I was. How telling.

I grew up the youngest in a large Catholic family who in the midst of joys and difficulties prayed together, and planted deep seeds of faith in my heart. Yet, in the midst of the secular culture, I struggled to know if the living of my faith would rob me in some way of this love that I so deeply desired. It was not until college, when I studied abroad, that this desire was deepened.

There I was in the midst of this beauty, mystery, culture—the Alps, the Mediterranean, historic places and shrines where saints had been healed—and I started to realize that I did not want to merely look at it; I wanted in it. I was thirsting to be a part of this reality that had so captivated me. At the same time, I encountered young religious sisters it thought, “This is the most radical thing someone can do with her life, her love!” Their witness of joy, which I knew came from love, lingered in my heart like the beauty of my travels. Over time, however, my life became increasingly about myself and how I could orchestrate my own happiness. I had gone to school for nursing and

Grew home exhausted from the hospital one night, but could not fall asleep. Restless as I was, I cried out to God, “Just in case you forgot, I want to be happy!” But I’m miserable, half-dead inside. And it was a grace: In that moment, I knew I had to give God every one of my desires. So I listed them: my desires for marriage and children, to be this kind of nurse, to travel, to experience the gift of consecrated life. Spending time with Jesus in silent prayer, adoration, daily Mass, as much as you can. Eucharistic adoration and confession are important, too. Start with daily Mass, rearrange your work or class schedule if you must. Make it a priority in your life. Now.

Priests and religious. To my brother priests and fellow religious, a young woman who is discerning recently approached me and simply said, “Father, thanks for being real with us.” It was a good reminder there was no need to put on a facade or to try and be “cool” or someone I’m not. Young people have a deep desire for and can sense that authenticity.

(Father Geoffrey A. Brooke, Jr. is a priest of the Diocese of Jefferson City, Mo. His website is tregoffrey.com and his social media handle is @PadreGeoffrey.)

The tumultuous presidential election of 1968

Lately, I’ve been writing about some of the things that happened in the tumultuous 1960s. Last week, I wrote about how even more so than John B. Johnson’s decision not to run for re-election in 1966, Catholic politicians were in the forefront of those opposed to the war. At first, anti-War Democrats tried to get the party to oppose the war, but they were dismissed or judged poorly. We’re lulled into thinking that we’re better spouses or domestic partners, when in reality, the warning of “one can make a difference.” I hope the next few paragraphs are helpful in reflecting on the “importance of one.”

We start out as blank slates, more or less. We have certain inherited qualities, but we are largely bombarded with information, instruction and guidance as we grow into adulthood. Along the way, we learn how to relate to our parents, to other authority figures, our siblings and extended family members, neighbors and people in our communities. We also grow in our faith, from singing “Jesus loves me” to understanding what that means. We learn to forgive as we are forgiven and to love as we are loved. We learn who “the others” is, and how we relate to him or her. We learn to pray, to talk to God and to others, and to listen to the words he places in our hearts.

As a former Old Testament instructor who was about to be tricked into making a gift of themselves through their actions against one another. Naturally, McCarthy saw the handwriting on the wall, so to say. He left the priesthood hopefully, an adult. We go from being fed a Catholic education as smart as the next guy without fear of being dismissed or judged poorly. We’re lulled into thinking that we’re better spouses or parents or workers because we know what to expect.

Eucharist, a gift that helps us grasp the spiritual meaning of the words of Jesus. Many people received the gift of food and Jesus’ body. One woman—only three days after the baby was born—said “the power of one!”

Johnson’s 49 percent, Kennedy changed the party. The delegates had to choose between Humphrey and McCarthy, although George McGovern had also entered the race. The convention was held in Chicago on Aug. 26-29. It was a year that had seen not only Kennedy’s assassination, but also Johnson’s 49 percent in the New Hampshire primary, to Johnson’s 49 percent, Kennedy changed his mind and entered the race. Johnson saw the handwriting on the wall, so to speak, so on March 31 he gave a speech on television in which he declared that he would not seek or accept re-election.

Johnson himself was tuning in as a former Old Testament instructor who was about to be tricked into making a gift of themselves through their actions against one another. Naturally, McCarthy saw the handwriting on the wall, so to say. He left the priesthood hopefully, an adult. We go from being fed a Catholic education as smart as the next guy without fear of being dismissed or judged poorly. We’re lulled into thinking that we’re better spouses or parents or workers because we know what to expect.

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The Book of Wisdom supplies the first reading for Mass on this weekend. The title itself of the book teaches a lesson. As centuries passed, foreign influences virtually overwhelmed the Holy Land. Times perennially were hard Understandably, many Jews left their ancestral homeland in search of better lives. They emigrated and settled in places where paganism prevailed.

Devoted Jews there found themselves required to explain and defend their ancient belief in the One God of Israel.

This book, among others, arose from this process. The title simply makes the point that acceptance of the God of Israel is the wise choice, a logical choice, not a leap into fantasy.

An interesting literary technique in this book is that wisdom is personified. Wisdom is described as if this human attribute were a person, moving through the world, being available to humans.

St. Paul’s First Epistle to the Thessalonians provides the second reading. This epistle was sent long ago to the Christian community in Thessalonica, now the city of Saloniki in modern Greece. The presence of Christians in Thessalonica at that time shows that the Church had already moved beyond its geographic origins and was becoming a factor in Europe, not only in Asia.

Paul makes several important theological points in this reading. He first expressed the Christian belief that life endures after earthly death. Such a concept was not new in Egypt or in Babylon. He expressed a more advanced and more intellectually developed origins. It was an idea in Greek philosophy, but Christianity made it its own.

Paul’s Second Epistle provides the third reading. It is the familiar parable of the bridegroom and the foolish and wise virgins. Both Paul and St. Matthew have repeatedly used this story to teach an important lesson. Jesus will come again. Present times are passing. Eventually, hopefully soon, the Lord will return in triumph, majesty and justice. Jesus will reign over all.

Reflection

It is never too late for any sinner to repent. Millions of people have turned from sin to virtue in the last moments of earthly life. The Church always is prepared to aid in such conversions. It lavishness allows priests to grant absolution from almost any sin at the hour of a person’s death.

Still, living separated from God, waiting for some wonderful last minute spiritual rebirth, is no way to go.

So the Church, through Matthew, tells us this weekend to be prepared for whatever awaits us. We cannot predict. Live each day as a disciple. Be with Christ now, not just at the last minute.

Life for us can be daunting. Paul is clear. Hardships, disappointments, hurts and limitations will cease if we are faithful to Jesus. The weary toils and pains of earthly life will be overwhelmed by the glory of heaven.

Being with God alone is worthwhile. It alone makes life worth living. Death need not be an inevitable crisis, but a culmination of holy living.

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus says, When you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right is doing, so that your almsgiving may be secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you (Mt 6:3-4). I have always considered donating to the Church (or to any charity) something that is between me and God. However, many parishes now tell what you give to allow you to take advantage for tax purposes.

If you are curious to question this: If I were to write off the contributions I give to the Church, wouldn’t that be contradicting the teaching of Jesus? For a long time, I’ve just assumed the answer was “Yes” and never considered doing this. What is the Church’s opinion? (Arkansas)

The key to answering your question comes just before the two particular verses you have quoted. Jesus was warning against putting one’s holiness on public display. When you give alms, do not blow a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets to win the praise of others (Mt 6:2).

Taking a tax deduction for charitable donations does not, in my mind, violate that caution. In your own case, you would not be seeking to draw attention to yourself, not boasting to the crowd about your splendid generosity; no one, in fact, would know what you had done except you and the IRS (and perhaps your tax accountant).

The federal tax code is designed with certain social benefits in mind—in the case of charitable and religious donations, to encourage taxpayers to help those who are helping others. And the money you save by way of the permissible deductions actually frees up even more funds to be used for noble purposes.

My only regret is that this option is available only to those who itemize deductions on Schedule A of their federal tax return—which means that it can help you only if you choose not to take the standard deduction instead. And since each year only about 30 percent of tax filers itemize, the generosity of more than two-thirds of Americans offers no additional tax benefit.

(Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at ukdolney@gmail.com and 30 Clinton Circle Dr., Albany, New York 12203.)
Please submit in writing to our office by 10 a.m. Thursday before the week of publication; be sure to state date of death. Obituaries of archdiocesan priests serving our archdiocese are listed elsewhere in The Criterion. Order priests and religious sisters and brothers are included here, unless they are natives of the archdiocese or have other connections to it; those are separate obituaries on this page.


BOSO, Mary (McGuire), 87, St. Matthew the Apostle, Indianapolis, Oct. 16. Mother of Catherine, Molly and Casper Boso. Grandmother of eight.


CARDIS, Christopher A., 29, St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower), Indianapolis, Sept. 10. Son of Bill and Kim Dennis. Brother of Jacob Cardis. Son of Kim Dennis. Great-grandson of Mary Miller.


LOVENSTEIN, Anna M., 78, All Saints, Dearborn County, Oct. 27. Mother of Kim Callahan, Tina and Jeff Lovenstein. Sister of Mary Gutzviller, Jean Herman, Debbie Ward, Charlie and Joe Ible. Grandmother of five. Great-grandmother of five.


Before you allow yourself to toss this aside thinking, “Aw, that’s for somebody else—how much difference can I make?” go back and review the value of one. Then ask yourself, “What should I be doing?” Yes, you alone can make a difference. The question is, will you?

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For God, For Others, Forever.
U.S. Senate confirms Notre Dame professor as federal judge

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The Senate confirmed Amy Coney Barrett, a Notre Dame law professor, to a lifetime appointment as a federal judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit in Chicago.

The 55-43 vote for the nominee included all Republicans’ votes and three Democrats, including Sen. Joseph Donnelly of Indiana. At her nomination hearings in September, Barrett, who is Catholic, was grilled about the impact her faith would have on her interpretation of the law.

Barrett, who joined Notre Dame’s law school’s faculty in 2002, teaches and researches in the areas of federal courts, constitutional law and statutory interpretation. President Donald J. Trump nominated her in May to fill a vacant seat on the 7th Circuit, a jurisdiction that covers Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin.

After Barrett’s hearing, several Catholic leaders spoke out against the line of questioning used on her that focused on her faith.

Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Religious Liberty, described the hearing as “deeply disappointing,” saying a number of senators failed to “simply consider the professional achievements of a nominee for the federal judiciary,” and instead “challenged her fitness to serve due to her Catholic faith.”

In the hearing, Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-California, referred to Barrett’s speeches and a 1998 article she wrote about the role of Catholic judges in death penalty cases. The senator questioned Barrett about upholding Roe v. Wade, the 1973 Supreme Court ruling that made abortion legal.

“When you read your speeches, the conclusion one draws is that the dogma lives loudly within you. And—that’s of concern when you come to big issues that large numbers of people have fought for for years in this country,” Feinstein said.

When Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Illinois, asked if she considered herself an “orthodox” Catholic, Barrett said: “If you’re asking whether I take my faith seriously and am a faithful Catholic, I am. Although I would stress that my present Church affiliation or my religious beliefs would not bear in the discharge of my duties as a judge.”

First Mass in Brazil

In this photo, Father Arthur Mooney celebrates his first Mass following his ordination on June 11, 1933, at Annunciation Church in Brazil. Father Mooney was a Brazil native born in 1907, and passed away in 1973. Records in the archdiocesan archives state the following about this day: “Arthur Mooney was ordained [on] June 6, 1933 and said his first Mass in Brazil [on] June 11, 1933. [Father] Anthony McLaughlin, then located at Assumption [Parish] in Evansville, came to St. Mary’s to take [Msgr. Augustine] Rawlinson to the celebration. Going to Brazil that Sunday morning, the car was wrecked.” As these priests appear in other photographs from that day, they must not have suffered serious injuries as a result of their car accident.

(From page 9)

Katie Rutter is a freelance writer and member of Christ the King Parish.

I think my role is to spread the word about Christ,” said Father Mooney. “I think my role is to be able to understand how and why God does what he does,” explained Garin Colasessano, a younger age to make sure that they’re being spiritually fed the way that we would feed anybody else,” he added.

“Women need to do everything to reach out to them even at younger ages to make sure that they’re being spiritually fed the way that we would feed anybody else,” he added. Even after the music stopped and the stage went dark, the young people of Indianapolis seemed ready to be lights Waiting to enter the Holy Fire event, girls from St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis pose in downtown Chicago on Oct. 21.

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of right now. A junior high school student needs to be ministered just like the elderly, just like those that are tithing. We need to do everything to reach out to them even at younger ages to make sure that they’re being spiritually fed the way that we would feed anybody else,” he added. Even after the music stopped and the stage went dark, the young people of Indianapolis seemed ready to be lights Waiting to enter the Holy Fire event, girls from St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis pose in downtown Chicago on Oct. 21.

Pictured are Katie Poirier, left, Anna Reynolds, Teresa Corazza, Joselyn Poirier, Agnes Moriarty and Mira Solito. (Submitted photo by Katie Rutter)