



The

Criterion

Serving the Church in Central and Southern Indiana Since 1960



Joyful Witness

Generations have much to learn from one another, page 16.

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Three new archdiocesan priests called to Christ-like service of God's people

By Sean Gallagher

SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis was brimming with joy on June 1.

On that day, the cathedral was at standing-room-only capacity as some 100 priests and close to 1,000 lay Catholics, deacons and religious from across central and southern Indiana gathered with Archbishop Charles C. Thompson to take part in the ordination of three new archdiocesan priests: Father Anthony Armbruster, Father Samuel Rosko and Father Bobby Vogel.

"It's great to have a full cathedral," Archbishop Thompson said at the start of the Mass. "It's even greater to have a full cathedral that sings and prays so well. ... We give thanks to God for the blessings bestowed upon the archdiocese, especially by way of these three men. We give thanks for their families and for their parishes for nurturing their vocations, supporting them and sustaining them for this moment."

After the Mass, Father Vogel acknowledged the power of processing

See **ORDINATION**, page 9

Top: Father Joseph Moriarty, left, Father Joseph Newton and Msgr. William F. Stumpf, ritually lay hands respectively on transitional deacons Anthony Armbruster, Samuel Rosko and Bobby Vogel during a June 1 Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis in which the three deacons were ordained archdiocesan priests. Bottom: With transitional deacons Anthony Armbruster, left, Samuel Rosko and Bobby Vogel sitting before him, Archbishop Charles C. Thompson preaches a homily.

(Photos by Sean Gallagher)



Retiring ICC leader Espada hailed as a voice for the most vulnerable; Mingus to take helm as executive director

By Victoria Arthur

Following a history-making tenure as executive director of the Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC)—the public policy voice of the Catholic Church in Indiana—Angela Espada will retire on July 30 and be succeeded by current associate director Alexander Mingus.

See **ESPADA**, page 8

ICC executive director Angela Espada speaks in July of 2020 during a meeting of the Catholic Business Exchange in Indianapolis.

(Submitted photo)





Father Dustin Boehm, pastor of St. Gabriel Parish in Connersville, convalidates the marriage of Larissa and Jason Cullen as their sons Andrew, right, and Aiden, left, look on after the Easter Vigil Mass at St. Gabriel Church in Connersville on March 31. (Submitted photo)

Former Mormons say there is ‘no church like the Catholic Church’

By Natalie Hoefler

CONNERSVILLE—“Two Mormons—one from Sweden and the other from Australia—come to Connersville, Ind., and become Catholic.”

The phrase almost sounds like a punchline should follow.

But the statement is a summary of the story of Jason and Larissa Cullen.

The formerly Mormon couple, along with their sons Aiden, 12, and Andrew, 10, were welcomed into the full communion of the Church during the Easter Vigil Mass at St. Gabriel Church in Connersville on March 31.

There were many stops on the couple’s journey from Mormonism to the Catholic faith, including a “cowboy church” and Norse paganism.

There were just as many geographic points on the globe in Jason’s and Larissa’s path to each other and to Connersville, a journey Jason attributes to “divine intervention.”

‘Our eyes were just opened wide’

The two were both raised in strong Mormon families. Each went on proselytizing missions as young adults, as is typical of members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints—known as the LDS Church or, more commonly, the Mormon Church.

While on mission, Jason and Larissa found love—just not with each other.

Larissa, who met her husband in England, moved to his hometown of Indianapolis.

“I hated it,” she admits. “In Sweden, everything is lush and green. And he never really took me anywhere, so I thought all of Indiana was cornfields.”

Jason and Larissa met later on a Mormon dating website after both of their marriages ended in divorce. The couple married in Australia in 2010 and settled in Texas, where Jason had already accepted a job.

Larissa’s doubts about Mormonism

began after her divorce, she recalls.

The LDS Church holds that when a couple is married in a Mormon temple, they “get sealed for eternity,” she explains.

“And when you have an earthly divorce, you’re still married with that first person in heaven. How could a loving God decide I need to be stuck for eternity with a husband who hurt me?”

Those doubts increased after her mom died in 2015.

Larissa had returned to Sweden for the funeral when, in a dream, her mom told her, “It’s not the way you thought it was.”

“I knew it had to do with Mormon thinking, that the other side didn’t look like the way Mormons portray,” she says. “Ever since then, I have been on a quest to find the truth.”

The couple went to leaders in their church with questions about Mormon teaching. The leaders promised they would return with answers, “but they never came back,” says Larissa.

So, the Cullens began searching for answers about Mormonism on the internet.

“And oh boy, our eyes were just opened wide,” she says. “We were like, ‘We’re being lied to!’ And so that sent me into complete trauma. It just broke me.”

‘I was never really content’

With the door shut on Mormonism, Jason felt liberated.

“I’m free! I’m going to look at everything out there!” he recalls of his attitude at the time.

And so he did. Jason, along with his “church buddy” Aiden, went to Christian mega-churches, a Lutheran church, even a “cowboy church” focused on ranchers—complete with its own rodeo arena.

He finally settled on a Protestant church in San Antonio he describes as “Baptist-lite.” Larissa says the church provided a “good community for the kids.” But as for herself, she says, “I wasn’t settled.”

She began dabbling in New Age

See CULLENS, page 13



Public Schedule of Archbishop Charles C. Thompson

June 8–27, 2024

<p>June 8 – 4:30 p.m. Parish 100th Anniversary Mass at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Terre Haute</p> <p>June 9 – 9 a.m. Mass at St. Barnabas Church, Indianapolis</p> <p>June 9 – 11 a.m. Mass at St. Barnabas Church</p> <p>June 9 – 2 p.m. Confirmation Mass for adults at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, Indianapolis</p>	<p>June 11-14 USCCB Spring General Meeting, Louisville, Ky.</p> <p>June 17-20 The Institute on Catechism Convocation at University of St. Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, Ill.</p> <p>June 22 – 10 a.m. Archdiocesan Pastoral Council meeting at St. Bartholomew Church, Columbus</p> <p>June 24-27 Priest convocation at Saint Meinrad Archabbey, St. Meinrad</p>
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Volunteering at National Eucharistic Congress ‘comes with perks,’ sign up by June 15

The following is from a press release from the National Eucharistic Congress, which will take place in Indianapolis on July 17-21:

Whether you are already registered to attend the National Eucharistic Congress or you’re still finalizing your plans, you are invited to join our volunteer team.

Being a volunteer comes with perks:

—Full-time volunteers get free lunch and dinner each day of the event and have access to discounted hotel rates. When not on duty, volunteer staff will be able to access and attend available Congress sessions for free (they do not need to purchase a Congress pass). Some roles will experience more programming than others.

—Shift volunteers play a part-time role. These can be day pass holders who want to attend some days of the Congress and serve on other days, full event pass holders who want to serve for a few hours while at the event, or individuals without a pass who still want to be a part of the Congress in some way.

The deadline to sign up to volunteer is June 15. To sign up or to see specific shift information, go to eucharisticcongress.org/volunteer.



(For a list of all NEC Updates printed in The Criterion, go to www.archindy.org/criterion/local/congress.html.) †

**NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS
WEEKLY UPDATE**

The Criterion to begin summer schedule with June 21 issue

The Criterion will begin a new summer publication schedule in two weeks. The reduced printing schedule will allow us to make the most efficient use of our resources during the summer. There will not be a June 14 issue. Our next issue will be on June 21.

The Criterion will also be published on July 5, July 19 and July 26 (which will be a special issue focusing on coverage of the National Eucharistic Congress here in Indianapolis). There will be issues on

August 9 and August 23. The newspaper will resume its weekly publication schedule with the September 6 issue.

Thank you for reading The Criterion and please continue to go to our website, www.archindy.org/criterion, where our staff will be regularly posting news stories from across the Archdiocese of Indianapolis as well as important national and international news. Msgr. Owen Campion’s weekly Sunday readings column will also be posted at www.archindy.org/campion. †



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Father Frederick Denison served in New Albany, Tell City Deanery parishes

By Sean Gallagher

Father Frederick Denison, a retired archdiocesan priest, died on May 18 at Baptist Health in Louisville, Ky. He was 76.



Father Frederick Denison

At Father Denison's request, a graveside committal service for him took place on May 24 at St. Joseph Hill Cemetery in Sellersburg. Father Jeremy Gries, pastor of Holy Family Parish in New Albany, presided over the service.

For much of his priestly life and ministry, Father Denison served in the New Albany Deanery and in the Tell City Deanery faith community of St. Joseph Parish in Crawford County.

Lisa Shaftlein, a member of St. Joseph, appreciated Father Denison's dedication to the parish, which he led for 17 years and served as its sacramental minister for another 14 years.

"He loved the parish," she said. "He was very dedicated to the priesthood. Even when he was physically

ill, he continued to minister to the parish."

Imogene Talley, another St. Joseph parishioner, considered Father Denison a friend.

When he was struggling with his health, she recalled telling him, "Father, you need to rest. You're wearing yourself out."

"But he just loved the people," continued Talley, explaining Father Denison's dedication to St. Joseph.

"He really wanted to draw everyone together," she said. "He wanted to have it like a big family. That's what his goal was."

Frederick Joseph Denison was born on Sept. 25, 1947, to the late John and Anna (Kraemer) Dennison in New Albany, where he grew up as a member of St. Mary Parish.

After graduating from the former St. Mary School in 1961, Father Dennison became an archdiocesan seminarian and received priestly formation at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad for the next 12 years.

Archbishop George J. Biskup ordained Father Denison a priest on May 19, 1973, at St. Mary Church in New Albany.

His first pastoral assignment was as associate pastor

of Holy Spirit Parish in Indianapolis, where he served for one year.

From 1974-80, Father Denison ministered as associate pastor of Christ the King Parish in Indianapolis. He then served as associate of pastor of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis for two years.

In 1982, Father Denison was appointed pastor of St. Bernard Parish in Frenchtown, where he served for the next 24 years.

During that period, he also served as administrator of St. Michael Parish in Bradford from 1983-84 and as administrator of St. Joseph in Crawford County from 1989-2006.

Father Denison then ministered as pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish in Starlight from 2006 until he was granted permission to retire early from active ministry in 2010.

He continued in retirement as sacramental minister at the former St. Peter Parish in Harrison County and at St. Joseph, where he continued to minister as his health allowed until earlier this year.

Father Denison is survived by his brother Mike Denison of Saint Johns, Fla. †

Synod report for U.S. shows growth, tensions and 'deep desire to rebuild' the body of Christ

(OSV News)—Growth, undeniable tensions and "a deep desire to rebuild and strengthen" the body of Christ have emerged as key themes in the latest synod report for the Catholic Church in the U.S.

Released by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) on May 28, the "National Synthesis of the People of God in the United States of America for the Interim Stage of the 2021-2024 Synod"

summarizes responses from more than 35,000 participants and more than 1,000 listening sessions, with 76% of the nation's dioceses and eparchies, including the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, submitting reports to the U.S. synod team.

In addition, more than 350 people met in some 15 listening sessions that focused on Church life, social justice

and vocations, while U.S. bishops also met for a synod listening session.

Launched by Pope Francis in October 2021, the first session of the 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, organized around the theme "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission," was held on Oct. 4-29, 2023, in Rome.



Ahead of the concluding session of the synod, which will take place in Rome on Oct. 2-27, dioceses across the U.S. were asked to hold additional listening sessions during Lent 2024, following a request from the Vatican's Secretariat for the Synod of Bishops. Those responses were incorporated into the newly released synthesis.

"We had to be nimble with the Spirit," U.S. synod team member Alexandra

Carroll, who serves as the USCCB's communications manager for social mission, told OSV News, adding that even with short notice of the extra sessions, "our diocesan synod leaders took it on and really owned the process."

Fellow synod team members Richard Coll, executive director of the USCCB's Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development, and the USCCB's senior adviser for the synod, Julia McStravog, agreed.

Coll said he was "very, very taken by the commitment that was evident" in the responses to the listening sessions.

"The diocesan directors continue to be very devoted to this path," he told OSV News. "It's a wonderful thing to see, because it is now the third year of this process, but it didn't seem ... to me that there was any kind of 'synod fatigue.' People seem to be even more enthusiastic."

"Synodality is really taking root," said McStravog. "People are getting accustomed not only to sharing, but to listening in a deeper way."

In his introduction to the synthesis, Bishop Daniel E. Flores of Brownsville, Texas—who serves as chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Doctrine and who has shepherded the synodal process in the U.S.—noted that "while no document could cover the full range of topics on the hearts and minds of Catholics" who took part in the listening sessions, the report

showed the synodal journey has made progress in the U.S.

Among their insights, many of which were directly quoted in the report, participants expressed "two basic hopes for the Church"—that it be both a "safe harbor" and a "fiery communion."

As a "safe harbor," the Church can be a place "where the faithful are embraced, sustained and loved," said the synthesis, citing one respondent who observed, "People come when they are broken. ... At my parish, I feel I have a family there."

That welcome must be more than "superficial," the report said, pointing to parishes with numerous small communities and prayer groups as being "most successful" in reaching and integrating people from diverse backgrounds. With the Church in the U.S. consisting of "countless cultural and ethnic groups," the report noted a desire "to promote interculturality, so that there is more unity between cultures that share the same Church."

At the same time, respondents described the Church as a "fiery communion," with the synodal process digging up a number of tensions within the Church.

In particular, a lack of clear communication from Church hierarchy and from media, both Catholic and secular, creates confusion and division over what it means to be Catholic—and hinders the Church's mission, said synod participants.

See SYNOD, page 7



Pope's prayer intentions for June

- **For migrants fleeing their homes**—We pray that migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys full of danger and violence, find welcome and new opportunities in the countries that receive them.

See Pope Francis' monthly intentions at archindy.org/popessintentions.



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Editorial

Poignant scenes highlight pilgrimage; still time to sign up for NEC

Father Roger Landry has already seen how the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage has touched lives.

And he expects more people to be moved as he continues taking part in the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Route, which left New Haven, Conn., on May 18, and continues on its journey toward Indianapolis. It will arrive here a few days before the National Eucharistic Congress (NEC), which will take place on July 17-21.

Father Landry last week spoke to John Lavenburg, a correspondent for Crux, a national Catholic news site, and shared how when passing through the Bronx borough of New York City carrying the monstrance, he witnessed an older woman insist on getting out of her wheelchair to kneel before Jesus.

"It was already an effort just to come out and greet him, but that type of heroism—it was a part of the conversation I had with Jesus for the next 10 minutes as I was holding him in my hand," said Father Landry, who serves as the chaplain of the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Route.

The priest noted in the interview that he has been moved by people like the older woman and others in wheelchairs who have come out to support, and even join, in the pilgrimage when it passes by. He also said he was moved on multiple occasions to see people stop their vehicles—bringing traffic to a standstill—to get out and kneel on the asphalt until the Blessed Sacrament passed.

He added the gratitude held by the people they encounter on the route is "palpable." Father Landry, who is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Mass., and the chaplain of Columbia University in New York City, said he feels truly blessed taking part in this pilgrimage of faith.

"And just to be able to behold it, and experience it, and not just once over 65 days," he said, "but honestly several times a day reinforces that I am the luckiest priest in America being able to experience all 65 days because I really am seeing firsthand the gratitude that people have for the Lord Jesus in the holy Eucharist, and the love that they give back for the love that he gives."

While Landry shared how powerful his experience has been, we believe pilgrims on the Marian Route (which started in northern Minnesota), the St. Juan Diego Route (which began in Brownsville, Texas) and the St. Junipero Serra Route (which commenced in San Francisco) are experiencing much of the same.

The pilgrimage is an effort to bless all of America. As reported by OSV News, from these four directions the pilgrimage routes are tracing what organizers call "a sign of the cross over the nation," as pilgrims traverse a combined 6,500 miles across 27 states and 65 dioceses, through small towns, large cities and rural countryside—often on foot, always with the Eucharist—until they visit many parts of the Church in central and southern Indiana and converge in Indianapolis for the NEC.



Father Roger Landry, National Eucharistic Pilgrimage chaplain, pauses to offer a blessing with the monstrance as pilgrims journeying through the Archdiocese of New York on the pilgrimage's Seton (East) Route arrive for Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City on May 26, the solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. (OSV News photo/Gregory A. Shemitz)

We have learned individuals from the Archdiocese of Indianapolis have joined some of the pilgrimage routes, and we hope to share in a future issue of *The Criterion* how they've been impacted by this once-in-a-lifetime journey of faith.

We have also planted seeds for several months now about the NEC, and are approaching the final weeks of preparation for the five-day event.

Tens of thousands of Catholics from throughout the U.S. are expected to attend, and as members of the 126 parishes that make up the Church in central and southern Indiana, each of you is invited. We believe it's a once-in-a-lifetime experience that should span the generations who make up our family of faith.

It is not too late to sign up for the event.

As the host archdiocese, we have been provided with a discount code—Indy24—which reduces the cost of individual five-day passes from \$375 to \$274. This discount code will only work on individual five-day passes purchased in the amount of 1-14.

There are also single-day and weekend passes available. A weekend pass (for Saturday and Sunday) is available for \$125, and day passes are available for \$49-\$95. Kids ages 12 and younger are free.

All passes can be purchased at eucharisticcongress.org.

Registrants will receive credentials that provide admission to general sessions, but there is no assigned seating or group seating at the NEC.

Even if you are not planning to attend the congress, we encourage everyone to take part in a eucharistic procession from 3-5 p.m. on July 20 that will fill the streets of downtown Indianapolis, offering a powerful witness of faith by the thousands who will take part. It will offer a chance for us to radiate Jesus to our neighbors of all faith traditions, allowing them to see firsthand how much we love Christ's presence in the Eucharist.

Please, Lord, may our witness bear fruit.

—Mike Krokos

Reflection/John Shaughnessy

A wonderfully ridiculous sports season and the touching bonds between dads and children

It's the most ridiculous and unnecessary sports season I have ever witnessed, so why do I miss it already and why does it especially make me miss my dad?



If you have ever watched a soccer league game involving 3- and 4-year-olds, you immediately know why I consider such a sports season ridiculous and

unnecessary. Tiny children in oversized jerseys—that make them look even smaller—running up, falling down and tripping over each other on a field together, all of them trying to converge on a round ball at the same time, like competing swarms of bees and ants on a dropped popsicle.

And yet, as the proud grandfather of one of those 4-year-old athletes, that league has given me so many reasons to smile this spring while also offering some scenes that I have never seen before in sports.

In what other sports league, in the middle of a game, would two players suddenly decide to start playing in the dirt in the middle of the field, drawing other players to stop and join in the magical lure of *dirt*?

In what other sports league would a spectator, a fellow grandfather, run onto the field, pick up his granddaughter who hasn't kicked the soccer ball once in the first six games, and swing her back and forth when the ball comes her way, making a contact with the ball that leaves the crowd cheering and the grandfather and his granddaughter smiling?

And in what other sports league do all the fans from both teams line up at the end of the game and form a tunnel so the players from both teams can run through it to the cheers of everyone?

It's a league where none of the players worry about the final score, where they just worry that the parent in charge of

the post-game snacks has fulfilled this awesome responsibility.

Admittedly, there was a time when I scorned such a league for what I considered too-young players. After all, I come from a generation where neighborhood children gathered on open diamonds, grass fields and asphalt courts and made our own games, kept our own rules. But I also realize times have changed, and we now live in a world where it apparently takes five former coaches/players to do a post-game analysis of a pro football game, where a college athlete can sometimes make more money in college than the pros, and where professional leagues promote gambling sites yet suspend their players if they gamble.

I could long for that bygone era of my youth, but the world ever changes, and I've learned that you have to embrace the beauty and joy that life gives you during its different seasons. And I've found those gifts this spring in the joy and beauty of 3- and 4-year-olds who play a game that makes the parents and grandparents of opposing teams cheer for and celebrate everyone.

Besides, what I really long for at times comes when I watch these tiny kids interacting with their dads. I miss those shared moments of sports that I had long ago with my three now-grown children. And at this time—five years since my dad died—I especially miss the countless moments I shared with him when a ball connected us in so many ways beyond sports.

That feeling leads me to both tears and smiles. It draws me once again to those cherished moments as a dad *and* as a child who was loved by his dad.

That feeling even draws me a little closer to God, a Son who would do anything for his Father, a Father who shares his love, his tears and his smiles with us, his children.

(John Shaughnessy is the assistant editor of *The Criterion*.) †

Be Our Guest/Greg Erlandson

Celebrating the class of 2024

It is always hard to predict how a generation is going to be judged by history. When my dad graduated in 1939, did anyone see that his would be the Greatest Generation? Yet perhaps the stress and pressure of the Great Depression and the nation's response to that challenge helped forge the courage that was to come.



I am going to be more than a little interested to see how the college graduating class of 2024 turns out, but in my mind, theirs may be our Resilient Generation.

These were the kids who were denied a high school graduation four years ago because a worldwide pandemic was striking us. It is easy to forget what 2020 and 2021 were like. We have lost 1.2 million Americans to this disease (so far), with the majority dying in those first two years. It's almost three times the number that died in World War II when the Greatest Generation made its reputation.

Of course, it was the Greatest Generation that paid the highest price in our fight with the pandemic as well. The elderly, particularly those in nursing homes, were hard hit. We may have forgotten the refrigerated trucks where

bodies were stacked because morgues were overflowing, but those families who lost loved ones during these years have not. And in many of those families were the students who entered college in 2020.

These students had to adapt to a new way of doing college. At the beginning, public gatherings were taboo as we struggled to find out what would keep us safe. Dorms and classrooms were seen as potentially dangerous. Remote learning and Zoom classes, then-hybrid learning, were substituted for the normal collegiate experience. Incoming students were often strangers to their classmates for at least the first year.

Not everyone overcame these challenges, of course. Dropout rates and low attendance rates climbed. Those who earned the right this spring to march into their halls to the magisterial strains of "Pomp and Circumstance" had to overcome much to get there.

All of which makes it more upsetting to know that at least a few universities, large graduation ceremonies were canceled due to the demonstrations over Gaza. Unhappy graduates told reporters that they had been denied a high school graduation, and now four years later, they and their families were being denied a ceremony once again.

I had the rare honor to speak at one

See ERLANDSON, page 9

ARCHBISHOP/ARZOBISPO CHARLES C. THOMPSON



Christ the Cornerstone

The Eucharist nourishes and sustains Christian life

Eucharist, as the source and summit of Christian life, completes Christian initiation and sustains our life in Christ as missionary disciples. (cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church, #1322)

Last weekend, we celebrated the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (*Corpus Christi*). In the Gospel reading, St. Mark recalled the words of Jesus that instituted this great sacrament:

While they were eating, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take it; this is my body." Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many" (Mk 14:22-24).

We believe that the holy Eucharist nourishes and sustains our life as missionary disciples of Jesus Christ. We believe he is truly present in the form of bread and wine substantially changed into the Lord's body and blood. We also believe that the grace we receive in the holy Eucharist empowers us to carry out successfully the mission we have received from

Jesus to proclaim his good news to the whole world.

The three-year National Eucharistic Revival that the Church in the United States is now celebrating will experience a peak moment this summer (on July 17–21) when tens of thousands of people from all across our country will journey to Indianapolis for the first National Eucharistic Congress in 83 years. Our archdiocese is privileged to welcome our sisters and brothers from our nation's east and west, north and south, to this historic moment of eucharistic revival for our country and our Church.

The reasons for the National Eucharistic Revival (2022–2025) are given on the revival's website (www.eucharisticrevival.org): "Our world is hurting. We all need healing, yet many of us are separated from the very source of our strength. Jesus Christ invites us to return to the source and summit of our faith in the celebration of the Eucharist."

The holy Eucharist, which is the sacrament that unites us with the real presence of Jesus Christ who gives himself to us—body and blood, soul and divinity—is the "source and summit" of our Christian life.

The Eucharist is the sacrament that completes the transformation in grace that was begun at our baptism and was deepened during confirmation. By the power of the Holy Spirit, the Eucharist nurtures and sustains our life in Christ. It makes it possible for us to accept the challenge given to us by Christ to serve as his missionary disciples and to proclaim his Gospel message to the ends of the Earth.

As the Eucharistic Revival's website explains:

Scandal, division, disease, doubt. The Church has withstood each of these throughout our very human history. But today we confront all of them, all at once. Our response in this moment is pivotal.

In the midst of these roaring waves, Jesus is present, reminding us that he is more powerful than the storm. He desires to heal, renew, and unify the Church and the world.

How will he do it? By uniting us once again around the source and summit of our faith in the celebration of the Eucharist. The National Eucharistic Revival is the joyful, expectant, grassroots response of the entire Catholic Church in the U.S. to this divine invitation.

Jesus is present in many ways, and he reveals himself to us in different forms. He has told us that he, the Word Incarnate, is with us in Scripture. We can meet him in the people we love, in strangers and indeed in all humanity, the brothers and sisters of our common Father in heaven. But Jesus is most powerfully present to us in his gift-of-self to us in the bread and wine that are miraculously transformed into his own body and blood.

Jesus unites himself with us in holy Communion. He then sends us out to be united with the rest of God's family and, together, to change the world. How blessed we are to be one in Christ! How blessed we are to have the opportunity to encounter the Lord of life in a deeply personal, intimate way and, at the same time, to be connected to the rest of humanity by the power of the Holy Spirit!

As we prepare to welcome pilgrims from all over the country next month, let's ask our Lord to renew our devotion to him in the holy Eucharist. Let's be sure to attend Sunday Mass and to participate fully in this sacrificial banquet of Christ's love. Jesus is truly present to us in the Eucharist. Let's welcome him into our hearts and into our daily lives. †



Cristo, la piedra angular

La Eucaristía alimenta y sostiene la vida cristiana

La Sagrada Eucaristía, como fuente y cumbre de la vida cristiana, culmina la iniciación cristiana y es el sostén de nuestra vida en Cristo como discípulos misioneros (cf. Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica, #1322).

El fin de semana pasado celebramos la Solemnidad del Santísimo Cuerpo y la Sangre de Cristo (*Corpus Christi*). En la lectura del Evangelio, san Marcos evoca las palabras de Jesús que instituyeron este gran sacramento:

Mientras comían, Jesús tomó pan, y habiéndolo bendecido, lo partió, y dándoselo a los discípulos, dijo: "Tomad, comed; esto es mi cuerpo." Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. Les dijo: "Esta es mi sangre de la alianza, que será derramada por muchos" (Mc 14:22-24).

Creemos que la sagrada Eucaristía alimenta y sostiene nuestra vida como discípulos misioneros de Jesucristo y creemos que está realmente presente en forma de pan y vino sustancialmente transformados en el cuerpo y la sangre del Señor. Asimismo, creemos que la gracia que recibimos en la Sagrada Eucaristía nos empodera para llevar a cabo con éxito la misión que Jesús nos ha encomendado de proclamar su Buena Nueva al mundo entero.

El Avivamiento Eucarístico Nacional que la Iglesia de Estados Unidos está celebrando desde hace tres años vivirá un "momento cumbre" este verano (del 17 al 21 de julio) cuando decenas de miles de personas de todo nuestro país viajen a Indianápolis para asistir al primer Congreso Eucarístico Nacional en 83 años. Nuestra Arquidiócesis tiene el privilegio de acoger a nuestras hermanas y hermanos del este y del oeste, del norte y del sur de todo Estados Unidos, en este momento histórico de renacimiento eucarístico para nuestro país y nuestra Iglesia.

Las razones del Avivamiento Eucarístico Nacional (2022–2025) se exponen en la página web de este evento (www.eucharisticrevival.org): "Nuestro mundo está sufriendo. Todos necesitamos sanación, pero muchos estamos separados de la fuente misma de nuestra fortaleza. Cristo nos invita a volver a esa fuente y cumbre de nuestra fe en la celebración de la Eucaristía."

La sagrada Eucaristía, que es el sacramento que nos une a la presencia real de Jesucristo que se entrega a nosotros en cuerpo y sangre, alma y divinidad, es la «fuente y cumbre» de nuestra vida cristiana.

La Eucaristía es el sacramento que perfecciona la transformación en gracia

que comenzó con nuestro bautismo y se profundizó durante la confirmación. Por el poder del Espíritu Santo, la Eucaristía nutre y sostiene nuestra vida en Cristo y hace posible que aceptemos el reto que dejó Cristo de servir como sus discípulos misioneros y proclamar su mensaje evangélico hasta los confines de la Tierra.

Como explica la página web del Avivamiento Eucarístico:

Escándalo, división, enfermedad, duda. La Iglesia ha resistido a cada uno de ellos a lo largo de nuestra propia historia humana. Pero hoy nos enfrentamos a todos ellos, todos a la vez. Nuestra respuesta en este momento es fundamental.

En medio de estas olas rugientes Jesús está presente recordándonos que Él es más poderoso que la tormenta. Desea sanar, renovar y unificar a la Iglesia y al mundo.

¿Cómo lo hará? El movimiento Eucarístico Nacional Avivamiento es la respuesta alegre, expectante y popular de la Iglesia en los Estados Unidos a la invitación divina de unirse una vez más en torno a la fuente y cumbre de nuestra fe en la celebración de la Eucaristía.

Jesús está presente de muchas maneras y se nos revela de distintas formas; nos ha dicho que él, el Verbo encarnado, está con nosotros en las

Escrituras. Podemos encontrarle en las personas que amamos, en los extraños y, de hecho, en toda la humanidad, los hermanos y hermanas de nuestro Padre común que está en los cielos. Pero Jesús está más poderosamente presente entre nosotros en el don de sí mismo que se materializa en la transformación milagrosa del pan y el vino en su propio Cuerpo y Sangre.

Y es en ese acto, en la sagrada Comunión, que Jesús se une a nosotros y nos envía a unirnos al resto de la familia de Dios para que juntos cambiemos el mundo. ¡Cuán bendecidos somos por ser uno en Cristo! ¡Cuán bendecidos somos por tener la oportunidad de encontrarnos con el Señor de la Vida de una forma profundamente personal e íntima y, al mismo tiempo, de estar conectados con el resto de la humanidad por el poder del Espíritu Santo!

Mientras nos preparamos para acoger a los peregrinos de todo el país el próximo mes, pidamos al Señor que renueve nuestra devoción a él en la sagrada Eucaristía. Asegurémonos de asistir a la misa dominical y de participar plenamente en este banquete sacrificial del amor de Cristo. Jesús está verdaderamente presente entre nosotros en la Eucaristía. Démosle la bienvenida a nuestros corazones y a nuestra vida cotidiana. †

Events Calendar

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

June 10
Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, Madonna Hall, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. **Confraternity of Christian Mothers**, 6 p.m. Mass followed by meeting, for all Catholic women, free. Information: 217-638-7433, paulabeechler@gmail.com.

June 11
Church of the Immaculate Conception, 1 Sisters of Providence, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, St. Mary-of-the-Woods. **Taizé Prayer at the Woods**, 7-8 p.m., silent and spoken prayers, simple music, silence, virtual option available. Information: Taize.SistersofProvidence.org, 812-535-2952.

June 12
McGowan Hall, 1305 N. Delaware St., Indianapolis. **Theology on Tap**, 6-9 p.m., Jason Shanks, National Eucharistic Congress board treasurer and Our Sunday Visitor Institute president, presenting, for ages 18-39, includes presentation, full bar, food trucks and socializing, free admission. Information: 317-592-4006, emastronicola@archindy.org.

June 13
Lanesville Knights of Columbus, St. John Paul II Council #1808 building, 8104 SR 62, Lanesville. **Theology on Tap**, 6-8 p.m., ages 21 and older, second of four stand-alone sessions (June 20, 27), Jason Shanks, National Eucharistic Congress board treasurer and Our Sunday Visitor Institute president, presenting "Miracle Man," \$20 online registration through June 9, \$25 after and for walk-ins. Information, registration: catalystcatholic.org/tot, 812-923-8355, kelli@catalystcatholic.org.

June 14-15
Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis. **Italian Street Festival**, 5-11 p.m., food, dancing, live music, inflatables, display of Ducati bikes and Vespa scooters, Italian music, old-world religious procession Sat. 6:45 p.m. with Indianapolis Opera before 7 p.m. Mass, free parking in Eli Lilly lots on East and New Jersey streets, free admission. Information: 317-636-4478, kfcpublicrelations@gmail.com, indyitalianfest.org.

June 15
New Albany Knights of Columbus, Cardinal Ritter Council #1221 building, 809 E. Main St., New Albany. **Let Us Shine Gala**, 5-10 p.m., 5 p.m. social hour, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Mark Hublar, Down syndrome motivational speaker, presenting, benefitting Knights of Columbus programs, 50/50 drawing, bourbon raffle, \$40 individual, \$300 table of eight. Information, ticket purchase: 812-987-8350, brknightgb@yahoo.com.

June 17-21
Mount St. Francis Center for Spirituality, 101 St. Anthony Dr., Mt. St. Francis. **Art and Science Camps**, ages 7-11, 9 a.m.-noon Art and Nature Camp, \$175; 1-4 p.m. Science and Nature Camp, \$175; both camps, \$325. Information and registration: 812-923-8817, mountsaintfrancis.org/kids-summer-camp.

June 19
Calvary Mausoleum Chapel, 435 W. Troy Ave., Indianapolis. **Mass**, 2 p.m. Information: 317-784-4439, catholiccemeteries.cc.

June 20
Our Lady of Peace Cemetery and Mausoleum, 9001 Haverstick Road, Indianapolis. **Mass**, 2 p.m. Information: 317-574-8898, catholiccemeteries.cc.

New Albany Knights of Columbus, Cardinal Ritter Council #1221 building, 809 E. Main St., New Albany. **Theology on Tap**, 6-8 p.m., ages 21 and older, third of four stand-alone sessions (June 27), Bruce Scifres, retired Archdiocese of Indianapolis Catholic Youth Organization executive director and football coach, presenting "Beyond the Goal Line," \$20 online registration through June 16, \$25 after and for walk-ins. Information, registration: catalystcatholic.org/tot, 812-923-8355, kelli@catalystcatholic.org.

June 21-22
St. Christopher Parish, 5301 W. 16th St., Indianapolis. **Summer Festival**, 5-11 p.m., live music, food, kids' games, casino, 50/50 raffle, free admission. Information: 317-241-6314, amy@indyfestival.com.

Christ the King Parish, 5884 N. Crittenden Ave., Indianapolis. **Summer Social**, 6-11 p.m., live entertainment, food, beverages, raffle, family fun, \$1 admission. Information 317-255-3666, ctksommersocial@gmail.com, ctk-indy.org/SummerSocial.

June 22
Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis. **Faithful Citizens Rosary Walk**, 10:45-11:45 a.m., meet in front of church. Information: holyrosety.prolife@gmail.com.

St. Ambrose Parish, 325 S. Chestnut St., Seymour. **Parish Festival**, 4-8 p.m., international foods, kids' games, local artisan vendors, \$100 reverse raffle (win up to \$5,000), quilt and 50/50 raffles (tickets \$5 or five for \$20), free admission. Information: 812-522-5304, info@stambroseseymour.org.

June 23
SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. **Filipino Mass**, 2-3 p.m., every fourth Sunday of the month, free. Information: mariasolito@gmail.com.

June 26
McGowan Hall, 1305 N. Delaware St., Indianapolis. **Theology on Tap**, 6-9 p.m., Father Thomas Haan, St. Louis de Monfort Parish (Diocese of Lafayette) pastor, presenting, ages 18-39, full bar, food trucks, socializing, free admission. Information: 317-592-4006, emastronicola@archindy.org.

June 27
St. Joan of Arc Parish, 4217 Central Ave., Indianapolis. **Cor Jesu**, 7-8 p.m., night of communal prayer, adoration,

Benediction and fellowship, free. Information: megt2014@gmail.com.

New Albany Knights of Columbus, Cardinal Ritter Council #1221 building, 809 E. Main St., New Albany. **Theology on Tap**, 6-8 p.m., ages 21 and older, last of four stand-alone sessions, Jesuit Father Joseph Laramie, National Eucharistic preacher, presenting "Spiritual Warfare in My Heart," \$20 online registration through June 23, \$25 after and for walk-ins. Information, registration: catalystcatholic.org/tot, 812-923-8355, kelli@catalystcatholic.org.

June 29
St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower) Parish parking lot, 4720 E. 13th St., Indianapolis. **St. Vincent de Paul Stuff A Truck**, 9-11 a.m., accepting clothing, household goods and linens (all in closed bags), furniture, bicycles, bicycle helmets and locks, backpacks. List of items most needed: cutt.ly/ItemsNeeded. Information: dsweney@svdpindy.org.

June 30
St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Decatur County, St. Maurice campus, 1963 N. Saint John's St., Greensburg. **Parish Festival**, fried chicken dinner, turtle soup, kids' and adult games, pedal tractor pull, beer garden, live music, free admission, 10:30-4 p.m., 812-560-6017, stcatherinekb@gmail.com. †

Wedding Anniversaries

FRED AND SANDY (SOKOLA) SCHMITS, members of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish in Aurora, will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on June 20.

The couple was married in St. Patrick Church in Walkerton, Ind. (Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend), on June 20, 1964.

They have two children: Jennifer Hughes and Fred Schmits.

The couple also has three grandchildren.



LARRY AND SARA (BAILEY) BROWNING, members of SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi Parish in Greenwood, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on June 8.

The couple was married in St. Barnabas Church in Indianapolis on June 8, 1974.

They have two children: Christopher and Michael Browning.

The couple also has five grandchildren.

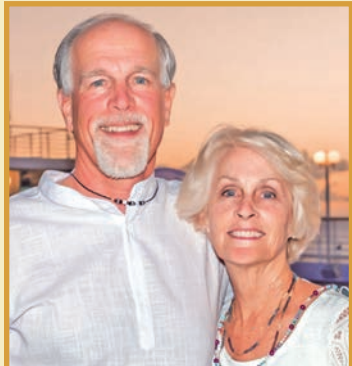


DAVID AND CAROL (ELLIOTT) GARRISON, members of St. Martin of Tours Parish in Martinsville, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on June 15.

The couple was married in Christ the King Church in Indianapolis on June 15, 1974.

They have four children: Robin Nichols, Kaitlyn, Kent and Russell Garrison.

The couple also has 13 grandchildren.



LAWRENCE AND DEBBRA (BATTINICH) HILL, members of St. Michael Parish in Greenfield, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on June 14.

The couple was married in St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower) Church in Indianapolis on June 14, 1974.

They have one child: Wendy Ruff.

The couple also has three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



Announcements for couples celebrating 50, 55, 60, 65, 70 or more years of marriage are accepted. Go to cutt.ly/anniversaries or call 317-236-1585.

Retreats and Programs

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

June 21-23, 21-25 or 21-28
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. **Three-, five- or**

eight-day Silent Directed Retreat in the Ignatian Tradition, includes private room, meals, daily spiritual direction; June 21-23, \$265;

June 21-25, \$425; June 21-28, \$595. Registration: archindy.org/fatima-events, 317-545-7681, lcoons@archindy.org. †

Join in Wabash Valley Rubber Duck Regatta to help those in need and for chance to win \$10,000

Adopt one or more rubber ducks now for a chance to win \$10,000 at the Wabash Valley Rubber Duck Regatta at Fairbanks Park, 1100 Girl Scout Lane, in Terre Haute, at 7 p.m. on July 4.

All proceeds will benefit Catholic Charities Terre Haute to nourish the minds, bodies and spirits of those in need in the Wabash Valley through the organization's many services.

Adopt a single duck for \$5, six for

\$25, 12 for \$50 or 24 for \$100.

During the regatta, more than 15,000 rubber ducks will be dumped into the Wabash River. The person whose adopted duck crosses the finish line first gets \$10,000 plus a chance to win \$1 million.

To learn more about how to adopt a duck, go to WabashValleyRubberDuckRegatta.com. For more information, follow the event on Facebook @WVRubberDuckRegatta. †

Archbishop Thompson to celebrate Wedding Anniversary Mass on Aug. 25

The archdiocesan Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass, to be celebrated by Archbishop Charles C. Thompson, will take place at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St., in Indianapolis, at 2 p.m. on Aug. 25. A reception will follow across the street at the Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center.

The Mass and reception, sponsored by the archdiocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life, are for couples of the

archdiocese married sacramentally in the Catholic Church and celebrating an anniversary ending in 5 or 0.

All couples celebrating an anniversary ending in 0 or 5 who register will receive a certificate.

The event is free, but registration is required by Aug. 3 at www.archindy.org/weddingcelebrations.

For additional questions, contact Claudia Corona at 317-236-7310 or ccorona@archindy.org. †

Synodal sessions ‘help support and strengthen’ three Tell City Deanery parishes

By Leslie Lynch

LEOPOLD—“I didn’t know you were Catholic!”

When members of three rural parishes in the Tell City Deanery met for their first synodal listening session on Nov. 29, 2023, few realized how many of their neighbors and co-workers belonged to a neighboring parish. These discoveries immediately expanded people’s sense of faith community and, with it, possibilities unattainable by individual parishes.

In July 2023, St. Isidore the Farmer Parish in Perry County, St. Augustine Parish in Leopold and Holy Cross Parish in St. Croix were assigned two priests: Father Brian Esarey and Benedictine Father Luke Waugh.

Separately, the parishes had explored ways to establish ministries and re-engage parishioners who have not returned since COVID shutdowns, with little success.

When the three parishes were assigned two priests, Father Luke turned to the idea of bringing the faith communities together under one umbrella of a pastoral team in the hope of accomplishing together what each parish could not accomplish alone.

‘Listening to what we want’

Using Pope Francis’ model of synodal listening and dialogue, members of the faith communities have gathered three times since last November.

The goal of the first session was to meet and to listen. “Even though there was some anxiety, people from all three parishes came—and discovered that their neighbors and co-workers were Catholic, just members of the next parish over,” said Father Luke. “Students discovered classmates who are Catholic, and Catholic teachers learned of students who also share the faith.”

Tim Davis, a member of St. Isidore Parish, said, “These meetings have generated a lot of energy. I like that the clergy are listening to what we want as a faith community, what we want to [do] to strengthen each other’s faith journey.”

The second session, held on Feb. 21, distilled parishioners’ concerns into three main areas: development of faith and fellowship for youths, women’s Bible studies and outreach to those who have not returned to Mass since the COVID-19 pandemic.

Leadership consisting of a representative from each parish was established to head each of the three shared ministries. An additional Mass was added on Wednesdays at St. Augustine to coincide with faith formation and the youth group.

‘What you say sticks with them’

Forty youths participated in each of the first two meetings of the new tri-parish Catholic Youth Club (CYC) for grades 7-12, which is facilitated by Hannah Steen, a member of Holy Cross Parish.

The CYC meets monthly for a meal with youth-led prayer. Meeting topics are chosen by sophomore through senior student members.

“At the first meeting, kids wrote down questions they have about the Catholic faith, and at subsequent meetings a young adult and Father Luke take time to answer them,” said Steen. “So, each meeting incorporates a little ‘faith nugget’ formed around specific Catholic topics or questions they wanted to learn more about.”

Her husband John, also of Holy Cross, added, “A big

part of what makes this [ministry] successful is having leaders in the next stage of life. What you say sticks with them.”

The group also plans to do three to four community service projects per year as a club activity.

Listening leads to new ministries

The spirit of inter-parish cooperation and support was further exemplified by members of the Father Timothy Sweeney Knights of Columbus Council #17069 at St. Isidore who hosted a recent CYC cookout attended by some 300 youths.

“We’ve also joined forces with members of Bishop Chartrand Knights of Columbus Council [#1172] of Tell City to reach out to young men in rural areas to strengthen their faith journeys, especially those between 18 and 27 years of age,” said Davis, a member of the Knights of Columbus council at St. Isidore.

Similarly, the joint women’s Bible studies have been met with enthusiasm, with meetings rotating among the three parishes.

“We had great attendance at the [Lenten] Bible studies with around 30 women participating,” said Darlene Hubert, a member of St. Augustine Parish. “It was just so nice to be around so many Christian women.”

Members of all three parishes began combing their membership lists to initiate outreach to those who have not returned since COVID. Two new ministries resulted: a homebound ministry at each parish and a shared social ministry for seniors.

It quickly became evident from the parishes’ research that some elderly parishioners did not return due to diminishing health or abilities. In response, each parish initiated its own homebound outreach, with attention to visits, both social and from extraordinary ministers of holy Communion, and to discerning and providing for the needs of those served.

The shared outreach ministry of the parishes is a new Seniors Group, which meets monthly.

Hubert said she and her husband Sam have enjoyed the group’s social outings, which usually involve “lunch and then touring different places of interest,” she said.

So far, the group has toured local sites like Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad, a geode grotto in Jasper (in the Evansville, Ind., Diocese) and the Christ on the Ohio statue in Troy, among other sites, with hopes of adding full-day trips in the future.

‘One of the easiest ways forward’

The third synodal listening and dialogue session took place at St. Augustine on April 24.

In response to the overwhelming priority of youths and young adults established through the prior synodal listening sessions, Cassie Schutzer, director of the Young Adult Initiative at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad, was invited to present “The Whole-Parish Mindset,” a program focused on engaging and evangelizing young adults in the faith.

“Young people are not looking for programs,” she said. “They are looking for relationships. We can offer to be with them during their moments of transition, struggle and celebration through the eyes of faith.”

Schutzer reminded those gathered of the post-resurrection Scripture story regarding two disciples’ encounter with Christ on the road to Emmaus.

“The disciples were walking the wrong way—away



Benedictine Father Luke Waugh poses with Tim Davis, a member of St. Isidore the Farmer Parish in Perry County, in the parish center of St. Augustine Parish in Leopold after a synodal listening and dialogue session with members of those two parishes and Holy Cross Parish in St. Croix on April 24.

(Submitted photos by Leslie Lynch)



Hannah and John Steen, members of Holy Cross Parish in St. Croix, smile in the parish center of St. Augustine Parish in Leopold on April 24. The couple serve as leaders of the Catholic Youth Club, a ministry of Holy Cross, St. Augustine and St. Isidore the Farmer parishes in Perry County.

from Jerusalem, away from their faith community—but Jesus found them and walked the wrong way with them,” she said. “By accompanying them, he brought about their conversion.

“Our challenge is to create space for meaningful encounters, to be open to change, and to be witnesses and mentors. A sense of shared mission and willingness to go outside the walls of the parish are essential.”

Schutzer’s presentation applied equally to the synodal listening and dialogue process of St. Augustine, St. Isidore and Holy Cross parishes.

“I was surprised at how well this [process] went once we got it started,” said Father Luke, adding that synodal listening and dialogue “is probably one of the easiest ways forward in situations like this.

“At the heart of it, synodality is a process ... that identifies common ministries that help support and strengthen each individual parish.”

(Leslie Lynch is a freelance writer for The Criterion and a member of St. Mary Parish in Lanesville.) †

SYNOD

continued from page 3

That uncertainty can be especially evident when trying to balance welcoming LGBTQ and other marginalized persons while making known the truths of the Catholic faith, said synod participants.

Catholic social teaching was “another area where division was keenly experienced,” with “conversations ‘on social justice and inclusion ... filled with moments of profound pain and generational hurt,’” the report said.

“Participants expressed concerns that the Church has allowed the ongoing polarization and conflict [in civil society] to lead to a denial of the Church’s social magisterium in many situations.”

The liturgy itself can be a flashpoint for tension, with the celebration of the Mass using the *Roman Missal* of 1962 (informally known as the “Traditional Latin Mass”) becoming “a focal point of broader debates about tradition, modernity and the best ways to nurture faith across the diverse spectrum of Catholic belief and practice,” the interim synthesis said.

Another sore spot identified by participants was complacency in many

parts of the Church, which potentially stands to pave the way for “grave institutional sins such as sexual abuse and racism”—both of which remain “enduring wounds” that “continue to inflict pain today,” said the document.

“The trauma and scandal [of the clerical abuse crisis] have had a generational impact,” keeping youths and young adults distrustful and desiring an apology “for abuses that happened not to them, but to their parents, grandparents or further generations,” the interim synthesis said.

Likewise, the sin of racism and “the sin of enslaving Black people for the betterment of the Church” continue to haunt the Church, the report said.

At the same time, the listening sessions revealed a commitment to the importance of evangelization and the need for catechesis and formation to sustain such witness. Participants also articulated a desire to actively participate in the Church’s mission, seeking greater co-responsibility for the laity (especially women and young adults) in that task through their “baptismal dignity.”

Both clericalism and a lack of vocations to the priesthood and religious life were lamented, as was division among

priests, with one priest participant sharing that clergy “need to be better at getting past the bitterness and different theologies and political preferences.”

Bishops who attended the listening session also highlighted polarization among priests, with some shepherds likening themselves to “the episcopal referee” among an increasingly diverse clergy, many of whom hail from other countries. The Ukrainian Catholic bishops of the U.S. expressed their gratitude for the positive relationships they enjoyed with the USCCB and the Latin Church in the U.S., noting that “sometimes the Latin Church in other parts of the world [is] not so accepting and supportive.”

The bishops also applauded recent changes in the structure of their biannual meetings, which have facilitated more small group encounters reminding them they are “spiritual brothers and not just ecclesial figures.”

On balance, bishops’ relations with the Holy See were “generally positive,” and although “direct contact with Rome is not very frequent,” the report said that the apostolic nuncio, Cardinal Christophe Pierre, has succeeded in “fostering a spirit of communion” and in “facilitating communication with the Holy See.”

At the same time, the bishops “did express some frustration that communication between bishops and the offices of the Holy See could be better,” but described their *ad limina* visits to Rome—during which they provide about every five years the pope with an update on the status of their respective dioceses—as “occasions of fraternity and joy.”

The interim synthesis concluded by noting that “a major theme” articulated by participants was “the deepening awareness of how our trust in God expresses itself in relation to our imperfect institutions within the Church.”

“It was noted by many that the faithful ‘should not be embarrassed about recognizing that our Church might be a little messy—it’s better not to pretend that we are the perfect institution, but that we belong to the perfect and one, true faith,’” said the report.

Carroll, Coll and McStravog told OSV News that the synodal process of listening and dialogue is essential to healing the Church’s wounds—and that dynamic is for all the faithful, they said.

“Synodality isn’t just in Rome or at the USCCB,” said Coll. “It’s right here. It’s with you. It’s with all of us.” †

ESPADA

continued from page 1

The ICC leadership changes were announced on June 7 by Archbishop Charles C. Thompson of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis on behalf of the bishops of Indiana.

“We are grateful to Angela for leading the ICC during the past five years. She will be greatly missed,” Archbishop Thompson said. “As the first woman to lead the ICC and the first woman of color to hold a Catholic conference directorship nationwide, Angela always embraced her role. She was committed to making sure the Catholic perspective was part of important discussions at the Statehouse, serving as the voice of our five bishops, doing her best to encourage legislators to shape public policy in the best interests of the common good.

“She has led and served with great distinction.”

Espada, a former Marion County deputy prosecutor and law school administrator, brought a unique skill set to the ICC upon her arrival in 2019 prior to the retirement of longtime executive director Glenn Tebbe. She ensured that the voice of the Catholic Church was heard in the Indiana public policy arena through a global pandemic and numerous high-profile issues and events, including a special session of the state legislature

following the U.S. Supreme Court’s 2022 reversal of the *Roe v. Wade* decision.

Mingus was hired in 2020. Together, he and Espada have collaborated closely on issues most important to the Catholic Church and reflecting its long history of social teaching—from protecting the sanctity of life at all stages to fighting poverty. They also worked to engage more Catholics statewide on matters of public policy and hosted a regular podcast to keep the faithful informed on important issues and legislation.

Espada and Mingus are now focusing on a seamless transition when her retirement and his promotion become effective in July. (An article on Mingus in his new role will appear in our June 21 issue.)

“Having served as associate director of the ICC, Alexander has benefited from a wonderful working relationship with Angela during these last four years,” Archbishop Thompson said. “It has been a tremendous blessing to witness how well they have complemented one another’s gifts and skills in service to the Church and the people of Indiana.”

Mingus, who came to the ICC from the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Dayton, Ohio, points to numerous qualities that have made Espada an invaluable mentor.

“Angela feels very strongly and passionately about important issues and has given our advocacy work strength and zeal,” Mingus said. “She feels deeply about advocating for the weakest and

most vulnerable in our society. Angela is fiercely loyal and has a firm, unshakable commitment, and she is so quick to think on her feet—undoubtedly from her experience as a lawyer.

“She always speaks to the truth and always seeks the common good.”

‘A fierce advocate for social justice’

Born Angela Grigsby on the near-northeast side of Indianapolis, Espada traces her strong moral compass to her family and the parish of her birth. The Grigsbys were members of St. Rita Parish, founded more than a century ago as the city’s first faith community for Black Catholics.

A graduate of Father Thomas Scecina Memorial High School in Indianapolis, Espada earned two undergraduate degrees from the University of Indianapolis and then headed to Indiana University in Bloomington, where she earned her law degree at the Maurer School of Law as well as a master’s degree in higher education.

Newly married to José Espada, she then launched her career as a deputy prosecutor in Marion County before moving to higher education administration at IU McKinney School of Law in Indianapolis while her husband also pursued a career in academia.

Her deep faith and varied experiences have informed Espada’s work at the ICC, where she gained respect on both sides of the political aisle and from numerous advocacy groups throughout the state.

“Angela is a fierce advocate for social justice,” said Sen. Fady Qaddoura (D-Indianapolis). “I enjoyed working with her on several pieces of legislation, especially my affordable housing and tenants’ protection bill. Angela was always kind, professional and thoughtful. I will miss seeing Angela at the Statehouse and I wish her the best with her next chapter in life.”

As her predecessors did, Espada fought consistently for the poor and the marginalized in opposing predatory lending and advocating for measures to lift people out of poverty. One major win for the ICC and advocates for the poor came in 2023 when lawmakers passed the first meaningful update in decades for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program in Indiana.

“We will miss Angela’s fierce advocacy to bring an end to poverty,” said Erin Macey, director of the Indiana Community Action Poverty Institute. “I especially appreciate her willingness to be front and center during the fight for just lending and supports for pregnant and parenting workers.”

Catholic lawmaker Sen. Jim Tomes (R-Evansville) has fond memories of the time that he and his wife Margie met with Espada and Bishop Joseph M. Siegel of the Diocese of Evansville to discuss important issues, including pro-life matters.

“Angela was always there during the legislative session when it came to supporting bills about life issues,” Tomes said. “There need to be more people like her at the Statehouse.”

One Catholic lawmaker said she would

not even be in the state legislature—or in Indianapolis for that matter—if not for Espada.

Sen. Cyndi Carrasco (R-Indianapolis) was a pre-law student at the University of Texas at El Paso when she received a call from Espada one day more than 20 years ago. Espada, then dean of students and admissions at IU McKinney School of Law, got straight to the point.

“She said, ‘You’re coming to Indianapolis!’” recalled Carrasco, who had applied to McKinney among other schools but had never set foot in Indiana. “We still laugh about it to this day. I tell people all the time that Angela is the reason I’m here. Angela and her work have had a tremendous positive impact on our state and have helped shape our legal community for the better.”

Carrasco, who graduated from McKinney and went on to serve as inspector general for the state of Indiana, arrived at the Statehouse in January as a new lawmaker. When she introduced her first bill—a measure aimed at increasing access to disaster relief for Hoosiers—Espada testified in committee in support of the legislation.

“What a full-circle moment,” said Carrasco, who serves as vice president and general counsel for the University of Indianapolis. “It’s hard to encapsulate the ripples that people set into motion, but truly, it all started with Angela.”

‘Something I never would have imagined’

Espada reflects on her ICC tenure with deep appreciation.

“I am extremely grateful for my time at the ICC,” said Espada, a longtime member of Holy Angels Parish in Indianapolis. “The opportunity to work with the bishops and on their behalf has been something I never would have imagined possible.

“There were times that the ‘politics’ of it was tiring, but I have been bolstered by the number of faithful who truly want to promote the common good,” she continued. “I was equally impressed by the many allies of different faiths who believe in solidarity and worked with the ICC to help improve the quality and dignity of life for Hoosiers.”

As she ponders the future, Espada looks forward to spending more time with her family. Since becoming executive director of the ICC, she has embraced a cherished new role: that of grandmother, or “Mimi.” Her daughter Maya and son-in-law Winston, who reside in the Boston area, are now parents to sons Dorian, 3, and Camden, 5 months.

“I tried to retire in 2018,” Espada jokes. “But now, grandchildren and my husband retiring at the same time will make this retirement stick.”

(Victoria Arthur, a member of St. Therese of the Infant Jesus [Little Flower] Parish in Indianapolis, is a correspondent for The Criterion. For more information about the ICC and ways to get involved with its mission, visit www.indianacc.org.) †



‘There were times that the “politics” of it was tiring, but I have been bolstered by the number of faithful who truly want to promote the common good.’

—Angela Espada, executive director of the Indiana Catholic Conference

Marriage ANNOUNCEMENTS

Be a part of our Fall Marriage Edition

August 23 issue of The Criterion

Couples who are planning to be married between Aug. 9, 2024, and Jan. 31, 2025, in a marriage that is recognized as a valid sacramental or valid natural marriage, or couples who were wed between Jan. 31 and Aug. 9, 2024, in such a recognized marriage and did not have their engagement announcement in *The Criterion* are invited to submit the information for the upcoming Aug. 23 Fall Marriage Edition.

Announcements can be submitted by mail using the form below or electronically at www.archindy.org/engagements.

E-mailed photos

Photos should be saved in jpg format and be at least 500 kb. Color photos are preferred. We recommend sending a photo where the couple’s faces are close to each other. Please send the photo as an attachment to the e-mail: alewis@archindy.org. Subject line: Spring Marriage (Last name). In the e-mail, please include the information in the form located below.

If it is not possible to e-mail a photo, a photo can be mailed with the bottom form. Please no photocopies or laser prints. To have the photo returned, please include a return addressed envelope with a postage stamp on it.

Deadline

All announcements and photos must be received by 5 p.m. on Aug. 9.

— Use this form to furnish information by mail —

Clip and mail to: BRIDES, The Criterion, ATTN: Ann Lewis, 1400 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367. To submit information online go to: www.archindy.org/engagements. Deadline with photos: Tuesday, Aug. 9, at 5 p.m.

Please print or type:

Name of Bride (first, middle, last)		Daytime Phone	
Mailing Address	City	State	Zip Code
Name of Bride’s Parents (first, last)			
City		State	
Name of Bridegroom (first, middle, last)			
Name of Bridegroom’s Parents (first, last)			
City		State	
Wedding Date	Church	City	State
<input type="checkbox"/> Photo Enclosed	Signature of person furnishing information		Relationship
<input type="checkbox"/> Return photo			Daytime Phone
<input type="checkbox"/> No Picture			



Project Rachel

Experience Hope and Healing After Abortion
Upcoming Rachel’s Vineyard Retreat
in the Indianapolis Area

July 26-28, 2024

For Confidential Help Contact
317-452-0054 or projectrachel@archindy.org
All Calls and Locations Are Confidential.

A Special Word to Those Who Have Had an Abortion ...

Do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope...
If you have not already done so, give yourselves over with humility and trust to repentance. The Father of mercies is ready to give you his forgiveness and his peace ...
~Saint John Paul II, *The Gospel Life*

ORDINATION

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into the filled cathedral at the start of the liturgy.

“I was very aware of God’s goodness and the overabundance of his grace,” he said. “I was very aware of his presence.”

For Father Armbruster, the cathedral was full beyond those present in body and soul. During the praying of the litany of the saints in the Mass, when he and the two others to be ordained priests lay prostrate in prayer on the cathedral’s floor, he was aware of the presence around him of those who are part of the Church triumphant in heaven.

“I just remembered all those who brought me here, especially those who have died—all of those in the great cloud of witnesses, those holy men and women who are saints of God,” said Father Armbruster, who will begin service on July 3 as parochial vicar of SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi Parish in Greenwood and St. Martin of Tours Parish in Martinsville.

Catholics across the archdiocese represented by the people who filled the cathedral were on Father Rosko’s mind when Archbishop Thompson anointed his hands with sacred chrism oil during the rite of ordination.

“I was very aware that, from now on, these hands are no longer mine, but the hands of Jesus for the sanctification of his people,” he said. “That was very powerful.”

‘Bound to Jesus Christ’

In his homily during the ordination Mass, Archbishop Thompson noted that the three men to be ordained had been formed “to be icons of Jesus the Good Shepherd.”

He then reflected on the pastoral mission they were about to take up, reminding them that, first and foremost, their priestly life and ministry is to be focused on Christ.

“The life and ministry of each and every priest must be bound to Jesus Christ the great high priest,” Archbishop Thompson said. “We are called to make disciples of Jesus Christ, not of our own.”

He noted that carrying out this mission is challenging in a contemporary society marked by “immediate gratification, shameless demand of entitlement and unwavering, rampant self-absorption.”

In contrast, Archbishop Thompson noted that the men before him were “three very gifted, talented and holy young men” who were “making a radical commitment to selflessly give of themselves in service to the mission entrusted to the Church for the sake of others.

“Such a radical gift of self necessarily requires undaunted courage, generosity of spirit, deep trust and

conviction of faith,” he continued. “Such a radical act is not so much about escaping or rejecting the contrasting culture, but a willingness to embrace Jesus Christ’s mission of transforming the world for its own good.

“Rather than personal gain or comfort, their focus must remain on salvation of souls.”

Father Armbruster knows the great contrast between the life of faith to which he and all Catholics are called and the life promoted in today’s culture. Because of that contrast, he sees the society around him as mission territory.

“The way the world is right now, there’s kind of a longing for an encounter with the Lord,” Father Armbruster said. “There are countless souls that have lost their way. My call and my classmates’ call is to work for the salvation of souls, to help people have an encounter with Christ.”

Archbishop Thompson’s focus on Christ in his homily caught the attention of Father Rosko.

“It’s not our priesthood, but the priesthood of Jesus,” said Father Rosko, who on July 3 will begin ministry as parochial vicar of St. Jude Parish in Indianapolis. “We have a duty and obligation to be conformed to Christ, always through his grace, to be his image and literally walk in the person of Jesus in the world.”

As he enters into priestly life and ministry, Father Rosko won’t be walking alone.

Archbishop Thompson emphasized in his homily the importance of a priest’s “communion with the pope, his bishop and brother priests.”

“It is this intentional sense of belonging that unites us to Jesus Christ, the great high priest, within both the local and universal Church,” he continued. “How can priests be credible about preaching and teaching what it means to be a part of the body of Christ, the Church, without giving first witness to being a credible member of its presbyterate?”

“There are numerous ways to appear holy, but only in communion with the Holy Trinity through fidelity to the Church does a priest give authentic witness to holiness.”

Overflowing hearts

Andrea Vogel, Father Vogel’s mother, appreciated her son’s ties to the archdiocese’s priests as she watched many who have served at St. Joseph Parish in Jennings County, where her son was baptized and grew up, ritually lay hands on him during the ordination and exchange with him a sign of peace.

“My heart was full to overflowing,” she recalled after the ordination Mass. “God has blessed Bobby so much in the support he has now. And he will need it. I’m so thankful he has that.”

Robert and Marijane Armbruster had a similar experience as they watched two priests who have ministered at St. Malachy Parish in Brownsburg, where they and their family have been longtime parishioners, help their son put on his priestly vestments.

“Father Dan [Staublin] was one of the first priests to influence Anthony when he was our pastor at St. Malachy when Anthony was in grade school, and Father [Sean] Danda is our current pastor who has been very supportive of Anthony over the past six years,” Robert said. “That moment was especially powerful for us.”

As Marijane watched her son be ordained a priest, images of him as a child playing at celebrating Mass in their home came to mind, along with the six years he spent in priestly formation.

“To finally see our son ... take a seat with all of the other priests in the sanctuary was a moment we’ll remember always,” she said.

Seeing her son lying prostrate on the floor of the cathedral was powerful for Emily Rosko, who described the ordination liturgy as “overwhelmingly awesome.”

“It really made me feel like he is giving his life,” she said. “I was like, ‘God, I’m giving my son to you now.’”



Retired Father Stephen Jarrell, left, exchanges a sign of peace with newly ordained Father Anthony Armbruster during the June 1 Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis during which Father Armbruster and two other men were ordained as archdiocesan priests. (Photos by Sean Gallagher)



Transitional Deacon Samuel Rosko stands beside his parents, Scot and Emily Rosko, at the start of the June 1 Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis during which Deacon Rosko and two other deacons were ordained as archdiocesan priests.



Newly ordained Father Bobby Vogel blesses members of the Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary who serve in the archdiocese on June 1 in a reception at the Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center following the ordination Mass.

That moment really hit me.”

In giving their lives to God and the Church in the ordination Mass, the three new priests began looking forward to the ministry they’ll begin in about a month.

Father Vogel, who will serve as parochial vicar of St. Simon the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis, said he is excited to “make missionary disciples and saints in heaven.”

Father Rosko noted that he will have “total trust in Jesus. Jesus will show me the way and give me the strength to do what he desires of me.”

Asked minutes after the Mass what the ordination liturgy meant to him, Father Armbruster was close to tears.

“It was very overwhelming,” he said. “It’s still hard to believe. It’ll probably take a while.”

(To view a photo gallery from the June 1 ordination Mass, view this article at www.CriterionOnline.com. For more information on a vocation to the priesthood in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, visit www.HearGodsCall.com.) †

ERLANDSON

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commencement ceremony that was not canceled. It was for the University of St. Francis, a small liberal arts school in Fort Wayne, Ind. I didn’t talk to them about the state of the Church or the role

of women or the proper liturgy they should attend.

My advice was simple: Care for others. Be grateful for what they have. Never stop learning. This generation seated in cap and gown before me has experienced so much stress and anxiety, and I assured them that they don’t have to have everything figured out as soon as

they graduate.

I believe the COVID pandemic will be the defining event of their generation, I told them. What I did not want them to forget is that they rose to the challenge. They were not deterred. They were resilient. And their resilience and their determination are what our country needs right now and in the years ahead.

If there are any marching orders I think they need, it would simply be: Care for the family you have and the family you may one day have. Care for the weakest and most defenseless, the youngest and the oldest. Be grateful. Be resilient.

(Greg Erlandson is an award-winning Catholic publisher, editor and journalist.) †

'ICONS OF JESUS THE GOOD SHEPHERD'



From front to back, transitional deacons Bobby Vogel, Samuel Rosko and Anthony Armbruster lie prostrate in prayer on June 1 in SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis during the Mass in which they were ordained as archdiocesan priests. (Submitted photo by Ryan Lentz Jr. with Lentz Jr Photo & Design)



Archbishop Charles C. Thompson prays a prayer of consecration over transitional deacons Anthony Armbruster, left, Samuel Rosko and Bobby Vogel during the June 1 ordination Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis. (Photo by Sean Gallagher)



Archbishop Charles C. Thompson elevates the Eucharist during a June 1 Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis in which he ordained the three priests concelebrating with him at the altar: Father Bobby Vogel, left, Father Samuel Rosko and, at far right, Father Anthony Armbruster. (Photo by Sean Gallagher)

Archbishop Charles C. Thompson ritually presents a chalice and paten to newly ordained Father Samuel Rosko during the June 1 ordination Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral. (Photo by Sean Gallagher)



Father Bobby Vogel, left, Father Samuel Rosko and Father Anthony Armbruster pose with Archbishop Charles C. Thompson on June 1 in the rectory of SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral after the Mass in which the three were ordained archdiocesan priests. (Photo by Sean Gallagher)



Transitional Deacon Bobby Vogel ritually places his hands in the hands of Archbishop Charles C. Thompson while promising obedience to him and his successors during the June 1 ordination Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis. (Photo by Sean Gallagher)



Maggie Hagenauer, office and events coordinator for the archdiocesan vocations office, proclaims the second reading during the June 1 ordination Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis. (Photo by Sean Gallagher)



Andrew Motyka, left, director of archdiocesan and cathedral liturgical music, leads vocalists and instrumentalists during the June 1 ordination Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis. (Photo by Sean Gallagher)



Archbishop Charles C. Thompson ritually lays hands on transitional Deacon Anthony Armbruster during a June 1 Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis in which Deacon Armbruster and two other deacons were ordained as archdiocesan priests. (Photo by Sean Gallagher)



Archbishop Charles C. Thompson and priests serving across central and southern Indiana process on June 1 into SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis at the start of the ordination Mass. (Photo by Sean Gallagher)

SERRA CLUB VOCATIONS ESSAY

Family, school and parish nurture student's love of the Eucharist

By Maya Skartvedt

Special to *The Criterion*

Having a parish, school and family life that demonstrates the importance of the Eucharist is necessary for young people to understand the true presence of Jesus.



A family that encourages this importance helps set a good example for young people to see how knowing Jesus in his true presence leads to a holy and successful

life. At school, seeing other classmates and teachers experiencing the Eucharist encourages young people to explore the true presence in their own lives. A strong parish that urges their members to further their faith through time with the

Eucharist shows people how their call to holiness is simple and right in front of their faces.

I have benefited in many ways thanks to my family, school and parish to be able to hear God calling me to holiness. For me, my parish, school and family have all had a part in helping me learn of the true presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and how important it is to my call to holiness.

In my family, we receive the Eucharist together weekly. Being able to see my parents act so reverently toward the Eucharist encourages me to do the same. I have even felt so called to become an extraordinary minister of holy Communion.

At school, we have the opportunity to receive the true presence of Jesus bi-weekly all together. Seeing each of my classmates, teachers and faculty in such awe of the Eucharist helps me to know that I am called to holiness.

Most of all, I have benefited from my participation in parishes in being able to experience God's love so personally. On a parish retreat, I had the most incredible night of my life as I spent time kneeling and crying in the presence of Christ in the holy Eucharist. It was a feeling I had never felt before. I felt so close to God as if he was a centimeter away from me, calling me to him.

I felt so loved by all 40 of the high school students in the church that night. Although I had just met a few of them the night before, I felt so close to them since we got to share this experience together. It was one of those moments where you are crying, but you are not exactly sure why.

One moment I could tell they were tears of joy, but the next moment they were tears of sadness that it had taken me so long to realize how Jesus was truly present in the Eucharist. It was truly a life-changing experience that is

very difficult to find in this world.

I will be forever grateful for this experience. It has made me so much stronger in my faith. I have been renewed in my faith through the true presence. It has made me understand that, through the Eucharist, God is not far away. He is right before me, wanting me to realize his love for me.

As I have been so blessed by my family, parish and school to deepen my faith through the Eucharist, I hope that I can have the opportunity to help others in the same way.

(Maya and her parents, Kevin and Erin Skartvedt, are members of St. Barnabas Parish in Indianapolis. She recently completed the 11th grade at Roncalli High School in Indianapolis and is the 11th-grade division winner in the Indianapolis Serra Club's 2024 John D. Kelley Vocations Essay Contest.) †

U.S. bishops to decide whether to affirm opening the cause for visionary

GREEN BAY, Wis. (OSV News)—The U.S. bishops will soon hold a consultation on a petition to open the cause for canonization of Adele Brise, to whom the Blessed Virgin Mary is believed to have appeared in northeast Wisconsin in 1859.

Green Bay Bishop David L. Ricken, who declared in 2010 that the apparitions to Brise were worthy of belief, will present the proposal during a consultation at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Spring Plenary Assembly on June 12-14 in Louisville, Ky.

Brise, a Belgian immigrant, was 28 when the apparitions occurred some 18 miles

northeast of Green Bay. The first took place while she was walking to a gristmill to grind grain. The last two took place a few days later while she was walking on the way to and from Sunday Mass.

"Since being assigned to the Diocese of Green Bay, Adele's life, her encounter with the Blessed Mother and her lasting witness to the faith have always inspired me," Bishop Ricken told OSV News. "However, two years ago, this prayerful consideration to open her cause began as a response to seeing people kneeling in front of Adele's grave in prayer when I visited the National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion."

Bishop Ricken said the shrine's staff told him that visitors to the shrine often pray at the grave, which rests near the Apparition Chapel and Oratory. The oratory is believed to be on the site where Brise saw the Blessed Mother.

"One of the most frequent questions visiting pilgrims would ask is whether Adele's cause for sainthood had been started yet," he said, adding that many share "how Adele has inspired them in their own walks of faith."

According to historical accounts, the Blessed Mother's message to Brise was twofold:

—"Make a general confession and offer Communion for the conversion of sinners."

—"Gather the children in this wild country and teach them what they should know for salvation. Teach them their catechism, how to sign themselves with the Sign of the Cross and how to approach the sacraments."

"As awareness and devotion surrounding the Marian apparitions in Champion grows, we have seen a natural curiosity into the life of the seer grow as well," Bishop Ricken stated. †



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CATHEDRAL CLASS OF 2024 HONOR GRADUATES

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Holy Cross Lutheran: Evelyn Wagner, Terry and Erin Wagner • Holy Spirit: Emily Shea, Patrick and Christine Shea • Immaculate Heart of Mary: Sarah Coleman, Chuck and Christy Coleman | Nicholas Schneider, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Schneider | Andrew Whelan, Drs. Joseph and JoAnne Whelan • St. Louis de Montfort: Anne Crabtree, Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Crabtree | Rachel Dubbink, Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Dubbink | Katherine McCauley, Christopher and Claurice McCauley • St. Monica: Maya Marshalleck, Francis and Stephanie Marshalleck | Rachel Rodecap, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph and Grace Rodecap • St. Pius X: Mary Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. Roderick and Julie Hughes | Taylor Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. John Lewis • St. Simon the Apostle: Chloe Cox, Mr. and Mrs. Joel and Betsy Cox | Ainsley Danilson, Jared and Alivia Danilson | Oliver Koerwitz, Mr. Kurt and Dr. Sara Koerwitz | Jack O'Brien, Mr. and Mrs. Patrick and Shawna O'Brien • Johnathan Beauchamp, John and Magda Beauchamp | Daniel Kent, Andrew and Meg Kent

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Immaculate Heart of Mary: Teresa Wojtalik, Chris and Ann Wojtalik • Our Lady of Grace: Scott George, Malcolm and Carolyn George • Saints Francis and Clare: Seth Green, Erin and Nilia Mobery Green • St. Louis de Montfort: Paul Sheddy, Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Sheddy • St. Luke: Lillian Art, James and Kathleen Art • St. Pius X: Andrew Adams, Sarah and Stephen Adams • St. Thomas Aquinas: Julia Hurley, Maeleen and John Hurley • St. Simon the Apostle: Abigail Dager, Dr. Marc and Kelly Dager | William Fox, Pierre and Terra Fox | Reilly Gilmore, Mr. Kurt and Mrs. Dawn Gilmore | Jordan Peter, Cory and Elizabeth Peter

CUM LAUDE

Christ the King: Samuel Parr, J and Linamor Parr • Immaculate Heart of Mary: Lauren Goodman, Mr. and Mrs. Robert and Jeanne Goodman • Holy Spirit: Nichole Mayo, Mrs. Elena Mayo Rodriguez and Mr. Eduardo Mayo • Little Flower: Alejandro Lozano, Mr. and Mrs. Ken Oskins • Nativity: Rosalena Duncan, Mr. and Mrs. Darrin E. Duncan • Our Lady of Mount Carmel: Landon Korous, Mr. and Mrs. Gregg and Shelly Thiel and Mr. and Mrs. Jason and Megan Korous • St. Louis de Montfort: Luke Spencer, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew and Erin Spencer • St. Luke: Emma Schnur, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Schnur • St. Michael – Greenfield: Kylie Huckzo, Tristan Crayton and Lindsay Huckzo • St. Simon: Neely Greene, Mr. Josh Greene and Mrs. Beth Greene | Lucille Marquart, Mr. David Marquart and Mrs. Nicole Pike | Julia Morrell, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff and Ann Morrell • St. Thomas Aquinas: Luke Blanchet, Mr. and Mrs. Craig Blanchet

In Clarksville, woman becomes Catholic at 90, saying, 'Better late than never'

By Natalie Hoefer

When Dolores Kopp's husband Raymond, a Catholic, died in 1974, she decided to join the Catholic Church.

She followed through on her decision—50 years later at the age of 90.

On March 31 during the Easter Vigil Mass at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Clarksville, Kopp was received into the full communion of the Church when she was baptized, confirmed and received her first Communion.

Becoming Catholic is "something I thought about for a really long time," says Kopp. "It's so funny it took me this long to make that change."

'I just didn't feel I was good enough'

Kopp was not raised in a faith tradition, noting her parents "were not religious people."

Her husband, on the other hand, "came from a very Catholic family," she says. "He had a very religious upbringing."

The couple married in 1955. As they raised their three children in the Catholic faith, Kopp would often join them at Mass.

"I enjoyed going," she says. "I went to other churches, too, but I always went back to Mass. I just liked it better, the structure of it. But I always felt out of place because I couldn't participate in Communion."

Kopp says while Raymond was alive, she "thought about becoming Catholic for a long time, I really did. But my husband never asked me. And years ago, I just didn't feel like I was good enough. I felt like I just couldn't be a Catholic."

She was sincere in her desire to join the Church after Raymond died. So

why the half-century wait to act on that decision?

"I was just really busy after he died," she says. "I had to go to work, and I'd never had to work before."

Kopp still joined her family at Mass for special occasions and went "by myself periodically."

But something "just clicked" for her recently.

"Pope Francis had a lot to do with it," she says. "I think with Pope Francis, I feel the Church is more open than it used to be."

She began searching online for Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) classes and found they were being offered at St. Anthony of Padua Parish, close to her home.

"I asked my daughter, Judy [Godbey], to be my sponsor. She lives nearby, so she could drive me to the evening classes," says Kopp. "It was what I needed, just that little push."

'I just felt happiness'

Kopp had already started reading the Bible before joining RCIA. When she learned about Jeff Cavins' *The Bible Timeline* Catholic study program, she purchased it to enhance her knowledge.

"I started out reading the Old Testament, but I skipped to the New Testament because it was easier to understand," she admits.

Unlike many who become Catholic later in life, Kopp didn't struggle with the Church's reverence for the Blessed Mother.

"I always prayed to Mary," she says. "But the saints, I didn't know a thing about them."

In searching for a confirmation saint, she discovered St. Margaret of Scotland

(c. 1045-1093).

Kopp was impressed by the one-time queen of Scotland's charitable works for the poor and by the eight children she had with her husband the king.

"I researched, and she was just the perfect saint for me," says Kopp. "I had a sister named Margaret, and I came from a large family, and my husband did too—six in mine and eight in his. She was just the perfect fit."

Receiving the Eucharist was the pinnacle for Kopp during the Easter Vigil Mass.

"I don't think I understood the true presence initially," she says. "But the kind of person I am, I find it easy to believe."

"And I love that I can take part in Communion now. I find that very heartwarming. It made me so happy, receiving Communion. I just felt happiness when I went back to the pew."

Kopp now enjoys the communion she shares with the members of St. Anthony, the children she raised in the faith, and other family members as well.

The grandmother of four and great-grandmother of seven is the third of her siblings to become Catholic. Two of her



Following the Rite of Election at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis on Feb. 18, Dolores Kopp, right, poses with cathedral rector Father James Brockmeier, third from right, and other catechumens and candidates of St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Clarksville: Kirsten Nalley, left, Kylee Cornwell, Melanie Dixon and Brandon Skaggs. (Submitted photo)

sisters also married Catholic men and were welcomed into the full communion of the Church. One is now a member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in New Albany, just west of Clarksville.

"My mom's dad [and] his parents—my great-grandparents—were Catholic," she adds. "I feel like we're connecting that chain. I'm just very happy about being Catholic, and I love going to Mass."

Now that Kopp has joined the Church, she says she is "anxious to get more involved. I want to get involved in whatever I'm capable of doing."

She acknowledges that being Catholic "is just something I always really wanted. And here I am, 90 years old. Better late than never, that's what I say." †

CULLENS

continued from page 2

spirituality, particularly Norse paganism "because that was my heritage."

Five years after uprooting their faith, the family pulled up their Texas roots as well. In 2020, the Cullens decided they wanted to purchase several acres of land.

But land was expensive in the Lone Star State. Jason considered transferring within his company to a job based in Cincinnati, where the couple could buy more acreage for less money in Ohio, Kentucky or Indiana.

Larissa was adamant about one thing: "We are not moving to Indiana."

But Jason's photos of southeastern Indiana's summertime flora and rolling hills as he looked at various properties changed her mind. It was Larissa who found their current property online, a home on about five acres south of downtown Connersville.

Once settled into their new home, the Cullens attended services at a Baptist church. The members were "very nice," says Larissa, and she appreciated the fellowship.

"But I was never really content," she admits. She found the teaching "too fluffy."

For all the couple's faith searching, they had never considered Catholicism. As Mormons, says Larissa, they were

raised to believe the Catholic Church was the "whore of Babylon" (Rev 17:5). "So, the thought of looking at the Church was never even on our radar."

So why the change? Jason answers in two words: "Mark Wahlberg."

'I felt like I got struck by lightning'

Jason was at home watching *Father Stu*, the 2022 biopic starring Wahlberg as Stuart Long (1963-2014), a boxer-turned Catholic priest.

"I didn't know it was a true story," he says. "I thought it was making fun of the Catholic Church."

In one scene, Long challenged a priest during confession on why he should judge Long for sinning when the priest himself was a sinner.

"I was like, 'Yeah! That's right! Who are you to judge!'" Jason recalls.

"Then the priest says, 'I'm not here to judge you, my son. I'm here as a conduit between you and God to help bring you closer to God.'"

"I've never had a spiritual experience like that in my life. The Spirit hit me so hard, I felt like I got struck by lightning when he spoke those words."

He told Larissa emphatically, "We need to check out the Catholic Church!"

Jason met with Father Dustin Boehm, pastor of St. Gabriel Parish. The former Mormon had so many questions, the 45-minute meeting flew by.

"We're in the middle of a conversation

when he was like, 'Hold on for a second,'" Jason recalls. "He goes out to the secretary, and he cancels his next couple of appointments so we can talk longer. That really touched me. It was like leaving the 99 [sheep] to go after the one."

The conversation occurred in 2022, followed by several more meetings. By the time the Cullens were ready to join the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), the classes were too far along. The family would have to wait until the next year.

In the meantime, Larissa soaked up all she could about the faith from well-known Catholic apologists.

"I was amazed to learn they [the Church] actually have a whole lineage down to Jesus," she says. "I started going to Mass, and I loved the reverence. I loved that everybody was there to truly worship Jesus."

'No Church like the Catholic Church'

The Cullens entered RCIA in the fall of 2023 as a family, including the couple's daughter Abida, 15, who later discerned she was not ready to join the Church.

But Aiden was. He says when his parents told him about taking the classes, "I was kind of excited, because I knew I was getting baptized in my favorite Church out of all of them" he and his dad had visited.

Jason says the RCIA team "had a big impact on us," particularly Jayson Waterman, who became Jason's sponsor.

"I was still resistant," he says. "I'd tell Jayson, 'You've got to tell me why you believe this. You can't just say, 'I just believe it.' He was just great with his answers."

Larissa also credits Waterman with sensing a struggle she encountered.

"I felt this oppression, like something was pulling me back," as if trying to prevent her pursuit of the truth, she says.

Unprompted, Waterman gave her a book about St. Anthony of the Desert, a third-century hermit who encountered temptations and persecution by the devil.

"That was just so helpful," she says.

By the week before Easter, the Cullens

were ready. But nothing prepared Jason for his experience of Holy Thursday Mass.

"It's such an impactful Mass, to watch the Savior taken away," he says. "And he's truly present there [in the Eucharist]. I could feel it when they took him away."

Still, he says, receiving the sacraments at the Easter Vigil Mass was "the pinnacle." The boys brim with joy as they recall the experience.

"When the lights came on and the *Gloria* was sung, I felt *super* happy," says Aiden. "I was like, 'This is the most happiest I've ever been in my life.'"

"And when we went up to take our first Eucharist, and being baptized, and getting the [chrism] oil on the head—I was so excited!"

Andrew admits he "felt scammed" when he saw two lights on in the Church as the congregation processed in for the Mass, each holding a candle.

"I was told the church was going to be dark," he says. "I was expecting it to be pitch black. But I looked at all the candles and I was like, 'The people are depending on Jesus to come back.'"

"And then when all the lights came on, something just blew up inside me. I was just super happy."

All four Cullens received the sacraments of baptism, the Eucharist and confirmation.

But there was one more sacrament for Jason and Larissa: the convalidation of their marriage.

"I love it that sacramental marriage, that it's a covenant," says Jason.

After the Mass, Andrew says he cried tears of joy.

"I was just so happy," he says. "It was the greatest moment of my life. I never thought I would actually be getting baptized. But I felt like this Church is *the* Church, and it was just a great experience."

Jason echoed his son's words.

"The journey to the Church was just amazing," he says. "The experiences that we've had throughout are just very different than we've ever experienced."

"No [other church] puts so much emphasis on Christ. There's just no church like the Catholic Church." †

Additional new Catholics welcomed

Below are additional new Catholics welcomed into the full communion of the Church between Easter 2023 and Easter Vigil Masses held on March 31.

Holy Spirit, Indianapolis

Karina De la Cruz Torreblanca, Gesurel Gramajo, David Purdum (candidates)

St. Mary, Mitchell

Robin Roberts, Corinne Romanowski (catechumens); Melvin Codey, Joshua Romanowski (candidates)

St. Vincent de Paul, Bedford

Joan Martin, Krisana Martin, Christy McNichols, Patricia Wagner (catechumens); Michael Boles, Carissa Masterson, Bryan Ward, Spencer Wardlow (candidates) †

Mass celebrates those with special needs

Criterion staff report

Members of the archdiocese's Special Religious Education and Discipleship (SPREAD) community and others with special needs worshipped at the archdiocese's annual Disabilities Awareness Mass celebrated by Archbishop Charles C. Thompson at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis on April 28.

Several members served in special roles for the Mass, including altar servers, a lector and gift bearers. A reception with the archbishop at the Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center across the street from the cathedral followed the liturgy.



Robert Vogel of St. Matthew the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis, left, joins Kirsten Povolny as she signs the opening hymn. (Photos by Natalie Hoefer)



Thomas Murray of St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis, who is blind, proclaims a reading using Braille text.



Nicholas Swallers of Holy Spirit Parish in Indianapolis and Jessica Reed of St. Simon the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis present the offertory gifts to Archbishop Charles C. Thompson, while Deacon Stephen Hodges assists at right.

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Franciscan HEALTH
Indianapolis

SIMPLY CATHOLIC

Sites of Catholic heritage can be visited across the U.S.

By Anamaria Scaperlanda Biddick

(OSV News)—Summer is a time of freedom, of escape from the usual routines of work and school. This escape often takes the form of vacation, but Catholics in the United States—whether or not they realize or appreciate it—have the opportunity to put their summer at the service of their faith.

Every region of the country is rich with churches, shrines and other points of interest for Catholics—as this roundup of regional routes for Catholic road trips make evident.

Even if taking a trip is not realistic, learning about the heritage of the Church all over the country is a rewarding exercise in knowing and appreciating the faith.

Southwest route

The full route, replete with miraculous histories, is best suited for a weeklong road trip, while weekend travelers can make their way directly to Santa Fe.

This trek begins at the Mother Cabrini Shrine in Golden, Col. In 1909, St. Frances X. Cabrini purchased this land for her charges at the orphanage in Denver, despite the fact that no known water source existed on the property.

A few years later, after sisters complained to her that they were dying of thirst, she answered, “Lift that rock over there and start to dig. You will find water fresh enough to drink and clean enough to wash.” The spring has never stopped running, and a replica of the Grotto in Lourdes, France, was built on the site.

After visiting the Mother Cabrini Shrine, glimpse Benedictine life and devotions at the Monastery of Christ in the Desert in Abiquiu, N.M., for a day visit or a personal retreat—minimum of two nights. Next, visit the pilgrimage site of the miraculous healing dirt of Chimayo. From there, journey through the desert to Santa Fe for a visit to the Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi, the staircase with no nails at Loretto Chapel, and the San Miguel Mission.

West Coast route

In Seattle, begin with 8 a.m. daily Mass at St. James Cathedral, with its beautiful stained-glass windows dating to 1918. Head south to be immersed in the beauty of the woods at The Grotto, the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Sorrows, in Portland, Ore. Stop for a mini-retreat or Benedictine beer at Mount Angel Abbey on your way to San Francisco for the first of the Spanish missions, Mission de San Francisco de Asis.

Continue south for additional missions founded by St. Junipero Serra and his fellow Franciscans: Mission Santa Clara de Asis in Santa Clara, Mission Santa Cruz in Santa Cruz, Mission Carmel in Carmel-By-The-Sea, Mission San Miguel in San Miguel, Mission Santa Barbara in Santa Barbara, Mission San Luis Rey in Oceanside and Mission San Diego de Alcalá in San Diego.

Lake Michigan route

Begin in the towering woods of northern Wisconsin at the only approved Marian apparition site in the United States, Our Lady of Champion outside of Green Bay, and then drive south to Holy Hill in Hubertus, Wis., for peace and beauty at a site long dedicated to Mary.

In Milwaukee, attend Mass at St. Joan of Arc Chapel, a 15th-century Gothic church built in France and later moved to the U.S. Visit the Basilica of St. Josaphat, built by Polish immigrants and a German architect out of rescued materials from an old Chicago post office.

Venerate the relics of St. Maximilian Kolbe in Libertyville, Ill., which are particularly amazing since he was incinerated at Auschwitz. (See Route 66 below for Chicago sites.) Pray the Stations of the Cross at the Shrine of Christ’s Passion in St. John, Ind., then drive along the south side of Lake Michigan to pray at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart and light a candle at the Grotto, both on the campus of the University of Notre Dame.

Route 66

The ultimate cross-country road trip with stops at shrines, relics and monasteries, Route 66 begins in Chicago, where the faithful can venerate the arm bones of St. Jude the Apostle at the National Shrine of St. Jude before journeying southwest to St. Louis to the Shrine of St. Joseph, site of the miracle of St. Peter Claver.

While there, light a candle at one of the most beautiful cathedrals in the country, the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, which is the resting place of Cardinal Joseph E. Ritter, a native of New Albany and former archbishop of Indianapolis.



Bishops gather for Mass on June 10 at Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis during the spring 2015 general assembly of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. (CNS photo/Lisa Johnston, St. Louis Review)

On the way through Oklahoma, you can take a slight detour to visit Our Lady of Clear Creek Abbey in Hulbert, Okla., a growing monastery that developed indirectly out of the work of three professors at the University of Kansas in the late 1960s. Or head straight to Oklahoma City for the Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine to venerate the martyr’s relics, before heading to his home parish, Holy Trinity in Okarche.

See the Southwest Route for holy places in and around Santa Fe, before reaching the West Coast and the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in Los Angeles.

Texas Hill route

A weekend drive through the Texas Hill Country highlights the area’s history, from the early Spanish missionaries to Texas independence to the influx of German and Czech immigrants.

The largest concentration of missions in North America are located along the San Antonio River. Hike or bike between Mission Concepcion, Mission San Jose, Mission San Juan and Mission Espada, which make up San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, where the Mass continues to be celebrated.

The Alamo, formerly Mission San Antonio de Valerio, exists as a museum commemorating the Battle of the Alamo and the period of Texas independence from Mexico.

From San Antonio, enter into the settlements of immigrants from Eastern Europe, beginning with the oldest Polish settlement in the United States, Panna Maria, and its Immaculate Conception Parish. From there, head to Shiner, Texas, for a tour of SS. Cyril and Methodius Church. Visit St. Mary’s High Hill in Schulenburg, Texas, another SS. Cyril and Methodius Church in Dubina, Texas, and St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in La Grange, Texas, to complete your tour of the Painted Churches.

Southeast route

A diverse route through the South, this trek has everything from the location of the first Mass in our country to the home of a Catholic literary giant.

Begin in Florida by venerating a relic of St. Padre Pio at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church in Sarasota. Then head to the site of the first Mass in America, the National Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche in St. Augustine.

Here the trip turns literary: In Georgia, visit the childhood home of famed Catholic fiction writer Flannery O’Connor in Savannah. Then swing over to Andalusia Farm in Milledgeville, where she lived as an adult, completing two novels and 32 short stories. Make a mini-retreat—or a weekend retreat—at the Trappist Monastery of the Holy Spirit in Conyers.

In Alabama, pray at the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Hanceville, and marvel at the miniature reproductions of historic buildings and shrines throughout the world built by Benedictine Brother Joseph Zoettl at the Ave Maria Grotto in Cullman. End your trip with a

taste of Europe at New Orleans’ Jackson Square, visiting St. Louis Cathedral for Mass and prayer.

Northeast route

Travel from our nation’s capital to the early roots of the faith in upstate New York while meeting some saints along the way.

Begin your pilgrimage in Washington, D.C., with replicas of Holy Land sites at the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and the St. John Paul II National Shrine.

In Emmitsburg, Md., visit the relics of the first American-born saint, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, who was moved to conversion by a *Corpus Christi* procession.

The Servant of God Bishop Simon Bruté, the first bishop of the Diocese of Vincennes, Ind., which later became the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, also ministered in Emmitsburg and served as St. Elizabeth’s spiritual director.

In Philadelphia, venerate the remains of St. John Neumann at the National Shrine of St. John Neumann, and St. Katharine Drexel at the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul. Built beginning in 1846 when a need for a larger cathedral was determined, the church took nearly 20 years to complete due to the bishop’s debt avoidance.

With construction commencing less than two years after Nativists riots in Philadelphia, the building’s windows were placed just above a stone’s throw to avoid anti-Catholic vandalism. Among the cathedral’s eight side chapels is one currently dedicated to St. Katharine that was originally donated by the saint herself, along with her sisters, in honor of their parents. Her body was moved to the cathedral in 2017.

Heading north, visit more saints, blesseds and venerables, including Blessed Miriam Teresa Demjanovich at the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth in Convent Station, N.J., and St. Frances Xavier Cabrini at the St. Frances Cabrini Shrine in New York.

Journeying northward, stop at the Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center in New Haven, Conn., and at least one of the immigrant churches built by millworkers at the turn of the 20th century, such as St. Ann in Woonsocket, R.I. (now a cultural center and no longer an active church). In Boston, be sure to visit the Basilica of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, the site of many documented healings, and spend time with our Lord in adoration at St. Clement’s Shrine.

End your trip in New York at the National Shrine of the North American Martyrs (which is also known as Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine) in Fultonville, and the St. Kateri Tekakwitha National Shrine and Historic Site in Fonda to visit the only canonized martyrs of the United States, French Jesuit missionaries, near the site of their death—the place of St. Kateri’s birth.

(Anamaria Scaperlanda Biddick writes from Oklahoma.) †

Joyful Witness/Kimberly Pohovey

Generations have much to learn from one another

As I near 60 years in age, I increasingly find myself both frustrated by and envious of younger generations.



This is especially true in the workplace. While I have typically been the youngest on staff at most of my previous employment positions, I find myself now among the oldest.

Growing up with an ingrained sense of responsibility and hard work ethic, I have been easily frustrated when a young person does not appear to go the extra mile or work longer hours. I have also experienced young people who are much more informal than people at workplaces where I was previously employed. For instance, I have had candidates show up for interviews 30 minutes late or dressed in sweatpants and an old T-shirt.

I know that my choice to work long hours is mine alone, but as I experience more younger workers, I have to admit that I envy their heightened need for a work-life balance.

I grew up with such a sense of responsibility that I do not quit for the day when I still have work to accomplish. Younger counterparts know to leave the work behind at the end of the day to spend time with their families and friends, or to prioritize their hobbies or rest time. So, who chooses the better path?

I just missed being a baby boomer by a year, thus, I am the oldest of

Generation X (born between 1966-1980). I am a blend of baby boomer values and Generation X implementation. We make up 31% of the current workforce.

Gen Xer's work life is characterized by independence, leadership skills and adaptability, and we are technologically adept. We tend to be leaders, value autonomy and have a strong work ethic. We hold 50% of leadership roles in the current workforce. Because so many of us are leaders, we need to adapt to the changing workforce and learn how to better relate to the generations that come after us.

I was surprised to learn that now nearly 50% of all workers in the United States today are millennials (otherwise known as Generation Y). Millennials (born between 1981-1995) were raised in a digital era characterized by constant connectivity and rapid change. Theirs was the first generation to more fully embrace the digital era, although this has sometimes led to social media addiction. They are known for their tech-savviness, desire for meaningful work and passion for innovation.

Millennials prioritize work that aligns with their values, seek flexibility, and strive for healthy work-life integration. Eighty percent of millennials say they seriously consider how a position will affect their work-life balance. I have to admit that last sounds much healthier than my generation.

Then comes Generation Z (born between 1996 and mid-2012). Gen Z cares about the environment

and the future. They are more racially and ethnically diverse than previous generations. They are considered digital natives, being exposed to a digital world from birth. They, more than their predecessors, were raised in a rapidly changing and different world.

As a rebound from millennials, Gen Z prefers more in-person encounters. They are less tolerant of authority, they embrace change, value flexibility and are competitive from increasing demands to succeed in education.

It's clear each generation has something terrific to offer. But how do we meld these different generations currently entwined in the workplace?

I go back to the Gospel. Treat others as you want to be treated. (Lk 6:31) I try less to impose my authority, and instead consider how they want to be treated. I have great respect for younger generations who are concerned about the environment, prioritize their families and adequate rest, who are much more able to adapt to new challenges, and who align their life with their passions and values.

It seems to me that older and younger generations have much to learn from one another, and hopefully, we can all learn to strike a better balance between a hard work ethic and prioritizing our families and emotional health. Hopefully, a future generation will get it *all* right.

(Kimberly Pohovey is a member of St. Jude Parish in Indianapolis. She is the director of major and planned gifts for the archdiocese.) †

Twenty Something/

Christina Capecchi

Find the spark this summer and ignite it

Penguin Random House is beginning to market a special release coming this August: a picture-book biography of



acclaimed children's book creator Barbara Cooney.

The cover feels like a familiar Cooney scene—white church steeple in the background, purple lupines in the foreground—but then inserts Cooney herself

in the middle, sketching in a rowboat, her grey hair pinned up in braids. The title, *World More Beautiful*, is a nod to "Miss Rumphius," one of Cooney's best-known characters, who scatters lupine seeds across the coast of Maine to fulfill her father's instructions to make the world more beautiful.

The whole thing has soft Catholic echoes, calling to mind the Dorothy Day quote: "The world will be saved by beauty."

Cooney was fascinated by creative work, painting it again and again. *The Ox-Cart Man* reaping the gifts of each season and bringing them to market. A father turning black ash trees into baskets. Children creating an elaborate town of stones and boxes in *Roxaboxen*, using black pebbles as their currency.

My favorites are the Cooney books that not only illustrate the creative process, but hint at the inspiration behind it. This is where we can glean insight into Cooney's own artistic drive, that powerful life force that won Caldecott awards and enchanted millions of children.

In *Emma*, a 72-year-old receives a painting of her hometown and muses, "That's not how I remember my village at all."

Her dissatisfaction steadily mounts, finally prodding her to take action: "Every day Emma looked at the painting and frowned. And every day her frown grew a little deeper. One day she made up her mind. She went to the store and bought paints and brushes and an easel."

Emma's painting captures the village just as she remembers it—and it makes her smile.

In *Hattie and the Wild Waves*, the daughter of German immigrants struggles to find her way while her siblings advance their social standing. Hattie is drawn to the ocean, not to tennis parties and fancy gowns.

Year after year, Hattie's desire to paint is pushed aside—until a trip to the opera: "One Tuesday evening, as waves of music filled the opera house, a young woman, down on the stage, sang her heart out. The time had come, she realized, for her to paint her heart out. The next day Hattie put on her coat and hat and marched down to the Art Institute."

There is something holy and brave in that response, in making up your mind, in putting on your coat and marching to the hardware store, in deciding to finally do it—even if you don't know how, even if you don't feel ready.

That's when God steps in and offers "a spark of his own surpassing wisdom," St. John Paul II believed. We are called to share in God's creative power, the late pope wrote, and the effort (not the outcome) makes us holy: "Through his artistic creativity, man appears more than ever in the image of God, and he accomplishes this task above all in shaping the wondrous material of his own humanity."

We work with what we have, the "wondrous material" of our "own humanity": the dirt in our yard, the walls in our home, the yearnings in our heart.

Maybe this summer is your time. Time

See CAPECCHI, page 18

Our Works of Charity/David Bethuram

'Homeless and without hope,' couple turns to Catholic Charities

As a young girl, Andrea was active in sports and served as a youth leader at her church. However, at about 14 years old, she began experimenting with drugs, leading to addiction and distancing herself from her previous life.



By the age of 17, she was using meth and heroin. Yet this is her story of hope.

Andrea married at 18 and got clean when she became pregnant with her first child. Two years later, she had a second child. When her husband lost his job, the stress became overwhelming, and they started using drugs together, which led to violence in their relationship.

Andrea was accused of domestic violence by her husband and arrested, but the charges were dropped. However, her children were placed under their grandmother's guardianship. On their son's second birthday, her husband left the family. Andrea eventually ended up on the streets, addicted and homeless.

During this time, she met Roman, who was also homeless and had been addicted to meth since he was 13 due to childhood abuse. Their relationship began with shared drug use. When Andrea became pregnant, they decided to move to Indiana, where Roman had family.

Despite efforts to stay clean, they relapsed. While living with Roman's mother, Andrea went into labor shortly after getting high and lost custody of her baby due to the drugs in her system.

Distraught, Andrea was arrested after a drug binge. During her three weeks in jail, she picked up a Bible and began reading, which rekindled her faith. She started to believe she

could change her life and get her daughter back.

Andrea encouraged Roman to read the Bible too, marking the beginning of their journey out of addiction. They sought refuge at one of Catholic Charities' temporary shelters where they received meals, clothing and the services they needed to become more self-sufficient. Catholic Charities Case Management Services helped them obtain their Social Security cards and birth certificates, opening up opportunities for employment and housing.

Both Andrea and Roman found jobs, attended church and took the necessary classes to regain custody of their little girl, Lilah. Their income allowed them to secure housing and start the visitation process to spend time with their daughter while working to get full custody.

The road to recovery has been challenging. They regained custody of Lilah and began mending relationships with their other children and families. They have secured jobs that enable them to pay bills and save for the future. For Roman, supporting his family provides the motivation to resist returning to drugs.

Roman reflected, "It's hard to love others when you cannot even love yourself. If I had known what I know now, maybe it could have been different. Catholic Charities gave me the ability to stand on my own two feet. They were the first stop on our path, and without their help, we would still be homeless and without hope."

(David Bethuram is executive director of the archdiocesan Secretariat for Catholic Charities. You can contact him at dbethuram@archindy.org.) †

Guest Column/Richard Etienne

A little inspiration: Where could you use a true infusion of the Holy Spirit?

How often are you truly inspired by an idea or, even greater, an urging?

The word "inspire" literally (yes, literally) means to "breathe spirit into." What a beautiful image!



When was the last time that you felt a deep passion to do God's work—to use your life to do God's will—to play some small role in furthering his kingdom in the very community where you live and work?

The church calls this our apostolate: religious or evangelistic activity or works.

Yes, our individual salvation is the first step. But the second is to lighten the burden on the less fortunate around us.

Or, maybe, you sometimes have truly grand ideas! How often do you seriously ponder the effects of acting on these grand plans? Where did those ideas or impulses come from?

If the source of this inspiration (see what I did there?) is the Holy Spirit, why doesn't a person find a way to make these "visions" happen?

Have you seen the new film *Cabrini* about the life and works of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini? She founded the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, a religious institute that was a major support to her fellow Italian

immigrants to the United States. Now there is an example of a person who acted on the urgings of the Holy Spirit!

In the Book of Genesis, we read, "then the Lord God formed the man out of the dust of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being" (Gn 2:7). Again, what a fantastic image! God breathed his spirit into man—and "so man became a living being." And the purpose of this new "being" is to love and serve the wondrous God who made all creation!

In the Book of Joel, we read that "your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even upon your male and female servants, in those days, I

See ETIENNE, page 18

Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time/Msg. Owen F. Campion

The Sunday Readings

Sunday, June 9, 2024

- Genesis 3:9-15
- 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1
- Mark 3:20-35

The Book of Genesis is the source of the first reading for Mass this weekend. Genesis is the first book, chronologically and sequentially, in the modern translation of the Bible. It is among the first five books of the Hebrew Scriptures, or Old Testament. These books altogether form the Pentateuch, a term taken from the Greek word for “five.”



For Judaism, these five books are the bedrock of God’s revelation to humanity. It is more than a matter of chronology or antiquity. These books present the very basis for understanding the identity of Almighty God, for knowing ourselves, and for defining the purpose and the realities of life.

Given this virtually sublime importance to our knowledge of everything real, it is so very sad that study of Genesis so often merely skips along the surface and among trivial questions. For instance, it hardly is critical to know how many days the creation of the universe required. The universe is here. We are part of it. It did not just “happen.” God created everything.

God gave us life. Furthermore, he gave us the power to discern and to act. He gave us a free will. He destined us for union with him in eternity.

These are the magnificent facts provided by Genesis, not incidentals to tantalize our bewilderment as to where Eden, the garden of paradise, was located on a map.

The supreme message for us in this passage from Genesis is that if we dismiss God’s revelation and reject God, we reap the whirlwind. Look at Adam. He was not a figure totally unique. As the first human male, he represents all of us. Genesis urges us to be cautious of Adam’s plight.

St. Paul’s Second Epistle to the Corinthians is the source of the second

reading. It also provides a lesson about our identity. We are individuals experiencing opportunities and problems. As humans, just as in the case of Adam, we make mistakes.

We are not lost in the fog, however, blindly and inevitably stumbling toward the edge of a cliff from which we fall upon the rocks. The Holy Spirit empowers, inspires and guides us.

The Holy Spirit moved St. Paul. He was not unique, however, as he insists. Every earnest disciple can be confident of equal help from the Spirit.

St. Mark’s Gospel furnishes the Gospel reading. In this story, as was so often the case, Jesus was with the disciples. His familiarity with the disciples is important. Their memories of the Lord are reliable.

Also, Jesus is with other people. His relatives are there, along with bystanders.

The common thread running through the story is the lack of perception (or worse) on the part of the audience. They simply did not get it. Jesus had to turn to parables to make the lesson clear.

He spoke quite logically. No one can serve two different masters or serve competing purposes. It was as clear as it could be, but so many simply did not perceive the reality, regardless of how boldly it stood before them.

Reflection

One of God’s greatest gifts to us is the revelation of who and what we are. We are creatures of God, beloved adopted children of God.

Wonder and tragedy are in the fact that we squander this magnificent reality and literally dig our own graves. So, it was with Adam. So, it has been and is in the case of everyone who sins—and we all sin.

We are not meant to be hopeless victims of our own mistakes, hopeless, powerless, tempted and left to our doom.

We need God, but marvelously, if we verify our identity through our Christian commitment, the Holy Spirit is with us. †

The Criterion will not have an issue next week due to its summer schedule. The reflection of Msgr. Campion for Sunday, June 16, will be posted at www.archindy.org/campion.

Daily Readings

Monday, June 10

1 Kings 17:1-6
Psalm 121:1b-8
Matthew 5:1-12

Tuesday, June 11

St. Barnabas, Apostle
Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3
Psalm 98:1-6
Matthew 5:13-16

Wednesday, June 12

1 Kings 18:20-39
Psalm 16:1-2, 4-5, 8, 11
Matthew 5:17-19

Thursday, June 13

St. Anthony of Padua, priest and doctor of the Church
1 Kings 18:41-46
Psalm 65:10-13
Matthew 5:20-26

Friday, June 14

1 Kings 19:9a, 11-16
Psalm 27:7-9c, 13-14
Matthew 5:27-32

Saturday, June 15

1 Kings 19:19-21
Psalm 16:1b-2a, 5, 7-10
Matthew 5:33-37

Sunday, June 16

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Ezekiel 17:22-24
Psalm 92:2-3, 13-16
2 Corinthians 5:6-10
Mark 4:26-34

Monday, June 17

1 Kings 21:1-16
Psalm 5:2-3b, 4b-7
Matthew 5:38-42

See READINGS, page 19

Question Corner/Jenna Marie Cooper

Parishes are free to link Mass attendance to discounts for school tuition

Many Catholic schools in the archdiocese I am in are now adopting expectations to attend 75% of the year’s



Masses and holy days of obligation only at the school’s parish to receive “active parishioner discounts” for school tuition, among other expectations.

While I support positively encouraging

Mass attendance and involvement in the parish, the expectation requires logging your attendance at Mass to receive credit, which I don’t agree with. The transactional nature of the Mass attendance record feels misaligned with the intent of Mass.

Is having a parish-sponsored minimum attendance record for a tuition discount aligned with canon law? Does it infringe on our free will to determine, in good faith, if we are excused from the duty of Mass? Is a Mass attendance record misaligned with the trust that the Church is to provide to parishioners? (Location withheld)

ACertainly, attending Mass should never take on a “transactional” tone. But since I’m not “on the ground” or directly acquainted with the situation in your archdiocese, I can’t come to a firm opinion on the appropriateness or inappropriateness of this system of tracking Mass attendance. I can share a few observations, however.

First, technically speaking, a tuition discount for attending Mass does not violate canon law. Yes, simony—that is, the buying or selling of sacraments or “spiritual things” (see the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #2121)—is not only a canonical crime but a grave sin. As per Canon

1380 of the *Code of Canon Law*, “a person who through simony celebrates or receives a sacrament” can be punished with interdict, which is similar to excommunication, or even by some other more enduring penalty.

But paying tuition to a school is not the same as buying or selling a sacrament. Education certainly has a spiritual component, but it is not fundamentally a supernatural reality like the sacraments. This is clear by the fact that most modern secular societies provide for some degree of education for their people, and even Catholic schools routinely teach nonreligious subjects.

Additionally, if you could read any buying or selling into this particular situation, I suppose it would be that the parish or diocese is “paying” parents to attend Mass via a tuition discount. While it would be a crime to attempt to buy a sacrament, I don’t think the reverse holds true. Or in other words, if the local Church wants to attach some material benefit to Mass attendance, this would be the free addition of one gift (a tuition discount) to a greater gift which is already offered freely (the holy sacrifice of the Mass).

This is also a separate issue from one’s ability to discern in conscience whether one is bound to the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation. In this regard, the Church does trust us to use our own common sense in good faith to determine whether illness, severe weather, distance from a Catholic parish or some other serious reason renders it imprudent or practically impossible for us to attend Sunday Mass.

But this freedom pertains to the question of whether or not our missing Mass is a sin. We are not promised any fringe benefits that come about as a result of Mass attendance just because we have legitimately discerned that our specific life circumstances excuse us from the Sunday obligation.

I can sympathize with whoever drafted this diocesan policy, as it seems like they were trying to juggle competing priorities. These days, it can be expensive to run a Catholic school, but at the same time Catholic education should be accessible to those who are striving to raise their children in the faith.

A system of “logging in” to Mass might not have been my own solution to this problem, but perhaps we can try to appreciate the challenge these administrators were facing.

(Jenna Marie Cooper, who holds a licentiate in canon law, is a consecrated virgin and a canonist whose column appears weekly at OSV News. Send your questions to CatholicQA@osv.com.) †

My Journey to God

Be Still and Know I Am God

By Seana Zoderer

Be Still and Know I Am God

My Love, you are God.
But why do I feel responsible
for making everything OK?
I see and feel suffering everywhere.
The weight of the world is heavy.
Help me surrender it all to you—
willingly, lovingly, completely.

Be Still and Know I Am

God, you are *in* everything.
God, you *are* everything.
Help me *see you* and *feel you*
in all of your beautiful creation.

Be Still and Know

God, you are love perfected.
Love that casts out fear.
Love that endures *all*.
Help me fully realize your love
is *all* I need.

Be Still

God, you are mercy.
You are hope.
You are peace beyond understanding.
Help me rest *in you*.

Be

My Love, you are God.
Help me to just *be*.



(Seana Zoderer is a member of St. Roch Parish in Indianapolis. Photo: A bench sits along a rosary path at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House in Indianapolis in this photo from Aug. 25, 2018.) (Photo by Natalie Hoefler)

Rest in peace

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

AMRHEIN, Michael A., 82, St. Louis, Batesville, May 14. Husband of Donna Amrhein. Father of Christina Ashley, Sarah Foley, Andrew and David Amrhein. Brother of Mary Horinger, Gary, Mark, Rodger and Steve Amrhein. Grandfather of eight.

BELL, Patricia (Griffo), 83, Christ the King, Indianapolis, May 19. Mother of Ann Collins, Maureen Mifsud and Robert Bell. Sister of Mary Grant, Chuck, Greg, Tony and Vince Griffo. Grandmother of six. Great-grandmother of one.

BLANTON, Randell, 75, St. Gabriel, Connersville, May 17.

CARPENTER, Mary L., 67, St. Malachy, Brownsburg, May 15. Mother of Jennifer McKinney and John Carpenter. Sister of Diane Evans, Barbara Land, Roberta Pratt, Susan and Alan Murphy. Grandmother of one.

EDEN, Joanne C., 84, St. Bartholomew, Columbus, April 26. Mother of Beverly Grable, Howard and Joseph Eden. Sister of Brenda Dietrick, Patricia Frazier, Vicky Ott and David Sherrill. Grandmother of three. Great-grandmother of five.

EQUIHUA-RAMOS, Felipe, 65, St. Bartholomew, Columbus, April 30. Husband of Maria Del Carmen Urbina Equihua. Father of Liz, Lucia, Noel, Lupe and Sandy. Brother of eight. Grandfather of two. Great-grandfather of one.

FINNEY, Jack C., 75, St. Jude, Indianapolis, May 18. Father of Erin, Jacqueline, Michael and Timothy Finney. Brother of Patricia Checkawitz. Grandfather of 10. Great-grandfather of three.

FREEMAN, J. B., 92, St. Bartholomew, Columbus, May 16. Husband of Jeanette Freeman. Father of Deborah Beal, Karen Johnson, Rita Zirgibel and Wayne Freeman. Grandfather of 10. Great-grandfather of 21.

HARRISON, Ann M., 98, Prince of Peace, Madison, May 16. Mother of Troy Harrison. Grandmother of two. Great-grandmother of three. Great-great-grandmother of six. Great-great-great grandmother of two.

HOLD, Rose Marie (Javorski), 84, St. Joseph, Corydon, May 12. Mother of Wendy Chitwood, Sandra Morrison, Elaine Richardson, Carrie Whitehead and Louise Schenck. Sister of Bernadette, Cecelia and Kathleen. Grandmother of four. Great-grandmother of six.

HOLMES, John C., 73, St. Gabriel, Connersville, April 25. Husband of Frances Holmes. Father of Darcy Rowley and Nate Holmes. Son of Keith Holmes. Brother of Susan Gansert, Julie Greeson, Sarah McKinney and Jim Holmes. Grandfather of three.

KAISER, Martha K., 83, St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Aurora, May 20. Mother of Jennifer Fiedeldey, David and Mark Kaiser. Grandmother of four. Great-grandmother of three.

LARK, Sharon, 70, Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Indianapolis, May 3. Wife of Robert Lark, Jr. Mother of Mary Kathleen Lark. Sister of Nancy Chapin, Eileen Doyle, Kathleen Wills, Patricia, Michael and Thomas McShane.

LIVINGSTON, Marlene J. (Conway), 89, St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Aurora, May 12. Mother of Judy Cooper, Kathy Meyer, David and Donny Livingston. Sister of Judy Ernst and Nancy Koslowski. Grandmother of eight.

MAGNAYE, Emeteria L., 84, St. Thomas More, Mooresville, May 17. Mother of Judith Garcia, Cleo Sinamban, Agnes, Clodielicia and Angelo Magnaye. Grandmother of seven.

MEYER, Howard, 87, St. Mary, Greensburg, May 11. Husband of Rita Meyer. Father of Jenny Gehring, Marcia Kurtz, Marlene Tichenor, Becky Walter, Adam, Steve and Ted Meyer. Grandfather of 24. Great-grandfather of 31.

MILLER, Kathleen, 84, Holy Spirit, Indianapolis, May 14. Wife of Ross Miller. Mother of Sandy Hogan, Joyce Moore, Kathy Sutherlin, Larry

Honoring Mary



Father Jerry Byrd, pastor of St. Ann and St. Joseph parishes in Jennings County and St. Mary Parish in North Vernon, leads St. Joseph parishioners in praying the rosary during an evening Marian procession on the parish grounds on May 25 in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary. (Submitted photo by Therese Hauerperger)

and Tom Foley and Kevin and Kyle Miller. Sister of Maureen Craft, Patricia Lill, Bob, Jim and Mike McCoy. Grandmother of 12. Great-grandmother of 24. Great-great-grandmother of three.

MILLS, David K., 62, St. Gabriel, Connersville, May 9. Husband of Sheri Mills. Father of Kenzy Zmyslo, Ashley, Sam and Shane Mills. Brother of Linda Birnie and Lisa Martens. Grandfather of four.

MOWAT, Lawrence, 81, SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi, Greenwood, April 18. Father of Jennifer Danek, Rebecca Skeel, Laurie and Lawrence Mowat, Jr. Grandfather of eight.

SANDER, Jr., Bernard, 79, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Indianapolis, May 7. Husband of Antoinette Sander. Father of Amy Martin, Ben, Kevin and Stephen Sander. Grandfather of 10.

SCHAUB, Sara A., 80, St. Bartholomew, Columbus, April 27. Wife of Ronald Schaub.

SHARPNACK, Judge John T., 90, St. Bartholomew, Columbus, March 25. Husband of Helen Sharpnack. Father of Roseanne and Christopher Sharpnack. Grandfather of one.

STRAWN, Julie E., 85, Holy Name of Jesus, Beech Grove, May 11. Mother of Theresa

Cole and Paul Meiring. Grandmother of two.

THOMPSON, Thomas J., 65, St. Mark the Evangelist, Indianapolis, May 10. Husband of Theresa Thompson. Father of Patrick Thompson.

TOWNSEND, Mercedes, 80, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton,

Richmond, May 4. Mother of Rhonda McClure, Tracey Mitchell and David Townsend. Sister of Michele Switzler. Grandmother of four. Great-grandmother of two.

WILLHELM, Michael D., 66, St. Gabriel, Connersville, May 5. Son of Mary Ann Willhelm. Brother of Peggy Bates, Sue Doulen, Kathy

Huber, Pamela and Mark Willhelm. Uncle and great-uncle of several.

WITUSZYNSKI, Michael P., 85, St. Malachy, Brownsburg, March 17. Husband of Mary Ellen Wituszynski. Father of Melissa Dafoe, Melodi Jonas, Martin and Michael Wituszynski. Grandfather of 13. Great-grandfather of 13. †

Benedictine Father Aurelius Boborek taught at Saint Meinrad, American College in Louvain, Belgium

Benedictine Father Aurelius Boborek, a monk of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad, died on May 27, at the monastery. He was 94.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on June 1. Burial followed at the Archabbey Cemetery.

Father Aurelius was a jubilarian of monastic profession, having celebrated 71 years of monastic profession. He was also a jubilarian of ordination, having celebrated 67 years of life and ministry as a priest.

Father Aurelius was born on Feb. 12, 1930, in Brooklyn, N.Y., and was given the name Francis Ambrose at his baptism.

Father Aurelius was invested as a novice at Saint Meinrad in 1951. He professed simple vows on Aug. 1, 1952, and solemn vows on Sept. 8, 1955. He was ordained a priest on May 3, 1957.

Father Aurelius earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy and classics in 1954 at the former Saint Meinrad College in St. Meinrad. He later earned a master's degrees in classical languages and liturgical studies in 1962 at the University of Notre Dame in northern Indiana. In 1966,

he earned a doctorate in education at Indiana University in Bloomington.

Father Aurelius was also awarded an honorary doctorate in sacred theology in 2001 by the former American College of the Immaculate Conception in Louvain, Belgium.

Father Aurelius taught Latin and religion and served as dean of students at Saint Meinrad College for many years. He ministered as vice rector of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology from 1965-69 and as a professor of liturgy from 1988-95.

Father Aurelius also served as the director of liturgical formation, a professor of homiletics and vice rector for two years at the American College in Louvain from 1983 until he retired in 2005. When he retired, he was awarded the college's first Archbishop Fulton Sheen Medal.

In the monastery, Father Aurelius served as master of ceremonies from 1971-78, on several liturgical committees and on the renovation committee for the Archabbey Church of Our Lady of Einsiedeln from 1993-97.

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

Online Lay Ministry Formation

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



CAPECCHI

continued from page 16

to write that book, to dust off that camera, to make that quilt, to enter that rhubarb pie in the county fair. Create something that makes you smile.

Take your favorite little space and breathe life into it—hang a pennant or petunias or a swing. Tap into God's creative power. And like Barbara Cooney, make the world more beautiful.

(Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn.) †

ETIENNE

continued from page 16

will pour out my spirit" (Jl 3:1-2). Our faith teaches that these very things are true for all of God's people who have been baptized.

And in the Gospel of John, it says, "And when he had said this, he breathed on them [the disciples who were hiding in the locked room in fear] and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit' " (Jn 20:22).

It is only after this that the disciples are able to eventually move out of the locked room and begin to

witness as demonstrated by Peter in chapter two of the Acts of the Apostles.

Where are the situations in your own life that could use a little inspiration—a true infusion of the Holy Spirit? What inspiring vision is the Holy Spirit breathing into you? How are you going to respond to these urgings? Is it time to open the "locked doors" in your life? Are you asking and praying for this guidance? Doesn't God work in mysterious ways?

(Richard Etienne has a degree in theology from Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad and resides in Newburgh, Ind.) †

REPORT SEXUAL MISCONDUCT NOW

If you are a victim of sexual misconduct by a person ministering 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. There are two ways to make a report:

- 1 Ethics Point Confidential, Online Reporting**
www.archdioceseofindianapolis.ethicspoint.com or 888-393-6810
- 2 Victim Assistance Coordinator, Archdiocese of Indianapolis**
P.O. Box 1410, Indianapolis, IN 46206-1410
317-236-1548 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1548
victimassistance@archindy.org

Hispanic Ministry, Franciscan Health partner on social impact program

Criterion staff report

In a joint effort between the archdiocesan Hispanic Ministry and Franciscan Health, a unique initiative was recently completed through Franciscan's Social Impact Partnership Program (SIPP).

The project, "Building Healthy Family Relationships 2023-2024," aimed to improve the quality of life and well-being of communities through an assessment of health needs. More than 300 people participated.

"It allowed vulnerable families to benefit from activities that help them learn about a reality that today affects millions of people around the world: mental health," noted Felix Navarrete, archdiocesan coordinator of Hispanic Ministry. "Especially certain populations affected by racism, including refugees and immigrants, low-income families, young people at risk and other vulnerable sectors."

The program's funds recently increased to achieve broader coverage, benefiting not only residents of Marion County, but also some families in rural areas of the state, he added.

Led by the archdiocesan Hispanic Ministry, "Building Healthy Family Relationships" featured a family camp experience at CYO Camp Rancho Framasa in Brown County during the fall of 2023, where 68 families gathered. The group consisted of 113 adults; 79 children up to age 12; 37 teens ages 13 to 17; and 24 young adults and adults ages 18 to 35. Focus areas were mental well-being and family relationships, with interactive talks and recreational activities for all ages. Topics were taught by mental health professionals.

Workshops led by Catholic therapists committed to the mission of evangelizing in the professional sphere included "Use and management of social networks: how they affect the mental health of young people"; "How to identify signs of mental trauma in children"; and "Healing in the marital relationship," among others.

"The results of the project show a high rate of misinformation on issues of mental and psychological well-being, and more than 50% of the participants expressed interest in continuing to develop skills to improve communication and interpersonal relationships at home," Navarrete said. "This reality leads us to acquire greater commitments of social interest through our ministries. The mission of evangelizing calls us to understand the human being as a whole, that is caring for body, mind and soul."



Nelly Bonilla, a Catholic psychologist from Minnesota, leads a talk for youths titled "How social media could affect your mental health." The workshop was part of a family camp experience at CYO Camp Rancho Framasa in Brown County last fall. (Submitted photo by Felix Navarrete)

This spring, the SIPP initiative was completed with two more activities. One was an informative conference for parents titled "To love is to take care of mental health," where Catholic therapists Nelly and Carlos Bonilla offered awareness about the responsibility that parents have to ensure the care of children's mental health in the way they care in other areas of development.

Second, an interactive conference for those 15 and older titled "Mentally Healthy" covered topics related to the use of networks, emotional healing, strategies to control stress and anxiety, and a session about how substance abuse

affects the integral development of the human being.

"Franciscan Health's social impact program has greatly contributed to the strengthening of our ministry in the mission of accompanying our families in their process of adaptation to change, especially in the context of immigrant families who seek family recreation opportunities in a healthy environment," Navarrete said. "This is precisely what we have achieved through this project, creating spaces for culturally similar groups who, at the same time, face the same challenges and seek common interests, achieving a task of raising awareness on health issues and mental wellness." †

El Ministerio Hispano y Franciscan Health se asocian en un programa de impacto social

Reportaje del personal del *The Criterion*

En un esfuerzo conjunto entre el Ministerio Hispano de la Arquidiócesis y Franciscan Health, se completó recientemente una iniciativa única a través del Programa de Asociación de Impacto Social (SIPP) de Franciscan.

El proyecto, en el que participaron más de 300 personas y que se tituló "Construir relaciones familiares sanas 2023-2024," tenía como objetivo mejorar la calidad de vida y el bienestar de las comunidades mediante una evaluación de las necesidades de salud.

"Permitió que familias vulnerables se beneficiaran de actividades que les ayudan a conocer una realidad que hoy afecta a millones de personas en todo el mundo: la salud mental"—señaló Félix Navarrete, coordinador arquidiocesano del Ministerio Hispano—. "Especialmente ciertas poblaciones afectadas por el racismo, como las de refugiados e inmigrantes, familias de bajos ingresos, jóvenes en situación de riesgo y otros sectores vulnerables."

Recientemente se incrementaron los fondos del programa para lograr una cobertura más amplia y de esta forma poder beneficiar, no solamente a los residentes del condado de Marion, sino también a algunas familias de las zonas rurales del estado, según expresó Navarrete.

Dirigido por el Ministerio Hispano de la Arquidiócesis, "Construir relaciones familiares saludables" ofreció

una experiencia de campamento familiar en CYO Camp Rancho Framasa del condado de Brown durante el otoño de 2023, en la que se dieron cita 68 familias. El grupo estaba formado por 113 adultos, 79 niños de hasta 12 años, 37 adolescentes de 13 a 17 años, y 24 jóvenes y adultos de 18 a 35 años. Las áreas de interés fueron el bienestar mental y las relaciones familiares, con charlas interactivas a cargo de profesionales de la salud mental y actividades recreativas para todas las edades.

Los talleres dirigidos por terapeutas católicos comprometidos con la misión de evangelizar en el ámbito profesional incluyeron: "Uso y gestión de las redes sociales: cómo afectan a la salud mental de los jóvenes"; "Cómo identificar los signos de trauma mental en los niños"; y "Sanación en la relación conyugal," entre otros.

"Los resultados del proyecto muestran un alto índice de desinformación sobre cuestiones de bienestar mental y psicológico, y más del 50% de los participantes manifestaron su interés por seguir desarrollando habilidades para mejorar la comunicación y las relaciones interpersonales en el hogar"—afirmó Navarrete—. "Esta realidad nos lleva a adquirir mayores compromisos de interés social a través de nuestros ministerios. La misión de evangelizar nos llama a comprender al ser humano como un todo, es decir, a cuidar el cuerpo, la mente y el alma."

Esta primavera, a la iniciativa SIPP se añadieron dos actividades más. Una de ellas fue una conferencia informativa para padres titulada "Amar es cuidar la salud mental," en la que los terapeutas católicos Nelly y Carlos Bonilla ofrecieron concienciación sobre la responsabilidad que tienen los padres de garantizar el cuidado de la salud mental de los niños de la misma forma que cuidan otras áreas del desarrollo.

En segundo lugar, una conferencia interactiva para mayores de 15 años titulada "Mentalmente sanos" abordó temas relacionados con el uso de las redes, la sanación emocional, estrategias para controlar el estrés y la ansiedad, y una sesión sobre cómo el abuso de sustancias afecta al desarrollo integral del ser humano.

"El programa de impacto social de Franciscan Health ha contribuido enormemente al fortalecimiento de nuestro ministerio en la misión de acompañar a nuestras familias en su proceso de adaptación al cambio, especialmente en el contexto de las familias inmigrantes que buscan oportunidades de esparcimiento familiar en un entorno saludable"—comentó Navarrete—. "Esto es precisamente lo que hemos conseguido con este proyecto: crear espacios para grupos culturalmente semejantes que, al mismo tiempo, se enfrentan a retos similares y tienen intereses comunes, con el objetivo de crear conciencia sobre temas de salud y bienestar mental." †

READINGS

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Tuesday, June 18

1 Kings 21:17-29
Psalm 51:3-6, 11, 16
Matthew 5:43-48

Wednesday, June 19

St. Romuald, abbot
2 Kings 2:1, 6-14
Psalm 31:20-21, 24
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday, June 20

Sirach 48:1-14
Psalm 97:1-7
Matthew 6:7-15

Friday, June 21

St. Aloysius Gonzaga, religious
2 Kings 11:1-4, 9-18, 20
Psalm 132:11-14, 17-18
Matthew 6:19-23

Saturday, June 22

St. Paulinus of Nola, bishop
St. John Fisher, bishop and martyr
St. Thomas More, martyr
2 Chronicles 24:17-25
Psalm 89:4-5, 29-34
Matthew 6:24-34

Sunday, June 23

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Job 38:1, 8-11
Psalm 107:23-26, 28-31
2 Corinthians 5:14-17
Mark 4:35-41

Classified Directory

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|--|--|--|
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| Arizona State University | Ivy Tech Community College | United States Military Academy |
| Army National Guard | Lehigh University | United States Military Academy Prep School |
| Ball State University | Louisiana State University and A&M College | United States Naval Academy |
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GREATNESS CALLED AND THE CLASS OF 2024 ANSWERED!