



Serving the Catholic Church in Southwestern Indiana

# THE MESSAGE

## St. John Daylight missionaries help a number of tri-state ministries

BY DEACON DAVID RICE  
Special to The Message

*"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."*  
— Ephesians 2:10

Stories abound of people whose lives have been impacted by mission trips. Yes, the nature of these mission trips is impactful because it involves leaving ones' collective comfort zone, stepping out in faith and ministering cross culturally.

Twenty-eight members of St. John the Evangelist Parish recently participated in an "in town/local mission trip." St. John parishioners have traveled to Cincinnati and Appalachia as part of previous missions; this year, we recognized that there are needs right here in the tri-state.

God is doing tremendous things all over the world, and it was awesome to see what He's doing in  
*See DAYLIGHT, page 13*



Submitted photo courtesy of St. John the Evangelist, Daylight Missionaries Dick Seib, crouching, and Michelle Rexing repair and restore the garage door of a home owned by Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Evansville. When repairs and renovation are complete, Catholic Charities will rent the property to a low-income family.

## UE graduate makes profession to Little Sisters



Submitted photo courtesy of the Little Sisters of the Poor Friends and family with Sister Amy Hagedorn as she celebrates her profession of vows. Above with Sister Amy Hagedorn are Abby Seibert, her brother Jeremy Hagedorn, her father Joe Hagedorn, Carla Wildeman, UE Newman Center, Bishop David A. Zubik of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, her sister Amanda Foster, her mother Marilyn Hagedorn; Father Jason Gries, pastor of St. John Parish in Daylight and Holy Trinity Parish in Evansville, Tom Wildeman and her brother-in-law Dexter Foster.

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## Archbishop Kurtz asks U.S. Catholics to pray for world peace

BY THE MESSAGE STAFF

Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Ky., president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, has contacted his brother bishops to ask that U.S. Catholics pray — in solidarity with Pope Francis — for peace in the Middle East and across the world.

"On Sunday, July 20, our Holy Father, Pope Francis, prayed for peace in all situations of tension and conflict in the world," Archbishop Kurtz wrote. "He mentioned in particular the Middle East and Ukraine, singling out the terrible crisis of Christians in Iraq with these words: 'Today our brothers are persecuted. They are banished from their homes and forced to flee

*See KURTZ, page 13*

BY THE MESSAGE STAFF

Tell City, Ind., native and University of Evansville graduate Sister Amy Catherine Joseph Hagedorn made her first profession of vows to the Little Sisters of the Poor on July 19 at St. Ann's Novitiate in Queens Village, N.Y. Profession of the vows of chastity, poverty, obedience and hospitality for two years is preceded by a two-year novitiate. This is capped off by an eight-day silent retreat.

Most Rev. David Zubik, bishop of Pittsburgh, Pa., was the main celebrant and homilist.

Sister Amy graduated from UE with a degree in nursing, and she worked and volunteered with the Little Sisters of the Poor while at the university. She also was active in the UE Newman Center.

She received her first obedience for the Little Sisters' home in Philadelphia, Pa.

Two other women made their first profession of vows July 19 with Sister Amy.

Sister Elisabeth de l'Eucharistie Dugré is from Québec, Canada, and met the Little Sisters while working as a baker in Montréal. In addition to her culinary skills, Sister Elisabeth is an accomplished flutist. She has been assigned to another Little Sisters' home in Dinan, France, the third home of the congregation and the site where St. Jeanne Jugan worked with the Brothers of St. John of God to draft the original constitutions of the congregation.

Sister Maria Carmen Therese Ozuna was born in Mexico and immigrated to the United States, settling in the Philadelphia area. Sister Maria Carmen worked as a child-care provider before entering the Little Sisters congregation in Philadelphia. She is headed to Jeanne Jugan Residence in Washington, D.C.

On July 18, Megan Spelic, who entered the Little Sisters postulancy program in Oct. 2013, was received into the novitiate and took the religious name Sister Bernadette Rose. She is from Omaha, Neb., and met the Little Sisters while a student at Benedictine College in Atchison, Kan.

*Carla Wildeman of the UE Newman Center and the Little Sisters of the Poor provided information for this story.*

## Because we're happy!

St. Theresa Catholic School students and siblings, left to right, Trenton, Katlynn and Dylan Hassel do a happy dance after having their photo taken when they arrived for the first day of school. St. Theresa School is the first to open the 2014-2015 school year in the Diocese of Evansville. The remaining 27 schools will open over the next two weeks.

The Message photo by Tim Lilley



# St. Maria Goretti Youth Group takes mission trip to eastern Kentucky

BY KATE BITTNER  
The Message intern

*"Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which He looks. Compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good. Yours are the hands with which He blesses all the world. Yours are the hands. Yours are the feet. Yours are the eyes. You are His body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours."*

— Prayer of St. Theresa of Avila

With the assistance of six adults, 14 teenagers from the St. Maria Goretti Youth Group were the hands, feet and eyes of Christ for the impoverished of David, Ky., an unincorporated coal-mining-related community in Floyd County — in the Appalachian Mountains of east-central Kentucky.

The youth group includes young people from Holy Cross Parish in Fort Branch, St. Bernard Parish in Snake Run, St. James Parish in Haubstadt, and Sts. Peter and Paul Parish in Haubstadt. They heard about the possibility of making a mission trip to eastern Kentucky from the youth group at St. Joseph Parish in Princeton, which has made similar trips. The teens eagerly signed up for the mission trip, truly understanding the importance of serving those in need. For five days, the hardworking young people did everything asked of them without question or complaint.

They worked on many projects involving a home being built and another being remodeled. Their tasks included drywall mudding and sanding, painting, plumbing, laid down new linoleum floor, did new electrical work, made a holder for a sink out of wood from scratch, did roof work, cut and nailed on aluminum siding for the house, nailed boards around the outside windows, painted sealer on the roof, replaced rotted wood under refrigerator, put on new doorknobs, and cut, stained, and nailed on new baseboards around a room. Each day a smaller group woke up early to make breakfast and in the afternoons went back to the school and made the dinner meal.

"This year's mission trip was a unique experience. I bonded with everyone who went, and I definitely learned a lot," said Robert Buehner, a youth group member from St. Bernard Parish.

Service is worthless without the guidance of prayer. With that in mind, each morning of the trip began with a prayer session led by the youth. Every night closed with a scripture passage followed by a discussion of how God's Word connected to that day.

The young people also made time for some fun and relaxation. After working an eight-

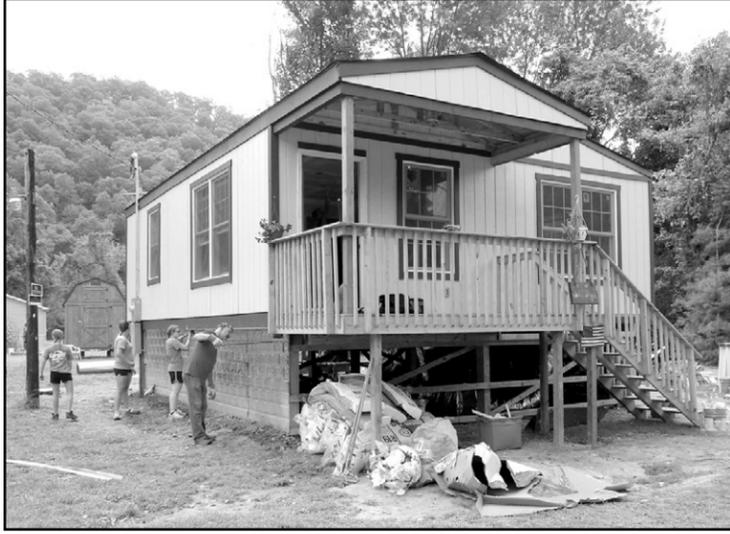


Photo credit

Three members of the St. Maria Goretti Youth Group work with Deacon Joe Siewers, right, outside the new home. It replaces a home in such disrepair that it had to be destroyed.



Joseph Buehner, left, helps Deacon Joe Siewers place siding on the new-build home.

hour day, they returned to the school where they stayed for supper, then some games — an intense Spoons card game, adults versus youth volleyball, adrenaline-pumping basketball, Texas Hold 'Em and other card games. On their last night in Kentucky, the already-exhausted group played an extreme game of Ultimate Frisbee until midnight.

The Frisbee action followed a trip to the Red River Gorge. The group marveled at the beauty of God's creation as they hiked up a mountain and walked across the natural bridge. It was

a rainy day, but the weather couldn't dampen their excitement for swimming in the river and jumping into the cool water.

Reflecting upon the trip, many youth were surprised by the poverty of the people in the area. It was almost like entering a different world — one they almost couldn't fathom. Their minds stretched to imagine a life where it was uncommon to graduate from high school, and they found it shocking that many of the best jobs in the area were in coal mines and fast-food restaurants.

## People We Care About

Following is a feature in *The Message*, designed to help draw together the People of God in southwestern Indiana. Readers are invited to submit information about people who may benefit by some extra prayers and attention.

- **Bishop-emeritus Gerald A. Gettelfinger**, the fourth bishop of the Diocese of Evansville, was scheduled to undergo a heart procedure on July 31.

- **Deacon Emil Altmeyer**, St. Joseph Parish in Evansville, was scheduled to have triple bypass surgery on July 30.

Please send information for PEOPLE WE CARE ABOUT to Mary Ann Hughes, *The Message*, P.O. Box 4169, Evansville, IN 47724. The e-mail address is mhughes@evdio.org.



Youth Group Minister Brian Macke, left, holds PVC pipe while volunteer Drew Happe cuts it.



Delaney Spindler, left, and Holly Bittner proudly display the fruits of their labor in the garden of Grow Appalachia, a local concern that sells produce to area families.

It broke their hearts to see a run-down mobile home on a lot next to a nice house with a late-model Mustang parked outside. The experience really opened their eyes and helped them to appreciate more fully the things that they have and the opportunities with which they have been blessed.

"Throughout our entire time

together, I felt the grace and presence of Jesus and the Holy Spirit filling us with a transformative love," Bryan Macke, the youth minister for the St. Maria Goretti Youth Group, said. "I think we were all changed a bit, encouraged to continue in the same Spirit as we return home, living each day a little more full in Christ."

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Good Shepherd

# Social Support group focuses on enjoying the present



Meetings are all about good food and "enjoying each other's company."



Dorothy Gooch, left, Marcella Dougherty, Mary Lou Davis, and Timmie Lingo staff the welcome/registration table at a recent Social Support meeting.



Good Shepherd Social Support meetings feature lunch prepared by Pam Stevens of PMS Catering.



Helena Morrison, left, Gerri Zuber and Evelyn Lannert visit while waiting to play Clabber.



Yvonne Bertram, right, and Anneliese Frazee, left, laugh between bites.



The Message photos by Laura Acchiardo  
Lucille "Pete" Fowler, left, shares a laugh with Wilma Lovett.

month, the Social Support group meets in Good Shepherd's cafeteria for a good meal catered by Pam Stevens of PMS Catering. They also play games like Clabber and Skip-Bo, and chat with the other members. Lingo coordinates the monthly meetings with help from Marcella Dougherty and Dorothy Gooch.

"I enjoy it," Mary Lou Davis, a member of Social Support group, said. "I look forward to it every month, and I enjoy seeing the women and catching up with them. They talk and tell us where they go to church and their maiden names. It's a time to enjoy each other's company."

Good Shepherd Social Support began in 1997 when Father Ted Tempel asked Lingo to organize and lead the group. Starting out with 15 people, the group has grown over the years and now includes 63 members. Whether divorced or widowed, the support group invites all men and women of different parishes and different faiths to join them.

"It's open to men and women," Lingo said. "However, we have not been able to keep any men because the women overpower them and scare them away. I guess we're too good at Clabber. But we have people from all over Evansville and Boonville; some Protestants, and even a Jewish woman."

When a group member passes away, Social Support commemorates his or her life by hosting a Mass at Good

Shepherd and donating money for the service. Lingo also puts their obituaries in a scrapbook to remember and celebrate the lives of past members.

Social Support also gives back to the community. At every meeting, "half pot" tickets are sold to the members. Half the pot goes to the member whose ticket is drawn and the group donates the other half to local causes.

Though a divorce or death of a spouse can be devastating, Social Support makes the best of it. The group's mission is "to alleviate the pain of loneliness by meeting new people in the same situation and sharing experiences in coping with life alone — less stressful and more enjoyable."

"People come," Lingo said, "and feel a little more relaxed . . . where they can get away from all the worry and the pain that they had during their loved ones' illnesses."

**BY LAURA ACCHIARDO**  
The Message intern

Losing a spouse, whether by death or divorce, is never easy. But the members of Evansville's Good Shepherd Social Support group choose to enjoy the present instead of dwelling on the past.

"I have gone to other support groups, and all they do is sit there and cry, and talk about the hardships they have gone through," Social Support organizer Timmie Lingo said, "and these people don't want that. They want to have something where they can forget everything for a while and put it aside. And we find that's what we have."

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## JOURNEY OF FAITH

BY TIM  
LILLEY

Contact me  
any time at  
tlilley@evdio.org  
with your  
comments,  
questions or  
suggestions. My  
Twitter feed is  
@Timonbass.

# 'Do not deprive yourself of the day's enjoyment'

In paragraph No. 4 of "Evangelii Gaudium," his apostolic exhortation on the joy of the Gospel, Pope Francis recalls Sirach 14:11, 14: "My child, treat yourself well, according to your means . . . Do not deprive yourself of the day's enjoyment."

Lots of little things comprise "the day's enjoyment" for me. Through them, I feel God's presence, love and mercy. I hope and pray it's that way for you, too.

Here are some examples of my little things. I don't get to experience some of them as often as I'd like — but all of them reflect Sirach's words in my life.

Standing knee-deep in a trout stream — preferably Slatyfork. That's the name given to the very headwaters of West Virginia's Elk River. It comes to life in Pocahontas County, W.Va., and is my favorite trout stream in the whole world. Know, however, that any trout stream will do. God's love and mercy wash over and around me in all of their cool waters.

Experiencing the very beginning of a new day on the shores of Nevada's Lake Meade. When I worked for Tracker Boats, I traveled there one Memorial Day weekend for a bass tournament my employer co-sponsored. I arrived at the tournament-headquarters marina for the start of the first fishing day more than

an hour before sunrise. God rewarded me with the chance to be part of night surrendering to first light, then dawn, in the desert southwest. I have experienced many sunrises in many different places; none are like Lake Meade's beauty.

Others come to mind from my love of stargazing:

Seeing Saturn's rings with my own eyes — in my own yard. Years ago, when an online retailer deeply discounted a telescope powerful enough to get a really good view of Saturn's rings — as in 2/3 off retail — I ordered. The morning after it arrived, I got up before 5 a.m. — when I didn't need to get up for any reason; it wasn't a work day — because I had waited more than 50 years to see those rings with my own eyes. That moment reduced me to tears of joy and thanksgiving to God.

Finding the Andromeda Galaxy with binoculars. It's not terribly tough, and I thank God that Evansville provides night skies far darker than any I had easy access to for more than a decade. Seven- or eight-power binoculars are strong enough to see Andromeda, which admittedly looks just like a smudge of gray without more magnification. If you ever take the time to find it — as you're gazing at that smudge, which will fit easily in your binocu-

lars' field of vision — think about this: Andromeda is 100,000 light years across. In other words, its length/diameter is the distance equivalent to the distance light will travel in 100,000 years at roughly 186,000 miles per second.

I don't own a calculator capable of generating a number that large.

Using the same "discount" telescope mentioned above to separate the four stars contained within the Orion Nebula, which will be viewable again soon in our fall night skies. Those stars are ONLY 1,400 light years from Earth.

I've saved the best, however, for last.

Texting or talking to Jenny, my daughter, just about every day. She turned 28 on July 20, and I thank God daily for blessing me with so much time with her.

I've written in this space before that Dad was an underground coal miner in Southwestern Pa., and 37 years underground literally killed him. I was 14 when he died — so seeing Jenny turn 28 was the most special little thing God has blessed me with to date.

I hope you'll take Sirach's advice — today and every day: "My child, treat yourself well, according to your means . . . Do not deprive yourself of the day's enjoyment."



## CONNECTING FAITH AND LIFE

BY KAREN  
MUENSTERMAN

Karen  
Muensterman is  
Parish  
Catechetical  
Leader at  
Evansville's  
Resurrection  
Parish.

# Human boundaries don't restrict God's hopeful call to all of us

One late summer afternoon many years ago, I was in the kitchen preparing dinner when my son, John, came running through the back door complaining that a baby squirrel was following him around our yard. I didn't believe him at first, but he led me out to the patio where there was indeed a very small and scrawny squirrel, obviously injured.

I told John to stay away from the creature while I went in to call animal control. When I looked out the window a couple of minutes later, I saw John walking slowly backwards across the yard, dropping a trail of acorns.

"John, what are you doing?" I called out the back door.

"I'm trying to get him to go in the Smith's yard!" John called back.

"Why?" I screeched.

"Because if he's in somebody else's yard, he won't be my problem!" John bellowed.

Later that night, at dinner, John related the story of the pitiful squirrel to the rest of the family. When he reached the part of the story where he had tried to lure the animal into someone else's yard, his younger sister interrupted the tale with a snort.

"That's stupid, John!" she said, "To a squir-

rel, there's no such thing as somebody else's yard."

Everyone laughed, but for the rest of the evening, my daughter's bold proclamation echoed in my mind . . . "There's no such thing as somebody else's yard."

That statement had the uncomfortable-but-undeniable ring of truth; and as truth always does, it still echoes through my life all these years later. Most of the time I try to tune it out; but like the squirrel that would not leave my yard, it is persistent. It comes to mind when other people trespass into areas of life that I have defined as "mine" — areas that I have decided are closed to all newcomers.

It comes to mind when people show up for programs past the registration deadline. It comes to mind when my phone rings and the name that pops up on caller ID is not one I wanted to see. It comes to mind when I turn on the TV and the faces of illegal immigrants haunt the screen.

I tell myself that I have enough problems of my own to deal with — that I don't have the time or energy to take more people and more problems into my already overcrowded life. I tell myself that I will pray for these people, but

prayer has ceased to be a solution.

We draw lines between ourselves and other people because our lives work more efficiently that way. Taking care of our own is much easier when "our own" is very clearly defined and limited. And sometimes our line drawing system works well. Other times, it doesn't work.

In the Book of Wisdom we are told,

*"And you taught your people, by these deeds, that those who are just must be kind; and you gave your children good ground for hope that you would permit repentance for their sins."*

So I ask myself these questions: Who are "God's children"? And where is their "good ground for hope"?

As Christians, our first response often is to pray for the needy people who are not "our own" but who have trespassed into our lives. Our second response is often to try to get them to go somewhere else. We give them over to God and then expect God to lead them to some other ground for hope, one that lies outside the boundaries of our own lives.

The trouble with that, I suspect, is that in God's eyes, there is no such thing as somebody else's yard.

**THE MESSAGE**  
4200 N. Kentucky Ave.  
Evansville, IN 47711

Weekly newspaper of the Diocese of Evansville  
Published weekly except one week at Christmas time by the Catholic Press of Evansville

Publisher .....Bishop Charles C. Thompson  
Editor .....Tim Lilley  
Managing Editor .....Mary Ann Hughes  
Design Editor .....Sheila R. Barclay  
Advertising Coordinator .....Diane Czukas  
Subscriptions .....Steve Halbig

Address all communications to:  
P.O. Box 4169, Evansville, IN 47724-0169  
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Fax (812) 424-0972  
Email message@evdio.org  
www.themessageonline.org

Subscriptions are \$24 per year  
Single Copy Price: \$.50

The Message (USPS 843-800).  
Periodical Postage Paid at Evansville, IN.  
Postmaster: Send address changes to Message,  
P.O. Box 4169, Evansville, IN 47711.  
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**Pope Francis**  
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Following are Pope Francis' posts to Twitter for July 22-24.

**JULY 22**  
"The great threat in today's world is the loneliness of hearts oppressed by greed."  
"El gran peligro en el mundo actual es el triste individualismo que nace del corazón avaro."

**JULY 24**  
"When one lives attached to money, pride or power, it is impossible to be truly happy."  
"Cuando se vive apegado al dinero, al orgullo o al poder, es imposible ser feliz."

Find it online at **The Message** — [www.themessageonline.org](http://www.themessageonline.org)



## QUESTION CORNER

BY FATHER  
KENNETH  
DOYLE

Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at [askfatherdoyle@gmail.com](mailto:askfatherdoyle@gmail.com) and 40 Hopewell St., Albany, N.Y. 12208

# Are statues idols? Wedding by a Methodist minister?

**Question:** In the Book of Revelation (9:20), I read this: "The rest of the human race, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, to give up the worship of demons and idols made from gold, silver, bronze and wood, which cannot see or hear or walk."

Why, then, do Catholics worship statues? Aren't they religious idols?" (St. James, Missouri)

**Answer:** Catholics do not worship statues. They use statues of Christ or of the saints to help them recall the people those statues represent — just as it is easier to remember one's mother by looking at a photograph of her.

When Catholics pray before a statue, they are not adoring the marble or the wood used to create it. They are reminding themselves of the virtues displayed by those depicted and asking for heavenly help in their lives.

God forbade the worship of statues, but he did not forbid making statues for religious purposes. Some who attack the church on this refer to the passage in the Book of Exodus (20:4-5) that says: "You shall not make for yourself an idol or a likeness of anything in the heavens above or on the earth below or in the waters beneath the earth; you shall not bow down before them or serve them."

But one need only read a bit further in Exodus (25:18) to hear the Lord's command that statues of angels be fashioned: "Make two cherubim of beaten gold for the two ends of the cover."

**Question:** I am a confirmed and practicing Catholic, and my divorced fiancée, was dedicated in the Baptist Church. We are in the middle of the annulment process, which has been frustrating since we did not realize how long the process would take, and we hear very little in the way of updates.

But let me get to my real question. In my family, there is something of a tradition of having one of our family members, who is a member of the clergy, perform our weddings. My late great-uncle was a Maryknoll priest and officiated at the weddings of my grandparents, my parents and my brother and his wife.

We have a Methodist minister in the family who has also done the weddings of several of our relatives. I would love to continue this tradition by having my uncle marry my fiancée, and me, but I fear even asking because I assume that the answer from my parish will be no.

On the chance that I could get that permission, if we decided to get married by my Methodist uncle, would we have to wait for the

annulment to be approved? (Clearwater, Florida)

**Answer:** First, you can dismiss your fear and ask permission for your uncle to do your wedding ceremony. The Catholic Church can, and often does, allow non-Catholic clergy to officiate at a wedding involving a Catholic — particularly in a situation like yours, where your fiancée, is a Protestant and the minister is your uncle.

However, for the marriage to be considered valid by the Catholic Church, you would have to wait for an annulment to be granted before you would receive permission for your uncle to officiate.

As for the duration of the annulment process, in my diocese the norm is about one year from the time the paperwork is submitted until the case is concluded — but there is some variation from place to place.

Marriage tribunals typically resist any attempt to jump a case forward — justifiably, because that would not be fair to the other couples waiting in line — but it may be possible for your parish priest to see what stage your case is at, so that you would have a rough idea as to the timing. (Priests and parishes are prohibited from scheduling a wedding until an annulment has been granted.)

## U.S. Bishops renew 51-year plea for nuclear disarmament

BY THE COMMITTEE  
ON INTERNATIONAL  
JUSTICE AND PEACE  
U.S. Conference  
of Catholic Bishops

In 1963, at a time when images of mushroom clouds obliterating humanity were com-

mon, especially in light of the Cuban missile crisis, Saint John XXIII taught: "Nuclear weapons must be banned. A general agreement must be reached on a suitable disarmament program, with an effective system of mutual control." Every Pope since then has repeated this plea.

Far from being a throwback to the Cold War, today — on the eve of the 69th anniversaries of Hiroshima and Nagasaki<sup>1</sup> — nuclear disarmament sadly remains both a timely issue and a grave threat to human life and dignity. Most Americans are not aware of the fact that there are still thousands of nuclear weapons poised for immediate launch.

A bipartisan group of former Secretaries of State Henry Kissinger and George Shultz, former Defense Secretary William Perry and former Senator Sam Nunn have warned of the

"specter of a nuclear war, accident, proliferation or terrorism." The threats have multiplied as we have moved from the bi-polar world of the Cold War to the multi-polar world of today. In addition to the five original nuclear weapons states — China, France, Great Britain, Russia, and the United States — other nations have acquired them (India, Pakistan, Israel); and others seek to do so (North Korea and possibly Iran). Non-state actors, including terrorists, also seek them.

This bipartisan group of senior statesmen is known as the "Four Horsemen," — a phrase borrowed from the Book of Revelation. For the sake of humanity, let's hope they are at the forefront of a movement to avert an apocalypse. The four are committed to work for a world without nuclear weapons, a goal long supported by the Holy See and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The Catholic bishops of our nation articulated the Church's teaching on nuclear weapons in "The Challenge of Peace" of 1983 and "The Harvest of Justice is Sown in Peace" of 1993. In the wake of these pastoral letters, our bishops have frequently engaged in efforts to promote nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament, most recently in 2010 in connection with ratification of the New START Treaty and today in supporting negotiations with Iran over its nuclear program.

Our concern for nuclear weapons flows from a commit-

ment to protect human life. Nuclear weapons are morally problematic because they can bring disproportionate and indiscriminate destruction, and loss of life on a massive scale. For the security of all nations and the future of humanity, we must work for a world without nuclear weapons.

The Church can offer moral guidance and point out some sign posts along the way to zero, but ours is a moral expertise, not a technical one. It is pretty obvious that some of the steps along the way include: negotiating bilateral and multilateral reductions in strategic arms; bringing into force the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty; creating a Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty; and strengthening the International Atomic Energy Agency. Our political leaders will need your support for making difficult decisions.

The 70th anniversaries of Hiroshima and Nagasaki occur in 2015. These anniversaries are reminders of what is at stake. Most Catholics do not know that the largest Catholic community in Japan was devastated in the Nagasaki attack. The blast leveled St. Mary's Cathedral, also known as Urakami Cathedral.

The only surviving remnant of the wooden altar piece was the head of a statue of Our Lady. Her eye sockets are blackened in a haunting way that reminds worshippers today of Our Lady's sorrow and desire for peace. The Catholic Church in Japan has dedicated itself to working for a world without nuclear weapons. Let us dedicate ourselves to that vision as well.

<sup>1</sup> The 69th anniversaries of Hiroshima and Nagasaki are Aug. 6 and 9, 2014, respectively.

## Correction

Linda Kalb's parish was misidentified in a photo caption that appeared on page 3 of the July 25 issue of *The Message*. She is a member of St. Raphael Parish, Dubois.

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## Bishop's schedule

**Mass,** Installation of Father Alex Zenthoefer as Pastor, Annunciation of the Lord Parish at Christ the King Church, Evansville, Saturday, August 2, 5:30 p.m., CDT.

**Mass,** Installation of Father Joseph Erbacher as Pastor, St. Peter Parish, Linton, Sunday, August 3, 8:30 a.m., EDT.

**Mass,** Installation of Father Joseph Erbacher as Pastor, Holy Name Parish, Bloomfield, Sunday, August 3, 10:30 a.m., EDT.

**Mass,** Back-to-School Gathering, Resurrection Parish, Evansville, Monday, August 4, 10:30 a.m., CDT.

**Mass,** Feast of Divino Salvador del Mundo, St. Mary Parish, Huntingburg, Wednesday, August 6, 7 p.m., EDT.

**Mass,** 150th Anniversary, St. Anthony of Padua Parish, St. Anthony, Sunday, August 10, 10 a.m., EDT.

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# BULLETIN BOARD

Send information to Bulletin Board at least one week in advance. Items to be considered for publication Friday, August 15, must be received in writing no later than noon on Thursday, August 7.

Entries may be repeated if time and space permit. All items may be edited. All times are local times.

Mail information to Diane Csukas, Bulletin Board, P. O. Box 4169, Evansville, IN 47724-0169; e-mail to bulletinboard@themessageonline.org, or message@evdio.org, fax to 812-424-0972.

## General Interest

**2014 Wettlauf 5K Road Race and Fitness Walk**, race begins 8 a.m., Aug. 2, corner of Ninth and Main St., Jasper; course covers well marked rolling, paved city streets, is policed, has water stations and mile splits; entry fee \$15, until July 28, \$20 thereafter, children under 12 may enter the race/walk for \$10; for more information contact Carley Knapp at 812-481-2442; sponsored by the St. John Bosco Catholic Youth Ministries, Holy Family School and Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center.

**Precious Blood Annual Quilt Show**, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and after all weekend Masses, Sat. and Sun., Aug. 2 and 3, 4-6 p.m., Aug. 4, Precious Blood Cafetorium, Jasper; quilts to be raffled at Precious Blood Summer Social, Aug. 17.

**Sunday Brunch Live**, 10:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m., Aug. 3, Providence Spirituality and Conference Center, St. Mary-of-the-Woods; brunch served in O'Shaughnessy Dining Hall, giveaways offered and door prizes drawn hourly; serving omelet bar, fresh salads, made-to-order waffles and omelets, side dishes, desserts; visit [www.provCenter.org](http://www.provCenter.org) for pricing information; for more information call 812-535-2946.

**St. Peter Celestine Quilt Show**, 4-6:30 p.m., Aug. 4, St. Peter Celestine, Celestine; door prizes to be given away; sponsored by St. Peter Celestine Ladies' Sodality.

**Celebrate Safety with the Evansville Otters**, 6:35 p.m., Aug. 8, Bosse Field, Evansville; free tickets to Otters game courtesy of St. Mary's Medical Center and Kohl's at St. Mary's Center for Children or at Kohl's locations in Evansville and Owensboro; first 500 kids through the gates, age 12 and under, will receive a free bike helmet; kids can register to win one of two free bicycles; special fireworks after game; for more information call Adam Trinkel at 812-485-4730.

**Angelus Live in Concert at St. Benedict Cathedral**, 7 p.m., Aug. 8, St. Benedict Cathedral, Evansville; performance includes music from various religious traditions and historical periods, from me-

dieval chants and polyphony to the American Sacred Harp tradition and contemporary Irish sacred music; for more information contact Jeremy Korba at [jkorba@evdio.org](mailto:jkorba@evdio.org) or by phone at 812-589-3886.

**"How One Heart on Fire Can Inspire,"** 7 p.m., Aug. 8, 4 p.m., Aug. 10, Kundek Hall, St. Joseph, Jasper; play about the life of St. Francis performed by youth from local parishes in the Jasper deanery; free and open to the public.

**Alzheimer's Association: Memory Café**, 2-3:30 p.m., Aug. 13, Alzheimer's Association Office, Evansville; social group meets second Wednesday of every month; open to people with memory loss and their loved ones; provides a safe, comfortable, engaging environment for laughing, learning and staying socially engaged; registration required by calling 800-272-3900; refreshments sponsored by West River.

**Retrouvaille Weekend**, Aug. 15-17; weekend designed to help troubled marriages regain their health and spouses to uncover or reawaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together; for confidential information about Retrouvaille or to register call 270-683-1545, ext. 346, email [sherryvincent@insightbb.com](mailto:sherryvincent@insightbb.com) or visit [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org).

**The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide**, 6:30-8 p.m., Thursdays, Sept. 4-Nov. 20, Annunciation of the Lord Parish Center, Christ the King Campus, Evansville; sessions include a DVD series, small group discussion, "Personal Survival Guide"; \$10/person; open to all; for more information or to register, contact Missy Parkison at 812-476-3061 or [mparkison@evdio.org](mailto:mparkison@evdio.org); registration deadline is Aug. 25.

**Heartland Half Marathon and 5K**, 7:30 a.m., Aug. 30, begins at Jasper Train Depot, Jasper; new this year, Heartland Team Challenge and Heartland Kids Fun Run and Festival; pre-registrants for both races will receive a technical shirt, first 100 half-marathoners to pre-register will also receive a running hat and additional race gift; to register go to [active.com](http://active.com) or [heartland-halfmarathon.com](http://heartland-halfmarathon.com); for more information visit the above websites or call 800-968-4578.

**Masses for Deaf and Hard of Hearing**, Saturday, 4:30 p.m., Sunday 9 a.m. and noon (Spanish), Nativity Church, 3635 Pollack Ave., Evansville; ASL interpreter and assisted listening devices available; for information call Father Henry Kuykendall at 812-476-7186.

**Rosary for World Peace**, St. Joseph Commandery 306, Evansville, Knights of St. John, will

begin their monthly meeting by praying the rosary for world peace; meetings held the second Monday of each month; prayer begins at 7 p.m.; all members are encouraged to attend.

**Eucharistic Adoration**, second Wednesday of each month, 7 a.m.-6 p.m., Good Shepherd, Evansville; everyone welcome.

## Classes

**The Laughter Seminar**, noon-1 p.m., Aug. 5, St. Mary's Epworth Crossing, Newburgh; will discuss studies showing physical and emotional benefits of laughter, exercises will be taught to stretch and activate all the muscles used in laughter; \$25/person; registration due by Aug. 4 by calling 812-485-5725.

**Hip-Hop Dance Classes**, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Thursdays, Aug. 7-28, St. Mary's Epworth Crossing, Newburgh; learn to "Dougie," "Two Step," and "Drop"; open to youth and adults, 16 year olds allowed with adult permission, students as young as 12 attend with adult present; \$36/four weeks; pre-registration required by Aug. 5 by calling 812-485-5725.

**Laughter Yoga**, noon-12:35 p.m., Tuesdays, Aug. 12-26 and 8:15-8:50 a.m., Wednesdays, Aug. 13-27, St. Mary's Epworth Crossing, Newburgh; \$5/35 minute class; no pre-registration required.

## College Faith Life

**Newman Center Welcome Week Mass at UE**, 1-2 p.m., Aug. 24, UE Newman Center Sunday Mass, Neu Chapel, University of Evansville; for more information contact Mike Roesch at 812-477-6446.

**Newman Center Opening Mass at USI**, 4 p.m., Aug. 24, Liberal Arts Building, Room 0101; ice cream social following Mass; for more information email [choehn@evdio.org](mailto:choehn@evdio.org) or call 812-465-7095.

**University of Evansville Newman Center Opening Cookout**, 5-6:30 p.m., Aug. 27, Newman Center, 1901 Lincoln Ave., Evansville; for more information call Mike Roesch at 812-477-6446 or email [mroesch@evdio.org](mailto:mroesch@evdio.org).

## 55+

**St. James, Haubstadt, Senior Trip**, Nov. 8-13, 6 day, 5-night trip to New Orleans; for more information or for reservations call Norma at 812-867-3036; reservation deadline is Sept. 15 or until full; everyone is welcome to participate.

## Fundraisers

**Used Book Sale at St. Mary-of-the-Woods**, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Aug. 2 and 3, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Aug. 4-8, Providence Spirituality and Conference Center conference room; categories include hardbacks, pa-

## 2014 Summer Socials

The Message invited parishes in the Diocese of Evansville to submit information about summer socials in 2014. Summer socials scheduled for this week and the next two weeks are listed below.

**August 3, Sunday**, St. James, Haubstadt  
**August 9 and 10, Saturday and Sunday**, St. Philip, Posey County  
**August 10, Sunday**, Mary, Help of Christians, Mariah Hill  
**August 17, Sunday**, Precious Blood, Jasper

perbacks, spirituality, Bibles, novels, history, children's books, health and wellness books, also CDs and DVDs; all proceeds benefit the Sisters of Providence mission and ministries; to donate items or for more information call 812-535-2947 or log onto [www.provcenter.org](http://www.provcenter.org).

**All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast Buffet**, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Aug. 3, St. Anthony cafeteria, Evansville; serving biscuits and gravy, eggs, sausage, pancakes, coffee, milk, juice; \$7/person.

**Fifth Annual Make-A-Wish Charity Golf Event**, 9-9:30 a.m. golf clinic, 11:30 lunch, 12:30 shotgun start, Aug. 11, Evansville Country Club; meet and greet and photo opportunity with special guest Edie Payton, retired running back for Minnesota Vikings and now head golf coach at Jackson University; event is open to the public; foursome slots still available, fee includes lunch on veranda, round of golf with cart, shirt; beverages included; to schedule a tee time call Mike Reynolds at 812-425-2243; for more information contact Kristina Rhode at 812-305-3914; sponsored by St. Mary's Medical Center and Old National Bank.

**Dome Golf Classic**, Oct. 20, Victoria National Golf Club, Newburgh; for more information visit [thedome.org/golf](http://thedome.org/golf) or call 812-367-1411; sponsored by the Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand.

**Good Shepherd, Evansville, Bingo**, every Sunday and Tuesday night; doors open 4:30 p.m., packets bought at the door start at 6:30 p.m.

## Reunions

**St. John Academy Reunion**, 11 a.m. Mass followed by brunch, Sept. 21, St. John Evangelist Church, Indianapolis; \$20/person; those interested in attending should mail \$20 check payable to St. John Alumnae and mail it to Mary Jane Biro, 715 E. Southern Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46203-5155; for more information call 317-780-7087.

**Mater Dei Class of 1964 Fiftieth Class Reunion**, 7 p.m., Oct. 17, Reitz Bowl, Evansville, Mater Dei vs. Reitz football game, reserved seating Section D, 8 p.m. or after game, casual get together at Smitty's Little Tavern, Franklin St., Evansville; Oct. 18, 1:30 p.m., tour of Mater Dei, 4 p.m., Mass at St. Joseph, Evansville, 6 p.m. cock-

tails, cash bar, 7 p.m. dinner, show and dance, Holiday Inn, Hwy. 41 North, Evansville, \$45/person, casual dress; for more information contact Susie (Brock) Hawes at 812-985-9476.

## Spiritual Growth

**Healing Mass**, 2:30 p.m. worship, 3 p.m. Mass, Aug. 3, St. John the Baptist, Newburgh; Father John Judie is celebrant; for information call John Bennett at 812-544-2239 or Charles Mendel at 812-482-7502, Kim Kendall at 812-630-8933; for more information visit [www.psci.net/blitzen/](http://www.psci.net/blitzen/).

## Support Groups

**Good Shepherd Social Support Group**, noon, third Sunday of each month, Good Shepherd, Evansville; group for divorced or widowed led by Timmie Lingo; for more information call 812-867-5790.

**NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit) Support Group**, for families with infants in the NICU, meetings are Mondays, 3:30 p.m., NICU parent lounge, third floor, St. Mary's Medical Center, Evansville.

**Man to Man Cancer Support Group**, meets the second Tuesday of each month, 6:30-8 p.m., Evansville Cancer Center, Evansville; sessions are free; refreshments served; for more information call 812-474-1110 or 812-425-2545; sponsored by the American Cancer Society.

## Trip

**Canoe Ride Down Pigeon Creek**, Aug. 9; five-mile trip with trained guide from Wesselman's Nature Center on board to experience a "wildlife oasis"; see various fish, mammals and waterfowl in natural habitats; life jackets provided; \$15/anyone age 7 and above; everyone welcome; contact St. Mary, Evansville at 812-425-1577 or email [jstofleth@evdio.org](mailto:jstofleth@evdio.org) for more information or to make required reservations.

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# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## Happy Birthday!

Father Anthony Govind, temporary ministry, St. Mary Parish in Ireland and Precious Blood Parish in Jasper, celebrates his birthday Aug. 7.

con Bob Consley, Jill Winger, Leo Padgett, Dayne Holder, Kathy Wittmer, Dottie Potts, Bruce Hawkins, Vicki Strange, John Fegan, Vonda Elliott, Agnes Cooper, Tom McAtee, Paula Ringwald and Matt Potts."

## Merger Committee, new Parish Council

Father Kenneth Walker, pastor at St. John Parish in Loo-gootee, writes, "I have appointed the former members of the merger committee to our new parish council. The merger committee worked well together and for that reason, I appointed them for a one-year term.

"It is great that we are off to a good start with so many talented people involved in our new parish and please know that I consider it a tremendous honor to serve you as your pastor."

"I have added two additional members to the original group: Paula Ringwald, as parish catechetical leader, and Mark Potts as youth liturgy coordinator.

## Happy Birthday!

Michelle Priar, assistant superintendent in the diocesan Catholic Schools Office, celebrates her birthday August 10.

John Hollis, principal at Holy Cross Church, Fort Branch, celebrates his birthday Aug. 10

"The following are our new parish council members: Dea-

## Scholarship

Ian Perkinson is the recipient of the 2014 scholarship at St. Philip Neri Parish in Bicknell. He will be attending Indiana State University this fall.

Please send information for AROUND THE DIOCESE to Mary Ann Hughes, *The Message*, P.O. Box 4169, Evansville, IN 47724. The e-mail address is [maryann@themessageonline.org](mailto:maryann@themessageonline.org).

## Providence anniversary

During 2014, 10 Sisters of Providence of St. Mary-of-the-Woods are celebrating special anniversaries in the congregation

• Providence Sister Marsha Speth is a native of Vincennes. She currently ministers as the director of postulants in the United States and as a spiritual director at St. Mary-of-the-Woods.

Sister Marsha, the former Sister Marcia Ann, entered the Congregation Sept. 12, 1964, from St. John the Baptist Parish in Vincennes. She professed perpetual vows Nov. 9, 1974.

She graduated from St. Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor's degree in education. She received her master's degree in religious education from Seattle University.

Her ministries included teaching in schools in St. Mary-of-the-Woods village, in Indianapolis and in Nashville. From 1986 to 1991, she was the councilor/provincial at St. Gabriel Providence Center in Indianapolis.

In 1992, she served as the assistant manager in the resource center in the Office of Catholic Education in Indianapolis.

From 2001 to 2006, she was the general councilor at St. Mary-of-the-Woods, and from 2006 to 2011, she was the vicar/general councilor.

Sister Marsha has also ministered in Illinois.



SISTER MARSHA SPETH

## Religious fundraising is topic of certificate program

An opportunity to earn an executive certificate in religious fundraising (ECRF) is being offered at St. Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology's Institute for Priests and Presbyterates.

The program will be conducted by the Lake Institute on Faith & Giving, an entity of Indiana University's Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. It will be held September 8-11 at St. Meinrad.

The ECRF program is aimed at meeting the growing needs of religious leaders in faith-based organizations and institutions, such as faith-based nonprofits, theological seminaries, Christian or religiously based colleges, independent mega-congregations, denominational development offices and traditional congregations.

It is intended to serve individual clergy who wish to gain an expertise in fundraising principles and practices and to train development personnel who serve faith-based organizations.

Presenters will include Dr. William G. Enright, director of Lake Institute and former senior pas-

tor of Second Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis; Dr. Eugene Tempel, founding dean of the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, and Daniel Conway, senior vice president for planning, marketing and advancement at Marian University, Indianapolis.

The program's curriculum includes four one-day core courses, selected readings, online peer-group conversations, an integration paper outlining a year-long fundraising program and a final paper assessing the effectiveness of the fund-raising program. Successful participants will receive the Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising.

The cost of the program is \$1,200 until August 8. After August 8, the cost is \$1,500. The fee includes accommodations and meals.

For more information or to register, call the IPP at 800-357-8477, email [smipp@saintmeinrad.edu](mailto:smipp@saintmeinrad.edu) or visit the website: [www.saintmeinrad.edu/priests-ongoing-formation/certificate-in-religious-fundraising/](http://www.saintmeinrad.edu/priests-ongoing-formation/certificate-in-religious-fundraising/)

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**Italy Regular:** Aug 30-Sep 7, Sep 6-14, Sep 13-21, Sep 20-28...

**Holy Land/Italy Regular:** Aug 25-Sep 7, Sep 1-14, Sep 8-21, Sep 15-28, Sep 22-Oct 5, Sep 29-Oct 12, Oct 6-19, Oct 13-26...

**Holy Land:** Aug 25-Sep 4, Sep 1-11, Sep 10-20, Sep 15-25...

**Italy South:** Aug 30-Sep 11, Sep 6-18, Sep 13-25, Sep 20-Oct 2...

**Poland:** Aug 30-Sep 10, Sep 6-17, Sep 13-24, Sep 20-Oct 1...

**Greece & Turkey:** Sep 13-25, Sep 20-Oct 2, Sep 27-Oct 9...

**Ireland/Scotland:** Sep 6-18, Sep 13-25, Sep 20-Oct 2...

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## Confirmation at Nativity Parish

Members of the 2014 Confirmation Class at Nativity Parish in Evansville include, *front row*, Juan Flores, Jayme Carvajal, Enrique Chauca, Maddie Moore, Laisha Diaz de Leon, Katia Rivera, Adrian Guerrero, Bryan Diaz de Leon, *second row*, Alex Godinez, Molly Kissel, Kassie Moore, Jacqueline Godinez, Jessica Diaz, Maria Guerrero, Sarah Diaz, *third row*, Christian Patino, Martin Godinez, Felix Licea, Diana Diaz, Brian Patino and Maria Bonilla. Leslie Ortega and Cristopher Ortega are also members of the Confirmation Class.

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# First Communion 2014



### St. Mary Parish in Shoals

Hunter Spurgeon celebrated his First Holy Communion on May 11 at St. Mary Parish in Shoals. Supporting him in this sacrament are Ryan Spurgeon, Nicholas Spurgeon and Father J. Kenneth Walker, pastor.



### St. Peter Parish in Montgomery

On May 4, second graders from St. Peter Parish in Montgomery celebrated their First Holy Communion. The front row includes Jake Miller, Emily Robinson, Claire Harrison, Madelynn Harrison, Alyssa Lasher, Lexi Johnson, Ashlyn Kane and Dominic Wilson. The back row includes Logan Gallagher, Dru Knepp, Evan Bullock, Father Jim Koressel, pastor, Evan Wehmeier, Nicholas Kavanaugh, Kaden Buse.



### St. Agnes, Sacred Heart, St. Boniface in Evansville

Second graders from Sacred Heart, St. Agnes and St. Boniface parishes, all in Evansville, celebrated their First Holy Communion on May 4. Above are, front row, McKayla Allen, Madelyn Hayden, Reagan Sherretz, Elizabeth Ritzert, Taylor Vogt, Lucy Patton, Gracie McKinsey, second row, Carson Morrow, Kaiden Reidford, Jim Doepker, Owen Bullock, Brady Bulla, Tyler Schiff, third row, Jack Helfrich, Mason Hinman, Scott Kleitz, Gunner Kirsch, Kent DeCoster and Luke Mayer.



### St. Matthew Parish in Mount Vernon

Christian Piechocki, Emily Osborne, Peyton Folz and Nolan Deno are members of the 2014 First Communion Class at St. Matthew Parish in Mount Vernon. They are with their principal, Vickie Wannemuehler, and Father Jim Sauer, administrator.



**Corpus Christi Parish  
in Evansville**

Second graders from Corpus Christi Parish in Evansville celebrating their First Holy Communion include, *front row*, Katelyn Goebel, Maggie Hagerty, Nick Herrmann, Sam Wassmer, Claire Ross, Cara Schlachter, Abby Duncan, *second row*, Claire Wagner, Kate Halbig, Ali Schiff, Alessia Baumann, Brent Katowitz, Madelyn Elfreich, Elley Geis, *third row*, Luke Schimmell, Benjamin Sammet, Reid Morrison, Caden Moore, Juliana Greaney, Chelsea Turner, Spencer Turner, Gretchen Moser, Jacob Sammet, *fourth row*, Sam Hagerty, Cole Ross, Emma Elfreich and Ali Schimmell. They are joined by Martha Craig, principal, Sara Ulrich, catechist, Father Jim Blessinger, pastor, Deacon Tom Goebel, Audrey Folz, catechist, and Kathryn Curtis, PCL.

**St. Joseph Parish  
in Princeton**

Parishioners from St. Joseph Parish in Princeton celebrated their First Holy Communion on April 27. *Above are, front row*, Rebecka Geuss, Katherine Hurst, McKenna Dauby, Karsyn McGraw, Isabella Smith, Gracelynn Powers, Skylar Wilson, Alexa Mayer, Jacy Turpin, altar server Zachary Dove, *second row*, Ricky Doan, Olyn Duke, Noah Kluesner, Luke Miller, Paxton Young, Jackson Adams, Shane Thompson, Ashtyn Davis, *third row*, Susan Williams, parish catechetical leader, Debbie Bateman, catechist, Angie Walden, second grade teacher, Karen Fischer, teacher's aide, Dan Gilbert, principal, and Father Ron Zgunda, pastor.



**St. Joseph Parish in Jasper**

Celebrating First Communion at St. Joseph Parish in Jasper are, *front row*, Madison Beck, Jocelyne Calderon, Kaitlyn Fromme, Kiaya Vaal, Catherine Herzog, Anna Hulsman, Elizabeth Davila, Keara Boyer, Kylene Danzer, Kendyl Blackgrave, *second row*, Hope Fromme, Mackenzie Eckstein, Joshua Hooks, Blendon Virgo, Drew Buechler, Mason Schue, Sam Hayden, Adyson Cornejo, Chloe Beck, Madeline Schmitt, Maya Hernandez, Seth Fromme, Kaelyn Denk, *third row*, Father Ray Brenner, pastor, Collin Hief, Jordan Burnette, Bryent Roth, Myles Haag, Jared Wyland, Patrick Lampert, Ben Herzog, Cameron Dorsam, Ryan Verkamp, Xavier Paeth, Calvin Fleck and Father William Traylor, associate pastor.



# Dialogue is not evangelization

As Christians, we are famous for our evangelization — from television to billboards, to serving as door-to-door missionaries. It’s what we do.

When Pope Francis encouraged interfaith dialogue, most Catholics said “No problem!” and targeted people active in other faiths to tell them all about the Catholic Church and why they should convert. However, a careful look at his example shows us that actual dialogue on a practical level has nothing to do with evangelization. In fact, keeping in mind a crucial message Jesus taught us, it shows us that evangelization actually is not the most loving thing we can do for a person of another faith.

Christians are conditioned for evangelization, even in childhood. This equips us for encountering the surrounding world, which means encountering a plethora of people who are not Christian, let alone Catholic. What do we do when we approach these individuals? Bring them to the light, of course, just as Jesus said in John 14:6 — “I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” After all, we want to make sure they can be saved as well. To us, this is a sincere act of love.

Enter Pope Francis. He invites rabbis and imams to feasts, honors their religious beliefs and encourages dialogue with people of other faiths. Now, most of us Catholic American laypeople don’t have the time or wherewithal to invite the local imam to a fancy dinner. So, what would dialogue look like for us? Simple.

People of other faiths are everywhere — in grocery stores, in schools, at the workplace, in the park, etc. Anytime we end up in conversation with them about their religious beliefs, we need to remove our missionary lenses and, instead, simply ask questions about their beliefs merely to get to know them, and perhaps toss in some explanation on how a particular topic — religious imagery, for instance — is addressed differently in our Catholic faith. If it helps, it could be thought of as a Q & A exchange between us and them.

But Jesus wants everybody to follow Him, right? Don’t we need to bring them to the light, to bring them to the Church, if we’re going to ensure that they will be saved? Absolutely; but let’s face it: for most people, evangelization is a turnoff.

Even though Catholics don’t usually go door-to-door, there still are those subtle conversa-

tions telling some folks of other faiths how only the Church holds all truth, and that they should just be a part of her. By getting caught up in evangelizing we can actually neglect another crucial teaching from Jesus: “Love your neighbor.”

Remember the Good Samaritan parable? The great act of love was showing hospitality toward the man in the ditch. By engaging in dialogue, simply getting to know other faith traditions as they are, we will show spiritual hospitality toward a stranger.

Jesus certainly wants everyone to follow Him, but He also wants everyone to love one another. And even if a person never converts to Catholicism at any point in the rest of his life, we can still be more hospitable and understanding toward them. And however much we can be, God is even more so. If we can do that, then they will not know we are Christians by our evangelization; they will know we are Christians by our love.

*Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.*

— 1 Timothy 4:12

**1 TIMOTHY 4:12**  
 BY RACHAEL MCGILL  
*Rachel McGill is a senior at the University of Evansville and attends St. Benedict Cathedral Parish. She is from Newburgh, Ind.*

## FOR YOUR Kids

### Feeding Thousands

In Sunday’s Gospel, Jesus receives some troubling news and goes off in a boat to be by himself. When the crowds hear about Jesus they follow him from their towns on foot. Jesus comes ashore, gets out of the boat and feels sorry for the people. His heart feels pity for them so he heals the sick.

When evening comes the disciples go to Jesus and tell him to dismiss the crowd so they can go to the nearby towns and buy food for themselves. But Jesus tells the disciples, “There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves.” The disciples tell Jesus that they only have two fish and five loaves of bread.

Jesus says to bring the fish and loaves to him. Jesus blesses the food and then breaks it and gives it to the disciples who then give it to the people in the crowd. Everyone ate well and the disciples gathered up 12 baskets of food pieces. About 5,000 men ate the food that Jesus provided.

We learn two things from this Gospel. We learn that we should share what we have, especially with those who don’t have as much. Jesus multiplied their small offering of food. We also learn that God blesses our acts of kindness and generosity and makes what seems scarce to be plentiful. This is a miracle.

Dear God,  
 Please help me to realize that sharing with others is the way Jesus taught us to live. Amen.

### Matching

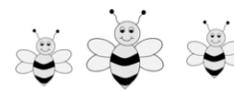
Draw a line from the number in Column A to the sentence in Column B that matches correctly.

Column A	Column B
12	Number of men in the crowd who ate the food
1	Number of fish
5	Number of disciples that followed Jesus
5,000	Number of people who healed the sick
2	Number of loaves of bread

### WHAT DOES JESUS WANT?

Fill in the letters that tell you what the picture is. Copy the letter in the last box in each row in order on the lines below to answer the question.

--	--	--	--



--	--	--	--



--	--	--	--



--	--	--	--

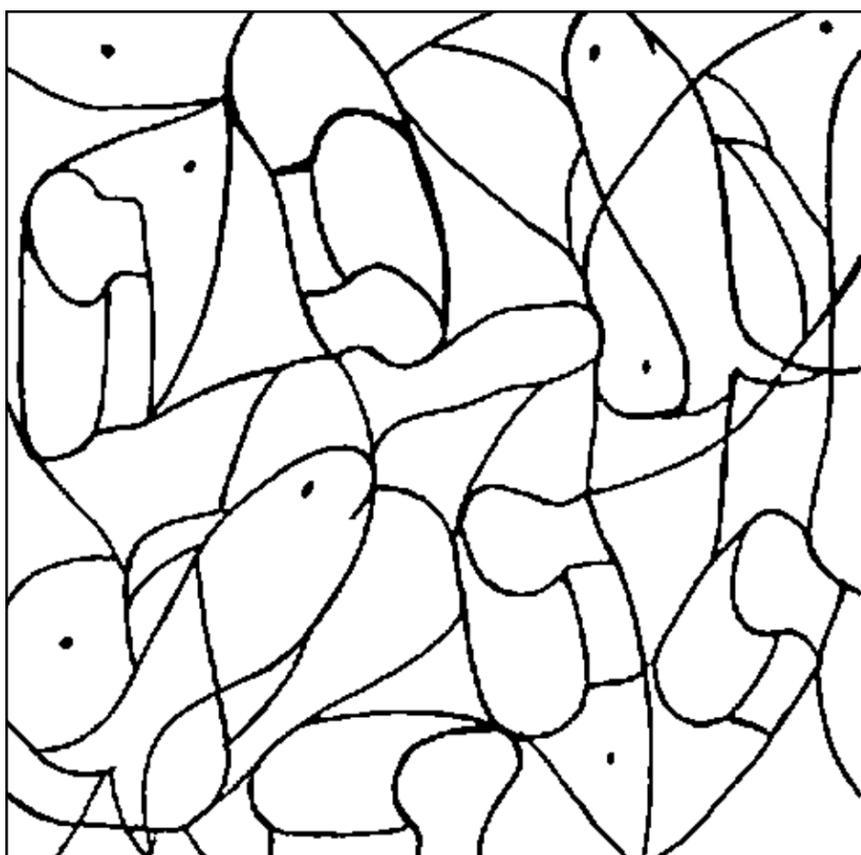


--	--	--	--



JESUS WANTS US TO

\_\_\_\_\_ !



### FIND THE FOOD



In the picture at left, find the **2 Fish** and color them Blue.

Then find the **5 Loaves of Bread** and color them Brown.

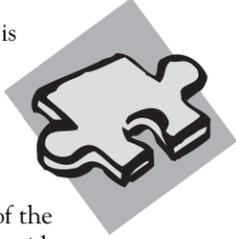
Color the rest of the picture your favorite color.

# SCRIPTOGRAM

A passage from Sunday's Scripture readings is represented below in code.

CLUE: In this week's SCRIPTOGRAM, Z equals T.

SUGGESTION: See the Gospel Commentary page in this week's **Message**, to find the citations for the chapters and verses of the readings. Solving the biblical reference will provide clues for solving the rest of the puzzle.



# AT THE MOVIES

## Hercules provides an action-filled diversion, not a memorable experience

For Sunday, Aug. 3:  
 WBUJ ZB UJ RJJNYLVVG, VXCZJS,  
 -----  
 ZRQZ GBL UQG RQAJ VXYJ. X  
 -----  
 OXVV TJSJO OXZR GBL ZRJ  
 -----  
 JAJTVQCZXS P WBAJSQSZ.  
 -----  
 ----- X C Q X Q R 55:3  
 ----- 55:3

NEW YORK (CNS) — This much can be said for the passable 3-D adventure "Hercules" (Paramount): By comparison with "The Legend of Hercules," this year's earlier cinematic addition to the store of lore about antiquity's most acclaimed strongman, the new film is practically a masterpiece.



CNS photo by Kerry Brown, Paramount

Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, right, is shown in a scene from the movie "Hercules."

Considered on its own, however, director Brett Ratner's mildly demythologizing take on the subject — which stars former pro wrestling superstar Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson in the title role — nets out as amiable and reasonably diverting, but unlikely to linger in moviegoers' memories.

Based on Steve Moore's graphic novel "Hercules: The Thracian Wars," this variation on a durable theme finds the hero — who may or may not be a demigod — following up on the completion of his 12 canonical labors by leading a band of super-skilled mercenaries around the political patchwork of ancient Greece.

His quintet of comrades includes fighting

prophet Amphiaraus (Ian McShane), brainy strategist Autolycus (Rufus Sewell), mute, feral slaughter survivor Tydeus (Aksel Hennie), Amazon archer Atalanta (Ingrid Bolso Berdal) and callow warrior — but gifted storyteller — Iolaus (Reece Ritchie). In addition to being Hercules' cousin, young Iolaus is also the ancient equivalent of his PR man.

When fetching Princess Ergenia (Rebecca Ferguson) turns up to offer this formidable ensemble a job, her proposal seems straightforward enough at first. She wants Hercules and his followers to help her father, King Cotys of

Thrace (John Hurt), rid his realm of a marauding rebel called Rhesus (Tobias Santelmann). Their reward? Hercules' weight in gold.

Of course, anyone familiar with court intrigue, at least as it's portrayed on screen, will realize that all is not what it seems, and that Hercules and company will end up getting more than they bargained for when they struck their initial deal with Ergenia.

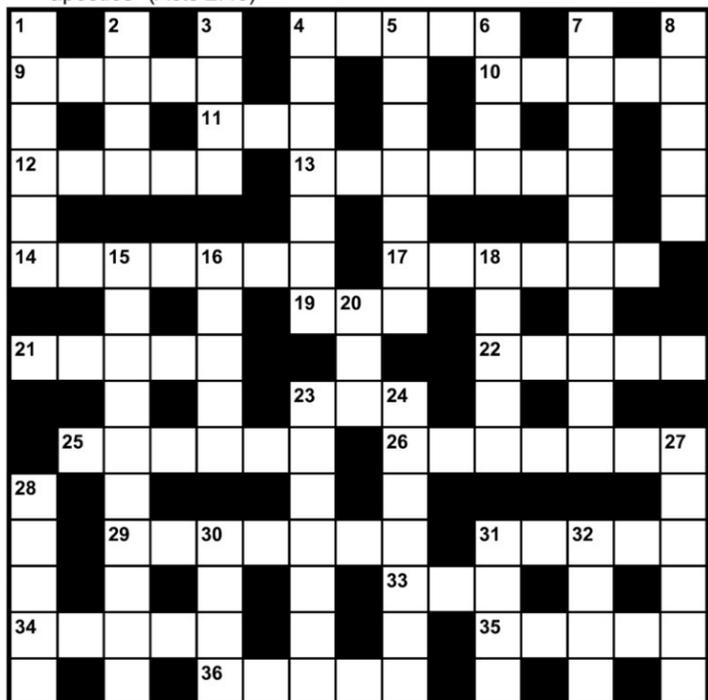
The odd witticism and some on-target messages about believing in oneself and putting strength at the service of goodness are scattered through Ryan J. Condal and Evan Spiliotopoulos' script. But the real agenda of Ratner's sweeping movie is large-scale combat and plenty of it.

Still, for those grown-ups content to munch popcorn in an air-conditioned theater, this summer dole out of derring-do will no doubt . . . well, do.

The film contains constant, mostly bloodless violence, some gory images, a glimpse of rear nudity, occasional sexual references, at least one use of the F-word and a handful of crude and crass terms. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

# CROSSWORD

- |                                                                          |                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>                                                            | <b>DOWN</b>                                                                     |
| 4 ___ and Omega                                                          | 1 "Blessed are those who hunger and ___ for righteousness..." (Mt 5:6)          |
| 9 Like Esau                                                              | 2 Number for the last Leo                                                       |
| 10 The root of all evils is the love of this (1 Tim 6:10)                | 3 David played one                                                              |
| 11 Eve beginner                                                          | 4 Patron saint of candle makers                                                 |
| 12 "I will ___ up for David a righteous Branch" (Jer 23:5)               | 5 Law of the Church                                                             |
| 13 Priests' house                                                        | 6 Lectern                                                                       |
| 14 Jesus was crucified between two of these                              | 7 Teaching letter from the pope                                                 |
| 17 Heavenly fencing material?                                            | 8 Church council                                                                |
| 19 "Take, ___; this is my body." (Mt 26:26)                              | 15 Obstacle to a sacrament                                                      |
| 21 The ___ Room, where the disciples experienced the Holy Spirit         | 16 Biblical division                                                            |
| 22 President Johnson's daughter who converted to Catholicism             | 18 Catholic fitness guru, Charles ___                                           |
| 23 Catholic actor Mineo                                                  | 20 Father of Jehoshaphat                                                        |
| 25 Liturgical year start                                                 | 23 Biblical method of execution                                                 |
| 26 Son of David                                                          | 24 Jesus raised him from the dead                                               |
| 29 Renaissance Marian art title                                          | 27 "For the body does not consist of one ___ but of many." (1 Cor 12:14)        |
| 31 ___ Novarum                                                           | 28 God's life in us                                                             |
| 33 Chi ___                                                               | 30 "___ Irae"                                                                   |
| 34 Perfume the altar                                                     | 31 Priscilla and Aquila left here because the Jews were ordered out (Acts 18:2) |
| 35 The Diocese of Portland is here                                       | 32 Communion banister                                                           |
| 36 "...many ___ and wonders were being done by the apostles" (Acts 2:43) |                                                                                 |



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See answers on page 14.

# SCRIPTURE SEARCH

## BASKETS FULL

Gospel for Sunday, August 3, 2014

Matthew 14:13-21

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A, finding Jesus yields many kinds of foods. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

- |           |          |             |
|-----------|----------|-------------|
| IN A BOAT | PLACE    | BY HIMSELF  |
| CROWDS    | FOLLOWED | CURED       |
| SICK      | EVENING  | VILLAGES    |
| BUY FOOD  | GO AWAY  | FIVE LOAVES |
| TWO FISH  | BRING    | ORDERED     |
| SIT DOWN  | GRASS    | HEAVEN      |
| TWELVE    | BASKETS  | WOMEN       |

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 S H I N A B O A T F P G  
 E I O F E L L S L W K A  
 V D C H O R D E R E D L  
 A O J K J W S N A C E L  
 O O E D O M T A N A R I  
 L F B R I N G W N L U V  
 E Y C H L O R R E P C M  
 V U Y A W A O G M L L E  
 I B A S K E T S O J V B  
 F I O G O L L O W E D E

By PATRICIA KASTEN © 2014 Tri-C-A Publications



## Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21; First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-3; Second Reading: Romans 8:35, 37-39*

### SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

BY FATHER DONALD DILGER

In the context of this gospel reading, the disciples of John the Baptizer just reported to Jesus that John had been executed in prison by order of Herod Antipas, ruler of Galilee. Jesus' association with the Baptizer was well known. It was possible that Antipas would follow up with the arrest of associates of the Baptizer. In fact, Luke 13:31-32 informs us that some Pharisees, friends of Jesus, warned him to leave Galilee, "for Herod (Antipas) wants to kill you." Jesus' reply is no compliment to Herod Antipas, as Jesus begins his reply, "Go, tell that fox, etc." In Old Testament literature the fox is depicted as one who prowls over ruins. To the portrayal of Herod Antipas as a fox, Jesus next envisions the future ruin of Jerusalem for its rejection and killing of prophets.

To escape the danger of his arrest and execution before "I finish my course," Jesus "withdrew from there in a boat to a lonely place by himself." His private retreat was not going to happen. Word got out that he had left by boat. Crowds followed him on foot. Probably not by walking on water, as Jesus does occasionally, but by fording the inlets and outlets north or south of the Sea of Galilee. Matthew notes the compassion of Jesus as he reaches out to his sheep to heal their diseases. The disciples caught up with him by evening. They remind him that it was late, that they were in the wilderness. Time to send the people away to buy food for themselves. Jesus gives them an astounding answer, "They don't have to leave. *You* give them something to eat."

Like the provider of the family meal who suddenly has to cope with unexpected visitors, the disciples take a quick inventory, "We have *only*

five loaves here and two fish." No problem! Jesus says, "Bring them here to me!" He ordered the people to recline on the grass. It was not the custom to sit as we sit for a meal, but to recline, a halfway lying down posture, propping up the body on one elbow, leaving the other arm free to bring food to mouth. "Jesus *took* the five loaves and the two fish, *looked up* to heaven, and *blessed* and *broke* and *gave* the loaves to his disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowd."

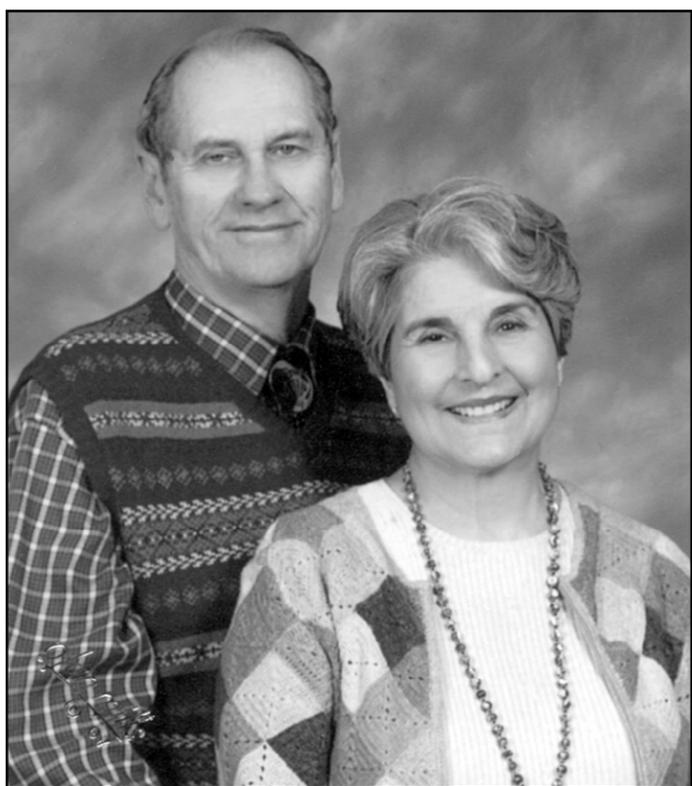
Note the Eucharistic language (in italics) as still used today in our Eucharistic prayers. Either the composition of the gospel stories influenced the formation of the Eucharistic Prayer from early on, or vice versa. The earliest version of the Eucharistic Prayer available to us is in 1 Corinthians 11:24-26, written about the year 54. The first gospel, Mark, would not be composed for another fifteen years. We conclude that the Eucharistic Prayers, the Lord's Supper, the Breaking of the Bread, (names for what we call the Mass today), served as guides for the formation of the story of the feeding of the five thousand in all four gospels. This indicates that the authors viewed the feeding of the crowds during Jesus' ministry as preview of the Eucharistic Action already in full swing before and during the composition of the gospels.

Always mindful of the catechetical nature of a gospel story, we must ask what Matthew is teaching by this story? Since we live almost two thousand years after the writing of the gospels, the instruction that Matthew intended in his time is not always obvious to us. For example, we know that the Jews, or at least some groupings of religious Jews, were expecting a Messiah. There was a popular belief that when the Messiah is revealed, the manna that once fell in the wilderness to feed the ancient Israelites would again appear in the wilderness when the Messiah

arrived. Matthew proclaims the feeding of the crowds by Jesus in the wilderness as a renewal of the manna, thus revealing Jesus as the Messiah.

Jesus' command to the disciples, "*You* give them something to eat," is significant because of the Eucharistic tone of Matthew's story. Thus Jesus' command echoes the words that Paul already in the year 54 attributed to Jesus at the Last Supper, "Do this in memory of me." The feeding of the crowd with the new manna, the Eucharist, must be continued by the disciples of Jesus, not just in Jesus' time but for all time. Thus Paul again, in the year 54, attributes to Jesus words that indicate the ongoing feeding of the multitude, "... as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death *until he comes*," or as Matthew writes at the end of his gospel, "to the close of the age." The twelve baskets of leftovers also convey the instruction that the Church must continue to feed the crowds as Jesus fed them. One may also conclude that Jesus intended not only Eucharistic feeding as indicated by the Eucharistic language of the story, but also feeding the poor materially through the compassion of Jesus shown in this miracle-story.

The story of feeding five thousand is found in all four gospels, but with a difference in Matthew. He writes, "... five thousand men," as do the other gospels, but adds his own flavor, "besides women and children." Why does he alone write this? From close study of Matthew's gospel emerge certain characteristics of his style. He loves to exaggerate the miracles of Jesus as he found them in the Gospel of Mark. For example, one blind man cured in Mark becomes two blind men in Matthew, not just once, but twice. Thus he also increased the number of people fed by Jesus. Besides that, it just makes sense that families were there.



### Golden Jubilarians

David R. and Margaret (Martinez) Douglas of Evansville celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with a Mass of Thanksgiving June 7 at St. John Church in Daylight. A dinner party followed. They were married June 6, 1964, at Our Lady of Belen Church in Belen, N.M. They are the parents of Eric (Lisa) Douglas and Lisa Douglas, both of Evansville. They have three grandchildren. Mrs. Douglas is a homemaker. Mr. Douglas retired from South Gibson School Corporation in 2000.

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# Daylight

Continued from page 1

Evansville — specifically at the organizations where the St. John Evangelical Mission team volunteered: St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, St. Vincent Center for Children and Families, Christian Life Center, Catholic Charities, Habitat for Humanity, Aurora, Columbia Healthcare, Project Gabriel and Ronald McDonald House.

We gathered daily at the church and went out to serve in food pantries and volunteer at other ministries reaching out to low-income families and the homeless, the sick and the lone-ly. Our missionaries even found time to do some landscaping projects at our church.

Our local mission experience enabled us not only to sample ministry sites in our city, but also to partner — individually and as a group — with particular organizations throughout the year, sharing our talents weekly or monthly as missionaries to our community.

Our faith deepened, our relationships grew stronger. Some



Parish missionaries Craig Rudolphi, left, Jon Jackson, Jack Jackson, and Butch Rudolphi work on a landscape beautification project on the St. John the Evangelist, Daylight campus.

of us discovered calls, and all of us felt our spirits ignited and our hearts impassioned. We are blessed by this experience!



Submitted photos courtesy of St. John the Evangelist, Daylight St. John Daylight missionary Margie Smith provides comfort and care at Evansville's St. Vincent Center for Children and Families.



At the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry in Evansville, missionary Mary Lou Bradley helped stock shelves and provide food to needy members of the local community.

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## Kurtz

Continued from page 1

without even being able to take their belongings!

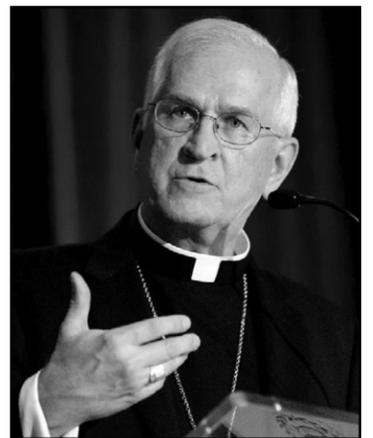
“Our own Conference of Bishops has called attention to numerous situations of violence that cry out for peace,” he continued. “There is the terrible conflict between Israel and Hamas that terrorizes Israeli civilians and has cost the lives of more than 500 Gazans, most of whom are civilians. There are the alarming conflicts in Syria and Iraq that have caused millions to flee their homes and tens of thousands to lose their lives.

“We are mindful of the violent conflict in Ukraine, of the

thousands who are displaced, and the hundreds of innocent civilians whose lives were cut short when a passenger jet was shot down. In Africa there are the often forgotten clashes in South Sudan, the Central African Republic, Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of the Congo that have displaced millions. Closer to home, there is the violence in Central America that is driving unaccompanied children to seek refuge in our country.”

Archbishop Kurtz went on to ask his brother bishops to reach out to the Catholics they serve with requests for prayer and support for diplomatic efforts aimed at dialogue and reconciliation.

“As Jesus admonishes us,” he said in his letter: “Blessed are the peacemakers’ (Matthew 5:9) . . . .



**ARCHBISHOP JOSEPH E. KURTZ**

“We should never underestimate the power of prayer; for it touches and opens us to the power of God among us. My prayer is that together we might help open our world to God’s gift of peace, a peace that the world cannot give (cf. John 14:27).”

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# Coraggio group learns about 'different ways of meeting God'

BY PAUL BRAGIN  
Special to The Message

Coraggio met on July 18 for a Holy Hour led by Father Jeff Read, associate pastor of Evansville's Holy Rosary Parish. Following the Holy Hour, Sister Sharon Richardt, a 54-year member of the Daughters of Charity, spoke to the group about different ways of meeting God in one's spiritual life.

Sister Sharon said many circumstances in life provide opportunities to pray. When you are fearful, use that as a chance to speak with God. "You can use the things you don't like, the resistances," Sister Sharon told the group. She added that when another person bothers you, it is good to offer a prayer for that person. Conversely, the happier moments in life give opportunities to pray and thank God for the happiness. Sister Sharon pointed out that in her own life, she was happy for an eight day retreat the Daughters of Charity were hosting that was going well.

Sister Sharon said there are three excellent ways to experience God in prayer. She explained the benefits of quiet centering prayer. She discussed the positive aspects of writing in a prayer journal. She also expressed the need for showing gratitude for God's gifts.

Centering prayer constitutes a significant part of Sister Sharon's prayer life. She told the group that she usually engages in two 20-minute periods of centering prayer daily. She said centering prayer involves closing your eyes, breathing, and simply resting in the presence of God.

Sister Sharon explained that many people will focus on a word like God, Jesus, Mary or another spiritual word when distractions enter their minds during centering prayer. After leading the group in five minutes of centering prayer, one participant said it was difficult to not use his word over and over again to stay focused. "There are many benefits," Sister Sharon explained about centering prayer, noting that it usually leads to a better ability to listen to God.

She also noted that prayer often can be one-sided. To help combat this, she recommends writing in a prayer journal. "God is always with us," Sister

Sharon said. "Prayer is to give you access to God." She also gave everyone in attendance a reflection prayer journal sprinkled with Scripture verses and quotes from saints.

Finally, Sister Sharon believes the discipline of showing gratitude needs to be a part of a healthy prayer life. "It keeps you from being so negative," she explained. She distributed daily gratitude journals to the members of the group, suggesting that they write down five things each day for which they could be grateful. "Keep it simple," Sister Sharon instructed the group. She explained that this easy task paid off for her immensely. "Before I go to sleep at night, I have a positive thought about the day," she said.

Coraggio usually meets the second Friday of each month at Holy



SISTER SHARON RICHARDT

Trinity Parish. It is open to all Catholics in the Evansville area ages 18-35. The next meeting is Aug. 8. For more information, email coraggioevansville@gmail.com or visit the group's Facebook page at facebook.com/coraggioevansville.



Submitted photo by Megan Cassidy  
Sister Sharon Richardt speaks at the July Coraggio meeting. She covered different ways of meeting God in one's spiritual life.

**T H I N S A N S W E R S W E E K S**

T	X	L	A	L	P	H	A	E	S
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C	E	N	S	E	N	U	M	A	I
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**Scriptogram**

For Sunday, August 3:  
COME TO ME HEEDFULLY,  
LISTEN, THAT YOU MAY HAVE  
LIFE. I WILL RENEW WITH  
YOU THE EVERLASTING  
COVENANT.

— ISAIAH 55:3

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# Exploring parishioners roles in RCIA initiation

**THE CHRISTIAN JOURNEY**

BY FATHER JIM SAUER

Many Catholics have the misunderstanding that initiating new members is the RCIA Team's responsibility.

The very first pages of RCIA ritual situate initiating new members squarely "within the community of the faithful"; and, the faithful are to "provide an example that will help catechumens obey the Holy Spirit more generously" (par. 4) "... the initiation of adults is the responsibility of all the baptized" (par. 9).

The entire parish provides help to those searching for Christ and also bears the responsibility ... to spread the faith (par. 9). The RCIA ritual specifies ways that a parish community is to help new members during the four stages [Inquiry, the Catechumenate, Lent, and Mystagogy (after Easter)]. During the Inquiry, parishioners are to "give candidates evidence of the spirit of the Christian community and welcome them into their homes, into personal conversations and into community gatherings" (par. 9.1).

The ritual contains numerous examples of how parishioners are to encourage our new members on their faith journey into full membership into the church. The most challenging one for our parishes may be Paragraph 9.5, "After baptism, the faithful ... should welcome the newly baptized with open arms in charity, and help them to feel more at home in the community of the baptized." Parishes need to examine how we can better do this.

Pope Francis, in a June 16 meeting with more than 7,000 Roman diocesan priests, religious, catechists, and parish council members, said "If every parish embodies the virtues of compassion, tenderness, patience, and welcoming, the Catholic Church will be the mother she claims to be and will continue to generate numerous children . . ." (*The Message*, June 20, 2014). Hospitality is the least expensive item we can add to our parish budgets!

Although the parish as a whole is responsible for the initiation of new members, certain parishioners also exercise particular ministries on their behalf. The priest celebrates the major liturgical rites with them during Sunday Eucharist — "Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens," "The Rite of Sending of the Catechumens for Election" to the bishop on the First Sunday of Lent, the three Lenten Scrutinies, the Presentation of the Creed and Our Father, and the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist on Holy Saturday.

Catechists serve an important ministry on behalf of new members by sharing their faith with them in their sessions; discussing the Sunday Gospels and helping them apply them to their lives; inviting parishioners to share with them about parish ministries; and witnessing their own love of Jesus and the Church to them.

Sponsors also accompany candidates.

"Sponsors are persons who have known and assisted the candidates and stand as witnesses to the candidates' moral character, faith, and intention" (par. 9.5). I've always used "parish sponsors," who joined inquirers early in the first phase. They introduce inquirers to other parishioners — helping them feel more at home in the parish. They also help involve them in various parish activities, and chauffeur them to parish parties. This is a real plus in integrating new members into the parish.

On the day of election, the catechumens may choose a godparent for Lent and Holy Saturday (par. 11). Godparents are chosen because of their "good example, good qualities, and friendship, delegated by the local Christian community, and approved by the priest . . . godparents . . . show the candidates how to practice the Gospel in personal and social life . . . sustain them in moments of hesitancy and anxiety, and . . . guide the candidates' progress in the baptismal life" (par. 11).

While there are specially trained ministers serving our new members, we can never forget that the entire parish is the primary minister of initiation, for it is into the life of the parish that our new members will be baptized, confirmed, and share Eucharist with us.

*Editor's note: This is the third in a series on the RCIA. The next installment will appear in the Aug. 15 issue of The Message.*

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**ST. MARY'S**  
EPWORTH CROSSING

# Source + Summit evening provides ‘a good reset button’



Father Jeff Read gives a homily about everyone’s relationship with God.



The choir performs the song “Breathe” during the event.

**BY LAURA ACCHIDARDO**  
The Message intern

More than 30 young people spent a recent Friday evening at St. John Daylight Parish with the body, blood, soul and divinity of Jesus — the Source and Summit of our Catholic faith. The Diocese of Evansville holds Source and Summit weekend retreats for youth and adults annually in late winter. This event, although shortened, proved impactful.

“Source and Summit has blessed my life in so many ways that I have a hard time imagining my life without it,” attendee Holly Thieman said. “It’s a really good way to get back on the path because we’re all prone to stray. It’s a good reset button.”

The evening, which was themed “Love God,” featured prayer, adoration, and a meal with good company.

“It’s a fun way to get to know people who believe the same things and have the same values as you do,” attendee Maria Sermersheim said.

After musical liturgy, Father Jeff Read, associate pastor at Evansville’s Holy Rosary Parish, read from the Gospel and gave a homily. He talked of the importance of having a relationship with God, and how God pulls His children to Him. God is always looking for His people, and they are always looking for Him.

Adoration followed, and confession was available. As adoration concluded, everyone moved to the cafeteria for pizza and chips, and a chance to catch up and share some



Young people gathered in the cafeteria for pizza and social time after adoration.

casual time with each other. A few participants also went outside to play Frisbee.

“As we listen to scripture, it encourages us to sit in silence and listen to what God has to say,” Source and Summit director Gail Shetler said. “But God also wants us to talk to Him like He’s our friend. He wants to know everything about our lives, to share our troubles with Him. And then sit in silence and let Him help us work those problems out and bring us to another level.

“This is a place to come together,” Shetler added. “We’re sending a message of God’s love for us; and together, we return God’s love to Him. So we have ‘Love God’ as a command, but then it’s a two-way street. God loves us, so we have ‘Love, God’. With events like Source and Summit, when you take time to talk and grow closer to God, you recommit your life to Him.”



Attendees Alena Coleman, left, and Maria Sermersheim enjoy the pizza and the company.



Attendees join the choir to sing “Here I Am to Worship.”

The Message photos by Laura Acchiardo

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