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## Join in prayer at Cathedral Sept. 11



CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz

**Laura Keener**  
Assistant Editor

On Sept. 11, 2001, 19 al-Qaeda terrorists hijacked four commercial airplanes and flew two of them into the World Trade Center towers in New York City, and a third into the Pentagon in Virginia. The fourth, allegedly intended for the White House in Washington, D.C., was reclaimed by passengers and crashed into a Pennsylvania field. The 19 terrorists and 2,977 victims — the passengers on the planes, workers in the towers, and rescue personnel — were killed during the attacks. It was a day that changed America forever.

In commemoration of the 10th anniversary of Sept. 11 Bishop Roger Foys invites everyone to gather for Vespers, Sept. 11, 3 p.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, Covington. It will be a time to remember, to reflect and to pray for forgiveness, healing and peace. Local civic leaders, police and firefighters are especially encouraged to attend. Pastors are being asked to identify parishioners who have lost loved ones as a result of the attacks so that they will have a place of honor during the service. A book of remembrance will be available to register the names of those for whom prayers are being offered.

"It helps us to remember," said Bishop Foys about the reason why he has called for a diocesan-wide gathering of prayer. Bishop Foys acknowledged that humans, for whatever reason, tend to mark important life events, good or bad, by milestone anniversaries — 10, 15, 20, 25, etc. "It's been

**Ironworkers anchor a section of a steel column once part of New York's World Trade Center to a concrete foundation during groundbreaking ceremonies for a 9/11 memorial in St. James, N.Y., July 17. The column was recovered from the rubble of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and will be the centerpiece of the memorial, which is scheduled to be dedicated Sept. 11 of this year, the 10th anniversary of the attacks.**

my experience that people, myself included, individually and corporately, have short memories. And while this is an awful thing to remember we need to keep it in our consciousness."

During the hours, days and weeks just following the terrorist attacks in 2001 people throughout the United States gathered in grief and confusion in churches and synagogues.

Bishop Foys said that was a good and natural response. "I think when we suffer a tragedy people's minds turn to something larger than themselves, something beyond themselves. We come to the realization that we need someone larger than ourselves," said Bishop Foys. "There is a comfort in people coming together, being with each other, sharing their grief, sharing their pain."

The grief, pain and suffering experienced by the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 are not quelled in a decade or, for many, not even in a lifetime. Bishop Foys said there is still a great need for people to come together in prayer for healing in the wake of Sept. 11.

*(Continued on page 8)*

### What is Vespers?

Vespers, also called Evening Prayer, is part of the Liturgy of the Hours, also known as the Divine Office. In the Liturgy of the Hours, the Church fulfills Jesus' command to "pray always" (Luke 18:1; see also 1 Thessalonians 5:17). Through this prayer, the people of God sanctify the day by continual praise of God and prayers of intercession for the needs of the world.

The Liturgy of the Hours includes several specified times of prayer. The most important times, called the "hinge hours," are Morning Prayer (which takes place upon rising) and Evening Prayer (which takes place as dusk begins to fall).

Bishops, priests, deacons and many men and women in consecrated life pray the Liturgy of the Hours each day. Their work is organized around this prayer, keeping God always at the center of their days. Lay people are encouraged to pray the Liturgy of the Hours as well, especially Morning and Evening Prayer.

Evening Prayer gives thanks for the day just past and makes an evening sacrifice of praise to God (see Psalm 141:1).

— From the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops website [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)

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## Father Berschied celebrates 25 years living as a true disciple of Christ

**Tim Fitzgerald**  
Editor

Father Paul Berschied was ordained to the priesthood in 1986 and thus is observing this year his 25th anniversary as a priest serving the diocese.

As he reflects on his quarter-century of ministry, he said the most enjoyable parts of his life as a priest are "celebrating the sacraments, in particular saying Mass each day."

"After that I enjoy very much conferring the sacrament of baptism upon infants and thus allowing them to enter into God's holy family. The sacrament of reconciliation always is a source of grace for me when I am able to serve as Christ's instrument in returning an individual soul to the pure state of God's loving grace.

"Additionally, I have always enjoyed those times that I was able to work for and support the pro-life cause in all its aspects."

Father Berschied is most associated with his ministry at St. Patrick Church, Maysville, and at St. Cecilia Church, Independence. He was associate pastor at St. Patrick (from 1987-1995) and for seven of those years served as principal of St. Patrick's kindergarten-through-12th-grade school. From 1996-2006 he served as pastor of St. Cecilia, where he also served as interim elementary school principal from 2004-2006.

Father Berschied served on the diocesan Pro-Life Commission for nearly a decade in the late 1990s to the late 2000s. He also was appointed a member of the Presbyteral Council for two terms and was defender of the bond in the diocesan Tribunal (2001-2006). For many years he has been the confessor for the Sisters of St. Joseph the Worker in Walton.

Since 2008 he has been parochial vicar at St. Therese Church, Southgate.

"The life of a priest is for me, personally, extremely fulfilling," Father Berschied said. "I am very grateful to the people of the parishes in which I have served and continue to serve, who provide for me so that I can serve them while I develop my personal spiritual relationship with Jesus, hopefully not only for my benefit, but for the benefit of those I serve."

He recalls that the "desire to be a priest was within me from my earliest childhood memories and was encouraged by my parents and grandparents and my parish priests. I remember during my sixth grade attending a priesthood ordination in our parish church and understanding that some day God would call me to do the same."

Father Berschied was born in Detroit, Michigan; later he and his family returned to Paducah, Kentucky, where his mother's family resided. He attended St. Mary Elementary School there and for high school attended St. Thomas Seminary in Louisville. He attended Paducah Community College and then Murray State University from which he graduated in 1969 with a bachelor's degree in English and library science. He attended the University of Kentucky and earned a master's degree in library science in 1975. He also did post-graduate work in school administration and supervision at Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond. During the late 1970s he was a school librarian and school principal in Lexington.

He acted on the call to the priestly vocation by re-entering the seminary in 1982, this time at St. Pius X Seminary in Erlanger in 1982. After one semester he enrolled in the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, preparation for his ordination in 1986.

How did he become a priest for the Diocese of Covington? The answer is simple, he said: When he decided to re-enter the seminary, he was working in

Lexington, which at that time was within the Diocese of Covington. "Thus my journey from Western Kentucky, through Central Kentucky to Northern Kentucky," Father Berschied said. (In 1988 the Diocese of Lexington was formed from the central and eastern sections of the Diocese of Covington.)

"Throughout my priesthood, I have come to see more and more that we must commit ourselves to live as true disciples of Christ and follow his teachings to the best of our ability," Father Berschied said. "Within that context we must trust our lives and our needs to God's providence for guidance, care and love in all things."

From his 25-year vantage point he offered some advice for young priests and seminarians.

"In my opinion, it is important for seminarians to develop a strong life of personal spirituality. I think the best formative experiences minimally include the following: daily Mass, the Liturgy of the Hours, the Rosary, readings from the 'Imitation of Christ,' Eucharistic adoration and regular use of the sacrament of reconciliation. These same practices are important throughout one's priesthood."

"When I arrived here nine years ago as Bishop," Bishop Roger Foys said, "Father Berschied was one of the first priests to greet me and welcome me. I am grateful to Father Paul for that and his many kindnesses to me over the course of these nine years. I am grateful

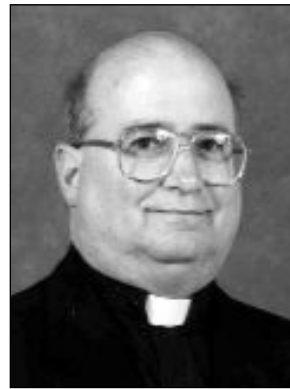
that he answered God's call to serve the Church as a priest and that he has lived that call for this quarter of a century.

"Whether he was serving as a parish parochial vicar, a school principal, a dean, a pastor, in Tribunal ministry, no one can doubt the love that Father Berschied has for the Church and the priesthood. This is his life and it is clear that he has dedicated himself completely and without reservation to serving where needed.

"He has never shirked his duty, going above and beyond that for which his assignment called. When his parish school was in need of an interim principal he did not shrink from stepping up and filling that position while maintaining and fulfilling his duties as pastor of the parish. His passionate involvement in the pro-life movement is clear, and he is not embarrassed to speak out in defense especially of children in the womb, the most defenseless of God's creation.

"I heartily congratulate him on his 25th anniversary of ordination and wish him every blessing. Ad multos annos!"

*This concludes the series of articles in the Messenger this summer profiling the seven priests observing jubilees of their ordinations. Celebrating their 60th anniversary are Father Louis Jasper, Msgr. Allen Meier, P.A., and Father John Werner. Father Ronald Ketteler and Father B. Gerald Witzemann observe their 50th. Celebrating his 40th anniversary is Father Maurice DeLange.*



**Father Paul  
Berschied**



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# Preparing for the Roman Missal third edition

*This article continues a repeat of the series that originally ran from Feb. 18 to July 1. The essays have been provided by the diocesan Office of Worship and Liturgy and written by Father Daniel Schomaker, S.T.L., assistant director. They offer insight to the theology of the Mass and to the new translation of the Roman Missal. The new translation will be used for the first time beginning Nov. 27, the first Sunday of Advent. (Note: Words in bold indicate the new translation.)*

**Penitential Rite — Confiteor**

Priest: **Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.**

**Priest & People:**

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have **greatly sinned**, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

And, striking their breast, they say: **through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;**

**Then they continue:**

**therefore** I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Priest: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

People: Amen.



**Penitential Rite — Confiteor**

The goal of the Christian life is to be sanctified, or made holy, and so truly express in our very being the One who has made us and thus spend eternity with Him in heaven. And yet, in our daily lives, we often do things that create a hindrance to living out our potential as co-heirs with Christ. For this reason, the Church gives us the great Sacrament of Penance where we are brought back into right relationship with God and one another. And it is also the reason why within Her liturgical prayer the Church keeps our sins before our eyes within the Penitential Rite.

Whether we choose to acknowledge it or not, we are all sinners and are all in need of forgiveness. The Penitential Rite draws out a truth that can often be uncomfortable — we have sinned. The priest therefore instructs us that before we can enter into the Sacred Mysteries — encountering Christ in the Scriptures and in the Blessed Sacrament — we must acknowledge that we are indeed sinners.

Ritualistically, the priest can choose one of three forms in order for this to be accomplished. Form A is known as the Confiteor, which simply means “I confess.” And that is what we do; we confess as individuals, both to God and to one another, that we are sinners. Both in the things we have done, and the things

we have failed to do.

In studying the 3rd Edition of the Roman Missal we see that the Church is asking us to recognize not only that we have sinned, but that we have “greatly sinned.” We echo the confession of King David: “Then David said to God, ‘I have sinned greatly in doing this thing.’” (1Chr 21:8) and in doing so become aware that all sin, venial or mortal, is greatly offensive to God.

Recognizing our sins, however, is not enough. We must take responsibility for them and so the thrice “mea culpa” has been restored to the Confiteor. “Through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault ...” It is no accident that the Church has us repeat the “mea culpa” three times — it amplifies its significance and draws greater attention to itself — we take accountability for our sins. In addition to our words, the Church incorporates the gesture of striking the breast as we acknowledge our faults. This corresponding gesture of making a fist and striking our breast three times, however, is not to be seen as an accusatory “finger pointing,” but should be seen as a rock crushing the sin within us — destroying those stumbling blocks that keep us from the Lord and His Altar.

On the surface, it can appear that the Penitential Rite has as its focus the people gathered in prayer, but if we step back and see the whole picture, we become aware that the recognition of sins is intimately bound to their forgiveness. Therefore, the true focus of the Penitential Rite is the great and eternal mercy of God. There would be no need to examine our lives and consciences if there were no means of being forgiven. Every liturgical action, at its core, is focused on God. Let us open our eyes to his great mercy and so be able to approach the Altar of God in purity of heart and thereby enter into eternal bliss.



**Bishop's Schedule**

- July 29**  
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Priorities and Planning meeting, Washington, D.C.
- July 30**  
Installation of Msgr. William Cleves as pastor, Holy Spirit Parish, Newport, 4:30 p.m.
- July 31**  
Installation of Father Lawrence Schaeper as pastor, Sts. Boniface & James Parish, Ludlow, 10 a.m.
- Aug. 1**  
Diocesan Consultors' meeting, 10 a.m.  
Individual meeting, 2 p.m.
- Aug. 2**  
Groundbreaking for Mary, Seat of Wisdom Chapel, Thomas More College, 10 a.m.  
ACUE pastors' meeting, 2 p.m.  
Individual meeting, 6 p.m.
- Aug. 3**  
Diocesan school food fair, St. Pius X Hall, 10 a.m.  
Annual meeting with auditors, 2 p.m.
- Aug. 4**  
Meeting with new Catholic school teachers, 11:45 a.m.  
Episcopal Council meeting, 2 p.m.

- Aug. 5**  
Individual meeting, 9 a.m.  
Catholic school principals' meeting, 10:45 a.m.
- Aug. 7**  
Sisters of Notre Dame Jubilee Mass and Reception, St. Joseph Heights, 10:30 a.m.
- Aug. 8**  
Individual meeting, 9 a.m.
- Aug. 9**  
Mass and send-off of attendees of World Youth Day, Curia, 8:30 a.m.
- Aug. 9-11**  
Catholic Conference of Kentucky and Provincial meeting, Louisville
- Aug. 12**  
Individual meeting, 9 a.m.
- Aug. 13**  
Sisters of St. Joseph the Worker Walton, Mass and Final Profession of Vows, 10 a.m.  
St. Philip Church, Melbourne, Installation of Father Robert Rottgers as pastor, 4:30 p.m.
- Aug. 14**  
Cathedral Basilica, Covington, Mass followed by baptism, 10 a.m.  
Cathedral Basilica, Covington, Mass followed by parish gathering, 5:30 p.m.

**Official Assignments**

*Effective: July 21, 2011*

**Rev. Daniel L. Schomaker**

To: Ecclesiastical Notary  
Continues other duties

**Rev. Ian P. McDole**

To: Ecclesiastical Notary  
Continues other duties

*Effective: Sept. 2, 2011*

**Maureen Dugan-Osterhaus**

**Alan Pickett**

**Deacon Phillip Racine**

**Daniel Turnwald**

**Diane Wilson**

**Madonna Woeste**

To: Advisory Board of Diocesan Pro-Life Office for a three-year term

*By order of the Most Rev. Roger J. Foys, D.D.  
Bishop of the Diocese of Covington*

Margaret M. Schack, Chancellor

**Mark your calendars**

■ **Parishioners interested in becoming lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** contact your pastor or chaplain about an upcoming two-hour education session Aug. 22 at 7 p.m. at St. Paul Church, Florence, hosted by the diocesan Office of Worship and Liturgy.

■ **Ground-breaking for Thomas More College's new free-standing chapel**, Mary, Seat of Wisdom Chapel, will be Aug. 2, 10 a.m. at the college on Thomas More Parkway in Crestview Hills.

Bishop Roger Foys will preside at the blessing service. President Margaret Stallmeyer, C.D.P., will welcome guests and donors. All are welcomed.

The chapel will serve as the physical focal point and spiritual heart of the Thomas More College campus for current and future students, as well as for the community. The chapel will become a campus and community landmark and a symbol of the school's identity as a Catholic educational and cultural institution.

To inquire about making a contribution, contact Vice President for Institutional Advancement Cathy Silvers at (859) 344-3344 or [cathy.silvers@thomasmore.edu](mailto:cathy.silvers@thomasmore.edu). More information can be found at [thomasmore.edu/chapelfund](http://thomasmore.edu/chapelfund).

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## A new challenge

When I began writing this column, I shared that occasionally I would do a column that was more exclusively about my personal life. I have tried to limit myself in that and, in the 28 years I have been writing this column, have probably done less than 10 pieces whose main focus was my own life. When I have done so, it was almost always to share with readers a major transition in my life.

This column is one of those personal pieces. My personal life is again undergoing a major transition, though this one does not concern a move to a new job or to a new city. It has to do with my health:

In early May I went for a routine colonoscopy and the doctor discovered a cancerous tumor in my colon. The good news was that it was discovered relatively early, before there were symptoms. They scheduled me for surgery in early June and removed the affected area, along with a series of lymph nodes. The operation, while pretty invasive, went well, but some of the lymph nodes had already been affected, meaning that the cancer was not necessarily fully contained in the tumor. I have recovered very well from the surgery, though this took some weeks. An oncologist advised me that prudence dictates that there be a follow-up treatment to the surgery, namely, six months of chemotherapy. He also assured me that the long-term prognosis is good, but that, as with all cancer, nothing is really sure until it's sure. A cure is most likely, but not assured. I start the chemotherapy treatments in early August and will be facing a certain desert-experience for the next six months.

This is not a plea for sympathy. I share this with

you because one shares this with one's family and you are my family of readers. I will appreciate your prayers, even as I trust you not to deluge me with e-mails, cards and letters. What we give to each other inside the mystical body of faith, family, and friendship, need not be announced to be effective.

Where am I with all of this?

Initially, especially before the surgery and subsequent scans revealed more precisely the limit of the cancer, there was understandably a good amount of fear and paranoia. One's thoughts and fears aren't easy to control when one's next visit to the doctor might mean a death-sentence. Eventually though, and not just because the long-term prognosis now appears quite positive, I have begun to find a deep peace within all of this. I trust in God and know that I am in safe hands, irrespective of whatever happens. I also trust the medical professionals with whom I have been dealing. They have been marvelously competent and infinitely gentle. What a grace for us all, the skill of doctors!

But that peace of soul is also predicated on a number of realizations that were only abstract theories for me before this illness. Some things are infinitely more real to me now: I now know existentially that life is fragile, that health is precious, and that it's to be appreciated rather than taken for granted. I know too existentially that we cannot safeguard our own lives, no matter how carefully we try. Faith and hope are flooding into my life as never before.

So too is love. Family and friends are mostly taken for granted when we are young and strong and under the illusion that death is not really a

reality for us. We realize how deep a grace family and friendship are only when we are fully attuned to our own vulnerability; mostly, too, it only then that we actually allow others to love us.

And there are other deep lessons in this for me: I have been driving my engines hard for a long time, dodging bullets as I overwork and am over-extended. So many times in the past years, in a trance of overwork, I promised God that I would slow my life down, just as soon as this particular task was finished. Indeed, often, explicitly in prayer, I asked God to let me do this slowdown willfully, and not have some health breakdown force it on me. Like the young Augustine, I was praying: "Slow me down, but not yet!" My cancer diagnosis is finally doing for me what I couldn't do for myself. My prayer now is: Let me receive this gracefully, and as a grace!

One last lesson: Should I land on my feet, healthy and my old self again after the chemotherapy, I hope to have the strength to not return to my old life, grateful to have dodged a bullet and ready for business as usual. Instead, like the one leper who returned to give thanks to Jesus rather than going back to normal living, I am praying that the grace of this visitation will be the alchemy I have long needed to make me turn instead habitually in gratitude towards Jesus and towards the present moment.

*Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser, theologian, teacher, and award-winning author, is President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, Texas.*

## Hungry families

You are probably starting to hear about a humanitarian crisis unfolding in East Africa, mostly affecting Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia. Catholic Relief Services staff in the region report dreadful conditions. This just came in from a refugee camp in Kenya:

They've walked for days or weeks from Somalia, and their shoes show it. Dusty and worn, the sandals of a little boy dangle in his hand as he waits in the center of the camp. Nearby, his exhausted 22-year-old mother, Momina, rocks her sobbing baby. "We had sheep, goats and cattle-over a dozen," she says. "They all died from the drought... Food was running out. So, we left."

These terrible conditions have sparked an exodus of refugees — mostly women and children — pouring into Kenya and Ethiopia in search of food.

East Africa's worst drought in more than half a century is causing extreme hunger for more than 11 million people. All this brings to mind sobering images from the Ethiopian famine of 1984. Who can forget the pictures of emaciated, listless children on TV? The full scope of such a humanitarian catastrophe was not fully realized until after so many had died.

This time is different. This time, we know what is likely to come as the disaster unfolds. I am asking you to help CRS with a generous gift so that we can quickly increase the scope of our efforts there to feed and provide water to as many needy people as possible.

Since 1960, CRS has provided water and agricultural programs in Kenya and Ethiopia, where current drought conditions are not as dire as in Somalia. Your previous gifts are already saving lives because those programs helped us dig deep wells that have helped lessen the drought's effects.

Thank you, and God bless you.

*Ken Hackett is president for Catholic Relief Services.*

### IN EXILE



Father Ron Rolheiser

## God in our midst

"Why would we think that God's imagination and love might be exhausted?"

These words of wisdom by Cardinal Suenens of Belgium seep into my soul like rising water as I meditate on the wave of natural disasters continuing to descend on so many communities of our world.

Japan will live forever with the aftermath of both a tsunami and a nuclear meltdown. The shock of breached levees in New Orleans, followed by a drilling rig gone wrong, still haunts residents along the Gulf. Wave after wave of snow and ice paralyzed the east coast this winter. Massive flooding all along the Mississippi Delta has sacrificed whole communities. Life-changing tornadoes in Alabama, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Texas, Missouri and Indiana have left a wake of dead and missing people, along with total wipeout of property. The aching feeling of "enough, enough, enough" beats in our hearts as we wait for the next shoe to drop.

A Diocese of Covington seminarian, José Rito, and I were talking about life and death recently. We decided that with the flip of a coin we too could be dead or alive, right in the midst of all this devastation. Natural disasters know no discrimination. The survivors we see on the news are just like us. They live and love with the same intensity, rejoice and cry with the hand they are dealt, make good and bad

choices, know heart-wrenching anger and pain, find blessings, large and small, to be grateful for each day.

The question is not, "Why did God let this happen?" The question is, "Where is God in our midst?"

The answer is right beside us, within us, around us. Listen to the survivors. They are victimized and overwhelmed, but also focused primarily on thanksgiving for their life, finding loved ones, reaching out to help one another, reshaping their lives. We have to say out loud, over and over again, that there is resurrection after death — living in the wake of death, knowing gratitude rather than despair.

Helen Keller once said, "The world is full of suffering; it is also full of the overcoming of it." God never promised any of us a life without pain or loss. God does not mold this into paradise. We are imperfect people in an imperfect world.

God asks us to just do the best we can, and to believe that we are not abandoned in times of sorrow and joy. God is right here, right now. If we look deeper than the surface at every turn of events, we will find God here — touching lives, renewing spirits, giving hope. That is the Paschal Mystery — the suffering, death, resurrection and glorification of Jesus — which we celebrate.

*Divine Providence Sister Paula Gohs is pastoral associate for St. John Church, Carrollton, Ky.*

### VIEWPOINT



Sister Paula Gohs

### GUEST COMMENTARY

Ken Hackett

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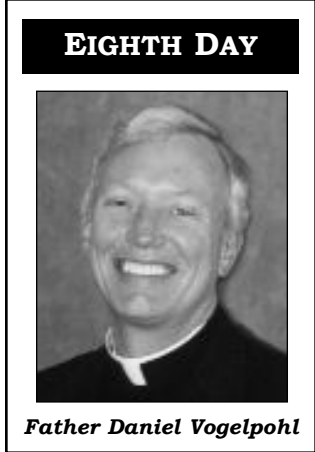
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# Sometimes you have to do it yourself

The readings for the eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time — Cycle “A” are: Isaiah 55:1-3; Romans 8:36,37-39; and Matthew 14:13-21.

Sometimes in life there are tasks that only you can perform; no one else can do them for you. This is a hard lesson learned by adolescents growing into adulthood who may still want to cling to the childhood in which mom and dad did everything for them.



The disciples in today’s Gospel episode seem a little reluctant to accept their own responsibilities. They look at the problem they are encountering, namely, the hungry crowd. But rather than accepting responsibility to do something about

it themselves, they look to Jesus to solve the problem for them. “Dismiss the crowds so that they may go to the villages and buy some food for themselves.” But Jesus will not allow them to shift the responsibility. “There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves.”

Often in life we want to pass responsibility on to another. We turn to prayer and tell God the problem is his to solve. We see crime in our streets and we pray to God that peoples’ hearts be changed. We see the homeless and we pray that God give them shelter. God says to us as he did to those disciples of old: “You find them shelter yourselves; you help them have a change of heart.”

When told to feed the crowds themselves, the disciples replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and a couple of fish.” What they were soon to learn is that what they were able to provide would be enough if entrusted to the Lord. And that is the lesson for us as well. If we are willing to devote everything we have to the project, with the help of God it will be enough.

Our Gospel episode comes from chapter 14 of Matthew. In this chapter there are two banquets. There is the one we read in the liturgy today in which Jesus feeds the crowds with the food provided by the disciples. But preceding it, there is the birthday banquet of Herod during which he is seduced by Herodias’ daughter to have John the Baptist killed. Herod feared John because he sensed that John was a righteous man (Mark 6:20), but he would not follow the prophet’s word. Thus his banquet leads to death. The disciples, on the other hand, heed the words of Jesus, and the banquet leads to life.

The first and second readings of today’s liturgy both serve to remind us that God will always be faithful to those who follow his Word. Isaiah’s words are addressed to a community more poverty stricken than the disciples in the Gospel. They are told that they can always turn to the Lord no matter how meager their possessions. God will provide. “All you who are thirsty, come to the water! You who have no money, come, receive grain and eat; come, without paying and without cost, drink wine and milk!”

Paul, too, in the second reading from his letter to the Romans seems to remind us that because of the love and grace of God, we will be able to bring the Lord’s victory to all the situations we encounter. “Yet in all this we are more than conquerors because of him who has loved us. For I am certain that neither death nor life ... will be able to separate us from the love of God that comes to us in Christ Jesus, our Lord.”

*Father Daniel Vogelpohl is pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church, Ft. Mitchell.*

# Creating winners and losers

Patriotic millionaires want to pay more taxes, because they recognize their prosperity resulted from a healthy society. In their open letter to the president and leaders of both houses of Congress they wrote, “Our country has been good to us. It provided a foundation through which we could succeed. Now, we want to do our part to keep that foundation strong so that others can succeed as we have.”

Writing as loyal citizens who now or previously earned an income of \$1 million per year or more, they ask that taxes be raised on incomes over \$1 million for the fiscal health of the nation. On the group’s website they cite that only 375,000 Americans make over \$1 million a year.

As billionaire Warren Buffett famously pointed out, with capital gains taxed at 15 percent — his greatest source of income — he pays a smaller income tax rate to the federal government than his secretary. He too would favor raising taxes on the super-wealthy.

All of this discussion stems from a shaky economy: a \$14 trillion national debt, possibly a \$1.5 trillion deficit for FY 2011, over nine percent unemployment and nearly a quarter of home mortgages in danger of foreclosure. While politicians approach the economy with monetary and fiscal tools like a mechanic with wrench and screwdriver, people of faith sense a deeper malady. Something spiritual is happening, or not happening.

Robert Reich, former Secretary of Labor, on a YouTube clip of about two minutes, sketches an analysis of how the economy sank to its anemic state. He summarizes the problem with a few pithy points before offering a new direction.

The economy doubled since 1980, but wages remained flat. So where did the money go? Basically, all gains from the economy went to the super-rich. Then, with super-wealth came the political power to influence legislation and to gain more tax loopholes for reduced taxes on the wealthy, all of which low-

ered federal revenues. Huge budget deficits appeared, propelled by two wars and everyday people fought for the budget scraps. The middle class lost more economic power, so buying and borrowing slowed, hence, an anemic recovery. For Reich, the only sustainable road to economic recovery dependent on consumer demand rests with reviving the middle class.

Another way of stating Reich’s solution is lowering economic inequality. Benedict XVI in his social encyclical, “Caritas in Veritate,” states that the dignity of the individual and the demands of justice require “that economic choices do not cause disparities in wealth to increase in an excessive and morally unacceptable manner ...” (#32)

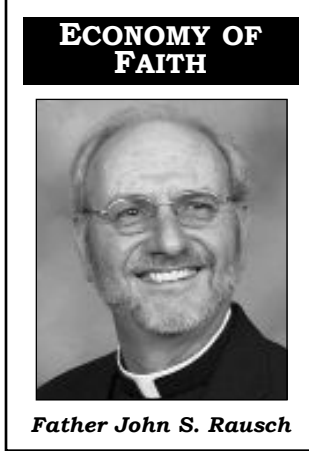
With nearly a quarter of U.S. national income going to the top one percent, the resulting economic inequality is beginning to erode social cohesion and place democracy at risk. As “social capital” — the network of relationships of trust and respect for fairness — diminishes, community becomes fractured.

“We’re all in this together” gets replaced with “Every man for himself” (and likewise for women)!

The *New York Times* reported that executive pay rose 23 percent in 2010, making the median pay for top executives at 200 of the biggest firms \$10.8 million, while the pay raise for the average American worker was just 0.5 percent. Many of these CEOs and top executives increased the value of their company stock by cutting their labor force or outsourcing jobs overseas, thus making dubious the argument about not raising taxes on the super-wealthy because they create jobs.

People of faith see the current economic crisis truly as a spiritual crisis about community and solidarity, not about winners and losers.

*Father John Rausch, a Glenmary priest, teaches, writes and organizes from Stanton, Kentucky, in central Appalachia.*



# Prayers of street kids

How often do you get to listen to another person’s prayer? At our Covenant House in New York City — our shelter for homeless, trafficked and runaway young people — we have in our chapel a simple, cloth-bound book the children write their prayers in. Its contents are worth contemplating.

I was reminded of the courage it takes some of our kids just to walk through the door. Teenagers, by nature, often feel invincible and fiercely independent, and it hurts to admit they can’t go it alone. Once they have admitted their vulnerability, they need strength to accept, trust and work with the help we give them. Many quickly embrace the food, clean clothes, medical care and warm beds we offer, but it takes so much longer for many of them to accept our belief that they can attain their dreams.

As one young person wrote, with a lovable humility not often associated with adolescence:

“Dear heavenly Father, Please give me the strength to go on through my stay at Covenant House. Give me the wisdom to do what is right and not wrong. And please give me the strength to make the right decisions about the things that occur. I know I haven’t been making the right decisions, but I’d like to better that.”

Reading through the kid’s recorded prayers, I was reminded of the importance of fathers, both heavenly and otherwise. Oftentimes, earthly fathers disappoint our kids deeply. One of our young people told God, “Being without a mom because she died and having a father who hated me and wished I’d leave, I was so glad you were there for me.”

Another wrote, “God, please let my father accept me. I want to be something in life. I want him to be a part of my life.” But the saddest entreaty read, “Dear Lord, please don’t let my father get me.”

The entries were crushing and inspiring. They made me want to be the best possible father to my own six birth kids, and the kids we welcome in from the streets.

This simple plea somehow got me most of all, but it also gave me the most hope: “Dear God,” this young

person wrote, “if you’re there and you care, I just want someone to love me, someone to talk to when I need to talk. Someone to cry on when I need to cry. Most of all someone to love me and walk as far as they wish through my life. Amen.”

Isn’t that what a parent does, in the luckiest families? A true parent walks as far as they want, and many miles more, to make a child feel safe and nurtured. But most of our kids have parents who, if they’re even in the picture, stumbled out of the block and sat out that long walk. So it’s God who walks with them, a God they may have trouble seeing and touching.

And this doesn’t happen remotely and mystically — the love that uplifts youth and allows them to soar into the great promise of their lives flows through us, through focused, committed adults. Not some remote institution, and certainly not government. We, the people of God, have to be the icons of Christ’s love in the world, each of us.

*Kevin Ryan is president and CEO of Covenant House, a nonprofit organization that helps homeless, runaway and at-risk youth across America. His commentary has been provided by Catholic News Service.*



# We Choose Life



## Pro-Life Office

of the Diocese of Covington

### Mission Statement

The Pro-Life Office of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Covington, guided by our Bishop, promotes the sanctity and legal protection of human life from conception to natural death through prayer, pastoral care, public policy and education.

### Resources

Hilgers, Thomas W., M.D. "The NaProTECHNOLOGY Revolution: Unleashing the Power in a Woman's Cycle"; [www.naprotechnology.com](http://www.naprotechnology.com).

Pope Paul VI Institute for the Study of Human Reproduction; [www.popepaulvi.com](http://www.popepaulvi.com).

During the editing process for Dr. Mark Stegman's article on NaPro technology (July 15 Messenger), the We Choose Life Committee omitted important facts leading to confusion. The Pro-Life Office has resubmitted the original article written by Dr. Stegman which appears below in its entirety. The We Choose Life Committee and Pro-Life Office apologize for the confusion.

## A pro-life approach to women's health

**Mark Stegman, M.D.**

NaProTECHNOLOGY is a new women's health science that monitors and maintains a woman's reproductive and gynecologic health. It provides medical and surgical treatments that cooperate completely with the woman's reproductive system. And it does so in a way that is completely pro-life.

NaProTECHNOLOGY is the first women's health science to network family planning with reproductive health monitoring and maintenance. It incorporates the Creighton Model FertilityCare System (CrMS), a standardized modification of the Billings Ovulation method of natural family planning. It is not a "natural contraceptive" but rather a true method of family planning, which the couple can use in two ways – both to achieve as well as to avoid a pregnancy. Through use of the CrMS the couple can identify and understand their naturally occurring phases of fertility and infertility. The couple can then use this understanding to make decisions about achieving or avoiding a pregnancy.

Using the CrMS the woman tracks the biomarkers of her reproductive and menstrual cycle. NaProTECHNOLOGY makes use of this tracking of these biomarkers to understand and evaluate the state of health of the woman's reproductive system. This helps the woman and her physician to identify the underlying causes of abnormalities and problems that occur, such as infertility, repetitive miscarriage, menstrual cramps, PMS, ovarian cysts, polycystic ovary syndrome, irregular and abnormal bleeding, hormonal abnormalities, postpartum depression and prematurity.

NaProTECHNOLOGY works cooperatively with the procreative and gynecolog-

ic systems. When the systems function abnormally, NaProTECHNOLOGY identifies the problems and cooperates with the menstrual and fertility cycles to correct the condition, restoring health to the woman, and sustaining her procreative potential. The evaluations and treatments that are used are completely supportive of life and the potential for life.

Although NaProTECHNOLOGY can help with problems in many areas of a woman's gynecologic health, it is most frequently applied in the areas of infertility and subfertility (recurrent miscarriage). The NaProTECHNOLOGY approach to infertility begins with the woman learning CrMS charting of her cycles, then hormonal and ultrasound evaluation of ovulation, semen analysis for the husband in a morally acceptable manner, and surgical evaluation for endometriosis, tubal obstruction or adhesions. Abnormal findings are treated, and then management of cycle abnormalities begins. The health of the reproductive system for both wife and husband is restored as far as medically possible, resulting in a much increased likelihood of conceiving by natural means than before the treatment. The intent and effort of all the evaluation and treatment is the restoration of health, since a healthy procreative system works very well.

This is quite different from the standard approach, which increasingly leads to IVF and other Assisted Reproductive Technologies (ART), such as ICSI – intracytoplasmic sperm injection. Powerful hormones are used to make the woman's ovaries produce as many as 15 to 20 eggs in one cycle. These eggs are removed from the ovaries by needle aspiration guided by ultrasound, then sperm

are added to allow fertilization. Although not all eggs fertilize, there are often 10 to 20 that do. These new embryos are then incubated, evaluated and sorted (and some are discarded by the embryologist), then either transferred into the woman's uterus, or frozen. Not all embryos transferred survive and grow to live birth. As many as 19 embryos die for every one that does survive to live birth. IVF also leads to a much higher chance of multiple gestation (twins, triplets, and more), as high as 30 percent of all the pregnancies that occur. NaProTECHNOLOGY treatments result in a very small increase in the rate of multiple births, mostly twins, of 3 to 4 percent only.

While no method of treatment can help every couple with infertility, NaProTECHNOLOGY is highly effective at helping couples to achieve a pregnancy, with pregnancy rates per woman that are higher than those achieved by couples treated with IVF. It does so in a way that is healthy, helping to restore health for the woman and the couple, helping to heal the wound of infertility with answers to the question, "What's wrong with us?" And frequently enough, because the underlying causes of infertility have been addressed, the couple is able to conceive again when desired, with little or no further intervention.

*Dr. Mark Stegman, a Senior Fellow of the Westchester Institute for Ethics and the Human Person, specializes in obstetrics and gynecology. He currently practices at the Center for Women's Health, a service of Holy Spirit Hospital in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania. He is a graduate of Blessed Sacrament grade school, Covington Latin School, Xavier University, and the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine.*

For more information about the Pro-Life Office or to be added to our e-mail newsgroups, visit us online at [prolife.covingtondiocese.org](http://prolife.covingtondiocese.org) or call (859) 392-1545.

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# DPAA supports the mission of the Church

**Michael Murray**

*Director, Stewardship and Missions Office*

All Catholics share in the mission that the Lord gave to the Church: to proclaim the Gospel and to make him present in the world. We do this in many ways – in our homes, places of work, and as participants in civic life.

One of the goals as a member of the Diocese of Covington is to express a strong sense of this mission in our lives, as well as assisting this mission at the parish level and in support of the universal Church throughout the world. We have been given a job to do – to make the Lord known, and to make him present in our place and time. The hope is that all the members of the diocese will see their participation in Church



life as their way of helping to fulfill this mission.

As members of the diocesan faith community, we are asked to support the diocese financially, according to our means, so that the work done here to help more people know, love and serve the true God can continue. The Diocesan Parish Annual Appeal is conducted annually in every parish of the diocese to support the ministries of the Catholic Church throughout the northern Kentucky region. Each parishioner should prayerfully consider what he or she can do to participate in this important endeavor.

The life of the Church could not continue without the faithful financial support of its members. During the DPAA, members are invited to consider their current giving and evaluate if they are providing generously for the needs of the parish, the diocese and the whole Church, and then pledge at an appropriate level. This method of pledged giving enables our faith community to plan more appropriately, knowing what resources will be available to support its mission and life.

The Diocesan Parish Annual Appeal is a highly organized effort, held each spring, to communicate the good work of our diocese to its parishioners and solicit their support. Members of all parish communities throughout the Diocese of Covington are asked to give to this appeal. The goal is to allow people to grow in their faith and understanding of what the Church means to each of us as a Catholic family.

There is an abundance of human need surrounding us – the poor, the sick, the elderly, troubled families, the disabled and those in crisis. The DPAA gives us an opportunity to respond to those in need and to show Christ's love by putting our faith in action as a Diocesan family. The diocesan agencies and programs supported by the DPAA help with both spiritual and physical needs and go beyond what an individual parish can accomplish alone.

There is still time to support the Church's mission through a gift to the 2011 DPAA "Live as Children of Light." Please contact the Diocesan Stewardship Office at (859) 302-1540. Or, if you prefer, you can visit the Diocese of Covington website at [www.covingtondiocese.org](http://www.covingtondiocese.org) and make your online gift today.

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## An Independent View On The Purchase Of Insurance

By Frank Gross, President  
Gross Insurance Agency, LLC

**Home Additions And New Pools** You thought carefully about where to put the new garage, kitchen addition or pool. But don't overlook ways to protect you and your investment.

- 1) Ask if the workers you hire carry their own Workers' Compensation insurance. If not, see your agent to arrange coverage for the period of time the workers are on the premises. *This insurance is a must.*
- 2) Be extremely careful when digging foundations or holes for pools. Sewer, gas and water pipes all can be buried in the most inconvenient locations. If you suspect something may be in the way, notify the proper utility officials *before* you dig.
- 3) Keep the work site safe. Nails left on the floor or ground are a hazard – instruct children to keep away. If a fence around the construction area isn't practical during all hours, at least roll out a wooden slat fence for the night.
- 4) Don't forget that the value of your home increases when you add on. Check the limits of your homeowners insurance – your policy will partially protect your pool, too, but you'll have to let your insurer know you have one. Consider additional liability coverage, particularly if you expect that more than just the immediate family will be swimming.



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Fitzgerald photo

### Pastor installation

During Mass July 17 Bishop Roger Foys officially installed Father Kevin Kahmann (above, right) as pastor of Mary, Queen of Heaven Parish, Erlanger. Father Kahmann had been serving the parish as parochial administrator. In his homily Bishop Foys said, "This is a significant day in the life of this parish and certainly of Father Kahmann. ... The pastor makes Christ and the bishop present to the parish." Above, Father Kahmann blessing the baptismal font.

## Sept. 11

(Continued from page 1)

"We've all been affected in one way or another and there is always strength in numbers. If there is someone who is suffering, and is suffering alone, the suffering is much greater than if that person had someone to share that suffering with," said Bishop Foys. "When we pray together it gives a little something extra to our prayer. Jesus told us, 'For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.' I think we do feel the presence of the Lord when we are praying together as a community."

Vespers will also be a time to reflect, individually and collectively as a country, on what may have driven our attackers to such extreme violence and to implore God for the forgiveness that leads to healing. "I think that as individuals and as a country we need to do some soul searching," said Bishop Foys. "Why did this happen? What have we done since it happened to not only protect ourselves but to maybe address some of the reasons for this?"

"I think, and this is personally, that until we forgive somebody from our heart healing can't take place. Lack of forgiveness makes us hold onto hurts, and pain. When we forgive we are acting like God ... Every time we pray the Our Father we pray, 'forgive us our

trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.' Holding in that anger or that grudge or that hurt or that pain makes it fester and get worse," Bishop Foys said.

Bishop Foys acknowledged that forgiveness is not easy and for those most tragically affected by the Sept. 11 attacks forgiveness may seem impossible. "People who lost loved ones are going to be scarred for life," he said. "Forgiving doesn't mean it's a magic cure. We will probably still feel anger and hurt. Feelings are neither right nor wrong — it's just how we respond — but we can forgive from the heart nonetheless. By forgiving we don't say that the person who caused the hurt, the person who caused the pain is right, they could very well be wrong, but we make peace with them and with ourselves."

But perhaps most of all we gather to pray for peace, individually and globally. "I hope people take this invitation to prayer seriously and that they will gather to pray for peace," said Bishop Foys. "Peace is something, I have learned, that starts in the hearts of each individual person. If we are not a peaceful people then we cannot hope for peace in our nation or in the world. Peace of heart and mind and soul comes from a relationship first of all with God and then with each other."



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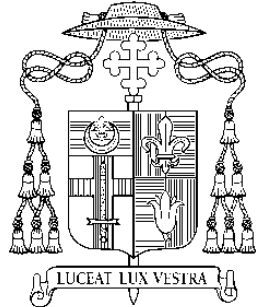
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# Trusting in God's grace, Bishop Foys celebrates ninth episcopal anniversary

Bishop Roger Foys celebrated the ninth jubilee of his episcopal ordination July 15. Celebrations included Mass, July 14, with members of the Curia at the Chapel of the Sacred Heart, and vespers, July 15, with diocesan priests and seminarians at the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, Covington. At each celebration Bishop Foys recalled the words spoken to him at the announcement of his appointment by Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo Higuera, then Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, "God will give you the grace that you need."

Bishop Foys said that he reflects on those words often and they have been a source of encouragement and peace throughout his episcopacy.



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**Newsorthy**

Happy birthday to **Father James Egbers**, pastor, St. Mary Church, Alexandria, Aug. 6; **Father James Gerrety**, retired, Aug. 6; **Father John Werner**, retired, Aug. 7; **Father Philip DeVous**, pastor, St. Joseph Church, Crescent Springs, Aug. 13; and **Father Michael Greer**, pastor, St. John Church and St. Ann Mission, Covington, Aug. 18.

Newport Central Catholic High School students **Kevin Goldstein, Hannah Sykes, Adelle Brennan, Becky VonHandorf** and **Emily Hogle** were selected to participate in the 2011 American Legion Boys' and Girls' State Program, an educational program of government instruction for high school students. Kevin Goldstein and Hannah Sykes were elected Kentucky Attorney General which allowed them the opportunity to visit Frankfort.

**TV Mass.** The cathedral's 5:30 p.m. Mass July 31 will be shown live on ICN 6 on analog channel 99; digital channel 422.

The Benedictine Guild, a group of women supporting the Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery, host **bingo** on the second Wednesday of each month at St. Walburg Monastery, Villa Hills, 11 a.m. Call 356-8599.

Join the **Charismatic Prayer Group** of the Diocese of Covington each third Tuesday of the month at St. Joseph Heights, Park Hills, 7:15-9 p.m. for a Bible teaching and/or a witness. Visit [www.cccovingtonky.org](http://www.cccovingtonky.org).

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is accepting **fan and air-conditioner donations** for its "Summer Breeze" program. Your donation helps neighbors survive the heat and humidity. Visit "Donate" at [svdpnky.org](http://svdpnky.org) or call 341-3212, ext. 5.

The Kelsey Ann Sorrell memorial scholarship fund **golf outing and dinner dance** will be held July 30 at Devou Park Golf Course and Clubhouse, Park Hills. Golf and dinner dance \$75 per person; dance only \$50. E-mail [timrduncan@hotmail.com](mailto:timrduncan@hotmail.com) or [ssorrell@kenapi.com](mailto:ssorrell@kenapi.com).

The St. Elizabeth Healthcare mobile **mammography van** will visit several locations throughout Northern Kentucky in August: Aug. 1, Ludlow Pharmacy, 2:30-5 p.m.; Aug. 6, Richwood Flea Market, Walton, 8:30-11:30 a.m.; Aug. 6, Silver Grove Dari Bar, 1:30-4:30 p.m.; Aug. 8, Campbell County Library, Ft.

**Festivals**

Sts. Peter and Paul Church, California, July 30 and Aug. 27, 3-8 p.m.

St. Joseph Church, Crescent Springs, Aug. 12, 13, 14

St. Matthew and St. Mary, Kenton, Aug. 28

Carmel Manor, Ft. Thomas, Aug. 28



**Kicks for Belize**

Students at St. Timothy preschool and kindergarten learned about Belize and the how the people in Belize live, work and play. Soccer is a favorite of many in Belize. So the children decorated soccer balls for parishioners to deliver on their summer mission trip to Belize. The project was part of the Mayerson Service Learning Initiative, sponsored by Children, Inc.

Thomas, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Aug. 8, Health Point Family Care, Bellevue, 2-5 p.m. Call 655-7400 for an appointment.

St. Cecilia Church in Independence will host **"Pandamania: Totally Catholic Vacation Bible School"** Aug. 1-5, 6-8:45 p.m., ages 4-11. To register visit <https://osv.groupvbsspro.com/vbs/ez/stc independence>.

Sisters of Notre Dame **flea market** Aug. 5, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and Aug. 6, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. inside Notre Dame Academy, Park Hills. Furniture and 1000's of various items

The Mustard Seed Community, Catholic Charismatic Renewal, Diocese of Covington, **First Friday Mass**, Aug. 5, 7:15 p.m. at Mother of God Church, Covington. Prayer for healing follows Mass. Call 341-5339 or visit [www.cccovingtonky.org](http://www.cccovingtonky.org).

Newport Central Catholic High School annual **golf outing**, Aug. 5 at Hickory Sticks Golf Course, 10 a.m. shotgun start; 8:30 a.m. registration. Cost of foursome is \$340. Minimum \$150 deposit required by Aug. 1. Call 781-0732 or 803-4660.

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PEOPLE AND EVENTS

Cursillo **Florence Freedom night** Aug. 5, 7:05 p.m. Fireworks after game. Tickets are \$8. Call 283-9724.

St. Timothy Church, Union, **yard sale** — part of the famous World's Longest Yard Sale — Aug. 6, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. in the parish parking. Space rental is \$20; table rental \$10. Proceeds benefit the parish's mission, St. Charles Academy in Zambia, Africa. Sellers keep profits. Call 384-4618 or visit [www.saint-timothy.org](http://www.saint-timothy.org).

Diocesan Catholic Children's Home 12th annual **flea market**, 75 Orphanage Road, Ft. Mitchell, Aug. 6, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. and Aug. 7, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Furniture, antiques and collectibles. Call 331-2040, ext. 255.

Deacon Thomas Dushney has set aside the evening of Aug. 9, 7 p.m. at the Mary, Queen of Heaven School library for anyone interested in learning about **becoming Catholic** and RCIA classes. If you, or anyone you know, are interested in becoming a Catholic or desiring to know more about the Catholic faith you are encouraged to come and learn about the process. Call 525-6909, ext. 620, or e-mail [tdushney@mqhparish.com](mailto:tdushney@mqhparish.com).

NewCath HillToppers (alums) to present **Curtains Dinner Show**, Aug. 10, 7:30 p.m. \$25 includes dinner, drinks and show. Regular performances Aug. 11, 12, 13, 7:30 p.m., \$10. Call 581-6116.

**Novena to Our Lady of Knock**, Aug. 13-21, at St. Patrick Shrine in Taylor Mill. All are welcome. Visit [www.stpatrickchurch.us](http://www.stpatrickchurch.us) for full Novena schedule.

**Family and Friends of Persons who are Incarcerated** meet monthly on the third Tuesday of the month, 7-8 p.m. at Catholic Charities, Covington. Participants pray and address the issues of having someone we love in jail or prison and share helpful information and resources. The next dates are Aug. 16, Sept. 20 and Oct. 18. E-mail [dschuette@covingtoncharities.org](mailto:dschuette@covingtoncharities.org) or call 581-8974, ext. 133.

St. Philip Seniors (St. Philip Church, Melbourne) is planning a **Lebanon Railroad bus trip** Aug. 19. Bus will leave Furniture Fair, Cold Spring at 10:15 a.m. Cost \$25 per person. Call 441-0062 or 781-4436.

A diocesan education session for **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and lectors** will be held Aug. 22, 7-9 p.m. at St. Paul Church, Florence. If interested please contact your pastor.



**Serra Club supports Seminary Education Fund**

Serra Club of Northern Kentucky president Jim Suetholz (left) presented a gift of \$1000 to Bishop Roger Foys at a Serra Club social event July 20 in support of the Seminary Education Fund. The Serra Club hosts the annual cookout as the seminarians prepare to enter or return to school next month. Bishop Foys has accepted 26 men as seminarians preparing to serve the Diocese of Covington. The Serran mission is to show support for active and retired priests, religious and seminarians and to encourage more people to pursue religious vocations. Father Gregory Bach, diocesan vocations recruiter, and Steve Brunson, Serra Club president-elect (right), are also pictured.

St. Charles Care Center **golf outing** Aug. 25 at Twin Oaks Golf and Plantation Club. Registration 9 a.m. with a 10 a.m. shotgun start. Cost \$100 golfers; \$25 non-golfers for dinner at 3:15 p.m. Call 331-3224, ext. 141.

Care Net Pregnancy Services will host its second annual **5K Walk/Run for Life** Sept. 10, at Champion Window Field, Florence. This is a family event. Call 431-9178.

The second annual **Kentucky Dragon Boat Festival** Sept. 10 at A.J. Jolly Park in Campbell County. Join the Kentucky Thorough-Breasts,

Kentucky's first breast cancer survivor dragon boat racing team, and presenting sponsor St. Elizabeth Healthcare in the fight against breast cancer. Visit [www.stelizabeth.com/dragonboat](http://www.stelizabeth.com/dragonboat), or call 391-7020.

**Swing'n Seniors** is sponsoring a trip to Greenbo Lake State Park, Sept. 11, two nights' lodging, six meals and gratuities. Cost \$210 double; \$240 single. Call 441-8567.

The annual St. Elizabeth Healthcare **Golf ParTee** Sept. 13 at Twin Oaks Golf and Plantation Club and Highland Country Club. Call 301-3920.

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Keener photo

**Madonna Manor blessing**

Several residents gathered with administrators and staff on July 21 as Bishop Roger Foys blessed and dedicated the new Madonna Manor, Villa Hills, assisted by Father John Riesenbergh, chaplain, and Father Daniel Schomaker, bishop's assistant (above center). The 105,000-square-foot building features 60 skilled nursing beds, 40 assisted living apartments and 24 memory support rooms.

Benedictine Sister Mary Catherine Wenstrup, prioress for the Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery, detailed Madonna Manor's founding and expressed the community's gratitude to the Sisters of St. Francis of Sylvania, Ohio, for accepting sponsorship of Madonna Manor in 2007 and continuing its mission and ministry. Madonna Manor is now a member of Sylvania Franciscan Health.

Franciscan Sister Diana Lynn Eckel, congregational minister of the Sisters of St. Francis of Sylvania, assured her community's dedication to their common mission.

Franciscan Sister Madeleva Kraus (above) offered the intercession during the ceremony.

**Church entities apologize for forcing adoptions on single mothers**

SYDNEY — Three Catholic entities in Australia apologized "with a deep sense of regret and heartfelt sorrow" over forced adoption practices involving thousands of single mothers that occurred in past decades. The practices involved separating unmarried mothers from their newborn babies immediately after birth and handing them to adoption agencies. The apology came jointly from Catholic Health Australia, the largest nongovernment provider of health, community and elder care services in Australia, the Sisters of Mercy and the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, about 100 miles north of Sydney. Despite the apology, Archbishop Barry Hickey of Perth said he has "little evidence" of forced adoptions in decades past. He told the Australian Broadcasting Corporation July 25 that he had spoken with the Sisters of Mercy, who "said that it wasn't their policy to do that, but you can't control everybody, I suppose." The practice of forced adoption was reported by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation in

a story on its website after an investigation into claims of abuse and trauma in Newcastle. The story said it was believed that at least 150,000 Australian women had their babies taken against their will by some churches and adoption agencies. Bishop Hickey issued a follow-up statement July 26 on the Perth archdiocesan website. "While it is true that I had little evidence of forced consents to adoption, I realize that many of the young women at the time were not clear that their consent was required," the statement said. "Many were confused, feeling powerless during their pregnancy for fear that their baby would be taken from them. Consent obviously became submerged under the weight of other issues being discussed. With the involvement of their parents, priests in some cases, and the sisters, I can well understand that they felt that others around them were making the decisions." The archbishop also offered an apology to the women for the "pain and anguish" they endured.

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# Teens assist at urban education center

**Monica Yeamans**  
*Editorial Assistant*

The staff, volunteers and students marked the end of a successful summer program at the Notre Dame Urban Education Center (NDUEC) with a big celebration July 14. This summer 32 area high school students volunteered their time one or two days each week to provide that "little bit extra" for the students attending NDUEC for the summer session (June 13-July 14).

Two young women from Notre Dame Academy and one from Ryle High School taught dance on Monday mornings. Three young men from Cooper High School in Boone County, all Catholic parishioners in the Diocese of Covington, taught physical education on Mondays and Tuesdays mornings. There were students from Villa Madonna, Bishop Brossart, Covington Latin, Holy Cross, St. Henry, Newport Central Catholic and Covington Catholic high schools volunteering at least one day a week. One Notre Dame Academy student taught keyboard lessons under the direction of Jan Schwegmann, the NDUEC music teacher. Another NCC teen helped the art teacher, Lynn Dickman, with an art project with the students.

Most of the teens volunteered as tutors in math or reading during the summer program. The workbooks used

for the summer program were purchased with funds received through a grant from the Diocesan Parish Annual Appeal.

"There was a total of 78 volunteers [including college students and other adults] helping at NDUEC this summer, most contributing three hours a week for the summer session," stated Mary Gray, volunteer coordinator at NDUEC. One NDA grad who volun-



*Yeamans photo*

**Notre Dame Academy student, Hayleigh Deininger, tutors a NDUEC pupil.**

teered this summer had just graduated from medical school this spring.

Katie Klensch, a student at Notre Dame Academy who taught dance with two of her friends, explained why she volunteered at NDUEC. "I have two older sisters. One is going to college this year. My mom said it was important to get these volunteer hours and to get some experience. She was really pushing for it. She wanted me to volunteer [at NDUEC] and I came up with the idea of the dance program. We'll be doing the dance program at NDUEC again in the fall one day a week from 3 to 6 pm." When asked if it was worth her time and effort, Ms. Klensch responded, "Absolutely!" and hopes her time there made a difference in some young students' lives.

The Notre Dame Urban Education Center is seeking volunteers who wish to help provide educational support services this fall for a few hours a week to children in grades one through eight. Tutors, artists, as well as physical education monitors are greatly needed. NDUEC will begin its fall program after Labor Day in September. The program will operate from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays during the fall school semester. Please call Mary Gray, volunteer coordinator, at (859) 261-4487 or e-mail [nduecvolunteer@sndky.org](mailto:nduecvolunteer@sndky.org).

## NDUEC high school teen volunteers:

- Bishop Brossart High School: Megan Hamberg
- Cooper High School: Eric Estenfelder, Corey Fussinger, Burton Tienken
- Covington Catholic High School: Derek Koshiol
- Covington Latin School: Lydia Cooper, Mindy Reutter
- Holy Cross District High School: Grace Herrman, Elizabeth Pettit
- Newport Central Catholic High School: Sam Koehl
- Notre Dame Academy: Brittney Brohier, Liz Combs, Kayleigh Deininger, Morgan Heimbrock, Lauren Hollman, Amanda Jacob, Meredith Klare, Katie Klensch, Erin Koeninger, Caroline Krumme, Summer Scheben, Alexa Schulte, Michaela Terry, Hannah Von Handorf, Hayley Zeis, Meredith Zeiggelmeyer, Olivia Zimmerman
- Ryle High School: Mackenzie Allen
- St. Henry District High School: Kirsti Ryan
- Summit Country Day School: Shane Malley, Kylie Von Handorf
- Villa Madonna High School: Scott Adams



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# Catholic doctors say proposed contraceptive mandate not good medicine

Nancy Frazier O'Brien

Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — A recommendation that all health plans be required to cover contraceptives without a patient co-payment “fails the tests of logic and sound science” and “does not constitute good clinical medicine,” according to the Catholic Medical Association.

In a July 20 statement, the Bala Cynwyd, Pa.-based association criticized the Institute of Medicine's Committee on Preventive Services for Women for recommending that the Department of Health and Human Services include “the full range of Food and Drug Administration-approved contraceptive methods, sterilization procedures and patient education and counseling” as mandated services for all health plans under the new health reform law.

Such a mandate “threatens substantial harm to the health of women and to the civil rights of millions of Americans,” the association said.

The statement was released the day after Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston said the panel's recommendation showed that “there is an ideology at work ... that goes beyond any objective assessment of the health needs of women and children.”

If HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius accepts that recommendation, “these controversial practices will be mandated for all insurance plans — public and private — without co-pay from anyone receiving them,” said Cardinal DiNardo, who chairs the U.S. bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities.

Sebelius, who was expected to act on the recommendations by Aug. 1, called the panel's report “historic” and said, “Before today, guidelines regarding women's health and preventive care did not exist. These recommendations are based on science and existing literature.”

Asked about the proposed mandate, the president and CEO of the Catholic Health Association told Catholic News Service that “the Catholic health ministry will expect the same conscience protection that allows us to carry out our mission in this pluralistic environment respecting our religious beliefs.”

Sister Carol Keehan, a Daughter of Charity, had no other comment about the panel's recommendations.

Writing July 20 in the online blog of the <<Washington Post>>, Mercy Sister Mary Ann Walsh, spokeswoman for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said she would “shudder to think ... that the U.S. government would force me to subsidize abortion and other services to get health insurance from a private company.”

Some of the contraceptives approved for use by the FDA have an abortifacient effect, she said.

“This is Big Brother at its worst and

I cringe at the thought that anyone, including a Church organization, might be told by government to fund a procedure through private insurance plans for their own employees,” Sister Mary Ann said. “Having government decide such questions is a clear violation of conscience.”

Cardinal DiNardo and Sister Mary Ann both urged passage of the Respect for Rights of Conscience Act, H.R. 1179, which would allow health insurance plans to exclude procedures that violate the moral or religious convictions of those providing or purchasing the plan.

The cardinal said he was writing to all members of Congress urging co-sponsorship of the legislation, which was introduced by Reps. Jeff Fortenberry, R-Neb., and Dan Boren, D-Okla.

The bill “would prevent new mandates under (the health reform law) from being used to discriminate against persons and institutions for acting according to their conscience on these matters,” Sister Mary Ann said.

The National Catholic Bioethics Center had no immediate reaction to the recommendation but in written testimony to HHS and other government agencies last September said any mandate that insurance companies cover “contraceptives, sterilizations and drugs or devices that induce the expulsion of a human embryo before or after implantation would violate the consciences of many Americans, and would contradict promises by the Obama administration that the (health reform law) does not undermine existing conscience protections in law.”

“Pregnancy is not a disease and contraceptives, sterilizations, abortifacients and abortion should not be included as mandated preventive services,” said the testimony signed by John M. Haas, president of the center in Philadelphia.

In its statement, the Catholic Medical Association said mandating insurance coverage of contraceptives is both “a failed strategy” to reduce unplanned pregnancies and “unfair and unethical public policy.”

“Despite decades of such advocacy and millions, if not billions, of dollars spent in the effort, and despite the fact that 35 states mandate contraceptive coverage as a part of prescription drug coverage, the Guttmacher Institute still reports that nearly half of all pregnancies among American women are unintended,” the statement said.

In addition, the Catholic doctors said, the mandate would “force people to subsidize specific interest groups and businesses, including Planned Parenthood.”

The organization describes itself as the largest association of Catholic physicians in North America.

## UPCOMING RETREATS AT THE JESUIT SPIRITUAL CENTER

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This fall, the Jesuit Spiritual Center at Milford is sponsoring nine three-day Ignatian Weekend Retreats based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. The retreats are silent, available for both men and women, and led by directors including Fr. Tom Ryan, SJ; Fr. Tom Havron, OFM; Fr. Fran Daly, SJ; and Al Cuccheffi. The retreats are held in one of two large retreat buildings situated on the Center's quiet 37-acre campus.

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### • INTIMACY WITH GOD

The Jesuit Spiritual Center is hosting two prayer retreats directed by Dr. Alex Aronis, both entitled Developing Intimacy with God. Dr. Aronis is pastor emeritus of Union Church of Manila, Philippines, and of Kenwood Baptist Church. He also served as a Navy chaplain. Dates for the retreats are Aug. 8-10 and Aug. 19-20.



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# Religious leaders urge Obama to protect the poor in budget efforts

**Patricia Zapor**

*Catholic News Service*

WASHINGTON — After a July 20 meeting with President Barack Obama, leaders of the faith-based Circle of Protection came away reassured about his commitment to protecting assistance for the poor in impending budget cuts.

But they remain worried that a deal to raise the federal debt ceiling and head off the economic crisis will include drastic cuts to services for the poor and might halve or eliminate some entire programs that provide aid to some of the world's disaster zones such as drought-stricken eastern Africa.

"There is a movement on to eliminate all emergency aid. ... It will cost lives," said Tony Hall, a former Democratic congressman from Ohio and now director of the Alliance to End Hunger. Hall also previously served as ambassador to the U.N. Agencies for Food and Agriculture.

"There are no votes there" among the world's poor, said Hall in a July 21 teleconference that included most of the participants in the meeting with the president. "Members of Congress can write it all off and they don't suffer for that when it comes to election time."

"The only voice they have is people like us," he said.

The 40-minute session with the president "was very enlightening and energizing," said Bishop Ricardo Ramirez of Las Cruces, N.M., a member of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, one of the participants in the White House meeting.

"It was wonderful to see the president so engaged," the bishop told Catholic News Service in a separate interview. "He seems to accept our message."

That message is that political leaders should pay attention to the fundamental moral principle of putting the needs of the poor first in allocating scarce government resources, the bishop said.

He told the president that "as religious leaders, our concern is not which party wins the current political battles," but rather that "if we all don't speak up, who is likely to lose: the families trying to feed their kids, the jobless looking for work, the children who need health care, the hungry and sick and hopeless around the world."

Joining Bishop Ramirez for the meeting were representatives of the National Association of Evangelicals, the National Council of Churches, the Salvation Army, Bread for the World, Sojourners and others.

Candy Hill, senior vice president for social policy and government affairs for Catholic Charities USA, a participant in the Circle of Protection, but not a part of the White House delegation, told CNS that the debt-ceiling talks and the associated prospects of budget slashing are a roller-coaster ride.

For the poor and marginalized in the United States and beyond, "the best possible scenario is a bipartisan agreement and not a partisan political debate," she said. "The poor and marginalized are at risk whenever there is a partisan political debate."

She said at Catholic Charities and among similar organizations, "we know this is a crisis. We know there is a need for shared sacrifice." But the solutions don't lie in "turning off the faucets" of programs that provide a safety net for the poor. She said one example would be cutting the costs of bureaucracy before services.

John Carr, executive director of the U.S. bishops' Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development, who attended the White House meeting and moderated the teleconference the next day,

said it was "an extraordinary meeting," bringing together people from organizations that do not typically work together on legislative agendas.

Barbara Williams-Skinner, co-facilitator of the African-American Clergy Network, said on the teleconference that the unusual nature of the delegation was not lost on Obama.

"The White House is used to being petitioned by people for the needs of their own organizations or themselves," she said. More rare is for organizations to seek help not for themselves but for entire segments of society, she said.

Bishop Ramirez told CNS that he told the president that from the perspective of New Mexicans, there are many "givens" in the debate over how to make the budget cuts congressional leaders are demanding in return for voting to raise the debt ceiling. Those include: for Republicans, no new taxes; for some Democrats, no cuts in Medicare; for others, no cuts in military spending; for the Obama administration, additional revenues.

"Sadly, if you listen to the debate it seems that protecting the poor and vulnerable is not a given," Bishop Ramirez said.

He and the others in the meeting asked the president to join their Circle of Protection, around programs and resources to support the lives and dignity of the poor.

The Circle of Protection is an effort of religious leaders to speak out on behalf of the poor to prevent funding cuts to programs that provide the safety net from poverty. Principles included in a statement of the effort include reducing future deficits and urging political leaders to review and consider tax revenues, military spending and entitlements as ways of addressing deficits.

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**"Captain America: The First Avenger"**

(Paramount) A complete absence of cynicism, a crackling undercurrent of dry wit, and the classical purity of its golden-age Hollywood references distinguish this comic book adaptation relating the origins story of the titular superhero (Chris Evans). Director Joe



**Movie Capsules**

Johnston displays a warm affinity for 1940s America as he chronicles the muscular warrior's battle against a rogue Nazi (Hugo Weaving) and his restrained romance with a fetching scientist (Hayley Atwell). Despite some scenes of destruction, the result is, for the most part, full-on family entertainment of the old school. Much action violence, including gunplay. CNS: A-II; MPAA rating: PG-13.

**"Friends With Benefits"** (Screen Gems) Frustrated with the urban dating scene, a New York headhunter (Mila Kunis) and the formerly L.A.-based art director (Justin Timberlake) she recently recruited for a job in Gotham, form a pact to maintain their newfound friendship while also sharing commitment-free, emotionally uninvolved sex. Neither friendly nor beneficial, director and co-writer Will Gluck's thoroughly unromantic romantic comedy features excessively detailed bedroom scenes, a frivolous view of human sexuality and dialogue replete with obscenities. Strong sexual content including graphic non-marital sexual activity, rear nudity, pervasive sexual and some irreverent humor, relentless rough and crude language. CNS: O; MPAA: R.

**"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2"** (Warner Bros.) One of the most successful movie franchises of all time goes out in style with director David Yates' gratifying wrap-up to a decade of blockbuster adaptations. As the titular wizard (Daniel Radcliffe), now grown to maturity, continues to battle his evil nemesis, Lord Voldemort (Ralph Fiennes), he's once again aided in the epic struggle by his two closest friends (Rupert Grint and Emma Watson). Many of the symbols and themes in the narrative, based on the last volume of J.K. Rowling's run of phenomenal bestsellers, echo Scripture and comport with Judeo-Christian beliefs. Too intense for the youngest viewers, the fantasy — which manages to strike notes both elegiac and exciting — is acceptable for most others. Much action violence, brief gory images, a single crass term. CNS: A-II; MPAA: PG-13.

**"The Smurfs"** (Columbia) The famous blue elves return in a 3-D mix of animation and live action as the evil wizard (Hank Azaria) who has long been their nemesis chases a sextet of them (voiced by various actors) from their enchanted forest village through a wormhole that leads into real-life New York City. As the pursuit continues through Gotham, the Smurfs attempt to navigate their new surroundings while coming to the aid of an expectant couple (Neil Patrick Harris and Jayma Mays). Extending a franchise that originated in the 1950s with the work of Belgian cartoonist Peyo, and continued with a popular 1980s television series, director Raja Gosnell keeps the story fun for youngsters and largely free of objectionable elements, a few forays into potty humor notwithstanding. Moderately intense action sequences, mild scatological humor, some slapstick violence. CNS: A-I; MPAA: PG.

**"Winnie the Pooh"** (Disney) Delightfully innocent, predominantly animated adaptation in which the immortal bear (voice of Jim Cummings) finds his characteristic quest for honey interrupted by his friend Eeyore's latest crisis — the downcast donkey has lost his tail — and by a misunderstanding that leads all the residents of the Hundred Acre Wood to fear that Christopher Robin (voice of Jack Boulter) has fallen into the clutches of a monster. With its messages about friendship and putting the interests of others first, directors Stephen Anderson and Don Hall's visually and spiritually faithful screen version of incidents drawn from A.A. Milne's classic books for children is family fare of the highest quality and widest appeal. The proceedings — though brief at an hour-and-a-quarter — are further enhanced by narration from John Cleese and songs by the husband-and-wife team of Robert Lopez and Kristen Anderson-Lopez. CNS: A-I; MPAA: G.

For full reviews of each of these films — go to [www.covingtondiocese.org](http://www.covingtondiocese.org), visit the Messenger page, and click on [www.catholicnews.com](http://www.catholicnews.com) or call 1-800-311-4CCC.

Catholic News Service (CNS) classifications are:

- A-I — general patronage;
- A-II — adults and adolescents;
- A-III — adults;
- L — limited adult audience (films whose problematic content many adults would find troubling);
- O — morally offensive.

**Vatican recalls nuncio after Irish report on abuse**

**Cindy Wooden**

*Catholic News Service*

VATICAN CITY — In an exceptional move, the Vatican recalled its nuncio to Ireland so that he could participate in meetings aimed at drafting the Vatican's formal response to an Irish government report on clerical sex abuse.

Following the publication July 13 of the so-called Cloyne Report "and, particularly, after the reactions that followed, the secretary of state has recalled the apostolic nuncio in Ireland, Archbishop Giuseppe Leanza, for consultations," the Vatican said in a statement July 25.

Passionist Father Ciro Benedettini, vice director of the Vatican press office, said recalling the nuncio "denotes the seriousness of the situation, the desire of the Holy See to face it with objectivity and determination, as well as a certain note of surprise and disappointment over some excessive reactions" to the report and its accusations against the Vatican.

The Cloyne Report, which examined how the Diocese of Cloyne handled accusations of clerical sexual abuse, said the bishop paid "little or no attention" to child safeguarding as recently as 2008 and that he falsely told the government his diocese was reporting all allegations of abuse to the civil authorities.

The report also accused the Vatican of being "entirely unhelpful" to Irish bishops who wanted to implement stronger norms for dealing with accusa-

tions and protecting children.

Addressing parliament July 20, Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny said the Cloyne Report "exposes an attempt by the Holy See to frustrate an inquiry in a sovereign, democratic republic as little as three years ago."

"And in doing so, the Cloyne Report excavates the dysfunction, disconnection, elitism and the narcissism that dominate the culture of the Vatican to this day," the prime minister said.

After the prime minister spoke, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, issued a statement calling for greater objectivity in discussing "topics so dramatic" because the first concern of all should be "the safeguarding of children and of young people and the renewal of a climate of trust and collaboration" between church and state.

In announcing the recall of the nuncio, Father Benedettini said the Vatican Secretariat of State wanted to ensure its response to the Cloyne Report was serious and complete, and to do that it was necessary that "the person on the scene," Archbishop Leanza, take part in drafting discussions along with officials from the congregations for the doctrine of the faith, religious, clergy and bishops.

He said the Vatican expects to forward its formal response to the Irish government before the end of August.

# Pope decries terror attacks in Norway, calls for end to violence, evil

**Carol Glatz**  
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — In the wake of two terror attacks in Norway that left 76 people dead, Pope Benedict XVI called for an end to hatred and ideologies that promote evil.

“We are all deeply saddened by the serious terrorist acts,” the pope said after praying the Angelus with pilgrims at the papal summer residence in Castel Gandolfo July 24.

The pope launched an appeal “to abandon once and for all the path of violence and avoid principles of evil.”

As a further expression of his condolences and prayers for those affected by the attacks, the pope sent a message to Norway’s King Harald V. Written on behalf of the pope by Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, Vatican secretary of state, the pope said he was praying for all those affected by “the acts of senseless violence perpetrated in Oslo and Utoya.”

The pope asked that the country “be spiritually united in a determined resolve to reject the ways of hatred and conflict and to work together fearlessly in shaping a future of mutual respect, solidarity and freedom for coming generations.”

Explosives ripped through Norwegian government headquarters in Oslo July 22, leaving seven people dead and dozens injured. Shortly after the bombing, witnesses said a man dressed as a police officer shot at people attending a summer youth camp run by the country’s governing Labor Party on the island of Utoya. Police said at least 68 people died at the camp, but authorities were searching the island and the waters just offshore for several missing people.

At least 96 other people were injured in the twin attacks.

The suspect, 32-year-old Anders Behring Breivik, has admitted to carrying out the killings but has not admitted any criminal wrongdoing. He pleaded not guilty in an Oslo court July 25 after being charged under the country’s terrorism act.

His lawyer told journalists July 24 that his client thought “it was gruesome having to commit these acts, but in his head, they were necessary.”

“He wished to attack society and the structure of society,” said the lawyer, Geir Lippestad.

The suspect is believed to have links to far-right groups and to have produced materials espousing anti-Muslim and anti-immigration views, and a desire to bring about a revolution against the govern-

ment in Norway.

Meanwhile, Bishop Bernt Eidsvig of Oslo told Vatican Radio July 25 that the country was united in mourning for the victims and still in shock over the killings.

“It has affected every one of us. Despite political differences or other differences, this is a tragedy,” he said. “We do not know anything like it in our history, that 100 people are killed in cold blood. So it is creating unity, and in spite of the grief, also strength.”

Bishop Eidsvig said in the interview that people were shocked the prime suspect was Norwegian saying, “Of course in all countries, there are disturbed and misled persons. I am quite sure he is one of them. He must be mentally disturbed. I don’t think ideology is sufficient to explain this.”

The bishop said he expected a traditionally lax approach to security around government buildings would be quickly reversed, saying they had already been planning to block off the street where the suspect allegedly parked a car with a bomb inside.

“In Oslo, you’ve practically been able to drive your car to the prime minister’s office or to the king’s palace if you pretended to have business there. But I think all this will come to an end fairly soon,” he said. “I think we are waking up to reality.”

President Barack Obama sent condolences to the people of Norway soon after the attacks. He said the incidents were a reminder that the world must work together to prevent future terror attacks.

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**National/World**

**Pope emphasizes importance of rightly formed conscience**

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy — Pope Benedict XVI said the proper formation of conscience requires the ability to listen to “the voice of truth,” which is particularly important for people in positions of governing. The pope, meeting with pilgrims at his summer residence outside Rome July 24, spoke about the biblical figure of King Solomon, who prayed to God at the beginning of his reign for “an understanding heart.” The king’s prayer was motivated by the responsibility of guiding a nation, but is valid for everyone, the pope said. Essentially, Solomon was praying for “a conscience that knows how to listen, that is sensitive to the voice of truth and for this reason is capable of discerning good from evil,” he said. Formation of a moral conscience requires this openness to the truth and the willingness to conform one’s action to the truth, he said. “The people called to the task of governing naturally have an additional responsibility and therefore — as Solomon teaches — have even more need of God’s help. But each person has a part to play, in various concrete situations,” he said.

**Part of tuition aid bill for undocumented students is law**

LOS ANGELES — Marking what community leaders labeled as a milestone and a historic moment, California Gov. Jerry Brown July 25 signed a portion of the state’s DREAM Act and urged Californians to “invest in the people” and to “engage in the debate. It is crucial to make an investment in every child that lives and is born in California,” he said during a noon town hall meeting at Los Angeles City College, packed with community and business leaders, state and school officials, students and consuls from different Latin American countries. “Signing the DREAM Act is another piece of investment in people,” he continued, “because people are what drive the culture of the economy in our country.” Although elated, members of the California Dream Network that reaches more than 20,000 undocumented students on 42 campuses said they will not celebrate until the entire bill becomes law. Under the California DREAM Act, or the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act, undocumented students attending California State University, California community colleges or the University of California will be eligible, on or after Jan. 1, 2012, to receive scholarships from private funds donated to schools. Currently, this segment of the student population is not eligible for any kind of financial aid. The state version of a bill proposed on the national level would allow undocumented students to apply or participate in any financial aid program administered by the state of California to the full extent permitted by federal law. The bill is currently under suspension in the state Senate, and students fear that it “will die along with the dreams of the 25,000 undocumented youth that graduate every year from state high schools.”

**Orange Diocese bids \$50M to buy Crystal Cathedral**

ORANGE, Calif. — The Diocese of Orange has made a formal bid of \$50 million to buy the Crystal Cathedral complex in Garden Grove, once the home church of the Rev. Robert Schuller, a noted television preacher. The cathedral property was put up for auction earlier this year as part of the cathedral ministries bankruptcy proceedings. Crystal Cathedral Ministries founded by Rev. Schuller, who is now retired, filed for bankruptcy last October. It was facing debt amounting to more than \$50 million. Opening in 1980, the 2,900-seat Crystal Cathedral was one of the nation’s first megachurches. It is made up of more than 10,000 panes of glass. The cathedral “underscores the vitality of faith in our modern society and with our offer we will enable this beacon of faith to continue to influence others as an important place of worship,” Orange Bishop Tod D. Brown said in a statement. The diocese’s bid, announced July 22, has been presented to the Crystal Cathedral Ministries board of directors and the organization’s counsel. Under the terms of the cash offer, the diocese would make an immediate deposit of \$250,000, followed by a second payment of \$750,000. The diocese said that if Crystal Cathedral Ministries decides it needs to use some of the campus facilities for a period of time, it could lease back an area “at below-market rates.” The diocese added that once that arrangement came to an end, it would help the organization relocate some of its ministries to other diocesan property. The Orange Diocese does not currently have a cathedral to serve its 1.2 million Catholics. Based on the size of its Catholic population, Orange is the 11th largest diocese in the nation. The diocese covers all of Orange County, which has a total population of 3 million.

**Governor pledges to sponsor bill to legalize same-sex marriage**

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Gov. Martin J. O’Malley said he will take a leadership role in passing same-sex marriage legislation in Maryland next year, promising in a July 22 news conference that he will sponsor legislation that would legalize gay marriage while also protecting the free exercise of religion. “Our country’s history is an ongoing history of a people who strive for a more perfect union and who constantly improve its laws in order to protect fundamental freedoms more fully and more completely for all individuals,” he said. O’Malley, who is Catholic, noted that Maryland has passed recent legislation that protects hospital visitation rights and end-of-life decision-making for same-sex couples. Expanding the definition of marriage is another step forward, he said. “This is an evolution in the progress of our state,” he said, “to be able to perfect our laws so that they more fully protect the rights of every individual.” Mary Ellen Russell, executive director of the Maryland Catholic Conference, said she was disappointed in the governor’s decision. She noted that a similar effort to pass same-sex marriage was defeated in the Maryland General Assembly this year. “The decision still is in the hands of the General Assembly,” she said, “and, to date, they have chosen not to redefine marriage and we hope they will continue to listen to their consciences and constituents and remain with the decision they made last session.”

**Pope urges aid for drought-stricken eastern Africa**

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy — Pope Benedict XVI urged the international community to deliver urgent humanitarian aid to the drought-stricken Horn of Africa, especially Somalia, where tens of thousands have fled drought and famine. The pope, addressing pilgrims at his summer residence outside Rome July 17, said he had been following news of the region’s humanitarian catastrophe with “deep concern.” U.N. experts say the prolonged drought, combined with a rise in food prices, have forced many families to make long and often deadly overland treks to reach refugee camps. “Innumerable people are fleeing from that tremendous famine in search of food and assistance. I hope the international community will increase its efforts to quickly send aid to our sorely tested brothers and sisters, among them many children,” the pope said. “Our solidarity and the concrete assistance of all people of good will should not be lacking,” he said. On July 16, the Vatican announced it was making an initial aid contribution of 50,000 euros (\$70,000) for the victims of the crisis in Somalia.

**China criticizes Vatican for excommunicating bishops**

BEIJING — The Chinese government criticized the Vatican for excommunicating two bishops who were ordained without papal mandate. The state-run Xinhua News Agency published a statement July 25 by the State Administration for Religious Affairs saying that the Vatican’s action was “extremely unreasonable and rude,” reported the Asian church news agency UCA News. “If the Vatican has the sincerity to improve relations, it should revoke the excommunications and return to the right track of dialogue in a practical manner,” the Chinese news agency quoted a SARA spokesman as saying. The Vatican said Father Joseph Huang Bingzhang and Father Paul Lei Shiyin were automatically excommunicated when they were ordained as bishops July 14 and June 29, respectively. The Vatican also said it deplored the way the church was being treated by Chinese officials in carrying out the ordinations. The Vatican has expressed deepening concern over such ordinations and emphasized that willing participants in such ceremonies face severe penalties under church law, including automatic excommunication for the ordained bishop and the consecrating bishops.

**Papal foundation to expand assistance to AIDS patients**

VATICAN CITY — A papal foundation dedicated to AIDS patients may expand its services to include a global program of distributing anti-AIDS drugs, a Vatican official said. The initiative would respond to the shortage of anti-retroviral and other drugs in poorer countries, where the vast majority of AIDS patients receive no adequate treatment, Msgr. Jean-Marie Mupendawatu, secretary of the Pontifical Council for Health Care Ministry, said in an interview July 21 with the Vatican newspaper. Msgr. Mupendawatu is a delegate to the Good Samaritan Foundation, established by Blessed John Paul II in 2004 to provide economic support to the sick who are most in need, particularly those suffering from AIDS. Msgr.

Mupendawatu said the foundation planned to strengthen its activity, especially in Africa, by increasing its promotion of donations of pharmaceutical and medical material, and by working more closely with local Catholic leaders to place the church in the forefront of the care for AIDS patients. To favor these efforts, he said, the foundation may open offices on every continent, which would function in coordination with the central office in Rome. “The foundation is also studying the possibility of creating its own ‘pharmaceutical center’ which would allow the collection and distribution of medicines in poor countries,” he said. The center would work in cooperation with other church agencies.

**Protecting God’s Children for Adults**

For all employees and volunteers of the Diocese of Covington who in any way provide a safe environment for children:

**Step 1: Complete the volunteer application** and acceptance forms at your parish or school after reviewing the Diocesan Policies and Procedures for Addressing Sexual Misconduct with your supervisor.

**Step 2: Register at [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org).** To register, visit [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) and click on “registration” and follow the prompts.

**Step 3: Choose and attend a class.** Parents and other interested persons are most welcome. No children, please.

- Blessed Sacrament Church, Ft. Mitchell (Bless Center Conference Room)  
Tuesday, July 19, 3 to 6:30 p.m.
- Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Burlington (Cafeteria Britt Hall; lower parking lot)  
Wednesday, Aug. 24, 6:30 to 10 p.m.
- Mary, Queen of Heaven Church, Erlanger (School cafeteria)  
Monday, Aug. 29, 6 to 9:30 p.m.
- Newport Central Catholic High School, Newport (Cafeteria)  
Monday, July 25, 6:30 to 10 p.m.
- St. Barbara Church, Erlanger (Parish Hall)  
Thursday, Aug. 18, 6:30 to 10 p.m.
- St. Edward School, Cynthiana (Brinker Hall)  
Saturday, Aug. 6, 1 to 4:30 p.m.
- St. John the Evangelist, Carrollton (Parish Hall)  
Sunday, July 10, 1 to 4:30 p.m.
- St. Joseph Academy, Walton (Hall)  
Saturday, Sept. 10, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- St. Joseph Church, Cold Spring (Kelley Hall)  
Thursday, Aug. 18, 6:30 to 10 p.m.
- St. Patrick School, Maysville  
Saturday, Aug. 20, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Thomas More College, Crestview Hills (Steigerwald Hall/Holbrook Student Center)  
Thursday, Sept. 8, 4 to 7:30 p.m.

**Bulletins will begin** only after you have completed your live training and been processed. You will receive e-mail notices that say [system@pub.virtus.org](mailto:system@pub.virtus.org) unless your computer program blocks them. Access your bulletins (12 per year), using these directions:

- [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org)
- Enter your ID and password
- Click on TRAINING at top toolbar
- Click on TRAINING COMPLIANCE on left green panel
- Click on TRAINING REPORT
- Click on (CLICK FOR DETAILS)
- Choose a bulletin to read
- Hit SUBMIT after finishing EACH article.

■ June Bulletin: posted July 3; due Aug. 2

**To Update Your Account:**

Do you need to change contact information or where you volunteer?

- [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org)
- Enter your ID and password
- Click on TOOLBOX
- Click on UPDATE MY ACCOUNT
- Edit your information and save.

If you are having difficulties with the program, please call Anita Geiger at (859) 392-1565 or e-mail [ageiger@covingtondiocese.org](mailto:ageiger@covingtondiocese.org).



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