Bishop Bradley blesses new Borgess Health Park in Battle Creek

Borgess celebrated its recent grand opening of the 65,000-sq. ft. — Borgess Health Park in Battle Creek with a ribbon cutting ceremony and blessing by Bishop Paul J. Bradley.

During the event, Borgess Health President and CEO Paul Spaude paid tribute to the 125 year history of the hospital, founded by the Sisters of St. Joseph and the commitment to patient care.

“At the end of the day [patient care] is exactly why we exist and why we have the privilege to be here and to have this new connection, and to have an existing relationship that we really, really love about Battle Creek,” Spaude said.

That Battle Creek connection extends to those directly providing care; Dr. William Bogan of Borgess Internal Medicine said primary care is the center of patient care.

“I’ve lived and I’ve practiced medicine in Battle Creek for 30 years,” Bogan said. “I have to say it’s great for our community to have such a beautiful new building with state of the art equipment that’s devoted to something close to my heart: health care that’s centered and community-centered important, we want to be patient-centered and community-centered in everything that we do,” Spaude said.

The facility is located on a 21-acre setting. Physicians and other health professionals provide a wide range of outpatient care: primary and specialty services, laboratory services, imaging/radiology, physical therapy, sleep health services and a pharmacy. Borgess Health Park also offers women’s health services, cardiology, neurosurgery, orthopedics and bariatric services.

Youth inspired to combine faith and photography

The Battle Creek Catholic Artist Guild recently hosted a three-day photography workshop and contest for Middle School youth from the Diocese of Kalamazoo. More than 50 youth from five parishes participated in the workshop which covered the fundamentals of photography. As a complement to the workshop the Catholic Artist Guild held a contest with the theme, “The Resurrection and the Life.”

Youth were invited to submit up to five photographs depicting the theme. Thirty-three photographs were submitted from which three winners were chosen.

“With the theme, “The Resurrection and the Life,” explained Andrea Perry, youth minister for the three Battle Creek parishes. More than 120 parishioners, friends, and family came to celebrate at the final art show and announcement of the winners.

“Our desire for this workshop and contest was to help these youth explore the faith in a new creative way, to see our Lord in all things, and to gain a deeper understanding of the Easter season,” explained Andrea Perry, youth minister for the three Battle Creek parishes. More than 120 parishioners, friends, and family came to celebrate at the final art show and announcement of the winners.

“Bishop Dominic joyfully accepts a handmade rosary in the Kenyan flag colors from young artist Brandon Buxton, St. Monica Parish. Buxton makes each bead from polymer clay and plans to donate additional rosaries to be distributed throughout the Diocese of Lodwar.

Confirmation, collaboration and participation in the Eucharistic Congress were just a few of the highlights of Bishop Dominic Kimengich’s recent visit to the United States which included an extended stay in Kalamazoo.

During his visit Bishop Dominic, shepherd of the Diocese of Lodwar, Kenya, concelebrated the Confirmation Mass at St. Joseph Parish, Kalamazoo, along with Bishop Bradley. The parish has had a long-time special relationship with the bishop as one of its parishioners, Mary Agnes McGrail, supported Bishop Dominic through his seminarian years. During the Mass the bishop expressed gratitude to the parish as well as to Bishop Bradley and Msgr. Michael Hazard, Vicar General and pastor of St. Joseph, who traveled to the Kenyan diocese last fall.

To further the connection between the Diocese of Lodwar and the Diocese of Kalamazoo Bishop Dominic met with Bishop Bradley and members of the diocesan staff to explore innovative ways to strengthen the two dioceses’ “sister” relationship. The group covered the possibility of connecting its Catholic school students as well as using various communication tools to build awareness for the Diocese of Lodwar.

Located in Northern Kenya, the Diocese of Lodwar shares some similarities with the Diocese of Kalamazoo. Both diocese are relatively young: Lodwar was founded in 1972 and Kalamazoo in 1971; both have St. Augustine as its patron saint and Cathedral name; and both are challenged with pastoral challenges of bringing the Good News to its people.

More than 60 percent of the Kenyan diocese consists of nomadic tribes making it challenging to reach the people. Bishop Dominic shared that the diocesan pastoral plan calls for an additional eight parishes to be created by the year 2018 as well as the hopes to begin a minor seminary.

In addition to his stop in Kalamazoo, Bishop Dominic visited friends and benefactors in New York and Atlanta where he participated in the Eucharistic Congress.

Brandon Buxton, a 16-year-old parishioner of St. Monica Parish, Kalamazoo, met with the bishop to present him with a handmade rosary. Buxton plans to make additional rosaries to be shared with the people of Lodwar.

For more information on the Diocese of Lodwar visit www.dioceseofkalamazoo.org/lodwar.
**From the Editor**

By Victoria Cessna
Communication Director & Editor of The Good News

My brother says it was 500. I remember it more as 203.
The number in dispute dates back to the summer of 1975 when my brother won the most coveted award given in our kid world at the time — the library’s top prize for most-read books during the annual summer reading program. While the details of the prize pack and the newspaper clipping featuring the winner has faded, my brother’s bragging rights have sustained throughout the years. And so has our love of books and words. Perhaps it was the sibling competition or the close proximity from my childhood home to the library but either way I have been an avid reader ever since.

For me summer reading is especially enjoyable as I can savor a book during these days that gift us with more daylight and a more relaxed schedule. My guess is that if you’re taking the time to read this column (thank you) then you’re likely an avid reader yourself. Here are just a few of my favorite picks this summer with a faith flavor that will hopefully enrich your own spiritual journey.

**Jesus: A Pilgrimage** by Fr. James Martin, S.J. (Harper One):
I love Fr. Martin’s easy conversational style of writing and his ability to draw you into a fascinating subject while interspersing it with personal stories. With this ambitious 500-page book he chronicles the life of Jesus in a fresh way inspired by his own pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

**Love & Salt: A Spiritual Friendship Shared in Letters** by Amy Andrews and Jessica Mesman Griffith (Loyola Press):
This captivating memoir shares letters to keep up with my best friends. The September edition will be distributed in all parishes September 6 & 7.

**The Most Rev. Paul J. Bradley has announced the following priest assignments for the Diocese of Kalamazoo which become effective July 16, 2014, unless otherwise noted.**

**Retirements:**

*Rev. Stephen Naas*  
Pastor of St. Mary Parish, Marshall, will retire and retain Senior Priest status, effective July 1, 2014.

**Pastor Assignments:**

*Rev. James Adams*  
has been appointed Pastor, St. Ann Parish, Augusta.  
Fr. Adams will continue as part-time Chaplain for Hackett Catholic Central High School in Kalamazoo. Fr. Adams is currently the Parochial Vicar for St. Monica Parish, Kalamazoo.

*Rev. Christopher Derda*  
has been appointed Pastor, St. Joseph Parish, Battle Creek and Canonical Pastor for St. Jerome Parish, Battle Creek. Fr. Derda will continue serving as Director of Vocations and Ongoing Priestly Formation. Fr. Derda is currently the Pastor for St. Ann Parish, Augusta.

*Rev. Daniel Hyman*  
has been appointed Pastor, St. Mary of the Lake Parish, New Buffalo. Fr. Hyman is currently Parochial Vicar for St. Augustine Cathedral Parish, Kalamazoo.

*Rev. Craig Lusk*  
has been appointed Pastor, St. Mary Parish, Marshall. Fr. Lusk is currently the Pastor for St. Mary of the Lake, New Buffalo.

*Rev. Ted Martin*  
returned to the Diocese from graduate studies in Rome after earning an advanced degree in Canon Law (J.C.L.), has been appointed Pastor, St. Margaret Parish, Otsego. In addition, Fr. Martin has been appointed Promoter of Justice in the Diocesan Tribunal as well as Associate Director of Vocations for the Diocese, effective August 1, 2014.

*Rev. Alphonsse Savarimuthu, MSFS*  
has been appointed Pastor, St. Mary Parish, Niles and St. Gabriel Parish, Berrien Springs. Fr. Alphonsse is currently the Parochial Vicar for Holy Angels Parish, Sturgis.

*Rev. Mark Vyverman*  
has been appointed Pastor, St. Charles Borromeo, Coldwater and Our Lady of Fatima, Union City. Fr. Vyverman is currently the Pastor of St. Joseph and St. Jerome Parishes, Battle Creek.

**Administrator:**

*Rev. Brian Stanley*  
has been appointed Administrator for St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Three Oaks and St. Agnes Mission, Sawyer. Fr. Stanley is currently providing pastoral care for St. Gabriel Parish, Berrien Springs.

**Parochial Vicar:**

*Rev. Anthony Rajesh, MSFS*  
has been appointed Parochial Vicar for St. Monica Parish, Kalamazoo. Fr. Antony came to the diocese earlier this year from his diocese in India, and has been serving as Parochial Vicar for St. Margaret Parish, Otsego.

*Rev. John Tran*  
will be on temporary leave in the Diocese of Little Rock, Arkansas. Fr. Tran is currently Sacramental Minister for St. Ambrose Parish, Delton and Our Lady of Great Oak Parish, Lacey. Fr. Fleckenstein continues with his primary assignment as Pastor of St. Philip Parish, Battle Creek and Vicar for Education for the Diocese.

**Additional Assignments:**

Very Rev. John Fleckenstein  
has been appointed Canonical Pastor for St. Ambrose Parish, Delton and Our Lady of Great Oak, Lacey. Fr. Fleckenstein continues with his primary assignment as Pastor of St. Philip Parish, Battle Creek and Vicar for Education for the Diocese.

**Temporary Leave:**

*Rev. John Tran*  
will be on temporary leave in the Diocese of Little Rock, Arkansas. Fr. Tran is currently Sacramental Minister for St. Ambrose Parish, Delton and Our Lady of Great Oak Parish, Lacey and Parochial Vicar, St. Ann Parish, Augusta.

The Good News for the Catholic Diocese of Kalamazoo  

**Pope Francis July and August Intentions**

**JULY:**
*Sports* — That sports may always be occasions of human fraternity and growth.

**Lay Missionaries** — That the Holy Spirit may support the work of the laity who proclaim the Gospel in the poorest countries.

**AUGUST:**

**Refugees** — That refugees, forced by violence to abandon their homes, may find a generous welcome and the protection of their rights.

**Oceania** — That Christians in Oceania may joyfully evangelize the faith to all the people of that region.
One nation under God

Summer in Michigan seems especially sweet this year after such an unrelenting winter. The longer days, the burgeoning fields, and the breathtaking artistry of the sunsets are just some of the many signs of God’s creative Presence among us. As we begin the summer month of July, we mark one of the most important days in our country’s history, the Fourth of July, 1776. This year, the United States celebrates our 238th Birthday as a nation: “the land of the free and the home of the brave.” We all look forward to this mid-summertime holiday, and I hope we can celebrate it with the traditional family cookouts, ball games and boat rides, and of course, community-wide displays of fireworks. However, in the midst of all these wonderful celebrations, we need to make sure that one of what we are celebrating is that we are celebrating: the precious gift of freedom — a gift that was hard won thanks to those who sacrificed their lives in every generation throughout these 238 years, and a gift that must be vigilantly protected in our current generation and for generations to come. As we celebrate all our rights and freedom, including the rights to “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness,” I would like to single out in this month’s column our need, perhaps this year more than ever, to be zealous and passionate in our efforts to protect the most basic of all our rights as citizens of our great country founded on the principle of religious freedom — the right to practice and live our faith without government interference or oppression.

In these summer days when leisure, relaxation and vacations are uppermost in our daily planners, we rightfully take pride in our identity as Americans. For 238 years, the United States of America has been a refuge for people from all over the world coming to this “land of opportunity” as most of our ancestors did before us. These immigrants came to our amazing “melting pot” and were greatly inspired by the many precious landmarks, the Statue of Liberty: “Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free.” For 238 years, the United States of America has defended our borders from unjust aggressors, even as we have defended the rights of people of countless numbers of other countries throughout the world to safeguard their right to live free of oppressions within their own borders. And for 238 years, the founding principles of our country have sought to grant all citizens the basic rights and privileges as any other citizen and to welcome our “melting pot” of individuals to continue their cultural traditions and to practice their religious freedom free from any government interference.

In recent years the unthinkable has begun to happen. Some people’s rights are being restricted while other people’s rights are being increased; traditional social institutions, established since the days of Adam and Eve, humanity’s first parents, are being re-defined; and religious freedom is being questioned.

Federal and Supreme Courts are now put in the position of deciding what the law of the land shall be, rather than the majority of the citizens of this great democracy. The judicial and executive branches of government are overtaking the legislative process that has made the United States the envy of every other country in the world.

The most blatant example of this government intrusion into our religious freedom is seen in the “HHS Mandate,” which mandates that contraceptive drugs, which includes drugs that are abortifacients, must be provided regardless of how doing so infringes on one’s religious convictions. Does the “right” to receive contraceptives trump the “right” of religious convictions? Does the “right” to receive contraceptives infringe on the “right” of religious convictions? If a person believes that allowing contraceptive drugs in the workplace affects their religious convictions, is the government placing undue burden on one’s religious convictions?

While we take great pride in being Americans, we are first, last and always, People of God. Our identity as Americans should not interfere with our identity as Catholics — as Christians — as People of Faith. If it does, then something has gone terribly wrong with what our Founding fathers intended in the Constitution of our beloved United States of America.

Recently Bishop Dominic Kaimbingh, the Bishop of the Diocese of Lodwar in Kenya, our sister diocese, was here in our diocese visiting friends and benefactors. Our diocesan staff had the privilege of spending the better part of a day with Bishop Dominic as we learned from each other about the many challenges and opportunities we each face in our respective dioceses. I happily recall my pastoral visit to Lodwar last Fall when I got to see firsthand the joy so evident in the hearts of our sister and brother Catholics there in Lodwar, who so jubilantly embrace and live their faith in spite of the harsh realities of their daily lives. Our staff asked Bishop Dominic what the “Doylean” Church was like in Lodwar? He reminded us that the Catholic/Christian faith is relatively new in Lodwar; it was only in 1961 that European missionaries came to that country and shared the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus and the Catholic Faith. As such the people are still “giddy” about this Good news, and very enthused about the Catholic Church as they move forward in their faith journey.

Could it be that we here in the United States have lost some of that zeal for our faith? Could it be that we are so focused on making sure that people should be “free” to do whatever they want, or to live however they want to live, that we have become willing to turn our backs on the ways God has called us to live? Are we willing to restrict, or even set aside, the most basic and precious of our freedoms, namely freedom of religion? Have we become too
Rice bowl monies help support local Fresh Food Initiative

The Diocese of Kalamazoo recently granted $3,000 to the Food Bank of South Central Michigan in support of its Fresh Food Initiative program in Kalamazoo County. The grant is made possible through the generosity of parishioners who donated to CRS Rice Bowl program which designates 25 percent of all proceeds be used within a diocese.

This summer the Kalamazoo-county based Fresh Food Initiative program will bring fresh produce, dairy products and other food items into two targeted neighborhoods served by the Food Bank (Eastside Neighborhood Association and Haven Church).

“The support of The Diocese of Kalamazoo is crucial to the success of the Fresh Food Initiative program,” said Dave Karr, the Food Bank’s Executive Director. “Unfortunately, hunger doesn’t take a summer vacation.” Karr mentioned that 15.3 percent (or 38,280) of all Kalamazoo County residents are food insecure, meaning they don’t know where their next meal is coming from. 18.6 percent (or 10,500) of all children are food insecure.

“We’re grateful to extend the generosity of our Catholic community to those in need and for their support of Catholic Relief Services’ Rice Bowl,” said Lisa Irwin, Associate Director of Parish Life and Lay Leadership.

Last summer, the Eastside Neighborhood Association and Haven Church sites served an average of 150-200 households each distribution.

“With the support of The Diocese of Kalamazoo and a strong partnership with Haven Church, we were able to serve more people,” Irwin said. “We’re grateful to extend the generosity of our Catholic community to those in need and for their support of Catholic Relief Services’ Rice Bowl.”

In his recent Apostolic Exhortation entitled “The Joy of the Gospel,” our Holy Father, Pope Francis, boldly proclaims: “No one can demand that religion should be relegated to the inner sanctum of personal life, without influence on societal and national life, without concern for the soundness of civil institutions, without a right to offer an opinion on events affecting society.”

As we heed our Holy Father’s advice, let us consider the following particular suggestions.

The most important course of action is to pray:

• To be in constant conversation with God, asking God’s Holy Spirit for guidance, for courage, for enthusiastic and a “giddy” faith. Secondly, we must learn and stand well-informed. To do so, we must go beyond the often-biased headlines of the 6 o’clock news, and really explore the issues. Finally, we have to stand up for our faith; we must be willing to protect and defend our convictions. Pray, learn, stand strong and defend!

My dear sisters and brothers, in these “lazy, hazy, crazy, days of summer,” as you enjoy these restful and enjoyable summer days, I realize that we want to kick back and catch up on our leisure reading and enjoy the slower pace of the great outdoors, rather than think about these serious questions of religious freedom. In particular, we certainly do not want to be critical of our great country. However, we are facing very serious issues here in our country, and we cannot ignore them. We must be firm in our faith conviction and be determined to live our faith courageously, unflinchingly and unapologetically. We have too much at stake to do anything less. Let us continue to take rightful pride in our great country, founded on the most important of all principles, the principle of religious freedom, because we are, and I pray we always will be, “one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”

“libres” para hacer lo que quieran, o vivir como quieran, vivir, que nos hemos vuelto personas dispuestas a dar la espalda a las formas en que Dios nos ha llamado a vivir?

¿Estamos dispuestos a limitar e incluso a dejar de lado, la más básica y preciada de nuestras libertades, a saber, la libertad religiosa? ¿Nos hemos vuelto demasiado complacientes? Los norteamericanos siempre han estado dispuestos a sacrificarse, incluso hasta el punto de dar nuestras vidas, en nombre de nuestras preciadas libertades. ¿Qué pasa con nuestra libertad religiosa? ¿Como cristianos / católicos primero, ¿estamos dispuestos, listos para defender nuestra fe? ¿Estamos dispuestos a ser perseguidos por nuestra fe? Y, como los mártires de nuestra gran tradición católica, como Santo Tomás Moro y San Juan Fisher, tuvieron que preguntarse a sí mismos en las generaciones en que vivieron y se enfrentaron a sus propios graves desafíos a la fe, ¿estamos dispuestos a sufrir y morir por nuestra fe?

En su reciente exhortación apostólica titulada “La alegría del Evangelio,” nuestro Santo Padre, el Papa Francisco, audazmente proclama: “Nadie puede exigir que la religión debe ser relegada al interior del santuario de la vida personal, sin influencia en la vida social y nacional, sin preocuparse por la solidez de las instituciones civiles, sin el derecho de ofrecer una opinión sobre los acontecimientos que afectan a la sociedad.”

Como hacemos caso a los consejos de nuestro Santo Padre, consideremos las siguientes sugerencias particulares.

El curso de acción más importante es orar; estar en constante conversación con Dios, pidiendo al Espíritu Santo de Dios, guía, coraje, una fe entusiasta y una fe “vértiginosa”. En segundo lugar, debemos mantenernos bien informados. Para ello, tenemos que ir más allá de los titulares a menudo parciales de las noticias de las 6:00, y realmente explorar los asuntos. Por último, tenemos que defender nuestra fe; debemos estar dispuestos a proteger y defender nuestras convicciones. ¡Oren, aprendan, mantenganse firmes y defendan! Mis queridas hermanas y hermanos, en estos “días perezosos, nebulosos, locos, de verano”, mientras disfrutan de estos días de descanso agradables de verano, me doy cuenta de que queremos relajarnos y ponernos al día con nuestra lectura y disfrutar el ritmo más lento al aire libre, en lugar de pensar en estas graves cuestiones de libertad religiosa. En particular, desde luego no queremos ser críticos de nuestro gran país. Sin embargo, nos enfrentamos a problemas muy serios aquí en nuestro país, y no podemos ignorarlos. Debemos ser firmes en nuestra convicción de fe y estar decididos a vivir nuestra fe con valentía, sin estornudar y sin pedir disculpas. Tenemos demasiado en juego como para hacer menos. Sigamos teniendo merecido orgullo en nuestro gran país, fundado en el más importante de todos los principios, el principio en la libertad religiosa, ya que somos, y yo creo que siempre seamos, “una nación, bajo Dios, indivisible, con libertad y justicia para todos.”

Theology on Tap announces line-up

Theology on Tap, the popular speaker series aimed at young adults is back for the summer. The series kicked off July 11th with a dynamic presentation by Father Jamin Herold, a diocesan seminarian will speak about incorporating the Gospel Truths in your life through an examination of Pope Francis’ Evangelii Gaudium.

July 18th: Dr. Robin Pierucci, St. Monica parishioner who is involved with Shalom Media Group. The group meets Fridays at TGIFridays in Kalamazoo at 7 p.m.

August 1st: Open Questions, Jamin Herold (L) and Timothy McNamara (R), diocesan Associate Directors, will field questions of the faith from the attendees and provide answers from a faith perspective.

August 8: Closing Mass with Msgr. Thomas Martin, St. Augustine Cathedral, 7 p.m.
**Pair fun and faith with your summer travels**

**SPOTLIGHT CITIES: Cincinnati and Chicago**

By Kimberly Bolton

Fun fact: a pilgrimage to Vatican City isn’t in your plans this summer, marvel at the incredible splendor and history of the Church much closer to home.

**CINCINNATI**

Head south about 300 miles, along the shores of the Ohio River, to Cincinnati. One of Ohio’s largest cities, Cincinnati is home to cultural institutions, family destinations, and faith-based points of interest.

ST. PETER IN CHAINS CATHEDRAL 8th and Plum Streets, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

The Archdiocese of Cincinnati’s cathedral is located in the heart of downtown, next to City Hall. Built in 1841, St. Peter in Chains’ Greek Revival architecture is unique for an American church. It was constructed with about 600 tons of marble, and its Venetian glass mosaic is the largest of its kind in the U.S.

**Why You Should Visit:** Rising nearly 225 feet above the street, the cathedral’s spire was the tallest man-made structure in the city for many decades. It’s constructed of pure white limestone.

**Fun Fact:** St. John Paul II visited the cathedral in 1977, the year before he became Pope.

More Information: 513-421-5345 325 or www.stpeterinchainscathedral.org

HOLY CROSS-IMMACULATA CATHOLIC CHURCH 30 Gues Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

The cornerstone for the Church of the Immaculata was laid in Cincinnati’s Mt. Adams neighborhood in 1859. The sanctuary features several oil paintings, originally commissioned in 1862, depicting events in Mary’s life. The round, stained glass rose window set in Holy Cross-Immaculata’s wall was salvaged from St. Bonaventure Church, where it stood over the altar.

**Why You Should Visit:** The annual Good Friday pilgrimage known as “Praying the Steps” has been a local tradition for more than 150 years.

**Fun Fact:** It is believed Archbishop John Baptist Purcell donated $10,000 of his own money to help build the church.

More Information: 513-721-6544 or www.hcichurch.org

ST. ROSE (OF LIMA) CHURCH 2501 Eastern Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Also known as St. Rosa, this church is located in the East End neighborhood, near the banks of the Ohio River. It was originally built in 1867, and then almost entirely rebuilt in 1984 after a devastating fire. The church has endured many floods over the years, signified by the high water mark painted on the rear wall.

**Why You Should Visit:** The steeple, which stands over 190 feet high, is a landmark on the Ohio River.

**Fun Fact:** The parish was named for St. Rose of Lima, the first saint from the Americas.

More Information: 513-871-1162

NATIONAL SHRINE OF ST. ANTHONY 5900 Colerain Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio 45223

Known as “Mt. Ains,” the National Shrine of St. Anthony was established in the late 1880s, when Joseph and Elizabeth Nurre donated their country estate to the Franciscan friars, who built a chapel on a hill above Cincinnati. It is a serene, peaceful place, with outdoor shrines to St. Anthony, St. Francis, and Our Lady of Guadalupe.

**Why You Should Visit:** The St Anthony Shrine is open for daily prayer, meditation, and quiet reflection. Sunday Catholic Mass, Tuesday afternoon Novena to St. Anthony, and Tuesday Novena Mass.

**Fun Fact:** At the back of the chapel, there is a first-class relic of St. Anthony, visible at the base of the St. Anthony statue. First-class relics are parts of the body or bones of a saint.

More Information: 513-541-2146 or www.stanthony.org

CHICAGO

Located on the western shore of Lake Michigan, about 150 miles from Kalamazoo, Chicago is a tourist’s delight, especially in the summer. From the museums to shopping to street festivals, there is no shortage of things to do.

The city is well known for its architecture, also boasts some of America’s most beautiful holy places.

DOMINICAN SHRINE OF ST. JUDE THADDEUS 1990 South Ashland Avenue, Chicago, IL, 60608

The shrine, which opened in 1929, is located in the Church of St. Pius V, on the city’s near southwest side. It is staffed by the Dominican Fathers and Brothers of the Province of St. Albert the Great.

**Why You Should Visit:** The shrine has become a spiritual center of the entire region.

There will be a Solemn Novena to St. Jude Thaddeus from July 11-19. The Novena will conclude with the Blessing of St. Jude Oil.

**Fun Fact:** St. Jude is the patron of hopeless cases, and has been credited with interfering in countless prayers over the centuries. There is a first-class relic of St. Jude’s arm on display in the church.

More Information: 312-226-0020 or www.stjudeshrineofchicago.org

**BASILICA OF QUEEN OF ALL SAINTS**

The church, which is featured in a number of books on church architecture, was completed in 1960. The large window over its choir loft features eight different shrines of the Virgin Mary, representing diverse countries and cultures.

**Why You Should Visit:** The church is one of the latest and most beautiful cathedrals in America. It boasts the Immaculata was set in Cincinnati’s Ohio 45223.

**Fun Fact:** Pope John XXIII elevated the church to a basilica in 1962. It is one of three minor basilicas in Chicago.

More Information: 773-736-6060 or www.qbasilica.org

ST. HYACINTH BASILICA 3636 West Wolfram Street, Chicago, Ill. 60618

Located in the heart of Chicago’s Polish community, known as “Little Poland,” St. Hyacinth was built in the 1920s and designated a minor basilica by Pope John Paul II in 2003. The red brick, Classical Revival building features an ornate Baroque interior and three-tiered façade.

**Why You Should Visit:** The church’s dome covers 3000 sq. ft., has a large stained glass window that lights the interior, and a mural depicting 150 figures. It is a popular venue for weddings, concerts and events.

**Fun Fact:** The St. Hyacinth parish began with 40 Polish families in 1894.

More Information: 773-342-3653 or www.sthyacinthbasilica.org

**THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF POMPEII**

1224 West Lexington Street, Chicago, Ill. 60607

Chicago’s Little Italy is home to this Romanesque Revival style church, designed by the famous church architects Womahn and Steinbach. It was built in 1923 to accommodate the city’s growing Italian community. It is a popular venue for weddings, concerts and events.

**Why You Should Visit:** The church’s dome covers 3000 sq. ft., has a large stained glass window that lights the interior, and a mural depicting 150 figures. It is a popular venue for weddings, concerts and events.

**Fun Fact:** The St. Hyacinth parish began with 40 Polish families in 1894.

More Information: 773-342-3653 or www.ourladyofpompeii.org

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**The Other Six Days** By Jane Knuth

**Storms**

“We need to move from desires that come in prayer to putting them in action.” —St. Vincent de Paul

Have you ever experienced a year where there seems to be one storm after another? The people who come to the St. Vincent de Paul Society seem to be caught in a tempest that refuses to let them go. The cycle of poverty catches them at different points, but once they are in, it is difficult to escape.

The cycle starts at any of five weak points: job loss, lack of financial resources, lack of nutritious food, poor health, and failure in the education system. Lack of transportation often spoils fragile stability, too. If any of these crises occur, often another one will follow. For example: suppose the main provider in the family loses a job. Then the money quickly becomes scarce, which means that the food they eat is often less nutritious, and their health can decline. In the case of children, this poor health means missed school and they don’t do well in their classes. If they manage to graduate they may not have the skills needed for further education or to acquire good employment. Then the cycle begins again. If intervention is not made, generational poverty can take hold in a family.

None of us wants to see this cycle happen. St. Vincent urges us to move from praying about the problems of poverty to taking action, which is what calls many of us Vincentians to this vocation.

A woman in the thrift shop last month said to me, “I think God shows us the storms coming so that we can get out of the way.”

Or, maybe, for some of us, He shows us the storms so we can face into them?

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**Diocesan Fiesta set for August 3**

The Office of Hispanic Ministry of the Diocese of Kalamazoo and the Diocesan Hispanic Ministry Committee will host the annual festival, “Diocesan Fiesta,” on Sunday, August 3, 2014. Mass will begin at Noon and will be celebrated by Bishop Paul Bradley at Immaculate Conception Parish, 63559 80th Avenue, Harvard. Food and entertainment provided by “Latino Sound J & B,” piñatas, games and prizes for children and youth, is scheduled until 5 p.m. Several agencies will be present to offer valuable information in Spanish and English.

All are invited. Contact: (269) 903-0197.

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**New class of Hispanic lay leaders to celebrate graduation ceremony on August 2**

The first class of students from the three-year Hispanic Leadership Formation program, recently renamed the St. Augustine Institute, will graduate on Saturday, August 2nd, with a Mass with Bishop Bradley at St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Portage.

Seventy-five students completed three years of intense study committing one Saturday a month as well as additional hours studying. In addition to Bishop Bradley special guests at the celebration will include representatives from the Catholic Extension Society, the organization that helped underwrite the program, as well as pastors, teachers and special speakers.

A second group of students is expected to begin the three-year program this fall.
By Maureen Boyle
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Discussion about the wedding cake, reception site and invitations are just a few of the many details engaged couples pore over as they plan their trip down the aisle.

While these things help make their special day lovely and memorable, Catholic couples preparing for married life are strongly urged by the church to use the time of their engagement wisely, and to discuss matters — both spiritual and practical — that will set them on the right course for a sacramental marriage.

These conversations — even if they bring up some minor differences of opinion — can help prevent major disagreements in the years to come, according to Catholic family life experts and newlyweds.

Some of the essential “must-have” conversation topics should include:

• Faith and spirituality
• Finances
• Children and child-rearing
• Natural family planning
• Intimacy
• Commitment
• Careers

Father Rick Kramer, director of Family Life and Pastoral Resource Development for the Archdiocese of Washington, said in today’s culture young adult Catholics need to begin their pre-marital discussions by gaining a deeper understanding of the true meaning of marriage.

“Marriage reflects the love of Christ for the church. It is also a sacrament of service, a sacrament for others,” he said. “Couples need to have rich and deep conversations that start with: ‘Are we prepared to live our lives in generous service to God, each other, our families, our neighbors and our parish until our deaths?’”

He said the church’s rich teachings on marriage and the family are the best starting point for all Catholic marriage preparation discussions. From there, he said the spiritual and practical conversations are able to flow.

“The spiritual includes the practical. They are knitted together,” he said.

Sarah Castellanos, 26, and her husband, Nathan, 33, parishioners of St. Patrick Parish in Washington, said the 2013 marriage preparation classes in the Archdiocese of Washington helped them focus on the spiritual aspects of marriage and the practical challenges of married life.

“It was helpful and humbling to be reminded that just because you are faithful Catholics, you can’t assume that you are on the same page on everything,” Castellanos said. “You still have to talk.”

During their courtship, she said, she and her future husband often discussed spirituality and faith. When they became engaged, the discussions evolved into the meaning of marriage and its covenant.

“You incorporate (spirituality) into the practical sides of marriage,” Castellanos said. “You can’t be this coldhearted practical person, there has to be a reason for doing things for your spouse. Both sides have to come together and not be lopsided.”

Other spiritual conversation topics for engaged couples that Father Kramer suggests include: how the future spouses view divorce; ask themselves if they will pray together; whether they will attend Mass as a couple daily or weekly, as well as the importance of confession. “This is for a lifetime and couples need to understand they’ve been preparing for marriage from the day they were born,” he said.

Forgiveness, too, is another vital spiritual aspect of marriage, said the priest. “Even though there will be challenges and difficulties, there is no straw that breaks the camel’s back even when it seems impossible to forgive,” he said.

Natural family planning, said the priest, is another spiritual and practical must-have topic of discussion for Catholic couples. “Couples need to have this conversation and be open to the gift of participating with God in receiving children as a gift,” he said.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ marriage website www.foryourmarriage.org (see left) — a resource for married or engaged Catholic couples — recommends that couples discuss sensitive topics in their wedding preparations.

“This is the time to face difficult conversations and make sure you are on the same page. You don’t have to agree on everything — just the important things. Use your time of courtship and engagement to explore the serious and controversial issues that are ahead of you. A marriage preparation program will help you to address these issues more thoroughly,” the website advises.

Couples who pray together, stay together

By Jim & Susan Vogt, MA, CFLE

Down to earth questions and answers about praying as a couple from the USCCB website: www.foryourmarriage.org

Q. Why bother?
A. For couples who worship together each Sunday only about 20% divorce. For couples who also regularly pray together at home marital stability is even greater.

Q. Where do we start?
A. There is no wrong way to pray and the desire to try is prayer in itself. First, some preliminary decisions:

• Decide a time. Presumably both of you are very busy. Isn’t everyone these days? So finding an agreeable, semi-reliable time is essential. After experimenting with several times of day my husband and I agreed on first thing in the morning (about 15 minutes before the first child is expected to awake). Since Jim is a morning person and I’m not, his job is to wake me and say it’s time.

• Decide a place. Anywhere will do, but it’s nice to have a bible or whatever reading you plan to use handy. If clutter is endemic to your home at least find a place where you can cover it or turn your back on it. Personally, I like to have a window that I can look out of and see the sky. If it’s dark, lighting a candle be inspiring.

• Decide how often. Ideally, daily is the way to go since there is a rhythm and regularity to it. In our own marriage, however, we have made peace with a less than ideal but workable goal. We commit to weekdays since that’s more predictable than the weekends. We figure Mass takes care of Sunday. We also make exceptions for illness, being out of town, pregnancy (when almost any time felt nauseous), or unexpected interruptions like crying babies. It’s not perfect, but we feel we’re doing OK if we meet our bottom line of doing it more often than not. God wants our attention not our guilt.

Q. So what do we do once we’re sitting together?
A. There are many ways to pray depending on your style and preferences from memorized prayers to using guided meditation. Here’s one model in five easy steps:

1. One spouse finds the scripture reading of the day
2. One opens the prayer with a phrase like “Lord, we come before you at the start of our day.”
3. Read the scripture out loud.
4. Sit in silence for awhile. At the appointed ending time, each spouse makes a petition flowing from the silent prayer.

Q. What if my spouse just isn’t into couple prayer? (S)he is a good person and we pray individually but we just aren’t going to be able to do it together.
A. Don’t beat yourself up over this. Sure couple prayer is good and can bring you closer together, but God’s love is bigger than any prayer form. Pray for each other in your own way.
“Waiting in Joyful Hope”

Sharing faith is key part of married life

By Lynne Maunola
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — When couples get married they find they suddenly share almost everything but at the top of that list should be faith, say marriage advisors.

Expressing faith together as a married couple improves trust, communication and each spouse’s relationship with God, said Lauri Przybysz, coordinator of marriage and family life for the Archdiocese of Baltimore.

“It is never too soon to practice” a deeper spirituality in one’s marriage, she added. “At any time in a person’s married life, you can take your relationship to a new level.”

She urges couples to learn about one another’s prayer devotions and to be open to differences in spirituality.

The challenge comes from the various ways individuals practice spirituality, she noted. While one spouse may have grown up praying the rosary for instance, another may not have a strong tradition with that prayer.

Przybysz said when her husband asked her to pray the rosary before a long road trip it took her a while to get used to that request. Now, if he forgets to start the prayer, she will often ask, “Aren’t we going to pray the rosary?”

Since prayer “is such an intimate thing,” Przybysz said, couples may be shy or need some guidance to practice praying together. She suggested going on a retreat together or attending a talk at a parish or campus ministry.

“The couple could practice looking into each other’s eyes and saying out loud something they would normally say to God,” she said.

In an online article on the U.S. bishops’ website, foryourmarriage.org, Przybysz stressed that many couples — even when they are brought up in the same faith — still have different approaches to spirituality. She also noted that these practices equip them to overcome challenges and include God during tough times.

In the book, “How to Pray with Your Spouse: Four Simple Steps,” author Chris Stravitsch compares a couple’s spirituality to the celebration of Mass and says couples should follow the four steps of the liturgy with one another.

He suggests that they set aside time to focus on each other and God while seeking forgiveness for hurting one another during the past week. They should learn about God together by reading Scripture or talking about pressing issues.

“Step three is to share your love,” Stravitsch advises. “After discovering God together, you deepen your prayer and intimacy by sharing your love with each other,” he wrote, reminding couples to do so with a thankful heart. He noted a simple kiss, resting in a sick spouse are some ways of sharing love.

Finally spouses should serve another in the mundane tasks of daily life. Couples ought to remember that intimacy continues in cooking, cleaning, household chores, listening and working.

“The fruit that will come from your prayer routine will bless your marriage, deepen your love for God and each other, and allow you to reflect the love relationship between Christ and his beloved spouse, the church,” Stravitsch wrote.

Joann Heney-Hunter an associate professor of theology at St. John’s University in New York agreed. “In marriage, the couple’s life, love and witness can make Christ visible to others,” she wrote in the essay, “Marital Spirituality” on the bishops’ marriage website.

She wrote that married couples have the opportunity to demonstrate total commitment to another person. “Couples create sacramental communities when they build a life of sharing with each other, with their families, with local communities, with the church.”

A strong prayer life can nourish a couple’s commitment to one another. The marriage website also offers many suggestions for improving the married relationship by taking turns choosing favorite Scripture passages to reflect upon each week, choosing a service project to do together or reading at least one book about healthy relationships.

Several book reviews about marriage and faith are also available on the website including:

• “Six Sacred Rules for Families” by Tim and Sue Muldoon, which suggests that “spirituality can be found ‘right in the messy midst’ of home life.”

• “Good News for Married Lovers: A Spiritual Path for Marriage Renewal” by Jesuit Father Chuck Gallagher and Mary Angellee Seitz focuses on the gift each spouse can be for one another.

• “Spicing Up Married Life: Satisfying Couples’ Hunger for True Love” by Father Leo Patalinghug includes recipes, discussion starters and prayers for married couples.

For Przybysz, the most important aspect for couples sharing their faith is to find a way to appreciate the other’s spirituality. It often takes courage, humility and kindness to invite one’s spouse to a deeper relationship with God, she said.

NFP Awareness Week Begins July 21st, 2013

“Pro-Woman, Pro-Man, Pro-Child” is the theme of this year’s Natural Family Planning Awareness Week, a national educational campaign of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) to celebrate God’s vision for marriage and promote the methods of Natural Family Planning.

Natural Family Planning (NFP) is an umbrella term for the safe, natural and effective methods of both achieving and avoiding pregnancy. NFP methods teach couples how to observe and interpret the woman’s signs of fertility and infertility.

In the words of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, NFP methods “respect the bodies of the spouses, encourage tenderness between them and favor the education of an authentic freedom.” (CCC, no. 2370)

The dates of Natural Family Planning Awareness Week are: July 21st – 27th, 2013. These dates highlight the anniversary of the papal encyclical Humanae Vitae (July 25) which articulates Catholic beliefs about human sexuality, marriage, conjugal love and responsible parenthood. The dates also mark the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne (July 26), the parents of the Blessed Mother.

Want to learn more about the methods of NFP offered in our diocese? See, [insert the diocesan NFP classes] or call [insert the phone number of the diocesan NFP office]. Don’t have time to attend an in-person class? Learn NFP in the comfort of your home by contacting one of the NFP providers listed at: [http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/natural-family-planning/catholic-teaching].

My Slogan: “Practice Saved Sex!”

By Fletcher Doyle

I am a journalist and a convert.

That sounds like an oxymoron.

Two years after joining the Catholic Church, my wife and I began practicing Natural Family Planning (NFP). I found that the chastity required to get through the periods of abstinence caused profound changes in me. I stopped daydreaming of swimsuit models, wealth and fame. I became grateful for all God had given me, most of all for my wife. My appreciation for her and all that she gives me grew, improving an already good 20-year marriage.

I was curious to find out if other people had been so affected. This is where the journalist and the convert converged. I interviewed NFP couples and read thousands of words on conjugal union and the effects of contraception on the relationship between men and women. So for five years I thought about nothing but sex, except during the hockey playoffs. This was a challenge to chastity, but the result was a book, Natural Family Planning Blessed Our Marriage: 19 True Home-Study cfm.

The Catholic Church invites all the faithful to embrace God’s plan for married love. Learn more about these beautiful teachings which support the use of NFP in marriage at: [http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/natural-family-planning/catholic-teaching].

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2016

Today’s planning will make tomorrow’s dreams come true

Photo courtesy of Megan Renae Photography

Tim McIlmara, Associate Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, for the diocese and his then-fiancée, Amy Millard, invited all their friends and family to pray a novena in the nine days leading up to their May 17, 2014 wedding for the intention of a blessed and joy-filled married. The novena, which was designed by their pastor Fr. Chris Ankle, St. Martin of Tours, Vicksburg, featured some of the couple’s favorite saints.
Slavery in my backyard?

By Kerry Williams

Catholic Charities Diocese of Kalamazoo

According to U.S. federal law, human trafficking is defined as anyone of any age being forced or deceived into providing commercial sex acts or labor of any kind. No borders have to be crossed, no smuggling has to happen, and it doesn’t only happen in third-world countries. It happens everywhere...and it happens right here in the Diocese of Kalamazoo.

Did you know that there are more slaves today than at any other time in history? According to the Kalamazoo Anti-Human Trafficking Coalition, trafficking is the second-largest criminal industry in the world, after drugs. The demand for under-age sex providers is high and, unfortunately, so is the supply. Catholic Charities Diocese of Kalamazoo (CCDOK) has provided services for decades to young adults and teens who are caught in this horrible and tragic trap. Young adults like Ray.

Ray* was 17 when it all began. By the time he came to CCDOK, he was 19, in his first semester of college, and not prepared to let anyone in on his secret. One day he was riding home with a worker from another agency when, blocks before reaching his house, he asked to be dropped off. The worker didn’t want him to walk home in the cold and said he’d take him the whole way home. What Ray said next made her call the police and turn the car around to take him, with only the clothes on his back, to a local safe house.

Ray told her he was a victim of severe domestic violence perpetrated by his own brother. Not only had Ray been trafficked; he had been used as a human guinea pig, fed drugs to new drugs. Ray was in crisis and essentially homeless. He was eligible for Ark services, an outreach of Catholic Charities. The worker contacted CCDOK’s Outreach Supervisor who quickly provided him with winter clothes, boots, hygiene items, and rides to work and class. She also helped him apply for a Bridge card, connected him with Loaves & Fishes, a local food pantry, and secured safe temporary housing for him through The Ark’s Supported Community Living Program.

Ray is now living in safe and secure permanent housing. Ray is in college, taking pre-med courses and planning to become an orthopaedist. He’s also working two jobs — the same two jobs he has had since 2012. He is no longer a victim — and now uses his experience to raise awareness of human trafficking in his own community. Ray is deeply realized that his nightmare is over, but he harbors no ill will toward those who hurt him. “I forgive him,” says this remarkably resilient and truly selfless young man. This story illustrates the reality of human trafficking right here in southwest Michigan. CCDOK is reaching out to help victims escape and heal. If you — or someone you know — is being trafficked, please call us to seek help (269-381-9800) and please don’t lose hope. * Name has been changed to protect privacy.

Past participants of the Trauma Recovery Program express gratitude—encourage other trauma survivors to attend

By Sharon Froom

The Trauma Recovery Program has been offered by the Diocese of Kalamazoo since fall, 2002. It is for any Catholic adult who is a survivor of childhood trauma. The program is a research-based model designed for treating adults who were abused or neglected as children. Unlike some programs for trauma survivors, the Trauma Recovery Program does not require rehashing the hurtful past. Instead, participants learn skills to regulate their feelings so that they can live more healthy and satisfying lives. More than 400 people have participated in the Diocese of Kalamazoo Trauma Recovery Program. The response from the participants has been overwhelmingly positive. The following comments, taken from recent participants’ evaluations, are typical of the comments we receive at the end of each group.

“I have been in therapy on and off for almost twenty years. This program helped me a lot! Learning these skills has already benefited me very much.”

“This program is probably one of the most important steps I have taken in healing myself. For the first time that I can remember, I do not feel as though I’m less than others. I walk a little straighter and I want to learn to love myself.”

“I feel I am better with looking at and dealing with situations that come up. I don’t feel so alone in my thinking/feeling and know that I always have a choice on how I deal. If my thinking is out of balance I can rewrite the script I play in my head. Staying grounded in the here-and-now helps.”

“The program is so helpful and I hope it can continue. It is something that people need and having it available is wonderful. I am thankful the church has stepped up to offer it. Thank you. Thank you.”

“I am grateful to the Diocese of Kalamazoo for the support of this program. I have been going to therapy for years and feel the model presented helped me in ways that individual therapy hasn’t reached. Having the strategies and information in a notebook will be a resource I can go to when I get stuck. There is much hope in this program.”

If you are aware that events in your childhood interfere with your ability to live healthfully and happily as an adult, help and healing are possible. The Diocese of Kalamazoo offers the Trauma Recovery Program at no cost to participants. Survivors meet for ten sessions in small groups facilitated by mental health professionals and a priest.

Reservations are currently being taken for groups beginning in October, 2014 and February, 2015. Groups are available in daytime and evening, and are available in both English and Spanish. For English-speaking groups, contact Sharon Froom (269-381-8917, ext. 222.)

For Spanish-speaking groups, contact Lissette Mira-Amaya (269-979-7084.)

St. Monica student research will go into orbit this fall

By Kathy Doud

Four 8th grade students from St. Monica Catholic School got official word last month that an experiment they designed will be activated by astronauts on the SSEP Mission Six to the International Space Station this fall.

“I’m not sure I’ve fully wrapped my head around this yet,” said Natalie Moyer, one of the four team members who designed the winning experiment. “But having our work sent up into space is a huge honor. Our team didn’t see any of this coming, but this whole experience has been great and we feel this is a wonderful accomplishment.”

The other team members are 8th graders Delaney Hewitt, Mackenzie Ortlieb and Grace Brennan. The title of their experiment is “Microgravity’s Effects on Dry Lake Fairy Shrimp.” The team is hoping the experiment results will show what happens to shrimp that are hatched and developed in microgravity. Their hypothesis is that the tiny sea creatures will develop with less muscle mass, and possible birth defects, once transferred to the microgravity of low orbit.

The St. Monica team was part of 406 middle school students in four schools throughout the Catholic Diocese of Kalamazoo to participate in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) curriculum offered by the Student Spaceflight Experiments Program (SSEP), headquartered in Ellicott City, Md. The program immersed the students for nine weeks in developing scientific proposals for experiments that could be used on the SSEP Mission Six flight. At the end of nine weeks, 74 proposals were submitted and judged by a local panel of scientists, researchers, engineers and science educators. Three finalists were chosen, using a rubric system, and the other projects chosen and sent on for national adjudication were: “The Effects of Immiquimod Cream on Melanoma Mutations” — from St. Augustine Cathedral School; “The Effect of Microgravity on the Regeneration of the Planarian Worm” — from St. Stanislaus Catholic School in Dorr. Students at St. Joseph Middle School in Battle Creek also participated in this nine-week science curriculum.

The Diocesan schools are part of 19 “learning communities” nationwide participating in this particular Mission Six program.

Continued Story pg. 7 — My Slogan: “Practice Saved Sex!”

Stories (Servant Books).

Here is what I learned. When women took control of fertility with the pill and the IUD in the mid-1960s to the mid-1970s, men said “cool.” Men’s behavior changed, as they no longer felt responsible for their sexual partners. (This can be seen in the disappearance of shotgun marriages.)

There was an accompanying drop in commitment between men and women. Trust between the sexes fell because men no longer acted in expected patterns. When you add in the increase in women’s wages and the decrease in men’s wages, you created couples who are neither financially nor sexually interdependent. This is why, social scientists say, the divorce rate doubled in that time frame.

NFPl can repair the damage. Men acknowledge responsibility to their wives. Commitment increases because the couples know when pregnancy is likely before they make love. Their trust increases: she trusts he will fulfill his obligations when he assents to sex; he trusts she is making accurate observations of her fertility and is keeping him informed.

He develops a sense of awe in the way God made her, and she develops a sense of gratitude that he is willing to sacrifice his own pleasure for her sake. And both grow in their love and trust in God when they see the plan for sex and marriage that He built into their bodies. I have seen and experienced how using Natural Family Planning can make a difference in marriage. That should come as no surprise because it’s God’s way to practice responsible parenthood—it’s His design for life and love!

Fletcher Doyle is the author of Natural Family Planning Blessed Our Marriage, (Servant Books). He and his wife live in the Diocese of Buffalo.

Still a four-sigma problem? A look at human errors in space

By Donald R. Davis

Over a 50-year span, I have been involved in the analysis of human errors in the space shuttle program, the space station, and the International Space Station. The central problem is that, over the years, an analysis has been made of the human errors that led to the Challenger disaster, the Shuttle Columbia disaster and the Shuttle Columbia i failures.

In all of these disasters, human errors were the problem. These errors led to catastrophic failures. In the space station, the International Space Station, the errors in the space station were very much the same as the errors that were the problem in the space shuttle.

The only problem is that the space station was a very much more complex system. The space station was a much more complex system than the space shuttle.

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Teaching the Truth in love

By Christopher Stefanick

In the words of Archbishop Fulton Sheen, “There are not 100 people in the United States who hate the Catholic Church, but there are millions who hate what they wrongly perceive the Catholic Church to be.” While some people wage a war on the truth, I think most people who hate the Church today are waging a war against their misperceptions of what the Church is. Perhaps this is truer now than ever before. It’s especially true when it comes to the marriage debate.

After Mozilla CEO Brendan Eich was forced to resign because he had donated money to support Prop 8 three years ago (it’s worth noting that 52 percent of Californians supported Prop 8), the dating website, OKCupid, which spearheaded the attack on Eich, issued a statement that clarified their motives. “Those who seek to deny love are our enemies, and we wish them nothing but failure.”

Since love is willing the good of another, desiring “nothing but failure” for another is hate, by definition. And so, Eich was wronged, and his employees were deprived of their will to continue working for a company that protected his personal beliefs.

The Catholic Church is no different. “Those who seek to deny love are our enemies, and we wish them nothing but failure.”

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Crisis Humanitaria en Estados Unidos

El presidente de Estados Unidos tuvo que declarar la crisis humanitaria ante la inac- pacidad de poder ofrecer ayuda a miles de niños y niñas que ha cruzado la frontera sola con la comunidad. Estos niños han estado detenidos en lugares en situaciones precarias sin comida, baños, ropa o comodidades. Esto ha llevado a que el Presidente reconozca que la inmigración es un problema grave.

En América Latina, millones de personas han sido desplazadas por conflictos y violencia, lo que ha llevado a miles de personas a buscar refugio en los Estados Unidos. La inmigración ilegal es un problema serio y las políticas migratorias de los Estados Unidos han sido objeto de debate en el Congreso y en las calles.

Graduación de los estudiantes del Instituto San Agustín – Programa de Formación Pastoral y de Liderazgo para los hispanos

El sábado, 2 de agosto, la Oficina del Instituto San Agustín de la Diócesis de Kalamazoo celebró la graduación del primer grupo de estudiantes del Instituto San Agustín. Los estudiantes han terminado tres años de estudio intenso. Además de los estudiantes y sus familias estarán presentes el Obispo Paul Bradley, algunos profesores, par- rociones, administraciones y la Asociación Católica.

Christian Extension (cuyo valioso apoyo ha sido fundamental para la realización de este programa) ¡Felicitaciones!!

Informerse

Pasaportes. Si usted no tiene documentos que le permitan vivir en este país es muy importante que usted y sus hijos tengan pasaporte. Ya sea el pasaporte de Esta- dos Unidos, de México o de su país de origen. Se siguen presentando casos de deportaciones y desafortunadamente los niños quedan sin uno de los pasaportes. El trámite de los pasaportes a los hijos estadounidenses y/o mexicanos porque se necesita au- torización de los padres. También es importante tener un plan de acción para si llegan a ser detenidos por inmi- gración. No se espera que haya tiempo que sea de agencia para que le den cita ya que llevan mucho tiempo. Esta es una buena opor- tunidad para obtener pasaporte para el tiempo que está en Estados Unidos.

El Consulado Mexicano en Chicago ofrecerá un foro para poder entender mejor el proceso. Este foro se realizará el 26 de agosto en el Instituto San Agustín, desde las 9 a.m. hasta las 1 p.m. Este foro está dirigido a padres o madres que deseen expedir un pasaporte para su hijo/a. Para registrarse con antelación, por favor llee su número de teléfono y mensaje.

Visa Temporal para familias. Si desea obtener una visa temporal para se puede llamar a Angelica Valdés del Ministerio Campesino Migrante de la Diócesis de Kalamazoo. La familia de una persona que viaja debe obtener un visado. Conozca los requisitos de la familia de una persona que viaja debe obtener un visado. Conozca los requisitos de la familia de una persona que viaje.

Calendario/Calendario

July

26 (Sábado) — 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Retiro de Quinceañeras Deben asistir con sus padres y padrinos (Quinceañera Retreat

3 (Domingo) — 12 – 5 p.m. Fiesta Diocesana: Día de la Familia. La Santa Misa la preside el Obispo Paul Bradley. Food for all and games for the children and youth.

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Julio/Año

10 – 12 (Lunes) — 12 – 5 p.m. Fiesta Diocesana: Día de la Familia. La Santa Misa la preside el Obispo Paul Bradley. La Parroquia de la Inmaculada Concepción, Hartford, 96359 60th Ave, Hartford, MI. Con comidas para todos. (Day of the Family Committee Meeting). Lugar: Parroquia de la Inmaculada Concepción, Hartford.

12 (Miercoles) — 12 – 5 p.m. Fiesta Diocesana: Día de la Familia. La Santa Misa la preside el Obispo Paul Bradley. Lugar: Parroquia de la Inmaculada Concepción, 66595 60th Ave, Hartford, MI. Con comidas para todos. (Day of the Family Committee Meeting).

12 (Miercoles) — 12 – 5 p.m. Fiesta Diocesana: Día de la Familia. La Santa Misa la preside el Obispo Paul Bradley. Lugar: Parroquia de la Inmaculada Concepción, 66595 60th Ave, Hartford, MI. Con comidas para todos. (Day of the Family Committee Meeting).

19 (Viernes) — 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Retiro de Young Adult Retreat. (Young Adult Committee)

26 (Sábado) — 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Retiro de Quinceañeras Deben asistir con sus padres y padrinos (Quinceañera Retreat

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Calendario Calendario

July/July

July — Temporal del Ministerio Migrante Diocesano (Julio a Octubre)

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July/August

CENTRAL DEANERY
July 15, 22, 29: A Seminar on Relativism, Dr. Ron Musiker, Newman Bookshop, Noon – 1 p.m.

July 18, 25: Theology on Tap, TFI Fridays in Kalamazoo. Meets every Friday in July with a final Mass and pizza at St. Augustine, 5:00 p.m. Contact: Tim McNamara, 269-903-0199.

July 26: Diocesan Quinceañera Retreat (bilingual) Blinnmer, 10-30 a.m. – 4 p.m., St. Joseph Parish, Kalamazoo, a retreat for the preparation of Quinceañeras. Parents must attend the retreat with their daughters and contact: Veronica Rodriguez, 269-903-0197.

July 15: Mass as a Migrant Camp, Presiding the Most Rev. Paul J. Bradley, 7:30 p.m. Location to be announced.

July 26: Quinceañera Retreat. Bilingual retreat for young ladies and their parents for the preparation of Quinceañeras. 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Parents must also attend the retreat. Location: Immaculate Conception, 501 W, Lake Street, Kalamazoo.

July 26: Hispanic Diocesan Pastoral Committee meeting, 10 a.m. – Noon, Diocesan Pastoral Center, 542 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo.

July 31: Registration Deadline: Instituto San Agustin – Hispanic Pastoral Leadership Formation Program, All courses are in Spanish. General Objective of the program is to develop in the participants, their leadership abilities and their commitment to the Catholic Church through pastoral/theological formation.


August 6: Registration Deadline: Instituto San Agustin.


August 23: Registration Deadline: Instituto San Agustin, Graduation, 11 a.m. Students will receive their certificates of graduation from the three year Hispanic Pastoral Leadership Formation Program. The Most Rev. Paul J. Bradley will be present. Location: St. Catherine of Siena, Portage.

2015/206 Appeal goals announcement.

September

CENTRAL DEANERY

September 15, 16, 17: “Hearts Wide Open”, an ecumenical event centered on the Gospel’s teaching on social justice. Transformations Spirituality Center, Kalamazoo, 7-9 p.m. each evening. Registration forms will be available in mid-June from some of its sponsors, including the parishes of St. John Bosco and St. Jose, the Hispanic Pastoral Leadership Formation Program, and the Transformations Spirituality Center. This event is open to the entire community.

EASTERN DEANERY

Bay City: Catholic Charities of Midland and Saginaw will also be joining the couples at the reception for an opportunity to take pictures of their new life together.

October

NORTHERN DEANERY

July 21-24: Vocation Bible Study, St. Mary’s Visitation, Byron Center. “Walking with Father Taekema:” 6-8 p.m. Free, optional -shirts available for $10 (child) or $12 (adult). Dori

August 16: St. Stanislaus 9th Annual Polish Festival: 4:30 – 11:30 p.m., food, refreshments, entertainment.

Call for Nominations for Catholic Charities 2014 Celebrate Life Awards

Catholic Charities Diocese of Kalamazoo (CCDK) is solicitating nominations for the 2014 Caring Network Celebrate Life Awards. These awards (typically given during CCDK’s spring Celebrate Life Luncheon) are designed to celebrate and honor men and women in our community who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to the sanctity of life and to helping vulnerable pregnant women and their babies. Winners will be chosen on the basis of the impact their activities in the pro-life area and the impact their work has had on the community.

Nominations are accepted in any of three categories:

• Sr. Edna Outstanding Service Award – awarded to a person or group who demonstrates an outstanding commitment to the sanctity of life and serving others, either through volunteer service or paid work.

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October 20-December 16: Trauma Recovery Program for English speakers, October 20-December 16 (nine consecutive Sundays) and 4:00-6:00 p.m. Location: Immaculate Conception, Hartford.

September

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• Sr. Edna Outstanding Service Award – awarded to a person or group who demonstrates an outstanding commitment to the sanctity of life and serving others, either through volunteer service or paid work.

• Katherine Van Dommelen Caring Network Volunteer Award – awarded to a person who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to the Caring Network program through volunteer service.

• John W. Kavanagh Physician Award – awarded to a physician who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to the sanctity of life, especially to unborn babies.

Please visit CCDK’s website (www.ccdk.org) to learn more and access the nomination form. If you have any questions or need more details about this event, please contact Jane Bodway at phone number 269-903-0147 or by e-mail at jbdoway@ccdok.org.

50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration

On Sunday, September 21st, 2014 we will be celebrating the 50th Wedding Anniversary of couples from around the Kalamazoo Diocese. Bishop Bradley will be the celebrant for Mass at 2:00 p.m. at St. Augustine Cathedral in honor of the couples who, during 2014, will be married for 50 years. A cake and punch reception will follow the Mass. Bishop Bradley will also be joining the couples at the reception for an opportunity to take pictures to commemorate this moment. Each couple celebrating a 50th wedding anniversary in 2014 will also receive a special certificate from the Bishop.

The names of the couples who are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in 2014 are being gathered in the parish offices of the Diocese of Kalamazoo, or couples can register directly online at the following link: www.dioceseofkalamazoo.org/50thweddinganniversary. Each couple who registers will receive a personal invitation from Bishop Bradley to this event. Invitations will be sent out the week of August 25th, 2014.

If you have any questions or need more details about this event, please contact Jane Bodway at phone number 269-903-0147 or by e-mail at jbdoway@ccdok.org.

Friday, September 26
Led by Lyn Underwood, PhD
We will explore a tool for measuring what was once considered a common feature of old age: Using the “Daily Social Experience Scale.” The language used in the scale can be misleading for people from different cultural backgrounds who may not be familiar with the scale. The “More Time” tool can be used to identify changes in daily life that have a direct impact on the caregiver. The tool is designed to be administered by a health professional and the data is shared with family members. The data can be used to help caregivers identify patterns and trends in the amount and type of care being provided.

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“Waiting in Joyful Hope”

Corrections:

Lake Michigan Catholic Central (LMC) Top Students
Pictured above (bottom row L-R): Michael Allen, Katherine Nuter (Valedictorian), Zachary Sila (Valedictorian), Matthew Sila (Salutatorian), Rebecca Barta (Valedictorian); (top row L-R): Juliet Golob, Rachel Lhotka, Marie Angelov, Hannah Seger, and Justin Salvano.

St. Philip Catholic Central Top Students
Pictured above (back row L-R): Stephanie Gusching (Valedictorian), Freddie Hallacy (Valedictorian), Rachel Gallagher (Salutatorian), Maria Dechant, Emily Freybler; (front row L-R): Moline Mallamo, Trenton Bartsch, Jacob Campbell, Ellen Criswell, Joseph Lin.

Ecumenical gathering features JustFaith founder
“Hearts Wide Open,” an ecumenical gathering coming to Kalamazoo September 15-17 will feature speaker Jack Jezreel, the founder of the JustFaith program and JustFaith ministries. Jezreel will conduct a three-evening session exploring the theme “Seeing with the Heart: Jesus’ call to love God by loving our neighbor.” Cost of the program is only $10 for all three sessions which will be held from 7 – 9 p.m. at Transformations Spirituality Center in Kalamazoo. “I strongly encourage anyone who can set aside these three days to attend the ‘Heart Wide Open’ conference,” said Bishop Paul J. Bradley.

Jezreel is a popular national speaker known for his work on JustFaith and with the Catholic Worker movement. He holds an undergraduate degree in Philosophy and Religion from Furman University and a Master of Divinity degree from the University of Notre Dame.

The event is supported by the Diocese of Kalamazoo and sponsored by: St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Portage, St. Joseph Parish, Kalamazoo, St. Thomas More Parish, Kalamazoo, First United Methodist Church, Kalamazoo and Transformations Spirituality Center. Contact one of the sponsors for more information.

Seminarians complete third annual pilgrimage
The diocesan seminarians visited 18 different parishes in one week during their third annual pilgrimage. The goal of the pilgrimage is to enjoy time with parishioners and build awareness for vocations. At each stop the seminarians celebrated Mass and shared their vocations stories at receptions and luncheons held at the different parishes.

Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, August 15th
Holy Day of Obligation
On November 1, 1950, Pius XII defined the Assumption of Mary to be a dogma of faith: “We pronounce, declare and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma that the immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul to heavenly glory.” The pope proclaimed this dogma only after a broad consultation of bishops, theologians and laity.

August 15th is a Holy Day of Obligation in the Church. Check your local parish listings for Mass times.

ROSE WINDOW DEPICTS MARY’S ASSUMPTION INTO HEAVEN
The reception of Mary into heaven is depicted in the center section of a rose window at Sts. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Providence, R.I. The feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Aug. 15, celebrates the belief that Mary was taken body and soul into heaven at the end of her life. (CNS photo/Crosiers)

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