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OF MIAMI

‘Towering’ achievement

St. Thomas University marks its golden jubilee with new tower, kickoff Mass

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO
Florida Catholic staff

MIAMI GARDENS | To mark its 50th anniversary, St. Thomas University built itself a tower to show passersby on the busy Palmetto Expressway “that this is a special place,” according to the university’s president, Msgr. Franklyn Casale.

“People always ask because there’s not a real big sign that draws

you to campus,” explained Msgr. Casale.

He said the first most-often asked question is, “Where is the campus?” The second is, “What is on that beautiful piece of land off the Palmetto?”

Both problems are now solved, thanks to the tower that was built in six weeks and dedicated Sept. 21.

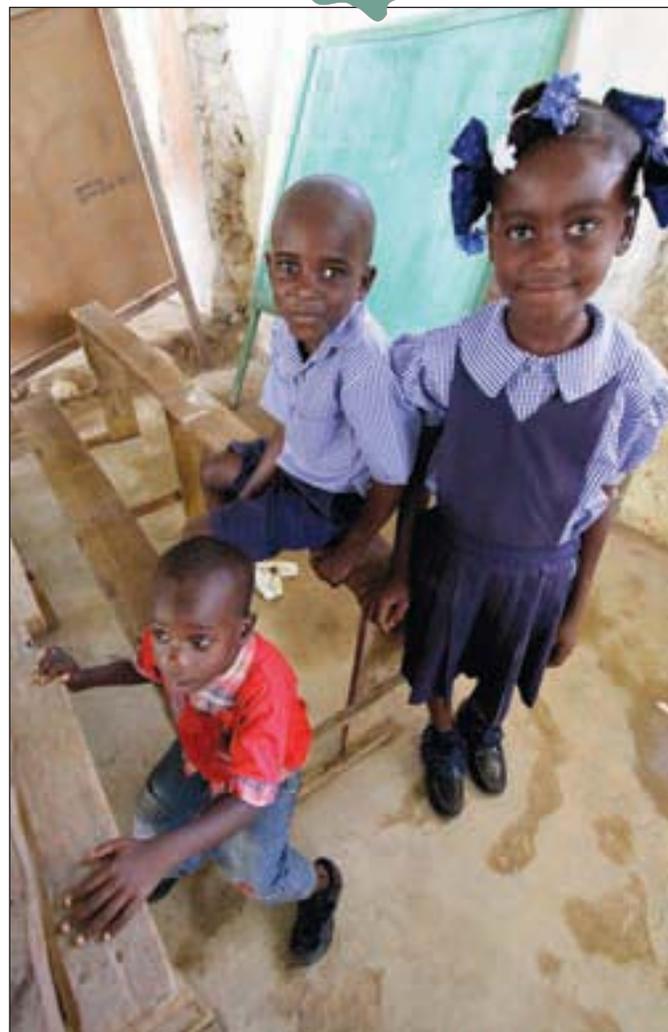
PLEASE SEE **ST. THOMAS**, 15



Flanked by his priest-secretary, Father Richard Vigoa, right, Archbishop Thomas Wenski blesses the 50th-anniversary tower Sept. 21 on the edge of St. Thomas’ campus, clearly visible from the Palmetto Expressway. (ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO | FC)

No matter what, the CHURCH is THERE

Florida Catholic bureau editor Ana Rodriguez-Soto offers a glimpse of life in the Third World nation where there is heartbreaking need and uplifting dignity. See stories, more photos, Pages 10-11.



Top left, Sister Jacqueline Louissaint sits in the chapel of Moulin surrounded by the school’s children. Above right, students in Guichard pose for a picture; from left are Ycleff, 3, Chiglet Lhedledat, 8, and Vladina Josue, 7. At bottom left, Ronel Dorgile, sacristan of the chapel in Guichard, part of the parish of St. Louis du Nord, sits with his son, 3-year-old Mackenley. (PHOTOS BY ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO | FC)

Life’s ‘heroes’ honored

Hollywood Mass marks more than 30 years of respect life work in the archdiocese

ANNE DIBERNARDO
Florida Catholic correspondent

HOLLYWOOD | They don’t wear capes, but for 30 years these real life

heroes have been struggling to defend the sanctity of human life from womb to tomb.

“This evening we gather to celebrate an amazing call which each of us has received by God — to protect human life, especially the most vulnerable among us,” Joan Crown told a loyal group of volunteers gathered at Little Flower Church in Hollywood Sept. 23 for a Mass commemorating more than 30 years of respect life ministry in the archdiocese.

Crown, archdiocesan director of the ministry, also shared a touching

anecdote with the group, about receiving a picture of a little boy in his white Communion outfit along with a thank-you note from his mother for being there when she needed support.

“There are so many gifts we have received, so much grace showered upon us, because we have responded in a positive way to this call. Because of these graces, we have a deeper understanding and appreciation for this great gift of human life,” said Crown, a longtime respect life worker who succeeded Father Jordi Rivero as director of the min-

istry in December 2006.

“Your prayers and unrelenting dedication to the unborn have helped me to keep going all these years and I want to thank you,” she told the volunteers.

The ministry’s work on behalf of human life extends from offering educational workshops on each of the life issues to reaching out to men and women who have suffered from a past abortion; from providing enrichment programs for new parents to putting on an annual program,

PLEASE SEE **LIFE**, 6



Joan Crown, respect life director, presents Father Thomas O’Dwyer with “Potter’s Masterpiece” as an acknowledgment of his steadfast support for the cause of human life. (ANNE DIBERNARDO | FC)

Retired Bishop Gilberto Fernandez, 76, dies

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO
of the Florida Catholic staff

MIAMI | Humble, gentle, “a true Christian gentleman” — that is how people who worked with retired Miami Auxiliary Bishop Gilberto Fernandez will remember him.

Bishop Fernandez, 76, died Sept. 30 after a long illness.

“He was my twin,” said Archbishop Thomas Wenski, alluding to the fact that both were ordained together as auxiliary bishops on Sept. 3, 1997. “He retired due to illness less than five years after being ordained a bishop, but his long illness was a cross that he embraced and offered for the Church of Miami. We trust that he will continue to pray for us as we now entrust his soul to the Lord. May he rest in peace.”

Archbishop Wenski celebrated the funeral Mass for Bishop Fernandez Oct. 3 at St. Mary Cathedral, Miami.

Archbishop John C. Favalora, archbishop emeritus of Miami, who ordained both Bishop Fernandez and Archbishop Wenski to the episcopacy, received Bishop Fernandez’s body Oct. 2 at St. John Vianney College Seminary, Miami, where a viewing took place that evening.

When Bishop Fernandez retired in 2002 he asked the people of South Florida “to help me with your prayers, and I will help you also with mine.” At the time of his retirement, Auxiliary Bishop Agustin Roman described his brother bishop as “a good example as a priest, as a

brother and as a bishop. You preach the Gospel. But the most important thing is that you live the Gospel. You live the Sermon on the Mount.”

Bishop John G. Noonan of Orlando, former auxiliary bishop of the Miami Archdiocese, worked with Bishop Fernandez when then-Father Noonan served as rector of St. John Vianney College Seminary.

“I lived and worked with Bishop Fernandez and came to know him as a man of simplicity whose faith in God was reflected in his love for people, music and the beauty of all creation,” Bishop Noonan said. “Despite the many difficulties and hardships he faced in his life he always saw only hope and goodness.”

Although Bishop Gerald M. Barbarito of Palm Beach never had “the chance to know Bishop Fernandez personally,” he lauded him for his steadfast service and faith.

“I know of his great love for his ministry and the people he served as well of his offering up his suffering during his illness,” Bishop Barbarito said. “May he now enjoy the fullness of life with the Lord he served so faithfully.”

Father Robert Vallee, who served as associate pastor when Bishop Fernandez was pastor of St. Kevin Parish in Miami, remembers him as “one of the greatest pastors I ever worked with, a man of deep, deep humility.”

Father Vallee, now a philosophy professor at St. John Vianney College Seminary, also worked with Bishop Fernandez when he was

spiritual director of the seminary, the year before he was named auxiliary bishop.

Someone once described the bishop as “a true Christian gentleman,” Father Vallee recalled. He said it was the best description of a man who was “unerringly gracious, kind and gentle.”

True to those traits, Bishop Fernandez really enjoyed his time at San Pablo Church in Marathon, “a small little parish that he could run like a family,” Father Vallee said. “I think he would have stayed there the rest of his life.”

Instead, his next assignment was at the sprawling, fast-paced St. Kevin, where he could not be as intimately involved with the parishioners. “He did it out of obedience,” Father Vallee said.

Obedience also was the reason he accepted his nomination as auxiliary bishop. “The last thing in the world Bishop Fernandez wanted was to be a bishop,” Father Vallee said, noting that “it was a real curse for him” to have to take on the duties of archdiocesan administration.

Indeed, when his appointment as auxiliary bishop of Miami was announced on June 24, 1997, Bishop Fernandez was quoted as saying: “Sometimes people talk about the loneliness of the priests, but when you are in a parish you don’t feel that loneliness because you are surrounded by love and warmth. I never thought about doing anything else but being a parish priest. But man proposes and God disposes. That’s the situation here.”

Born Feb. 13, 1935, in Havana, Bishop Fernandez was part of a family of eight children — five boys and three girls — that gave three



Bishop Gilberto Fernandez at his episcopal ordination in 1997. (FILE PHOTO | FC)

priests and one religious to the Church. Two older brothers, Msgr. Orlando Fernandez, now deceased, and Father Nelson Fernandez, now retired, also served as priests in the archdiocese. Another brother, Fausto Fernandez, served as administrator of Marian Towers, a facility for low-income seniors run by Catholic Health Services.

One sister, Sister Lilia Fernandez, is a member of the Sisters of St. Joseph of St. Augustine who ministers at Mercy Hospital. Another sister, Teresita Fernandez, lives in the Miami area and another brother lives with his wife and children in Mexico. A third sister, Ondina, also lived in Miami and died a couple of weeks before her brother.

Bishop Fernandez was ordained May 17, 1959, for his native Havana Archdiocese. He served in four parishes there, including as adminis-

trator of the cathedral, before being forced into exile in July 1967.

Among his assignments in South Florida, he ministered to migrant farmworkers in Naranja, Homestead and Delray Beach. He served as pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Homestead (1978-1979); pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul, Miami (1979 to 1988); administrator of San Pablo, Marathon (1988-1989); pastor of St. Kevin, Miami (1989-1996); and spiritual director at St. John Vianney College Seminary the year prior to his appointment as bishop.

Bishop Fernandez accepted his appointment as auxiliary bishop with characteristic humility, knowing, he said, “that many others among my brother priests are better qualified than me.”

Bishop Fernandez was buried in the priests’ section of Our Lady of Mercy Cemetery in Miami. ■

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Priests learn about new Mass translation

New missal is main topic at annual convocation, which is also marked by fraternity among 'brothers'

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO
Florida Catholic staff

DORAL | "Pray slowly. Try and pray accurately."

That was the advice given by a liturgical expert, Father Patrick Beidelman, to archdiocesan priests during their annual convocation, or gathering, Sept. 27-29.

Father Beidelman is director of liturgy for the Indianapolis Archdiocese, and he spoke to the nearly 250 active priests of the Miami Archdiocese regarding the upcoming implementation of the new English translation of the Roman Missal.

Parishes have permission right now to use the new words of the peoples' responses if these are sung. The entire new wording will come into use with the start of the new liturgical year Nov. 27, the first Sunday of Advent.

Father Beidelman led three sessions on the new translation of the missal, covering the why, the what and the how-to. During the convocation, archdiocesan priests also got to see the new missal for the first time, as printers have just now begun to ship them to parishes.

"This is very much about a change of words, not a change of rubrics," Father Beidelman said, referring to the actions of the priest during Mass. But he did caution them, "Don't assume that you've been doing it right all these years. ... Do read the prayers beforehand."

He encouraged the priests to "welcome (the changes) with a good spirit and invite parishioners to do it as well."

Don't look at it as another task, he said, but as an opportunity "to strengthen our practice in glorifying God and striving for sanctification."

In fact, he suggested, "spend 20 percent (of your time) helping people say the new words and 80 percent helping people grow in their understanding of the Mass."

The reason the Church has a new translation is simple, Father Beidelman said: "Because two popes, Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI, looked at the various translations of the Roman Missal around the world over a number of years, and they thought it could be done better. That's it. The Holy Father is doing his job."



Father Roger Holoubek, left, pastor of St. Maurice in Dania Beach, shares a laugh with Archbishop Thomas Wenski during one of the sessions of the priests' convocation. (ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO | FC)

RELATED — Read the ongoing series about the new translation of the Roman Missal, Page 17.

Father Beidelman stressed that it is not only the English translation that is being revised. "Everybody else in the world is doing this too."

He cautioned against "politicizing" the changes, or viewing the earlier ones as somehow incorrect.

The fact is, "You can't translate exactly from one language to another," Father Beidelman said. For hundreds of years, when the Church has used the vernacular, "we have chosen the best of the imperfect and we move forward."

Given the speed with which the original English translation was completed in 1973, and the lack of guidelines from Rome at the time, everyone knew improvements were needed. A second English translation was issued 12 years later — the one currently in use — and a third was issued 12 years after that, in 1997.

But by then, Pope John Paul II had decided to change the translating rules. In 2000, he issued a third Latin edition of the Roman Missal and a document called "*Liturgiam Authenticam*" in which he called for "literal exactness" in translation, rather than the previous standard of "dynamic equivalency."

These new rules move the Mass prayers and responses "away from everyday language to a sacred style of speaking," Father Beidelman said.

The new missal also is much bigger than the current one, with additional prefaces, Masses for 17 newly canonized saints and many more Marian feasts, and Masses for various needs and intentions, such as respect for human life.

"I would encourage you to look at those and use them," Father Beidelman told the priests.

He also told them to always be aware of the "awesomeness of the gift" they have received in being able to celebrate the Mass, and "the depth of our unworthiness."

Their approach to the Mass, Father Beidelman said, should always be "by our bearing, by the way we pronounce the words, how can we better convey to our faithful the divine presence of God?"

One archdiocesan priest who said he is really excited about the changes is Father Chris Marino, pastor of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Miami.

"I'm delighted with the new translation. I'm a big liturgy guy and I've been waiting for this," Father Marino said as he handled the new missal for the first time.

He said his parishioners began

singing the new responses as soon as permission was granted this September.

"We sing everything. Everything is chanted except for the readings themselves, so everything we are allowed to use we have been using," Father Marino said.

The singing helps the people learn the new words, and "it's working at St. Michael," he added, although, "I don't know what's going to happen when we don't sing it."

Aside from learning about the new missal, priests at the convocation took part in daily Mass with Archbishop Thomas Wenski, said morning and evening prayer together, were introduced to new senior staff members at the Pastoral Center and listened to the archbishop's "state-of-the-archdiocese" talk.

They also had plenty of time to relax and catch up with each other.

"We don't have this opportunity that often to have this time of fraternity," Archbishop Wenski said.

As Father Marino put it, "I'm a priest of the Archdiocese of Miami and I'm a son to the bishop and a brother to the brothers. It's always good to be with your family." ■

To read Archbishop Wenski's homilies to archdiocesan priests during the convocation, visit the archdiocesan website at www.miamiarch.org.

APPOINTMENTS

Archbishop Thomas Wenski has made the following appointments:

Effective Aug. 5

Msgr. James R. Dixon — chaplain to the Knights of Columbus, Council 13118, at St. Anthony Parish, Fort Lauderdale.

Effective Aug. 10

Msgr. Tomás M. Marín — chaplain to the Knights of Columbus, Council 5972, at St. Timothy Parish, Miami.

Effective Aug. 15

Father Andrzej Pietraszko — full-time chaplain to Archbishop Coleman F. Carroll High School, and in residence at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Miami.

Father Pauldass Selvaraj, Oblates of Mary Immaculate — parochial vicar at St. Stephen Parish, Miramar.

Effective Aug. 22

Father David Zirilli — director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

Effective Aug. 25

Father Damian Flanagan — associate in residence at Little Flower Parish, Coral Gables.

Effective Aug. 31

Msgr. Terence Hogan — associate ecumenical officer for Miami-Dade County.

Father Richard Mullen, Augustinians — associate ecumenical officer for Broward County.

Effective Sept. 1

Father Curtis Kiddy — chaplain to the Courage Ministry in Broward County.

Father Eric Zegeer — chaplain to the Courage Ministry in Miami-Dade County.

Father Jefferson Bariviera, Scalabrinians — parochial vicar at St. Vincent Parish, Margate.

Effective Sept. 13

Father Alex Dalpiaz, Scalabrinians — retired priest in residence at St. Vincent Parish, Margate.

Effective Oct. 1

Father Chanel Jeanty — pastor of St. Philip Neri Parish, Miami Gardens.

ST. PHILIP NERI PARISH

In conformity with canon 515.2 of the Code of Canon Law, Archbishop Thomas Wenski has decreed the re-opening of St. Philip Neri Parish in Miami Gardens, effective Oct. 1.

ARCHDIOCESAN MISSION OFFICE

Teresita González has been appointed director of the Archdiocesan Mission Office while continuing as director of the lay missionary group *Amor en Acción*, effective Sept. 1.



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On retreat, priests nurture their vocation

During the month of October, your parish priest may be attending one of four priest retreats held at Our Lady of Florida Spirituality Center in Palm Beach Gardens. The retreats begin on Monday evening and end early Friday. Our priests treasure this opportunity to “go off to a quiet place” in order to be with the Lord and away from the distractions and tensions of parish ministry.

Pope Benedict, at a recent Chrism Mass, reminded the priests of Rome: “Being a priest means becoming an ever closer friend of Jesus Christ with the whole of our existence. The world needs God — not just any god but the God of Jesus Christ, the God who made himself flesh and blood, who loved us to the point of dying for us, who rose and created within himself room for man. This God must live in us and we in him. This is our priestly

call: Only in this way can our action as priests bear fruit.”

Every priest makes an annual retreat because that friendship with Christ — which as Pope Benedict rightly reminds us is the core of our priesthood — is nurtured in prayer. But the retreat is more than just “personal time,” even if it is with the Lord. It is that, but more. Since the priest is a “man for others,” even his effort to tend to his own spiritual life is done with a view toward the people he serves in his parish ministry. As priests, we know that the better we seek to know Jesus, the more we listen to him and stay with him, the better we will represent him, in spite of our faults and failures, as another Christ, or as Pope John Paul II was fond of saying, “in *persona Christi*.”

As Pope Benedict says, “The world needs God ... the God of Jesus Christ.” And because the

world needs God, it needs priests. It needs priests to speak of God; it needs priests who live in God and allow God to live in them.

In the second Eucharistic Prayer, just after the consecration, the priest celebrant prays, “We thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.” These words, taken from an Old Testament text, describe the essence of our priestly ministry: We are to stand in the Lord’s presence and we are to serve him.

As priests, the Eucharist is the center of our priestly life. Through our words, especially in the words of consecration, we are privileged to invite Jesus into the assembly of prayer. Daily, we are called to stand in his presence. Our whole life, then, must be a standing with the Lord. We must look to him and be there for him. We must live with our gaze on him so as to keep the world open to God. We stand with the Lord; but we also stand for him — for it is not our word or ourselves that we preach, but Christ’s word,

Christ’s person.

This is quite a job description — and when one looks at the range of activities that “keeping the world open to God” entails, you can understand how challenging — and yet how beautiful — this vocation is. And, we priests are often painfully conscious of how far short we fall in rising to the challenge. To cite Pope Benedict again, “We must ceaselessly struggle against this becoming accustomed to the extraordinary reality, against the indifference of the heart, always recognizing our insufficiency anew and the grace that there is in the fact that he consigned himself into our hands.”

If you notice that your parish priest is away one week this month, it’s because he is on retreat. During these days, he is available to the Lord to encounter him more intensely in prayer. Because he is a priest, he is there for the Lord — and for you. *Oremus pro invicem:* Let us pray for one another. ■



FROM THE
ARCHBISHOP
Thomas
Wenski

En el retiro, los sacerdotes cultivan sus vocaciones

Durante el mes de octubre, los sacerdotes de su iglesia podrían estar asistiendo a uno de los cuatro retiros para sacerdotes que se celebran en el Centro de Espiritualidad de Nuestra Señora de la Florida, en Palm Beach Gardens. Los retiros comienzan el lunes por la noche y terminan en la madrugada del viernes. Nuestros sacerdotes valoran altamente esta oportunidad de “irse a un lugar tranquilo” con el fin de estar con el Señor, y lejos de las distracciones y tensiones del ministerio parroquial.

El Papa Benedicto XVI, en una reciente Misa Crismal, recordó a los sacerdotes de Roma: “Ser sacerdote significa convertirse en un amigo cada vez más cercano de Jesucristo con toda nuestra existencia. El mundo necesita de Dios —no de un dios cualquiera, sino del Dios de Jesucristo, del Dios que se hizo carne y sangre, que nos ha amado hasta el punto de morir por nosotros, que resucitó y creó consigo mismo un espacio para el hombre. Este Dios debe vivir en nosotros y nosotros en él. Éste es nuestro llamado sacerdotal: sólo así puede fructificar nues-

tra acción como sacerdotes”.

Cada sacerdote realiza un retiro anual, porque esa amistad con Cristo —que, tal como el Papa Benedicto nos recuerda con razón, es el núcleo de nuestro sacerdocio — se nutre de la oración. Sin embargo, el retiro es algo más que “tiempo personal”, aunque sea con el Señor. Es eso, pero es más. Puesto que el sacerdote es un “hombre para los demás”, hasta su esfuerzo por atender a su propia vida espiritual se realiza con miras a las personas a las que él sirve en su ministerio parroquial. Como sacerdotes, sabemos que mientras más nos esforcemos por conocer a Jesús, por escucharlo mejor y por permanecer mejor con Él, mejor lo representaremos, a pesar de nuestras faltas y fracasos, como otro Cristo, o como al Papa Juan Pablo II le gustaba decir, “in *persona Christi*”.

Como afirma el Papa Benedicto XVI: “El mundo necesita a Dios ... el Dios de Jesucristo.” Y porque el mundo necesita a Dios, tiene necesidad de sacerdotes. Necesita sacerdotes que hablen de Dios; necesita sacerdotes que vivan en Dios y per-

mitan que Dios viva en ellos.

En la segunda Plegaria Eucarística, precisamente después de la consagración, el sacerdote celebrante reza: “Y te damos gracias porque nos haces dignos de servirte en tu presencia”. Estas palabras, tomadas de un texto del Antiguo Testamento, definen la esencia de nuestro ministerio sacerdotal: Estamos en la presencia del Señor, y le servimos.

Como sacerdotes, la Eucaristía es el centro de nuestra vida sacerdotal. Por medio de nuestras palabras — y sobre todo en las palabras de la consagración — tenemos el privilegio de invitar a Jesús a la asamblea de oración. Todos los días, estamos llamados a estar en su presencia. Toda nuestra vida, entonces, debe consistir en estar ante el Señor. Debemos mirar hacia Él, y ser para Él. Tenemos que vivir con la mirada puesta en Él, para que el mundo se mantenga abierto a Dios. Estamos ante el Señor, pero también somos para Él, ya que no es nuestra palabra, o nosotros mismos, quien predica, sino la palabra de Cristo, la persona de Cristo.

Ésta es una descripción precisa del trabajo sacerdotal — y cuando uno considera la gama de actividades que la tarea de “mantener el mundo abierto a Dios” conlleva, puede entender cuán difícil — y sin embargo cuán hermosa — es esta vocación. Y, nosotros, los sacerdotes, solemos ser dolorosamente conscientes de cuánto nos falta para encarar satisfactoriamente este reto. Para citar una vez más el Papa Benedicto, “debemos luchar sin tregua contra este acostumbrarnos a la extraordinaria realidad, contra la indiferencia del corazón, reconociendo siempre nuestra insuficiencia y la gracia que hay en el hecho de que Él se ponga en nuestras manos”.

Si usted nota que el padre se ausenta durante una semana de estos días, es porque se encuentra en un retiro. Durante estos días, está a la disposición del Señor, para encontrarse con Él más intensamente en la oración. Como es un sacerdote, está a la disposición del Señor, y está a la disposición de ustedes. *Oremus pro invicem:* Oremos los unos por los otros. ■

'A man of great vision'

Msgr. Vincent Kelly honored as he retires as vicar of Christian Formation

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO
Florida Catholic staff

MIAMI | This is how Msgr. Vincent Kelly retired after nearly 36 years as chief overseer of Catholic schools in the archdiocese: by giving money away to needy students and needy schools.

It was a fitting tribute to a man who worked tirelessly, and often behind the scenes, to support Catholic education: a \$25,000 scholarship — \$5,000 a year for five years — to a needy student at Archbishop Curley Notre Dame High School in Miami, and a nearly \$23,000 contribution to struggling schools in South Florida's inner cities.

The scholarship was a gift from the archdiocese in Msgr. Kelly's name. The nearly \$23,000 was the money collected from archdiocesan schools as a personal gift to Msgr. Kelly.

"On this hand I accept it and love you," he told school principals and archdiocesan officials who gathered for lunch after a Mass in his honor Sept. 15. On the other hand, "I give it to five schools of the inner city that need attention and love too."

The schools also donated dozens of prayer and Mass cards to Msgr. Kelly, something he called "extra

mileage" for the road to heaven.

The soft-spoken Irishman is keeping his day jobs: as supervising principal of St. Thomas Aquinas and Cardinal Gibbons high schools, and pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish in Fort Lauderdale. He is relinquishing a position he did not want when it was given to him in 1975 by Archbishop Coleman Carroll, Miami's first archbishop.

Five years earlier, he had been named supervising principal of St. Thomas Aquinas. When Archbishop Carroll called him into his office to offer him the recently vacated job of superintendent of archdiocesan schools, Msgr. Kelly replied, "That's not my style. I'm comfortable at the high school level but not in the diocesan office."

But Archbishop Carroll, as was his style, did not take "no" for an answer. And he was not above using what Msgr. Kelly described as "extortion" — but the archbishop called "good business" — to get his way.

Noting that Msgr. Kelly was building a football stadium at St. Thomas, without the archbishop's permission, Archbishop Carroll told him, "If you take the job, I'll forget about the stadium."

"Well, I 'voluntarily' accepted

the position, hoping it would not last long. It has lasted a few years," Msgr. Kelly recalled.

He spent many of those years commuting between Fort Lauderdale and Miami, and visiting Catholic schools as far west as Naples, now in the Diocese of Venice, and as far north as Stuart, now in the Diocese of Palm Beach.

"I spent most of my life commuting everywhere," Msgr. Kelly said.

His title underwent some changes throughout those years — from superintendent of schools to vicar of Christian formation — and so did his responsibilities, as the department grew to include religious education, lay ministry and adult faith formation.

His staff also changed "over and over again" throughout those years, and Msgr. Kelly credited them for his success.

"It was the people I worked with who made the challenge palatable. They did the work. I was the front man," he said.

But staff members and school principals disagree with that assessment.

"If St. Jerome is open today, we owe it to Father Kelly," said Sister Vivian Gomez, Sisters of St. Philip Neri, principal at St. Jerome.

She said Msgr. Kelly came to her in 1985, when the school was in financial trouble and had very

few students, and asked her, "Sister, if the sisters will remain, if you stay here, we (the diocese) will pay whatever we need to pay."

"I owe that guy," said Sister Gomez, whose school is in much better shape today. "He has done so much good in such a humble way. The good that he has done for this diocese has been incredible. The growth of the schools has been his vision."

In fact, despite the splitting of the archdiocese from eight counties to three in 1984 and the painful school closings in the past decade, archdiocesan enrollment has remained steady, hovering around 30,000 in the schools and 50,000 in religious education programs.

Msgr. Kelly also started the Archdiocesan Education Foundation, an endowment or trust fund to help guarantee the future of archdiocesan schools, that is now part of the Catholic Community Foundation.

"Endowment has always been a focus of our thinking," he said.

What few may remember is that when Msgr. Kelly was named supervising principal of St. Thomas in 1970, the high school itself was in danger of closing. Enrollment was down to 600 students.

"My contention is always I don't want to be part of a sinking ship. So we build and rebuild," Msgr. Kelly

said. "We were the 'old shelf' but slowly we re-energized."

St. Thomas today is recognized as an academic and athletic powerhouse, and its 2,200-student enrollment makes it the largest Catholic high school in the southeastern United States.

Again, Msgr. Kelly credits his staff and the fact that his office has always been a moveable one: be it at St. Thomas, Gibbons, St. John the Baptist or the Pastoral Center, "we operate out of one collective system," he said.

"It may sound (as if) I did a lot. No. I enlisted the help and participation of all these people at the local level to carry out the expectations," Msgr. Kelly said, crediting especially the pastors for their "rock solid" support.

"They extended themselves to maintain the schools. They rallied their parishioners," he said.

Again, not all would agree completely with the self-effacing monsignor.

"Msgr. Kelly has always been in the background, giving us the light and guide to go forward, sometimes in very difficult times," said Hope Sadowski, executive assistant in the Office of Faith Formation who worked for many years with Msgr. Kelly. "He is a man with a great vision." ■

SCHOLARSHIP HONORS MSGR. KELLY

It will be offered to deserving student at Curley Notre Dame High

MIAMI | Jesús Vasquez was offered a full scholarship to another Catholic high school, but he chose Archbishop Curley Notre Dame, in Miami's Design District. That decision, said the senior, "has changed my outlook on life significantly."

Jesús, a graduate of St. Mary Cathedral School, is the first recipient of the Msgr. Vincent Kelly Scholarship: \$5,000, which will be offered each of five years to a deserving student at Archbishop Curley Notre Dame. The scholarship pays tribute to the priest who headed the archdiocesan department of schools for the past 36 years.

"I never thought it possible that I could be as involved in a school community as I am here," said Jesús, who thanked Msgr. Kelly for the scholarship during the Mass in honor of the latter's retirement from archdiocesewide work.

"I have become a well-rounded individual because of the opportunities I have been able to take advantage of. Going to Curley isn't just going to school every day. It's going to a place where I can feel that I belong to an extremely diverse family. I have been able to develop leadership skills athletically and academically, as well as spiritually

and morally. If I had attended another school, I don't think I would have been as involved as I am here and I wouldn't have been as devoted to what I now love to do. That is why I want to thank you for giving me the chance to come to this school," Jesús said.

Brother Sean Moffett, principal at Curley Notre Dame, described Jesús as a "gifted honors student, effective student leader, very active in promoting spiritual and charitable causes."

His parents, Brother Moffett added, "have very limited means, and recently have experienced added challenges" but "they could not be more generous with their time and their willingness to help."

Jesús' mom, in fact, "is frequently offering coffee and doughnuts (at St. Mary Cathedral) for some cause. I've known her to walk from St. Mary's to ACND just to help with the cleanup for some event," Brother Moffett said.

Msgr. Kelly called the scholarship "payback time," since he received his education from the Christian Brothers, the same religious community whose members now administer Curley Notre Dame.

"It's so wonderful to have the scholarship in my honor for a student there," Msgr. Kelly said. ■

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Moms 'earn while they learn'

Respect Life program offers education as well as material help to women in crisis pregnancies

ANNE DIBERNARDO

Florida Catholic correspondent

MIAMI | Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime. This ancient proverb is the philosophy behind "Earn While You Learn," an enrichment program for pregnant couples offered by the Archdiocese of Miami Respect Life Ministry.

The Earn While You Learn program was developed by pro-life champion Dinah Monahan as a catalyst to make a positive impact on young women who find themselves in a crisis pregnancy. The program is open to new moms and dads, and prepares them to meet and embrace the challenges of having a newborn.

By participating in the program, moms earn "baby bucks" to pur-

FYI

For more information on the Earn While You Learn program, visit www.respectlifemiami.org, email info@RespectLifeMiami.org or call 954-981-2922.

chase new items from the center's "baby boutique" — an in-center store stocked with new or gently used cribs, strollers, and high chairs either donated by benefactors or purchased by the Respect Life Ministry.

"We are not a diaper depot or a revolving door. We are here to enrich somebody's life and you don't necessarily do that by handing things out," said Joan Crown, archdiocesan respect life director.

According to Crown, the Earn While You Learn program was met with resistance by some of the volunteers when it was first introduced. They reasoned, "The people who donate these items don't want us to put any unnecessary burdens on the mothers."

But those concerns quickly faded. Crown said everyone is reacting very positively to the program and it is actually doing wonders for par-

ticipants' self-esteem.

"Unless you've been on the receiving end of a handout, it may be difficult to understand how strong that feeling is — that I'm not worth much because I have to go begging for stuff."

In the past, the Respect Life Ministry would give away items to anyone who came by the pregnancy center. Government agencies and community centers would send women to the respect life pregnancy care centers to pick up "free stuff." Every pregnant woman who comes in still receives a layette, but for the larger items, unless there are extenuating circumstances, it is now a requirement to come to the class and participate in the program.

The goal of Earn While You Learn is to help parents learn to take control of their lives.

"It's not that we don't still give out the used things, but the incentive for the new is to go to the classes and participate in the program," Crown said.

Clients who enter the program are new moms who have either learned about the program when they came in for a pregnancy test, called a respect life hotline, or been



Susana Pando-Taupier holds a baby girl jumpsuit that can be purchased with three "mommy dollars" from the South Dade Pregnancy Care Center. (ANNE DIBERNARDO | FC)

referred by a social worker from a government agency such as the Department of Children and Families.

CURRICULUM

The program, which is also offered in Spanish, consists of nine modules and 45 lessons, and covers the stages from early pregnancy to 12 months after the baby is born. Participants receive a worksheet and are required to complete home-

work before earning "babybucks" or "mommy dollars." Programs are offered at different times, depending on the pregnancy center, and are designed so that women can enter it at any point during their pregnancy and up until the child is 1 year old.

By the end of the program, participants will have learned about pregnancy, postpartum care, the

PLEASE SEE **EARN, 7**

LIFE

FROM 1

program, called Chastity Days, for eighth-graders in the Archdiocese of Miami.

During the Mass, Crown also announced that, "Today, we have hired our first ultrasound technician, and now we will be able to share with the mother a picture of her child very early on in her pregnancy."

Although September 2011 marks

the 30th year of service for the Hollywood Respect Life Office, the entire archdiocesan ministry is about five years older. Because that anniversary was never officially celebrated, Crown took this occasion not only to recognize 30 years of service in the Hollywood office, but also more than 30 years of service in the North Dade and North Broward offices, with the Sunset and Fort Lauderdale ones following closely behind.

In his homily, Father Thomas

O'Dwyer, pastor of Little Flower Parish, praised the volunteers for doing work that has saved many lives.

"The cause of protecting and nurturing human life has and remains your mission. That's why tonight — I know you're all volunteers — but I deem you 'missionaries,'" Father O'Dwyer said. "Yes, missionaries will stand up for Christian values at a time in our world when fundamental Judaic-Christian values are seen as old-fashioned in our day by

so many. As missionaries here in Broward County, you bring about the very justice of God, justice in its most fundamental fashion. And you also raise the consciousness of people like myself — priests — and maybe even some bishops."

Father O'Dwyer cited the work of Dr. Shinya Yamanaka, who is credited with being the first to discover that adult cells can be reprogrammed into behaving as stem cells.

"Dr. Yamanaka was doing research involving embryonic stem cells when one day he looked down a microscope at a single embryo and in his own words he was humbled. It was just a glimpse that changed his scientific career," Father O'Dwyer said. "By using scientific knowledge to discover this new approach to stem-cell research, he brought in many of his colleagues and as a result of this finding, we are told that embryonic stem-cell research soon will be obsolete."

"Now I say to you, if God can use an unprotected embryo to change a human life, he can certainly use us, as he uses you," Father O'Dwyer continued. "Or, I should say, as you allow yourselves to be used by our risen Lord in this great work you do. By seeking holiness and using the gifts and talents God has given us, we are contributing mightily to the kingdom we all love, where there will be no more crying or pain or destruction of innocent life ... certainly no abortion, no euthanasia, no assisted suicide, no deep-freezing of embryos, and no more destruction of human life in the name

of science."

"I stand as a priest before you tonight, and like that doctor, I am humbled by your presence," Father O'Dwyer said, pledging his and his parish's full support for the ministry.

During the celebration, a candle-light ceremony recalled the miracle of God's creation. As each passage was read from the Book of Genesis, a single candle was lit, culminating with the creation of God's masterpiece, the human person. Those who were not allowed to live because of the evil of abortion were then remembered as each candle was extinguished.

Prayers were offered for their souls as well as their parents and for the conversion of all who have fallen for the lie promulgated by the culture of death.

In recognition of their generosity and support of the Respect Life Ministry, Father O'Dwyer and St. Maximilian Kolbe's pastor, Father Jeffrey McCormick, were presented with a beautiful work of art depicting a baby being formed in the hands of a potter.

Titled the "Potter's Masterpiece," the artwork, according to Crown, delivers a subtle pro-life message by asking the question, "Does the clay say to the potter, what are you making?"

During the Mass, the ministry's five prior directors also were remembered in prayer: founding director Father Daniel Kubala, Father James Taggart, Father Daniel Kent, Father Thomas Honold and Father Rivero. ■

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Abortion: Seeing the 'complete picture'

Respect life workshops explore human sexuality as foundation of Church teachings on life

ANNE DIBERNARDO
Florida Catholic correspondent

TAMARAC | Remember 3-D pictures, also known as "stereograms"? Unless they are viewed correctly they seem meaningless, but when the eyes are focused properly — voilà! — a surprising three-dimensional image appears. Once this happens, it is hard to look at the flat picture the same way again.

This analogy could also be applied to the life issues. Without understanding the true meaning of human sexuality, the picture is incomplete. Yet, when it is understood in its proper context, a bigger picture pops out and suddenly everything else make sense.

As Blessed Pope John Paul II said, "We will never be able to emerge from this culture of death if we do not understand the meaning of true human sexuality."

This pillar of truth is the cornerstone of the Respect Life Ministry's workshop curriculum, created by archdiocesan respect life director Joan Crown, and Barbara Groeber, the ministry's director of education.

FIND OUT MORE

- Life workshops are held for a minimum of 25 people at a time, which is why it is important to R.S.V.P. Workshop dates are listed on the Events Calendar of the archdiocesan website, www.miamiarch.org.

- At the end of the day, each participant receives a certificate, which is a requirement for those who wish to work in the Respect Life Ministry.

- Participants are also asked to pray about how God may be calling them to serve the ministry. They may be called to volunteer their time as a counselor at one of the five pregnancy care centers scattered from South Dade to North Broward County, or to join the speaker's bureau, or to help out by seeking donations to the Respect Life Ministry at the parish level.

- For more information on attending a workshop, visit www.respectlifemiami.org, email info@respectlifemiami.org or call 954-981-2922

The workshop is offered roughly once a month in parishes that request it.

"The workshop unveiled what is normally hidden from our day-to-day lives," said Lisa Hudson, who attended an Aug. 20 workshop at St. Malachy Parish in Tamarac. "It served as a re-orientation to the value of life and gave me the ability to recognize the current culture of death that Blessed Pope John Paul II referenced. It was a great opportunity for me to become educated

about the Catholic outreach centers for teens in crisis, and inspired me to seek out a volunteer opportunity."

At least 50 participants left that day with a greater understanding of what the Catholic Church teaches on each of the life issues, and the tools needed to engage others and effectively defend the sanctity of human life at all of its stages.

Later that evening, Hudson told her teenage daughter that if any of her friends find themselves in an unplanned pregnancy, she could help.

"I could not have said that before I went to the workshop," she said.

The workshop is a composite of individual talks on topics including human sexuality, marriage and family, abortion, post-abortion healing, infanticide, euthanasia, in vitro fertilization, stem-cell research and cloning. Each talk is accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation.

Sometimes parishes request speakers on individual subjects. According to Groeber, one of the most popular talks covers human sexuality and building a family life. Although an individual talk can be given on something like euthanasia, it is not as readily evident that

euthanasia — the culture of death — stems from the misuse and misunderstanding of human sexuality.

"To really understand the life issues and to understand why the Church teaches what it does about these issues, you really have to start at the beginning and go full circle, which is why we do it all in a one-day session," Groeber said.

The workshop is divided into several segments and begins with Blessed Pope John Paul II's masterpiece on human sexuality, "Theology of the Body." According to Groeber, this teaching is at the core of all of the other life teachings. Once participants get this, there is a ripple effect, as each of the other teachings becomes clear.

"The neat thing about all of this is that they are really learning that the teachings of the Church are so beautiful," Groeber said. "They are not something that are rigid or unreasonable and don't fit into 2011. (People) see the relevance and they see how when you follow Church teaching that everything starts to make sense.

"Why the Church had to teach this way over here and had to be laying down these foundations regarding value of life and why premarital sex is wrong, all starts to fall

into place. By the time we are giving out information in the middle of the session, not only can they accept it, it really starts to make sense, and you start to see this in people," Groeber continued.

Crown hopes that each participant will have an increased sensitivity to the people who find themselves in a crisis pregnancy as well as the women who did have abortions.

The workshop also address perhaps one of the biggest fears people have when discussing abortion: not knowing what to say.

"People really don't know the issues as well as they think they know them and that is why they get tongue-tied," said Groeber.

During a segment titled "How to Say What You Say," participants learn some basic tips for promoting a healthy dialogue about life issues without turning people off. The ability to always accept people where they are and not come across as dogmatic is very important.

"You want them to see you as someone who is approachable" Groeber said.

Lourdes Hainlin, a parishioner at St. Augustine in Coral Gables who

PLEASE SEE WORKSHOP, 11

EARN

FROM 6

development of the pre-born, the emotional needs and physical care of a newborn, first aid, discipline, bonding, financial matters and sexual integrity.

According to Crown, the sexual integrity component considers the world view of the client who does not attend church and is not living in accordance with Church teaching. Participants are taught not to sell themselves short as they reflect on what it is to have pride, integrity, and self-worth.

"Everyone responds to that kind of language so we try to work with these young girls to dispel the myth that they are not worth as much as God thinks they are worth — a message that society has strongly influenced," Crown said.

According to Susana Pando-Taupier, who volunteers on Saturdays at the South Dade pregnancy care center located on Sunset Drive, if 20 people sign up, about 16 will show up. This is considered a positive turnout. "Sometimes there are logistic difficulties and they are dependent on someone else for a ride."

BONDING

Fathers also have the opportunity to earn "daddy dollars" when they accompany the mother to class, which is an ideal way for them to

connect with the mother and identify with what she is going through. In fact, one off-shoot of this program is the Respect Life Ministry's men's outreach program, Project Joseph, which was developed exclusively for fathers.

"I have found that the Earn While You Learn program has been very positive for our clients and there has been a wonderful response from the dads," Pando-Taupier said.

"What we're finding is that they are bonding through the class; some of the girls are even bringing their mothers," Crown said.

There have even been people who have received assistance who have come back to donate.

Pando-Taupier recalled one couple who stopped by to donate some items and did not want to exchange them for anything else. "The mother even asked for information on how to become a volunteer. She said, 'I don't know if I'd be a good counselor, but I'd like to at least help.'"

"The program has made the clients appreciate more. It's a positive impact and the only way you can make change is through education," Pando-Taupier said.

GOD'S REALITY

"It's funny because most people would say that we're never going to be able to convince them, etc., but people know truth in their heart and they know that what's going on in their life is not working," Crown said. "They know there's got to

be some other way. When we talk about God's plan for the family, that there's a husband and a wife before the child comes — everybody wants that but some people have never seen that in their family. Everybody's either had a divorce, is living with somebody, or has had a child out of wedlock, so to them it's not their reality. But it is God's reality and God's reality is for everybody."

"And so, when you set that up and give them that goal — that this is for them too — they respond positively," Crown continued. "We say, 'Don't let society tell you that just because you're from this ethnicity, or this financial background, that this is for others and not for you.'"

One thing a woman will always receive when she visits a pregnancy care center is someone who will take the time to listen to her needs and genuinely care about her future.

"How would you want your daughter treated?" Crown asked. "Sometimes her support system has failed her — we can be that support system. A lot of times they just want to be heard. They want to know that someone has heard their point of view. It is shocking when you go into a counseling session and the person doesn't want to leave."

"Through that process, once you have bonded with the mother then you can save the child," Crown added. "We have learned over the years from the post-abortive woman who didn't have that." ■

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Computerized education

St. Agatha School does away with textbooks for sixth, seventh and eighth grades

DANNY GONZALEZ
Florida Catholic correspondent

MIAMI | It is quite a sight to walk into a dark classroom shimmering with the glow from 30 laptops, and see the students steeped in the machines' quiet hum.

This is the next generation of teaching, and St. Agatha School is already there. The school has chosen to do away with textbooks and move to e-books for the sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade levels. It is the first school in the archdiocese to dive so deeply into technology.

Maria Glass, St. Agatha's principal, considers the move a natural progression. The school had already installed and made good use of electronic white boards, making the classes far more interactive.

"I see this as a continued advancement of the quality education St. Agatha offers," Glass said, and evidence that archdiocesan schools are setting the bar for the wave of electronic education and its application in the class environment.

In order for students to access their electronic books, each must have their own laptop. On average, the laptops cost an estimated \$299 each, and students will use them for the entirety of their middle school career.

This may seem a bit expensive at first, but over those three years

parents will actually save money compared to the cost of purchasing textbooks. The school subscribes to an online publisher who provides the e-books for the school, and the parents pay a fee to access the material. While most of the work is done on the computer, the school still requires the students to own and use workbooks for the courses.

The students also have moved from having to lug around seven textbooks in backbreaking backpacks to bringing one laptop to class. And since the students own the laptops, they are allowed to bring them home and use them as they please.

While on the school grounds, a secure Wi-Fi connection is provided, with various filters to deter the students from being distracted in class.

With access to the Internet and e-books, class interactivity has soared, Glass said.

For example, if while reading a novel, students come across a historical figure they want to know more about, all they have to do is pause from the reading and research information about that person on a search engine. For those with difficulty reading, the e-books offer an audio option where the text is read to them.

These different features are exactly what Glass said she had in mind for reaching this "video game" generation: Take the interactivity kids love about video



Students in grades six through eight at St. Agatha School are no longer using textbooks. All their class lessons are on e-books so all they have to carry around are their laptops. (DANNY GONZALEZ | FC)

games, and apply it to education.

Students said they love having their own laptops. Eighth-grader Charles Damon II said, "It has made studying and taking notes much easier."

The students also commented on how much lighter their book bags are.

Teachers have embraced this change with open arms, encouraging their students to use the tools they literally have at their fingertips.

Parents are the ones who seem to have mixed feelings about the change. One recurring fear is that

their children will never develop a love of books, but Glass said St. Agatha reinforces the value of physical books in the required reading programs.

Parents also share a fear about the Internet. While the laptops provide a world of positive uses, the Internet can be a dangerous place for children.

"My child has gone from only using the family desktop in the living room to using the laptop in the bedroom," said Amarillys

Perez.

To alleviate those fears, the school provides workshops on the dangers that lurk within the Internet and what parents can do to avoid them.

Despite the new worries, parents overall say they are excited to see their kids as a part of this new frontier.

"It's great to see our kids learning skills they're going to use for the rest of their lives," said Jorge Perez. ■

NEWSbrief

New leader named for development

MIAMI | The Archdiocese of Miami has named Katie Blanco Crocquet as president of its development corporation, effective Oct. 19.

In her role as president of the Archdiocese of Miami Development Corp., which includes all phases of development, fundraising, stewardship programs, major gifts and planned giving, Blanco Crocquet will invite major donors and prospective contributors to support the mission of the Catholic Church. She will also collaborate with Archbishop Thomas Wenski, pastors, administrators and institutional leaders to assist with capital campaigns, special events and direct appeal efforts.

"In the past, the generosity of

our people has fueled the growth of the Church here in South Florida with its many helping ministries. Ms. Blanco Crocquet will help us to continue to grow as good stewards of the many gifts the Lord has given us, and so to build a future of hope here in South Florida," said Archbishop Wenski.

Blanco Crocquet, who attends St. Louis Parish in Pinecrest with her family, was most recently the senior development director of the Citizens Board and Corporate Relations for the University of Miami. She received her Juris Doctorate degree from Nova Southeastern University's Shepard Broad Law Center and her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Miami.

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Blessed Sacrament reaches golden milestone

With Mass, symbol-filled procession, parishioners mark their 50th anniversary

JONATHAN MARTINEZ
Florida Catholic correspondent

FORT LAUDERDALE | Blessed Sacrament Parish, rich in diversity and stewardship, celebrated a monumental milestone Sept. 25, its golden jubilee.

The Mass commemorating its 50th anniversary began with a grand procession led by the choir and followed by parishioners carrying symbols pertaining to the parish, its faith and history.

The symbols included the flags of the United States and of the Holy See, and a commemorative book produced by parishioners which contains the parish's history as well as good wishes for its future.

"This community cares about each other, whether it be going to nursing homes or simply helping each other. It's the people who make this parish so special," said Mary Hardy, co-chairwoman of the

50th anniversary celebration and parishioner at Blessed Sacrament for the past 40 years.

Parishioners brought in Bibles that are distributed each year to the needy, and a funeral garment that covers the casket was presented in memory of all the parish members who have died over the past 50 years.

"I was so moved by the celebration," said Gloria Mazzurco, a parishioner for the past 16 years. "I've been a parishioner here for a long time, both my sons have been baptized here, and my daughter had her first Communion and her confirmation here as well. My daughter passed away in a car accident when she was 15, so I also had her funeral Mass here. This place is so special to me, I love this parish. It's like home to us."

A baptismal garment was presented to symbolize all who have yet to be born and who will continue in the faith as members of the parish. The original chalice used in the parish was also part of the procession as a symbol of the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

"There is no place like home. Blessed Sacrament is always home to me," said Msgr. Michael Soucar, who was baptized in the parish. "I think the parish has a bright future. This parish is relatively small and



Archbishop Thomas Wenski, left, celebrates Mass Sept. 25 to mark the 50th anniversary of Blessed Sacrament Parish in Fort Lauderdale. Next to him is Father Robert Tywoniak, Blessed Sacrament's pastor. (JONATHAN MARTINEZ | FC)

that helps people have a greater sense of community, a greater sense of knowing one another."

Founding members of the parish, clergy who have served there throughout its five decades, and Archbishop Thomas Wenski completed the procession.

"We are more than pleased that our archbishop may fulfill his role as our shepherd here on earth by being with us today and presiding in this celebration," said Father Robert Tywoniak, Blessed Sacrament's pastor. "He is our pastor and this is his parish. May the Lord bless

Archbishop Wenski who came from among us, a native of our archdiocese."

Spearheaded by Bishop Coleman Carroll in 1960, Blessed Sacrament began life as a mission of St. Pius X

PLEASE SEE **BLESSED**, 12

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No matter what, the CHURCH is THE

A mission trip to Haiti yields long wish list, plenty of gratitude and a chance to 'meet the face of Christ'

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO
of the Florida Catholic staff

PORT-DE-PAIX, HAITI | The teachers greet us wearing ties and long-sleeved shirts, well-pressed pants and, in the case of the principal in Nan Palan, a suit.

They, too, have walked up the muddy hillside or trudged through dusty streets in the heat and humidity to get to their

schools. Yet their dress shoes are clean and their faces are not wet with sweat. Their students' uniforms are just as clean and pressed, the girls' hair perfectly pinned with colorful bows.

The mud of a rain-soaked hillside doesn't seem to stick even when a Montfortian priest and a Little Sister of St. Therese get out of our four-wheel-drive vehicle to try to extricate it from a particularly deep patch of sludge.

It is an interesting contrast that matches perfectly my experiences during an Oct. 3-8 visit with the lay missionary group *Amor en Accion* (Love in Action) to Miami's sister diocese of Port-de-Paix, Haiti — a place of heartbreaking need and uplifting dignity.

It takes less than two hours by air to travel from Miami to the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere — First World to Third World in less time than it takes to travel across the U.S.

Like much of Haiti, Port-de-Paix is a place where electricity and running water are inconstant, and potable water is a rarity. It is a place of organ-jostling, bone-jarring drives up and down mountains and through towns whose streets are paved with sand and rocks. It is a place where rain makes river roads impassable and the slightest storm can wash away whole communities. It is a place of cracked walls, rusting supports, dirt floors and heat-trapping zinc roofs where cruise ships pass oblivious, lit up like stars, with their own private generators and water desalination plants onboard.

It is also a place where an explosion of color sets off a school amid the drab grey of a dusty slum; a place where the cathedral's bells, rung by hand, call people to daily Mass at 5 a.m.; where children sing and dance in endless shows of gratitude; where priests and religious, both native and foreign, cel-

brate the sacraments and teach the faith while willingly sharing in the misery of their people.

That constant presence of the Church — my Church — in the most remote of places, under the most difficult of circumstances, struck me as I attended Mass in the leaky-roofed, rock-floored chapel of Moulin.

It took about an hour to get up there from Decostiere, where Montfortian Father Louis Marie Montfort has his main church and school. Because of the distances involved and the terrible condition of the roads, his parish, like most others in Port-de-Paix, encompasses a scattering of chapels and schools located throughout the mountainside.

In his case, there are three chapels with accompanying schools. Two of them, Moulin and Pewou, have had a sister-school relationship with Msgr. Edward Pace High School in Miami Gardens for more than 20 years.

Andres Novela, director of campus ministry at Pace, was making his second trek to Haiti in as many years, bringing with him nearly 600 individual packets of school supplies, dozens of goody bags for the teachers, nearly 1,000 lollipops for the children, and countless tubes of toothpaste and toothbrushes for everybody.

Pace raises nearly \$20,000 a year for *Amor en Accion*, which coordinates the sister-school program that 16 archdioc-

esan schools and p... and which benefits... the Port-de-Paix reg... to supplement tea... for nutritional prog... building repairs.

Novela admits h... with mission work... born students is te... and he plans to retur... sister schools as ofte...

"Without the sup... stration we couldn... la, noting that a sig... Pace's student bod... scent. "They see the... forming communit... people," Novela t... Bishop Pierre-Antoi... Missionary, during... ing in his office.

While in Haiti, t... group, consisting o... tive director and n... rector of the Miami... sion Office, Teresita... *Accion* associate di... zurique; Novela and...

- visited sister s... (part of the parish in... Desgranges and Dec...
- toured Nan Pa... center in the city of... school for 50 and n... the first to be built... *Accion* when the sist...



Children in Perou, Haiti, listen attentively as their principal speaks to visitors from Miami, including members of *Amor en Accion* and a representative of Msgr. Edward Pace High School. (PHOTOS BY ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO | FC)

Making water safe to drink

Gadyen Dlo project uses salt-based chlorine generation to purify families' water supply

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO
of the Florida Catholic staff

GROS MORNE, Haiti | Long before a cholera epidemic broke out last October, Haiti had a water problem.

Sister Jacqueline Picard, a nurse and member of the Religious of Jesus and Mary who has worked in Haiti for 14 years, puts it bluntly: "There is no clean water source in all of Haiti."

Wells are contaminated, and rainwater collected in cisterns is not fit to drink. Bottled water is available but the price is too steep for most. The majority of Haiti's people, living in rural communities and isolated mountainsides, use river water for bathing, cooking and cleaning, and often for drinking.

So six years ago, Sister Jackie, as she is known, and Father Wilner Donecia, a local Montfortian priest, spearheaded a project to help Haitians turn dirty water into clean, potable water.

Gadyen Dlo (Guardian of the Water) uses rock salt, cactus and an electrical reaction to chlorinate water. It is the same salt-based chlorine generation process that is used for swimming pools in the U.S.

Those who join the Gadyen Dlo program pay 100 Haitian Gourdes — the equivalent

of \$2.50 — for a kit containing an 8-ounce flacon of treatment solution and a 5-gallon bucket of water with a spigot. They are taught to use a capful of the solution to purify each 5-gallon bucket. The flacon contains enough solution to purify 25 water buckets.

"The family is probably going to go through 25 buckets in three days," explained Steve Widelski, a lay missionary with the Religious of Jesus and Mary who works at the Gadyen Dlo facility in Gros Morne, a city in northwest Haiti about three hours by car from Port-au-Prince.

The water is not only used for drinking, Widelski said. "Because it's clean, they can wash their vegetables. They can wash their hands."

Refilling the flacon costs the U.S. equivalent of 25 cents.

The program started with about 300 families, and 4,000 are currently enrolled. But the population of Gros Morne is about 30,000 people, and 100,000 more are scattered in 20 surrounding villages.

Gadyen Dlo is recruiting what they call "supervisors" to take the flacons — and the knowledge of how to use them — to their villages, giving them a small discount on their purchase in return.

"It's kind of like a gratuity for helping us

out, keeping the people interested," said Widelski, whose work also involves traveling with the supervisors to the different communities and spot-checking the water to make sure the families using the process are doing so properly.

"This is probably the cheapest, best way to do it," Widelski said of the Gadyen Dlo method of water purification.

Using a generator donated by Catholic Relief Services and a chlorinator purchased by the Miami-based lay missionary group *Amor en Accion* (Love in Action), the facility can produce 15 gallons of the treatment solution in about four hours. It is currently making about 80 gallons per month.

Education is a key ingredient of the Gadyen Dlo program. Saintanise Jean, the office technician, routinely gathers with groups of about 50 in local communities to teach them how to use the method — and warn them about the dangers of using untreated water for drinking or cleaning.

Despite a billboard campaign that reminds Haitians that "clear water is not clean water," Jean said most of the people she meets with think that river water is safe to drink.

"They get sick but they don't know what made them sick," she said.



"A lot of our cholera money has come here," said Teresita Gonzalez, director of *Amor en Accion*. "It's also an interesting community-organizing thing. It allows them to gather. They ask questions, get information."

But Gadyen Dlo is still too expensive for many Haitians. And after the cholera outbreak, a number of organizations went around the country distributing Aquatabs — water purification tablets — for free.

The problem with Aquatabs is that the water does not taste the same, and it has no shelf life.

"You make Aquatabs solution in the morning and you have to throw it out the next day," Widelski said. Water made with the Gadyen

Dlo solution... Widelski... problem w... the test de... out that bo... water turn... water mak... suring sig...

"That's... Widelski... "The su... When the... said Gonz... foreign pe... thing. We... here." ■

ERE

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upport of the admin- 't do it," said Nove- nificant portion of y is of Haitian de- ir responsibility as y with the Haitian old Port-de-Paix's ne Paulo, an Oblate a late-evening meet-

he *Amor en Accion* f the group's execu- ewly appointed di- Archdiocese's Mis- Gonzalez; *Amor en* rector Monica Lau- myself:

chools in Guichard (St. Louis Du Nord), costiere;

lan, the community Port-de-Paix turned ow 300, which was in Haiti by *Amor en* ter-diocese relation-



Semilfort Jean-Clair, left, president of the COCANO coffee cooperative, holds up a bottle with the sweet solution that lures male escolite bugs to the bottle and traps them there, preventing reproduction with the female from taking place. At right is Father Nesly Jean-Jacques, pastor of the parish of St. Louis du Nord, of which Guichard is a chapel. See story online at www.miamiarch.org.

ship began in 1980;

- saw a Caritas-funded terracing project in action, aimed at slowing water runoff from the hillsides in Guichard;

- learned about a project that provides Haitians with clean water in Gros Morne;

- and met with farmers who are members of the COCANO coffee-growing cooperative as well as the seven-member team that supervises the 50 schools in the Port-de-Paix Diocese.

"To have a new society you need to transform the schools. You need to transform the teachers. You need to transform the community," said Marie Louise-Sylvestre, a dedicated woman

who serves as superintendent of schools for the Port-de-Paix Diocese.

With the help of *Amor en Accion*, her office reopened last year after closing in 2007 for lack of funding. She and her supervisors have spent the past year visiting the far-flung schools, holding training sessions for the teachers and writing educational materials to help them do their jobs better.

Of course, if the supervisors had motorbikes, it would be easier for them to get to the schools, to which many of them now travel on foot, walking for hours up and down treacherous terrain. Another thing to add to the wish list, Lauzurique said.



Montfortian Father Louis Marie Montfort preaches the homily to the school children of Moulin during a mission trip taken by *Amor en Accion* and a representative of Msgr. Edward Pace High School, Miami, to the Archdiocese of Miami's sister diocese of Port-de-Paix, Haiti, Oct. 3-8.

That and money to add structural supports to the chapel and school in Perou; school benches for the 600 primary and secondary students in Desgranges who currently must bring their own chairs to class each day; repairs to the house of the priest there, who now shares his electricity-deprived room with the neighborhood mice; a new roof and a concrete floor for the chapel in Moulin; and a laptop for the legendary 88-year-old Montfortian priest, Father Boniface Fils-Aime, who nurtured and guided the relationship with *Amor en Accion* from the beginning and still wants to communicate with friends outside of Haiti.

The wish list grew with each meeting,

meetings during which the Miami delegation, speaking broken Kreyol, managed to understand the Haitian natives, speaking broken English.

But along with the wish list grew the gratitude, the celebrations, the singing and the dancing, the promises to pray for the people in Miami who dole out small measures of hope to those in Haiti.

"I continue to pray to God for you because you help us. You help the community," said François Lukman, a 20-year-old teacher in Guichard, speaking fairly good English. "We don't have nothing to give you. It's a message. You make im-

PLEASE SEE HAITI, 12



With office technician Saintanise Jean at this side, lay missionary Steve Widelsi of the Religious of Jesus and Mary explains how water is purified via the Gadyen Dlo process.

on lasts three days.

ki's testing kit also highlights a with Aquatab-treated water. Since detects excess chlorine, he can point both Aquatab-treated and untreated up clear when tested. Gadyen Dlo es the test kit turns yellow, a reason that the water has been purified. s almost an educational tool," aid of the test kits.

sustainability of it is very important. Aquatabs run out, what happens?" alez. "We depended too much on people coming in and doing some- need a solution that we can make

Powered by the sun

Solar panels power mission house in Gros Morne, planned for cathedral in Port-de-Paix

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO
of the Florida Catholic staff

GROS MORNE, Haiti | In the shadow of this "big mountain" sits an oasis — a rustic one but an oasis nevertheless where electricity is constant and even Wi-Fi is available.

Kay Jezi Mari (Jesus and Mary House) is the home of two members of the Religious of Jesus and Mary who have ministered in this part of northwest Haiti for more than a decade: Sister Jacqueline Picard and Sister Patricia Dillon.

It is also home to teams of volunteers and lay missionaries who stay for a few days, a month or a year at a time while working at the nearby hospital, the Gadyen Dlo water purification program, the reforestation initiative or educational outreach.

At Kay Jezi Mari, unlike many other places in Haiti, the faucets function, the bathrooms flush and fans take the edge off the heat at night. The secret is solar power: Several large panels located on the roof of the house provide enough electricity to run computers and food freezers.

It won't work everywhere in Haiti, said Teresita Gonzalez, director of the Miami-based lay missionary group *Amor en Accion* (Love in Action), because the solar panels tend to get stolen. But if they can be installed in a guarded place, they will make a difference in people's lives.

Through its Global Solidarity Partnership — and



Solar panels provide a steady source of electricity for the residents of Key Jezi Mari (House of Jesus and Mary), run by the Religious of Jesus and Mary, in Gros Morne.

thanks to a two-year, \$150,000 grant from the Jessie Ball DuPont Foundation — St. Thomas University is planning to install solar panels on the rooftop of the cathedral of Port-de-Paix, Miami's sister diocese. Students and a physical science professor from the university currently are working to retrofit the electrical system at the cathedral to allow it to run on solar energy.

"It is not only the cathedral of the area, but also a community center and the hub of local life; it is where people gather and where meetings happen or (they) seek shelter from hurricanes," said Anthony Vinciguerra, coordinator of St. Thomas University's Center for Justice and Peace. "Having electricity that is consistent and free is a big deal." ■

HAITI: Spirits, faiths alive in island nation

FROM 11

portant work for us.”

“*Merci pour accompagnement* (thank you for the companionship). God bless you,” said Father Emile Chepa, the priest responsible for nine chapels and 12 schools in the parish of Desgranges.

“It’s a difficult but interesting mission for me. Because there is such a big need. My presence here is very important,” added the priest, who must walk 10 hours to visit the most outlying chapel in his parish.

When Father Montfort visits the chapel in Moulin to celebrate Mass, he stays for the day. When he visits to celebrate the sacraments — such as baptism and first Communion — he stays three to four days, and sleeps in the school. When it rains, getting up or down the mountain — even in a four-wheel-drive truck — can become impossible.

It rained the afternoon we visited Moulin, so the trek back down from Decostiere to Gros Morne took over two hours in risky darkness. The truck, with seven people inside and four more hanging on in the cab, got stuck twice in the mud.

“It’s the worst you get here,” said Gonzalez, referring to the road.

But things have improved in Haiti, she said, especially in the

past year. “It used to be between four and five hours (to get from the capital, Port-au-Prince, to Gros Morne). Now it’s taking us about three, so that’s progress. There’s a lot more paved (road) than I remember from last year.”

She noted that the Catholic Church is the “single largest welfare dispenser” in Haiti, and “it does so with an enormous care for the human person.”

“The presence is incredible. There’s no other organization on the planet that can do that in such a systematic way,” Gonzalez said.

But why go to Haiti, when the money and the support can simply be wired or shipped?

“Something happens when you meet people and you look them in the eye. You understand better. You no longer assume,” Gonzalez said, in essence describing the more profound relationship at the heart of mission work. It is not about solving every problem or curing every ill. It is about sharing and relationships.

“There’s a gripping of your heart and not just because you feel sorry for people. You don’t understand how people have the incredible strength to persevere against such odds. You feel so little. You come back wanting to share,” Gonzalez said. “Something happens that hopefully isn’t the end, but the beginning of a personal transformation. There’s no doubt that you meet the face of Christ.” ■



Above, Teresita Gonzalez, director of *Amor en Accion*, and Father Leonvil Canois, rector of the cathedral of Port-de-Paix, pose for a picture in front of a colorful map of Haiti in the school of Nan Palan.



At left is a view of the rotundas that are being added to the cathedral of Port-de-Paix. *Florida Catholic* bureau editor Ana Rodriguez-Soto traveled with the mission group *Amor en Accion* and a representative of Msgr. Edward Pace High School to the Archdiocese of Miami’s sister diocese of Port-de-Paix, Haiti, Oct. 3-8. (PHOTOS BY ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO | FC)

BLESSED

FROM 9

Parish in Fort Lauderdale. Just 10 months later, it was elevated to a parish. In three years, parishioners had raised enough funds to construct their church, which Bishop Carroll blessed and dedicated on Dec. 7, 1963.

“For 50 years, this parish has welcomed God’s pilgrim people,”

said Archbishop Wenski during the homily. “Over the years, many have come and gone — and today we lift up in prayer your former pastors and those pioneers who are still with us, and pray also for those who were here at the beginning and have already gone home to the Lord.”

Twenty-seven priests have served the parish in 50 years and throughout that time the community has seen steady growth.

In 1968, the rectory and parish

center were constructed; in 1977, the bell tower was erected; in 1978, 550 parishioners began the Right to Life Committee, and in 1982, the mortgage was paid in full.

Renovations to both the church and parish hall took place between 1995 and 1996. In 2000, the parish

responded to the needs of the community and built the St. Francis of Assisi Enrichment Center to house religious education classes, as well as training and educational programs for adults.

“In the last two years the parish has grown so much. There are lots

of families, a good mix of young people, older people,” said Kevin Lawson, one of the parishioners who helped produce the keepsake book. “All are welcomed to this parish. There is a welcoming feeling when you walk in.” ■



A commemorative keepsake book, Bibles, a funeral garment, a baptismal garment and the original chalice of the parish are displayed during the Mass celebrating the 50th anniversary of Blessed Sacrament Parish. (PHOTOS BY JONATHAN MARTINEZ | FC)



Parishioners sing during Blessed Sacrament Parish’s golden jubilee Mass. Archbishop Thomas Wenski celebrated the Mass Sept. 25 to mark the 50th anniversary of the parish in Fort Lauderdale.

'The little parish that can'

Small in size but strong in spirit, St. Jerome concludes its 50th anniversary celebration

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO
Florida Catholic staff

FORT LAUDERDALE | For 50 years, St. Jerome has been, to paraphrase the words of one parishioner, "the little parish that can."

Made up of only 600 families, it supports a PreK3 through eighth-grade school with an enrollment of 351 — a school that, despite the current economic difficulties, has never had so many students; a school that recently underwent a technological transformation that has put state-of-the-art Promethean boards in every classroom; a school whose seventh-graders take advanced algebra classes at St. Thomas Aquinas High School.

During a Mass Sept. 30 — the feast of St. Jerome — marking the conclusion of a yearlong golden jubilee celebration, Archbishop Thomas Wenski reminded parishioners that St. Jerome's "largest ministry is its excellent school."

The parish itself, nestled just north of Fort Lauderdale's airport, is an inviting community, made up of about a dozen founding families with Old World surnames along with a large number of Hispanics, and more recently Chinese and Indian Catholics, who celebrate Mass there on a regular basis.

"It was a small parish when it started," said a member of one of those founding families, Shirley Bawidamann. "This has been a family from the beginning."

Her father was St. Jerome's first custodian, and all of her children and grandchildren attended St. Jerome School. She remembers that Masses were celebrated initially at Rogers Middle School nearby. Her husband, Tony, helped the founding pastor, Father Raymond Scully, put the corpus (Jesus' body) on the crucifix of the main altar on Christmas Eve 1961.

"The miracle is every priest fell in love with that cross," said Tony Bawidamann, pointing to the crucifix that remains the centerpiece of St. Jerome's sanctuary, despite 50 years' worth of changing pastors, including two in the past year alone.

Perhaps the little parish has accomplished so much because of Father Scully's prayers to St. Jude, the saint of impossible causes. He needed a religious community to staff St. Jerome School, which opened 10 months after the parish, in September 1961.



Father Michael Grady, St. Jerome administrator, addresses the congregation at the end of Mass Sept. 30, the feast of St. Jerome. The Mass marked the end of the yearlong 50th-anniversary celebration of the parish and school. (PHOTOS BY ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO | FC)

'It was a small parish when it started. This has been a family from the beginning.'

— **Shirley Bawidamann**

At the same time, the Sisters of St. Philip Neri were being expelled from Cuba. Half of that group wound up at St. Jerome, and they have stayed there ever since. Sister Vivian Gomez, the school's principal, was a member of that original group of religious.

"The spirituality of St. Philip Neri lives at St. Jerome," she said, and she pointed to a couple of things to prove it: the connection between St. Jerome, who died in the fifth century and whose house became a church in Rome, and St. Philip Neri, who 10 centuries later was ordained and sent to that church, where he founded his oratory.

Then there is the stained-glass window at the front of St. Jerome Church, the one that was there long before her religious community arrived. On that particular window are three stars, which have long symbolized St. Philip Neri.

"You can't tell me that there's not a divine plan," Sister Gomez said.

Among St. Jerome's new parishioners is Bill Duffenbaugh, who became a Catholic last Easter as a result of his experiences at the parish.

"I came on a Sunday and I found a home here," he said, explaining that having a son caused him to realize that "there are more important things in life

than me."

"It's a fantastic church. I love this place," Duffenbaugh added.

"St. Jerome has always been a very nurturing facility," said Andrew Ociecka, the parishioner who has spearheaded the technological transformation of the school. "We don't want to expand because it will lose the charm. It will lose the individuality."

But smallness does not mean inferior quality or facilities, said Ociecka, a businessman whose daughter graduated from St. Jerome last year and whose son still attends there.

"A teacher can only be as good as the environment that you provide them with," he said. "My philosophy is 'Field of Dreams: If you build it, they will come.' I call this 'the little school that could.'"

"It's the people who make this place," said Father Michael Grady, who was named administrator of the parish in June. "And the dedication of the Sisters of St. Philip Neri has been incredible."

Father Grady took over from Father Michael Davis, now pastor of Little Flower Parish in Coral Gables, who kicked off the 50th anniversary celebration last November.

"I'm the other Michael," Father Grady joked.

He described the parish as "working Joes" who sacrifice to get things done in the church, and especially to support the school.

"It's something that they want. If people take ownership of something, they can do amazing things. That's what's happening in this parish," Father Grady said.

And he predicted, "We're not done. The next 50 years are going to be even better than the first." ■



Sister Ana Maria Campos, 101, a Sister of St. Philip Neri, hugs 15-month-old Antonnella Giraldo after Mass.



Archbishop Thomas Wenski consecrates the Eucharist during a Mass Sept. 30, the feast of St. Jerome, which marked the end of the yearlong 50th-anniversary celebration of St. Jerome Parish and School.

WORKSHOP

FROM 7

attended the workshop at St. Malachy with her three daughters, said, "It motivated me to follow what I already believe and equipped me with more facts. Now I would like to learn more."

Hudson said it was good to learn about how anti-life movements are using verbal engineering — extremely technical language — to confuse people and cause them to accept something that they would normally reject.

Cloning, for example, is often referred to as "somatic cell nuclear transfer" or "derivation of pluripotent cells."

During the abortion segment, participants are cautioned prior to viewing graphic images of aborted babies.

But they are also encouraged to visit the Priests for Life website to view pictures and verify their authenticity.

Immediately after the workshop, 16-year-old Isabella Hainlin did so. She said that although the images were shocking, she felt it was necessary to see the pictures.

"I've been learning about this for years but I have never seen the pictures — people need to see the pictures," she said.

Her mother translated a Spanish saying, "Eyes that don't see, heart that doesn't feel," adding that it is necessary for people to see what abortion is.

Hainlin's 14-year-old daughter, Gabriella, said she was "ap-



Barbara Groeber, respect life director of education, speaks about love during a life workshop held in August. (ANNE DIBERNARDO | FC)

palled at the evil in the world and that these lives could be taken — in the most evil possible way that would not even be inflicted upon the most evil adults in the world — before they even have a chance to flourish and thrive in the world and make it better."

"This is a marvelous turnout today on a Saturday," said Father Dominick O'Dwyer, St. Malachy's pastor and a staunch pro-life leader. "And I think it is indicative of the change of heart that people are having and the understanding that this is a serious problem, one that has to be addressed sooner or later."

"People are beginning to realize that it is time to get involved and be informed, and to be able to talk about it and mention it to friends and neighbors," he continued. "It is necessary to evaluate judges and candidates who are running for office on this moral issue. If we don't have life we don't have anything." ■

LUMEN CHRISTI



Sister Marie Schramko poses with Paul Ott, her former student, fellow teacher and now principal of Cardinal Gibbons High School. The Catholic Educators Guild honored Sister Schramko, Franciscans of Mary Immaculate, with the Lumen Christi (Light of Christ) award in recognition of her 75 years of ministry as a religious in the field of education, including the past 50 at Cardinal Gibbons in Fort Lauderdale. See story at www.miamiarch.org (GAIL BULFIN | FC)

St. Anthony Parish to mark 90th

St. Anthony Parish will mark its 90th anniversary, and St. Anthony School its 85th, with a sunset garden cocktail party on Saturday, Nov. 5, from 6 to 8 p.m., following the 5 p.m. Mass. The event will be held on the school's newly renovated playground, with the

presence of current and former parishioners and students.

St. Anthony, located at 901 N.E. Second St., is the oldest parish and oldest school in Broward County. It was dedicated in December 1921, when Fort Lauderdale had 2,000 residents and approximately 65 Catholic families.

Tickets to the cocktail party celebration are \$40 and may be obtained by calling Sharon Murrah at 954-467-9009.

Knights honor Sister Ceccotti

The Knights of Columbus Marian Council 3757 in North Miami will honor Sister Lucia Ceccotti, a member of the Sisters of St. Joseph Benedict Cottolengo, and long-time director of the Marian Center school for the developmentally disabled. The celebration in her honor will take place Sunday, Nov. 13, beginning at 7 p.m. at the grand ballroom of the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in Hollywood. Tickets are \$100 per person, and the proceeds will go toward the support of the Marian Center. For tickets, call Dick Cumberland at 305-978-0091 or email kofc3757@gmail.com.

Christ the King celebrates 50 years

Christ the King Parish will celebrate its 50th anniversary with a trilingual Mass celebrated by Archbishop Thomas Wenski on Nov. 20 at 10 a.m.

Christ the King, located at 16000 S.W. 112 Ave. in Perrine, was originally established to serve the predominantly black parishioners of the Richmond Heights neighborhood. During its 50-year history, the parish has served a diverse community of more than 40 nationalities. Today, Christ the King is the only parish in the Archdiocese of Miami celebrating weekly Masses in English, Spanish, French and Creole.

For more information on the 50th anniversary celebration, call Jerry Nagee at 305-505-5573.



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ST. THOMAS

FROM 1

The tower is located on the northwest corner of the campus, facing the expressway at Northwest 164th Street and 37th Avenue.

"It took a while, but it coincided with the beginning of our 50th anniversary year," Msgr. Casale said. "With our tower we're reaching up to God and we're marking the place where God is made known through wisdom and education."

Archbishop Thomas Wenski blessed the tower after celebrating Mass at the campus' St. Anthony Chapel, which was filled to standing room only with students, faculty and benefactors, including representatives of the architectural and construction firms who worked on the tower.

"We finally made it a reality," said Carlos Huembes of the architectural firm Villa and Associates, who had been tweaking drawings for the tower for the past 11 years.

"We've been designing it and trying to find someone to put the team together to build the tower," Huem-



St. Thomas University cheerleader Liannys Morgan, right, a junior, and senior Noralis Lambert hand out programs to those attending the 50th anniversary Mass celebrated by Archbishop Thomas Wenski Sept. 21. The Mass kicked off the new school year as well as the school's 50th anniversary celebration. (PHOTOS BY ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO | FC)

bes said.

The team came together thanks to the father-son duo of Guillermo García-Tuñón and Manny García-Tuñón of LeMartec Engineering and Construction. Both firms have worked on other facilities for St.

Thomas, including the Fernandez Health and Wellness Center and Villanova Hall, a student dormitory.

"We wanted to do it in time for the jubilee," Huembes said of the tower.

During the Mass, which invoked the Holy Spirit on the just-begun academic year, the officers of student clubs and members of athletic teams continued an annual tradition by pledging to serve the university community and represent it with integrity at all sporting events.

Msgr. Casale called it a "Mass of gratitude for the past 50 years and the blessing of the time as we look forward to the next 50 years."

St. Thomas University was founded in 1961 by Augustinian Friars who had been expelled from Cuba after the communist government shut down the Universidad de Santo Tomás de Villanueva, the school they had founded in Havana

'It took a while, but it coincided with the beginning of our 50th anniversary year. With our tower we're reaching up to God and we're marking the place where God is made known through wisdom and education.'

Msgr. Franklyn Casale

in 1946.

The institution, located in Miami Gardens and originally known as Biscayne College, has grown from a small, all-men's college to a coed university of more than 4,000 students which now houses Biscayne College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; a School of Business; a School of Law; a School of Leadership Studies; a School of Science, Technology and Engineering Management; and a School of Theology and Ministry.

The school changed its name in 1984 to St. Thomas University in order to acknowledge its Cuban roots. In 1988, when the Archdiocese of Miami took over its sponsorship from the Augustinians, the school became the only archdiocese-sponsored university in the state of Florida.

The *Princeton Review's* 2011 edition of "The Best 172 Law Schools" ranks St. Thomas third in the nation for best atmosphere for minority students and in the top four in the nation for best quality of student life. The school also offers extensive clinical and internship opportu-

FYI

Following are some of the special events planned to mark the 50th anniversary of St. Thomas University, 16401 N.W. 37 Ave., Miami Gardens. All alumni, friends, benefactors and potential students are invited to attend. For information, call the Alumni Office at 305-474-6857, or the Office of Public Relations at 305-474-6880.

- Nov. 4, 7 p.m., men's basketball game vs. Barry University, with alumni reception from 6:30 to 9 p.m.
- Nov. 5, 1-5 p.m., "Fiesta Villanova," with women's volleyball game at 2 p.m. and vigil Mass at 5 p.m.
- Nov. 6, 6 p.m., stone crab dinner.
- Nov. 15: academic convocation with guest speaker Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia.
- April 21, 2012, 50th anniversary celebration gala.
- April 27, 2012, 50th anniversary golf tournament.

nities, including Florida Supreme Court and United Nations internship programs.

As Archbishop Wenski said in his homily during the anniversary Mass, "The history of this school mirrors the history of many of its students, many of whom are also 'transplants' from other nations and cultures. St. Thomas University has been 'good soil' for these 'transplants,' for, because of the education they received at St. Thomas, our students have not only grown, they have flourished. And we see the fruits in the many positive contributions our alumni are making to the communities in which they live." ■



Msgr. Franklyn Casale, St. Thomas University president, distributes rings to student leaders as a sign of their commitment to serve the university community.

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THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA

Regional (South Florida) Admissions Representative

Position Summary: The Office of Undergraduate Admissions at The Catholic University of America, a four-year private university in Washington, D.C., is seeking a part-time Regional Admissions Representative based in South Florida to coordinate the university's undergraduate recruitment, including Hispanic recruitment, efforts in the entire state of Florida, as well as Puerto Rico. Because of the special focus of this position, the selected candidate must be fluent in Spanish.

Essential Responsibilities: Conducting interviews with prospective students/applicants, representing CUA at various high school, college, and national fairs, visiting high schools throughout the region, and meeting with high school guidance counselors and advisers. Representative will also generate and follow through with all inquiries from prospective students and maintain contact with students to generate applications. Also included will be performing other duties/projects as assigned by the dean of admissions. Travel will be required, with some weekends and extended hours. This is a 12-month contract.

Minimum Qualifications: Bachelor's Degree. Bilingual English/Spanish – written and verbal. Some experience in recruitment, admissions, or high school college counseling is advantageous. Must possess excellent communication and customer service skills, be able to work independently with general administrative direction. Valid driver's license required. Job-related expenses are reimbursed. For immediate consideration, please forward résumé and cover letter by Oct. 31 – Attention Christine Mica, mica@cua.edu. No phone calls please. This is a non-benefits-eligible position.

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'New beginning' for St. Philip Neri

Historic African-American church reopens after closing in 2009

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO

Florida Catholic staff

MIAMI GARDENS | As a Mass to reopen St. Philip Neri Church concluded Oct. 1, Father Chanel Jeanty, the newly appointed pastor, made an appeal to parishioners.

"There are four Stations of the Cross that are missing in action," he said as parishioners laughed. "I know some of you took them home. I'm graciously begging you, bring them back. They cost \$300 each. If you don't return them, I'll need a \$1,200 donation to replace them."

Despite some glitches, Father Jeanty called the Mass a great beginning for the church which closed two years ago because of financial reasons. There were still many things to be ironed out, such as fixing the air conditioning. Many parishioners fanned themselves with the parish bulletin during the Mass.

"There is still much work to be done so that you can feel completely at home here," Father Jeanty said.

Since Oct. 1, 2009, St. Philip Neri Church has sat empty. It was put up for sale, but no purchasers qualified. A parishioner, Stephen Roy, called that an omen.



Katrenia Reeves lights a candle for Robert Smith as they prepare to walk in a procession around the newly reopened St. Philip Neri Church. (PHOTOS BY MARLENE QUARONI | FC)

"St. Philip Neri was meant to reopen," he said.

The predominantly African-American church was one of several that closed in the Archdiocese of Miami in 2009 and merged with other parishes. St. Philip Neri merged with St. Monica in Miami Gardens. But many parishioners, like Katrenia Reeves, went to Holy Redeemer in Liberty City.

"We wanted to come back home," said Reeves, whose mother was a founding member of St. Philip Neri in 1951. "There wasn't a Catholic presence in this area for two years.

We never gave up on our church. We wrote letters and petitions to the archbishop."

Hoping for a miracle, a group of parishioners walked around the church seven times and prayed when it closed, said parishioner Dale DeShazior. They followed the example of the prophet Joshua, who led the Israelites in the conquest of Jericho.

"They marched around Jericho once each day for six days; on the seventh day they marched seven times around the city," said DeShazior. "The seventh time around,



Parishioners leave St. Philip Neri Church after Mass Oct. 1.

seven priests blew ram's horns and the people shouted. Jericho's walls collapsed. The Israelites overtook the city."

St. Philip Neri Parish opened in 1951 in Opa-Locka's Bunche Park, a residential development built for African-American war veterans. The church was one of four predominantly African-American Catholic churches in Miami-Dade County: St. Francis Xavier in Overtown, which also closed in 2009, Christ the King in Perrine and Holy Redeemer in Liberty City.

Father Jeanty thanked Archbishop Thomas Wenski for helping to reopen the church. He also thanked parishioners at St. Bartholomew and St. Rose of Lima parishes,

where Father Jeanty served as parochial vicar, for offering their time and treasure to reopen St. Philip Neri.

"I'm excited and anxious at the same time," said Father Jeanty, who is taking on his first assignment as a pastor while retaining his duties as archdiocesan chancellor for canonical affairs and vicar general.

Do we have reason to be anxious? Father Jeanty asked parishioners.

"You say if the archbishop reopened the church, he could close it again," he said. "I will not let fear control my life. Now that the church has reopened, I hope you reopen the doors of your hearts. This is a new beginning." ■



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NEWSbriefs

Catholic Legal Services hosts annual dinner

Catholic Legal Services invites the community to its second annual dinner with Archbishop Thomas Wenski Thursday, Nov. 3, at Parrot Jungle Treetop Ballroom, 1111 Parrot Jungle Trail, Miami. Archbishop Wenski, who founded Catholic Legal Services, is a national leader in the fight for comprehensive immigration reform. He is recognized as an impassioned advocate for South Florida's immigrant communities and has testified before Congress on various immigration issues. He also serves as consultant to the Committee on Migration of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and is a member of the Secretariat of the Church in Latin America. Tickets

are \$125 per person and are tax deductible. Corporate sponsorships also are available. Call Sister Rosemary Sabino at 954-829-0648.

Youths invited to Marian vigil

All youths from the Archdiocese of Miami are invited to collaborate with parishioners from Our Lady of Lourdes Parish on an all-night vigil celebrating the feast of the Immaculate Conception on Dec. 9 from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. The vigil will feature prayer, talks, skits, praise and worship, rosary, Bible study, eucharistic adoration and a Mass. Any youth ministries interested in attending or participating in the event should contact Frank Brennan at 305-491-7903 or Frankb@olourdes.org.

ROMAN MISSAL

Credo: I believe

New English Missal translation removes the 'royal we' from the profession of faith

MSGR. RICHARD ANTALL
Special to the Florida Catholic

There are some people who use the royal "we" in conversation to sometimes comic effect. There is an anecdote of Queen Victoria saying, "We are not amused" at someone's attempt at a joke in her presence; and poor Margaret Thatcher once announced some personal news by saying, "We are a grandmother."

Credo is "I believe." So during the Mass I am going to profess my faith before the community that shares the same beliefs but expects my personal affirmation. This is not a change in translation, because strictly speaking "credo" does not translate as "we believe." The word "credo" in Latin means "I believe."

Therefore the change of language in the new translation of the Mass marks a return to the original meaning of the Credo, or Creed. It is a correction, and it should make us think about what we speak. "This is what I believe."

Once I went to the funeral of a Lutheran relative, a woman who had suffered much in her life because of the ingratitude of someone very close to her. The minister included the Creed in the funeral service, saying that the deceased had lived the belief we were about to profess. I found the expression of the Creed at the service to be very moving and significant, for it was saying, "This is what made her tick," and at the same time, "We are with her. The Creed makes sense of our lives, too."

This happened shortly after a friend of mine said that her priest, one of those "creative" types from the 1960s, had dispensed with the Creed at Mass because "most people don't know what the words mean." He was probably right, but he should have remembered that it was his job to help the people understand what the words mean.

All liturgical reform is about "active and conscious participation." That, wrote Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, better known now as Pope Benedict XVI, means a process of interiorization. He said that, as far as liturgy goes, we all need "an education toward inwardness."

The interiorization of the Creed means that my world view, my basic understanding is that God exists; he is the Father and Creator of the world; his Son became incarnate and shared our human

nature, and suffered and died and will come again in glory to judge us, and his kingdom will have no end; the Holy Spirit is the Lord, the giver of life; the Church, one, holy, Catholic and apostolic, is part of God's divine dispensation; divine forgiveness is experienced in baptism; and we live expecting the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Victor Frankl, the famous Viennese psychiatrist who survived the Nazi death camps, observed that his fellow survivors almost always were people who believed in something beyond themselves. His conclusions, written in his book "Man's Search for Meaning," are very much compatible with the Christian understanding of hope and applicable even to the simple act of reciting the Creed in community once a week with fellow believers.

There is a revival of atheism in the world today that is disturbing in its gross vulgarity. While this is not the first time in history when it has been fashionable in so-called cultured circles to be against belief, it is something quite new in America. The fact that today real-live atheists fill bookshops and sign copies of their dismal screeds for their even more dismal fans is something quite shocking.

That is why our own profession of faith needs to be taken seriously. "Practical atheism," that is "atheism in practice," allows one to be personally convinced of an

evil that causes innocent parties to suffer but not do anything, because God is hypothetically removed from the equation. The pretension is: Others have no faith in the transcendent and therefore can violate values that I consider absolute but they do not. The reality is: I am acting as if I do not believe either that God cares or that he exists.

Our profession of faith is an antidote to the practical atheism of our times. Our search for meaning has come to a happy conclusion. That does not mean it is not a struggle to believe. Faith demands sacrifices. If someone wanted to know our core beliefs, they should not have to go much further than the Creed of the Mass.

Changing "we believe" to "I believe" is not going to make a great deal of difference in the world perhaps. Nevertheless, if it makes us think about what we truly believe and emphasizes a personal commitment, it can bring about a change in us. ■

Msgr. Antall is a priest of the Diocese of Cleveland who spent the past 20 years as a missionary in El Salvador. He has written about his missionary experience for the national Catholic weekly, Our Sunday Visitor. He also has written three books of theological reflections rooted in his work among the poor: "The Way of Compassion" (1997), "Witnesses to Calvary" (2000), and "Jesus Has a Question for You" (2002).

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of
the Father.

He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and
the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the
prophets.

I believe in one, holy,
catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrec-
tion of the dead
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Annual flea market, Saturday, Oct. 22, St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish, 701 N. Hiatus Road, Pembroke Pines. Now renting spaces for vendors: one space, \$30; two spaces, \$55. Food and beverage available for sale. 954-432-0206, reled@stmax.cc.

Festival de Otoño, 28-30 de octubre, iglesia de St. John Bosco, 1349 W. Flagler Street, Miami. Juegos, rifas, entretenimiento, venta de comida, y más. 305-649-5464.

"Celebremos a Jesús el Nazareno", viernes, 28 de octubre, 8 p.m., iglesia de All Saints, 10900 W. Oakland Park Blvd., Sunrise. Concierto con el grupo Alfareros, de la República Dominicana, para recaudar fondos para los niños más necesitados de Latinoamérica. Invitado especial: Marcos Chau. 786-395-0692, gigipastrana@hotmail.com.

Seventh annual "Taste of the Gables," Thursday, Nov. 3, at the newly renovated historic Venetian Pool. VIP reception, 6:30 p.m.; general admission, 7-10 p.m. \$50 per person. Proceeds benefit the St. Theresa School Sports Society. 305-720-3533.

Fall festival, Nov. 3-6, St. Stephen Parish, 2000 S. State Road 7, Miramar. Discounted ride bracelets: \$15, good for one session; unlimited ride coupon, good all weekend: \$50, now on sale at the rectory office, gift shop and after Masses. 954-987-1100.

Monster Ball, Saturday, Nov. 5, St. Anthony Catholic School, 820 N.E. Third St., Fort Lauderdale. Mass at 5 p.m., followed by celebration until 8 p.m. A minimum donation will be collected at the door. 954-467-9009.

Tom Salyer's "Faces of China," beginning Saturday, Nov. 5, 7 p.m., Archbishop Curley Notre Dame 6 to 12 Prep, 4949 N.E. Second Ave., Miami. Exhibit of photographs and multimedia display. Since 2004, Tom Salyer has captured a bit of that nation's character, one face at a time. Exhibit runs through Jan. 21, 2012. Free. 786-205-2838.

Vendors and craft show, Sunday, Nov. 6, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., All Saints Parish family center, 10900 W. Oakland Park Blvd., Sunrise. Holiday vendors, craft show, homemade baked goods and raffle. Sponsored by the All Saints Council of Catholic Women. 954-742-2082.

Annual "American Night Celebration," Sunday, Nov. 13, Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino, Hollywood. Honors Sister Lucia Ciccotti of the Marian Center. Cocktail reception, 7 p.m.; dinner, 8 p.m. \$100 per person. 305-978-0091.

Caribbean harvest worship, Thursday, Nov. 17, 7 p.m., St. Thomas University, 16401 N.W. 37 Ave., Miami Gardens. Clergy members from the community will

gather to celebrate the harvest. 305-474-6002, dshoaf@stu.edu.

Alumni Mass and food truck event, Saturday, Nov. 26, St. John Neumann School, 12115 S.W. 107th Ave., Miami. Celebration of the school's 30th anniversary. Mass at 5 p.m., followed by casual gathering. crodriguez@sjncs.org.

"Sunshine State" festival, Nov. 17-21, Immaculate Conception School, 4497 W. First Avenue, Hialeah. Annual fundraising event to benefit parish and school operations. 305-822-6461, egarcia@icsmiami.org.

Annual "Mary for Life" banquet, Thursday, Dec. 8, beginning with 5:30 p.m. Mass, St. Malachy Parish, 6200 University Drive, Tamarac. Guest speaker: Michael Voris, Emmy-winning Catholic news media spokesman and founder of St. Michael's Media. Tickets: \$25. 954-536-1528, 954-245-6107, 954-726-1237.

CONCERTS

"Praise Him" concert, with the Missionaries of the Poor and Father Richard HoLung and Friends. Donation: \$25, adults; \$15, children under 12.

- Friday, Nov. 11, 8 p.m., Good Shepherd Parish, Miami, 305-385-9298, 305-551-8813.

- Saturday, Nov. 12, 7:30 p.m., St. Bartholomew Parish, Miramar, 954-433-5616, 954-708-0363.

- Sunday, Nov. 13, 6 p.m., All Saints Parish family center, Sunrise, 954-974-8453.

More information: 954-974-8453, www.missionariesofthepoor.org.

FAITH EDUCATION

Película sobre la vida de san Pedro, viernes, 28 de octubre, 8 p.m., en la plaza de la iglesia de Our Lady of Divine Providence, 10205 West Flagler Street, Miami. 305-551-8113.

2011 U.S. Catholic Mission Association Conference, Oct. 28-30, Doral Golf Resort & Spa, 4400 N.W. 87th Ave., Miami. Theme: "Push Out Into The Deep: Communion and Missionary Discipleship," inspired by the Gospel of St. Luke, Chapter 5. Archbishop Thomas Wenski will preside at a eucharistic celebration Oct. 29. Information: 202-832-3112.

Catechetical Day 2011, Saturday, Nov. 5, 7:30 a.m.-3:15 p.m., Our Lady of the Lakes Parish, 15801 N.W. 67 Ave., Miami Lakes. Theme: "The Eucharist: In Communion With Christ and With One Another." Annual gathering is aimed at catechetical leaders, catechists, pastors, Catholic educators and all those who teach the faith to children, youths and adults. Workshops offered in both English and Spanish. 305-762-1107, www.miamiarcreligiouse.org.

Contemporary Biblical Scholar Series, Friday, Nov. 4, 7 p.m., St. Thomas University, 16401 N.W. 37 Ave., Miami Gardens. Presentation by Father Jean-Pierre Ruiz, chairman, associate professor, Department of Theology and Religious Sciences at St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. 305-525-0886.

Talleres de Biblia y Lectio Divina, salón McDermott East

de la iglesia de St. Timothy, 5400 S.W. 102 Avenue, Miami, todos los martes de 8-9:45 p.m. 305-667-5248.

Lectio Divina, viernes, 8 p.m., Casa Caná, 480 E. 8th Street, Hialeah. Ven a la Lectura Orante de la Palabra de Dios, siguiendo los pasos que nuestra Madre Iglesia ha seguido por siglos. Invita el Movimiento Familiar Cristiano. 305-888 4819.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Camino del Matrimonio, 19-20 de noviembre, Southeast Pastoral Institute (SEPI), 7700 S.W. 56th Street, Miami. Programa arquidiocesano de preparación matrimonial para las parejas que desean casarse en la Iglesia Católica. 305-226-4664.

Post-Camino del Matrimonio, reuniones el segundo miércoles de cada mes en el SEPI, 7700 S.W. 56 Street, Miami. Continuación de la preparación matrimonial con charlas para mejorar la vida espiritual y diaria de los matrimonios. Presentado por Camino del Matrimonio. 305-226-4664.

Pre-Cana II, Saturday, Oct. 29, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Good Shepherd Parish, 14187 S.W. 72 St., Miami. Life skills component of the Archdiocese of Miami marriage preparation program for couples getting remarried in the Catholic Church. Course explores helpful relevant topics such as merging households, the shadow of the former spouse, communications, finances, and more. More information: 305-762-1148.

Engaged Encounters, Saturday, Nov. 19, Our Lady of the Lakes Parish, 15801 N.W. 67th Ave., Miami Lakes. Marriage preparation course that satisfies the life skills portion by exploring helpful relevant topics such as expectations, family of origin, communications, finances, and more. All Encounters are individually sponsored and run by the parish itself. 305-558-2202, ext. 637.

Planificación natural de la familia, curso de tres clases para parejas comprometidas o casadas, para aprender a usar el método sintotérmico de planificación natural. ¿Por qué usar métodos artificiales peligrosos si la PNF es 99% efectiva, más que los otros artificiales? Próxima clase: 5 de noviembre, 1:45 p.m. 305-221-5580.

MASSES/PRAYER SESSIONS

Misa y procesión del Señor de los Milagros, domingo, 23 de octubre, 1:30 p.m., iglesia de Our Lady Queen of Heaven, 1400 South State Road 7, North Lauderdale. La misa y procesión serán ofrecidas por la Hermandad del Señor de los Milagros del Sur de la Florida. 954-235-0909.

Songs and prayer in the spirit of Taizé, Tuesday, Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m., St. Thomas University, 16401 N.W. 37 Ave., Miami Gardens. 305-474-6002, dshoaf@stu.edu.

First Saturday Communion of reparation, Nov. 5, 8 a.m., St.

Andrew Parish, 9950 N.W. 29th St., Coral Springs. With prayer and meditation on the mysteries of the rosary and holy Communion. 954-753-1783.

Centering prayer, Mondays, 5-6 p.m., St. Thomas University Chapel, 16401 N.W. 37 Ave., Miami Gardens. Silent prayer that prepares us to receive the gift of contemplative prayer, in which we experience God's presence within us. 305-628-6765

First Saturday devotion and procession, St. Brendan Parish, 8725 S.W. 32 St., Miami. Candlelight procession, 6 a.m. with rosary; Mass and Communion of reparation, 7 a.m.; meditation on the mysteries of the rosary, 7:30 a.m.; consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. 305-559-3540.

RETREATS/DAYS OF REFLECTION

Emmaus retreat for women, Nov. 4-6, St. Jerome Parish, 2533 S.W. 9th Ave., Fort Lauderdale. Based on a passage of Luke, participants discover Christ in their lives. 954-288-6388, atthebeach894@hotmail.com.

Retiro de Impactos, 5-6 de noviembre, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Misión de Santa Ana, 13875 S.W. 264 Street, Homestead. Para familias con hijos de 3 a 11 años que desean mejorar la relación familiar. El retiro ofrece soluciones basadas en la fe católica para los retos que enfrenta la familia de hoy. 305-571-7111, www.impactos.org.

Experiencia de Emaús, basada en Lc. 24:13-35, lleva a los participantes a descubrir a Jesús en sus vidas: 11-13 de noviembre, iglesia de Our Lady of Lourdes, 11291 S.W. 142 Ave., Miami. Retiro para damas: 305-439-3143, beltrosas5@gmail.com. Retiro para caballeros: 786-499-9207, sierra45@yahoo.com.

Retiro de Accion de Gracias. sábado 19 de noviembre, parroquia de St. Maximilian Kolbe en Pembroke Pines, y domingo, 20 de noviembre, parroquia de St. Timothy en Miami, auspiciado por la Renovación Carismática Católica Hispana; predicadores: P. Pablos A. Hernández de Chitre, Panama y P. Juan Carlos Paguaga de St. John Bosco, Miami. 305-631-1007 / 954-367-3548.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Virtus workshops help parents, teachers and anyone who works with children recognize signs of sexual abuse and spot abusers. Sessions are free, around three hours long, and required for all employees and volunteers in schools, parishes and entities of the Archdiocese of Miami. Due to the subject matter, children are not allowed. To register, log in to www.virtusonline.org; click on the yellow word "registration" located on the left-hand side of the page; choose Miami as your "organization"; view list of available sessions. Email jrayburn@theadom.org or call host entity:

- Saturday, Oct. 22, 9 a.m., St. Jerome School, Fort Lauderdale; St. Louis Church, Pinecrest; and Casa

Manresa Retreat House, Miami; 3 p.m., St. Dominic, Miami.

- Tuesday, Oct. 25, 8:30 a.m., St. Mark School, Room 114, 5601 S. Flamingo Road, Southwest Ranches.

- Saturday October 29, 9:30 a.m., Christ the King Parish, Perrine.

To report abuse by someone representing the archdiocese: 1-866-802-2873 (toll-free); to report all abuse allegations to civil authorities: 1-800-962-2873.

SCHOOLS

"Bye Bye Birdie," Oct. 27-29, 7 p.m.; Oct. 29, 2 p.m.; and Oct. 30, 3 p.m., Bienes Center for the Arts, St. Thomas Aquinas High School, 2801 S.W. 12th St., Fort Lauderdale. Performed by the STA Players, under the direction of Jerry Seeger. Tickets: \$12, adults; \$5, students and children. 954-513-2272, jbasia@aquinas-sta.org.

Open house, Saturday, Oct. 29, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Archbishop Curley Notre Dame 6 to 12 Prep, 4949 N.E. Second Ave., Miami. An opportunity to tour the school and participate in activities with alumni, faculty, students. Parent question-and-answer session. Preregister at www.acnd.net or call 305-751-8367, ext. 22.

"Tons of Love" Mass, Saturday, Nov. 19, Msgr. Edward Pace High School, 15600 N.W. 32 Ave. (Spartan Blvd.), Miami Gardens. One of many events celebrating the school's golden jubilee. Students and faculty donate bags and cans of food, which will be distributed to organizations within the community. The Mass concludes with the final number in "tons" donated. All alumni from the past 50 years are invited to participate. 305-623-7223, www.pacehs.com.

Food truck roundup, Thursday, Oct. 20, and Nov. 17, 6-10 p.m. Archbishop Coleman Carroll High School, 10300 S.W. 167th Ave., Miami. Monthly food truck roundup with more than 70 trucks offering a wide range of cuisine, with an average meal cost of \$10. Proceeds will benefit the school. 305-388-6700, colemancarroll@colemancarroll.org.

Open house, Sunday, Oct. 23, 12:30-3:30 p.m., Cardinal Gibbons High School, 2900 N.E. 47th St., Fort Lauderdale. 954-491-2900, ext. 108.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Catholic Hospice needs volunteers. If you are a good listener and can give two or three hours of your time once a week, if you are interested in working in hospice care, consider volunteering with Catholic Hospice. Terminally ill patients and their families need a visitor who cares and will listen. Persons who have some flexibility during the week are especially needed, and bilingual ability is a plus. Clerical volunteers and warehouse volunteers also needed. Catholic Hospice is a not-for-profit organization that serves people of all faiths, usually in their own homes. Call 305-351-7052 (in English) or 305-351-7053 (in Spanish). Registration is required.

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They ‘practice what they teach’

Exhibit at Curley Notre Dame showcases works by archdiocesan art teachers

TONI PALLATTO
Florida Catholic correspondent

MIAMI | They say, “Those who can, do; those who can’t, teach.” But a new exhibit at Archbishop Curley Notre Dame’s Gallery of Art demonstrates that many of the archdiocese’s teachers both “teach and do” in the field of art.

“Teaching Artists — A Catholic Tradition” kicked off the school year with a focus on culture. The exhibit showcases the works of six artists from around the archdiocese to demonstrate the importance of art within the Catholic school tradition and its power as a teaching tool.

The opening reception for the exhibit, which runs through Oct. 29, featured a lecture by art critic and writer Anne Tschida.

“This is an event that has been put together to promote Catholic school education in the archdiocese and directly involves five of our institutions,” said Christian Brother Patrick Sean Moffett, Curley Notre Dame’s principal. “It is a story at the heart of the Catholic school curriculum. What our teachers do as artists has a definite influence on the way they teach.”

The six artists/teachers whose works are exhibited are: Kerry Ware, St. Patrick School, Miami Beach; Vivian Macia and

Wilma DeVoe, St. Agnes School, Key Biscayne; Catherine Wichmann, St. Anthony School, Fort Lauderdale; Don Clerveaux, St. Mary Cathedral School, Miami; and Yunier Cervino Oliver, Archbishop Curley Notre Dame 6 to 12 Prep, which includes its middle school, the Brother Rice Honors Academy.

Each one of the artists/teachers uses a different technique and a different language of expression, but they have one thing in common: their capacity to communicate, learned through many years of teaching. They express their thoughts, their feelings and their world through their artistic techniques to impress the everyday viewer of their works.

“Each year we have had a middle school art festival,” said Lisa Morales, public relations specialist for Curley Notre Dame. “Late last school year, we decided to invite the teachers of the Archdiocese of Miami schools if they would like to feature their works in an exhibit that would focus on their creativity. We felt this would continue to inspire students who realized their teachers not only teach, but express themselves in their artwork.”

Although his full-time job is teaching physical education, Clerveaux teaches sketching to a small group of students at St. Mary Cathedral School because he recognizes the educational and healing qualities of art.

“I was first taught art and how to draw by Irene Henshaw at St. Rose of Lima in Miami Shores,” said Clerveaux. “She showed me how to express myself through art, and how relaxing it was, and is, especially in the second grade, when my parents got divorced.”



Don Hanson views the “Teaching Artists — A Catholic Tradition” exhibit on opening night at the Archbishop Curley Notre Dame High School Gallery of Art. (PHOTOS BY JONATHAN MARTINEZ | FC)

“I am considered a musical person,” Clerveaux continued. “I see art as silent music. All of the lines, colors and shades make the picture tell a story with harmony.”

The exhibit is curated by Stefano Campanini, owner of Etra Fine Art and Wine by the Bay.

“This exhibit is a beautiful opportunity to communicate to a younger population,” said Campanini. “It makes us remember that art is a very important means of communication and it is nice to demonstrate art from teachers to our youth, and hopefully inspire the base that will be our future artists.”

Campanini has firsthand experience in advancing teaching and learning through the arts as a board member of Arts for Learning.

“It is important for our kids to know that we not only teach, but we practice what we teach,” said Macia. “This is an important exhibit in that it lets our students

see that one can have a career as an artist, and that they, too, can learn and discuss art and take it home to their parents to show the expression of the right side of the brain.”

Seven of Macia’s paintings have been commissioned by Carnival Cruise Line and their reproductions grace the walls of passenger suites.

“In today’s world, filled with tragedies such as 9/11 and many natural disasters, it is important to recognize the healing qualities of art and the universal nature of its communication,” said Brother Moffett. “It is the Catholic tradition, with art at the core of the

FYI

- The Teaching Artists exhibit at Archbishop Curley Notre Dame 6 to 12 Prep continues through Oct. 29. Admission is free and the exhibit is open daily during business hours.
- Upcoming exhibits include Tom Salyer’s Chinese Stories, opening Nov. 5; the Middle School Art Festival opening Jan. 31, 2012; Benjamin Rusnaks’ 23 Degrees, Far From Paradise, opening Feb. 25, 2012; and Carl Juste’s presentation of students’ photography, opening April 21, 2012.
- The school and exhibit are located at 4949 N.E. Second Ave., Miami, FL 33157. For more information, call 305-751-8367.



Yunier Oliver Cervino’s “Black Madonna.”

Church, to capture the visuals and the symbols that touch the human soul.” ■



From left are Broward and Miami-Dade Catholic school teachers and artists Yunier Cervino Oliver, Kerry Ware, Catherine Wichmann, Vivian Macia, and Wilma DeVoe, whose artwork is represented at the exhibit at Archbishop Curley Notre Dame High School’s art gallery.

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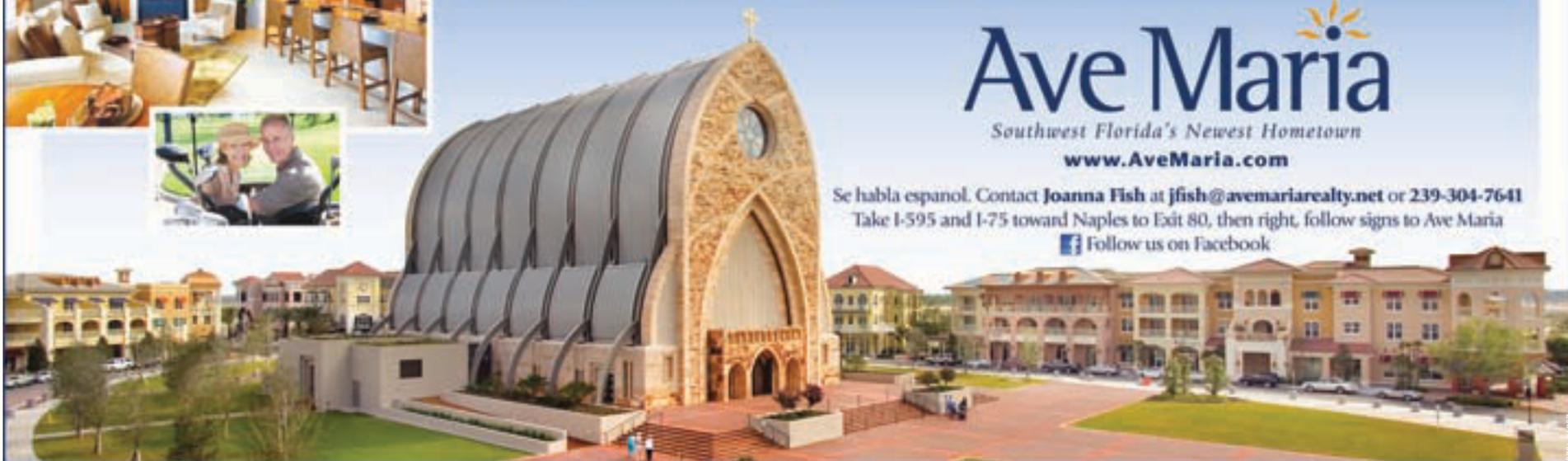
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