

Getting the red hat

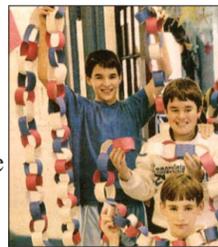
Pope Benedict names 15 new cardinals, page 3



FaithLife

Catholic Schools Week

Schools celebrate with activities in Diocese, page 4



www.ErieRCD.org

BI-WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

March 5, 2006

Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

Rite of Election – March 5

Candidates and catechumens participating in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program at their parishes will celebrate the Rite of Election on March 5, the first Sunday of Lent. All new members of the Catholic Church will be received into their own parishes at the Easter Vigil April 15. The Rite of Election formally acknowledges the readiness of those preparing to receive the sacraments of initiation—baptism, confirmation and the Eucharist. In the Erie Diocese, the Rite of Election will be celebrated at two sites. Bishop Donald W. Trautman will preside at St. Peter Cathedral, Erie, and Vicar General Msgr. Robert Smith will preside at St. Joseph Parish, Force.



U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops National Advisory Council meeting, Baltimore — March 9-12.

In January, sixteen new members were added to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' National Advisory Council, a 63-member body which meets semi-annually to review documentation and offer recommendations concerning matters before the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).



U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Administrative Committee meeting, Washington — March 14-16.

Feast Day of St. Patrick – March 17

St. Patrick is the patron saint of the Erie Diocese. In order to celebrate the patronal feast of the diocese, which falls on a Friday during Lent, Bishop Donald Trautman has granted a special dispensation. Catholics in the diocese will be dispensed from abstinence on Friday, March 17 but only provided they observe abstinence on the day before, March 16, as a substitute.



Confirmation at St. Titus Parish, Titusville – March 19

PARISHES SET TO BEGIN WHY CATHOLIC? JOURNEY THROUGH THE CATECHISM

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

Beginning with this season of Lent, 50 parishes in the Erie Diocese are asking, *Why Catholic?*

Why Catholic? is a four-year program that focuses on Scripture related to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Small faith-sharing groups will meet once a week during two six-week sessions each year.

Recently, 400 people completed facilitator training conducted by Sr. Nancy Fischer, diocesan director of community formation and lay ministry training, and RENEW International, which produces the *Why Catholic?* program.

RENEW's mission is to "foster spiritual renewal, evangelization and the transformation of the world through parish-based small Christian communities." RENEW International has been well received in the diocese through its past programs.

"So far the sign-ups have been good," said Sr. Fischer. The first year, sessions will cover beliefs professed in the Apostles' Creed.

"Today there is so much misunderstanding about the faith,"

Exploring the Catechism: The following excerpt is taken from Session 1 of *Why Catholic?*

As Catholics, we believe that [t]he desire for God is written on the human heart because God creates us and constantly draws us to deeper communion (27). There is within each person an internal desire for God, a deep yearning for the holy.

Scripture: Pondering the Word Luke 12:32-34

Sharing question: Planted deeply within us is the desire for our treasure, a God who loves us. In what ways have I experienced an internal yearning for God? Be specific.

said Bishop Donald Trautman. "We have contemporary questions that arise and our people are not familiar with the answers to these questions. This program will help people in their understanding of the Catholic faith. My hope is that this will lead to a new witnessing of the faith."

It's not too late!

If your parish is not conducting the *Why Catholic?* program or you missed the sign-up day and would like to be part of a small faith-sharing group, contact Sr. Nancy Fischer, diocesan director of community formation and lay ministry training, at 814.824.1217 or e-mail NFischer@ErieRCD.org.

St. Andrew to join in multi-parish school effort at OLC

Erie elementary school to close at end of academic year

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

The Diocese of Erie, in collaboration with Our Lady's Christian School (OLC) and St. Andrew Elementary School, announced Feb. 16 that beginning with the 2006-07 academic year, students at St. Andrew will be encouraged to attend OLC as St. Andrew School will close this June.

"Our Lady's Christian has been a multi-parish school for a number of years, serving students from both St. Jude the Apostle Parish and St. Julia Parish," said Fr. Jay Schultz, vicar for education, at a news conference detailing the agreement. "St. Andrew Parish will now become a third partner in the arrangement."

While St. Andrew School will no longer offer classes to students in grades 1-8, it hopes to develop an early childhood education program for children ages 3 to 5 at the facility, meeting

a different need in the neighborhood. Students would be eligible to apply for tuition assistance through the STAR Foundation, which provides tax credits to businesses supporting Catholic education.

After meeting with St. Andrew parents Feb. 16, Msgr. Richard Sullivan, pastor, and Fr. Schultz made the joint announcement.

The multi-parish school model is in place in many areas of the country, Fr. Schultz said, and is "already very successful in the Erie Diocese" in DuBois and St. Marys. "I think you're seeing a glimpse of the future for Catholic schools," he said.

Msgr. Sullivan cited changing demographics as a major reason for the decision, noting enrollment had decreased from 150 students two years ago to 97 this year.

"What's difficult about

this is that school has been part of the parish for 75 years," he said. "There is a special spirit about our parish and our school. We want to nurture that in terms of the new school our students will go to. I hope people will want to be part of the life of the parish and this multi-parish school."

Parents worked behind the scenes for the past several years, along with the parish and the diocese, to unearth every opportunity to keep St. Andrew School in operation, Msgr. Sullivan said. Two years ago, St. Andrew introduced multi-age classrooms.

"It was a very good educational experience, but it did not increase our enrollment," Msgr. Sullivan said.

Students currently enrolled at St. Andrew School will receive scholarships from St. Andrew Parish over the next three years as an incentive to

St. Andrew School scholarships

As an incentive to send any of their children currently attending St. Andrew School to OLC or another Catholic school, families will receive three-year scholarships:

Number of children	To OLC	To other Catholic school
1	1,000	800
2 or more	1,500	1,200



Photo by Jason Koshinski

After meeting with St. Andrew parents Feb. 16, Pastor Msgr. Richard Sullivan (left) and Fr. Jay Schultz, vicar for education for the Erie Diocese, made the multi-parish school announcement at a news conference at St. Mark Catholic Center.

attend OLC. Those enrolling at OLC will receive \$1,000 per year for one child in a family and \$1,500 for two or more children through the 2008-09 school year. Families who elect to enroll their children in different Catholic elementary schools will receive \$800 for one child or \$1,200 for two or more children.

During the news conference, Fr. Schultz said the mission of the diocese's Office of Education remains the same.

"We want to ensure that every child in our di-

ocese has access to a Catholic school that has a quality program and a desk available at an affordable price," he said.

Fr. Schultz also addressed the future of Catholic schools in the diocese.

"The diocese is hard at work on a comprehensive plan that we hope to unveil in January 2007 that will take care of all of our schools in the 13 counties in northwest Pennsylvania," he said. "In many ways, this is the biggest step we've ever taken in the last 150 years, as far as Catholic schools go. We think we have solutions to the long-term problems that face us."

Did You Know?

Lent is the Old English word for *spring*. In almost all other languages, Lent's name is a derivative of the Latin term *quadragesima* or "the forty days."

www.erieRCD.org

The website of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie

For a printable Lenten calendar, visit www.ErieRCD.org. Sponsored by the Parish Social Ministry/Respect Life Office of Catholic Charities, the calendar provides a Scripture verse, reflection and activity suggestion for each day of Lent.

Lenten Sacrifice



ABSTINENCE

No meat can be taken by those 14 and older on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays.



SELF-DENIAL

Voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended on weekdays during Lent.



FASTING

A limit of one full meatless meal by those 18-59 on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.



PRAYER and CHARITY

Can include daily Mass, Scripture study, Stations of the Cross, almsgiving and showing mercy and kindness to others.

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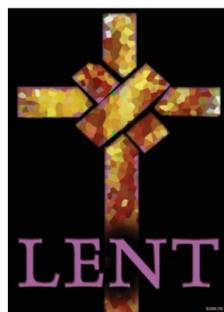
Pope Benedict XVI's message for Lent

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – The following excerpts are taken from Pope Benedict XVI's message for Lent 2006:

"Jesus, at the sight of the crowds, was moved with pity" (Mt 9:36)

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Lent is a privileged time of interior pilgrimage toward him who is the Fount of Mercy. It is a pilgrimage in which he himself accompanies us through the desert of our poverty, sustaining us on our way toward the intense joy of Easter. Even in the "valley of darkness" of which the psalmist speaks (Ps 23:4), while the tempter prompts us to despair or to place a vain hope in the work of our own hands, God is there to guard us and sustain us. Yes, even today the Lord hears the cry of the multitudes longing for joy, peace and love. As in every age, they feel abandoned. Yet, even in the desolation of misery, loneliness, violence and hunger that indiscriminately afflicts children, adults and the elderly, God does not allow darkness to prevail. In fact, in the words of my beloved predecessor, Pope John Paul II, there is a "divine limit imposed upon evil," namely, mercy ("Memory and Identity," pp. 19ff). It is with these thoughts in mind that I have chosen as my theme



for this message the Gospel text: "Jesus, at the sight of the crowds, was moved with pity" (Mt 9:36).

In this light, I would like to pause and reflect upon an issue much debated today: the question of development. Even now, the compassionate gaze of Christ continues to fall upon individuals and peoples. He watches them, knowing that the divine plan includes their call to salvation. Jesus knows the perils that put this plan at risk, and he is moved with pity for the crowds. He chooses to defend them from the wolves even at the cost of his own life. The gaze of Jesus embraces individuals and multitudes, and he brings them all before the Father, offering himself as a sacrifice of expiation.

In the face of the terrible challenge of poverty afflicting so much of the

world's population, indifference and self-centered isolation stand in stark contrast to the gaze of Christ. Fasting and almsgiving, which, together with prayer, the church proposes in a special way during the Lenten season, are suitable means for us to become conformed to this gaze. The examples of the saints and the long history of the church's missionary activity provide invaluable indications of the most effective ways to support development. Even in this era of global interdependence, it is clear that no economic, social or political project can replace that gift of self to another through which charity is expressed. Those who act according to the logic of the Gospel live the faith as friendship with God Incarnate and, like him, bear the burden of the material and spiritual needs of their neighbors. They see it as an inexhaustible mystery, worthy of infinite care and attention. They know that he who does not give God gives too little; as Blessed Teresa of Calcutta frequently observed, the worst poverty is not to know Christ. Therefore, we must help others to find God in the merciful face of Christ. Without this perspective, civilization lacks a solid foundation.

To read the complete text of Pope Benedict's message for Lent, visit www.ErieRCD.org.

O'Brien family from St. Joseph's in Sharon featured in Faith

Continuing its year-long exploration of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, *Faith* magazine will use Lent as the background to delve into what it means to "comfort the sorrowful" in its March/April issue.

"We've had some compelling cover stories in the past, but I think this one will stay with people for awhile," says Anne-Marie Welsh, editor. "Paul and Tina O'Brien were so generous in sharing the story of how they rebuilt their lives after an unimaginably difficult loss." *FaithLife* editor Jason Koshinski wrote the story after Fr. Phil Oriole, pastor at Mount Calvary Parish in Erie, brought it to his attention.

The magazine will also present a feature on Rose Graham, director of development for the Catholic Charities Office of the Erie Diocese, who has spent several weeks working with the Diocese of Lake Charles in Louisiana, kick-starting a program to help them get back on their feet in the wake of Hurricane Rita.

"You can still see vehicles on their sides, buildings that crashed into other buildings and houses that were swept 15 miles from their original locations," Graham says. "You certainly gain a new perspective in



The March/April cover of *Faith* magazine.

this kind of situation."

In addition, *Faith* visits with school officials in St. Marys for an inside look at how the community managed its shift from three elementary schools to one elementary and one middle school. They maintain that their ongoing commitment of prayer to the Holy Spirit smoothed the way for a successful transition.

Faith is scheduled to arrive in homes by March 17. All households registered in the Erie Diocese receive a copy, free of charge. If you are not receiving one, or would like to have one additional copy of the magazine sent to a member of your immediate family serving in the military, in prison or attending college, please call Brenda Williams, circulation manager, at 814.824.1160.

Vatican says number of priests increases, but varies by continent

By John Thavis
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — The number of priests and seminarians in the world continues to increase, but the situation varies widely from continent to continent, the Vatican said. The most positive signs come from Asia and Africa, while Europe has shown a marked decline in priestly vocations, according to a Feb. 18 statement from the Vatican press office.

The statistics were released in connection with the presentation of the 2006 edition of the Vatican yearbook, known as the *Annuario Pontificio*, which catalogs the church's pastoral presence diocese-by-diocese.

Pope Benedict XVI met with editors of the volume and praised them for their work. It was the first edition of the yearbook issued under his pontificate.

In its statement, the press office referred to data on church population, priests and seminari-

ans through 2004, the last year for which statistics are available.

It said the number of priests in the world was 405,891 at the end of 2004, an increase of 441 from 2003. About two-thirds were diocesan priests and one-third members of religious orders.

The global breakdown

shows that Asia added more than 1,400 priests over that period and Africa added 840. The situation was relatively stable in North and South America and Oceania, while Europe showed a decrease of nearly 1,900 priests.

The number of seminarians in the world rose to just

over 113,000 in 2004, an increase of more than 670 from 2003. Africa and Asia again showed the greatest increases, while Europe continued to evidence a "clear decline," the Vatican said.

The global population of Catholics reached nearly 1.1 billion at the end of 2004, an increase of about 12 million, or about 1.1 percent, from 2003. Over the same period, however, the general population increased at a faster rate, from 6.3 billion to 6.4 billion. As a result, the number of Catholics as a percentage of the total population dropped from about 17.2 percent to about 17.1 percent.

The Vatican said the number of permanent deacons continued to grow, increasing by about 2.5 percent in the period 2003-2004. At the end of 2004, there were more than 32,300 permanent deacons in the world.

The Vatican issues a separate statistical yearbook later in the year.

Increase in Priests

Globally, priests and seminarians show an increase in numbers; however, the total Catholic population has dropped as a percentage of the total world population.

	2003		2004
Priests	405,450	<	405,891
Seminarians	112,373	<	113,044
Total Catholic Population	1.086 billion (17.2%*)	<	1.098 billion (17.1%*)

* of total world population

Source: *Annuario Pontificio* 2006 ©2006 CNS

NEWS BRIEFS

U.S.

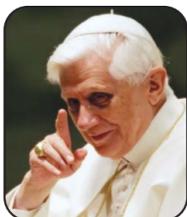
World poverty is focus of Lenten 'Offering of Letters' campaign

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Bread for the World, the Christian citizens' anti-hunger lobby, will tackle world poverty in its annual Lenten "Offering of Letters" campaign. Under the theme "One Spirit, One Will, Zero Poverty," Bread for the World is asking for letters to advance its One Campaign, which seeks to fight extreme poverty, hunger and HIV/AIDS in the developing world. Each year congregations have been asked to send letters to members of Congress asking them for legislative action relevant to the goals outlined that year by Bread for the World. The letters are typically written by church members after church services, then placed in the offertory collection the following Sunday to be dedicated to God and accompanied by special prayers for hungry people. Legislatively, the letter campaign is calling for an increase in poverty-focused development assistance for poor countries in the federal budget for fiscal year 2007 with hopes that by fiscal year 2010 an additional 1 percent of the federal budget will go to such assistance.

WORLD

Pope Benedict concludes talks begun by predecessor

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Concluding a series of audience talks begun by Pope John Paul II in 2001, Pope Benedict XVI said the psalms and canticles used for morning and evening prayer are a "flowering garden" of praise and contemplation. At his weekly general audience Feb. 15, the pope announced that with a brief meditation on Mary's Magnificat he was concluding the series begun "years ago by my beloved predecessor, the unforgettable Pope John Paul II." Because of the large number of visitors present, the pope actually held two audiences: one in St. Peter's Basilica and the other in the Vatican audience hall. Arriving in the basilica more than 20 minutes late, the pope still spent about 10 minutes shaking hands and blessing guests sitting next to the barricades around the main altar. The crowd included some 6,000 Italian grade school and high school students.



Blessing: Pope Benedict XVI gestures during his weekly general audience in Paul VI hall at the Vatican Feb. 15.

PEOPLE

More than 100,000 gather at Fatima to watch reburial of Sister Lucia



Three children dressed as the shepherds of Fatima participate in a ceremony at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima Feb. 19.

FATIMA, Portugal (CNS) — Despite a persistent rain, more than 100,000 people gathered at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima to pray and witness the reburial of Carmelite Sister Lucia dos Santos, the last of three Fatima visionaries. Sister Lucia died Feb. 13, 2005, in her cloistered convent in Coimbra, Portugal, at the age of 97. She had been buried temporarily at the Carmelite convent while preparations were made for final burial alongside her two cousins, Blesseds Francisco and Jacinta Marto, at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima. On May 13, 1917 — when Lucia was 10 years old, Francisco was 9 and Jacinta was 7 — the children claimed to have seen the Blessed Virgin Mary at Fatima, near their home. The apparitions continued once a month until October 1917 and later were declared worthy of belief by the Catholic Church. In 2000 Pope John Paul II beatified Sister Lucia's cousins, who died as children.

By the Way...

Msgr. Tom McSweeney recently returned from a meeting at the request of the Archdiocese of New York with Sirius satellite radio. Under the direction of the Archdiocese, Sirius is looking to add an all-Catholic channel to its array of music, news, sports, talk and entertainment offerings.

Msgr. McSweeney, director of evangelization for communications and public relations for the Erie Diocese, parochial administrator of Holy Trinity Parish in Erie and former director of the Christophers, has been tapped to help provide some of the channel's content and programming. Although details have yet to be finalized, plans call for Monsignor to host a weekly one-hour interview show on the as-yet-to-be-named channel that will soon be launched. Sirius currently provides 125 satellite radio channels to more than 3 million subscribers. Stay tuned for more information.

This year's **Chrism Mass** will be celebrated April 10, the Monday of Holy Week, at **St. Peter Cathedral** in Erie. At the Mass, Bishop Donald Trautman will bless the oils used for catechumens and anointing of the sick and sacred oil of chrism for baptism, confirmation and ordination. The oils will then be distributed to each parish in the diocese. Last year's Chrism Mass was celebrated at **St. Callistus Parish** in Kane.

The Parish Social Ministry/Respect Life Office of Catholic Charities has produced a printable **Lenten calendar** that is available on the diocesan Web site at www.ErieRCD.org. The calendar provides a Scripture verse, reflection and activity suggestion for each day of Lent. It's a great reminder to stick on the fridge at home or bulletin board at work.

Even though it will be a Friday during Lent, you can still have corned beef and cabbage on **St. Patrick's Day**. Because St. Patrick is the patron saint of the diocese, Bishop Trautman has granted a special dispensation for the feast day. **Thursday, March 16 may be substituted as a day of abstinence**. For those not substituting March 16, St. Patrick's Day remains a day of abstinence.

Jason Koshinskie is editor of *FaithLife*. Contact him at JKoshinskie@ErieRCD.org or 814.824.1171.



Jason Koshinskie

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baked or fried haddock, potatoes, vegetable, cole slaw or apple sauce, bread, butter & beverage.
A Sundae Bar is available for an additional \$1.00
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RETREAT FOR PRIESTS
Presented by Fr. Richard Gielow, CM
Ordained as a Priest of the Congregation of the Mission of St. Vincent DePaul in 1970, Fr. Gielow served for five years as Director of Vocations for the Vincentian Fathers and Brothers, and for six years as rector and principal of St. John's High School Seminary in Kansas City. He holds a B.A. in Philosophy, an M.Div. in Theology from DeAndreis Institute of Theology, and an M.A. in Religious Education from Catholic University in Washington, D.C. Fr. Gielow is currently Director of the Vincentian Parish Mission Center in Kansas City and is the National Spiritual Advisor to the Ladies of Charity of USA. Listed in "Who's Who" as a "well-known preacher and Retreat Director," he has been a member of the Vincentian Parish Mission team since 1982.
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SACRED HEART
53rd Annual Spaghetti Dinner
Auditorium, W. 25th & Liberty streets, Erie
Sunday, March 12
Serving noon - 6 p.m.
Directed by: Lorraine Squaglia
with: Lisa Lopez Zamierowski and Linn Lopez
Savory spaghetti with meatballs, Italian tossed salad, bread & butter, dessert and beverage
Adults.....\$6
Children (6-12).....\$3
Small Fry (under 6)....FREE
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The intersection of faith, sex & culture in Pope Benedict's first encyclical

Editor's note: The following commentary is part of Christopher West's syndicated "Body Language" series.

By Christopher West

In his much-awaited first encyclical, *God is Love*, (promulgated Christmas Day but officially released Jan. 25), it seems Pope Benedict XVI wants to proclaim to the world that the church—despite all of the supposed anti-sex sentiment—has a vision of erotic love far more glorious than anything Sigmund Freud, Hugh Hefner, Dr. Ruth or Howard Stern could dream or imagine.

His words are tender, firm, clear, compassionate and poetic. The text reads like the letter of a loving father to his children, presenting an invitation to men and women everywhere to open their hearts to the love that truly

satisfies. So many of us have searched in vain for love in this pornified world. We've eaten out of a dumpster in attempts to satisfy our hunger. Without wagging a finger at anyone, Pope Benedict's encyclical presents the banquet of love we're made for.

He divides the letter into two main parts. The first part, in which he explores the relationship between erotic and divine love—"eros" and "agape" in Greek—is more "speculative," he says (in the sense that he is offering a prayerful meditation, not that he's giving us half-baked theories). Based on these meditations, the second part of the letter offers a "more concrete" treatment of how the church is called to exercise the commandment of love of neighbor and work for a just social order.

As Benedict insists, these two main parts are "profoundly interconnected." There's no place here for a false division between church teaching on sexual ethics and social justice. If we want to work for social justice, we must first do justice to the fundamental social unit—the relationship of man and woman and the family that springs from their love.

Does the Catholic Church do justice to the love of man and woman? Benedict observes that Christianity is often criticized for being opposed to the body and sex. While he admits such tendencies have always existed, the pope demonstrates that negativity toward the body and sex is, in all truth, foreign to authentic Christian belief and practice.



Christopher West

Christianity does not "blow the whistle" on erotic love. It seeks to rescue it from degradation, to "heal it and restore it to true grandeur," he says. The "contemporary way of exalting the body is deceptive. *Eros*, reduced to pure 'sex,' has become a commodity. This is hardly man's great 'yes' to the body."

In order to restore erotic love's true grandeur, we must experience the purification of *eros* by *agape*. As this happens—that is, as we allow erotic love to be informed and transformed by divine love—*eros* is able "to provide not just fleeting pleasure, but a certain foretaste of the pinnacle of our existence, of that beatitude for which our whole being yearns," Benedict states.

What joy! Sexual love in God's plan is so glorious that it is

meant to provide a small foretaste of the eternal joys that await us in heaven. But beware the counterfeits. "An intoxicated and undisciplined *eros*," the Holy Father observes, "is not an ascent in 'ecstasy' towards the Divine, but a fall, a degradation of man."

Love is indeed "ecstasy," the pope tells us, but not in a hedonistic sense. If ecstasy means "to go out of oneself," then love is ecstasy as "an ongoing exodus out of the closed inward-looking self towards its liberation through self-giving, and thus towards authentic self-discovery and indeed the discovery of God."

Pope Benedict's encyclical makes a person proud to be Catholic. Does any other religion on the planet have such an ennobling view of the human person and of sexual love? If we

have any right to boast, we boast only in Christ, in his love for us and in what *he* has revealed to us about the meaning of being human.

Benedict XVI didn't come up with this. He's just passing along in love what the church has received from her bridegroom. As Benedict himself states, "*eros*...seeks God and *agape*...passes on the gift received."

Thanks, your Holiness, for passing on the gift.

Christopher West is a research fellow and faculty member of the *Theology of the Body Institute in West Chester, Pa.* He is the author of "*Good News About Sex and Marriage*," "*Theology of the Body for Beginners*" and "*Theology of the Body Explained*." Visit www.ChristopherWest.com for more information.

Pope names 15 new cardinals, including two from U.S.

By John Thavis
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — In his first set of major appointments, Pope Benedict XVI named 15 new cardinals, including U.S. Archbishops William J. Levada, head of the Vatican's doctrinal congregation, and Sean P. O'Malley of Boston.

The pope announced the names at the end of his general audience Feb. 22 and said he would formally install the cardinals at a special consistory March 24.

The pope also convened the entire College of Cardinals for a day of reflection and prayer March 23

and said he would celebrate Mass with the cardinals March 25, the feast of the Annunciation of the Lord.

It will be the first gathering of the College of Cardinals since they elected Pope Benedict last April.

Smiling as he made his announcement, the pope said the new cardinals reflect the universality of the church.

"In fact, they come from every part of the world and carry out diverse duties in service to the people of God," the pope said.

The new cardinals represent 11 countries from five continents. Three are Vatican officials, nine are heads of dioceses or archdioceses around the



Cardinal-elect William J. Levada, left, and Boston Cardinal-elect Sean P. O'Malley.

world, and three are prelates over age 80 being honored for their service to the church.

Of those named, 12 were under the age of 80 and thus eligible to vote in a papal conclave. After the installation ceremony, the college is expected to number 193, with the number of voting members once again at its maxi-

mum of 120.

The appointment of Archbishop O'Malley, 61, gives the Archdiocese of Boston a resident cardinal after more than three years. Cardinal Bernard F. Law resigned in late 2002 in the wake of controversy over how he handled clerical sex abuse allegations in Boston, and he is now archpriest of the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome. Archbishop O'Malley, a Capuchin Franciscan, has headed the archdiocese since 2003.

Cardinal-designate Levada, 69, was appointed last May as the pope's successor to head the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. He had previously served as archbishop of San Francisco and Portland, Ore.

U.S. contingent will number 15

VATICAN CITY — After the March 24 consistory for the creation of new cardinals, 15 of the 193 members of the College of Cardinals will be from the United States.

Pope Benedict XVI expanded the U.S. contingent in the college Feb. 22 when he announced he would give the red hat to Archbishop William J. Levada, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and former archbishop of San Francisco, and to Archbishop Sean P. O'Malley of Boston.

After the consistory, the U.S. contingent will be second in size only to the Italians. Of the 15 U.S. cardinals, 13 will be under age 80 and eligible to vote in a conclave to elect a new pope.

U.S. Cardinal William W. Baum, former archbishop of Washington and former head of the Apostolic Penitentiary, a Vatican court, is the only U.S. cardinal named by Pope Paul VI.

Other U.S. cardinals under 80 are:

- Edward M. Egan of New York.
- Francis E. George of Chicago.
- William H. Keeler of Baltimore.
- Bernard F. Law, archpriest of Rome's Basilica of St. Mary Major and retired archbishop of Boston.
- Roger M. Mahony of Los Angeles.
- Adam J. Maida of Detroit.
- Theodore E. McCarrick of Washington.
- Justin Rigali of Philadelphia.
- J. Francis Stafford, head of the Apostolic Penitentiary and former archbishop of Denver.
- Edmund C. Szoka, president of the commission that governs Vatican City State and former archbishop of Detroit.

Two U.S. cardinals over age 80 are:

- Cardinal Anthony J. Bevilacqua, retired archbishop of Philadelphia.
- Cardinal Avery Dulles, a Jesuit theologian.

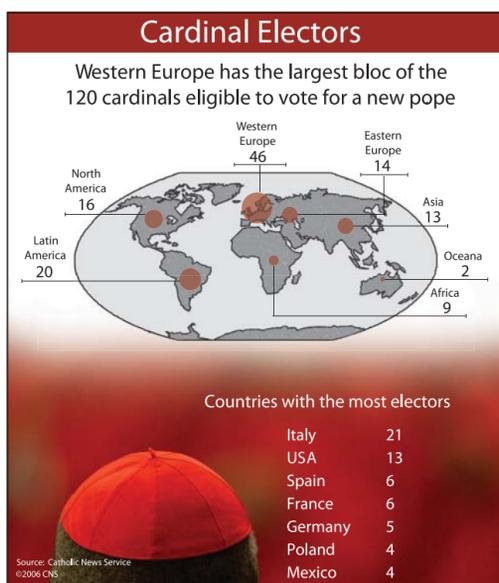
List of 15 new cardinals named Feb. 22

- U.S. Archbishop William J. Levada, 69, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.
- Slovenian Archbishop Franc Rode, 71, prefect of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life.
- Italian Archbishop Agostino Vallini, 65, prefect of the Supreme Court of the Apostolic Signature, the Vatican's highest tribunal.
- Venezuelan Archbishop Jorge Urosa Savino of Caracas, 63.
- Filipino Archbishop Guadencio Rosales of Manila, 73.
- French Archbishop Jean-Pierre Ricard of Bordeaux, 61.
- Spanish Archbishop Antonio Canizares Llovera of Toledo, 60.
- Korean Archbishop Nicholas Cheong Jin-Suk of Seoul, 74.
- U.S. Archbishop Sean P. O'Malley of Boston, 61.
- Polish Archbishop Stanislaw Dziwisz of Krakow, 66, the longtime personal secretary of Pope John Paul II.
- Italian Archbishop Carlo Caffarra of Bologna, 67.
- Chinese Bishop Joseph Zen Ze-kiun of Hong Kong, 74.
- Italian Archbishop Andrea Cordero Lanza di Montezemolo, archpriest of the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls, 80.
- Retired Ghanaian Archbishop Peter Poreku Dery of Tamale, 87.
- French Jesuit Father Albert Vanhoye, former secretary of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, 82.

What does a cardinal do?

VATICAN CITY — The cardinals of the Roman Catholic Church have two key jobs, advising the current pope and electing a new pope. The cardinals as a body offer their advice to the pope in two ways:

- Through their membership in Vatican congregations or other departments of the Roman Curia, the church's central administrative offices.
- Through their membership in the College of Cardinals, which the pope can convoke to discuss substantive questions facing the church.
- Cardinals who are resident in Rome meet more frequently to discuss the major decisions the pope is facing.



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CATHOLIC CHARITIES
Diocese of Erie

Director of Communications

The Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg is seeking a Secretary for Communications. This is a senior level position that helps the Church evangelize, inform and educate in an integrated fashion. The Secretary manages the Communications Office, which is responsible for publication of The Catholic Witness newspaper, radio and television productions and content of the diocesan homepage. Specific responsibilities include media relations, public relations and primary spokesperson for the diocese.

Qualifications: a master's degree and five years of related work experience preferred; highest degree of confidentiality and discretion; design, editorial and copywriting skills, knowledge of TV/radio production and audio/video equipment; computer literacy; a practicing Catholic with a solid understanding of the Catholic Church including structure and teachings. Theological background desirable. Job description available at www.hbgdiocese.org. Submit letter of interest and resumé by March 15 to:

Search Committee, PO Box 2153, Harrisburg, PA 17105-2153.

Director of Religious Education

Young 1,000-family parish in a University town is seeking a Director of Religious Education to run its K-5 catechetical program and its 6-12 Total Youth Ministry (TYM) program. Responsibilities include developing and coordinating dynamic religious education and youth ministry programs and training and empowering a cadre of volunteer catechists. Should be an experienced catechist who thinks creatively, works independently and has effective communication skills. Must be a practicing Catholic with solid command of Catholic theology. Master's or Bachelor's degree in religious education, pastoral ministry or comparable field required. Pay commensurate with experience. Mail applications to DRE Search; Good Shepherd Church; P. O. Box 8186; State College, PA 16803 or FAX to 814-238-3484.

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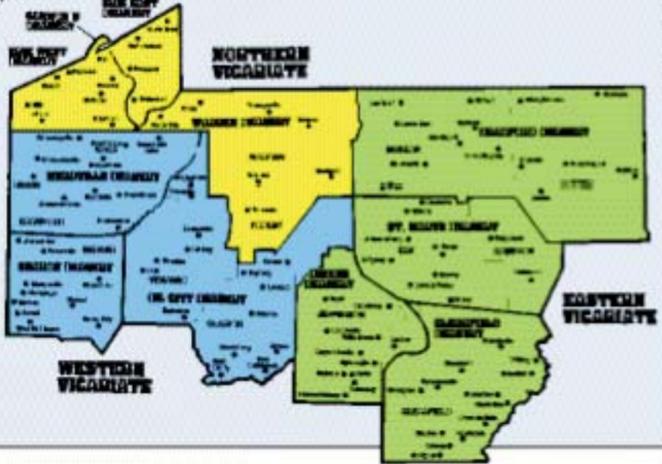
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AROUND the ERIE DIOCESE



Parish correspondents

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E-mail your parish news

Many parish correspondents have found e-mail to be a quick and easy way to send news to FaithLife.
FaithLife@ErieRCD.org

Blessed Sacrament supports Caring Place



Andrew Dugan, president of Blessed Sacrament Student Council, presented Kathy Frisina with a check to the Caring Team for \$1,358.02. Blessed Sacrament School was the grand-prize winner of the most dollars raised per school. Highmark matched Blessed Sacrament's donation. The money will be used to support The Caring Place and the CHIP program.

Catholic Daughters aid Hurricane Katrina victims



Members of Court Erie No. 515 of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas recently sent personal care items and toys to the state regent in Louisiana to aid Hurricane Katrina victims. Members collected toys, toiletries, playing cards, wash clothes, towels, writing supplies and other items during a three-month period. Members placed these items in handmade bags. Friends and parishioners from several diocesan churches donated all items, including the bag material. In addition, 200 rosaries were sent. Pictured, from left, Pat Stuczynski, member of Court Erie No. 515; Mary E. May, first vice regent of Pennsylvania; Margaret Lorei, regent of Court Erie.

Kindergarten class marks Olympic Games



Kelle Pompeii's kindergarten class at DuBois Area Catholic Schools recently celebrated the Olympic Games. All were medal winners. Pictured in front row, from left, Maura Petitti, Brooke Gornati, Brooke Palmer, Annemarie Cherry and Lauren Usaitis. Back row, Erick Mader, Jacob Peace, Ryan Mitskovich, Josh Lanzoni, Gaven Fairman, Erik Shaffer and Matt Ishamm.

Erie DAWN welcomes new administrator

Erie DAWN, Inc. has a new administrator. Kimberly Lytle, former director of federal programs with the Charter School of GECAC, joined the DAWN staff Feb. 6. Sr. Phyllis Hilbert, SSJ, one of DAWN's founding members and its administrator for the past 10 years, leaves a legacy of service to homeless single women and children who have participated in DAWN's two-year supportive housing program. Lytle's professional background includes serving as principal of Holy Rosary School and as a teacher at St. George and St. Joseph elementary schools in Erie. In her hometown of Titusville, she was a youth minister for St. Titus Parish and worked for Penn Bank as an operations officer. Pictured, from left, are Kimberly Lytle and Sr. Phyllis Hilbert



New administrator Kimberly Lytle, left, poses with Sr. Phyllis Hilbert, SSJ.

Executive director named for Art House

Sr. Anne Wambach was recently appointed executive director of the Inner-City Neighborhood Art House. Sr. Anne previously served as program director for the Art House since it began in 1994. Sr. Mary Lou Kownacki, founder of the Art House and former executive director, will continue as director of operations for Benetvision and will be the writer-in-residence at the Art House, initiating and teaching new literary programs.



Sr. Anne Wambach

Benedictines name director of annual giving

Jo Clarke recently joined the Benedictine Sisters as director of annual giving after 18 years as development director for Pax Christi USA, the national Catholic peace movement. Born and raised in London, England, Clarke had been involved in Pax Christi Great Britain and Pax Christi International since 1971. She was manager of the Westminster Cathedral Conference Center in London for five years and also worked with the Developing Countries Trade Agency as a trade consultant. Clarke has received Catholic press journalism awards for her work on the Pax Christi USA magazine, of which she was the art editor, and has helped raise more than \$13 million during her career. She is a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and an oblate of the Erie Benedictines.



Jo Clarke

Immaculate Conception School, Clarion



Students at Immaculate Conception School made a paper chain to stretch along the hallways of the school to represent all students being united and working together. Pictured from left are (kneeling) David Brooker and Katie Durkin, (standing) John Griebel, Adriani Cherico, Msgr. Riccardo, Lindsey Steele and Eugenia Barboza.

Catholic Schools

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Photo gallery part II

Catholic Schools Week (Jan. 29-Feb. 4) was a celebration of education centered around faith that prepares students for a Christian life. This event gave schools in the Erie Diocese an opportunity to showcase all the good things that are taking place within their classrooms. Here is part two of a sampling of how schools in the diocese celebrated Catholic Schools Week 2006:

Elk County Catholic School, St. Marys



On Jan. 30, Elk County Catholic High School celebrated Catholic Schools Week by inviting the local Catholic grade schools to join them in a community Mass. Msgr. Charles Kaza was the celebrant with the priests from the local parishes being co-celebrants. Various students and teachers from the schools took part in the Mass as servers, readers, choir members and offertory participants. Every student from all of the schools was asked to write down a prayer intention for the Mass. Baskets from each school with the prayers were carried up at the offertory. This special Mass has been a tradition at Elk County Catholic for many years.

Our Lady of Peace School, Erie



Students collected monies for the Second Harvest Food Bank to help chip away at hunger. Also, as part of the day, the upper grades interacted with the younger students to complete winter activity sheets. The lip-sync contest was a great hit with all students, including a performance by teachers reminding students that it's a *Hard Knock Life*.

St. John-Holy Rosary Eastside Catholic School, Erie



Eighth graders Brooklyn Harris, Vinnie Hoffman, (row 1) Megan King, Amber Beason, Marly McLaughlin and Kayla McBride performed the song *Apache* during the annual lip-sync contest, held on Feb. 1 during Catholic Schools Week.

St. Joseph School, Sharon



Red, white and blue chains were made by each class and were hung to show unity of church and country. Candles were blessed during the school's Candlemas service. As part of Game Day, the 6th, 7th and 8th graders competed in a volleyball tournament. The winner played the faculty and staff. Members of Student Council served as student teachers during the week.

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