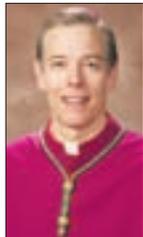


INSIDE

Faithful citizenship series Part 2

In his column, *Faith Matters*, Bishop Alexander Sample reflects on the sanctity of human life in the second of four columns on being a faithful Catholic and good citizen.



PAGE 3



Altared gets the Back to School treatment with the story of a student who has taken her faith from the Soo to the Keweenaw, students get advice from the Pope, youth and the young at heart take a Baraga bike pilgrimage and much more.

INSIDE

A salute to Sister Lois



Franciscan Sister of Christian Charity Lois Risch is honored by the people of the communities served by the Champion and Republic parishes, where she has ministered for more than a decade. She is returning to her order's motherhouse in Manitowoc, Wis.

PAGE 6

Holy Family fun

A good time was had by all as youth challenged clergy and religious to a kickball game in Gladstone.



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NEXT ISSUE DATE:
OCT. 5, 2012

'Crossing the U.P.' to launch Year of Faith

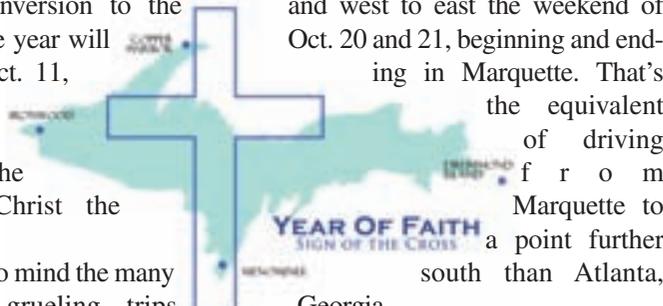
BY LOREENE ZENO KOSKEY

In the spirit of his predecessor's missionary zeal, Bishop Alexander K. Sample will traverse the length and breadth of the Upper Peninsula in one weekend to open the Year of Faith in the Diocese of Marquette. What the bishop will be doing is "making the sign of the cross" over the Upper Peninsula as he presides at the celebration of the Mass in four different locations.

Pope Benedict XVI called for

the world-wide Year of Faith as "a summons to an authentic and renewed conversion to the Lord..." The year will run from Oct. 11, 2012 to Nov. 24, 2013, the Feast of Christ the King.

Calling to mind the many long and grueling trips across the U.P. by the diocese's first bishop, Venerable Frederic



Baraga, Bishop Sample will travel 1,140 miles from north to south and west to east the weekend of Oct. 20 and 21, beginning and ending in Marquette. That's the equivalent of driving from Marquette to a point further south than Atlanta, Georgia.

The bishop will begin his journey by driving from Marquette to

Copper Harbor to start the tip of the cross by celebrating Mass at 10 a.m. ET Saturday morning at our Lady of the Pines Mission. Then he will head south to Menominee for the regular Saturday afternoon liturgy at 4 p.m. CT at Holy Spirit Parish. The next morning Bishop Sample will preside at the normal 8 a.m. CT Mass at Our Lady of Peace Parish in Ironwood before hitting the road for a six-hour ride to DeTour. Catching a ferry to

SEE CROSSING ON PAGE 11

Edna Hocking of Gwinn, Michael Decet of Trenary named Catholic Service Award honorees for 2012

BY TERRI GADZINSKI

Edna Hocking of St. Anthony Parish in Gwinn and Michael Decet of St. Rita Parish in Trenary are recipients of the 2012 Legacy of Faith Catholic Service Award. Bishop Alexander K. Sample announced the recipients of the award, which annually recognizes members of the Diocese of Marquette for lifetime dedication and service to the Catholic Church.

Hocking has served her parish selflessly in many ways, most notably as an active member of the parish choir for 75 years. She has served many other parish ministries including the Pastoral Council and Finance Committee. She has been an active member of the parish Altar Society since its inception. Her particular joy has been the many hours spent working on the Funeral Luncheon Team, a group of parishioners who stand ready to ensure that grieving families are well cared for and shown the love of the parish community in their time of sorrow.

An active member of local community boards and groups, Hocking has served on the

Forsyth Township Library Board, Historical Society of Gwinn, Share Food Group, Merry Mixers, VFW Auxiliary, Red Hat Society and more. She is a shining example of service to God and neighbor.

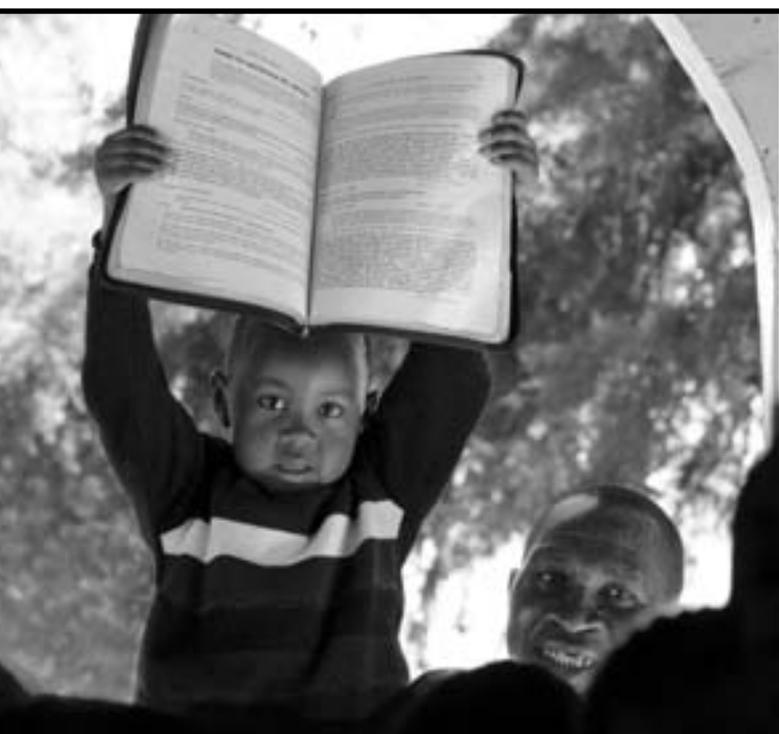
Bishop Sample presented Hocking with a commemorative medallion at her residence at Brookridge Assisted Living facility in Marquette in the presence of her daughters and many residents of the facility. Her service was further honored at her parish with a weekend Mass offered by Bishop Sample and a coffee social afterwards, in which parishioners celebrated Edna with music, dancing and merrymaking.

Decet has been an extraordinary leader within the Church, the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and his local community. A graduate of the Loyola Institute for Ministry Extension Program and the diocesan Specialized Ministries Program, he was especially active in parish liturgy and catechesis. St. Rita Parish was maintained for many years under the spiritual and administrative guidance of a number of priests

SEE CSA ON PAGE 11



AWARDED - (Top photo) Edna Hocking is joined by her daughters, Linda (left) and Phyllis Hocking after receiving the Catholic Service Award from Bishop Alexander Sample. (Bottom photo) Mike Decet (front, center) receives the Catholic Service Award. His wife, Anna, and son, Michael are on either side of him. Back row (left to right) is his son and daughter-in-law, Tony and Carmon, Father Greg Heikkala, Father Jacek Wtyklo, pastor of St. Rita in Trenary, and Bishop Sample. Not pictured: The Decets' daughter, Stephanie Decet, of Colorado. (Courtesy photos)



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**PASTORALLY
SPEAKING**
Bishop James
H. Garland



It is a common experience of Catholics who attend Mass on Sunday that the number in attendance is decreasing. That experience is supported by professional surveys. The second largest religious group in the U.S. is ex-Catholics according to Father William Byron, S.J. of St. Joseph University in Philadelphia. He claims the Catholic attendance at Sunday Mass is 40 to 43 percent of baptized Catholics. Not that it is any comfort, but the percentage of attendance in Canada and Europe is significantly lower.

When I was a youth, I recall a report that the percentage of Catholics attending Sunday Mass was in the high 90s and the strongest motive for attending Mass was to avoid mortal sin for missing Mass. From a survey of 300 non-going Catholics, Father Byron and Dr. Charles Zech found that a fresh explanation of the nature of the Eucharist needs immediate attention today. I preached on this topic recently following an approach of Father Harry Meyer's homily suggestions in the Franciscan Media. Some may find it helpful.

Every Sunday we are invited to taste and see the goodness of the Lord. He has prepared a sumptuous feast and bids us, "Eat of my food and drink of the wine I have

COLUMN

You have a standing invitation

mixed." Our celebration of the Eucharist is aptly described as a sacred banquet. We are invited to share in God's eternal life. Every Sunday we are invited to the supper of the Lamb!

The Second Vatican Council Fathers taught us that the Eucharistic Liturgy is the source and summit of our spiritual lives. They encouraged us, all of us to a full, conscious and active participation in

*"Every Sunday we are invited to taste and see the goodness of the Lord."
-Bishop James Garland*

this public worship. That frame of attitude takes deliberation and intent on our part to participate consciously in the mystery we are celebrating together. It is easy to simply say or sing the words without adverting to the meaning or the mystery they express. How might we improve our consciousness and participation in the celebration of the Eucharist?

As we shower and dress for Mass, then drive to Church, we might prepare our hearts and minds to celebrate the sacred banquet. On entering the Church, the clear refreshing holy water makes us conscious of our baptism and the divine life we share with the Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We can make ourselves aware that we are in communion with the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ who saved us by the Holy Cross. His sacrificial act is re-presented at the table of the Lord, at the altar we see before us. The crucifix brings these thoughts to our minds.

We see and greet our brothers and sisters in Christ. We call to mind the crosses they are carrying and bringing to prayer this Sunday. We are members of one body united in Christ Jesus and we need each other.

Our presiding priest enters and the Eucharistic celebration begins. He invites us to be conscious of our relationship with the Lord, that we are sinners and therefore need his mercy and forgiveness. United with the angels in heaven, and our brothers and sisters present with us, we give glory to God in the highest. We then attend to the words of the opening prayer that calls us together in the presence of God.

Perhaps we have looked at the readings of the Liturgy of the Word before leaving home for Mass. But now we expand our consciousness and grasp of the word of God so it gives meaning for our lives. We hope that the presider's homily will bring that word even closer to our faith experience and our need for

inspiration and encouragement.

In response to God's word we now profess our faith in union with our brothers and sisters here present and those who live throughout the world, the faith that has been professed for 2,000 years: "I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible." We then have the opportunity to offer our time, talent and treasure to the Lord God, the giver of every good gift, to our parish community and to the world. In this way we act as responsible stewards of God's gifts. We also place our lives on the altar with the gifts that are brought forth by the congregation.

Now we are prepared to lift our minds and hearts to the Lord. We join with the angels and saints in heaven and all the faithful on earth giving thanks and praise by singing "Holy, Holy, Holy." Our priest prays the Eucharistic prayer in our name. The Holy Spirit is invoked and we attend to Jesus' words, "Take this all of you, and eat of it for this is my body! Take this all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my blood!" Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, is truly present. This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church. This we truly believe! He is now with us under the appearance of bread and wine as a person to be encountered in his glorified humanity.

Then we pray to the Lord for the living and deceased members of our family, our friends and the whole church. We pray in communion with all the saints on earth and in heaven. And we conclude this greatest prayer of the Church with a grand amen. Amen! Amen!

We next pray in the words that our Divine Savior gave us by forgiving and being forgiven and so prepare ourselves to receive the bread of life. While in communion with the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we recognize that we are not simply an audience. While it is not always easy to participate in the liturgy fully, consciously and actively, we readily make a dedicated effort to enter into the depths of the mystery that we are celebrating.

We are blessed to be called to the supper of the Lamb! In Holy Communion we recognize that we are members of the Body of Christ. We are called to be instruments of His peace! We are called to continue His ministry on earth as other Christs! We are commissioned to bring His good news to the world and to glorify the Lord with our lives. May it be so!

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Part 2 of 4: A consequential election

FAITH MATTERS

Most Reverend Alexander K. Sample



In this column, I continue the four-part series on how to exercise faithful Catholic citizenship in preparation for the November election. The last column focused attention on the important issues of social justice, the common good and the “preferential option for the poor.”

Now we turn to some of the other major issues to be considered as we approach the election booth. Respect for the sacredness of human life is surely at the top of the list of issues that must be considered, especially since it is so often under attack in what Blessed John Paul II referred to as the “culture of death.”

Where does our discussion of this issue begin? Actually, I think we should begin with the monumental teaching given to us by Blessed John Paul II that has come to be referred to as the “theology of the body.” God made human beings in his own image and likeness. The Book of Genesis also teaches us that He made them “male and female.”

In our very being, in our bodies themselves, God has written a beautiful and powerful language that is expressed in the act of sexual intimacy between a man and a woman joined in marriage. The differences between man and woman are evident and very real. Yet, at the same time they mutually complement one another, including sexually. This is part of our very psychological and physical nature as human beings, and is therefore part of what is known as the “natural law.”

What goes hand in hand with this beautiful design of God written in our very nature is the power to cooperate with Him in bringing new life into the world. Part of this “theology of the body” is that God

uses man and woman, united in the marital bond and through the act of conjugal love, to create a new human life. This is very sacred indeed.

From the very moment of conception, a unique and irreplaceable member of the human family comes into existence. This is simple science and is based on the genetically unique individual of the

“From the very moment of conception, a unique and irreplaceable member of the human family comes into existence.”

-Bishop Alexander Sample

human species that comes into existence when sperm and egg unite in the act of conception.

This unique human life comes from the union of man and woman in not just any act of sexual embrace, but from one that remains open to such new life. It is part of this language of the body, the very way we are made, that the conjugal act is both about united love and the power to bring forth new life. To separate the two, or to exclude the procreative power of the conjugal act through contraception, is to disfigure the very meaning of it as designed by our Creator.

In the sexual embrace, spouses give themselves completely to one another, including their fertility, holding nothing back from each other. To use contraception to avoid pregnancy is to violate the very language of married love that God himself has written in our nature, indeed in our very bodies. That is why the Church has always and everywhere taught that contraception is a grave moral evil and, if assented to willingly, a grave sin.

It should be pointed out that under specific circumstances, the use of hormone therapy for the treatment of real and serious medical conditions can be considered morally licit. However, it may never

be used for the purposes or intention of contraception.

Every life is sacred. Planned or unplanned, each unique and irreplaceable individual must be profoundly respected and protected, regardless of cost, from conception to natural death. We must treat each human life from the moment of conception with the same dignity as we should any human person, young or old. That is why abortion is always morally and objectively wrong in every circumstance and under all conditions.

Some would try to make exceptions when it comes to the evil of abortion. Cases of rape, incest, or the life/health of the mother are commonly cited as exceptional circumstances that would justify taking the life of the unborn child. But no good intention or intended good result ever justifies doing something that is, in itself, morally wrong. The ends never justify the means. As horrific a choice as it might be, one may never directly take the life of one innocent human being to save another.

Even when a new life is conceived under tragic circumstances, it does not make that life any less human or any less worthy of our love, respect and protection than an unborn child that is planned and/or wanted. We do not give the unborn child his or her humanity and dignity, based on our judgment of the circumstances of his or her conception. A new human life has dignity and value simply because it is a unique human life created in God’s image and likeness.

As difficult and terrible as the circumstances might be, we need to show profound care and love for both mother and unborn child, providing practical help for pregnant women struggling to choose life. We must do everything we can to help alleviate the pain and suffering,

while honoring the dignity of both human lives.

This beautiful design of God with regard to human life and marital love is a wonderful thing to behold and is indeed profoundly sacred and should be treated with the deepest respect. That is why any threats to human life or any efforts to force the Church, her institutions or individuals to violate the sacredness of human life and the dignity

of the sexual intimacy in marriage must be opposed. This is absolutely “non-negotiable” when it comes to weighing the issues before us in any election cycle.

For additional reading, please see Blessed John Paul II’s Evangelium Vitae, Pope Paul VI’s Humanae Vitae, and visit www.foryourmarriage.org/the-theology-of-the-body-according-to-pope-john-paul-ii.



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Catholic Missionary Overcomes Terrible Accident, Finds New Mission Helping Handicapped

When an oncoming car slammed into Grace Okalany in 1990, she had no idea God was using the event to make her a more effective disciple for his people.

In the moment of the accident, all she could think about was her pain.

Grace's hip, pelvis and femur were severely broken. Doctors tried implanting an artificial hip, but her body rejected it. For three long years, she struggled through recovery and excruciating rehabilitation at a treatment center in Nairobi, Kenya.

To this day, she bears the physical burden of that accident — one leg is shorter than the other and she must use crutches to walk.

"I felt so weak," Grace recalled. "I thought God had left me to die in the hospital."

Grace returned to Uganda after her treatment was complete and there met Father John Ahimbisibwe, coordinator of Wisdom Training Center, an outreach run by the Montfort Fathers in western Uganda. The ministry is a vocational training center where handicapped young adults living in poverty learn life-skills and income-generating careers like tailoring, shoe repair, and agriculture.

Fr. John convinced Grace to join his work — and she immediately saw how the car accident had uniquely prepared her for this special service at the center.

"Since I am handicapped myself, I can relate to the young adults; they open up to me," Grace said. "I understand their frustrations, the discrimination they face, and their desire to succeed. Because I understand them, I can better help them."

Advancing from volunteer to secretary to director, Grace works among the disabled every day, pouring her compassion and skills into

helping them improve their lives. In Uganda and other poor countries, the disabled routinely experience discrimination and abuse. They are often denied the opportunity to attend school.

The 15 to 25-year-olds who come to Grace often can't read or write and have been shunned by their families and society, but they all have a burning desire to learn, Grace said.

"I know God led me here to serve them," Grace said. "I know he made me 'one of them' so I can advocate for them and help



Grace has found her place at Wisdom.

them understand they are worthy in his eyes."

This approach appealed to Cross Catholic Outreach (formerly known as Cross International Catholic Outreach), a Florida-based charity that supports Catholic ministries overseas. Soon after discovering the outreach, Cross Catholic Outreach pledged to provide Grace with regular financial support — a huge



Elias is one of the many young people benefiting from the services of the Wisdom Training Center. At 19-years-old, he is finally getting the opportunity to make use of his artistic skills.

blessing for her ministry as it sought stability and ways to increase its services to the poor.

With help from its charitable U.S. benefactors, Cross Catholic Outreach has now supported Wisdom Training Center for more than five years, providing them with workshop equipment, training materials, teachers' salaries, food, and other operational assistance.

Jim Cavnar, the president of Cross Catholic Outreach believes even more can be done.

"The work of Grace and the Montfort Fathers is the kind of service that resonates with Catholics because it affirms that each person is eternally valuable in God's eyes," he said. "As more American Catholics become aware of what the Wisdom Training Center is doing, I believe their support will increase and the outreach will expand, not just here but everywhere the handicapped are struggling for respect and hope."

"Supporting a project like Wisdom Training Center is a way for us as Catholics to say to a handicapped person, 'You are

loved by Christ. You are worthy, and we brothers and sisters in Christ are here for you,'" Cavnar added.

For Grace, knowing American Catholics are standing with her through Cross Catholic Outreach is an invaluable source of strength. It sparks a hope in her that radiates outward to the students, giving them greater self worth, energy and optimism.

"We are all one family in Christ," Grace said. "The help we've received from our American 'family' through Cross Catholic Outreach is a blessing. I want to thank them for their support and prayers, because we couldn't do any of this life-changing work without them."

To support the worldwide outreaches of Cross Catholic Outreach, look for the ministry brochure enclosed in this issue of the paper or mail your donation to **Cross Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC00882, PO Box 9558, Wilton, NH 03086-9558. All contributions to the ministry are tax deductible.**

"Cross" Now Endorsed by More Than 50 Bishops, Archbishops

As Cross Catholic Outreach (formerly known as Cross International Catholic Outreach) continues its range of relief work to help the poor overseas, its efforts are being recognized by a growing number of Catholic leaders in the U.S.

"We've received an impressive number of endorsements from American Bishops and Archbishops — 60 Catholic leaders at last count," explained Jim Cavnar, president of Cross Catholic Outreach (CCO). "They're impressed by the fact that we've done outreaches in more than 40 countries and that we undertake a variety of projects; everything from feeding the hungry and housing the homeless to supplying safe water and supporting educational opportunities for the poorest of the poor."

Archbishop Robert Carlson of St. Louis sent one of the more recent letters of encouragement, writing: "It is my hope that this ministry will continue to flourish and reach as many people as possible. I will inform the priests of the Archdiocese of St. Louis of the important work that Cross Catholic Outreach does and elicit their prayerful and financial support for the service you provide to the less fortunate around the world."

In addition to praising the work CCO

accomplishes, many of the Bishops and Archbishops are also impressed by the unique collaborative relationship Cross Catholic Outreach has with the Pontifical Council *Cor Unum* in Rome. This allows the charity to participate in the mercy ministries of the Holy Father himself. In his praise of CCO, **Archbishop Dennis Schnurr of Cincinnati** underscored this unique connection.

"Cross Catholic Outreach's close collaboration with the Pontifical Council *Cor Unum* is a source of encouragement," the Archbishop said. "The Holy See has unique knowledge of local situations throughout the world through its papal representatives in nearly two hundred countries and through its communications with Bishops and others who care for the poor and needy in every corner of the world."

CCO president, Jim Cavnar, explained the significance of this connection.

"Our collaboration with *Cor Unum* allows us to fund outreaches in virtually any area of the world and we have used that method in special cases — to help the victims of natural disasters, for example," he said. "It only represents a small part of our overall ministry, but it can be a very important benefit in those situations."



CCO's outreach helps priests, nuns and Catholic lay leaders throughout the world.

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Christ's Love for Blind, Handicapped Serves As Inspiration for Catholic Missions Helping the Poor

In the ninth chapter of the book of John, the Apostle describes Jesus giving a blind man sight to glorify God. In the story, John shows how faith and a simple dab of mud were used as instruments of a miracle — ultimately giving new hope to the handicapped man.

Even today, thousands of years later, we recognize this act as an amazing example of our Lord's power and love.

When Sister Emma Kulombe looks to this story, she wishes she could, like Jesus, smear mud on the eyes of deaf/blind children to cure them. She and the other Servants of the Blessed Virgin Mary ache to have their wards transformed.

Since she hasn't been so blessed with a miracle, Sister Emma does what she can instead. She helps the children blossom and find hope in other ways.

"These children have something to offer that the world needs. We help them glorify God through their faith, joy and talents," she said. "We work with them to bring those blessings out."

This service is not without its tears, however. Many of the children have histories of past suffering that pierce the nun's heart with grief.

Sr. Emma said this kind of neglect is sadly common for physically or mentally handicapped children in Africa and around the world. In many countries, including Malawi, disabled children are considered a curse, and parents prefer to hide them away than endure the social stigma of raising a "cursed" child.

"Some children couldn't eat by themselves when we discovered them," Sr. Emma said. "We showed them how to eat, how to wash their hands, how to hold a cup and how to go to the toilet."

Worldwide, millions of handicapped children in developing countries live in the shadows like John, forced to the edges of humanity by social stigmas and, more often, extreme poverty.

Parents of disabled children in the developing world are too poor to properly care for them — when there's barely enough food for the family to eat, much-needed physical therapy, special schools and doctor's visits are out of the question.

"Physically and mentally handicapped children are largely ignored in many areas of the world," said Jim Cavnar, president of Cross Catholic Outreach (formerly known as Cross International Outreach), a ministry alleviating poverty among "the least of these"



Sr. Emma uses touch to help blind/deaf children expand their sense of the world.

As an example of the good that can be done, Cavnar pointed to the story of Mishineca Isorena, a 10-year-old girl with Down's syndrome in the Philippines.

Mishineca was taken in by a Cross Catholic Outreach-sponsored school when she was 5 years old. At the time, she couldn't walk or talk. Her impoverished mother, Regina, was struggling to raise her in a shack within Manila's worst slum neighborhood.

Today, thanks to free therapy provided by the Cross Catholic Outreach-funded school, Mishineca is thriving. She loves to dance, sing, and help her mother around the house. No longer trapped in a terrible home, she has new opportunities and enjoys life. The school also provides food for the family.

"One day, Mishineca will be capable of independence and the normal life of an adult," Regina said proudly. "The school is giving her the tools and helping her achieve that confidence. She will not let others take advantage of her. The Lord has done this."

Mishineca is just one example of the many handicapped children who now lives a better life because American Catholics ministered to her through Cross Catholic Outreach.

"As a Catholic ministry, we know the value of every human life. So do the Catholics who support us," Cavnar said. "Working together, we want to help poor families see disabled children as a gift from God. We want to give those children an

opportunity to succeed and experience God's love — perhaps for the first time."

For some of the ministries serving handicapped children, a significant portion of their budgets come through Cross Catholic Outreach. Such outreaches would either close or need to reduce their services drastically without that help.

"There really is a direct link between American Catholics and the success of the work being done. To put it simply — these outreaches wouldn't be possible without outside support. Fortunately, American Catholics remain involved and their generosity is amazing, especially toward disabled children," Cavnar said. "I'm confident my fellow Catholics will continue to see the eternal worth of the 'least of these' among us and keep supporting our work — the kind of work that touches children like John in Malawi."

Because John's parents have allowed him to live and study at Sister Emma's ministry, the young boy's life has taken a remarkable turn from its difficult start. Where there was darkness, there is now light. Where there was despair, new hope is taking root. It is the kind of physical and spiritual transformation that only God can orchestrate.

"The Lord has brought us together to serve handicapped children and save them from the darkness," Sr. Emma said. "He uses our outreach, a dedicated staff and financial support from America to achieve this. Praise God!"



Extreme poverty adds to the many hardships of the handicapped. Some children are never able to overcome the hurdles it presents — and they suffer greatly as a result.

Sr. Emma recalls one deaf/blind boy named John [his name is changed here to protect his identity] whose parents worked in remote fields each day and left him home alone while they toiled. The young boy ate nothing all day and slept outside of the hut at night because his parents forbid him from sharing the space with the rest of the family.

One day Sr. Emma visited John and saw he was naked while his brothers and sisters were clothed. Matthew 25:36 came to her mind: "...I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me..."

She immediately brought John some clothes and promised to visit again.

worldwide. "Even in cases where the parents are attentive, they are often too poor to provide the special care a disabled child needs to lead a fulfilling life. The poor can't afford surgeries to cure a club foot or cleft palate, nor can they pay for special boarding schools or therapy sessions. Poor families often live in deplorable slums or in far-flung rural areas, and it's a struggle just to eat each day and keep a roof over their heads."

With support from its many American Catholic benefactors, Cross Catholic Outreach is working to bring accessible care to disabled children in dozens of developing countries. It strives to carry the light of Christ to those living and suffering in the shadows.

How to Help:

Your help is needed for Cross Catholic Outreach to bring Christ's mercy to the poorest of the poor. To make a donation, use the enclosed postage-paid brochure or mail a gift to: Cross Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC00882, PO Box 9558, Wilton, NH 03086-9558.



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St. Augustine Parish Family, along with the whole Republic area community and Sacred Heart Parish Family with the Champion and Michigamme area communities wish

to thank

Sister Lois

for her many years of ministry.

You have touched many lives and we are grateful.

Champion, Republic parishioners honor Sister Lois Risch as she returns to motherhouse in Manitowoc

BY JOHN FEE

Wonderfully warm. Down to earth. Spiritual leader. These are a few of the affectionate terms used to describe Franciscan Sister of Christian Charity, Sister Lois Risch, at an open house held in her honor on Aug. 30 and 31. Many of the people she has ministered to since 1999 in the communities served by Sacred Heart Parish in Champion and St. Augustine Parish in Republic stopped by the house she had shared with Sister Margey Schmelzle, OSF in Republic.

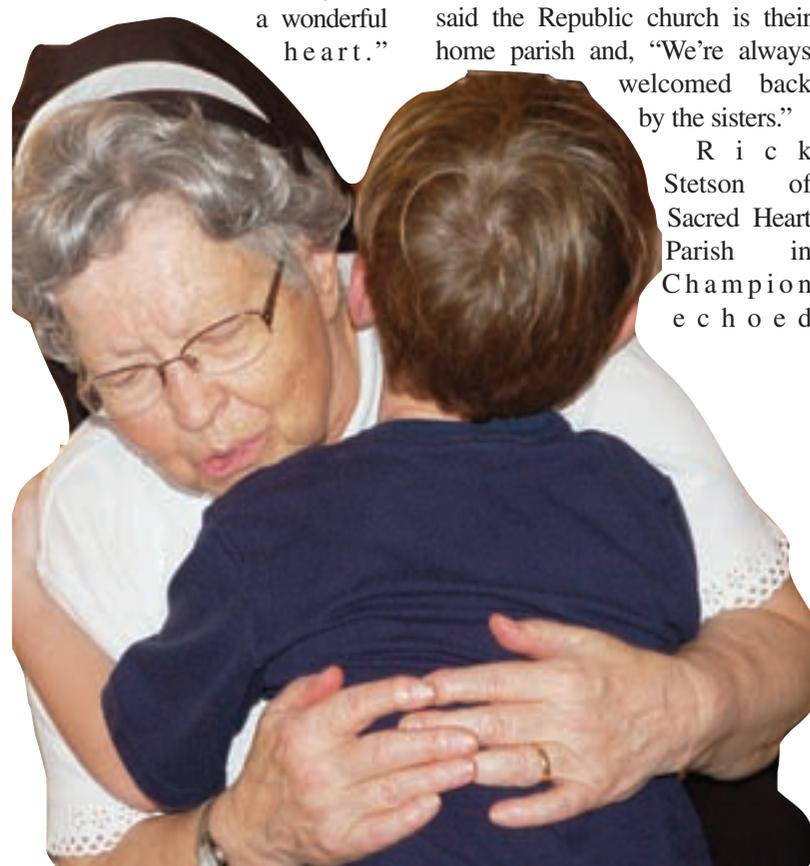
Sister Margey described the work of Sister Lois as “ministry with a wonderful heart.”

She said she enjoyed working with Sister Lois and “brainstorming with her to solve problems.”

Sacred Heart parishioner, Joel LePage, described Sister Lois as “a person who really enjoys life.” He said her qualities as a “spiritual leader” was invaluable to the communities she served.

“They pull the community together,” said Kay Parkinson of both Sister Lois and Sister Margey. She said the nuns are known for attending many different church and community functions, which help solidify community bonds. Although she lives in Minnesota with her husband, Claud, Parkinson said the Republic church is their home parish and, “We’re always welcomed back by the sisters.”

R i c k Stetson of Sacred Heart Parish in **C h a m p i o n e c h o e d**



HUGS - Sister Lois Risch, OSF receives a hug from one of her young parishioners at an open house in Republic. (John Fee photo)



SHOULDER TO SHOULDER - Franciscan Sisters Margey Schmelzle (left) and Lois Risch entertain visitors to an open house in Sister Lois’ honor. (John Fee photo)

Parkinson’s description, calling Sister Lois a “mainstay for us.” He said he especially enjoyed her weekly Scripture studies of the Sunday Mass readings and described her as “very patient with us and very hardworking.”

Stetson’s wife, Bonnie, simply said, “I love her.” She also pointed out that Sister Lois is “a real person. What you see is what you get.”

Sister Lois said she has enjoyed her work as a pastoral coordinator. “The people are wonderful to work with,” she said. She started working in this ministry in 1994 in DeTour and Drummond Island. Prior to that, she was a principal and teacher.

One of the highlights of her work in Champion and Republic, Sister Lois said, was growing the Scripture study program, which she started with 10 people and grew to 50 participants.

She said she also enjoyed the religious education program for youth. One big disappointment was when parents would let their children drop out after Confirmation,

especially when Confirmation was received at a young age. “Just because they’re confirmed, they’re not graduated in learning about their faith,” she said.

Another ministry close to her heart was visiting people in their homes when they were sick, and taking Holy Communion to the homebound. She said she also enjoyed preparing people for the sacraments, including the Anointing of the Sick. She said she would tell people who thought of this as a final sacrament, “You’re not going to die, but asking God for strength.”

Sister Lois said she also enjoyed diocesan work and appreciated being included in committees. She noted she liked the challenge and “you had to be up on your thinking.”

Now Sister Lois is returning to her order’s motherhouse in Manitowoc, Wis. to recuperate after difficult health issues. But that’s not the end of her plans. After regaining strength, she wants to “ask the house, ‘where are the needs?’”

“There is always something for you to do,” Sister Lois said.

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The mission of this very exciting ministry is to educate women toward a deeper, more profound understanding of their God-given dignity and vocation as women! Endow promises to be of great spiritual benefit not only to the women who participate in it but their families, parishes and communities, too. **For registration and fee information please contact the Family Life Office at 1-800-562-9745, extension 178 or cjenkins@dioceseofmarquette.org**

Care Clinic opens at K.I. Sawyer

CARING - Dana Richards, director of volunteer operations (left) and René Blanchard, volunteer, look over baby clothes at the grand opening of Care Clinic's new location at K.I. Sawyer in Gwinn on Sept 6. The clinic offers pregnancy testing, educational classes on parenting and life skills, and the family resource closet, which provides donated baby items to expectant and new parents. The K.I. Sawyer office, located at 301 Explorer in the Gwinn Sawyer Medical Center, is open every Thursday from noon to 4 pm.



Gianna Jessen, whose life story inspired the movie, "October Baby," will be the guest speaker at Care Clinic's annual fundraising dinner, "Every Life is Beautiful," on Oct. 4. For more information about Care Clinic's K.I. Sawyer and Marquette (1213 North 3rd Street) locations, or about the annual dinner, call the clinic at (906) 228-2273. (Terri Gadzinski photo)

Released in 1946, 'By Cross and Anchor' available again to tell the story of Venerable Bishop Baraga

Released in 1946, 'By Cross and Anchor' available again to tell the story of Venerable Bishop Baraga

A special attraction has arrived just in time for Baraga Days, set for Sept. 22-23 in Marquette. "By Cross and Anchor - The story of Frederic Baraga on Lake Superior," a long out-of-print narrative biography of the first bishop of Marquette, has been recently re-issued and will be available for purchase.

"By Cross and Anchor" is not only historically accurate, it's a riveting read," said Father Ben Paris, executive director of the Bishop Baraga Association.

The timing of the re-release coincides perfectly with the Baraga Days' public celebration of Bishop Baraga having been declared "venerable" by Pope Benedict XVI on May 10.

"By Cross and Anchor," written by James K. Jamison, was first published in 1946.

"The reprinting of this historical gem will introduce new generations of readers to Bishop Frederic Baraga, the legendary Snowshoe Priest..." said Larry Chabot, parishioner at St. Christopher Parish in Marquette and author of "The U.P. Goes to War."

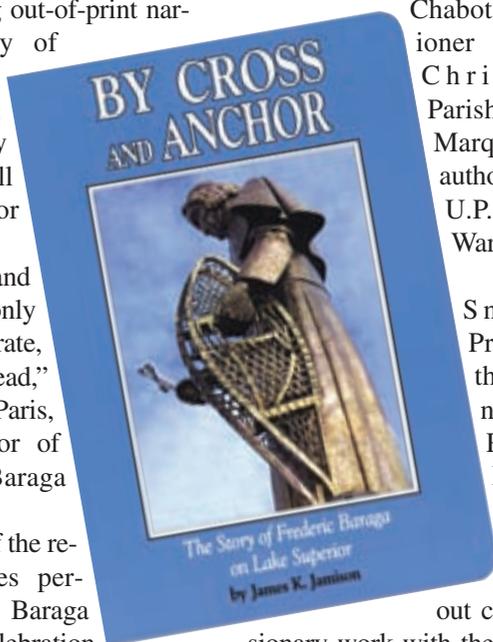
The Snowshoe Priest was the perfect name for Rev. Frederic Baraga. As he carried out crucial missionary work with the Chippewa Indians on the Lake Superior shore, he did not let heavy winter snows impede his work. Each winter he trekked hundreds of miles on snowshoes to bring assistance, comfort and blessings to

tribal members in remote villages.

Ordained a priest in his native Slovenia, Bishop Baraga felt called to minister to American Indians in the U.S. In 1830, against the advice of family and clergy friends, he left his comfortable home and departed for the New World into an uncertain and likely perilous future. For 35 years he ministered along the shores of Lake Superior, establishing missions in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Upper Michigan.

"The narrative (in 'By Cross and Anchor') of Frederic Baraga's mission is essentially the narrative of a struggle - long, intense, unrelenting - out of which a man emerges to victory," said author James K. Jamison in the book's foreword.

For a complete schedule of Baraga Days events, visit the website at www.bishopbaraga.org. For additional information or to purchase the book, call the Bishop Baraga Association at (906) 227-9117. You may also contact the publisher, Jerry Harju, at (906) 226-3984.



Sacraments 2012



FIRST COMMUNION - The First Communion class at Holy Name of Mary Proto-Cathedral in Sault Ste. Marie were Magdalene Bauer, Landon Bosley, Jean-Pierre Broz, Randi Bumstead, Delania Forrest, Dominic Haller, Audrey Jones, Sebastian Lavey, Abigail McKerchie, Maggie Mathews, Alex Mayer, Joelle Mayer, Madison Mayer, Elizabeth Ohman, Elyza Rodriguez, Kolbe Max Swanson and Tessa Woolever. (Courtesy photo)



FIRST COMMUNION - The First Communion class at St. Joseph Parish in Perkins were (left to right) front row: Patricia Jo Salmi, Logan Lancour, Torie Zeise and Ann Mankiewicz (teacher). Back row: Father Jacek Wtyklo (pastor), Cain Hall and Noah VanEnkevort. (Courtesy photo)



Congratulations Mike Decet on being awarded the Legacy of Faith Catholic Service Award.

**Thank you for all of your tireless work, Mike!
-From Father Jacek and The St. Rita Parish Family**

Find full issues of *The U.P. Catholic* online at www.upcatholic.org

Brother Albert Anton Bracket

WAKEFIELD, Mich. —Brother Albert Anton Bracket, 85, died August 24, 2012 at the New Melleray Abbey monastery infirmary in Dubuque, Iowa. He was the brother of Father Louis Bracket, a senior priest in the Diocese of Marquette.

Albert Bracket served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Stationed in Japan after the war, he walked up a hill to survey the city of Nagasaki. "The sight I saw changed my whole

life," he would later say.

Brother Al entered New Melleray Cistercian Abbey for the first time on Oct. 5, 1948. He made his simple profession of religious vows on Dec. 22, 1950, and professed solemn vows on Christmas Day, 1954.

While a monk at New Melleray, Brother Al became a licensed plumber and served the community in this capacity. He installed new boilers in the 1950s and helped install a 1,500-foot-deep well, which he maintained for many years.

According to Father Louis, his brother experienced a crisis in his vocation in the early 1960s and asked to be dispensed from his vows. He left on April 27, 1963. He met Armella "Bobbie" Kluck and they married two years later.



Brother Albert Anton Bracket

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Following her death in 1991, Brother Al asked permission to return and re-entered the monastery on April 4, 1993, and made his solemn profession on Nov. 1, 1997.

He was preceded in death by his parents. In addition to Father Louis Bracket, Brother Al is survived by two sisters, Virginia Coolidge and Rita Meir; two additional brothers, John David Bracket and Jim Bracket; many nieces and nephews, and his community at New Melleray Abbey.

Neil R. Carlson

ESCANABA - Neil R. Carlson, 75, of Escanaba, died July 30, 2012, at his home following a lengthy illness. He was a former president of the Catholic Social Services board of directors.

Neil was born in Escanaba on June 29, 1937, son of Arthur C. and Agnes E. (Larson) Carlson. He was a lifelong resident of Escanaba. He graduated from Escanaba High School, class of 1955. He studied at Michigan State University for two years. He served in the Navy from 1960 until 1962, and the Navy Reserves until 1966 when he was honorably discharged. In 1968, he graduated from Northern Michigan University with a degree in social work.

Neil married Charlene A. LaMarch on April 4, 1970 at St. Thomas the Apostle Church.

He was employed by the C. Reiss Coal Company sailing on the Great Lakes for two years. He later became a licensing consultant for the state of Michigan, retiring in 1997.

He was a member of St. Anne Parish where he served as a Eucharistic minister and homebound minister. He was a member of the American Legion Post 82, Coast Guard Auxiliary, Great Lakes Rod and Gun Club, member of Ducks Unlimited, Delta County Veterans Council, Marriage Encounter and the Delta County Victims Advocacy Program. He was also a shareholder in the Second Lake Farm.

Among his survivors are his wife, Charlene of Escanaba; four children, Jodi Carlson, Holly (Greg) Thomma, Art (Jessica) Carlson and Catherine Carlson, all of Escanaba; and a granddaughter, Sloane.

A Mass of Christian Burial for Neil R. Carlson was held on Aug. 6 at St. Anne Church with Rev. Fran DeGroot officiating. Burial was in Holy Cross Cemetery.



Neil R. Carlson

DEATHS

ABRAHAMSON Jr., Gary, 61, St. Anne, Escanaba
ARCHAMBEAU, Daniel J., 77, St. Ann, Baraga
BARTOLAMEOLLI, Henry, 89, Immaculate Conception, Iron Mountain
BEAUDRIE, Thomas, 85, All Saints, Gladstone
BOBCANIK, Mary Agnes, 95, Our Lady of Peace, Ironwood
CAMILLI, Alfred, 99, St. Michael, Marquette
CREEDEN, Franklin C., 91, St. Francis de Sales, Manistique
GAUTHIER, Gerard W., 90, St. Francis de Sales, Manistique
HASTINGS, Charles Eugene, 67, Our Lady of Peace, Ironwood
HEROLD, Don J., 72, Resurrection, Menominee
KOLSON, Helen Katherine, 104, Our Lady of Peace, Ironwood
LESANDRINI, Anna Mae, 83, Immaculate Conception, Iron Mountain
LUNDELL, Rose Marie, 76, Immaculate Conception, Iron Mountain
MARINELLI, Doris, 89, St. Barbara, Vulcan
MILKIEWICZ CAFF, Jill, 51, St. Anne, Escanaba
NEFF, Amelia, 94, All Saints, Gladstone
OIE, Mary E., 88, Our Lady of Peace, Ironwood
OTTO, Frances, 94, St. Agnes, Iron River
RADAKOVICH, Adele Mary Ann, 94, Our Lady of Peace, Ironwood
ROSHAK, Helen, 100, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Bark River
RULEFORD, Richard "Dick," 88, Resurrection, Menominee
SANDS, Karen M., 61, Sacred Heart, L'Anse
SCHIAVO, Peter, 78, Guardian Angels, Crystal Falls
SPIGARELLI, Abraham, 84, Immaculate Conception, Iron Mountain
SUSTRICK, Albert Louis, 88, Resurrection, Menominee
TAKALA, Victoria Madeline, 84, St. Sebastian, Bessemer
TANNER, Timothy "Buck," 28, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Bark River
TUBBS, Eva Lauzon, 97, All Saints, Gladstone
VERNON, Jolly, 72, St. Joseph, Lake Linden
YANKOVICH, Walter J., 91, Resurrection, Hancock
ZAZESKI, Theodore "Ted," Resurrection, Menominee

WEDDINGS

BESSEMER, St. Sebastian: Allison Stefaniak and Brandon Kupitz
CRYSTAL FALLS, Guardian

Angels: Jessica Nylund and Daniel Surface

ESCANABA, St. Anne: Vicki Robinette and Jamie DeGrand
GLADSTONE, All Saints: Mandi Prim and Javier Jasso Jr.; Cadia Humpula and Wayne Hofmann; Lindsay Pantti and Michael Smith; Stephanie Gerdom and John Tomasoski

HOUGHTON, St. Ignatius Loyola: Margaret G. Blais and David L. Hanshaw

IRONWOOD, Our Lady of Peace: Valerie Marie Overton and Nathaniel Patrick Lagalo

BAPTISMS

CASPIAN, St. Cecilia: Bryan Robert James Gill
ESCANABA, St. Anne: Dane Alexander Koski; Aylah Jean Seder
FOSTER CITY, St. Joseph: Mason David Querio
GLADSTONE, All Saints: Chelsey Demeuse
HANCOCK, Resurrection: Ashlyn Mae Hamel, Elie Phillip Frazier, Jayden Lee Beyers
HOUGHTON, St. Ignatius Loyola: Stella Rose Wickstrom, Theodore Wyatt Dabrowski
IRONWOOD, Our Lady of Peace: Gvanni Carlos D'Antonio, Elena Kelly Kodis, Tegan Jade Linn, Quinlan Emil Hampston
IRON RIVER, St. Agnes: Isabelle Ann Benson
ISHPEMING, St. Joseph: Jayme Lee Bertucci, Drew Steven Nelson
KINGSFORD, St. Mary Queen of Peace: Juliana Kate Rodriguez
LAKE LINDEN, St. Joseph: Paige Catherine Curto, Dayne Bradley Pini
MARQUETTE, St. Michael: Kaylin Ann Link, Garret Shea McLaughlin, Waylon Thomas Houle, Rosalynne Elizabeth Quinlan, Xavier Ward Oswald, Garret Shea McLaughlin, Roger Juliano Erickson; St. Louis the King: Luukas Heikkinen; Brody Lauren
MENOMINEE, Holy Redeemer: Lucas Linsmeier; Resurrection: Alaina Jane Fritz, Ryan Jacob Parrett, Sawyer Nathaniel Reiszwitz
NORWAY, St. Mary: Claire Elizabeth Cazzola, Branden Tyler Krause, Breanne Noel Krause, Piper Lee Roberts, Paige Aileen Roberts, Eli Michael Anderson
ONTONAGON, Holy Family: Levi James Lockhart
SOUTH RANGE, Holy Family: Jaron Patrick Moilanen, Morgan Jacie Vandiver
ST. IGNACE, St. Ignatius Loyola: Annika Neuschwander, Elise Patrick Sorenson, Kira Michelle Massaway
VULCAN, St. Barbara: Lucas John Doney
WAKEFIELD, Immaculate Conception: Aleena Ellsworth, Kendra Mattson, Olivia Jackson

COLUMNS

REFLECTIONS
FROM
NORTHSTAR
Regis Walling

In the last 35 years, we are hearing much about “pilgrimage” and being a “pilgrim.” What is this all about? When he welcomed athletes to the London games, Archbishop Vincent Nichols of Westminster said: “We believe every human being to be ultimately a pilgrim in search of truth, goodness and the fulfillment of potential.” Was he saying that everyone is a “work in progress,” growing from Point A to Point B at all times, always striving yet not achieving in this life here below? Almost all spiritual writers talk about the “journey.” Others use the term “on the way.” Sometimes when a word is overused we tend not to really hear it, and I think that this is true of the words “journey” and “pilgrimage.”

Some of you may recall that in the biographies we read as youngsters about “great”

The making of a pilgrimage is the making of a pilgrim

Americans a book which was part of their formation was “The Pilgrim’s Progress” by John Bunyan. This allegory of the journey of “Christian” through his life was a formative study for many of the Founding Fathers (and Mothers).

Jesus was raised in a “pilgrimage” culture. Annually the Jews made three pilgrimages to Jerusalem for the major feasts. It was on the return trip from a pilgrimage to Jerusalem that Jesus was “lost” in the Temple.

The Psalms, #120-129, are hymns composed to be sung “on pilgrimage” and prayed in this spirit they still speak to us. Our Muslim brothers and sisters are required to make the Haj, the pilgrimage to Mecca, once in their lifetime.

Our own retreat facility at Marygrove sponsors “Parish Pilgrimage Retreats.” Our liturgy reminds us that we are a pilgrim Church, a pilgrim people.

So what makes a pilgrimage more than just a trip from one place to another?

“The pilgrim travels light and as one goes along lets the unnecessary drop.”
-Regis Walling

A person embarks upon a pilgrimage for a spiritual purpose. It may be for renewal, for penance, for seeing more clearly the inner self or the resolu-

tion of a difficulty. The pilgrim travels light and as one goes along lets the unnecessary drop. The pilgrim sees the difference between a want and a need. The pilgrim follows a certain path, marked along the way by signs to which he/she must be alert. The pilgrim is conscious of taking one step at a time, no matter how tired he/she may be, learns to accept the hospitality of others and to help other co-pilgrims as need may suggest.

In the book, “Along the Way,” Martin Sheen writes, “There’s an old saying: If you arrive at the Kingdom alone you must answer just one question: ‘Where are the others?’ We are made so that we must travel alone, yet we cannot do so with-

out community. No one can live our lives for us or carry our inner burdens, yet we come to know ourselves only through our compassion for others. ‘I may not feel your pain or understand your situation, but I will stay with you so that you never feel alone or forgotten.’ This, I believe, is the basic understanding and purpose of community, and the simplest form of love.”

The film, “The Way,” with Martin Sheen and his son, Emilio Estevez, tells the story of a pilgrim on the Camino Santiago de Compostela in Northern Spain. It is a 500-plus mile journey from the border of France to the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela near the Atlantic coast. Legend says that the burial site of the Apostle James was found here when a star appeared over a local field (star - stella and field - campo). For more than 1,000 years it has been a destination of pilgrims. Other traditional goals of pilgrims have been Jerusalem and Rome.

In my own reflections I find

that the film helps me to grasp better the daily pilgrimages in my life. I am going somewhere. I am not like an animal in a circular cage going and going but going nowhere! With the help of God’s grace, I hope to come to the end of each day’s journey a little more loving and kind, to have a clearer sense of how to handle a situation or how to nurture my faith and/or that of another. Perhaps I can see more clearly the difference between wants and needs and let go of the unnecessary to have more to share. Viewed in this light, each day becomes a day of discovery and renewal. It becomes more peaceful to take each day, one step at a time! And as the pilgrim prays the way each day he/she becomes more attuned to the signs that the Holy Spirit is continually giving.

While most of us will not make the actual Camino to Santiago, we can find a fresh perspective, which can make the daily living of our Baptisms richer and more alive. I pray this for you and for myself.

Enjoy the simple pleasures, tomorrow will take care of itself

mer, I wish I had some deeper reflection on it than, “Where’d it go?” Vickie and I did have a great vacation and got to visit our nieces and nephews. We also got to see those other people, aka our nieces’ and nephews’ parents. However, for the most part, the summer is just one big blur.

Well, except for a few parts.

A few Saturdays ago, we drove to the top of Mount Marquette. What’s the big draw? There’s a place to park (no, we didn’t even consider hiking) and a big rocky area where you can look out over the city and Lake Superior. The view is amazing.

Like a road construction crew, we alternated between standing and staring, and sitting and staring. I also took a bunch of pictures with my iPhone and tried out a panorama app.

We make a habit of taking the scenic route home from exotic places like the grocery store. We pick up fast food and eat dinner at the beach. We stop by church for a few minutes on occasion, especially the adoration chapel. None of these things have to take more than 30 minutes. Sometimes taking just an extra five minutes to drive down a different street can open a new world.

When I was younger, I wanted to

do lots of things and have lots of stuff. As I’ve – let’s say – matured, I’ve learned that it’s relationships with people and with God that are truly fulfilling. Although I do have to admit I like my iPhone a lot.

It’s also true that I worry whether we’ll have a blowout on the highway, about our country’s future, and where the next financial curveball will come from.

But Matthew 6:31-34 tells me, “So do not worry and say, ‘What are we to eat?’ or ‘What are we to drink?’ or ‘What are we to wear?’ All these things the pagans seek. Your heavenly Father knows that

you need them all. But seek first the kingdom (of God) and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides. Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself. Sufficient for a day is its own evil.”

Let’s encourage each other to prayerfully put our trust in God, as he has all the answers and solutions to our problems. And don’t forget to enjoy the spectacular beauty that God surrounds us with here in the U.P., a true manifestation of his love.

Send your news, notes, pictures and Letters to the Editor to me by e-mail to: editor@dioceseofmarquette.org.

HERE
AM I
John Fee

It’s finally fall, my favorite time of year! Yes, fall technically begins tomorrow – and since this is the Sept. 21 issue you will have already read the entire newspaper, and sent links to the online edition (www.upcatholic.org) to all your family, friends and neighbors by then – but it’s close enough. (You do share items from the newspaper with non-Catholics and those outside the diocese, don’t you?)

When I look back over the sum-

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

God, including our very lives. A humble soul takes no personal credit for any achievements that he’s been awarded. It is only our sinfulness that we may boast.

Due to his humility, the centurion has acquired a respect for authority. He reasons that he understands authority because of his military background. In this case, he himself commands, and he himself is subjected to higher-rank commanders. These commands of which he speaks are of human nature; how much more docile shall we be to the commands of our Father of Love?

Today, in 2012, we are called to

liken our faith to that of the centurion. We must acknowledge our unworthiness before Christ’s priest (who is in persona Christi) in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. And we must acknowledge the authority of Christ’s Church, which has the power to forgive sins and the power to consecrate the bread and wine into the body and blood of Jesus, in the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist.

“Lord I am not worthy...” The reason we are not worthy is because of our sinfulness. Some say we can never be totally free from sin - this may be true. But can we be less sinful today than we were a week ago,

a month ago, a year ago, ten years ago? Often, we will strive wholeheartedly to become a better doctor, insurance agent, rocket scientist, etc., but why is it we hesitate in our

vocation to become a better person, a more Christ-like person?

Terry Austin
Ishpeming

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(All times are local)

Carmelite Silver Tea set for Sept. 22-23 in Iron Mountain



TEA TIME - Diane Palmcook presents a display of canned goods at a previous Silver Tea. This year's event takes place Sept. 22 and 23 from noon to 3 p.m. at the Carmelite monastery in Iron Mountain.

For more information about the popular event, see the calendar listing to the right, or contact the chairwomen, Sue Giesen, (906) 563-8514, of St. Barbara Parish, Vulcan; or Jody Kelly, (906) 563-5203, and Marie Bal, (906) 563-9966 of St. Mary Parish, Norway. (Courtesy photo)

SEPT. 22 - 23

The annual *Silver Tea* to benefit the Carmelite Monastery on U.S. 2 at M95 in Iron Mountain will be held from noon to 3 p.m., with prizes including a \$200 and \$100 cash awards, a multicolored pearl necklace, a GE microwave oven, a 4 x 6 foot handmade hooked rug, and a one night stay at the AmericInn in Norway. Jams, jellies and baked goods will be for sale. Organizers advise getting in line early, as breads home-baked by the nuns sell out quickly. The tea is open to the public and no registration is required.

Bishop Baraga Days will be held in Marquette, with tours and events celebrating the life of Venerable Bishop Frederic Baraga. For schedules, visit the website at www.bishopbaraga.org, or contact the Bishop Baraga Association for details at (906) 227-9117.

A *Life in the Spirit Seminar*, hosted by the New Life, New Hope, New Beginnings Prayer Group of the Keweenaw Catholic Community, will be held Friday and Saturday (Sept. 22-23) at Sacred Heart Parish in Calumet. For more information, call Judy Erickson at (906) 296-2133.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 29

Sacred Heart Parish in Champion will hold its annual *fall bazaar* from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., featuring crafts, drawings and baked goods, plus a soup and sandwich lunch. For information, or to rent a crafts table, call (906) 339-2386.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 3

Guardian Angels Parish in Crystal Falls will celebrate its *125th anniversary* with Mass at 5 p.m., celebrated by Bishop Alexander Sample. Those who wish to attend a catered dinner following the Mass should sign up on the church bulletin board or contact the parish office at (906) 875-3019 for reservations.

SATURDAY, OCT. 6

A *dinner theater fundraiser* for the Lake Bancroft Project in Ishpeming will be hosted by the Knights of Columbus at the St.

John the Evangelist KD Hall. A social will begin at 5 p.m. with dinner and entertainment at 6:30 p.m. Seating is limited. Tickets are \$15 in advance, with no tickets available at the door. Tickets may be purchased at Ishpeming City Hall, the Chamber of Commerce, Elaines, Consumers Building Supply and Johnson's Snyder Drugs on Main Street in Ishpeming.

SUNDAY, OCT. 7

The Ontonagon Christians for Life 9th Annual *Ontonagon Life Chain* will take place from 2 to 3 p.m. on the sidewalk at the intersection of U.S. 45 and Greenland Road. Those who can't stay for the whole hour of silent prayer are invited to come and stay for as long as they can. Those who can't stand should bring a folding chair. Official Life Chain signs (e.g., Abortion Kills Children, Abortion Hurts Women) will be provided for those who wish to hold them. These official signs have prayers and guidelines printed on the back. Life Chain will be held rain or shine; in case of lightning, it will move to St. Paul Lutheran church hall, a quarter-block away. Following the Life Chain, everyone is invited to a short meeting at St. Paul's church hall. For more information, call Roland or Theresa Mayer at (906) 884-6813.

St. Stephen Mission in Naubinway will celebrate its *125th anniversary* with Mass at 3 p.m., celebrated by Bishop Alexander Sample, followed by a reception.

SATURDAY, OCT. 13

A *facilitator-training workshop* for the ENDOW (Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women) women's ministry will be held at St. Peter Cathedral in Marquette from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The mission of the ministry is to educate women toward a deeper, more profound understanding of their God-given dignity and vocation as women. For registration and fee information, contact Colin Jenkins at the Family Life Office, (906) 227-9178.

SUNDAY, OCT. 14

Menominee Catholic Central Home and School Association will hold its *annual fall festival*

from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the school gym. There will be family fun, including kid's games and crafts, a bake sale, and vendor and crafts booths featuring holiday items. Chili, hotdogs, cabbage rolls and beverages will be available for lunch. Pumpkins and cornstalks will also be for sale. For more information, call Menominee Catholic Central at (906) 863-3190.

SATURDAY, OCT 20

A Stand Up for Religious Freedom Rally will be held at noon in Ontonagon. Participants will meet by the flagpole at the Ontonagon County Courthouse and are asked to be respectful and prayerful. This peaceful, nationwide event, the third of its kind, will protest the mandate established by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services requiring most employers to provide abortion-inducing drugs, sterilization and artificial contraception in their health benefit plans. The rally will also protest other attacks on religious freedom coming from the federal government. For more information about the Ontonagon rally, call 884-6813.

SUNDAY, OCT. 21

The *annual fall festival* and chicken dinner with trimmings will be hosted by American Martyrs Parish in Kingsford in the parish hall. Dinner will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and again from 4 to 6 p.m. Cost of the dinner is \$8 for ages 13 and older, \$5 for children 6 to 12, and free for children 5 and younger. There will be craft items, baked goods, and religious items for sale, as well as many drawing items.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 24

The 68th *annual fall bazaar* will be hosted by St. Joseph Parish in Ishpeming from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Items include crafts and handiwork, a baked goods sale, a white elephant sale, and a bountiful salad luncheon for \$5 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, contact Ann Trudell at (906) 486-8080.

Baraga house tour scheduled

The annual Bishop Baraga Days will be held in Marquette with tours and events that celebrate the life and ministry of the Venerable Bishop Frederic Baraga, first bishop of the Diocese of Marquette.

From 3 to 5 p.m. ET on Saturday and 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday, the Baraga House at 615 Fourth Street in Marquette will be open for tours of the room where Bishop Baraga spent his last hours. The Baraga Association, 347 Rock St., will also host an open house during those hours for visitors to see artifacts from Venerable Bishop Baraga's life.

Between the hours of 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET on Saturday, as well as from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET on Monday, there will be guided visits to the Bishop Baraga Shrine and other locations from Baraga's ministry in L'Anse, approximately one hour north of Marquette. The crypt beneath St. Peter Cathedral containing Venerable Frederic Baraga's tomb is also open to visitors.

Bishop Sample to address Call to Holiness Conference

Bishop Alexander Sample will be a featured speaker at the 14th Call to Holiness Conference to be held Saturday, Oct. 13, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Immaculate Conception School, 29500 Westbrook Ave. in Warren, Mich. The 50th anniversary of Vatican II is the conference's topic. Other speakers include Dr. Monica Miller, Fathers John Trigilio, John Zuhlsdorf, Frank Phillips and Brian Harrison, along with Peggy Stanton and Louie Verrecchio.

Conference attendees are invited to a specially scheduled 6 p.m. Divine Liturgy at St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church. Following the liturgy there will be a separately priced dinner with Father Zuhlsdorf speaking.

A youth conference for teens will also be held that day with most of the speakers from the main conference addressing the youth.

Additional information and online registration is available at the website www.CalltoHoliness.com or call (313) 451-4659 to request a brochure to be mailed to you.

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CROSSING FROM P1

Drummond Island, he will celebrate Mass at St. Florence Mission at 6 p.m. ET and then drive back to Marquette.

“What we’re doing is placing ourselves under the sign of the cross,” said Bishop Sample, explaining the significance of his pilgrimage. “The symbol of our faith is the cross.”

Since the trip from Ironwood to Drummond Island is a long one, it was suggested to the bishop that he consider using an airplane for that leg of the journey, an idea he quickly rejected. “I want to drive it. I want to travel the distance,” he emphasized. In addition, he encourages families, individuals and groups to follow him in a type of caravan for part of or the entire two-day journey. Details on the route will be announced in the Oct. 5 edition of *The U.P. Catholic*.

As he approaches each location, the bishop will carry the cross in procession to the church and would like people to gather and walk with him. The crosses will be hand-made by a local woodworker and planted for the year at the location of the Masses. Venerable Bishop Baraga was known for planting a cross upon the completion of a particularly difficult river

crossing. In Old Testament times, the Israelites would build a pile of stones to mark a significant place they had visited.

Everyone is welcome to attend the Masses in Copper Harbor, Menominee, Ironwood and/or Drummond Island. However those who cannot be present can follow Bishop Sample’s updates throughout the trip on Twitter.com (@BishopSample) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/theup-catholic). “I want to do this so that everyone can plug in and be a part of it,” the bishop explained.

In addition to the four Masses on Oct. 20 and 21, the Diocese of Marquette will celebrate the Year of Faith in many different ways throughout the period, with initiatives being planned by the Diocesan Council for Promoting the New Evangelization that is composed of clergy, women religious and laypeople from throughout the U.P.

Bishop Sample is using the Year of Faith to prepare Catholics in the diocese for the New Evangelization, which will be launched at the conclusion of the Year of Faith in late 2013. The New Evangelization primarily focuses on evangelizing the baptized, especially those who have drifted away from the Church.

CSA FROM P1

from India. Decet’s continual mentoring and guidance to these priests, who were new to the country and to the diocese, was well received by the priests and parishioners alike.

Networking tirelessly in the broader St. Vincent de Paul conference, Decet was able to direct surplus goods from other St. Vincent de Paul charities to local needy families in Trenary. He established several community charitable programs, including Christmas and Easter Food baskets for needy families, and a program to provide needy children with backpacks filled with back-to-school items. These projects have become long-standing parish traditions that have allowed the broader community to feel the generosity of a small and wonderful parish.

Bishop Sample presented Decet with a commemorative medallion at his residence at the Jacobetti Home for Veterans in Marquette, in the presence of his family, staff and other residents. Decet’s service was further honored at his parish with his wife, Anna, accepting the award on his behalf. The parish community celebrated his inspiration, commitment and witness to carrying out the mission of the Catholic

Church following a weekend Mass offered by Bishop Sample.

The Catholic Service Award is a program of Legacy of Faith, which is the campaign to build the Endowment Foundation of the Diocese of Marquette. The award was created in 2006 in the spirit and intent of the endowment to preserve and foster the Catholic faith in the Upper Peninsula. Nominations for the annual award are due by May 1 of each year. For more information, call (906) 227-9108 or visit www.LegacyOfFaith.net.

An Act of Contrition

**O my God,
I am heartily sorry for
having offended Thee,
and I detest all my sins,
because I dread the loss
of heaven,
and the pains of hell;
but most of all because
they offend Thee, my God,
Who are all good and
deserving of all my love.
I firmly resolve,
with the help of Thy grace,
to confess my sins,
to do penance,
and to amend my life.**

Amen.

More prayers available online at:
<http://www.ewtn.com/Devotionals/prayers/>

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Kickball provides Holy Family fun

SCORE! - A spirited game of kickball in Gladstone pitting the Holy Family Parish youth group against clergy and religious brought about some competitive fun. In the group photo, evidence of the competition can be seen in the dusty stain on Father Corey Litzner's shirt from him sliding into first base. Bottom left photo: Sister Nenita Leonardo runs with a smile in hopes of scoring a run. She works in pastoral care at the Bishop Noa Home in Escanaba. Bottom right: Gabe Smith goes for the big kick. (Photos courtesy of Steve and Kristy Benoit)



Congratulations to

John Beaulieu

on receiving the 2012 Alumni Evangelization Award from NET Ministries! *This award recognizes the ongoing efforts of its alumni to engage the Church's mission of evangelization.*

You made us proud when you joined the NET Team in 1983 and you still make us proud in your position as Director of Youth and Young Adult Outreach at Franciscan University.

May God continue to bless your Ministry!
From Fr. Frank Ricca & the Parish Family of **St. Gregory in Newberry**

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Long before my mother passed on August 27, 2012, she had taken time to discuss her funeral and burial wishes with me and my sister and brother which was very helpful to us. She did not, however, give us any guidance on an obituary. Writing one for her was a difficult and time-consuming task because we so desperately wanted to adequately express the beauty of her life. The three of us knew how we would remember her, but how would she like to be remembered by others?

No one likes to talk about their own demise—lest write about it. However, it is a very loving gift to give your children and is definitely one of the steps you should take to be prepared when the Lord calls you home.

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Newberry native receives national recognition

After graduating from Tahquamenon Area Schools in 1983, John Beaulieu left behind his family and friends in Newberry to serve on a National Evangelization Team (NET) with other young Catholics aged 18 to 28, who shared the Gospel with young people and their families across the U.S.

Now he is enjoying recognition for his service as one of three 2012 recipients of an evangelization award from NET Ministries of West St. Paul, Minn. At its 30th anniversary celebration in May, NET unveiled the reestablishment of an annual alumni award to recognize the ongoing efforts of its alumni to engage the Church's mission of evangelization.

Award recipients must have served NET Ministries a minimum of seven years ago, live an exemplary Catholic life, demonstrate an ongoing involvement in serving within the Church as a professional or volunteer, and demonstrate an ongoing commitment to the mission of evangelization.

Beaulieu, the son of Charles and Barbara Beaulieu of Newberry, was an active member of St. Gregory Parish as a youth, serving as an altar server for



HONORED - Three alumni of NET Ministries display the evangelization awards they received this year from NET. Left to right are John Beaulieu of Steubenville, Ohio and former member of St. Gregory Parish in Newberry; Sister M. Consolata Crews, vocation director for Sisters of St. Francis the Martyr St. George of Alton, Ill.; Archbishop John C. Nienstedt of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis; and Gordy DeMarais, executive director of St. Paul's Outreach based in St. Paul, Minn. (Courtesy photo)

many years and participating in the religious education program.

He went on two NET retreats in high school and a Discipleship Week. It was the Discipleship Week during reconciliation that left a "deep and profound" impression on his heart. Beaulieu then served with NET from 1983-1984 and 1986-1987.

A 1989 graduate of Franciscan University at Steubenville, Ohio, Beaulieu worked for 13 years as a

youth minister. He is currently the director of Youth and Young Adult Outreach at Franciscan University, where he oversees the Steubenville youth conferences which impact 30,000 young Catholics every summer.

Beaulieu resides in Steubenville with his wife, Lisa, and their five children.

National Evangelization Teams continue to minister to the youth of the Diocese of Marquette.