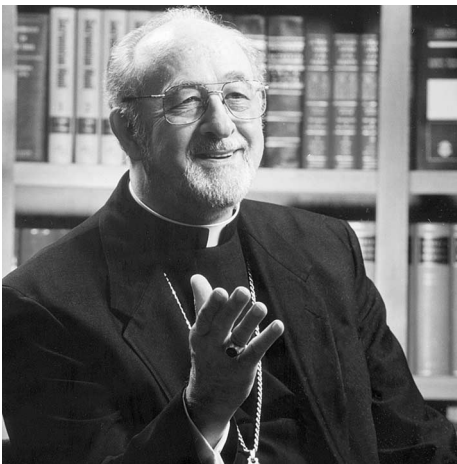


Parish Leadership Newsletter

Winter 2002

He Said...



On October 20, 2001, Archbishop Weakland was the keynote speaker of the Parish Leadership Conference: Celebrate Church as Teacher – Forming a Faithful People. “If the Church is teacher, then the people of God are all teachers,” the archbishop said. Good teachers know their subject matter well. He outlined three significant challenges the Church as Teacher faces today: proclaiming Christ’s message within the context of these times; taking into account the barriers that attempt to impede the Christian message; and building on assets in place to carry Christ’s message faithfully to the next generation.

Moments

Time can be measured in either *chronos* (linear time) or in *kairos* (special moments that demand a radical change or response from us). September 11, 2001, was a catastrophic moment when the U.S. recovered religion, and we became aware that faith is a part of our culture and is here to stay.

In that *kairos* moment we discovered that we are vulnerable and that we need each other, as individuals and as a nation. In the face of unspeakable terror, we caught a glimpse of our own ignorance. We were left asking: “What is Islam?” “Why do so

many people hate us?” “What is the strength of our (personal/national) impact on others?” The archbishop asked how many of us have a copy of the Koran or know its teaching. He stressed that we need to learn about, know and respect other faith traditions.

Scientific research presents a second aspect of the present moment. Today the Church is challenged with enormous ethical and moral questions from the scientific community – stem cell research, the potential with cloning or genetic engineering, etc. While the issues are thorny, they also offer, as never before, opportunities for us to grow in understanding more fully the mystery of the human person and our role as co-creator with God.

A third aspect of this *kairos* moment, the archbishop pointed out, is globalization developed through direct, immediate, worldwide communications and marketing. When news happens, we watch it unfold on our TV screens. The impact of our global village experience shows up in the fast foods we can eat around the world, the non-distinct clothes we wear, and music as an international language.

Barriers

The archbishop reflected upon six barriers the Church must overcome in order for Christ’s message to be able to take root and inform the decisions facing this age:

1. Parochialism is a national and a Church phenomenon. We must think globally, while maintaining our ethnic roots. “Merging parishes was the hardest thing I had to do as bishop in my 24 years in Milwaukee,” he shared. Our roots are deep, cherished. The challenge is to find our common roots, and grow from them, together.
2. Polarization happens when there is an inability or unwillingness to compro-

mise. It eats us from the inside out. Catholics are poor losers. When we turn toward fighting and name calling, we become a contradiction of our faith.

3. Ignorance of Catholic teaching is a great problem, especially among adults. Too many of us have not kept up, and we try to navigate the complex issues of this day with grade school concepts. Without a sense of history, we lose the fact that the Church predates our existence, that the Church has faced similar or even worse times than these.
4. A sense of stewardship is lacking. We are unwilling to make sacrifices. About half of the registered Catholics in our archdiocese contribute to the annual Catholic Stewardship Appeal. Others are focused on a service mentality rather than being committed to the life of the Church.
5. The expectation of instant gratification, discouragement when something is not done right now, lack of patience and perseverance indicates a lack of vision. How can we “wait in hope” gracefully when we are unwilling to wait?
6. Shortage of priests is not likely to be resolved soon. We simply can no longer rely on the expectation that our priests and religious will be the only well-educated, career Church-professionals.

Assets

What assets, then, are in place to overcome these barriers?

Our Catholic tradition has survived for hundreds of years and is characterized by a both/and approach to a Word/Sacrament content. Our sense of sacramentality needs development, together with growth in holiness and contemplation.

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In the dyad of Worship/Service, one stimulates the other, however, Service – the hands-on aspect – seems easier to do.

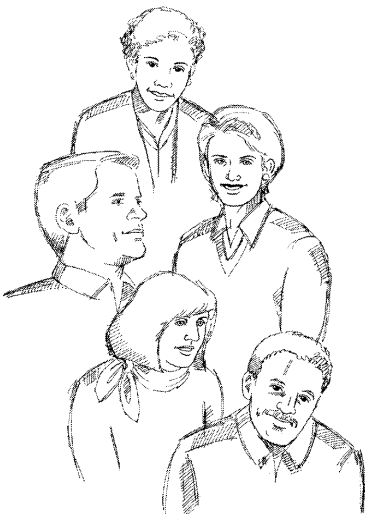
Spirituality – We have the various types which differ in their focus and traditions: Benedictine, Jesuit, Dominican, Franciscan, etc. Today more and more laity are searching their souls, looking for deeper experiences of spiritual connection.

Our love of the Saints, the recognized and the lesser known, those we've read about and those we have known personally, connect us here with the hereafter. Being Catholic has a built-in globalism.

Jesus Christ – God walking with us – is not only our personal connection with God. Through Eucharist, Christ becomes one with us and we with Him.

Bishops and the chancery office are “back-ups” to our parish teaching mission.

To sum-up, Archbishop Weakland posed a question to keep asking ourselves: “How is God using us?” If we are alert to the present moment, see the signs of the times, are aware of the barriers to accomplishing our mission, and rely on the assets which can assist us, Christ's message will continue to take root and influence the faithful of this newest age of the Church.



We said...

Leaving the keynote, we were energized by the breadth of Archbishop Weakland's vision, touched by his sincerity and candor, and encouraged by his belief in our ability to meet the challenges ahead. We talked – in classrooms, hallways and the

courtyard. Archbishop Weakland's words both affirmed and challenged us.

Then we turned to conversations in anticipation of the appointment of a new archbishop. What would we like our new leader to know about us? What gives us cause for pride? The top five responses might amaze you! They reveal a local Church that looks within and responds by reaching out!

We have cause to be proud...

The factor most often stated as a source of pride throughout the archdiocese is collaboration! This includes collaboration with neighboring parishes as well as global partnerships with sister parishes far away. We are proud that these relationships move us beyond parochialism to influence and be influenced by a larger Church and world.

The second most repeated source of pride is our heritage. The Archdiocese of Milwaukee is built on the faith, hope and generosity of our immigrant ancestors. We cherish our roots and treasure the legacy of faith and culture that enrich southeastern Wisconsin. We feel compelled to grow and share these gifts.

Two factors share the third position as sources of pride: our growing cultural diversity and our Catholic schools. Who can forget how we celebrated our many cultures at the Eucharistic Congress in 2000? Diversity embraced through mutual respect, understanding, patience and tolerance becomes our common strength, one our children will need and value as they prepare for life as citizens of a global village. Our schools are leading the way for them to be faithful members of the Church, good citizens and effective leaders of the future in a new world, in a new society.

A fourth source of pride are the many ways we are striving to be more welcoming communities. We are learning the price and the payoff of being evangelizing people. We are proud of the efforts we've made as individuals, communities, clusters and districts to invite inactive members to return and non-members to share what we have found.

Our fifth source of pride is our commitment to social outreach. Our efforts to

serve those in need form a long litany of projects, programs and partnerships.

We have shared concerns...

Our pride is balanced by a number of factors that humble us as causes for concern. Though not our primary concern, we are trying to deal effectively with the priest shortage through district, cluster and parish planning. Our planning has led to mergers, parishes sharing pastors, and parishes served by parish directors.

The shortage of clergy is an opportunity, a call to the laity to consider and pursue formation and education for careers in Church ministries. We are concerned about finding effective ways to motivate and support busy parishioners to seek and find opportunities for adult formation.

Our schools, a cause for pride, are equally a source of worry. Contributing to this concern are finding and retaining good teachers and administrators, especially Catholic teachers, the cost of education at every level, and finding resources to help parishes carry the financial burden.

Next, we are concerned about all that fosters negativity. There are a variety of topics that contribute to this. The issues that cause concern are not the same in each case. Although most mergers have been positive experiences, unresolved local issues before, during and after mergers often beg for attention. Building and renovation projects are exciting and tension-filled projects. Old hurts, personal preferences and biases, differing spiritualities, the loss of members, the stubbornness of those who are unwilling to move forward after the decisions are made cause us concern. We all feel a measure of sadness when these issues are played-out in the media.

But the one concern that stands above all the rest is stewardship. By this, we mean the involvement of every parish member in some aspect of parish life, sharing time and talent, and giving their fair share (chipping-in) to support the parish budget, stewardship of resources.

This article was co-authored by Joe Sturycz, St. Elizabeth Parish – Kenosha, and Noreen Welte, Director – Office for Parish Councils and Planning.

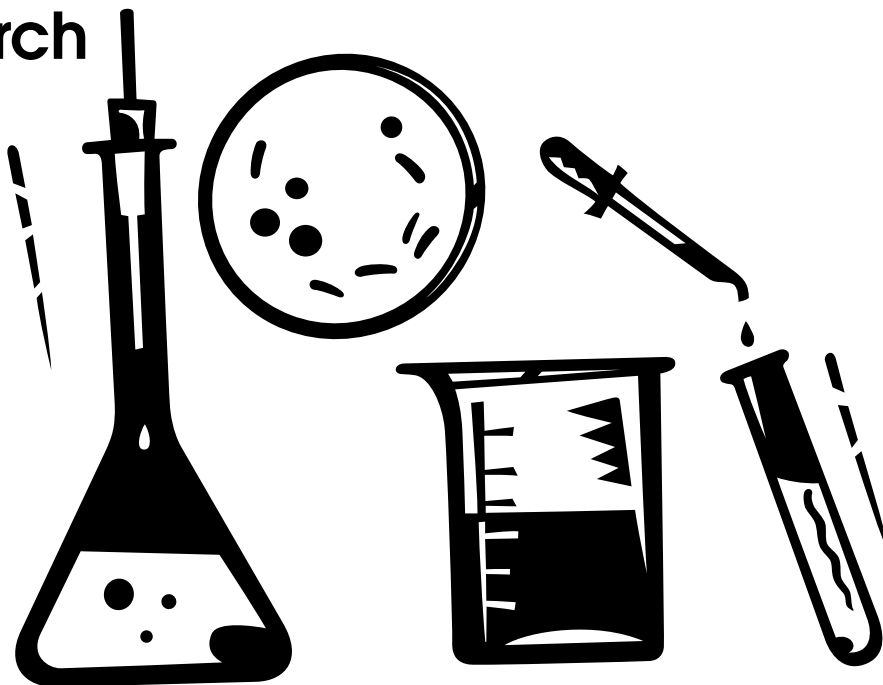
Symposium Examines Ethics of Stem Cell Research

More than 70 theologians, medical experts and scientists joined the Catholic bishops of Wisconsin at an academic symposium on the ethical aspects of stem cell research. The conference, "Stem Cell Research: New Frontiers in Science & Ethics," took place at the Wyndam Hotel and Marquette University from October 17-20, 2001. The symposium was co-sponsored by the Wisconsin Catholic Conference, Marquette University, and the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

The idea for the symposium originated with the bishops, who felt that the emergence of stem cell research, particularly when it involves the destruction of human embryos, requires that the scientific issues in the debate must be accompanied by an equally vigorous examination of the ethical and moral aspects of the practice. Given the major involvement in such research by the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the bishops believed it was important for such a conference to take place in our state.

Experts in a variety of fields with differing perspectives gave presentations on the ethical questions raised by research using stem cells derived from human embryos. The symposium concluded with a panel of experts engaging each other and the audience in dialogue on future directions for the debate. Presenters were selected based on their expertise on the issues covered. Their participation in the conference did not imply endorsement of their views.

Among the major themes to emerge from the conference was the great promise of research on adult stem cells, that is, a cell from a mature person or animal. These cells are derived without destroying embryos and such research avoids a good deal of the moral controversy surrounding the use of embryonic stem cells. (The definition of an adult stem cell is: a cell taken from mature tissue that can renew itself but has a limited ability to transform into specialized cell types. An embryonic stem cell is defined as a cell from an embryo that has the potential to become a wide variety of specialized cell types.)



Theological and Ethical Insights

Over the three days, the symposium featured presenters with a variety of theological perspectives and insights. These addressed not only the ethical issues themselves, but also the appropriate frameworks for moral analysis. Though individual presenters differed on many subjects, their interventions made it clear that stem cell research confronts society with an array of moral and ethical challenges that extend well beyond the morality of using cells derived from embryos.

"The question of whether it is moral to destroy living embryos for research is a critical one for our times," Wisconsin Catholic Conference director John Huebscher said. "But the symposium highlighted the fact that there are other moral and ethical questions that also demand attention, including questions such as how we will decide what illnesses to study, whether the benefits of medical treatments discovered will be accessible to all people, and the extent to which a patient who benefits from treatment is complicit in any immoral acts performed to discover that treatment."

Many participants said the conference was important in bringing together groups of

people who don't often converse with each other. There was a sense from all groups that such conversations should occur more frequently.

The Church's Position

The Church's position on stem cell research can be summarized in six main points:

1. Research involving the creation of use of human embryos for research purposes is wrong (creation of embryos through Somatic Cell Nuclear Transfer (SCNT) or therapeutic cloning);
2. Research involving the destruction of human embryos is wrong (whether the embryos were created through SCNT, were frozen embryos obtained from in vitro fertilization clinics, or were obtained in any other way);
3. Research involving the use of stem cells or stem cell lines that requires the destruction of human embryos is wrong;
4. Research involving the use of fetal tissue obtained through non-spontaneous abortions is morally wrong;
5. Research involving the use of stem cells or stem cell lines derived from fetal tissue obtained through non-spontaneous abortions is morally wrong;

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Spirituality – Office for Women

In the Church's role as teacher, many books have been written and extensive classes have been offered on spirituality which has many dimensions. According to The New Dictionary of Theology, "For Christians, it means one's entire life is understood, felt, imagined, and decided upon in relationship to God, in Christ Jesus, empowered by the Spirit." Spirituality calls us to be attentive to the presence of God within, to respond to the universal call to holiness, and to serve others in charity and justice. In addition, the Vatican II document, The Constitution of the Church states, "In the Church, not everyone marches along the same path; yet all are called to sanctity and have obtained an equal privilege of faith through the justice of God." The way we live out our faith through our home and family, the marketplace and the global community, has a direct impact on how our spirituality evolves.

Our diverse Catholic population includes those who learned the Catholic faith as a child, those who continue to develop their spirituality over the years, and those who embraced our faith as an adult. How do we as a Church help people enhance their spirituality within this broad spectrum? The common thread seems to be a spiritual hunger to deepen our relationship with God.

In what ways can spirituality be nourished? Some possibilities include studying scripture, the saints and prophets, and our faith tradition; joining a faith-sharing group; exploring various forms of prayer; celebrating the liturgy and sacraments; reading contemporary authors and responding to our baptismal call to serve. Existing groups include "Women's Spirituality in the Workplace," which meets monthly and the "Women's Spirituality Group," which meets quarterly. If the Office for Women can assist you in exploring opportunities in your area to nourish your spirituality or to discuss the needs of women, please call 414-769-3501 or 800-769-9373, x501.

All Catholics are called by baptism to share their gifts and talents, and the parish provides many opportunities for liturgy, education, formation and service

ministries. Through our schools and religious education programs, children learn about the Catholic faith, including our multi-cultural heritage and the importance of a lifelong developing spirituality. Ongoing Catholic formation for adults is also important. In this way, we are able to make connections with our everyday life experience in a changing society.

The book entitled "Earth Crammed With Heaven, A Spirituality of Everyday Life," by Elizabeth A. Dreyer, is published by Paulist Press and offers insights into spirituality as it has developed in our faith tradition.

An example of putting faith into action includes becoming familiar with Catholic Social Teaching and applying these guidelines to the issues of today. Some current issues include stem cell research, stewardship of the earth's resources, accessible health care, poverty, hunger, homelessness, just wages, war and peace. Matthew 25 states that we will be judged by our actions – feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, welcoming the stranger, clothing the naked, caring for those who



are ill and visiting those in prison. Service is an important part of our spirituality.

International Women's Day Conference is planned for Friday, March 8, 2002, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to increase community awareness of sexual abuse. It will address the trafficking of women on local, national and international levels. This is a current issue that has an impact on our parishes and the archdiocese. For more information, contact the Office for Women 414-769-3501 or 800-769-9373, x501, or e-mail women@archmil.org

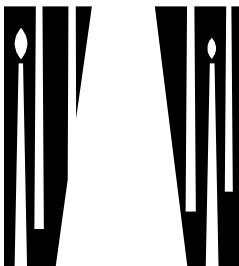
This article was written by Thelma Walker, Director – Office for Women.

Central City Catholic Parishes 2002 Lenten Revival



Friday, March 1 – 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 2 – 6:30 p.m.
Sunday, March 3 – 3:00 p.m.

St. Rose Parish
528 N. 31st Street, Milwaukee



Revivalist: Fr. Manuel Williams, C.R., CFRE was ordained in 1987 as a member of the Congregation of the Resurrection. Fr. Williams is the director of Resurrection Catholic Missions and the pastor of Resurrection Catholic Church, both in Montgomery. He preaches revivals and missions throughout the U.S., specializing in African American Catholic spirituality and history.

Ten Ideas for Involving Adults and Families in Christian Formation

1 Schedule meetings at convenient times such as between Masses on a Sunday morning or during child religious education classes. Provide appropriate refreshments.

2 If you want to focus on adults, have something for the whole family.

- Have a simple supper such as pizza, spaghetti, or “sloppy joes” for the whole family. Have a homework room supervised by adult volunteers for children as well as a video room to occupy the children while parents are part of an adult program. (Provide a meal at no cost.)
- Provide childcare for young children where they are cared for by adults.
- Involve high school youth in caring for younger children as part of a service project.

3 Have children help prepare simple meals at the parish for their families and strengthen the family by:

- encouraging family activities, such as inviting families to make their own “coat of arms” where they talk about family symbols and what it means to be a family;
- having older children be “DJs” and play each family’s favorite songs from CDs or tapes;
- having families design a family flag or family motto to symbolize their family.

4 Host a family pot luck and do one or more of the activities listed above.

5 For infant baptisms, have “parish Godparents,” besides those selected by the family, to “walk with the family” as they raise their children.

- Once or twice a year offer a candle light dinner for the young couples and their children. This allows them to meet others like themselves, to reflect on their experiences of parenting and to become energized to continue their parenting roles. Have the “parish Godparents” care for the children so the young couples can enjoy good conversation with other couples.
- Include prayer rituals where parents bless their children before they leave for the evening and encourage them to continue the practice at home.
- Occasionally invite an outside speaker on child psychology to share ideas with parents after dinner. After the project is initiated,

involve young couples in planning the suppers.

6 Provide activities during the day for senior citizens and be sure to provide transportation. Involve the older adults in the planning.

7 Provide First Eucharist preparation activities that can be done in groups of three or four families. Such activities might include: making bread and studying what this involves; pressing grapes to make grape juice; selecting several Bible stories that relate to each family and sharing reflections on the stories; planning and doing a service project together. Be sure prayer and reflection on the scriptures are part of each session. These activities help families get to know each other and build community.

8 Provide for adult formation small groups that meet in homes and study a current social justice topic, scripture, or topics related to Christian living. Be sure prayer and outreach are incorporated into the process.

9 Provide parenting programs at convenient times with childcare available.

10 As part of a confirmation preparation program, provide times when parents and teens can interact and discuss hopes and dreams as well as fears and concerns. Design the process in such a way that parents also have an opportunity to interact with teens who are not their children.



By Maureen Gallagher, Archbishop's Delegate for the Department for Parishes

Deliver Me From Fund-raisers Again... Oh Lord!

Patricia Lorenz is one of my favorite writers. Her work is often featured in the *Catholic Herald* and always captures the essence of reality. The December 2001 "Parenting" supplement in the *Catholic Herald* contained a particularly appropriate article for this budgeting season of the year. It was entitled: "Deliver Me From Fund-raisers Again, Oh Lord."

Ms. Lorenz's four children were involved in lots of school, church and civic groups, all of which had fundraisers. While she understood the need those organizations had for money, she resented the fact that the organizations realized only a small profit from the over-priced items the groups were selling. As she wrote: "Simply put, it's the companies supplying this stuff that are raking it in."

An example she gave was a 4-ounce box of cookies that cost \$3.50 (that's \$14 for a pound of cookies!) When she discovered that the organization got only 35 cents of that \$3.50, she decided "right then and there that I couldn't afford those cookies."

Her alternative: she opened up her check-book and wrote a check for \$5 and gave it directly to the organization. She calculated that she would have to spend \$56 on cookies for the organization to net that measly five dollars!

Sadly, we Catholics just don't understand the concept of stewardship. I have searched sacred scripture to find something to support selling "stuff" to support the call to evangelization that we call "the Church." I found lots of scripture to support the sharing of God's gifts, but nothing to support the marketing concept so prevalent in the Catholic Church today.

I found it ironic that the recent poll conducted by the Catholic Herald showed that the most unique fundraiser in the archdiocese was done by the choir in my home parish of Sacred Heart in Racine. It's too bad the poll didn't ask for the "best stewards of God's gifts" parish in the diocese.

More and more parishes are "weaning" themselves from the marketing "shtick" and embracing the concept of personal

commitment to their parish and the Church of Southeastern Wisconsin. It can be done and is being done because faith communities committed themselves to stewardship. "Maybe next year." That's OK if you're a Chicago Cubs fan. It's budgeting time right now – embrace the faith by promoting the age-old concept of the return of God's gifts to God.

David Lauer is the Director of the Office for Parish Finances



Lazarus Ministry: Reaching Out to Male Addicts and Their Families

Over the past year, with the help of an Archdiocese of Milwaukee Support Fund grant, several men's religious orders have begun a collaborative effort with archdiocesan offices and Catholic organizations to develop a Catholic ministry to low-income male addicts and their families. This ministry area has been identified as a critical need in the archdiocese. Almost all families, directly or indirectly, are affected by the disease of addiction. Our prisons are overflowing with men incarcerated as a result of their addiction. Families have been torn apart from the loss of husbands, fathers, sons and brothers to this "baffling and cunning" (Big Book of AA) disease.

The Priests of the Sacred Heart, the Capuchins and the Society of the Divine Savior (Salvatorians) have joined with the Office for Religious, the Social Concerns Office, Catholic Charities and the House of Peace to form a ministry council that will begin implementing the Lazarus Ministry mission statement:

"Addiction to alcohol and other drugs robs people of their human dignity and destroys them physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually. The scriptures, our Catholic tradition and the charisms of our communities call us to be ministers of hope and healing. We dedicate ourselves to working with others to create a community of recovery in which low-income men and their families can free themselves

from the bonds of addiction and embrace the abundant life offered by God."

Lazarus Ministry has identified five goals:

- 1) to provide ministers with the skills and resources to more effectively work with individuals and families where substance abuse is a problem;
- 2) to provide information and referral services for individuals and families struggling with substance abuse issues;
- 3) to develop community support groups and spiritual retreats for both individuals concerned about their use and families where substance use is a problem;
- 4) to create a faith-based and holistic residential treatment program for chronic substance-abuse using men;
- 5) to explore ways in which communities of faith can reach out to those dealing with addiction to provide healing and support.

The Lazarus Ministry booklet, *The Church and the Subject of Addiction*, written by Fr. Michael Hoffmann, SDS, Salvatorian communications director, is currently being distributed to all parishes and Catholic organizations in the archdiocese. For more information on Lazarus Ministry, contact Fr. Al Veik, OFM Cap, Office for Religious, 414-769-3375 or Margie Morgan, Social Concerns Office, 414-769-3402.

This article was written by Margie Morgan, Associate Director, Social Concerns Office

Toward Living Shalom: Land, Food and Community

After a year exploring how to improve rural life ministry, the Social Concerns Office is working with the Rural Life Committee of the archdiocese and Voices for Justice to launch a joint, three-year education campaign called "Toward Living Shalom: Land, Food and Community."

The biblical concept of shalom means to live in right-ordered relationships with each other and creation as intended by the Creator. It is an ideal toward which to strive, but one to which we, as imperfect beings, will always fall short.

The purpose of the campaign is to bring together urban, suburban and rural people to understand how we all depend upon each other for meeting our basic needs. The campaign is based on these underlying premises:

- 1) We are interdependent, not independent. We must recognize and embrace an understanding of that interdependence to "Live Shalom." This is a moral issue as well as an imperative for healthy existence.
- 2) It is in the self-interest of all to understand the interconnection between land

use, a healthy, affordable food supply and sustainable communities that promote "Living Shalom;" it should be built into a Smart Growth plan for local communities.

- 3) "Livability is not some middle class luxury, it's an economic imperative," as stated by Robert Solo, Nobel prize winner in economics.
- 4) Preservation of a healthy agricultural economy and urban revitalization are two sides of the same coin.

The campaign will consist of "4 Cs": collaborate, convene, communicate and change:

- 1) collaborate with diverse constituencies to build momentum;
- 2) convene people around issues through conferences, workshops, discussion groups;
- 3) communicate the campaign and what is learned through outreach to the press and targeted groups;
- 4) change how we live our own lives, provide examples of systemic change and encourage such change at various levels.

The campaign will "kick off" with a conference on March 9 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at St. Frances Cabrini Parish in West Bend. The conference will feature the Maryknoll video, "The Global Banquet," a two-part production on the globalization of our food system and the effects on land use and community. Local experts will serve on responder panels for discussion on the challenges identified in the video. The conference will conclude with ideas on addressing these issues through participation in local municipal planning commissions required by the state's Smart Growth Law. (Each municipality is required to develop a Smart Growth plan by 2010.) A lunch of Wisconsin-grown products will be served.

For more information on "Toward Living Shalom: Land, Food and Community," contact Margie Morgan, Social Concerns Office, 414-769-3402, 800-769-9373, x402, or email: morganm@archmil.org.

This article was written by Margie Morgan, Associate Director, Social Concerns Office.

Raising a Good Child in a Turbulent World

Saturday, March 16, 2002

9:00 a.m. – Noon

at St. Dominic Parish – Marcy Center, 18255 W. Capitol Dr., Brookfield

Program condensed and repeated: 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

at Holy Family Parish, 4825 N. Wildwood Ave., Whitefish Bay

Cost: \$10 per person/couple for pre-registration prior to March 11 or \$12 at the door
\$5 per family for childcare – you must pre-register for childcare

In the turbulence that has followed the terrorist attacks of September 11, parents are faced with the question: "How do we raise caring children in the midst of living in violent society?"

You are invited to a parenting workshop with national speakers Jim and Kathleen McGinnis to learn how to teach your children the values of generosity, compassion and respect. The McGinnises will provide concrete ideas on how to structure family life and activities in ways that not only help create a spirit of cooperation, but also help children see how their actions can make the world a better place.

Jim and Kathy are coordinators of the "Parenting for Peace & Justice Network" based out of St. Louis. They are also quite active with the "Families Against Violence Advocacy Network" (FAVAN) and have published several resources including a booklet entitled "Families Creating a Circle of Peace."

This program is being sponsored by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee (Adult & Family Ministry, Community Services and Human Concerns/Respect Life); the Quad Parishes (St. Dominic and St. John Vianney-Brookfield, St. Joseph-Wauwatosa, St. Mary-Elm Grove); and East Side Parishes (Holy Family and St. Monica-Whitefish Bay, St. Robert-Shorewood, Ss. Peter & Paul, East Side Child & Youth Ministry and Gesu-Milwaukee).

For more information or to register, contact Patrick Russell (St. Dominic program) at 262-781-3480 or Bridget Flad (Holy Family program) at 414-964-8780, x126.



Adult and Family Ministry Programs and Services

Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary defines **transition** as "a passage from one state, stage or place to another; a change; a movement; a development; or an evolution from one form, stage of style to another."

Transitions are a part of life – part of family life, part of parish life, and part of the ongoing evolution of the Adult and Family Ministry Office (AFM). AFM staff acknowledge the challenges presented by change and, in this newsletter, share brief comments about their programs and resources.

Bereavement Ministry

Widow and widower retreats, grief support groups, self-help and grief support materials, and special remembrance events, such as the day for parents who lost a child, are offered through the Bereavement Ministry. Polly Horkey, associate director for Bereavement Ministry for 17 years says, "My role is to develop resources and provide programs for people who have lost a loved one. The Church needs to be there, especially in times of grief, and a great deal of what I do is networking, providing contacts and resources for both secular and Church related grief outreach."

Marriage and Family, Adult Formation, Separated and Divorced, and Small Group Ministries

Couples Enrichment, the REFOCCUS compatibility inventory, and UMOJA for African-American couples are integral parts of Marriage Ministry. Family Ministry includes the Men's, MOMS, AND Elizabeth (women helping women) ministries. New Horizons retreats and parish-run support group ministries are offered for the separated and divorced. RAINBOWS is a support group that helps children who have experienced loss. An Adult Formation family packet is also available to parishes. Randy Nohl, associate

director of Marriage and Family Ministry for 14 years says, "I serve as a resource person and consultant in assisting parishes with developing and directing their own programs and in training parish leaders for ministry implementation in the areas of Family, Marriage, Separated and Divorced, Adult Formation and Small Groups."

He added, "Change brings new opportunities. We have to look at different ways of serving, and AFM has been doing that creatively in efforts such as training the parish trainers.

Barb Krieser, senior secretary, Marriage and Family and Bereavement Ministry for nine years says, "We strive to keep communication open between the parishes and the archdiocese, and we have such valuable resources to share. We are here to serve."

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Ministry

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Ministry offers signed and interpreted liturgies, deaf awareness education, and training for lay ministers. It also sponsors special youth group activities as a part of its services to parishes and schools. Pam Sommers has been associate director of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Ministry for five months. She states, "Advocacy is a major part of my role – assisting the deaf community with the necessary tools, resources and support to be self-sustaining to make their own decisions. I envision a deaf community that is empowered and run by deaf people. To really respect cultures is to accept differences."

Engaged Enrichment Ministry

The Archdiocesan Engaged Enrichment day and weekend retreats, FOCCUS premarital inventory and natural family planning are examples of this ministry. Marie Grevsmuehl, coordinator for Engaged Enrichment for seven years says, "My role is best described in this quote from Archbishop Oscar Romero: 'We plant seeds that one day will grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise . . . We may never see the end results.'" She believes that greater awareness for engaged cou-

ples and more support for newly married couples will make stronger parishes. "Parishes that are supportive and involved with young engaged and newly married couples will find them to be a valuable resource. AFM wants to help you meet their needs."

Julie Kurer, has been senior secretary for Engaged Enrichment/Director of AFM/Special Needs for six years. "Marriage preparation is an important part of the Church. We encourage the parishes to continue stressing the importance of these programs and getting information out to the couples as early in their marriage preparation as possible.

Catholic Campus Ministry

Campus ministry serves students, faculty and the campus community in four major areas; religious, social, educational and service. Confirmation programs, potlucks and suppers, intercollegiate retreats, Mass, speakers, 'hanging out' and outreach are some of the ways campus ministers strive to make the Catholic Church meaningful in the transitional world of campus life. The National Catholic Student Coalition (NCSC), a national Catholic college student-run organization, has its national office at Adult and Family Ministry.

Rev. Dr. Bob Lotz has been a campus minister at the Newman Center at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for five years. "We are working to bring students closer to the Church by developing and enabling their leadership skills, which could expand into adult formation and continuing service after college life."

For 11 years Connie Popp has been the Newman Center director at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. "The campus is mission territory, and our focus is on how we can serve the students. We strive to let them know we are here for them with a place to relax and reflect, and we accompany the students on their faith journey," she says.

Brian Zanin has been Catholic campus minister at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater for two years. He is also campus ministry advisor for the National Catholic Student Coalition (NCSC),

located at Cousins Center. "As a campus minister, I am the outreach for the Church and a conduit for student participation. One of my primary roles is empowering students – to assist them with their discernment of their faith and leadership in the Church," Brian stated. NCSC is the evidence of campus ministry working well – a national organization that supports empowerment and leadership of Catholic college students. Adult and Family Ministry has provided significant support, which is reflective of the archdiocese.

Edith Padgett has been a Catholic campus minister at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, and Carthage College for 10 years. "We help students discover their Catholic faith. Students come to college with their parents' faith, and we walk with them through their own faith discovery," Edith said.

Special Needs

Special Needs Ministry embraces all areas of disabilities, providing parish support in religious education classes, inclusive education, catechist training, family enrichment, retreats, days of reflection, resources, assessments, support groups, home-schooling, and consultative services to individual school communities to assist them in accepting and retaining children with special needs.

Evangelization

Your congregation can become a more hospitable community, reaching out to inactive Catholics and reconnecting with them. This is the welcoming and inviting ministry of evangelization. Services offered through the Adult and Family Ministry Office include workshops, retreats, and resources. The newly revised Evangelization Handbook offers committee leaders, parish staff and others a step-by-step approach in organizing an evangelization committee.

The contact person for Special Needs and Evangelization ministries is Theresa Johaneck, director Adult and Family Ministry/Special Needs and Evangelization. "The programs and services of Adult and Family Ministry have

changed greatly over my 20 years with the archdiocese. We are continually looking at ways to encourage parishes to reach out to those with special needs and to find needed resources and services. It is not just religious education, but support for the family, siblings and various institutions," Theresa said.

She added, "We find more and more churches responding to the needs of evangelization within their parish communities. We continually want to make it clear that evangelization means something for us as Catholics. Every Catholic can be a minister of welcome, reconciliation and compassion."

Janet Shea has been administrative assistant in Adult and Family Ministry for 22 years. "The Church is about people enriching one another's faith and lives," she says. "In AFM, we strive to help parishes enrich the faith life in their community."

Change can often be difficult, but it is energizing and vital. The family is such an important part of who we are as Church. We constantly ask ourselves what some of the new dreams and challenges are for families, and we realize that the family focus will continue to evolve and change. AFM is enthused about the future of the Catholic family and is poised to provide support and resources in whatever form it needs to take."



Mark Your Calendars

The annual Justice Celebration will take place on Thursday, June 6, 2002 at the Cousins Center. The evening will begin with a social at 6:00 p.m.

If you wish to nominate your parish or school to receive a justice award, send a brief description of the program or event to the Office for Human Concerns by March 1. You may e-mail your nomination to: humanconcerns@archmil.org.

Information should include the name, address and phone number of a contact person, and a concise description of why the parish or school is being nominated.

Parishes and school chosen for recognition will receive a confirmation letter and phone call from the Office for Human Concerns. *(Parishes and schools should not assume they will be awarded because they were nominated.)* Invitations will be sent in April.

Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities: A Campaign in Support of Life U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops

On November 14, 2001 the Catholic bishops of the United States voted to adopt the revised "Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities." This document was first issued in 1975 and updated and reaffirmed in 1985. It was recently revised to take into account legal and social realities, as well as Pope John Paul II's "Gospel of Life," and the U.S. bishops' statement, "Living the Gospel of Life." The pastoral plan also touches on capital punishment and "imperfect legislation," and it condemns unequivocally any type of violence in the name of pro-life. The pastoral plan can be found on the internet at www.nccbuscc.org/prolife/pastoralplan.htm.

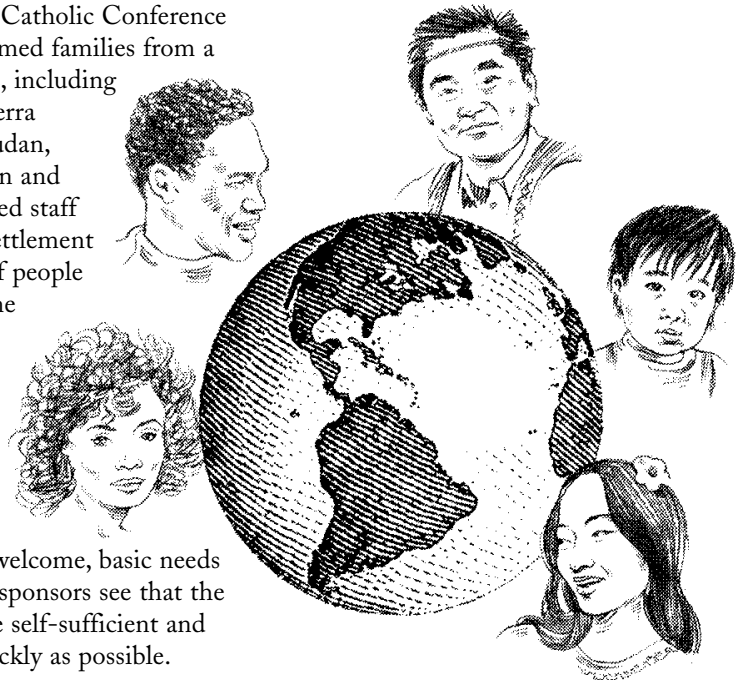
Copies of the pastoral plan, as well as brochures and prayer cards, can be ordered from the address below. Contact the USCCB directly for information on costs and shipping. Materials are available in English or Spanish. Contact:

USCCB Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities
3211 4th Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20017
Tel: 202/541-3070 • Fax: 202/541-3054

Catholic Charities – Refugee Resettlement Program

Refugees are individuals who have experienced great pain and hardship. A refugee is a person who “owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular group, or political opinion is outside the country of his nationality and is unable to or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of the country.” (From the 1951 U.N. Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees.) These qualities have enabled them to survive difficult living conditions, and to adjust to a new culture and language in the United States. These same qualities may also make them valuable members of their new community.

The United States Catholic Conference (USCC) has welcomed families from a variety of countries, including Bosnia, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Burma, Afghanistan and Congo. With limited staff time, Refugee Resettlement is always in need of people who wish to become sponsors. Sponsors play a key role in the successful resettlement of newly arrived refugees in the United States. By providing a warm welcome, basic needs and practical help, sponsors see that the newcomers become self-sufficient and independent as quickly as possible.



Refugee Resettlement needs volunteers and donations. Volunteers are helpful in accompanying refugees to appointments and serving as mentors or translators. Churches or organizations could also collect household items to furnish an apartment or donate food baskets to welcome a refugee family that is new to the community.

Your parish can offer hope and a helping hand by co-sponsoring a refugee family. All it takes is dedication, some time, and a few resources. Co-sponsors help to ease transitions by helping families adjust to unfamiliar surroundings, providing basic needs, and teaching them how to become independent.

With lives that have been shattered by war or political oppression, refugees often face difficult challenges and adjustments in the United States. They must learn a new language, adapt to a strange culture and become self-sufficient all over again.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor and want further information, contact Ubah Abdi, Catholic Charities Volunteer coordinator – Migrant & Refugee Services, 414-771-2881, x168 or email uabdi@mke.cc.org

Good Friday Stations of the Cross in Milwaukee

March 29, 2002

“Live” stations of the cross, held in Spanish, are sponsored annually by the Hispanic Ministry Office.

They begin at 3:00 p.m. at **Ss. Cyril & Methodius Parish, 1547 W. Windlake Ave.** and end at **St. Patrick Parish, 723 W Washington St.**

Please help to advertise this special event!

For more information, contact the Hispanic Ministry Office at 414-769-3398 or 800-769-9373, x398.

Resource from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

“Welcoming the Stranger Among Us: Unity in Diversity – A Resource Kit for Parishes,” was developed by the Migration and Refugee Services Office for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Refugees. It is based on the 2001 statement of the U.S. Bishops entitled, “Welcoming the Stranger Among Us: Unity in Diversity.”

As Catholics, we are called to welcome new immigrants and help them join our communities in ways that are respectful of their cultures and in ways that mutually enrich the immigrants and the receiving Church. This resource kit offers practical guidance for building more welcoming and inclusive parishes. Bi-lingual materials are available and include bulletin quotes and clip art; planning ideas for parish staff, leaders, parish councils, liturgists, homilists, school and youth programs; and prayer cards.

For more information, contact the Office for Pastoral Care of Migrants and Refugees in Washington, D.C., 202- 541-3230 or www.nccbuscc.org/mrs/pcmr.

Parish Council Orientation Sessions for Parish Councilors and Nominees Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Parish Council Orientation Sessions are information/training sessions for parish council members & nominees. A facilitator will review the scope and responsibilities of this important lay leadership role in parish life.

Orientation sessions are offered throughout the archdiocese during April, May & June. Both nominees and parish councilors may attend a session at any of the following locations. Registration is due **seven days before** the presentation. *The Parish Council Manual* will be available for \$10 at each session.

7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>ORIENTATION LOCATIONS</u>	<u>DATES</u>	<u>PRESENTER</u>
1	St. Mark - Kenosha	Monday, April 29	Val Keller
2	St. Louis - Caledonia	Tuesday, April 30	Val Keller
3	St. Mary-Burlington English Session and Spanish Session	Wednesday, May 1	Val Keller
4	St. Mary, Waukesha	Monday, April 15	Shawn Colberg
5	St. Joan of Arc, Delafield	Thursday, April 25	Shawn Colberg
6	Holy Trinity, Kewaskum	Tuesday, May 14	Jennifer Jackman
7	St Patrick, Beaver Dam	Monday, April 22	Shawn Colberg
8	Holy Family, FdL Sacred Heart site	Tuesday, April 23	Shawn Colberg
9	SS. Cyril & Methodius, Sheboygan	Wednesday, /May 8	Catherine O'Neill
10	St. Peter Alcantara, Port Washington	Wednesday, May 15	Catherine O'Neill
11	St. Robert, Shorewood	Monday, Apr. 29	Catherine O'Neill
12	St. Bernard, Wauwatosa	Monday, May 13	Eva J. Diaz
13	S. Mary Czestochowa, Milwaukee	Monday, Apr. 22	Eva J. Diaz
14	St. Rafael, Milwaukee English Session and Spanish Session	Tuesday, June 11	Roberto Cortes
15	St. Sylvester, South Milwaukee	Tuesday, April 30	Jennifer Jackman
16	St. Rita, West Allis	Monday, May 13	Jennifer Jackman
General	Archbishop Cousins Catholic Center	Tuesday, June 4	Noreen Welte

Parish Council Orientation - 2002

I will purchase a Parish Council Manual

Please return one form for each individual who will attend.

Mail to: Maureen Habetler, Office for Parish Councils & Planning
Archdiocese of Milwaukee, PO Box 070912, Milwaukee, WI 53207-0912
Or E-mail to: parishcouncils@archmil.org

Date of Orientation: _____ Place of Orientation: _____

Name: _____ Parish & City: _____

Home Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Symposium Examines Ethics of Stem Cell Research *(continued from page 3)*

6. Research involving adult stem cells and stem cells obtained from umbilical cord blood or placentas is morally permissible. (For a stem cell glossary, see the website of the Wisconsin Catholic Conference: www.wisconsincatholic.com).

Information in this article was provided by the Wisconsin Catholic Conference. For additional information, contact the WCC, or the Archdiocesan Office for Human Concerns at 414-769-3426 or humanconcerns@archmil.org.

Our Sunday Visitor has a helpful brochure entitled, "What the Church Teaches on Stem Cell Research: A Catholic Perspective on the Recent Controversy." To obtain copies for your parish, contact: *Our Sunday Visitor*, 200 Noll Plaza, Huntington, IN 46750 or call 800-348-2440 or visit their website: www.osv.com.

Wisconsin Legislature and Embryonic Stem Cell Research

Wisconsin legislators are grappling with a variety of proposals related to embryonic stem cell research:

- Budget amendment to restrict research. A proposal offered in the assembly would have restricted research on human embryos in the state to only those stem cell lines in existence as of January 1, 2002. The proposed restrictions were deleted from the final budget package.
- Human Embryo Protection Act. Proposed by legislators in August, the "Human Embryo Protection Act" would prohibit the creation, destruction, sale or transfer of human embryos for research purposes. The bill would also explore adoption as an option for "excess" embryos. The details of the bill are still in drafting, however, the final proposal will likely restrict future research on embryonic stem cells to only those stem cell lines developed as of the president's August address regarding federal funding for this research.
- Cloning. Legislation regarding human cloning is expected later this session. It is likely the proposal will include a ban on reproductive and therapeutic cloning.
- Support for UW Research. In contrast to efforts to limit stem cell research and

cloning are recent efforts to promote Wisconsin as a center for advancements in biotechnology.

One such example is the recently introduced Senate Joint Resolution 46 that praises the UW-Madison and the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation for playing a leading role in the advancement of embryonic stem cell research. SJR 46 is currently awaiting a hearing in the Senate Committee on Universities, Housing and Government Operations.

A joint resolution differs from a bill in that a resolution does not carry the force of law. If approved by both houses of the legislature, a joint resolution expresses the sentiment of the legislature and generally directs some communication on behalf of the legislature to the individual or institution that is the subject of the resolution. For more information, contact the Wisconsin Catholic Conference, 131 W. Wilson St., Suite 1105, Madison, WI 53703 or visit their website: www.wisconsincatholic.com.

Parish Leadership Newsletter is published by these archdiocesan offices: Adult and Family Ministry, Parish Finances, Human Concerns/Respect Life, Parish Councils and Planning. The newsletter is published three times a year in autumn, winter and spring. It is sent to priests and parish directors, parish council members, parish council committee chairs, pastoral associates, business administrators, APC delegates, and adult and family ministers. Comments are welcome. Contact the Office for Human Concerns/Respect Life, 414-769-3426 or 800-769-9373, x426 (*toll free in the ten counties of the archdiocese*), or e-mail humanconcerns@archmil.org.

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Supported by the Catholic Stewardship Appeal

Comments are welcome. Contact the Office for Human Concerns/Respect Life, 414-769-3426 or 800-769-9373, x426 (*toll free in the ten counties of the archdiocese*), or e-mail humanconcerns@archmil.org.

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