

Rescheduled Day of Service enjoys large turnout

BY TIM LILLEY
The Message editor

Approximately 80 volunteers worked pretty much a full day April 9 at Corpus Christi Parish during the rescheduled St. Meinrad Day of Service. Originally scheduled for March 12, this eighth annual Day of Service was rescheduled after a late-winter front left the area dealing with light wintry precipitation and wind-chills in the single digits, on March 12.

April 9 dawned sunny and a little warmer, but with chilly breezes throughout the day. That didn't impact the enthusiasm of the volunteers, who worked to turn two brushy hillsides and the valley between them into a walking Stations of the Cross, a shrine to the Holy Family and a memorial of Jesus' crucifixion on the hill known as Golgotha.

The land is located on parish property south of Corpus Christi Church and School. The northern hillside features the walking Stations of the Cross, which will have benches along the trail that winds in a circle around the hillside.

At its south end will sit the shrine to the Holy Family. From that point, visitors can look south across the valley and up the south hillside to the recreation of Golgotha. A stairway and walking path will give visitors the opportunity to visit and pray at the feet of the three crosses.

Craig Blessinger, a member of Corpus Christi Parish and a Knight of Columbus, served as the coordinator for the day. Blessinger told **The Message** he was grateful to the dozens of volunteers who were able to attend the rescheduled day and work toward creating a special place of prayer for all.

St. Meinrad Day of Service events were held this year in 11 cities across six states, including Los Angeles, California; Denver, Colorado; Bloomington, Evansville, Indianapolis, Jasper and New Albany, Indiana; Louisville, Kentucky; Pineville, Louisiana; Toledo, Ohio; and Tulsa, Oklahoma.

According to its website, "The St. Meinrad Day of Service is an opportunity for (St. Meinrad) alumni and friends to continue (a) tradition of service — a chance to pray together, socialize together, and encourage one another in order to strengthen their local communities and the Body of Christ."

For more information on the Day of Service, visit www.alumni.saintmeinrad.edu/home/day-of-service/.



The Message photos by Tim Lilley

Volunteers gather for a group photo in front of the entrance to the area on the south side of Corpus Christi Parish that will feature a walking Stations of the Cross, shrine to the Holy Family and recreation of Golgotha. They were part of the rescheduled St. Meinrad Day of Service, which was held April 9.



Workers form a human chain to get rocks from the north end of the area to the top of hill on the south end, where three Crosses are mounted. These stones serve as the bases of the crosses.



This recreation of Golgotha is on the south hill of the area.



Markers like this note where Stations of the Cross will be installed on the north side of the area. The walking stations will include benches throughout.



Evansville Day of Service Coordinator Craig Blessinger, at right with tape measure, measures the width of the walking path before installation of stones along the border and mulch along the path. Blessinger is a member of Corpus Christi Parish and a Knight of Columbus.