

# The Message: Working for you **now** more than ever

BY TIM LILLEY  
The Message editor

Southwest Indiana's Catholic community newspaper has been working for you for **more than 50 years**. And now, in the midst of the COVID-19 outbreak and all its challenges, *The Message* is working for you **more than ever**.

We strive to bring you the news and information you need to stay informed about the guidelines in place for parish Masses and other worship services, and other parish events across our 12 counties. Be assured that *The Message* will get that news — and more — to you as quickly as we can.

And just as *The Message* staff is working for you more than ever, we need your support more than ever. This issue appears at the start of the Diocese of Evansville's annual "**Message Weekend**," when Catholics across our 12 counties have the opportunity to subscribe to the paper or renew their annual subscriptions.

To those who will renew, sincere thanks for your ongoing support. To everyone else, we hope you will decide to become a subscriber. You can receive 51 issues — **print and digital** — for only **\$24**. **We have not increased our subscription rate in more than 15 years!** Digital-only subscriptions are available for only **\$12**. Please consider one of these options if you are not already a subscriber.

You can **try the digital edition free** — and with **no obligation** — by visiting our website at [evdiomessage.org](http://evdiomessage.org). There, you can download the digital edition of this issue and see for yourself that this product provides you everything included in the print edition.

Over the next couple of issues, we'll focus on our Catholic schools. *The Message* will continue to provide updates from the **Catholic Education Office** regarding the impact of COVID-19 on our 26 Catholic schools. We also will cover the annual National Catholic Schools Week Mass and the "Come and See" events our schools are planning. **Schools will always be a major focus** for *The Message*.

We also will cover the ordination of **Deacon Garrett Braun** to the priesthood early June.

**Ruth Bandas** and **Sheila Barclay** serve on *The Message* staff with assistant editor **Megan Erbacher** and me, and they do great work for you on a daily basis. Ruth handles subscriptions and display advertising, and Sheila is responsible for the design and look of *The Message*. They join Megan and me in a commitment to serving our readers by delivering the best newspaper and the best service possible.

Our **local columnists** include Bishop Joseph M. Siegel, Father Donald Dilger, Zoe Cannon, Society of St. Vincent de Paul Director Joseph Cook, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry Steve Dabrowski, Diocesan Coordinator of Catechetical Programs and Resources Mary Kaye Falcony, Director of Catechesis Kathy Gallo, Brenda Hopf, Mary Ann Hughes, Kaitlin Klein, Director of Hispanic Ministries Bertha Melendres, Joel Padgett, Diocesan Director of Stewardship Matt Potter, Kristine Schroeder, Maria Sermersheim, Becky Siewers, members of the Southwest Indiana Guild of the Catholic Medical Association and Youth First counselors who are serving in our Catholic schools. Our priests and members of religious orders serving in the diocese also will contribute.

**Contributing columnists** from outside the diocese include Christina Capecchi, Father Kenneth Doyle and George Weigel. You can count on *The Message* to deliver you a variety of perspectives on many areas

through our outstanding lineup of columnists. **Subscribe today** to begin receiving this dynamic lineup every week.

*The Message* also brings you news from across the Catholic world using the resources of **Catholic News Service** and **Catholic News Agency**. However, our focus is here — at home. **We are committed to being the best newspaper possible for our Catholic community in Southwest Indiana.**

Subscribers know that, with the generous support of longtime advertisers like G.D. Ritzzy's and Holiday World, we are able to offer a **Christmas coloring contest** for youngsters and **free passes** to Holiday World and Splashin' Safari. **Subscribe today** to make sure you don't miss out on all the fun.

From top to bottom, I hope you see that *The Message* works hard for you, our Catholic community, every week of the year. All of us hope you will renew your subscriptions or become new subscribers. We **thank you** again for your support and confidence. **Be assured of our commitment to bringing you the best community newspaper in our 12 counties.**



And be assured of our prayers that you and your families remain healthy and safe.



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