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Catechetical Sunday: 'Lord, when did we see you hungry'

By JOEL PADGETT
Director of the Office
of Catechesis

On Sunday, Sept. 15, the Catholic Church in the United States celebrates "Catechetical Sunday." Every year, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has a theme for the day, and this year's theme comes from the Gospel of Matthew: "Lord, when did we see you hungry" (25:37). It's a verse from the "Judgment of the Nations" passage (vv. 31-46) at the end of chapter 25. In this passage, Christ — the shepherd — separates the sheep from the goats. The sheep are those who fed Christ when he was hungry and the goats are those who did not. Both the sheep and the goats asked the shepherd, "When was it that we fed (or did



"Miracle of the Bread and Fish," by Giovanni Lanfranco

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First diocesan **Race for Vocations** to run in conjunction with **Evansville Half Marathon**

By JOHN ROHLF
The Message assistant editor

Thanks to a couple of parishioners in the Diocese of Evansville, individuals will have an opportunity to "Race for Vocations" next month.

Anna and Nick Bragin, parishioners at St. Benedict Cathedral in Evansville, moved to the area a few years ago. They previously lived in Bloomington, Indiana. While living there, they both participated in a Race for Vocations for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. Thanks to a push from St. Benedict Cathedral Rector and Diocesan Vicar General Father Alex Zenthoefer, Anna Bragin brought the idea for a Race for Vocations to Father Tyler Tenbarge, diocesan director of vocations, in June.

"I really enjoyed doing the Race for Vocations up in Indianapolis," Anna Bragin said. "We moved down here about three years ago and I noticed there wasn't anything like that down here. And it kind of had been in the back of my mind I feel like it could happen here. I think it would be easy enough to do with the Evansville half marathon."

She said she initially thought it may be something they would start next year, but Father Tenbarge encouraged them to start the Race for Vocations for the Diocese of Evansville this year.

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St. Meinrad teaches men 'how to be authentic'

By JOHN ROHLF
The Message assistant editor

St. Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology leadership highlighted strong numbers in both the seminary and monastery at their annual Evansville alumni and friends dinner.

St. Meinrad alumni and friends packed the lower level of The Bauerhaus for the annual event, which was held Sept. 5. Among those in attendance were priests and deacons of the Diocese of Evansville.

Benedictine Father Denis Robinson updated those in attendance on the state of the seminary at St. Meinrad. He said the seminary year is "off to a great start." They have 34 new seminarians this year, which Father Robinson said is a nice, large number. They are serving 22 dioceses and seven religious communities. They are serving 16 countries of origin, he said.

Father Robinson highlighted growth in the propaedeutic program at St. Meinrad. They have 19 individuals in the program this year after having 10 in the program last year, Father Robinson said.

"That group is one of the most interesting, focused groups of young men that I've met in a long time," Father Robinson said.

Father Robinson also highlighted the



The Message photo by John Rohlf
Diocese of Evansville Deacon Keith Hart speaks to attendees during the annual St. Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology alumni and friends dinner Sept. 5 at The Bauerhaus in Evansville.

great enrollment in their graduate degree program. He said the number of permanent deacon candidates is the highest in the history of over 25 years of that program. He also said they are having success with their youth programs.

Archabbot Benedictine Father Kurt Stasiak said they are doing well in the monastery, with five men in formation right now.

"Most of the other monasteries in the country would be very happy to say they have five men in formation,"

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