

The MESSAGE

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Diocese holds annual Respect Life Celebration

BY JOHN ROHLF

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Attendees at the Diocese of Evansville's annual Respect Life Celebration were stressed the need for both sacrifice and human solidarity as part of the pro-life movement.

Bishop Joseph M. Siegel celebrated Mass Oct. 17 at St. Benedict Cathedral for the annual diocesan Respect Life Celebration. Five priests concelebrated the Mass, including Father Jonathan Meyer, who was the keynote speaker at the dinner after Mass. Father Meyer is an ordained priest in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

During his homily at Mass, Bishop Siegel referenced an excerpt from the work of poet John Donne. Bishop Siegel said John Donne was saying in the excerpt that because we all belong to the human family, the death of any man, woman or child is our loss. He said the concept of human solidarity rooted in our central unity of those created in God's image and likeness is the reason they were gathered for the Respect Life Mass, which gave thanks for the gift of human life.

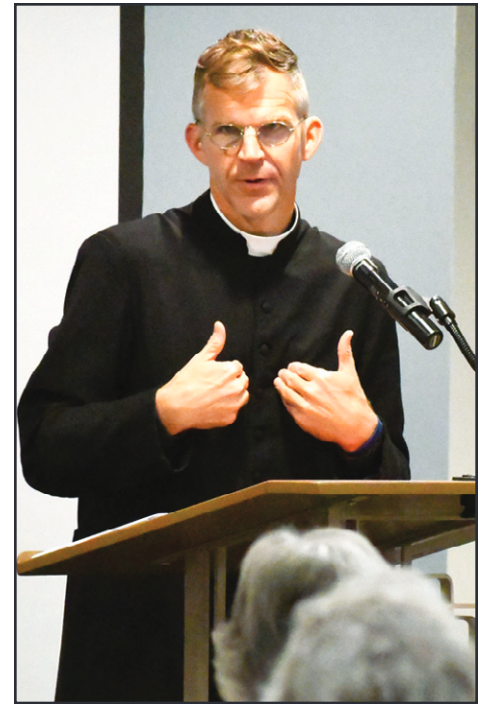
During his talk in the Woodward Center after Mass, Father Meyer said that for us to be authentically pro-life, there is no love without sacrifice. He believes that in the pro-life cause there is a tendency to focus on presence. They defend the fact that every human being has the presence of God within them and every human being is a child of God with dignity, delight, beauty and worth, Father Meyer said. While this is true, Father Meyer said we need to be in solidarity with each other and bind together as brothers and sisters.

"We need to fight together for the elderly, the unborn, the forgotten, the outcast," Father Meyer said. "And we



The Message photos by Megan Erbacher

Shown at the altar of St. Benedict Cathedral with Bishop Joseph M. Siegel, center, are Father Alex Zenthoefer, left, Father Ray Brenner, Deacon Pat Herman, master of ceremonies Matt Miller, Father Jonathan Meyer of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, Father Lowell Will and Father Tyler Tenbarge.



After Mass, Father Jonathan Meyer of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis spoke to about 120 people in St. Benedict's Woodward Center.

need to do it in great community and in great union."

Father Meyer referenced the min-

istry being celebrated that evening was Red Bird Ministries, which is a pro-family, pro-life, Catholic ministry for

families grieving the loss of a child at any age and circumstance. He stressed

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7th annual Encuentro de Fe

The Office of Hispanic Ministry held the 7th annual Encuentro de Fe, themed the Church in prayer, as preparation for the Jubilee year in 2025. More about the Encuentro in the next issue of The Message!

El séptimo Encuentro de Fe anual

La Oficina del Ministerio Hispano celebró el séptimo Encuentro de Fe anual, con el tema de la Iglesia en oración, como preparación para el año del Jubileo en 2025. ¡Más sobre el Encuentro en la próxima edición del Mensaje!

Photo by Bertha Melendres, special to The Message/
Foto de Bertha Melendres, especial para El Mensaje



The Message photo by Megan Erbacher

Jasper hosts 22nd annual Wisdom Day

About 160 faithful attend the Oct. 22 Wisdom Day event hosted by St. Joseph Parish in Jasper. The Diocese of Evansville Office of Marriage, Family and Life coordinates Wisdom Day events annually across the diocese. The Message will provide full coverage of the event in the Nov. 1 issue.