



The MESSAGE

Southwestern Indiana's Catholic
Community Newspaper

November 8, 2024

Volume 55, Number 10

www.evdiomessage.org

K of C holds annual Vocations Appreciation Dinner

By JOHN ROHLF
The Message
assistant editor

A large crowd filled the Huntingburg Events Center for the annual Priests, Deacons and Religious Vocations Appreciation Dinner.

The Blessed Father Michael McGivney dinner was sponsored by the Knights of Columbus councils from Dubois and Spencer Counties. Clergy and religious sisters from the Diocese of Evansville's east deanery attended the dinner, which was held Oct. 29.

Knights of Columbus Field Agent Chad Lueken noted the

See **VOCATIONS**, page 5



The Message photo by John Rohlf
Keynote speaker Daniel Schachle speaks to a large crowd at the annual Priests, Deacons and Religious Vocations Appreciation Dinner at the Huntingburg Events Center. The event is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus in Dubois and Spencer counties.

Father Schroeder celebrates Mass of the Resurrection

By JOHN ROHLF
The Message assistant editor

The annual All Souls Day Mass of the Resurrection was held Nov. 3 at St. Joseph Cemetery.

Father Eugene Schroeder, pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Vanderburgh County, celebrated the Mass in the cemetery's mausoleum. The Mass featured a remembrance of those who died. Nearly 300 names of individuals who were buried at St. Joseph Cemetery over the past year were read during the gathering rite.

During his homily, Father Schroeder noted the crowd in attendance was "a decidedly seasoned group of people." He believes we have become a little insulated from death.

"When death comes, we always think about it as the enemy," Father Schroeder said.



The Message photo by John Rohlf
Father Eugene Schroeder, pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Vanderburgh County, delivers the homily during the All Souls Day Mass of the Resurrection, which was held Nov. 3 at the St. Joseph Cemetery mausoleum.

"Something that's going to do us harm. But what we remind ourselves is that life and death are

two sides of the same coin. It's like the cycle of living and dying

See **MASS**, page 8

Serra Club's 2024 Vocations Awareness Banquet

Father Caleb Scherzinger, standing at podium, speaks to students from Diocese of Evansville Catholic schools during the Nov. 4 Serra Club Vocation Awareness Banquet, held at the Catholic Center in Evansville. Father Scherzinger, parochial vicar of St. Francis Xavier Parish in Vincennes, was this year's keynote speaker for the event. The Serra Club annually honors students for their creativity in using a variety of media — including essays, original board games, original songs and art projects — to showcase religious vocations, vocations to single life and vocations to married life. The program coincided with National Vocation Awareness Week, celebrated Nov. 3-9 this year. *The Message will have a full story with a list of winners and more photos in the Nov. 15 issue.*



The Message photo by Megan Erbacher

Mater Dei celebrates 75 years, kicks off Growing in Grace Campaign

By MALLORY HERTEL
Special to The Message

Mater Dei High School in Evansville held its 75th anniversary celebration on Oct. 26. The evening began with optional tours for guests, some of whom hadn't seen the inside of the school in more than 60 years. Once the tours commenced, guests were invited to say the Rosary followed by Mass celebrated by Father Christopher Droste, Mater Dei alumnus and current Mater Dei Priest Delegate, in addition to concelebrants and senior priests of the Diocese Father David Nunning, Father Ray Brenner and Father Lowell Will.

When the doors opened in the main gymnasium, guests were immediately greeted with a trip down memory lane as the gym was decorated with old letter jackets and sweaters, newspaper



Submitted photo
Bishop Joseph M. Siegel, at podium, offers a blessing to all in attendance at Mater Dei High School's 75th anniversary celebration.

articles and school yearbooks displayed throughout. One guest described it as, "Classy, cozy and nostalgic." The Bauerhaus catered and served the meal while music and photos from every

decade the school has been opened played on a slide show. To kick off the evening's scheduled program, members of the Mater Dei

See **75TH**, page 8