



# The MESSAGE

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## Dedication of the Diocesan Jubilee Habitat Build

Please join us as we celebrate the completion of the Diocesan Jubilee Habitat Build!

All are welcome as Bishop Joseph M. Siegel blesses the new home at 5:30 p.m. CDT May 7 at 1508 Florence Street in Evansville. Join us as we give thanks for the opportunity to help our community in this tangible way.

*Thank you for building hope with us!*



# BUILD HOPE WITH US

Diocese  
of Evansville

Habitat  
for Humanity  
of Evansville

## South and West Deaneries celebrate Wisdom Day

By MEGAN ERBACHER  
The Message editor

More than 200 faithful from across the diocese gathered April 21 for the annual Wisdom Day celebration at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Daylight.

Wisdom Day returned to Evansville in 2025 for the South and West Deaneries after a several-year hiatus. It's a day of fun, food and fellowship, specifically celebrating individuals aged 55 and older.

According to the organizers, Wisdom Days began in 2000 by Catholic Charities for senior citizens. The mission of Wisdom Day, as it was established, is "to honor and serve the Catholic senior citizens of the Diocese of Evansville. Through sharing and celebrating the memories, perspectives and gifts of the older generation, the lives of Cath-



The Message photo by Megan Erbacher

More than 200 faithful attend the April 21 Wisdom Day event at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Daylight.

olics of all ages will be enriched. The program will further the understanding that seniors are an integral part of the successful future of the Catholic Church in

Southwestern Indiana."

The day began with Mass celebrated by Bishop Joseph M. Siegel at St. John Parish in Daylight.

See **WISDOM**, page 5

## Pope Leo to new priests: Keep Church door open, don't be an obstacle



OSV News photo  
by Simone Risoluti,  
Vatican Media

**Pope Leo XIV  
walks with  
his crosier as  
he arrives to  
celebrate the  
ordination  
Mass of 10  
priests in St.  
Peter's Basil-  
ica at the Vat-  
ican April 26.**

By JUNNO AROCHO ESTEVES  
OSV News

(OSV News) — Priests are called each day to leave the doors of the Church open to a "suffering humanity" in need and not "be an obstacle to those who wish to enter," Pope Leo XIV told 10 deacons just before ordaining them to the priesthood.

The vocation to priestly ministry is a call to reflect Christ's "patience and tenderness" and "to keep the threshold open and direct others to it, without using too many words, the pope said April 26 during his homily at the ordination Mass in St. Peter's Basilica.

"Today more than ever, especially when statistics seem to indicate a divide between people and the Church, keep the door open! Let people in, and be prepared to go out. This is another secret for your life: You are a channel, not a filter," he said.

Of the 10 priests ordained by Pope Leo, eight were ordained for the Diocese of Rome, including six Italians, a Cameroonian and a Colombian. Four studied at Rome's major seminary and four were prepared for the priesthood at the Neocatechumenal Way's Redemptoris Mater Seminary in Rome.

Two priests were ordained for other dioceses or congregations. Mexican Father Armando Roa Nuñez was ordained for the Diocese of Miao, India, while Father Selwyn Pinto Loyce was ordained as a member of the Idente Missionaries.

According to Vatican News, an estimated 5,000 people, comprised of family and friends of the ordinands, were present at the ordination Mass which

See **POPE**, page 8

## Brooks speaks at Legatus lunch, at local Catholic high schools

The Evansville Chapter of Legatus hosted a special lunch April 20 at the City View at Sterling Square featuring best-selling author and speaker Arthur Brooks. The topic of the talk for the Legatus luncheon was *Moving from Strength to Strength in Work, Life and Happiness*. Brooks also spoke at both Evansville Mater Dei and Reitz Memorial on April 20. See more photos on page 2.



Submitted photo

Arthur Brooks speaks to students at Mater Dei High School. Mater Dei also hosted Signature School during the event.