

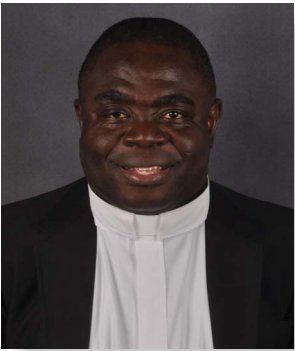


The Worker

SAINT JOSEPH ^{THE} WORKMAN

Cathedral

Priest from Ghana to Speak at Cathedral's Annual Mission Co-op Weekend



Father Augustine Bentil

Father Augustine Bentil, a native of the nation of Ghana, will speak at the Masses at the Cathedral on August 24-25, for the Cathedral parish's annual Mission Co-op Weekend.

Father Gus, as he prefers to be called, is pastor of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Galloway and St. Ladislaus Catholic Church in Bevent, in Marathon County. Both are in the Wausau Deanery of the Diocese of La Crosse.

"I will talk about Catholic Church life in Ghana, generally and specifically, Catholic Church life in my diocese" there, Father Gus said. He is a priest from the Diocese of Sekondi-Takoradi in Ghana.

The objective for the mission appeal is to put in cement floors in churches in that diocese, Father Gus said.

Envelopes will be available for the mission appeal. "All checks should be written to the Cathedral Parish with the memo "Ghana Mission Appeal," Father Gus said. "The Cathedral Office will write one check to the Mission Office of the Diocese of La Crosse."

Father Gus has been pastor of the parishes in Galloway and Bevent since July 2011. Before that, he was a pastor in parishes in Milladore and Blenker in the Marshfield Deanery and in Junction City in the Stevens Point Deanery.

He has been a pastor in parishes in the Diocese of La Crosse for the past 14 years. "I arrived here in Wisconsin for the first time from Ghana in January 2005," he said. "I am temporarily ministering here in the Diocese of La Crosse."

Father Gus said he loves working in the diocese and sharing in the Universal Church Mission of the Church. ✠



Seven Cathedral parish members received the Sacrament of Confirmation conferred by Bishop William Callahan on April 24 at the Cathedral. They are Shelby Elise Burch, John Anthony Felsheim, Chukwuma Theodore Nduka, Emily Elizabeth Reid, Joseph Bortolo Savoldelli, Morgan Ann Thill and Gavin Michael Weinberger.

Anointing of the Sick to be Offered at July 14 Mass

The Cathedral parish's annual communal sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be offered during the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, July 14.

"It is for Catholics who are seriously ill, preparing for major surgery, aging and the dying," Monsignor Charles Stoetzel said. "Its purpose is to pray as a Church for healing physically, emotionally and spiritually." Participants are anointed with the Oil of the Sick, which is blessed at the annual Chrism Mass.

Monsignor Stoetzel also will do private anointings for people in places such as their home, a nursing home or a hospital. Parishioners can contact the parish office to set a date, time and place for the anointing. ✠



Froegel Enjoys Making Greeting Cards for Sale for Cathedral

Cathedral parishioner Anita Froegel has been making greeting cards for more than 30 years, something she started doing so she could spend time with her husband without having to watch televised football games.

For the past few years, many of her greeting cards have been for sale at a table in the Cathedral's Gathering Area after Masses, whenever Scrip is being sold there. The cost is \$2 each or three for \$5, and Froegel will custom design cards for \$5 each. All of the proceeds from the greeting card sales at the table are donated to the Cathedral Parish Council of Catholic Women for projects at the Cathedral church. Froegel also has sold her greeting cards at PCCW's annual Christmas bazaar for about five years, raising additional money for that organization. She also sells some of her greeting cards at the Washburn on the Park apartments complex where she lives, and sends all proceeds from those sales to the parish. And each fall, she sells some of her greeting cards at a craft show at the La Crosse Public Library, and gives those proceeds to the parish as well.

Froegel also is a member of the Rotary Club of La Crosse. At the club's meetings, her greeting cards are sold as a fundraiser for the Rotary Works Foundation, a nonprofit organization that awards grants for local and international charitable and educational activities.

"It's my entertainment," Froegel said of making greeting cards. She estimates she makes about 20 cards a week, which amounts to about 1,000 cards a year. Birthday cards are her biggest seller, followed by Christmas cards. Some of her other biggest sellers are Thinking of You, Get Well and Sympathy cards.

"It's fun to make cards and it's artistic," Froegel said. It also helps keep her mind sharp, she said.

For more information about her greeting cards, call Froegel at 785-0602. ❖



Sailor Who Died at Pearl Harbor is Remembered as a Hero at Cathedral Funeral

A photo of Navy Seaman 1st Class George E. Naegle was near his casket during visitation before his May 18 funeral at the Cathedral.

Navy Seaman 1st Class George E. Naegle of La Crosse was remembered as a hero at his funeral May 18 at the St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral, more than 77 years after he died in the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

About 170 people including a Navy honors team attended the funeral, which was followed by committal rites and military honors in the Catholic Cemetery, where Naegle was entombed in the St. Joseph Mausoleum.

"This was a remarkable experience," his niece, Cathedral parishioner Mary Ann Lyden, said after ceremonies at the cemetery. "I'm so grateful for all of the people who came and for all the honors that were given to my uncle, and for the beautiful Mass."

"He finally has come home," Monsignor Charles Stoetzel said in his sermon at the funeral Mass. Although Naegle died more than 77 years ago while stationed on the battleship USS Oklahoma, it's important to remember and pray for him, Monsignor Stoetzel said.

Naegle wanted to do his part to protect the nation, said Navy Rear Admiral Linnea Sommer-Weddington, who is stationed at Offutt Air Force Base near Omaha, NE, and who gave one of the two speeches between visitation and the Mass. The laboratory where Naegle's remains were identified last year, and where the remains of others stationed on the battleship Oklahoma are being identified, is at that base.

In an interview, Sommer-Weddington said the service was the eighth that she has spoken at, for sailors who were on the Oklahoma. "It's an unbelievable honor for me to represent the Navy at these funerals," she said. She added that she is happy the Navy and the federal government are working to identify the remains and to send them home.

"Today is a special day for the family of George Naegle," said the other speaker, James Laud Sr. of Osceola, IN, a district director with the Sons and Daughters of Pearl Harbor Survivors organization. Inside the church, he put in place his Flag of Honor traveling memorial, which honors members of the armed forces and veterans.

On display on a small table nearby were some of Lyden's mementoes of Naegle,



Mary Ann Lyden, niece of Seaman 1st Class George Naegle, receives the American flag that had covered his casket, from U.S. Navy Rear Admiral Linnea Sommer-Weddington during committal rites and military honors at Catholic Cemetery, after his May 18 funeral at the Cathedral.

Photo by Ty Bjornson, mass communication specialist petty officer 1st class with U.S. Navy Public Affairs.



The coffin of Navy Seaman 1st Class George E. Naegle is carried out of the Cathedral after his May 18 funeral there.

Photo by Peter Thomson of the La Crosse Tribune.

such as framed photos of him, the Purple Heart medal his family received, and a satin gold-color pillowcase depicting scenes in Hawaii, that Naegle had sent to his sister Louise Naegle Weimar (who was Lyden's mother) as a birthday present a few days before Pearl Harbor was attacked.

The first Scripture reading at the Mass was given by Steve Pavela, who still remembers watching Naegle play baseball.

"He was my first baseball hero," Pavela said in an interview at the cemetery after the ceremonies concluded. "He was five years older than me and I remember seeing him pitch," said Pavela, who went on to play college baseball. "I respected him as someone that I'd like to be.

"He was martyred," Pavela said of Naegle. "He gave his life for his country and for his God."

Most of those at the funeral had never met or seen Naegle. But as Ed Wolf of De Soto said after he and his wife Alberta signed the guest book, "I just wanted to show my respects for him."

Wolf served in the Navy from 1958 to 1962 and remembers participating in a Memorial Day 1959 ceremony in the Punchbowl in Hawaii, where Naegle's remains were buried for years before being identified.

"For me, it was really important to come out here and be a part of this, to honor this man's legacy," said Nathan Meyers of Onalaska, a Navy veteran who brought his daughter Olive to the funeral. "He chose to serve, he chose to put his life in the way of danger. He gave his life serving our country."

Naegle was a 1938 graduate of La Crosse Central High School, where he was a star football player. He enlisted in the Navy in 1939.

Mary Ann Lyden was only 5 when her uncle died. She said her mother, Louise Naegle Weimar, who died in 1979, would have been happy to know that Weimar's brother was finally getting a funeral and burial in his hometown.

Weimar was George E. Naegle's only sibling. Their father, George W. Naegle, died in 1974 at the age of 90, and their mother, Anna, died in 1957 at the age of 73.

Naegle's remains were identified last year through DNA and other methods of analysis, the U.S. Defense Department's POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced last September. Lyden and two of her sons, Randy and Robert, had provided the agency with swabs from the inside of their cheeks, as they were asked to do.

Naegle was on the battleship Oklahoma, which was moored at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii, when it and other U.S. ships and aircraft were attacked by Japanese airplanes on December 7, 1941. The battleship was hit by multiple torpedoes, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Naegle, who was 22 at the time.

From December 1941 to June 1944, Navy personnel recovered the remains of the deceased crew, which were subsequently interred in cemeteries in Hawaii. Unidentified remains eventually were buried in 46 plots at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, also known as the Punchbowl, in Hawaii.

In 2015, the DPAA began exhuming the remains from the Punchbowl for analysis. As of March, it has identified 200 sailors and Marines from the Oklahoma who were previously unidentified. ❖



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Men's Club Will Again Hold Pancake/Omelet Breakfasts

The Cathedral Men's Club plans to once again hold Pancake/Omelet Breakfasts on Sundays in the Cathedral Undercroft during the fall and winter months, with each breakfast raising funds for a particular cause.

The first breakfast will be on September 29. The others will be on November 3, February 16 and March 15.

The first three breakfasts will raise money for Cathedral Elementary School, and the March 15 breakfast will raise money for the Aquinas High School Junior Prom.

The breakfasts will be from 7:30 a.m. to noon. Prices once again will be \$3 for a pancake breakfast, \$4 for an omelet breakfast, and \$12 for a family.

Jack Horsfall cooks the pancakes, Jim Noelke makes the omelets, Joe Noelke makes the batter for the pancakes and club President Geoff Wilhemy brings in the supplies and collects the receipts.

Aquinas Middle School and High School students are volunteer servers at the breakfasts. ✠



Cathedral parishioners Innis Mae Grace and Emma Claire Nielsen received First Communion at the 10:30 a.m. Mass on April 28.

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A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF SAINT JOSEPH^{THE}WORKMAN

Cathedral

530 MAIN STREET LA CROSSE, WI 54601
www.cathedralsjworkman.org

608/782-0322

Monsignor Charles Stoetzel, Rector

Steve Cahalan, Editor
Mary Koller-Sperle, Designer

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Volunteer GET INVOLVED!