

Jayson Wieczorek of Marian Central Catholic High School in Woodstock has been accepted into the Campus **Good for you** Honors Program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is one of only 125 students admitted annually.

FATHER will return next month

Bishop Malloy visits ACC

By AUSTIN RUNDE | The Central Times, Aurora Central Catholic High School

As our eighth graders prepare to take a big step into high school, someone else is reaching a big milestone as well.

Bishop David Malloy, who was installed on May 14, 2012, is approaching his fifth-year anniversary as our Bishop of the Rockford Diocese.

Bishop (David) Malloy was appointed bishop on March 20, 2012. He is the successor of Bishop Thomas Doran, and was ordained and installed the ninth Bishop of Rockford by the late Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago, Cardinal Francis George.

I was able to get some time to speak with Bishop Malloy, and I was very interested in what he had to say about his life and his five years as bishop of the Rockford Diocese.

To start, Bishop Malloy has a pretty long day. He usually is “up by about 5 (a.m.)” starting his prayers and Masses.

“If I have a confirmation, that’s usually in the afternoon or in the evening. I’ll go to the office and just see what issues have come up today and (address) the constant writing of articles and homilies as any priest does. It’s just kind of a continuous process.”

I asked Bishop Malloy about how he feels about his success, and who was his biggest role model as a child.

“I’d certainly say my father was at the center of all of that. But I have to say that the priests in the parish, there were many of them coming and going in the usual rotation, but one after the other — you found something there that was helping you to learn how to pray, learn how to be a good Catholic, and learn how to express your Catholic identity.”

When I asked Bishop Malloy if he believes he had ever seen a miracle, he had a very interesting answer.

“I think I’ve seen a miracle every time I’ve been at Mass.

“I do recall one time, in Syria when I lived there, there was a person there who had, allegedly, the stigmata — and I think there was a miracle that had been associated with her, probably, while we were there.”



(Photos provided)

“I think I’ve seen a miracle every time I’ve been at Mass.”

— Bishop David Malloy

Bishop David Malloy offers an all-school Mass at Aurora Central Catholic High School.



Bishop David Malloy talks with students during lunch at Aurora Central Catholic High School. In conversations with young people, he often urges them to think about religious vocations.

Bishop Malloy has had a lot of great memories throughout the past five years, so many in fact, he couldn’t just pick one (favorite).

“A lot of it has to do with the young people, the school visits, the youth summit, the confirmations, the ordinations, the Masses during Holy Week. It’s hard, really, to pick out one particular thing because there are so many moments when it just encourages you again to continue the task that Christ has put in front of me as a bishop and a priest.”

Bishop Malloy has advice for

anyone considering the priesthood or sisterhood.

“Pray about it. And pray about it really sincerely, and the other thing is — don’t be afraid — God will show you. We sometimes let fear, I think, keep us from really thinking it to the end and following it out and making that decision. Don’t be afraid, God will help you, He’ll be there with you.”

I asked Bishop Malloy how the past five years have been as the bishop of the Rockford Diocese.

“It’s been a great challenge. The Holy

Father himself appointed me, which is true in every case of a bishop, so you understand that you have a certain obligation. One of the real blessings for me is that because I’m so close to the area that I grew up — the people here, the culture, the thought — just the way of being is very much similar to what I was used to when I grew up, and it’s just something that’s very comfortable.”

Bishop Malloy has had a great five years as Bishop of the Rockford Diocese. Thank you, Bishop, and we wish you many more great years to come!



Bishop David Malloy meets with eighth-grade guests after Mass at Aurora Central Catholic High School.



VOCATION CORNER

Do you hear His voice?

When I was growing up, there were countless times that I'd ask my parents a question, to which they would respond: "We've already talked about this!"

A similar situation occurred when the Jews asked Jesus: "If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." And Jesus answered them, "I told you and you do not believe." And then He took it one step further and said: "But you do not believe, because you are not among

my sheep."

I sure am glad that my parents never threw that line at me when I didn't always listen!

Jesus continued and said: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me."

In light of this, the question that we have to ask ourselves today is this: Do you hear His voice?

Jesus is always talking, but the question is whether or not we are

listening. Do we take time each day to spend time in silent prayer, not only to tell Him our things, but also to attempt to listen to His plan and His will for us? Do we take time to read Scripture which is His very words to us?

I know that I do a much better job of listening to my parents now that I am older than I did when I was a kid. My question is whether or not each of us would be able to say that same thing about growing more mature in our relationship with Christ?

If we ask ourselves if we do a better job of listening to Christ today than we did a year ago, or even five years ago, the answer to that will give us some indication if we truly are a part of Jesus' flock or not because Jesus' sheep hear His voice!

So today, let us strive with all our hearts to listen to Jesus, and to follow where He calls!

— Father Keith Romke, Diocesan Director of Vocations, kromke@rockforddiocese.org.

Boylan students hear Vietnam veterans

Boylan Central Catholic High School students in Rockford took part in Operation Chieu Hoi: War Vets Up Close and Personal on April 28. The event is sponsored by the American Veterans Honor Society of Rockford.

Boylan students closed their Vietnam War unit with a question and answer session with local veterans of that war.

Juniors who take United States History and sophomores enrolled in Advanced Placement European History attended the presentations.

"I was surprised that when they came back from the war they were by themselves, and there was really no one they could talk to about their experiences," said junior

Fiona Fulling. "It makes me appreciate even more everything they have done for our country."

Vince Tarara expressed amazement that "they said they all think about the war every day of their lives."

Porter Knighton said he hadn't expected "how open one of the vets was about the PTSD that he deals with still."

The veterans were Don Allen, Dan Burd, Paul Cassioppi, Pat Derry, John Janos, Chuck Larson, Ed McMahon, Roger Newman, Mary Nicholls, John Paddock, Nick Parnello and Wally Watson, who met with the Boylan students throughout the day. This is the third year they have brought this program to Boylan.



(Photo provided)

Vietnam veterans who took part in a panel at Boylan in April listen as a student poses a question.

Ten Rosary athletes commit to play in college

Ten Rosary High School athletes in the Class of 2017 have committed to continue their sports at the college level.

Nine signed National Letters of Intent to play at the NCAA level and one will play at the NJCAA* junior college level.

■ Erin Burke, daughter of Mary and Michael Burke, will play volleyball for Rollins University in Winter Park, Fla.;

■ Natalya Flowers, daughter of Maria and Phillip Flowers, will play softball for Waubesa Community College* in Sugar Grove;

■ Julia Gauthier, daughter of Drs. Maria and Daniel Gauthier, will play volleyball for Indiana University in Bloomington, Ind.;

■ Meegan Hart, daughter of Janice and Russell Hart, will



(Photo provided)

Rosary athletes heading for college play are (front from left) Erin Burke, Julia Gauthier, Lauren Smith, Elizabeth Kvitek, Sarah Willman, Natalya Flowers, (back) Maddie Wilson, Martha Konovodoff, Alexis Yager and Meegan Hart.

play volleyball for Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa;

■ Martha Konovodoff, daughter of Mary Ann and Andrew Konovodoff, will play volleyball for Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wis.;

■ Elizabeth Kvitek, daughter of Christina Anderson and

Anthony Kvitek, will play soccer for Benedictine University in Lisle;

■ Lauren Smith, daughter of Michele and Eric Smith, will play basketball for Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa;

■ Sarah Willman, daughter of Jennifer and Rich

Willman, will play softball for St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa;

■ Maddie Wilson, daughter of Beth and Tim Wilson, will swim at Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, Ind.;

■ Alexis Yager, daughter of Cindy and Mark Yager,

At Rosary

78% of students are in athletics

142 in 1 sport

44 in 2 sports

6 in 3 sports

91% of athletes have an average GPA of 3.55

From 2015-16 information

will swim for the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, Tenn.

Rosary offers nine competitive sports as well as a dance team and Marmion Academy's cheerleading squad.

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