

Bishop: Immigration reform now

By Michael Brown
Editor

BOISE — In a column in this week's edition of the *Idaho Catholic Register*, Bishop Michael P. Driscoll has called on members of the state's congressional delegation to "move beyond the politics of division" and work toward reforming the country's broken immigration system.

"Do what is needed to secure our borders, to address the disparities that exist in our present immigration law, to promote family-based immigration that protects the unity of the family, and to ensure that all immigrants are treated with basic human respect and dignity," the bishop wrote in a column that appears on page 12.

The bishop sent the letter to congressional leaders and

Gov. Butch Otter earlier this month. In an introduction to the text, Bishop Driscoll identified the recent passage of an anti-immigration law in Arizona as a key element in

immigration policies have become more stringent, public sentiment more discriminatory and the conversation more contentious, the bishop

"Immigrants are not criminals, as the law defines them, even if they are here without papers," the letter said.

his call for national legislation.

The bishop's letter alluded to the struggles that generations of immigrants have faced upon arriving in America. Eventually overcoming these obstacles, "these are the people who helped to build our nation, our communities and our churches."

"Today, however, the atmosphere has changed dra-

wrote.

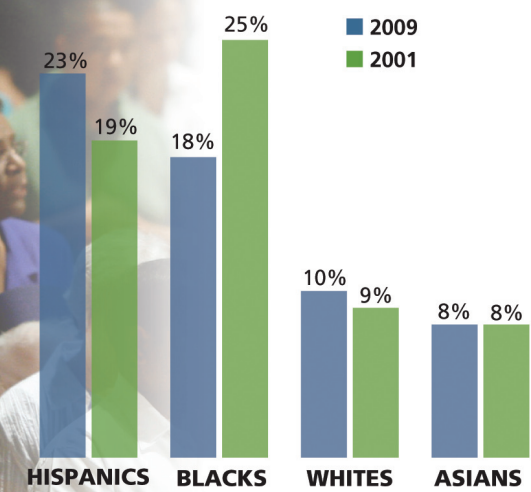
"Today, we are led to believe that every immigrant who comes into our country is, in some way or another, evil," the bishop's letter said. "Nothing could be further from the truth."

"Immigrants are not criminals, as the law defines them, even if they are here without papers," the letter continued.

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Facing Discrimination

Percent of U.S. adults who say these racial or ethnic groups are discriminated against "a lot" in society today:



Results from 2,884 surveys in 2009 and 1,709 surveys in 2001. Source: Pew Hispanic Center ©2010 CNS

Speaker eager for convocation's talks on church

By Michael Brown
Editor

BOISE — The Catholic Church in America is in the process of discerning what it means to be a Christ-centered community in our era, and that makes for interesting times, said Bernard P. Prusak, chairman of the Theology and Religious Studies Department at Villanova University near Philadelphia.

Prusak will join Bishop Gerald E. Wilkerson, an auxiliary in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, as a guest facilitator at Convocation 2010 June 7-10 at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish.

The ecclesiology—the way the church is structured—for the 900 years before the Second Vatican Council emphasized a hierarchical pyramid extending from the pope down to the bishops and priests, Prusak said. Vatican II reintroduced the ecclesiological model of church as communion that

prevailed from the time of Jesus through the early centuries of Christianity's development. It begins from the local or particular churches and their bishops bonded together into a communion of churches which is the Catholic or universal church.

A focus on the local church, giving attention to the influx of immigrants from the South who bring their own understanding of church, will be among the issues set for convocation, he said. Occasions like the diocesan All at the Table pastoral plan are inviting leaders to work these things out. The discussions at the convocation will facilitate the working out.

In the Diocese of Boise, the efforts that produced the pastoral plan show the understanding and appreciation of the two ecclesiologies discussed at Vatican II, he said. "It acknowledges that there are different ways

See "SPEAKER," page 7

Father Gould placed on leave

BOISE — Father William R. Gould, pastor of St. George Church in Post Falls, was placed on administrative leave by Bishop Michael P. Driscoll May 4, following an allegation of sexual misconduct with a minor.

The bishop announced the move at Masses at the parish May 8-9. The allegation dates back to about 1981. Following is his statement to the parish:

"I am here to inform you that I have had to place your pastor, Father William R. Gould, on administrative leave, effective Tuesday, May 4.



Father William R. Gould

"We have received information about alleged sexual misconduct that may have taken place 29 years ago, around 1981, between Father Gould and a young man under the age of 18. Father Gould has denied that this allegation is true. The diocese, in compliance with our misconduct policies, as well as those of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, is investigating this issue. We are working on arrangements to have priests to temporarily fill in during Father Gould's absence.

See "LEAVE," page 4



CAPITOL PRAYER — Father Mariusz Majewski, parochial vicar at St. John Cathedral in Boise, offers the benediction at the 59th annual observance of the National Day of Prayer on the Statehouse steps in Boise May 6. (ICR photo)

RELIEF EFFORTS

Donations to Haitian quake relief top \$352,000

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MINISTRY GOLD

Four sisters celebrate golden jubilees

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La Comunidad

Bishop's message

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Fiesta, sí; siesta, no

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