Homily for the Mass for the University of Notre Dame Executive MBA Electives Immersion Week, Solemnity of the Epiphany
January 6, 2013

Holy Cross Chapel, Stinson-Remick Hall

+ Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois

S.S.P.: Epiphany message: our task as Christians is to bring the sacred to the secular (God to the world).

I. This is a historic week:
   A. EMBA Electives Immersion Week
   B. Also a certain football game to be played tomorrow night!

II. Icons

   A. Added icon: “Play Like Champions Today” (Tomorrow)!
   B. Four stained glass windows represent the four seasons
      1. St. Joseph (Spring) honors patron saint of Holy Cross Brothers & Engineers
         a. A sword will pierce her heart
         b. The flight into Egypt
         c. Jesus’ being lost in the temple in Jerusalem
         d. Meeting of Jesus and Mary on the way to Calvary
         e. Mary at the foot of the cross
         f. Taking the body of Jesus down from the cross
         g. Laying Jesus in the tomb
      3. Blessed Basil Moreau (Autumn) – pumpkin patch at his feet and geese overhead
      4. St. André Bessette (Winter) – falling snowflakes (here & in Montreal)

III. As St. Joseph brings sacred to engineering, ND brings sacred to its secular studies; cf. Wall Street Journal articles

   A. The connection between the sacred and the secular is apparent in the EMBA program
      1. Ethics in business decisions
      2. Expressions of faith in our classroom

   B. Our society’s disconnect over Christmas:
      1. In business, Christmas season begins November or even October and ends December 25
      2. In the Church, December is Advent; Christmas begins December 25
IV.  Today we celebrate Epiphany – Christ our Savior is made manifest

   A. Three kings – salvation is for everyone
   B. Three gifts:
      1. Gold – Christ is King
      2. Frankincense – Christ is divine
      3. Myrrh – Christ will suffer

V.  Christ brings the sacred to us; our task is to bring Christ to the world.