

# Bishops discuss integration of doctrine, Scripture, preaching

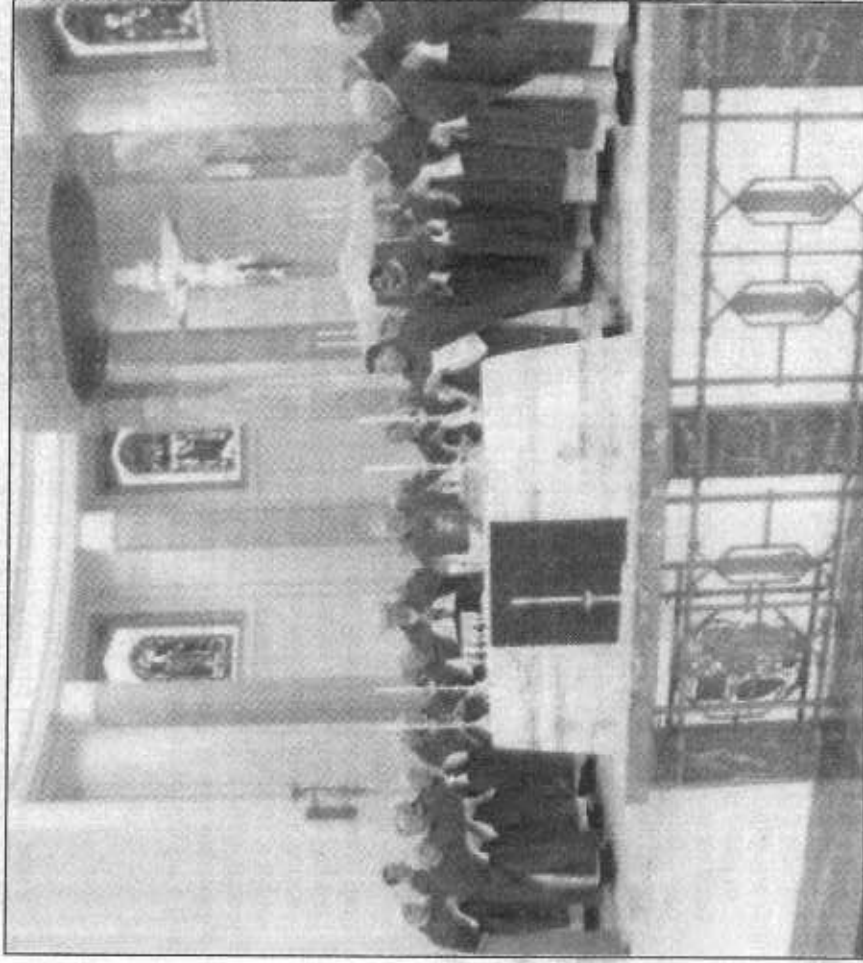
BY DON CLEMMER

MISHAWAKA — Continuing a discussion begun at the Second Vatican Council, around 40 U.S. bishops gathered at the convent of the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration for a seminar exploring the relationship between doctrine and Scripture in Catholic teaching, especially homilies. The event was sponsored by the Committee on Doctrine of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Institute for Church Life at Notre Dame.

The Feb. 11-13 seminar, entitled "Eloquence of Teaching: Doctrine, Scripture and Preaching in the Life of the Church," included talks by Cardinal William J. Levada, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Dr. John Cavadini, chair of the department of theology at the University of Notre Dame, along with professors of theology from Notre Dame and other universities. It was a follow-up to a 2003 conference at Notre Dame marking the 40th anniversary of "Dei Verbum," the Second Vatican Council document on divine revelation.

While the event was originally to be hosted on the Notre Dame campus, the bishops made a collective decision to move the seminar off campus to nearby Mishawaka because of the likelihood of the presentation of the play, "The Vagina Monologues," at Notre Dame, according to a statement by Bishop John M. D'Arcy in the Feb. 17 issue of *Today's Catholic*.

The seminar itself looked at the problem faced by priests who feel they must choose between preaching on the Scriptures or preaching on the church's doctrines and moral teachings. "Dei Verbum," the seminar noted, does not see the two as mutually exclusive, but rather as two components that



DIANE FREIBY

Bishop John M. D'Arcy of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend concelebrates Mass with Cardinal William J. Levada, prefect of the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith, left, Father Michael Heintz, rector of St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend, and the other bishops attending the "Eloquence of Teaching" seminar in Mishawaka. The Feb. 11-13 event was sponsored by the Committee on Doctrine of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Institute for Church Life at Notre Dame.