

CATHOLIC

The Western Kentucky

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U.S. Bishops To Vote on Liturgical Items at November Meeting

WASHINGTON—The U.S. bishops will vote on five liturgical items presented by the Committee on Divine Worship during the annual fall General Assembly of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) November 11-14, at the Baltimore Waterfront Marriott Hotel.

Items include approvals of

- The use of the Spanish-language Misal Romano from Mexico to serve as the base text for the U.S. Spanish-language missal. Mexico's Conference of Bishops received a recognitio, or permission from Rome to use the text at the beginning of 2013. Plans call for a U.S. version of the Misal Romano to be available by the end of 2014 or spring 2015.
- U.S adaptations and proper text for the Misal Romano. These are the adaptations to the Mexican Misal Romano required for use in the United States. They include for example translation of the prayer texts, a Spanish-language translation of the U.S. Norms for Holy Communion under both bread and wine, and Spanish-language translation of the prayer texts for saints, including Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos and others.
- The Order of Celebrating Marriage. This is the final translation from the International Committee on English in the Liturgy (ICEL) of the 1991 Latin edition – second typical edition, which was never translated into English. It includes new prayers and rites not previously included in the first typical edition. Should the bishops vote affirmatively, the book will be sent to Rome for recognitio and then be published as the English-language ritual for marriage.
- Adaptions to the Order of Celebrating Marriage. The Divine Worship Committee seeks approval for four adaptations. They include the option of alternatives forms of vows, the option to move the Nuptial Blessing from after the Our Father into the Rite itself, the option of using a litany of the saints, and the option of using the Spanish adaptations of giving coins and the Blessing and Placing of the Lazo/Veil over the couple during the nuptial blessing.
- Order of Confirmation. This is a re-translation by ICEL of the order of Confirmation in accord with the norms of the document Liturgiam Authenticam.

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A Reflection Upon Seeing The Holy Land Through Saint Peter's Eyes



**Most Reverend
William F.
Medley, Bishop of
Owensboro**

Dear sisters and brothers,

During October, I was privileged to join 27 other people on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Though I had visited the Holy Land before, I found myself this time around looking at the sites and shrines through different eyes. We began in the northern part of Israel/Palestine around the Sea of Galilee. Visiting the excavations of the ancient village of Capernaum, I found myself imagining the experience of Peter, Andrew, James and John, all fishermen, as Jesus would have met them by the seashore and asked them to leave their fishing nets behind to follow him. From that site I found my reflections centered on Peter, his triumphs and his failures as he followed Jesus.

We experienced a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. It was on such an expedition that Peter boldly proclaimed that if the Lord would but call him that he would walk on water. Well, as happened again and again, Peter's eagerness was not matched by his faith. Oh, he stepped out of the boat, but quickly sank when he took his eyes off the Lord.

We visited and prayed at Caesarea Philippi where Jesus presented the apostles a midterm exam, asking, "Who do people say that I am." Peter confidently answered that he knew Jesus to be the Messiah and Jesus affirmed his insight and there pronounced, "You are Peter (his given name up to then was Simon) and upon this rock I will build my church." From here Jesus told the apostles that he and they must turn their eyes toward Jerusalem, where he would be judged, condemned and crucified. Peter, basking in his new status, asserted that he would never permit this to happen. Jesus severely rebuked him, "Get behind me Satan." Imagine the confusion Peter must have felt from being called the rock to being called Satan!

Jesus and the disciples travelled toward Jerusalem and along the way they climbed Mount Tabor. By now, Peter seemingly had regained the good graces of the Lord and was chosen along with James and John to experience the Transfiguration of Jesus and the appearance of



Bishop Medley praying with group at Jordan River before renewal of Baptismal promises.

Moses and Elijah. Peter was so overtaken that he wanted to erect tents so that they could all remain on the mountain top indefinitely. But Jesus' eyes were on Jerusalem.

We walked along the Palm Sunday path into Jerusalem. I could only imagine the excitement Peter must have felt as it appeared that Jesus, and surely his companions, were taking the city amidst cries of Hosanna!

On Mount Zion we commemorated the Lord's Supper and again the reflection was through Peter's eyes. He protested that he could not allow Jesus to wash his feet, but submitted when Jesus made it clear that he was giving them an example. During the meal, with heavy heart, Jesus confided that one of the twelve would betray him and Peter asserted that it certain would not be him. He surely was crestfallen when Jesus predicted that he would deny him three times.

In the Garden of Gethsemane I reflected on Peter's inability to stay awake and pray with the Lord in his hour of agony. From here the soldiers came to arrest Jesus and the gospels tell us that Peter cowardly "followed at a distance." At the site of the court of Caiaphas, there is a life size sculpture of Peter amidst other characters. Peter's hands are raised and

his mouth is open. One can almost hear his definitive assertion, "I do not ever know the man." On a column above the sculpture is the rooster crowing.

As pilgrims we did walk the way of the cross through the streets of Jerusalem. But of course, as the gospels relate, Peter was not close at hand there nor at Calvary when Jesus was crucified and died.

The Holy Sepulcher marks the place of Jesus' burial and then his Resurrection. Again, Peter figures into the story, for having been alerted by Mary Magdalene, he and John discover an empty

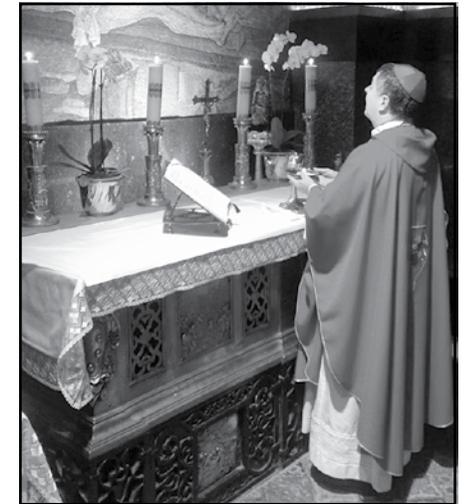
tomb.

To round out my reflections through Peter's eyes my mind carried me back to the Sea of Galilee where the disciples had resumed their fishing after the death of Jesus. Here they encountered Jesus by the lakeside and Jesus three times asked Peter, "Do you love me?" Three times to balance his three denials. And Jesus' command, "Feed my lambs, feed my sheep."

We are all Peter at points in our lives, confident and bold in faith one minute, disappointing failures the next. The constant in Peter's life and in our lives is the unconditional love of Jesus.

May God bless you all.

William F. Medley
+Most Reverend William F. Medley,
Bishop of Owensboro



Bishop Medley celebrating Mass near the site of the Crucifixion.

Bishop Medley's Calendar for November 2013:

November 1	9:00 a.m.	School Mass, Owensboro Catholic 4-6 Campus
November 2	6:00 p.m.	St. Mary School System Dinner/Auction, Paducah
November 3	10:30 a.m.	Mass and Blessing, Immaculate Conception, Hawesville
November 5	9:00 a.m.	CPC Staff Mass and Meeting
	4:30 p.m.	Mass, Mid-South Leadership Conference, Lake Barkley
November 8-14		USCCB General Meeting, Baltimore
November 16	1:30 p.m.	Mass, 20th Anniversary of Hispanic Ministry
November 17	10:30 a.m.	Confirmation, St. Jerome Parish, Fancy Farm
November 18	9:45 a.m.	Priests' Personnel Board Meeting, CPC
	1:30 p.m.	Priests' Council Meeting, CPC
November 19	10 - 2:00 p.m.	Presbyteral Day, CPC
November 20	8:30 a.m.	Diocesan Finance Council Meeting, CPC
November 20-21		Visit to Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary, Indianapolis
November 21-23		National Catholic Youth Conference, Indianapolis
November 26	10-3:00 p.m.	Paducah Office Hours, Lourdes Hospital
November 30	5:00 p.m.	Admission to Candidacy, Gary Clark, St. Paul, Leitchfield

Adopting Through Catholic Charities: One Family's Story

Submitted by the Diocesan Family Life Office

Everyone hopes for their "happily ever after", to be stable and secure, to achieve the "American Dream". For most, this includes a house, a spouse and a family. For some, this comes about in a beautiful but unconventional way.

Stewart and Galadriel Naidesh met at a church conference in Portland, Oregon. He is from British Columbia, Canada and she is from Western Kentucky. They had both been waiting and praying for God to send them a spouse; as Galadriel puts it, "that He would write our love story". They truly believe it was no accident that they met and know they were meant to be together. Upon getting married, they dreamed of raising a family together, serving God together and growing old together, but God had very special plans for them.

A little over two years after they got married, they found out they would not be able to have children. "It was devastating. We both experienced a wide range of emotions, the typical emotions involved with loss: shock, extreme sadness, anger, denial, guilt, frustration, hopelessness, fear..."

Galadriel states that it was hard on their marriage because their infertility consumed her thoughts, she was always sad and often cried. At the same time, Stewart felt helpless and wanted to be able to fix the problem but couldn't. Other's pregnancy announcements poured salt in the wound. It seemed like everyone else could get pregnant but them and they felt lonely. "People don't know what to say so they sometimes end up saying something really hurtful. I look back and see that they just wanted to help. But in the end, we see how it made us stronger as individuals and as a couple."

After looking into other options and giving themselves time to grieve



A current photo of the Naidesh family. They are now in the process of adopting a second child through Catholic Charities

the loss of not having biological children, they began considering adoption. At this point, they had been married over seven years. "It took us a while to feel complete peace that this was the right pathway for our family. But when we both felt this was the way God wanted to build our family, we can't describe the joy and excitement." They first considered international adoption but the expense was a big factor. Then a friend told them about Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Owensboro.

"We loved the fact that they kept their number of potential adoptive parents low to increase the chances of being chosen. We were also very thankful that the fees were based on a sliding scale according to your household income and the fact that we didn't have to be Catholic to participate in the adoption program."

Galadriel says she will never forget the exact spot where she was when she saw Rita's Heinz (Director of Catholic Charities) number come up on her cell phone. "I grabbed Stewart's arm and said 'Oh my word, it's Rita'. Even before I answered, I felt in my heart that she was going to tell us that we'd been chosen. It was all so surreal." They were quite nervous about meeting the baby's birth mother, and had to wait four long weeks for him to be born, but it all went very smoothly. They were very excited but also afraid to get their hopes up too high. What if the birth mother changed her mind? But she didn't. "When he was born and we walked in the room and saw our baby and held him in our arms for the first time it was a moment we will never forget. He was so tiny and precious and he was going to be our son, we were going to be his parents. After years of pain and waiting and heartbreak...I'm holding this little miracle. I can still cry thinking about



Stewart and Galadriel Naidesh with their son Caleb in the courthouse after the adoption was finalized. They are pictured here with their lawyer, the judge and the guardian ad litem. Submitted Photos

it."

The Naidesh's were able to finalize the adoption in just four months and some family and friends went to court with them to share in the experience. "When she asked us to raise our right hands I started crying. I was so-o-o happy, but it was so emotional. We couldn't believe that it was really real...he was our son now forever no matter what. It was a dream come true."

It has been over 15 months now since the Naidesh's welcomed their son into their home and they have enjoyed seeing him grow and hit milestones. The smiles and coos that turn into laughter, rolling over, taking his first steps, speaking his first words, trying baby food for the first time, his first birthday, etc. Perhaps one of the most special moments was "hearing him say mama and dada for the first time... and remembering when we never thought we'd hear a child call us those special names... Every day we see him as our gift."

The Naidesh's are also very thankful to have an open adoption with their baby's birth mom. "Before our

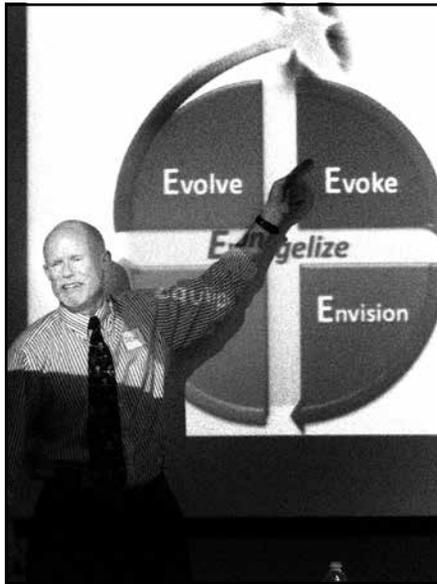
training through Catholic Charities, we didn't really understand how beneficial open adoptions are for the birth parents, adoptive parents and most importantly, the child. But it is honestly one of the most beautiful experiences we've ever had in our lives. We love his birth mom and look forward to our two annual visits with her. We absolutely feel that God used the circumstances in each of our lives to bring us together. Every day we thank God for this amazing little child that we have been given the honor of parenting. We are truly 'livin' the dream!'"

The Naidesh's are now in the process of applying for a second child through Catholic Charities. They wish for their son to have a sibling and they enjoy being parents. "We had such a wonderful and positive experience the first time with Catholic Charities. Everyone was a true joy to work with. They helped us through every step of the process."

For more information on A Caring Connection Catholic Charities adoption program, call (270) 852-8328 or visit the diocesan website at www.rcdok.org.

Diocese Prepares For New Initiative for Strong Catholic Families, Youth

"Parents are the first and foremost teachers of the faith to their children. But they can't do it alone. Knowing this, many seek help and guidance in fulfilling this responsibility. Some parents decide to send their children to a parish school that offers a complete education in a religious context. The parish school provides young Christians with the opportunity to pray, study and grow in their faith on a daily basis. For other parents, a parish religious education program is the source for helping them instill Christian values and spiritual growth in their children. This is done by teaching the ways of the faith in the Catholic Church and translating these teachings into lived experiences. Both the parish school and religious education programs require trained teachers and catechists who are entrusted with the responsibility of teaching, sharing their faith and modeling Christian behavior with their students." *Reprinted from Parish Newsletter, A Service of the Parish Evaluation Project, October 2013.*



Sean Reynolds from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, presented a series of three training sessions Sept 18-19, 2013 in Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Center about Strong Catholic Faith: Strong Catholic Youth. Mel Howard photo

By Mel Howard

OWENSBORO, Ky. - A series of workshops for parents and religious educators of students in parish Catholic education and Catholic Schools about a new initiative in the Diocese of Owensboro, Strong Catholic Families: Strong Catholic Youth (SCF/SCY) initiative, was offered Sept. 18 and 19, 2013 at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Center.

The Western Kentucky Catholic asked Melinda Prunty, Diocesan Director of the Office of Youth Ministry about the Strong Catholic Families: Strong Catholic Youth (SCF/SCY) initiative.

WKC: How will SCF be organized here?

Melinda: At present, Elaine Robertson (Director of the Office of Faith Formation) and I are acting as Diocesan Consultants to begin the process with a parish or school if they so choose; each parish and school might want to take a look. Our Implementation Team hasn't decided yet how to proceed yet. We want to observe and assist Our Lady Lourdes and St. Mary Magdelene, our diocese's pilot parishes for this initiative. Owensboro Catholic Schools will be our pilot schools in this initiative. We are hoping to start a forest fire that will never go out, not a flash fire. We are still learning, too, so it is going to take some time for us as well. In these September demonstration sessions, we've hopefully lit some twigs that are close to some dry brush that will

spread at about the same rate as we get our presenters ready to "rock and roll".

WKC: When will our priests hear about it as a group?

Melinda: I presented the initiative's concepts to the Diocesan Priests' Council in December, 2012, and they gave the go-ahead in February.

WKC: How about the diocesan staff as a group?

Melinda: I've been talking about SCF/SCY, reporting on it for at least a year and a half at staff meetings and Total Catholic Education Committee meetings, but sometimes, until it happens it doesn't register....

WKC: What will be the roles of the Implementation Team, the seventeen people who met Sept. 19?

Melinda: The group of seventeen that met on the Sept. 19 afternoon are going to be the presenters as we move forward. For example, if a parish or school wants to bring SCF/SCY to their respective parish/school, there will be a consultation with a diocesan consultant (myself or Elaine). Tami Urcia, Director of Family Life Office, is going to assume that role when she is ready and comfort-



Nearly 100 Owensboro/Daviess County area Catholic parents attended an informational session at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Center to learn about the diocesan initiative, "Strong Catholic Families/Strong Catholic Youth - Fortalenciendo Familias en la Fe." Photo by Melinda Prunty

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able; we are bringing her along as she is able as a new mother. We will encourage the parish/school to do an assessment, and we can have a conversation on the phone and/or go to them and do a Leader Session like the one what took place the morning of Sept 19. Then if a parish or school wants to move forward, we plan to send the presenters out two-by-two (just like Jesus) to replicate the Parent Session which is what took place Sept 18 evening. The folks trained will lead the Parent Session(s). We're not sure how that's all going to work out, but I believe the Spirit is 'a-movin' and we will see where it leads....

I had specifically asked a few of our deacons with whom I had talked about SCF/SCY to join us as presenters (Dcn. Don Adam, Dcn. Matthew Keyser, Dcn. Mike Wiedemer, Dcn. Bill Grant We videotaped all 3 sessions, so folks can be brought up to par. There were over 100 parents at Lourdes Parish Center on Sept. 18, Wednesday night, and the excitement and energy were evident. We had 35 registered for the morning session on Sept 19 for parish/school staff; more than that attended, however.

WKC: How have parents learned about the SCF/SCY initiative?

Melinda: We had many Catholic school parents attend the Sept 18 evening session. Ken Rasp, Director of the Owensboro Catholic Schools System, e-mailed all of the parents he has ad-

resses for. We had parents from various parishes around Owensboro and Daviess County. Ken's mission/goal is to encourage parents to get active in their parishes; he senses that sometimes the school seems to become bigger than the parish, and he feels that folks need to be restored to their parish. There were several from Our Lady of Lourdes. Danny May had promoted SCF/SCY at Lourdes. There were several from St. Mary Magdalene—Debi Hopkins and Crissy promoted there. There were several present from other parishes because their pastor announced it at Mass. There were several from St. Stephen Cathedral parish as well.

When I mentioned that Bishop Medley felt it (SCF/SCY) could be a practical tool for the New Evangelization, there was much agreement among both parents and school/parish staff. I think we will see increased Stewardship, a potential increase in Catholic School enrollment, an increase in vocation ... I think the fruits of the SCF/SCY initiative will be wonderful.

I told parents on Sept. 18, Wednesday evening session, that we presenters realized we were 'singing to the choir,' though they were compelled by what they heard and were challenged by it. I said that we needed their help in their circles of influence to reach out to and encourage other parents who are not yet engaged; the parents seemed willing to be a part of the mission.



Catholic School parents discussing the new initiative, Strong Catholic Families: Strong Catholic Youth Sept. 18 at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Center.

This initiative has been going on in the Diocese of Baton Rouge for over 5 years. My counterpart there says it's been most effective in rural parishes and in their schools and, it's ongoing.

WKC: What is the goal of Strong Catholic Families/String Catholic Youth?

Melinda: The goal of the Strong Catholic Families/String Catholic Youth initiative is two-fold:

1. Create a "sense of urgency" in parents—that they DO want their children to have faith, and to let them know the research says that THEY are primary in making that happen.
2. Challenge parish/school staff/church

leadership to step back, take a balcony view of what's going on in their respective places of ministry and see if they are empowering parents in their role as Primary Catechist or enabling them to relinquish that role

It is all based on research done by Christian Smith, et. al., from a longitudinal study who had no preconceived notions about what they would find when they set out to assess the state of adolescent spirituality across the United States; they just reported what they found. It got the attention of the NFCYM (National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry) and they developed this in-service. Subsequently NCCL, NCEA and NAFLM have come on board, endorsed it and are now promoting and presenting across the country as well.

By virtue of hosting the in-service, the Diocese of Owensboro has joined a network of dioceses who are also a part of this initiative.

" ... many think that changes and reforms can take place in a short time. I believe that we always need time to lay the foundations for real, effective change. And this is the time of discernment." From "A Big Heart Open to God: The exclusive interview with Pope Francis" by Antonio Spadaro, S.J., *America magazine*, September 30, 2013:



Members of Catholic parish staffs, Catholic School faculties, and Diocesan Staff listening to Sean Reynolds explaining the concepts of Strong Catholic Families: Strong Catholic Youth at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Center Sept 19.



Forming Young Disciples: Are We Asking the Right Questions?

By Sean Reynolds, *Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry*

This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says: "You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive. For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them." But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. Matthew 13:13-16

I have a dear friend, Kay Schindler, whose grandson Micah enlisted in the Air Force right out of high school. Still in basic training, one day he was feeling poorly, went to the clinic and was given some cold medicine, then joined his unit for a long hike on a hot day. The medics on the hike had been well-instructed that the conventional remedy for struggling hikers is more water. So when he began to lag behind, the medics advised him, "Drink more water." Which he did. He continued to struggle, and they again told him, "Drink!" Which he dutifully did, and hiked on. He struggled even more, so his leaders exhorted him to keep up, which he tried mightily to do, and he drank even more water. He finally collapsed, unconscious and unresponsive.

Two days later, at the age of 18, Airman Micah Schindler died. The official cause of death: water toxicity. He had ingested so much water, in compliance with conventional wisdom and the orders of his superiors, that it killed him. He literally died from too much of a good thing. He became a heartbreaking casualty of conventional thinking.

Could it be, as a priest friend of mine once suggested, that the greatest obstacle to the next wonderful thing God has in store is in fact the last wonderful thing that God has given? That our assumptions and expectations have been so powerfully shaped by what we have seen and lived that we have selective vision and hearing, as the Isaiah reading suggests? Could it be that our collective conventional wisdom about adolescent



This group of seventeen people who met Sept. 19 to learn more about SCF:SCY from Sean Reynolds, standing in center, will serve as an Implementation Team to give presentations for parishes and will lead the Parent Sessions.

catechesis has grown toxic to the best of what may be next in store for those with eyes to see and ears to hear? Consider: in *Soul Searching*, Christian Smith speculates in his chapter on Catholic teens that the following are responsible for the very poor showing of Catholics in the NSYR: • Catholic upward mobility and mainstream; • acculturation undermines the vitality of the church. • Catholic school and CCD no longer effectively; • serve as primary vehicles for education, formation, and ministry. • Youth evangelization and formation are a low institutional priority at the parish and diocesan level. • Catholic teenagers significantly reflect the relative religious laxity of their parents.

Note that nowhere in his assessment of what ails us Catholics does he mention inadequate catechetical materials, ineffective catechetical curricula and models, or ill-conceived catechetical methodology and methods.

And yet we Catholics here in the U.S., whose predominant historical framework for our self-understanding is the school and the classroom, default even here in the Symposium to an intensive examination of adolescent catechesis fairly narrowly conceived, as if we could fix this problem of ours by adjusting our catechetical approaches, models, methods, and materials. Could it be that our

difficulties actually lie elsewhere, and that if we only had "eyes that see and ears that hear" we might perceive what they are? Albert Einstein once said that no problem was ever solved by the consciousness that created it. Perhaps we need a fresh look, a new consciousness?

Notre Dame church historian Scott Appleby, in a presentation to Catholic media leaders in October 2002, said this: ". . . No previous generation of American Catholics inherited so little of the content and sensibility of the faith from their parents, as have today's Catholic youth . . . The challenge of Catholic education and formation in our media-driven, cyberspace age is no less than this: older Catholics must be restored to, and younger Catholics introduced to, a sense of Catholicism as a comprehensive way of life."

Note that he does not suggest a different, better, more productive classroom experience or youth ministry program. Rather, he prescribes restoration of and introduction to "Catholicism as a comprehensive way of life."

Yet, over the past 50-75 years, the societal and cultural institutions that formerly supported "Catholicism as a comprehensive way of life" have incrementally disintegrated and virtually disappeared without much notice or effect

on our assumptions and conventional practices: • Our neighborhoods are, with few exceptions no longer homogeneous ethnic Catholic ghettos. • With few exceptions, our schools no longer exist to teach English to immigrants or to provide them the knowledge and tools they need to merge into mainstream American culture. • The media, which once reinforced conventional values about honesty, sexual morality, and the value of life, have been transformed into a vast, powerful and ubiquitous smorgasbord of relativism, conveying virtually every imaginable value system. • The Catholic parish, which once functioned as the non-negotiable center of Catholic life, where Catholics went for entertainment, community, prayer, athletics, support, worship, wisdom and guidance for life, is now just one option among many. • Finally, and perhaps most importantly, our extended and immediate families, which formerly were almost assuredly monolithically Catholic (with siblings, uncles, aunts, grandparents, and cousins virtually all Catholic) are now for many an amalgamation of religiosities, spiritualities, Christian denominations, and differing faiths.

In other words, 50+ years ago all that religious educators needed to serve up was a cognitive understanding and language for what literally permeated the lives of most Catholics, at home, in the neighborhood, at school, in the parish, and in the immediate and extended family. Now we expect religious education and youth ministry to provide what was formerly supported and sustained by multiple and mutually-supporting societal institutions. It is as though our house for years had gradually deteriorated around us without our taking much notice. One day we awaken to find wind and water pouring in, and lay the blame on our lack of umbrellas.

Parenthetically, this analysis is not mine. Many of you I am sure recognized it as Dr. John Westerhoff's in his book, *Will Our Children Have Faith?*, written more than three decades ago. As Westerhoff and Appleby bookend this current era in which we are blessed to live as leaders in the U.S. Catholic Church, we are faced with serious choices: do we "see and hear" that in fact we do not have a catechetical problem so much as we have

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an ecclesial one? Consider: Are our Catholic teens, who according to the NSYR are “remarkably inarticulate” about their faith, simply symptomatic of more profound deficiencies? Are more and better youth ministry, catechesis, and religious instruction good and helpful yet utterly inadequate correctives?

Put bluntly: has our default preoccupation with conventional religious education blinded us to more profound deficits in our ecclesial life that too often render our catechetical efforts impotent? Is the faith formation system we have inherited, which developed in response to a different set of cultural and societal circumstances (e.g., setting poor, Catholic, European immigrants on a trajectory toward economic prosperity), what we need now? Or do we need to rethink what we do so as to “. . . restore Catholicism as a comprehensive way of life for our Catholic parents and their children?” The following are humbly offered as possible elements of a reconceptualized faith formation system:

Parents Are Primary

The NSYR reinforces what our documents have said consistently over the years, that parents are primary in forming the faith of their children:

“Parents above others are obliged to form their children in the faith and practice of the Christian life by word and example”.¹

“Parents are the most influential agents of catechesis for their children. They have a unique responsibility for the education of their children; they are the first educators, or catechists”.²

“. . . the Christian community must give very special attention to parents. By means of personal contact, meetings, courses and also adult catechesis directed toward parents, the Christian community must help them assume their responsibility—which is particularly delicate today—of educating their children in the faith”.³

If parents are primary, obviously everything else is of lower priority. Yet the investment of our energy, creativity and resources tells a different story, namely that religion classes or youth ministry programs are our church’s primary catechetical delivery systems, not parents.

If indeed parents are their children’s primary religious educators, and our

church programs exist to support them, then we ought to be discussing at great length and depth inventive approaches to equipping parents for this indispensable task. (Note that this is not equivalent to “adult faith formation” but is a strategy to help parents effectively apprentice their children in the faith throughout childhood and adolescence into young adulthood).

Since we can no longer assume that parents have been evangelized or well-catechized, such approaches would likely include but not be limited to evangelizing efforts that are responsive to the stages and struggles of parenting. For instance, imagine Engaged Encounter or Pre-Cana on steroids: an investment of our very best talents and resources *where they will make the most difference: evangelizing and enriching the faith of parents in preparation for their vital role in shaping the faith of their children.*

Then consider rethinking our sacramental practices so the emphasis is on what happens after the sacrament, not in preparation for it. For instance, the celebration of matrimony would no longer be the culmination and endpoint of preparations, but the starting point for ongoing mentoring and preparation for living and rearing children in the Catholic faith as a comprehensive way of life. Similarly, baptism, confirmation, first reconciliation and first Eucharist would trigger ongoing parent preparation, support, training and resources for the next phase of their mission to form young disciples.

Imagine if we invested our institutional resources and talent into providing parents the resources, support, mentoring and programming that would assist them in building the domestic church: What would be the effect on their children into their adolescent years and beyond? If we did so, perhaps we would be sharing at this Symposium stories about our kids’ missionary work rather than mulling over whether they will have faith at all.

Sunday Eucharistic Liturgy

It is the place where we Catholics gather to be formed in the faith. Our documents say so, and it is the truth: it is truly our “source and summit.” Yet sadly we can no longer assume that either parents or their children “get” Sunday Mass. Perhaps we should be investing our very best energies in excellent liturgical catechesis, as well as working to ensure that every Sunday Eucharistic liturgy—not just a

special youth Mass—is vibrant, inclusive of all, and well-prepared, with homily and music that lead all, including parents and their children, into “full, active and conscious participation”? If we are saying to parents that it is their responsibility to get kids to church on Sunday, surely it is our responsibility to ensure that once there we will have done our very best to welcome and engage them and their kids.

An important clarification: by “vibrant liturgy” I do not mean turning the sacred liturgy into entertainment. First and foremost it means the faith of the assembly is vibrant, with all, including parents and their children, coming to the liturgy with the “proper dispositions” 4.

Parish Renewal

Soul Searching suggests that adolescent faith is not only a barometer of the faith of parents, but also a bellwether of the quality of the lived faith of a given parish. Should we, in this forum, be discussing the vitality of our parishes, and how that vitality might be enhanced? Both the GDC and the NDC are clear on the connection between the faith of young people and the lived faith modeled not only by parents but by the faith community. As *Renewing the Vision* declares: “It takes a whole Church . . .” 5. The fruitfulness of our efforts at adolescent faith formation depends in great part on their context.

Athletics (and scouting, band, theater, etc.): Most kids spend exponentially more time on athletic fields, in gymnasiums and weight rooms than in any religious education or faith formation program. If our coaches under Catholic auspices understood their roles principally as formers of Catholic faith and Christian character, what a powerful impact they would have on the faith of young people! How about a national “Catholic Coaches as Catechists” initiative, with the resources behind it to really make a difference? Similarly, leaders of scouting programs, band leaders, theater directors, and others can have a profound effect on the faith of the young people they mentor if they bring the vision and skills of discipleship to their roles. Consider that we have a vast cadre of catechists already recruited and in place where kids are, if we can only help them awaken to this role and impart the skills and confidence to live it well.

Electronic Communications, So-

cial Networking, and Virtual Online Communities

If we who grew up with 8-tracks and were wowed by our first microwave ovens do not attend to the explosion of electronic communications, social networking and virtual online communities, we are blind to the “signs of the times.” “Our kids are being evangelized every day, hour by hour,” as my good friend Frank Mercadante is fond of saying. The question is: Will they be evangelized by us, or by the electronic world and culture they inhabit, with its ubiquitous and powerful marketing? If we are serious about adolescent catechesis, we had better invest serious resources in raising up young catechetical leaders who themselves effortlessly bring the latest electronic gear and God together.

Full-Time, Well Trained Parish Youth Ministers

The NSYR reveals that Catholic parishes lag far behind other denominations in investing in full-time, well trained youth ministers. At home in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati there are so-called Protestant megachurches (that in fact are roughly equivalent in size to our larger parishes and in competition with them for members) that:

- Enjoy the services not just of a youth minister, but have youth ministry staffs with multiple, trained personnel who enjoy generous administrative support
- Have made enormous investments of money and staff resources to capitalize on electronic media
- Have invested in youth gathering spaces that powerfully convey the message: you are important here!

In other words, they have invested sufficient resources so as to guarantee the highest quality adolescent church/faith experience possible. Yet in many of our Catholic parishes youth ministry and adolescent catechesis for teens are almost nonexistent, or are under funded, or led by volunteers with spotty preparation. And of course, when there are cutbacks, the youth minister is usually the first to go.

In the Archdiocese of Cincinnati we have picked up on Scott Appleby’s terminology and we talk about youth ministry this way: Youth ministry is not youth club, icebreakers, ski trips, hayrides, dances, etc. (i.e., potentially toxic conventional thinking), but *youth ministry is*

Continued on page 8

a strategy for restoring Catholicism as a comprehensive way of life for young people, through a network of cooperative activity in schools, parishes, families and the civic community, in pursuit of discipleship, participation, and growth.

“Restoring Catholicism as a comprehensive way of life” is a tall order, even for a youth ministry leader who brings breadth and depth of education, specialized training, and experience to the table. We need a cohort of youth ministry leaders who understand that their role is not “to run the youth group” (more conventional, toxic thinking!), but to restore Catholicism as a comprehensive way of life not only for young people but for their parents as well in close cooperation with the pastor and all the other pastoral ministers in the parish.

Our Catholic Schools

A parent at a high school graduation picnic last May shared with me his heartfelt concerns about his graduating son, and all of his children who had been educated in Catholic schools through grade twelve. Although pleased with what his children had experienced and learned there, he deplored the fact that their Catholic schools, especially their Catholic high schools, had served as an ecclesial “off ramp,” sending his kids on a path away from the parish. He worried aloud about where they would end up in their late twenties and early thirties, when the somewhat artificial and temporary communities of high school and college were no more: what would they be left with? He lamented that the Catholic high school had become a substitute for the parish, and that his kids do not “get” the parish the way he did growing up. For him, the parish had been a central fixture of his adolescence; for his kids, it had become optional and dispensable.

Catholic high schools that were originally conceived as a cooperative venture at the service of Catholic parishes have largely lost their connection with them. Even more sobering, schools are often in direct competition with parishes for the time, talent, energies and commitment of young people.

As proponents of Catholic catechesis, do we need to rethink the role of the Catholic secondary school in the economy of our ecclesial life? Do our schools establish young people on a tra-

jectory toward Catholic, Christian discipleship and active engagement in the Catholic Church, or not? If so, might they do so even more effectively? If not, what indeed is their purpose, and what is their impact on our other Catholic institutions that do have discipleship as their mission?

Are We the (Only) Right People for the Job?

One might argue that none of the items mentioned so far falls exclusively within the purview of adolescent faith formation and catechesis, as conventionally conceived—and one would be absolutely correct. So we must ask who else ought to be part of this conversation about adolescent catechesis. I would name diocesan family life offices; leaders of Catholic extracurriculars like athletics, scouting, theater, band, etc.; experts in evangelization and parish renewal, liturgists and music directors, parents and grandparents, stewardship and development leaders, parish staffs and pastors, youth and young adults.

Sadly, our narrow ministry specializations (silos?) frequently serve to confine our thinking, narrow our imaginations, prevent important information from surfacing, and limit the scope of any inspired efforts we might devise. Many of our parishes and dioceses operate like businesses whose organizational subunits do not talk to one another, much less plan and work together. If the analysis presented above is on target, our future will demand that we abandon our (toxic?) ministry turfs, and begin to make interoffice and interdepartmental collaboration the norm. Indeed, it seems that collaboration is longer optional but a prerequisite for our survival, because the issues we face are systemic ones that demand broad based, strategic responses.

Here are some questions for our consideration based on this assessment of the challenges we face together.

- How can we make parent formation for Catholic child rearing our highest priority, with the necessary commitment of energy, resources and talent?

- How can we ensure that our Catholic worship (especially Sunday Mass) is vibrant, welcoming, and inclusive of parents and youth, particularly by developing in them the “proper dispositions?”

- How can we make significant strides

towards broad based parish renewal and revitalization, so parishes serve as the authentic and faith-filled contexts for adolescent faith formation?

- How can we partner with Catholic leaders of athletics and other extracurriculars so as to help them mentor our children in our Catholic faith?

- What will it take for us to maximize our use of electronic communications, social networking and virtual online communities as a means for discipleship, participation, and growth?

- How can we significantly increase the number of full-time parish youth ministers who understand their mission to be “restoring Catholicism as a comprehensive way of life” and whose primary job it is to catalyze our faith communities around the goals of youth ministry, not just “lead a youth group?”

- What will it take for our Catholic schools, especially our secondary schools, to better partner with parishes in developing young disciples?

- Who else should be seated around these tables with us? Who else must we collaborate with back home, if we are to make any headway at all?

- And finally: what will we need to let go of to allow sufficient resources, imagination, and creativity to be unleashed so something new can emerge?

These are humbly and respectfully offered as starting points for conversation, and are no way intended to be the definitive list, much less the final word.

Airman Micah Schindler died by ingesting too much of what he thought (and everyone thought) he needed more of to survive. I submit for your prayerful consideration that our narrow focus on adolescent religious formation in its conventional forms may be toxic as well: particularly if it addresses symptoms and not causes. It was hot, he was perspiring, and exerting himself: of course he needed more water! Our kids are remarkably inarticulate about their faith, so of course we need more curricula, more textbooks, more orthodoxy, more classes, and more religious instruction!

Yet if their “benign whateverism” towards faith is indeed symptomatic of deeper, more profound challenges that demand other kinds of responses, perhaps our narrowly circumscribed efforts in adolescent catechesis may themselves

be a kind of toxic substitute for what we really need. Not that they are toxic in and of themselves, but in the sense that they can distract and divert us from what would really make a difference in the lives of young people and their families. Too much of a good thing can be toxic and even fatal, as Micah and his family discovered the day after he collapsed. Perhaps we are learning the same thing. If so, let us hope we learn it soon enough to make a difference.

About the Author Sean Reynolds is director of the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry. Sean brings over twenty-five years of youth ministry experience to his role in the archdiocese. A Cincinnati native, Sean earned a bachelor’s in theology from Xavier University, a master’s in community and organizational development from Loyola University of Chicago, and a certificate of advanced studies in youth ministry from the Center for Ministry Development (Naugatuck, Connecticut). He served for seven years as director of the Youth Retreat and Internship Program at the Jesuit Renewal Center (now Milford Spiritual Center). He is currently on the Board of Directors of the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops Commission on Certification and Accreditation. A frequent trainer and workshop presenter at national conferences, Sean is the author of a new book, *Multiply the Ministry*, published by Saint Mary’s Press.

Endnotes

Parents Are Primary

1 Canon Law Society of America. Code of Canon Law (Washington, D.C.: Libreria Editrice Vaticana) 1983, section 774.2.

2 United States Catholic Conference of Bishops, National Directory for Catechesis (Washington, D.C.: USCCB, 2005), page 234.

3 General Directory for Catechesis. Citta del Vaticano, 1997. (Washington, D.C.: United States Catholic Conference) 1998, page 227. Sunday Eucharistic Liturgy

4 Pope Paul VI. 1963. Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy (Sacrosanctum Concilium) (Vatican: Libreria Editrice Vaticana 1963), no. 11.

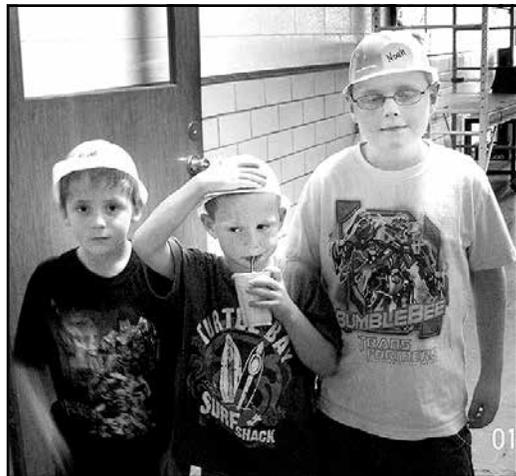
5 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. *Renewing the Vision* (Washington, D.C.: USCCB Publishing 1997), page 19.

St. Paul Catholic School Undergoes Renovations

November, 2013 9

Submitted by Gina Sims

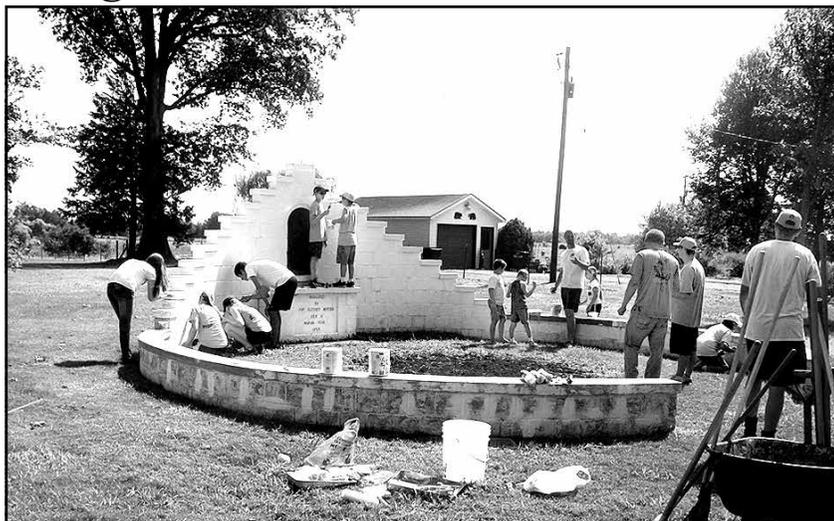
SAINT PAUL, Grayson County, Ky. - The current building for St. Paul School was built in the 1950's. It was evident that the building was long overdue for some much needed renovation. As in most small schools, funding for the changes necessary was problematic. Head Teacher, Joan Butterworth, said, "Some of the changes being made have been necessary to make the building more energy efficient. I'm just so thankful we have people willing to give their time to help us. We couldn't do it without them."



Determined to make the changes a reality, the students' parents, generous supporters, and members of the community committed their time and talents to the school's "Work Days." Once the dates were agreed upon it was time to do just that, get to work. Some of the changes that have been taking place in the last few months are, window replacement throughout the school, repainting and carpeting classrooms, stripping and waxing the hallway, extending and adding new equipment to the playground, and just cleaning in general. The "Work Days" were not only attended by the adults; there were jobs for the kids as well. The students at St. Paul School are learning some valuable life lessons through the work being done. After all, helping others and having faith is what God calls us to do.

One of the teachers, Emily Drake, is also one of the parents. She said, "What better way to teach our children about helping others and the importance of working together than to actually do it. I feel so blessed that the school is still here for my own children to attend. It makes me feel good inside to know that my family is helping the school continue." Mrs. Drake teaches 2nd and 3rd grade at the school.

The school receives financial support from all of the Catholic churches in Grayson County. Some of the other major sources for funding, excluding student tuition, are assistance from the



Making repairs to the Saint Paul Parish and Catholic School campus, inside and out.



This is a group picture of the Saint Paul Catholic School student body, their teachers, pastor Fr. Steve Hohman, right, Deacon Bill Grant, at back left, and parents who helped bring the Catholic School in Grayson County to the Owensboro Sportscenter for the Rainbows Mass Sept.26. Here they gathered for lunch in Moreland Park before heading for home. Photo by Mel Howard

St. Paul Bingo, individual contributors, and the Knights of Columbus. The Knights have provided a regular donation to the school for years, but they wanted to do more to aid the only Catholic school in the county. At the beginning of this school year, the Knights increased their regular donation considerably. Without all of these generous supporters, it is doubtful the school would have survived all these years.

Without all of these faithful, giving, hardworking individuals to set such wonderful examples, our children would not have such remarkable role models.

To all of our friends in Christ, from St. Paul Catholic School, please accept our most sincere gratitude.

“Arise, my beloved, my beautiful one, and come” (Song 2:10).

This beckoning echoed in my heart for many years. As God was trying to draw me to Himself I was all the while hesitant and resistant, distant and distracted. But God’s call could not be silenced, even if I chose to ignore it. At times the invitation to serve Him more fully and be dedicated to Him exclusively would be more persistent, but persistent too was my stubbornness. How I have gotten to the point of making solemn perpetual vows is nothing short of a miracle and evidence of the wonders God’s grace and mercy can work.

Originally from Maine, in 1994 my family moved to Owensboro. We were welcomed into Precious Blood Parish and I attended Burns Middle School, then Owensboro Catholic Middle school. And in 2001 I graduated from Owensboro Catholic High school. A great lover of nature and a scientist at heart, my desire was to become a biologist and do research in God’s most beautiful creation: the tropical rainforest. I pursued this dream at the University of Colorado, Boulder, and received a Bachelor’s and a Master’s degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology in 2005. I continued doing ecological research in Colorado, and then at the In-



Sr. Christina Marie making a card for the craftshop.



Praying during the Triduum

ternational Institute of Tropical Forestry in Puerto Rico. I had planned on going on to get a PhD after putting a dent in my student loans. And when my boss offered to fund my doctorate studies I thought everything was falling into place. But where was the peace?

“You would not seek, unless you had first been sought” (*St. Bernard of Clairvaux*). Throughout high school and college, religious life was something I knew I should consider, but not just yet. I thought I would simply keep it as an option, but not actually think too seriously about it. I went to daily Mass, spent time in prayer, and was involved in the Church; surely that was enough. And I was busy with my studies, career, and even falling in love. But the voice of the Bridegroom continued to whisper gently and persistently. Eventually I could not put off the decision any longer. With the prospect of returning to graduate school and discerning marriage, I knew it was my last opportunity to give religious life a chance. After a lot of prayer and tears God won out... sort of. I conceded to Him one year, during which I would try out religious life, and by the end of which it would be perfectly clear it was not for me, and I could continue with my life in peace.

“I will allure her; I will lead her into the desert and speak to her heart” (Hosea 2:16). In searching for the religious community God desired for me, I was drawn to the contemplative life, to serve the Church and the world through prayer. And when I learned about monasticism and its rich tradition, I knew this was how I was supposed to live my life. As Pope John Paul II so beautifully summarized, “The monastery is the prophetic place where creation becomes praise of God



The Narrow Way; Sister Christina Marie walking on the monastery grounds

and the precept of concretely lived charity becomes the ideal of human coexistence; it is where the human being seeks God without limitation or impediment, becoming a reference point for all people, bearing them in his heart and helping them to seek God” (*Oriente Lumen*). When the Lord led me to Valley of Our Lady Monastery, the Cistercian spirituality seemed a good fit, with its emphasis on love, simplicity, and returning to the roots of monasticism. And on the Feast of the Sacred Heart, 2007, I entered the monastery.

Six years later, I am still here. And Our Lord has had His work cut out for Him. I’m afraid we have had frequent arguments about how I cannot live monastic life well, find community living too difficult, and the vows absolutely impossible to keep. I cannot do it, cannot stay; I have not the strength or ability. But He has always prevailed: “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect

in weakness” (2 Corth 12:9). In return for my ingratitude, stubborn resistance, and lack of generosity, God has continually showered me with His mercy, grace, and love. I can only exclaim with the psalmist “Let me live to praise you” (*Ps 119:175*) and “the mercies of the Lord I will sing forever” (*Ps 89:1*)!

“My soul clings fast to you; your right hand upholds me” (*Ps 63:9*). Entrusting myself entirely to God’s grace, I am going forward joyfully to my solemn monastic consecration and will make perpetual vows of stability, conversion, obedience, poverty, and chastity on November 9, 2013. I ask the help of your prayers!

Submitted by Sr. Christina Marie Murphy, O.Cist. Valley of Our Lady Monastery, E11096 Yanke Drive, Prairie du Sac, WI 53578 www.nunocist.org; www.valleyofourlady.org; www.nunocist.org/altarbread; www.moasterycraftshop.com



Two sisters at work on Valley of Our Lady Monastery farm

Vocations To Consecrated Life? *Who Is Responding?*

We often hear the question, "Is God calling any young women to religious life today? Are there women who are saying "yes" to the call. Last month you read about three women who heard the call and responded. The following four women have also heard God's invitation and answered "Here I am Lord".



Marie Flowers has begun her second year of novitiate as a Sister of Charity of Nazareth. She is presently living in Pittsburg and is in ministry at Sisters Place which serves homeless women in the area. Marie is a social worker who earned her Masters degree from St. Louis University. She will have a second ministry experience in Belize, Central America starting in January. Marie hopes to make first vows in August 2014. Marie attended WYD at Camp Gaspar in 2011 with Sr. Eula Johnson, SCN



Isa Garcia: "God, you are looking at the wrong person." These words often crossed her mind in response to what she describes as a strong call to religious life. "I was very resistant at first," she explains

At 27 living in Monterrey, Mexico, Isa says that despite her Catholic upbringing, "when I heard God calling me to serve, it was really a surprise to me. I didn't think religious life could be life-giving for me." She asked repeatedly, "Why me? Why now?"

Her journey was a long and arduous one. She found herself at Covenant House in Florida where she met two SCNs in ministry there. After 9 years she made vows first vows in 2009. She will renew them again 2014 or make final vows. Isa is presently in ministry as Pastoral Associate for Hispanic Ministry at St. Rita Parish in Louisville.



Carlette Gentile made her final profession as an Sister of Charity of Nazareth, August 10, 2013. Carlette, a young Belizan woman says that from the age of 8 she wanted to be a sister. But she didn't know how it would play out. The desire grew stronger throughout high school and college. She says, "I told everyone, I was not ashamed to say it."

She finished her novitiate experience this past spring spending four months in India with 8 sisters there who also were making their final profession on May 11, 2013. Carlette returned to the U.S. and to Nazareth for final preparations for her own profession on August 10. Many of her family were able to witness this joyful celebration.

Carlette returned to Belize October 11 to live with 6 sisters and to begin her ministry to the elderly in Belize City. She discovered in her experiences of ministry that she loved working with the elderly.

Submitted by Sister Eula Johnson, SCN.

Paris Slapikas, SCN, Responded To God's Call to Enter Religious Life

November, 2013 11

For years, Paris Slapikas struggled with an inner Voice that told her something was missing even though everything seemed to be in the right place. She didn't listen at first. "I didn't open myself to it," she says.

"The more I fought it, the harder things became." As Paris prepared for her first vow ceremony as a Sister of Charity of Nazareth, she recognized the small voice in her heart had slowly transformed into the calling of a lifetime: a call to enter religious life, a life dedicated to service and mission. So what has the journey been like for Paris, a young woman in search of her true calling?

It started in Alabama, as Paris, the youngest of four children decided to go on a pilgrimage at age 14. This event began the first step in her search.

The thought of religious life had not yet entered her mind. Paris dreamt of a family of her own, of being the mother of six children and a wife. And when she did begin to think of being a part of a community of women religious, her mind was filled with stereotypes - stereotypes she had to let go of.

When Paris took a volunteer job at Covenant House, in Ft. Lauderdale FL, she met SCNs Eva Kowalsk and Nancy Gerth. She remembers being attracted to their spirit from afar. "There was something about them that I wanted to know," Paris explained. "They seemed really grounded, really committed to service, also with a real sense of generosity".

She continued to watch Eva and Nancy and the little voice in her heart grew stronger.

"I made a trip to Nazareth," she said. "I had a sense of peace and calm



Paris Slapikas, SCN: the little voice in her heart grew stronger. "It's a heart thing." SCN Photos

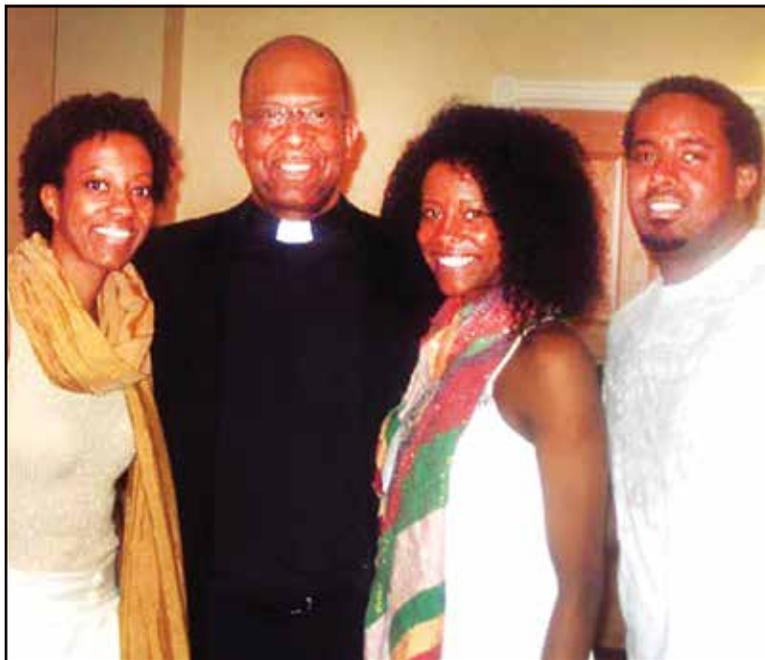
that I didn't have when back in Florida.

"On my second trip to Nazareth, I made the decision to enter discernment, and for four years as a candidate and a novice."

Paris experienced the SCN Community as supportive and comforting, she wanted to become an SCN. "It's a heart thing," she explained. "It's the whole community, what it stands for, what it embodies that has kept me here."

After some mission experiences in Belize, in Owensboro at the Boulware Mission and others, Paris made her public commitment with vows for two years. She renewed them this past August. Paris is presently the Supervisor of Kentucky Shelter Operations with the Center for Women and Families in Louisville.

Adapted from www.SCNFamil.org/News/index.phpid



Rev. John McVoy with his children, from left, daughters Aklecia and Salem, with his son, Yohannes "Johnny."

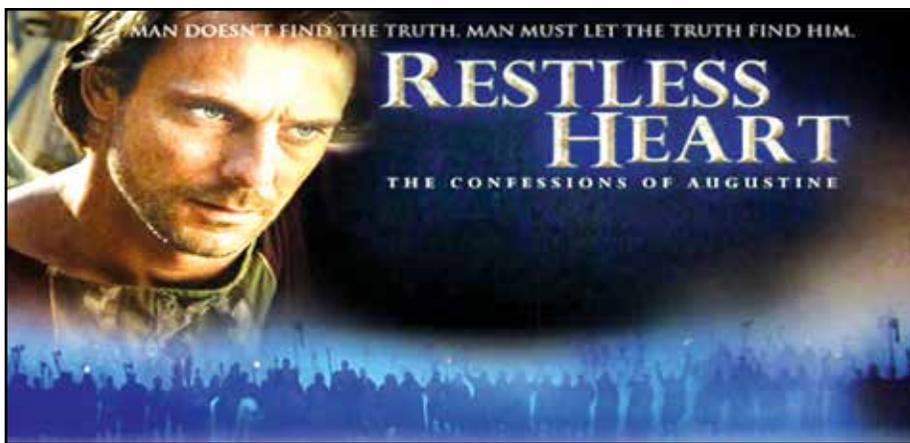
Photo reprinted from <http://www.blessedjohnxxiii.edu/documents/BJ-NewsletterSummer2010Rev.pdf>

Fr. John C. McVoy III – was ordained to the Priesthood on May 8, 2010 in the “Year of the Priest” by Bishop Francis Malooly D.D... Fr. McVoy is an Environmental / Analytical Chemist and was a Senior Project Manager for more than 25 years. After moving to Wilmington from Tallahassee, FL as part of a corporate move. He worked for URS Corp., Contracted by DuPont Engineering in 1998. He began Permanent Diaconate Formation in the Diocese of Wilmington in 2001 and was ordained to the diaconate in September 2004. He and his family quickly became a part of the Sacred Heart Oratory community, in Wilmington, which he still considers his spiritual home.

Fr. McVoy started his priestly formation in a most unusual way. Fr. McVoy is a widower and was married to Bethlhem Kebede, his college sweetheart, for 24 years who died in January 2004. They have three children, Aklecia, 30, Salem 28 (Padua Academy '02), and Yohannes (Johnny) 27 (Salesianum '05) and one grandson. Fr. McVoy, also known as Fr. Mac credits the workings of the Holy Spirit in his entire life that prompted his discernment and his “yes” to the diaconate and then on to priesthood. Fr. Mac also knows that if not for

his wife, Bethlhem, he would not be a priest today. In his meeting with Bishop Saltarelli said to Fr. McVoy prior to entering the seminary, “the Lord makes a crooked road straight”, then he said, “Who am I to say no to you or to your vocation”.

Fr. McVoy was born in Paducah, Kentucky. A fifth generation Roman Catholic, began his sacramental journey at Rosary Chapel. He has a degree in Chemistry from Howard University in Washington DC, with graduate studies in Environmental Toxicology from Florida A&M University, Classical Music from Florida State University in Voice. He entered the seminary in 2006 at Blessed John XXIII National Seminary, in Weston, MA, and earned a M.Div. in the spring of 2010. While in the Boston area, Fr. McVoy was a Chaplain at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital where he supported the spiritual needs of all patients irrespective to their religious traditions. He is currently a Hospital Chaplain at Christiana Health Care Systems, a member of the New Castle County Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team (www.ncccism.com), and is a Chaplain for New Castle County Paramedics and EMT's, He resides at the Cathedral of St. Peter where he is the assistant pastor, and he is also the assist pastor to St. Patrick's and St Mary's in Wilmington. He is currently pursuing a Masters in Business in Church Management from Villanova University. Fr. Mac is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.



In “Restless Heart,” Alessandro Preziosi plays Augustine during his young- and mid-adult years. He meets and verbally spars against Bishop (Saint) Ambrose, played by Andrea Giordana, who ultimately leads Augustine to conversion. See “Restless Heart” November 5, 7, 11, and 14 at 7:00 pm, CST in the Malco Theatres, Owensboro Cinema, 5333 Frederica Street, Owensboro. Tickets will be sold at the theatre, on the nights of the event only, for 7 dollars. Submitted Photo

‘Restless Heart’ brings St. Augustine’s life to U.S. audiences

By Tim Lilley,

Evansville, In. Message editor

“Restless Heart” comes to the the Malco Theatres (5333 Frederica St, Owensboro) for four showings Nov. 5,7,11, and 14, 2013. Buy a ticket and see

this film! It’s one of the most well-done, moving and inspiring films you’ll see . . . ever.

San Francisco-based Ignatius Press secured North American rights for this

European production, which has been making its way around America — drawing big crowds and rave reviews.

My favorite review — you might call it an endorsement — comes from a European viewer: “We hope that many who watch this inspiring human drama will allow themselves to be found by the Truth and in return also find Love.” — *Pope (Emeritus) Benedict XVI*

Note that the film’s full title is “Restless Heart: The Confessions of Augustine.” It’s based on St. Augustine of Hippo’s landmark autobiography, “The Confessions.” It tells the life story of one of our Church’s first Doctors in his own words.

During his March 17 Angelus address — the first after his election to the papacy by the College of Cardinals — Pope Francis made a significant point about forgiveness. “God never ever tires of forgiving us! He never tires of forgiving,” The Holy Father said, “but at times we get tired of asking for forgiveness.”

“Restless Heart” shows how asking for forgiveness — even from the most sinful of lives — can lead to graces and

blessings beyond imagination. And, in a subplot of sorts — but again, based on St. Augustine’s own account of his life — the film drives home the true power of prayer through the witness of Augustine’s mother, St. Monica.

Make no mistake; in this Year of Faith, “Restless Heart” will inspire you with multiple, true stories of faith — with hope and love, too. Rome native Monica Guerriore turns in a gripping performance as Augustine’s mother Monica. And Andrea Giordana plays Bishop (St.) Ambrose, another Doctor of the Church who helped Augustine convert. He and Augustine were among the first Doctors of the Church proclaimed in 1295 by Pope Boniface VIII, along with St. Gregory the Great and St. Jerome.

“In Restless Heart,” said Fox News contributor Father Jonathan Morris, “we encounter the rare achievement of a faith-inspired movie that is great art, great film.” Truly, this movie adaptation of St. Augustine’s “The Confessions” is an “instant classic.” You won’t regret it.

Excerpted and reprinted from The Evansville Message, August 2, 2013



Homeroom Teacher and Students Raise Money For New School with Quilt Raffle

The Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic School 8th graders presented a quilt to Donna Dunham, the winner of their raffle to raise money for the new middle school. The quilt was made by their homeroom teacher, Mrs. Lynne Hensley. The students raised \$1000. From left to right are: Lynne Hensley, Mitchell Degenhardt, Olivia Folz, Zoe Braboy, Maddie Craft, Taelor Duncan, Cor'lissia Cunningham, Emma Sunderhaus, Nathan Riddle, Alex Allard, and Donna Dunham. And the winner is.....Miss Donna! Thanks Mrs. Hensley, and 8th graders for \$1000 for the new school! Submitted by Sarah Krantz for Saints Peter and Paul Catholic School

Advent Prayer Retreat Day

Thursday, Dec. 12

9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Led by Msgr. Bernard Powers

Cost: \$20 (includes lunch)

The season of Advent is more than just trimming a tree and buying presents. The true nature of Christmas calls us to prayer and celebration at the Lord's coming and our own salvation. This will be a day to reflect on the meaning of Advent and Christmas through prayer. Reconciliation will also be offered. Join us in celebrating God's wonderful love for us all in the best gift of all – GOD'S SON.



To register,
contact

Kathy McCarty

270-229-0206

kathy.mccarty@

maplemount.org



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999
270-229-4103
www.ursulinesmsj.org



What is Strong Catholic Families: Strong Catholic Youth?

A diocesan initiative committed to putting parents and families at the center of parish ministry and faith formation. This initiative is a cyclic parish process that engages parents in reflecting, assessing and actively sharing with parish leaders the specific support and formation they need to form their families in the Catholic faith. It motivates parents to assume greater ownership of and involvement in the faith formation of their children.

Mr. Ken Rasp, The Director of the Owensboro Catholic School System, **shown in the picture at left speaking at a Sept.19 meeting at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Center**, commented about this new initiative: "Owensboro Catholic Schools is excited to be a partner with Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Mary Magdalene Parishes in bringing the Strong Catholic Family/Strong Catholic Youth program and process to our Diocese. From the first time I heard Dr. Reynolds speak about the program, it seemed like an incredible program that would help to empower our parents in their primary role as educators of their children in the Catholic faith. It also allowed us to proactively nurture and support the efforts of our sponsoring parishes to engage OCS students and parents in the life of their parish."

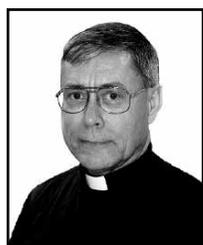
Eight Families Say Thank You!

This is just a short note to say "Thank You!" The Retrouvaille weekend just completed Sept 29, 2013 was attended by 8 couples. That's 8 families who now have a fighting chance. With your prayers, you helped give them that chance!

Their journey has just begun. Retrouvaille is not just a weekend; it is a three-month program. Please continue to keep these couples and their children in your prayers. Thank you for supporting marriage!

- Dan & Pam Lipp, Coordinators Owensboro Retrouvaille.

Marriage In Christ



Father Richard Meredith

Editor's Note: Father Richard Meredith, pastor of Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Hopkinsville, Ky., contributed this fifth article in a series about Christian Marriage's role in the New Evangelization. He wrote this about the series, "I tell people that I personally believe the "New Evangelization" will be borne by spouses upholding the truth of Christian Marriage, or it will not occur at all. I teach that Catholics need to know and be able to speak our doctrine on the Sacrament of Marriage. I believe that if I(we) do not teach loudly and clearly, the cultural tidal wave to sweep the sacrament away will be nigh overwhelming.

"In every respect my ideal is to speak the truth with love."

Grace builds upon and completes, perfects, nature. This is a teaching of Saint Thomas Aquinas and a profound principle of Catholic theology. It is applied throughout our doctrine on marriage. We understand the "one flesh" bond of marriage between man and woman to be inherent to the design of human nature. The goods and requirements of marriage cited below are all based in human nature itself. The grace that is offered to humanity in Jesus Christ builds upon them and brings them to perfection. Philosophically, we understand these principles to be aspects of the human natural law, universal to all humanity. The Gospel and our Apostolic Faith shed a new light upon them in Jesus Christ. Because human nature is damaged by sin and the history of evil, repair and redemption are also the necessary work of grace so that its work of completing and perfecting our nature can be accomplished. What follows generally considers first what is humanly natural to marriage and then how grace elevates the natural in Jesus Christ.

V. The Goods And Requirements Of Conjugal Love

1643 "Conjugal love involves a totality, in which all the elements of the person enter - appeal of the body and instinct, power of feeling and affectivity, aspiration of the spirit and of will. It

aims at a deeply personal unity, a unity that, beyond union in one flesh, leads to forming one heart and soul; it demands indissolubility and faithfulness in definitive mutual giving; and it is open to fertility. In a word it is a question of the normal characteristics of all natural conjugal love, but with a new significance which not only purifies and strengthens them, but raises them to the extent of making them the expression of specifically Christian values."



The unity and indissolubility of marriage

1644 The love of the spouses requires, of its very nature, the unity and indissolubility of the spouses' community of persons, which embraces their entire life: "so they are no longer two, but one flesh." They "are called to grow continually in their communion through day-to-day fidelity to their marriage promise of total mutual self-giving." This human communion is confirmed, purified, and completed by communion in Jesus Christ, given through the sacrament of Matrimony. It is deepened by lives of the common faith and by the Eucharist received together.

1645 "The unity of marriage, distinctly recognized by our Lord, is made clear in the equal personal dignity which must be accorded to man and wife in mutual and unreserved affection." Polygamy is contrary to conjugal love which is undivided and exclusive.

The fidelity of conjugal love

1646 By its very nature conjugal love requires the inviolable fidelity of the spouses. This is the consequence of the gift of themselves which they make to each other. Love seeks to be definitive;

it cannot be an arrangement "until further notice." the "intimate union of marriage, as a mutual giving of two persons, and the good of the children, demand total fidelity from the spouses and require an unbreakable union between them."

1647 The deepest reason is found in the fidelity of God to his covenant, in that of Christ to his Church. Through the sacrament of Matrimony the spouses are enabled to represent this fidelity and witness to it. Through the sacrament, the indissolubility of marriage receives a new and deeper meaning.

1648 It can seem difficult, even impossible, to bind oneself for life to another human being. This makes it all the more important to proclaim the Good News that God loves us with a definitive and irrevocable love, that married couples share in this love, that it supports and sustains them, and that by their own faithfulness they can be witnesses to God's faithful love. Spouses who with God's grace give this witness, often in very difficult conditions, deserve the gratitude and support of the ecclesial community.

1649 Yet there are some situations in which living together becomes practically impossible for a variety of reasons. In such cases the Church permits the physical separation of the couple and their living apart. The spouses do not cease to be husband and wife before God and so are not free to contract a new union. In this difficult situation, the best solution would be, if possible, reconciliation. The Christian community is called to help these persons live out their situation in a Christian manner and in fidelity to their marriage bond which remains indissoluble.

1650 Today there are numerous Catholics in many countries who have recourse to civil divorce and contract new civil unions. In fidelity to the words of Jesus Christ - "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another, commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery" The Church maintains that a new union cannot be recognized as valid, if the first marriage was. If the divorced are remarried civilly, they find themselves in a situation that objectively contravenes God's law. Consequently, they cannot receive Eucharistic communion as long as this situation persists. For the same reason, they cannot exercise certain ecclesial responsibilities. Reconciliation through the sacrament of Penance can be granted

only to those who have repented for having violated the sign of the covenant and of fidelity to Christ, and who are committed to living in complete continence.

1651 Toward Christians who live in this situation, and who often keep the faith and desire to bring up their children in a Christian manner, priests and the whole community must manifest an attentive solicitude, so that they do not consider themselves separated from the Church, in whose life they can and must participate as baptized persons:

They should be encouraged to listen to the Word of God, to attend the Sacrifice of the Mass, to persevere in prayer, to contribute to works of charity and to community efforts for justice, to bring up their children in the Christian faith, to cultivate the spirit and practice of penance and thus implore, day by day, God's grace. [JPII, Familiaris consortio]

The openness to fertility

1652 "By its very nature the institution of marriage and married love is ordered to the procreation and education of the offspring and it is in them that it finds its crowning glory."

Children are the supreme gift of marriage and contribute greatly to the good of the parents themselves. God himself said: "It is not good that man should be alone," and "from the beginning (he) made them male and female"; wishing to associate them in a special way in his own creative work, God blessed man and woman with the words: "Be fruitful and multiply." Hence, true married love and the whole structure of family life which results from it, without diminishment of the other ends of marriage, are directed to disposing the spouses to cooperate valiantly with the love of the Creator and Savior, who through them will increase and enrich his family from day to day. [Gaudium et spes, 48]

1653 The fruitfulness of conjugal love extends to the fruits of the moral, spiritual, and supernatural life that parents hand on to their children by education. Parents are the principal and first educators of their children. In this sense the fundamental task of marriage and family is to be at the service of life.

1654 Spouses to whom God has not granted children can nevertheless have a conjugal life full of meaning, in both human and Christian terms. Their marriage can radiate a fruitfulness of charity, of hospitality, and of sacrifice.

Family Day at Gasper River!

By Tami Urcia

God and the sun were smiling down on us as we came together for the 2nd Annual Diocesan Family Day at Gasper River Catholic Camp and Retreat Center near Bowling Green. Moving the date to September worked out great since we still avoided extreme temperatures yet had just a little bit more time before sundown.

As families arrived, they enjoyed walking the grounds before we began with an opening prayer. Then, it was off to the races! Everyone lined up to balance M&M's on spoons and put them in a cup without using their hands. After that, they took turns hop, hop, hopping inside large rice sacks to the finish line.

We then partook in a more solemn moment as we split off to pray the rosary or engage in a family activity together. Later, we enjoyed free time as some waded or skipped rocks on the river and others played on the front lawn and still others tried their hand at "Apple to Apples" inside. Then Bishop Medley came to celebrate Mass, accompanied by a couple members of "Brother's Keeper" band from Bowling Green.

We ended the day by enjoying grilled hamburgers and hotdogs and other tasty treats. One by one the families retreated. Perhaps what touched me most is noticing, as we were pulling away, several families that remained playing on the lawn, enjoying the last bit of evening light. Seeing that they didn't want to leave was a testament that they had truly enjoyed the day.

Mark your calendars for September 27, 2014 as we enjoy another day of family fun!

In the picture at right, Who could resist a little fun in the water?
Photo by Tami Urcia.

Diocesan Marriage Celebration

By Tami Urcia

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Each year, the Family Life Office sponsors an event to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage. All couples with special anniversaries (25, 40, 50 and 50+) receive a personal invitation to attend, but all are invited. We come together to rejoice in what God has joined, whether it be for a few days or many, many years. In today's society, when the meaning of marriage is being challenged to its very core, celebrations like this one are especially important because they give witness to the world that commitment and lasting love are possible.

This year, the Diocesan Marriage Celebration took place on Sunday, 22 at St. Stephen Cathedral. Bishop William F. Medley presided at a special Mass at 2:00 p.m. Mike Conley led beautifully appropriate hymns and during the liturgy married couples were invited to reaffirm their wedding vows. Decades and decades of marriage were celebrated throughout the church as man and wife joined hands reconfirm their desire for mutual and lasting fidelity. Bishop Medley then called God's blessings upon them, that they might reflect the union of Christ and his Church.

A cake and punch reception followed Mass in the autumn-decorated undercroft. The Bishop presented a certificate of recognition to those who RSVPed. The couples were delighted to meet him and shake his hand and some took pictures with him.

Next year's celebration will take place on September 21, 2014 at St. Stephen Cathedral. We would like to make a special invitation for those newly married to join us as well! All are welcome!



The Reffitt family really gets into the activity... racing with M&M's on spoons!
Photo by Ken Rasp.



All ages joined in the fun during the sack race.
Photo by Ken Rasp.



Families took turns praying together on the beautiful rosary walk.
Photo by Tami Urcia.



We ended with Mass with Bishop Medley and a potluck cookout.
Photo by Tami Urcia.

Runaway Quilters at Maple Mount

The spirit and camaraderie was evident throughout the week of Sept. 16-20, as slightly more than 100 quilters from various states came to Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center to sew and quilt and sew and quilt some more at the Runaway Quilters retreat. The three quilters pictured here live in the Diocese of Owensboro.



Dana Hughes, of Mayfield works on her Twisted Bargello quilt during the Sit and Sew on Sept. 17. "It's a fun place to be. The people bring me back, you get to know them," she said. "I like the whole quilting atmosphere."



Faith Bratton, of Paducah works on 1 1/2-inch strips of fabric during the Granny Square class. A first-time participant, she attended the Diocese of Owensboro's 75th anniversary Mass on Dec. 8, 2012 in Owensboro and met some Ursuline Sisters that day, who told her about Runaway Quilters. "It's been great, the people are all very nice," Bratton said. "I'm happy to be around so many quilters."



Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of Sister Carolyn Thomas, SCN



NAZARETH, Ky. - Carolyn Thomas, SCN, 77, born in Fancy Farm, Ky., died at Nazareth Home, on September 20, 2013. She had been a Sister of Charity of Nazareth for 39 years. Sister Carolyn was baptized in St. Charles Church, Bardwell, Ky.

Sister became a professed religious in the Ursuline Sisters of Mount St. Joseph on August 15, 1955. She transferred to the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth and was perpetually professed in that congregation on August 1, 1975. While engaging in family ministry, Sister Carolyn taught Scripture at Brescia College in Owensboro from 1990-92.

Survivors include two brothers: James W. Thomas of Mayfield, Ky., and Julian B. Thomas of Salvisa, Ky.; two sisters: Jane Concina and Bernadette Hughes, both of Scottsdale, Ariz., and

her religious community.

Visitation was held September 24, 2013 in St. Vincent Church, Nazareth, Ky. The Funeral Mass was celebrated on Wednesday, September 25, 2013, in St. Vincent Church, Nazareth, Ky., with burial in Nazareth Cemetery, Nazareth, Ky. Memorials may be made to SCN Missions, P.O. Box 9, Nazareth, KY 40048.

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*This would
make a great
Christmas gift!*

In the picture at left, Nell Jordan, left, of Franklin brought her daughter Beth Taylor, a resident of Island in McLean County, to Runaway Quilters for the first time this year. Jordan has been coming to Runaway Quilters for 18 years and usually teaches a class. "I wanted her to come so she can carry on the family tradition of quilting," Jordan said. "My grandmother taught me when I was a teenager." Taylor, who took up quilting a couple of years ago, has made three baby quilts so far. MSJ Photos

Running Like A Raider: A Celebration of a Catholic School Community

November, 2013 17

WHITESVILLE, Ky. - The Trinity High School 2nd Annual Raider Run 5K was held on Saturday, September 21st, 2013

Jarod Beyke and Andrea Lawson are the Grand Champions of the 2nd Raider Run 5K Run/Walk! Jarod completed the run with a time of 15:56. Andrea finished with a time of 18:04

First place medals were awarded to these individuals: 12 & Under: Trenton Morris, Blaise Morris, & Destiny Miles; 13 - 19: Korey Johnson & Chelsea Howard; 20 - 29: Travis Roby & Andrea Lawson; 30 - 39: Jarod Beyke & Amanda Howard; 40 - 49: Matt Coomes & Dana Roby; 50+ Kevin Bratcher & Serena Woods

Trinity High Schools offers congratulations and thanks to all the runners/walkers who participated in the 2nd Raider Run 5K. The school community looks forward to seeing you all again next year!

Special thanks to event sponsors: Bruce Baskett D.M.D., Eric O'Nan, Leaning Tower of Pizza, David & Judy Connor, Tony & Karen Hamilton, Randy Howard, Century Aluminum, Chris



Jarod Beyke and Andrea Lawson are the Grand Champions of the 2nd Raider Run 5K Run/Walk. First Place medal winners are shown in the group photo at left.

Rhodes Class of '83, and Debbie & Jim Peters.

Photos and text submitted by Kim Rydecki



Still Room on the Precious Blood Bus Trip

Openings still available for the bus trip to Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville, Illinois. We will leave on Friday, December 13th after the 7:00 a.m. Mass from Precious Blood and return on Saturday, December 14th. Cost is \$155 per person/double or \$146 per person/triple (includes bus transportation, one over night stay, lunch at the Shrine, visit to St. Louis Gateway Arch, Way of Lights Dinner and continental breakfast). Lunch on Saturday on your own at the Root Beer Factory. If interested, please call Penny or Sr. Rosanne at the Parish Office at 684-6888. Registration deadline has been extended to November 12th.

Invitation To An Ordination

His Grace, the Most Reverend Charles H. Dufour, D.D., C.D.,
Archbishop of Kingston,
The Archdiocese of Kingston and the Community of St. Philip Neri,
joyfully announce the Ordination to the Sacred Order of the Presbyterate

of Rev. Brother Brad William Smith

through the imposition of hands and the invocation of the Holy Spirit conferred during The Solemn Closing Mass of the Year of Faith Presided by His Eminence, Cardinal Fernando Filoni, Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples on Sunday, the first day of December, 1st Sunday of Advent in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Thirteen at four o'clock p.m.

Holy Trinity Cathedral, Kingston, Jamaica

MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- 1-2 Owensboro Christian Elders
- 2 Bereavement Day
- 8-9 Teen Leadership Conference
- 9 Deacons and Spouses Retreat Day
- 14 Study of the Catholic Catechism for Adults**
- 15-17 Diocese of Owensboro Permanent Diaconate Program
- 15-17 Yarn Spinning Weekend**
- 16 Thomas Merton Retreat**

To register or schedule an event, call Kathy McCarty: 270-229-0206
kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org

Center-sponsored programs are in **BOLD** type. Please call to register.



www.ursulinesmsj.org

DECEMBER

- 5 Study of the Catholic Catechism for Adults**
- 12 Advent Day of Prayer with Msgr. Bernard Powers**
- 15-17 Diocese of Owensboro Permanent Diaconate Program

JANUARY 2014

- 4 Yarn Spinning Day**
- 9 Study of the Catechism**
- 10-12 Retrouvaille
- 13-17 Spiritual Direction Training Program (Week 2)**
- 18-24 St. Meinrad Seminarians Retreat
- 24-26 Diocese of Owensboro Permanent Diaconate Program



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Holy Name Students Tour Cathedral; Plan Now To Visit Your Cathedral

Submitted by Donna Murphy

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Because the Cathedral is the Mother Church of the entire People of God in the Diocese of Owensboro, it is like a homecoming whenever we have visitors. Like a mother whose children come home to visit at important times of the year, at Christmas or Easter, or even on any random day of the year, we open our arms in welcome and throw open the doors to draw you in!

Bringing young people to learn about their place in the Cathedral is an especially exciting event. On September 26th as hundreds of young people were making their way to the Owensboro Sports Center to celebrate the Rainbow Mass with Bishop Medley, a large group of more than ninety fifth and sixth grade students from Holy Name School arrived in town early to make a pilgrimage to their diocesan Cathedral. They came prepared to learn about the rich history of the Cathedral and see the beauty of our space of worship. They were not disappointed as they emerged from their buses and entered the narthex, passing the baptistry and entered the well-lit nave of the Cathedral. Only a few among them had ever previously visited St. Stephen Cathedral, and none since the recent renovation of the interior of the building.

Following a brief introduction and prayer, the group divided into four smaller units accompanied by four parishioners who guided them through the church, sharing the tradition and meaning behind the older artwork and stained-glass windows,



Gavin Sheffer and Chiara Suggs with tour guide Barbara Hart in St. Stephen Cathedral.

as well as the newer additions completed last fall with the dedication of the new altar by Bishop Medley on Nov. 18, 2012. The parish of St. Stephen Cathedral was once a mission of St. Lawrence parish in eastern Daviess County. Just as St. Lawrence, one of the early deacons of the Church, once declared before the authorities of Rome that the true treasures of the Church are the poor, the crippled, the blind and the suffering, we at St. Stephen Cathedral would like to remind all who visit us that more than the beauty and richness of this building, you are the true



treasures of our Cathedral. Please feel free to stop by, or call ahead and we will have someone on hand to welcome your group and give you a tour, pointing out the key articles of interest in the church and some of the rich history to be found here. Then plan to return to visit your Cathedral often!



At right, Holy Name School student Adam Link was impressed with artwork in St. Stephen Cathedral.

3 Students From Diocesan Schools Named Sen. Jeff Green Scholars

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Sept. 24, 2013) — Three 2013 graduates of diocesan schools have been named Senator Jeff Green Scholars by the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) for outstanding academic performance in high school. Students earn this designation by achieving a 4.0 grade point average each year of high school and scoring at least a 28 composite on the ACT.

These students have also earned \$2,500 a year in Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES) awards. Their awards may be renewed each year of college if they continue to earn high grades, making the total value of their KEES worth \$10,000.

The title honors the late state Sen. Jeff Green of Mayfield, who served in the Kentucky General Assembly from 1992 to 1997.

Students who earned this prestigious designation are:

- Owensboro Catholic High School: Michael Goedde.
- Trinity High School: Kelsey Armes, Cory Smith.

KEES and other Kentucky student aid programs are administered by KHEAA. KEES awards are funded by net Kentucky lottery proceeds and may be used at most colleges and universities in Kentucky. In some cases, the award may be used at out-of-state schools if the major the student is pursuing is not available in Kentucky. No application is necessary for KEES awards, and students may access their KEES account information on www.kheaa.com by setting up a MyKHEAA account.

To learn how to plan and prepare for



Kelsey Armes,THS Michael Goedde,OCHS Cory Smith,THS

higher education, go to www.gotocollege.ky.gov.

For more information about Kentucky scholarships and grants, visit www.kheaa.com; write KHEAA, P.O. Box 798, Frankfort, KY 40602; or call 800-928-8926, ext. 6-7372.

If You've Helped Someone ... Here is Your Award



After Rainbows Mass, lunchtime, Sept. 26, 2013. Mel Howard Photo

NCDC Honors The Anonymous Good Samaritan With Its 2013 Good Samaritan Award

During the recently-concluded NCDC Conference at Grapevine, Texas, NCDC's Good Samaritan Award for 2013 was given to the Anonymous Good Samaritan.

The Good Samaritan Award is given annually to someone who exemplifies extraordinary concern for others, especially those who are most in need. Anyone is eligible for nomination. The

award is not restricted to NCDC members or to any particular religious denomination.

The criteria for the award include a life of service that is an outstanding example of following the Gospel message as manifested in the Parable of the Good Samaritan. The nominee's service must have made a significant impact upon the lives of persons in need (regardless of the type of need) and the nominee must be actively engaged in or recently associated with such services.

In the presentation speech on Saturday, September 14th, Jeff Norton, Missionary Society of St. Columban and NCDC Board member, explained the NCDC Board of Directors' choice for this year's award. He remarked that the Anonymous Samaritan represents "people whom we witnessed through the media, or perhaps, saw and know in person, who reached out to those in need during times of great tragedy. Some, we are sure, are here in our midst today. Just like the Gospel story, we do not know their names. But like the Gospel story, we know that they are



Sts. Peter & Paul students elected student council officers and representatives for the 2013-2014 school year. In the first row are Georgianna Baker, Rayna Pound, Alexis Mowen, Muki Kunnmann, and Katey Linn Reynolds. In the second row are Savannah Barron, Will Groves, Scribbie Goode, Maddy Craft, and Alex Allard. In the last row are Victoria Fisk, Taelor Duncan, and Olivia Folz. Fr. Richard Meredith is also pictured. Submitted by Sarah Kranz

'good' people and today we remember and honor them."

Mr. Norton observed that all of us have seen many heartbreaking tragedies in the last twelve months, giving as examples Hurricane Sandy, the Oklahoma tornadoes, the Sandy Hook School shootings and the Boston Marathon bombing. But in all those situations, he added, "we saw men and women step forward and come to the aid of their brothers and sisters in need. If there ever was a year for NCDC to recognize those often unnamed individuals who, just like the Samaritan in the Gospel, saw someone in need and responded,

2013 is the year to do this."

"Let us pause in silence," he concluded, "to remember all those who suffered and died in these tragic events, as well as all those anonymous Good Samaritans who reached out to them."

Founded in 1968, the National Catholic Development Conference (www.ncdc.org) leads the Catholic development community toward excellence in the ministry of ethical fundraising through education, resources, networking and advocacy. As the United States' largest association of religious philanthropies, NCDC affirms the mission of each of its members by working for and with them as fundraisers.

Picnic At St. Henry



Submitted by Rich Logsdon

AURORA, Ky. - Although rainy weather and the Sophia Awards in Owensboro cut into the attendance at the annual St. Henry Parish Picnic in Aurora, KY, there were still about 80 adults and children who took part in the festivities. There was bingo in which parishioners battled for small monetary prizes, a cake walk where 22 cakes were given away to the lucky winners, face painting for the children, and many attendance prizes.

It was all topped off by a delicious meal of grilled hamburgers, hot dogs, and brats with plenty of side dishes and desserts which made for a fitting ending to a day of parish socializing and fun.

Many thanks go to chairwoman Myra Fassett and her many helpers

Photo at left, Grillmaster Les Jegenyas at St. Henry picnic; at right, lined up for buffet at St. Henry picnic



including Rose Logsdon, Les Jegenyas, Karen Ducheslav, Pat Osthoff, John York, Rich Logsdon and the preparatory and cleanup crews. Thanks also to Paul Morris, the Moores and the Logsdons for their monetary donations. Without the efforts of many parishioners pitching in, the annual picnic would not be nearly as successful or nearly as much fun.

Help Support the CCHD Collection on November 23-24, 2013

Submitted by Richard Murphy, Director, Office of Social Concerns

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development, or CCHD was launched in 1969 by the bishops of the United States as a Catholic anti-poverty initiative. For more than 40 years, CCHD has addressed the problem of poverty by attacking its root causes and funding community projects that promote independence as a means to finding a permanent end to poverty. It might surprise you to know that nearly 44 million Americans, including one in five children, live below the poverty line. Many of these are considered "working poor," which means that they work but do not make enough money to cover essentials like housing, health care, child care, and food.

Many people in our Diocese and thousands of people across the United States could tell you how CCHD has changed their lives. That is because CCHD not only provides funding but also invests in the dignity of the poor and helps people to break the cycle of poverty by becoming self-reliant.

Over the course of 40 years, CCHD has funded nearly 8,000 projects that empower the poor to come together and solve community problems. CCHD funds projects that produce real and lasting change. These projects are funded by Catholic parishioners just like you who graciously donate to the CCHD Collection. In parishes across the country, this Collection gives us the opportunity to help make a difference and end the cycle of poverty in our communities. Twenty-five percent of your donations are kept in this Diocese to fund local projects, and the remaining 75% goes to the CCHD national office to support anti-poverty initiatives across the United States.

These days it is not hard to imagine having to choose between rent or health care, food or transportation, and household bills or clothing for your children. For most Americans these decisions stem from a recent layoff, pay freeze, or retirement fund decrease. For the millions of Americans who live below the poverty line, these choices are only getting worse. CCHD needs your support in this year's Collection. Thank you for your generosity in the past and please consider giving generously this year.

Should you have any questions about the collection please feel free to call Richard Murphy, Diocesan Director of Social Concerns, at 270/683-1545 or email him at Richard.murphy@pastoral.org.

CCHD Local Grant Recipients for 2012/13

Submitted by Richard Murphy, Director, Office of Social Concerns

Our local CCHD funds were allocated in late June 2013 and you will find the report on the distribution below. Donations made in last year's CCHD collection in November made these distributions possible. Thanks to all for your kindness last year and please consider a generous gift this year on November 23-24, 2013 in your Parish.

On June 20, 2013 a Committee of 8 people made up of representatives from Catholic Charities of Owensboro, the Diocesan Social Justice Committee, and members of the Diocesan staff met to consider 7 grant applications for \$4750 in local Catholic Campaign for Human Development dollars. Only 4 were recommended for some funds.

ELL (English Language Learners) JumpStart Reading Program: Requested \$1200, Recommended Award \$1000. This program will be a JumpStart Reading Workshop that will provide tutoring for migrant students. St. Alphonsus Parish in West Louisville Ky partners with other area churches and the West Louisville Elementary School WLES BridgeWay Family Resource Center Board. The group seeks to improve language and reading for migrant children of low-income and non-traditional families.

Glenmary Sisters of Smithland Kentucky: Requested \$2000, Recommended Award \$1650. The Glenmary Staff in the Smithland area works closely with Pennyriale Allied Community Services to provide emergency needs of various types. The greatest need appears to be dental and vision health care services for low income families in Livingston County, one of the poorer counties in the Diocese. Glenmary staff will coordinate efforts to discern what individuals or families with the greatest needs and provide these services from the resources of the grant.

Hilltoppers for Life of Western Kentucky University: Requested \$1500, Recommended Award \$1100. The group is a pro-life student group active on the campus of WKU and in the Bowling Green community to work to "educate the minds and soften the hearts of people on pro-life issues, especially regarding the unborn." They host various pro-life speakers on campus, attend the national March for Life Rally, bring in pro-life displays, offer support to pregnant women on campus, and pray for the least of these at abortion clinics. The group seeks to secure funding for further operations by hosting a banquet on August 22, 2013 in Bowling Green.

Literacy Lab at St. Joseph Parish in Bowling Green: Requested \$1200, Recommended Award \$1000. The program proposes to provide a bilingual instructor who can help adult students raise their literacy level to a pre-GED, 6th grade benchmark. They will assist a student to reach a point at which they will be able to enter programs offered by other agencies. They will serve Hispanic/Latino's from different countries in Central America.



Owensboro Catholic Students participating in the Risk Watch program with the Owensboro Fire



Department were taught how to "stop, drop, and roll," and got to see how quickly the firemen could put on their

full suits in order to be ready for a fire. The Owensboro Catholic K-3 Campus is participating in the Risk Watch



Program for the first time this year. This program was developed by the NFPA and targets the top 8 risk areas for young children. Submitted by Lori Whitehouse

Fire Safety Lessons: Be Prepared

A Fire Safety day at St. Mary of the Woods Catholic School was held on Monday, September 23, 2013 for K-5 grades.



Teachers Mary Haycraft with 2nd graders and Jacob Hein with 3rd and 4th graders can be seen with Whitesville Fire Department representative discussing the parts of a fire truck.

Photo at near right: Green River Fire Fighters Association and Whitesville Fire Department Members talking with SMWS 1st grade student group. Photo at far right: 5th grader Cameron Edge touring a Whitesville Fire Department Fire Truck.



Kindergarteners (from left to right) Ava Rhodes and Gracie Mills sitting in a Whitesville Fire Department Fire Truck. Photos by Kim Rydecki



Kindergartener Hope Turner sitting in a Whitesville Fire Department Fire Truck



By Mel Howard
Catholic Schools

OWENSBORO SPORTSCENTER - Nearly 3,000 Catholic School students, teachers, staff, and parents from 17 diocesan Catholic Schools rode here on busses, vans, and cars Sept. 26, 2013 to be a part of the Diocese of Owensboro's celebration of Catholic Schools known as the Rainbows Mass since the first one in 1984 when there were 31 schools in the diocese.

Why rainbows? First, there are different school colors, and each school is asked to wear their school colors for the celebration, reflecting the colors of a rainbow. Also, the schools carry flag banners with their school name during the processional at the start of Mass, and these banners also decorate the worship space in the colors of the rainbow. And thirdly, the enthusiasm, the smiles, and the spirit of the young people during the celebration is reflected in their faces as they look around at all those Catholic kids like themselves who are in awe and happiness just to

Rainbow Mass Welcoming from Mr. Jim Mattingly



Mr. Jim Mattingly

Today we are reminded that Jesus is the reason for our schools, and that is what makes our Catholic Schools so special. Faith is our personal relationship with God but it is also about our relationship with each other. We live our faith every day in the moments that happen at home, at school, at work, and at play. In everything we do, we have the chance to answer God's call to be closer to Him by treating everyone we encounter with the respect that each one deserves.

Today, let us remember all the gifts God has given us, and let us be especially mindful of the privilege of praying together as the faith community of the Diocese of Owensboro Catholic Schools.

In a moment, we will stand and welcome our presider, Bishop Medley, and the priests who will celebrate this special Mass with us. Thanks to all of you for making the effort to be here today – and especially those who have traveled great distances. And Bishop Medley and Fathers, thank you for your presence, your support, and your spiritual leadership. We are richly blessed to have you with us.



Deacon Paul Bachi, Bishop William Medley, and Bishop-emeritus John McRaith enter the worship space for the Rainbows Mass.

Sept. 26, 2013 - Good morning everyone! And welcome to the 2013 Rainbow Mass. My name is Jim Mattingly and I am superintendent of the Diocese of Owensboro Catholic Schools. Most of us have heard – many times – that a Catholic School education . . . is education “with a difference.” And we are different from other schools, in several ways, but the most important way that we are different is in the profound privilege we have to gather and worship together as a family. And most of the time we gather and worship as a smaller community at each individual school, but today, we gather as one very large family consisting of thousands of students, family members, faculty, staff, and administration to celebrate the Eucharist with Bishop William Francis Medley and over 25 priests and deacons from throughout the Diocese of Owensboro.

This morning I would also ask everyone to extend a warm welcome to the consecrated religious who are present with us this morning Sisters, please stand.



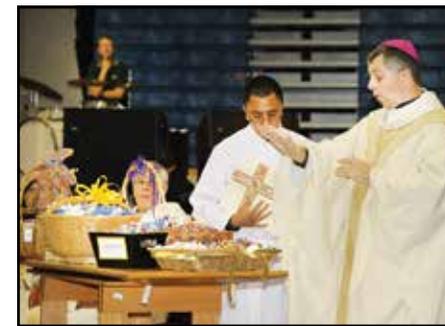
Mary Carrico Catholic School students Callie Lanham and Breannah Hamilton processed into the Sportscenter with their school's banner.

be there. It's a lot like looking at a rainbow after a rainstorm, the sign of God's promise and His providence. Rainbows make us happy just to see them.

The staffs and student bodies of the seventeen Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Owensboro greeted Bishop William Medley and Bishop-emeritus John McRaith and several priests of the diocese as Mass began. Before the opening of Mass music and singing, there was a quiet moment of anticipation quiet; not a sound was heard in the Sportscenter. Bishop Medley remarked to the Catholic School community, “Could you hear that? The quiet.” Bishop Medley knew the quiet wouldn't last, and pointed out to the whole assembly how good it is when we come to celebrate a Mass together as a community, and as we come to know that God is here, an overpowering feeling of awe quiets our minds, hearts, and voices as the environment around us becomes our church, a holy place. Soon the opening music and singing started and the whole church assembled in the Sportscenter raised their voices in holy song singing “Make A Joyful Noise” by Mark Friedman, its refrains echoing from the rafters.

As he welcomed the schools for the Rainbows Mass in his homily, Bishop Medley asked, “29 Years from now, where will we be? How many will be right back here? How many here will have a son or daughter here for a Rainbows Mass? How many here will be back as a teacher, a Sister, a priest. This Rainbows Mass is a sign and a promise of Hope; this sign and promise is the one God made to His people when he sent a rainbow into the sky after the world was destroyed by flood.

Continued on page 23



Bishop William Medley blessed Rosaries brought to the Rainbows Mass by every school so each student could take one back home. Seminarian Basilio Az Cuc assisted the Bishop.

Rainbows Mass: A Privilege Of Praying Together As A Faith Community

(Continued from page 22)

November, 2013 23

We are here to “sing a new song unto the Lord, to praise the Lord.”

Bishop Medley spoke of the many sacrifices made so that the nearly 2,500 students could be educated in a Catholic School, and to be at the Rainbows Mass. He recognized the pastors, the bus drivers, the supervisors, the parents and grandparents “who made it possible for you to have a Catholic education,” and asked each of the groups to stand to applause.

“We form shades of a rainbow,” Bishop Medley said, and recounted the Creation story from Genesis. He then

asked each class of students to stand. Bishop Medley gave special recognition to the women religious present for the Mass and noted that all the Catholic Schools in our diocese, at one time nearly 40, started with Sisters coming to teach in our little towns and villages.

“Don’t be afraid to acknowledge that God may be calling you to Consecrated Religious Life,” Bishop Medley said to the young people. “You are being called to something extraordinary in life. I pray for God to bless the Church with vocations to religious life and priesthood.” Bishop Medley gave the whole assembly a prayer to offer to God every day: “Lord, what would you have me to do for You today?”

“The Lord will tell you,” Bishop Medley said, “if you pray this. God will tell you what He is wanting you



Bishop Medley preaching.



Students tuned into the Bishop's homily.



Students stood up with their grade from across the diocese as Bishop Medley recognized each class.



At left, Third grade song leaders from OCS K-3 sing and sign the song at Communion of the Rainbows Mass. At right, Catholic School students, teachers, parents, and school staff joined in the singing and the signing. Mel Howard Photos

to do.”

Later, toward the end of the celebration, Bishop Medley blessed Rosaries brought to the altar by every school. He asked everyone to pray a Rosary this day, at least one decade. He then gave five intentions which he urged for meditation in each of the five decades: Pope Francis; Children in the world with not enough food or shelter; Unborn children whose mothers and fathers must decide to give them life; Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life that everyone may know God is calling you to do; and Yourself that God will help you be the best that you can be.



Kimberly (Rose) Rydecki, third from left, with Trinity High School students, attended her first Rainbows Mass in 2001 as an eighth grade student at St. Romuald Catholic School in Hardinsburg. This year she was back with Trinity Students.



Bishop Medley Urges Sophia Award Winners: “Keep Up Your Good Work!”

The Diocesan Office of Stewardship hosted the 2013 Sophia Awards in St. Stephen Cathedral on Sept. 29, 2013. The opening line of the first hymn sung for the Mass was “Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?” The sixty-eight 2013 Sophia Award recipients have answered “YES” with their lives, and they were nominated by individuals from their parish for having given so generously to the Church of Western Kentucky. Each parish in the diocese can participate in the nomination process; 68 of 79 offered a name for this year’s Sophia Award.

A Sophia Award winner is an outstanding example of her or his Catholic Faith. The Gospel reading for the Mass of the 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time was from Luke 16:19-31, the parable about Lazarus and the rich man. In his homily for the Mass, Bishop William Medley talked about how Lazarus is still around us in the poor and needy. “God, “ Bishop Medley said, “has blessed us, not like the rich man, nor like Lazarus either. Few of us have had to plead for the droppings from the rich man’s table. We, too, see ourselves as overlooked. Maybe there is someone whom you know whose spirit is broken, which no one notices. (Jesus is telling us today to) notice the one in our parishes who is in need of something. Help someone.”



Bishop William Medley speaking during the Sophia Awards Mass.

Bishop Medley said that the Sophia Awards Mass and celebration is a time when the people of the diocese help honor a loved one. To the award winners, he offered the diocese’s thanks for who they are for their lives of Faith. “Keep up your Gospel work, Bishop Medley urged. And to the children, grandchildren and friends of the award winners, Bishop Medley spoke, saying, “Look to these people (Sophia Award Winners) to see the Gospel in action.”

After the awards were given to each recipient, sixty eight in all with seven being deceased, the Mass ended and a reception was hosted by the diocese in the Father Vaughan Community Center (St. Stephen Undercroft).



Family and Sophia Award recipients in prayer during the Mass.



Saint Stephen Cathedral was filled on Sept 29, 2013 with family and friends celebrating their loved one’s Sophia Award.



Families posed with Bishop William Medley with their Sophia Award recipient. Here, from left to right, are Doug and Debbie (Conder) Padgett, Becky Conder, Sophia Award Recipient Tommy Conder (St. Mary of the Woods Parish, Whitesville), Bishop Medley, Jim Conder, and Jerry Conder.

Love Abounds During Sophia Awards Mass

Diocesan Office of Stewardship Assistant Cathy Hagan commented about this year’s Sophia Awards Mass and celebration: “The Cathedral was full! There was not a seat to be found! Sophia Award recipients along with their guests filled the church. What touched me the most during the service was the love and respect of families and friends for their loved one receiving the award. I really could “feel the love.” The Cathedral was not only filled with people that Sunday afternoon but also with love and gratitude for those being honored with a Sophia Award.”



A group picture with Bishop William Medley and the 2013 Sophia Award winners who received awards in St. Stephen Cathedral on Sept. 29, 2013.



Odelia's Catering of Owensboro provided the food and refreshments for the reception. From left are Terry Lewis, Alex Wink, Casey Wink and Mike Lewis, all from The Immaculate Parish.

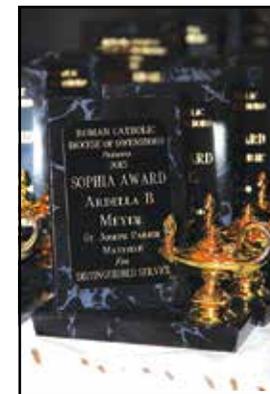


Fr. John Vaughan, left, and Fr. Jerry Calhoun posed after Mass with their Sophia Awards.

Doing A Good Job Is Award Enough

Sister Joseph Angela Boone, O.s.u. Commented About The 2013 Sophia Awards:

"I enjoyed the spirit of the guests who came through heavy rain, some from a lengthy distance. They were very receptive to being there in spite of the weather and the crowded space. Their award given by the people for their parish and the diocese is a symbol that they are appreciated for the good work they have done for the parish.



"When thinking about someone for the Sophia Award, I believe a parish is looking for a dedicated, hard working person who is ministering behind the scenes for the honor and glory of God and who are glad that they are viewed as doing a good job, as one hard working minister in the church said "doing a good job is award enough."

26 November, 2013

2013 Sophia Award Winners

Blessed Mother, Owensboro: Marjorie C. Early
Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro: Jill A. Mueller
Christ the King, Madisonville: Rev. Gerald Calhoun
Christ the King, Scottsville: Nancy Campise
Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson: Bettye J. Summers
Holy Spirit, Bowling Green: Tom & Rita Parrott
Immaculate, Owensboro: Mary Ruth Bumm (Deceased)
Immaculate Conception, Earlington: Joan Morse
Immaculate Conception, Hawesville: William & Phyllis Emmick
Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro: Freda O'Bryan
Precious Blood, Owensboro: Jeanette Ebelhar
Resurrection, Dawson Springs: Rosa Coffey
Rosary Chapel, Paducah: J. T. & Mary Piercefield
Sacred Heart, Hickman: Phyllis C. Simmons
Sacred Heart, Russellville: John Edward Higgins
Saint Agnes, Uniontown: Linda Gough
Saint Alphonsus, St. Joseph: A. Joyce Thompson
Saint Ambrose, Henshaw: Henry Huckleby
Saint Ann, Morganfield: Elizabeth Jane V. Holt
Saint Anthony, Axtel: Anna Leigh Henning
Saint Anthony, Browns Valley: Martin & Theresa Rhodes
Saint Anthony, Peonia: Bill Sims
Saint Anthony of Padua, Grand Rivers: Edmond & Donna Bassett
Saint Augustine, Grayson Springs: Kathleen C. Forrister
Saint Augustine, Reed: Leo D. Murphy (Deceased)
Saint Benedict, Wax: Anna M. Clemons
Saint Charles, Bardwell: Gerald (Deceased) & Susan Hayden
Saint Charles, Livermore: Ann M. Renfrow
Saint Columba, Lewisport: Faye M. Wettstain
Saint Denis, Fancy Farm: Jerry S. Hayden
Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Clarkson: Edward & Alberta Morrison
Saint Francis Borgia, Sturgis: Virginia Ann Quinn
Saint Francis de Sales, Paducah: Laura Jane Lambert
Saint Henry, Aurora: Patricia R. Day
Saint Jerome, Fancy Farm: Samuel J. & Ella Dean Hayden
Saint John the Baptist, Fordsville: Ray & Peggy Montgomery
Saint John the Evangelist, Paducah: Barbaranelle Tackett
Saint John the Evangelist, Sunfish: Jimmy Jennings
Saint Joseph, Bowling Green: H. C. & Gustava Thompson
Saint Joseph, Central City: Brenda Kay Busick
Saint Joseph, Leitchfield: Lamont & Betty Miller
Saint Joseph, Mayfield: Ardella B. Meyer
Saints Joseph & Paul, Owensboro: Thomas E. Hagan (Deceased)
Saint Jude, Clinton: Marsha Rudquist-Davis
Saint Lawrence, St. Lawrence: Daniel & Dorothy Edge
Saint Leo, Murray: John & Marie Clark
Saint Martin, Rome: Angela Crowe
Saint Mary, Franklin: Amelia Mae King
Saint Mary, LaCenter: Patrick & Joan Hutchins
Saint Mary Magdalene, Sorgho: Dan & Charlotte Kamuf
Saint Mary of the Woods, McQuady: Mildred K. Mattingly
Saint Mary of the Woods, Whitesville: Thomas D. Conder
Saint Michael the Archangel, Oak Grove: Rev. Leonard Arcilesi (Deceased)
Saint Paul, Princeton: Betty Wurtman
Saint Paul, St. Paul: Catherine & Frank Gawarecki
Saint Peter of Alcantara, Stanley: Shirley Dunn
Saint Peter of Antioch, Waverly: Tim & Louise Tennyson

Saints Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville: John E. Cotthoff (Deceased)
Saint Pius X, Calvert City: Bob & Marty Darst
Saint Pius X, Owensboro: Robert & Alice Freels
Saint Romuald, Hardinsburg: Francis Leo Wheatley
Saint Rose of Lima, Cloverport: Elgene Carter (Deceased)
Saint Sebastian, Calhoun: Charles & Faye May
Saint Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro: Rev. John Vaughan
Saint Stephen, Cadiz: Connie & Gerry Koneczyk
Saint Thomas More, Paducah: Judy Bufford
Saint William, Knottsville: Pat & Patsy Cecil
Saint William of Vercelli, Marion: Bob & Nancy Brock



Sherrell Calhoun, center, and his wife Jeanie, celebrated with Father Jerry Calhoun, a 2013 Sophia Award winner for Christ The King Parish, Madisonville.



Some Scenes from the 2013 Sophia Awards Mass Sept. 29, 2013



Still Time to Sign up for the March for Life 2014: 41 Years after Roe v. Wade

November, 2013 27

Submitted by Richard Murphy, Director, Office of Social Concerns, richard.murphy@pastoral.org

The Diocesan Gospel of Life Committee is sponsoring a bus trip to Washington D.C. to take part in the March for Life on January 22, 2014. You are invited to join them and say yes to life and no to losing a good portion of another generation of children to abortion on demand.

Over 55 Million Children Lost to Abortion: That number means there are more than 3,300 abortions daily and 137 abortions per hour every hour in the United States. Translated another way, an abortion is done about every 30 seconds in the United States. You can take a stand with thousands of other Americans to be the voices of our unborn children. You can help assert their right to life and liberty promised in the Declaration of Independence, and tell those representing us to grant that most basic birthright to the unborn. We must stand together to effectively advocate for the rights of our little brothers and sisters.

Plan for the Trip: The Gospel of Life Committee is working to set up a bus trip to and lodging in the Washington D.C. area to allow those interested in going to the March for Life to make their voices heard. Arrangements for travel will likely be with Toby Tours Bus Lines that will provide a late model bus or buses with bathroom facilities and with passenger capacity of either 47 or 55 people. The size of the bus or buses to be booked for the trip will be based on those making reservations by sending in a \$50 deposit by November 30, 2013. Please note that the final balance due should be paid by, January 10, 2014.

The group will depart from the Catholic Pastoral Center in Owensboro on Monday night at 8:00 PM on January 20, 2014, and arrive in Washington on Tuesday afternoon on the 21st in time to check in at the hotel, freshen up and visit the convention in progress. The group will likely be staying at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Washington on Capitol Hill where the Convention takes place. On Tuesday evening the group will go

to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception for the Mass for Life, and then return to the hotel that night.

On Wednesday morning of January 22nd, the group will likely attend a pre-march rally at a nearby sports arena. The March for Life takes place in the early afternoon. It will be necessary to travel there by late morning. The group will stay the night of Wednesday, January 22nd at the Hyatt. Some may have an interest in attending the March for Life's fundraising event called the Rose Dinner. Arrangements can be made to attend this event; however it will be at a cost beyond what the trip cost is listed.

On Thursday morning January 23,, 2013, the group will go sightseeing at 8:00 AM, at 10:00 head for Owensboro and should arrive back in Owensboro in the early morning of Friday January 24, 2014.

Consider Making Plans and Getting your Name on the List: To insure an accurate count for the number of rooms to reserve and to determine the

size of the bus to take, it is necessary to set a date for registration of November 30, 2013. The total cost per person for round trip bus fair, two nights at the hotel with multiple occupancy is estimated to be \$325. This cost is contingent on a number of factors that could impact the price such as the quoted price per room per day, the size of the bus or buses taken and the number of people taking part. If you believe that you would like to be part of this pilgrimage of faith, fellowship and exercise of citizenship, then please send a check payable to the Diocese of Owensboro for \$50 per registration and mail it to: Diocese of Owensboro, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, Ky 42301, Attention: Richard Murphy by the deadline of November 30, 2013. All travelers are asked to have their final payments in by January 10, 2014. If you have questions about the March, then please feel free to call him at 270/683-1545 or email him at richard.murphy@pastoral.org.

Let's go make our voices heard for the unborn to recognize their most fundamental right.



A Parish's Special Day

Father John Okoro's Installation as Pastor of Saint Lawrence Parish with Bishop Medley took place at Mass on Sunday, Sept. 29th at St. William. Fr. John said he had never taken part in an installation Mass before. The parish hosted a reception potluck for Father John following the Mass at St. Lawrence Parish Hall. He really enjoyed his special day. Photo by Larena Lawson

Fr. Pat Reynolds's Discovers Paw Paws

PADUCAH, Ky. - Father Pat Reynolds on discovering Paw Paws: "I had never seen a paw paw tree or pawpaw fruit in my life until several weeks ago when someone showed me some trees in local woods (although Sr. Mary Georgiana in first grade taught us to sing 'picking up paw paws put 'em in your pocket way down yonder in the paw paw patch'). Anyway, they are the largest fruit native to North America and have been nicknamed the custard apple, or hobo fruit or the poor man's banana. They have a banana/mango like taste."

Fr. Brandon Williams was brave enough to take the pulp and make some paw paw ice cream in the rectory recently. (His homemade ice cream is as good as the Bishop's - but don't tell him). Ask Fr. Brandon about his delicious culinary creation!



Above, Fr. Pat Reynolds's collected these paw paws at a recent St. Mary Cross Country meet.

Photo at left, Fr. Brandon Williams makes ice cream from the paw paws Fr. Pat collected. Story and photos Submitted by Missy Eckenberg

**Marriage Celebrations for November
Anniversaries of 25, 40, 50 and over 50
years of Marriage**

Blessed Mother, Owensboro

Kenneth & Alice Cole, 54
David & Jerri Rudd, 51
Eldridge & Lois Owens, 57
Van & Shirley Brown, 40
Harry & Charlene Baumgarten, 57

Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro

Phillip & Joyce Moorman, 56
Christ the King, Madisonville
Alan & Cheryl Lutz, 25

Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson

Larry & Jane Denton, 54
Billy & Betty Gatten, 64
William & Sandra Haynes, 52
Bobby & Della May Martin, 56
Ralph & Jeannine O'Nan, 55
Tim & Ann Pike, 25

Holy Spirit, Bowling Green

Shawn & Toni O'Keefe, 25
Terry & Janet Porter, 25
Michael & Melissa Reid, 25
Joe & Judy Downing, 40
Randy & Jean Thompson, 52
Bernard & Lois Schwitzgebel, 54

Immaculate Conception, Hawesville

Rodney & Dana Gross, 25
William & Phyllis Emmick, 50

Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

Dan & Sherri Heckel, 25
Charles & Rebecca Higdon, 50
E. L. & Dianne Woodward, 50
Gene & Shirley Zoglmann, 53

Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro

James L. & Rebecca Lynn Horsman, 40
Francis Donald & Mary Beatrice
Blanford, Sr., 60
Charles Russell & Mary Jane Bowlds, 61
Thomas & Mary Louise Cecil, 63
Stewart G. & Barbara June Coomes, 59
James H. & Norma Hagan, 53
William Monroe & Martha A. Mills, 52
John & Patricia Mountain, 57
Robert Winfield & Marjorie Slack, 54
James Haymen & Marie Ward, 52
Thomas H. & Rosella C. Whitsett, 63

Precious Blood, Owensboro

Louis & Liz Cecil, 69
Charles & Shirley Merimee, 57
James & Doris Schrecker, 59

Sacred Heart, Hickman

Morrison & Paula McClure, 56
St. Agnes, Uniontown
Ross & Jane Thomas, 54
Gerald & Marilyn Greenwell, 52
Fred & Mary Evelyn Eckmans, 54
Larry & Nancy Hancock, 40

St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph

Richard & Nancy Blandford, 52
Bill & Daisy Gibson, 57
Murray & Jean Murphy, 62
Robert & Mary Ann Mattingly, 56

St. Ann, Morganfield

Denis & Gayle Hancock, 40
Harold & Kathy Thomas, 54

St. Anthony, Peonia

Arthur & Linda Pierce, 52

St. Augustine, Grayson Springs

John & Sue Mudd, 50
St. Augustine, Reed
William & Philomena Bollinger, 52
Paul & Tracy Miller, 25

St. Charles, Livermore

James & Margie Logsdon, 50

St. Columba, Lewisport

David G. & Beth Payne, 25

St. Edward, Fulton

Doug & Connie Lorton, 57
Bill & Jean Fenwick, 61

St. Francis Borgia, Sturgis

Paul & Bernadette Farr, 59
Fred & Rita Williamson, 65

St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

Hayvert & Catherine Sutton, 54
Charles W. & Bonnie Kortz, 51
Larry & Joyce Hooks, 54
Harry & Jane Junkerman, 40

St. Henry, Aurora

Les & Judy Jegenyess, 52
Anthony & Karin Kent, 41

St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

Jerry & Lyndia Elder, 50
Bernard & Wilma Hobbs, 64
Charles & Mary Ann Thomas, 55
Joseph & Magy Wilson, 65

St. John the Evangelist, Paducah

Glenn & Judy Smith, 50
Leroy & June Kaufman, 61
Francis & Dorothy Scheer, 59
Eddie & Rhonda Durbin, 25
George & Emma Bourgois, 59
Johnny & Louise Kaufman, 60
Bennie & Doris Durbin, 63

St. Joseph, Bowling Green

Stan & Cody Young, 51
James & Barbara Bowers, 54
William & Louise Moore, 60

St. Joseph, Central City

Jim & Mary Beyke, 54
Johnny & Rose Hopper, 40
St. Joseph, Mayfield
Howard & Rita Darnell, 50
John & Helen Riley, 57
Douglas & Hilda Webb, 65

St. Leo, Murray

Kenneth & Carolyn Ramsey, 55
Leonard & Elenore Lankford, 53
Vincent & Anne Beichner, 52
Scott & Michelle Orr, 25

St. Martin, Rome

James & Joan Johnson, 52
Larry & Sharon Gillim, 54

St. Mary, Franklin

Mark & Joyce Pais, 25
Harry & Mae King, 50

St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho

Bryan & Benita Drury, 25
Jim & Martha Kamuf, 50

St. Mary of the Woods, McQuady

Billy & Karla Mattingly, 25

St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Lou & Martine Boarman, 65
Gordon & Evelyn Millay,

J. W. & Mary Morris, 61

St. Michael, Oak Grove

Jerry & Diana Payne, 40

St. Peter, Stanley

George & Rose Mary Clark III, 52
Hugh & Betty Cecil, 61

Delbert & Shirley Fulkerson, 61

St. Peter, Waverly

George & Regina Vogel, 65
Darrell & Bernice Russelburg, 52

St. Pius Tenth, Calvert City

Jerry & Gayle Seay, 60

St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro

Sherman & Dolores Roberts, 50
Dennis & Charlotte Gatton, 54

St. Romuald, Hardinsburg

Jim & Sheila Sills, 40
Joe Paul & Phyllis Flood, 56
Wayne & Judy Hardesty, 51
Victor & Lillian Henning, 56

St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

Dennis & Beverly Cecil, 40
James & Jolene Hudson, 57
William E. & Jean Danhauer,
Gilbert & Theresa J. Moore, 56

St. Thomas More, Paducah

David & Cheryl Wallace, 25
Galen & Nicole Stegman, 40
Jim & Sharon Godec, 51
Jack & Vonnie Howard, 51
Wayne & Margaret Hagan, 55
George & Emma Bourgois, 59
George & Joanna McMinn, Sr., 59

St. William, Knottsville

Leon & Patricia Lanham, 56

Frankie & Elsie Lindsey, 57

St. William of Vercelli, Marion

George & Diane Sutton, 50

Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro

Joseph & Linda Boarman, 25
Wm. Sid & Anna Clark, 55
Donald & Martha Hare, 58
Charles & Florence Howard, 58

Richard & Rita Stiff, 58

Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

Arnold & Julia Borders, 58
Charles & Judy Folz, 52
Henry & Hannelore Kumpfmuller, 56
Thomas & Winnie Wilson, 61



**On October 4, 2013 Father
Ryan Harpole presided
for a pet blessing prayer
liturgy outside Saint
Leo Church in Murray.
Submitted Photo**

St. Jerome's Catholic Complex Approved to National Register of Historic Places November, 2013 29

St. Jerome Church in Fancy Farm and the St. Jerome School, along with the rectory, cemetery, former high school, junior high and cafeteria, have been approved by the Kentucky Heritage Preservation Review Board to be nominated to National Register of Historic Places. The application was approved on September 25 and will now be submitted to the National Park Service in Washington, D.C. for their final approval, which should occur within 60 – 90 days.

On August 3rd, the date of the 133rd St. Jerome Fancy Farm Picnic, the second phase of renovation work at St. Jerome School was dedicated with a ribbon cutting, before the official start of the picnic. Attached are photos of the event at the school. Members of the renovation committee, John Carrico, Andy Elliott, Gayla Elliott, Billy Higdon, Father David Willett, Denis Wilson, along with donors and other supporters, watched as Father Darrell Venters, Pastor of St. Jerome Church at Fancy Farm, cut the ribbon on the steps of the school to dedicate the newly renovated facility (see photo). Sisters of Charity of Nazareth nuns Sister Rachael Willett and Sister Dorothy Wilson were on



hand to greet visitors and assist with tours. During the day over 500 people toured and visited the school and remarked at how wonderful the renovated rooms looked and the school memories that came flooding back to them while going through the school. Pictures of past senior classes adorned the hallway and inside the reference library room, while the old second grade classroom provided a view of old desks, flags, maps, old school

pictures, the ABCs on a green background, and a nun mannequin (see photo) in full black and white habit by the teacher's desk ready to begin class for the day. Donor plaques and pictures of Father Charles Haeseley, who had St. Jerome School built in 1909, along with St. Jerome, a scholar and translator of the Bible, also greeted visitors as they came through the front entrance. Along the left side of the hallway pictures of previous pastors at St. Jerome Church and Sisters of Charity of Nazareth hang as a tes-

tament to the enduring facility built by our ancestors over 100 years ago. Thanks go out to our many financial supporters and donors, those who worked on the renovation and donated their time and talent so generously, and the contractors who assisted in the renovation. Planning on Phase 3 of the project has already started.

Submitted by John W. Carrico, Member St. Jerome Renovation Committee and Chairman of St. Jerome Finance Committee



Father Darrell Venters cuts the ribbon with the St. Jerome Renovation Committee in front of the St. Jerome School building on August 3, 2013. Father David Willett, a Fancy Farm native son and priest of the Diocese of Owensboro, is at left in the second row. The committee raised over \$200,000 in private donations to stabilize and renovate the school – which they have now done. Additionally, subsequent to the August 3 picnic, as a part of the renovation work, the parish committee submitted the entire 17.5 acres of the St. Jerome Complex to the Kentucky Heritage Council which was approved by the Kentucky Heritage Preservation Review Board to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Photos submitted by John W. Carrico.

The Ursuline Sisters help people become who God intends them to be.

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Ask Sister Rose Karen about her life as an Ursuline Sister. To learn more, visit www.ursulinesmsj.org.

Contact Sister Martha Keller, Director of Vocation Ministry: 270-229-4104

martha.keller@maplemount.org



Ursuline Sisters
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Greetings from Baní

By Father Stan Puryear

Normally I would mention something about living in Hurricane Alley to begin this article, but this year has been exceptionally quiet. If you hear that I was blown away by a large storm before this goes to print, please try not to enjoy the irony too much. The bad part of not having a hurricane season is that our aquifers are down, so we're going to have a difficult year regarding water.

After the decision was made three years ago that I would come to the Dominican Republic, one idea that most excited me was that I would finally be able to have a bougainvillea plant in my yard. Little did I realize that there would be two large red bougainvillea plants in front of my house. Each morning, every day of the year, as the dogs go about their morning ablutions and vocal exercises, I sip on an espresso while saying morning prayers, with the view of the colorful plants always present. For those who are not familiar with the Bougainvillea glabra, the plant native to South America was discovered by Europeans in 1789 and subsequently carried around the globe to areas without frost. The plant is drought and disease resistant and has some of the meanest thorns one can imagine that attack viciously when the plant is pruned.

In the case of the front yard of the Iglesia Santiago Apóstol, the bougainvillea are planted next to moringa trees. For those not familiar with Moringa oleifera, that particular plant native to Asia and Africa is a tree with delicate white flowers and whose leaves, flowers, and seeds hold the secrets of cures for any illness that might possibly affect human beings. So wonderful are its medicinal properties that Fidel Castro attributes to it his longevity and shared some with Hugo Chavez, who at the time was in Cuba being treated for cancer. For a while, the tree in front of the house was being stripped of its leaves, even though people had to brave the thorns of the bougainvillea who thought it was in danger of being pruned. But after Hugo passed away, the tree has recovered from those who followed in the tradition of Ponce de Leon. In truth, the leaves are full of vitamins and can be washed and eaten in a salad with lettuce that has been soaked in a mixture of water and bleach overnight (to kill all the nasty

dysentery-causing creatures).

Traditional medicines and herbal remedies are very important in the third world, and many people swear by their



Gathering for Mass at our newest Chapel, Saint Catherine of Siena. Reunidos para la Misa en nuestra capilla más nueva, la Capilla Santa Catalina de Siena. Foto por Padre Stan Puryear.

properties. In some instances, the plants actually do have curative effects, whereas the benefits of others have been disproven. Though anyone here can receive attention without cost in a public hospital, that does not necessarily mean persons will have money for the prescriptions. And that can be much more problematic than one in the first world might expect. For example: if a hospital is out of intravenous solutions to combat dehydration caused by dysentery, the doctor writes a prescription that a family member would take to a pharmacy to be filled, then return to the hospital with the medication, at which point it would be administered at the hospital. In many cases, the family also has to pay for the needle and tubes. Caritas International, part of the Catholic Church, works here (and in 200 other countries worldwide) helps in those instances. In the Diocese of Baní, Caritas International especially concentrates on establishing dispensaries in the diocese to provide basic medicines at low cost.

In the past three years, Caritas has opened two such dispensaries in the Parish of Santiago Apóstol. Staffed by volunteers, the dispensaries provide aspirin, cold medicine, antibiotics, parasite remedies, blood pressure medications, and other basic medications. In the event more powerful and/or more expensive

Continued on page 31

Saludos de Baní.

Por Padre Stan Puryear

Normalmente quisiera mencionar

algo sobre la vida en Hurricane Alley (Carretera de Huracanes) para comenzar este artículo, pero este año ha sido extraordinariamente tranquilo. Si se oye que fui impactado por una tormenta grande antes de que esto salga, pido que no mencionen la ironía. La parte mala de no tener una temporada de huracanes es que nuestros acuíferos son vacíos, así que vamos a tener un año difícil con respecto al agua.

Después de que la decisión fue tomada hace tres años que de venir a la República Dominicana, una idea que más me emocionaba era que finalmente sería capaz de tener una planta de buganvilla en mi patio. Uno puede imaginar la felicidad que tuve en descubrir dos grandes buganvillas rojas frente a mi casa. Cada mañana, cada día del año, mientras los perros cumplen sus deberes físicas y hacen sus ejercicios vocales en tratar a despertar a los vecinos, tomo un café, digo mis oraciones de la mañana, y disfruto las coloridas plantas siempre presentes. Para los que no están familiarizados con la Bougainvillea glabra, la planta nativa de Suramérica fue descubierta por los europeos en 1789 y posteriormente llevaron a todo el mundo para zonas sin heladas. La planta no es afectada por la sequía y es resistente a la enfermedad. Además, tiene unas espinas rabiosas que usa para atacar a uno que trata de cortar la planta.

En el caso del jardín de la Iglesia Santiago Apóstol, son plantadas las buganvillas junto a árboles de moringa. La Moringa oleifera, originaria de Asia y África, es un árbol con delicadas flores blancas y cuyas hojas, flores y semillas contienen los secretos de curar cualquier enfermedad que posiblemente pudieran afectar a los seres humanos. Sus propiedades medicinales son las que Fidel Castro se atribuye su longevidad, hasta que compartió algunas con Hugo Chávez, quien en ese momento estaba en Cuba recibiendo tratamiento para el cáncer. Por un tiempo, el árbol frente a la casa estaba despojado de sus hojas, aunque la gente tenía que sufrir las espinas de las buganvillas que pensaba que estaba en peligro su planta. Pero después de que Hugo falleció, el árbol se ha recuperado de quienes siguieron la tradición de Ponce de León. En verdad, las hojas están llenas de vitaminas y las lavo y las pongo en ensalada con lechuga que ha estado en remojo en una mezcla de agua y lejía durante la noche (para matar todos los desagradables causantes de la disentería).

Las medicinas tradicionales y los remedios herbarios son muy importantes en el tercer mundo, y muchas personas juran por sus propiedades. En algunos casos, las plantas en realidad tienen efectos curativos, mientras que los beneficios de otros han sido refutados. Aunque todos puede recibir atención sin costo en un hospital público, eso no significa necesariamente que las personas tendrán dinero para las prescripciones. Y eso puede ser mucho más problemática de lo que uno descubre en los países desarrollados. Por ejemplo: Si un hospital no tiene soluciones intravenosas para combatir la deshidratación causada por la disentería, el médico escribe una receta que un miembro de la familia le lleve a una farmacia para comprar, luego regresa al hospital con la medicación, en cuyo momento se administraría en el hospital. En muchos casos, la familia también tiene que pagar por las agujas y tubos. Caritas International, parte de la iglesia católica, trabaja aquí (y en 200 países en todo el mundo) ayudando en esas instancias. En la diócesis de Baní, Caritas Internacional se concentra especialmente en el establecimiento de dispensarios en la diócesis para proporcionar medicamentos básicos a bajo costo.

En los últimos tres años, Caritas ha abierto dos dispensarios en la parroquia

Continúa en la página 31

Greetings from Baní.

drugs are needed that Caritas cannot provide, family members pool resources to purchase medications or, if that is not possible, people simply go without needed medication. For example: due to the lack of dependable electricity for refrigeration and unreliable supply chains, we are unable to provide insulin – a situation that has resulted in untimely and unpleasant deaths. My heart aches horribly every time I much perform such a funeral, because I realize that it could be so different.

As if the medical system here in the country is not complicatedly cruel enough, last month I had the privilege of attempting the labyrinth of the Dominican justice system. A young misguided teen neighbor was discovered in my house hiding under the bed one Saturday morning as I returned home after a brief errand. It seems he was looking for things to sell, including my cell phone and a couple of microphones that are used in the church. In a neighboring town the week before (a town not in my parish but still within the diocese), a thief caught in the act was promptly beaten to death by a group of neighbors and his body was dumped in the irrigation ditch.

At this point, I should state for the record: I would never beat anyone to death and dump the body in the irrigation ditch; the water supply for my house comes from that irrigation ditch and the filters on the water lines were bypassed years ago. Nevertheless, I can sympathize with the frustrated neighbors who took matters into their own hands. The police at least attempted to not appear totally indifferent, whereas the folks at the juvenile prosecutor's office took indifference to an entirely new level. Eventually, I spoke politely with the father of the young man, as did a few other neighbors whose houses had been robbed. The father decided it was in the best interests of all involved to take his son and move to a different town. And again for the record: no one threatened anyone, but the word "rigolón" (irrigation ditch) somehow did work its way into the conversation.

Sometimes I have to pray for forgiveness as I'm contemplating the beauty of the bougainvillea in the mornings.

Saludos de Baní.

Santiago Apóstol. Atendidos por personal voluntario, los dispensarios ofrecen aspirina, medicinas para el resfriado, antibióticos, remedios de parásitos, medicamentos para la presión arterial y otros medicamentos básicos. En los casos donde haya necesidad de drogas más caras que Caritas no tiene disponible, miembros de la familia usan sus recursos para la compra. Si aún todavía no hay suficiente recursos, uno no compra la medicina. Por ejemplo: debido a la falta de electricidad confiable para refrigeración y cadenas de suministro confiable, somos incapaces de proporcionar insulina – una situación que ha dado lugar a la muerte prematura y desagradable. Me duele del corazón cada vez que entierro una persona que se ha muerto así, porque me doy cuenta de que podía ser tan diferente.

Como si el sistema médico aquí en el país no es complicado bastante cruel, el mes pasado tuve el privilegio de intentar el laberinto del sistema judicial dominicano. Un joven vecino adolescente descarrado fue descubierto en mi casa escondida debajo de la cama un sábado por la mañana cuando regresé después de una breve diligencia. Parece que estaba buscando cosas para vender, incluyendo mi teléfono celular y un par de micrófonos que se utilizan en la iglesia. En un pueblo vecino la semana anterior (un pueblo no está en mi parroquia pero todavía dentro de la diócesis), un ladrón sorprendido en el acto con prontitud mataron a golpes por un grupo de vecinos y su cuerpo fue arrojado en la acequia (lo que aquí se llama "la rigola").

En este punto, debo declarar para que conste: no estoy de acuerdo con la justicia vigilante, especialmente cuando es tirado el cuerpo del delincuente en la rigola. El agua para mi casa viene de esa zanja de irrigación y los filtros de las líneas de agua se quebraron desde hace muchos años. Sin embargo, puedo simpatizar con los vecinos frustrados que tomaron el asunto en sus propias manos. La policía intentó al menos no aparecer totalmente indiferente, mientras que la gente de la Fiscalía de Menores llevó indiferencia a un nivel completamente nuevo. Finalmente, hablé educadamente con el padre del joven, junto con unos más vecinos cuyas casas habían sido robadas. Su padre decidió que era en el mejor interés de todos los involucrados mudarse con su hijo se a una ciudad diferente. Y otra vez para que conste: nadie amenazó a nadie, pero la palabra "rigola" sí entró en la conversación dos o tres veces.

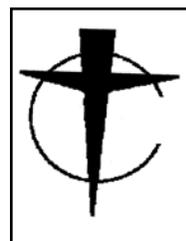
A veces tengo que pedir perdón mien-

tras contemplo la belleza de la buganvilla en las mañanas.



November, 2013 31

**View from behind the altar at St. Catherine of Sienna Chapel
Vista de atrás del altar de la Capilla Santa Catalina de Sienna**



Thank you to all the Priests, Deacons, and Sisters who Have served us as Spiritual Advisors.

The Cursillo community would like to thank all the Priests, Deacons, and Sisters who have given of their time, talents, and treasures of love to our Cursillo weekends. There are too many to name individually and I would not want to leave anyone out. They have given tirelessly of their time and energy to participate in our weekends. Before the weekend happens, we begin to form a team and have formation meetings. At the last of these meetings, the Spiritual Advisor has a retreat time set up to pray with us and have a Reconciliation service to complete our formation as a team.

On Thursday evening, we begin with a silent retreat period in the Chapel with the Blessed Sacrament. The priest begins with the first meditation--Know Thyself- how you are. We have the Way of the Cross and the second meditation is--The Prodigal Son- how Christ is. An examination of conscience follows; then the Priest or Priests begin the Reconciliation period when we feel the joyous forgiveness of Christ.

Friday morning begins with prayers and the third meditation--The Three Glances of Christ-how Christ sees you. The Mass is celebrated and during the Peace sign, silence is over. A Spiritual Advisor, priest or deacon, or Sister presents the talk on Habitual Grace. Later the talk is on Actual Grace. The Spiritual Advisors give a total of 5 of the talks. After the Rosary and Dinner, we go to the chapel for night prayers and an Examination of Conscience and Confessions.

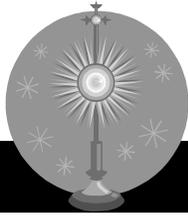
Saturday begins with prayers and Devotions to the Blessed Mother before the fourth meditation--The Person of Christ-how you should see Christ. During the day, there are breaks from the talks, and time for visits to the Blessed Sacrament. Mass is celebrated and the homily is on the last section of the Sacraments talk. The talks go on with breaks and visits with the Spiritual Advisors. We have the Rosary in the chapel and chapel visits for each group of candidates. Later, we have night prayers, and Confessions.

Sunday arrives with song and morning prayers and the fifth meditation--Christ's Message to the Cursillistas--how Christ loves you. The Spiritual Advisors give one of the last talks on--Life in Grace. Later, after all talks have been given, we go to Church for the Closing of the weekend which involves an Apostolic Commitment Service and Benediction.

The Priests, Deacons, and Sisters give so generously of their time to see that the candidates have an unforgettable weekend of Jesus's love and concern for them as individuals. This community of priests, deacons, and religious can never be thanked enough for their commitment to a lifetime of giving their lives for Christ. May many more feel the love of Christ in Cursillo as the Catholic movement continues to love and strengthen our faith. If you feel called to be a Spiritual Advisor for Cursillo, please call Mary Hagan at 270-240-4778.

Eucharistic Adoration 1 p.m.- 5 p.m.

2nd Sunday of the month



The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph invite you to join us for Eucharistic Adoration on the second Sunday of the month to pray for vocations. Our next date is **Sunday, Nov. 10.**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is from 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. at the **Motherhouse Chapel** (located 12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56). Adoration will conclude with evening prayer. Those unable to attend are asked to pray for new members to hear the call to the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph or a vocation within the church.



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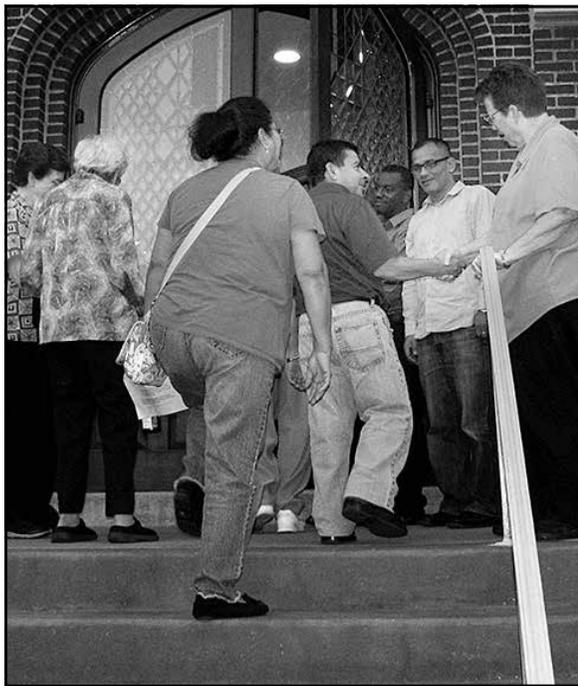
Immigration Reform Prayer Service Oct. 3

An Immigration Reform prayer service took place at 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 3, 2013 at the Mount Saint Joseph Motherhouse Chapel. "Prayer for Reform," leading to compassionate and comprehensive immigration legislation, was a public prayer service with music and readings and Scripture. The IMMIGRANT litany of readings was from "In the Migrant Journey," written by Saulo Padilla, the director of the Office on Immigration Education.

The Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center in Cincinnati asked religious communities that are members of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious to host a public prayer service between Sept. 9 and Oct. 18, the dates LCWR has called for prayer and fasting for humane reform.

The prayer service by the Ursuline Sisters also supports the effort of the Most Rev. William Medley, bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro, to urge Congress to pass just immigration reform.

Sharon Sullivan expressed during her reflection at the event: "Truly, we are challenged and called by the tenets of our faith and by the witness and experiences of our



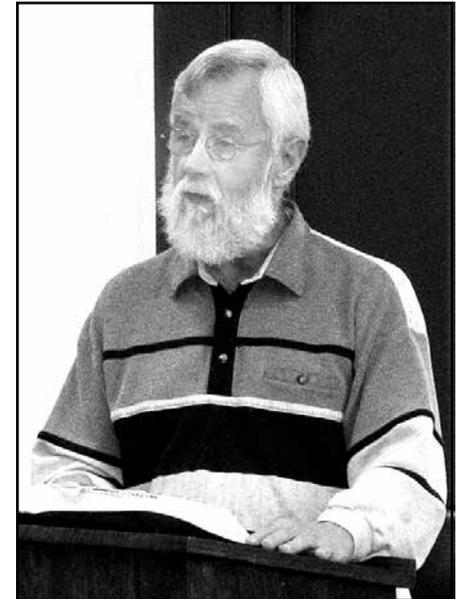
Congregational Leader Sister Sharon Sullivan, right, greets visitors as they enter the Motherhouse Chapel for the Oct. 3 Immigration Reform prayer service.

Diocesan Priests' Retreat

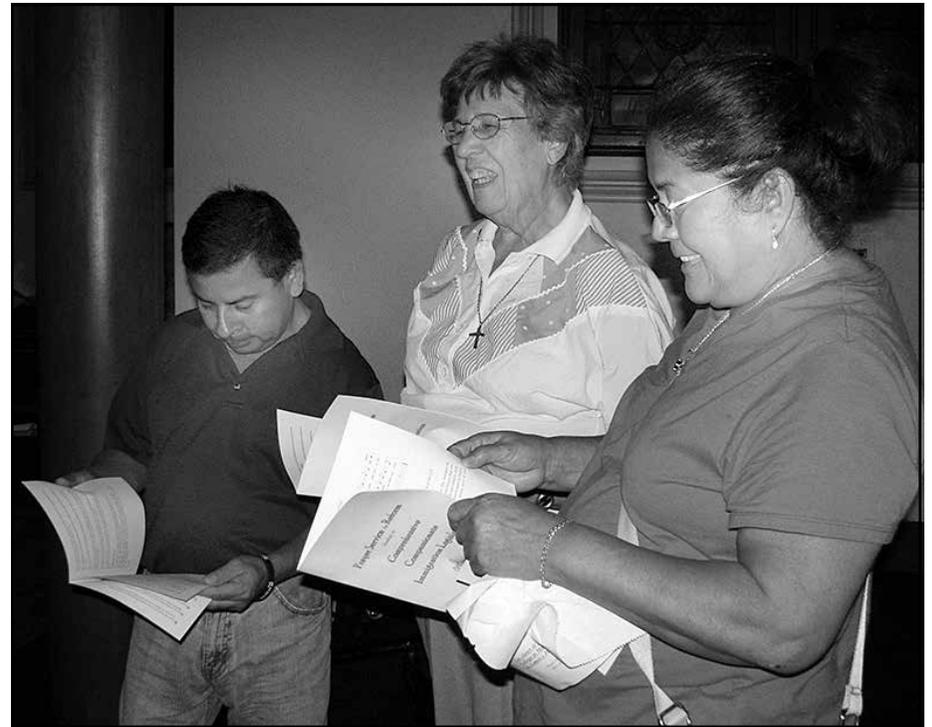
Nearly 20 priests from the Diocese of Owensboro gathered at the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center the week of Sept. 30 to Oct. 4 for a retreat with Father Eugene Hensell, OSB, a Benedictine monk of Saint Meinrad Archabbey.

Father Hensell is an associate professor of scripture at Saint Meinrad and has been engaged in full-time retreat work since 1997. For the past 20 years, he has been a contributing writer for *Week-day and Sunday Homily Hints*.

His topic for the diocesan priests was "Ministering to a Church in Conflict: Pastoral Reflections on the Letters and Theology of Saint Paul."



Father Eugene Hensell, OSB, discusses his topic on the morning of Oct. 1 in Conference Room B.



Sister Luisa Bickett, center, smiles as she greets Leonel Interiano, left, and Ofelia Villegas, right, to the Immigration Reform prayer service. Sister Luisa taught in Chile from 1965-74 and was a pastoral minister there from 1975-83. MSJ Photos

brothers and sisters seeking some sign of welcome and of recognition. We recognize an urgent duty to stand in solidarity with all humanity seeking at least a reasonable life; we accept that it is our urgent duty to stand in solidarity with the fundamentals of our faith – the belief in the great truth that we are – each of us – beloved children of the one God...

"We ask that you make every effort to continue this prayer and awareness beyond tonight... Pledge yourself each day to undertake ...prayer, fasting, conversation, advocacy. Let us each commit to continue the eternal reform of our hearts."

JumpStart Program Gives Children A Head Start In School

By Susan O'Bryan

A recent JumpStart Reading Program was conducted over a four week period at West Louisville Elementary School in West Daviess County. Sponsored by the school's Family Resource Center BridgeWay, the program was funded through a CCHD grant. The program provided tutoring after school for English Language Learners with the goal being to develop and improve language and reading skills for migrant children of low-income and non-traditional families.

The program was implemented for the first time and used positive role models and skilled tutors from the community, including those from area parishes and a number of the Ursuline Sisters. The children in the ELL group had exposure to fun and educational reading/language activities and were able to be involved in a program after school they do not normally have an opportunity to participate in. The program also taught socialization skills and manners and improved the children's self-esteem. They received the extra attention they desperately needed in the educational setting and helped them start the school year with more confidence in the classroom.

Tutors pictured: Chris Gutierrez, Sister Susanne Bauer, Pedro Gonzalez, Julie King, Carvella Whorley, Don Peters, Beth Satterly & Allie Lindow; **Tutors Not Pictured:** Lissa Alls, Sister George Mary Hagan, Sister Julia Head, Sister Sharon Sullivan, Sister Luisa Bickett, Sister Mary Gerald Payne; **Students Pictured:** Adolfo Pascual, Carlos Diaz, Yaneyri Diaz, Araceli Pascual, Elena Tomas, Valentin Jimenez,



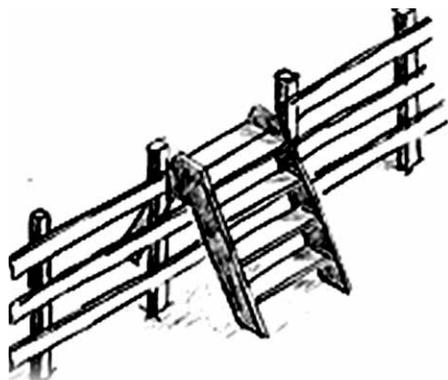
Brayan Pascual, Anahi Juarez, Jose Juarez, Maximo Morales, Ricardo Morales, Angelina Hernandez, Ashley Velasquez, Gabriel Ramirez, Alex Hernandez, & Jose Hernandez; Students Not Pictured: Gonzalez Tomas, & Amadeo Torres. Submitted Photo

Bishop Medley Blesses The Newly Renovated Hall For Saint Michael Parish

St. Michael Catholic Church in Sebree, KY recently completed a Parish Hall Renovation to upgrade the electrical system, replace the HVAC system, add duct work and more storage space and remodel the kitchen area. Through the hard work and generosity of parishioners, Blessed Mother Church, and Catholic Extension Society, what seemed an impossible task became a reality. On the feast day of St. Michael, September 29, 2013, Bishop Medley came to bless the newly renovated hall and help celebrate the accomplishment of this small, rural multicultural parish.



Photos by Patti Gutierrez and Jeanie Davis.



Unified in Giving Thanks

By Deacon Terry Larbes

Although every day should be a day of giving thanks and counting my blessings Thanksgiving heightens my awareness and gratitude for my blessings. There are many blessings for which I should give thanks to God. The blessings crowd around me. There is one blessing in particular that I truly value. I was blessed to be in St. Peter's Square for Pope Francis's first Angelus on March 17th and his Inaugural Mass on March 19th. I was one of several hundred thousand but one in unity with several hundred thousand because everyone came with a common purpose.

On March 17th Pope Francis addressed the people in St. Peter's Square as "Brothers and Sisters". He then in his opening statement said, "*This is beautiful and important for us Christians: to meet on Sundays, to greet each other, to speak to each other as we are doing now,*



March 17th at 11 am waiting for Pope Francis to begin his first Angelus as pope. The flags on the right are Syrian; it is sad to see what their country has experienced in recent months.

in the square." Pope Francis simply accepted us as Brothers and Sisters; he did not identify the various Christian faiths represented in the crowd. We were Christians ... together on a Sunday. In unity we came to the Square of St. Peter's.

Thanksgiving is elevated as a day of giving thanks in America because it is a national holiday. The norm for Thanksgiving is to gather as families, friends,

and community to give thanks. Almost every community has ecumenical or inter-faith worship services during the Thanksgiving Holiday, it is an opportunity to *meet ... greet ... speak to each other.* When Pope Francis began his Petrine Ministry in March a broad representation of the world made their way to St Peter's Square. The world is not always going to come to our "Square". Sometimes we need to go forth from our Square to *meet ... to greet ... to speak to each other.*

When we come together during the Thanksgiving Holiday:

Will we merely *speak to each other* of football, parades, and overstuffed meals?

Can we *speak to each other* of --- all of God's works gives thanks?

We can *speak to each other* in unity.

On March 19th which was the feast of St Joseph Pope Francis' explained that just as St Joseph was the protector of Mary and Jesus so do we have a vocation to be a protector.

"The vocation of being a "protector", however, is not just something involving us Christians alone; it also has a prior dimension which is simply human... It means protecting all creation, the beauty of the created world... It means respecting each of God's creatures and



March 19th at 4 am waiting to get into St. Peter's Square for the Inaugural Mass.

respecting the environment in which we live. It means protecting people, showing loving concern for each and every person, especially children, the elderly, those in need, ... It means caring for one another in our families ... It means building sincere friendships in which we protect one another in trust, respect, and goodness."

Our vocation as a *protector* brings insight to helping and volunteering. When we provide food, shelter, or clothing we recognize the dignity of each life and are taking steps to protect the dignity of life. When we volunteer to clean up the neighborhood or the downtown area we are respecting what God has given us. We are protecting the resources that God has given us. As we volunteer to help others we will be living out *the vocation of being a protector.*

During Thanksgiving we will give thanks as we take our places around the family table. Thanksgiving, also, provides us opportunities to participate in the community services. Together as a community unified in giving thanks, we can pray:

"All your works give you thanks, LORD, and your faithful bless you." (Ps 145:10)

NOTE: The words in italics are from Pope Francis' March 17 address or his March 19 homily.

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Ever dreamed of going to Italy?

Join us for 12 days in October, 2014

Come on a fascinating journey, from the beauty of Tuscany, and Assisi, to the Mediterranean coast villages of Cinquetera, to Florence, and finally 6 days and nights in Rome, near the Vatican. St. Mary Magdalene Parish, in cooperation with Faith In Travel, is preparing for a very special travel experience, one in which we can enrich our faith, absorb Italy's history and rich culture, and so much more... The tour price, without air (based on dbl. occ.): \$2,655, Sept. 29 to Oct. 10, 2014

All are welcome! We are planning a year in advance, so there is time to make that dream of Italy a reality! Rev. Mark A. Buckner, is chaplain for the trip. For your questions and to give you the details: 270-771-4436 or mbuckner@stmarymagd.org



Sister Jean Gertrude Mudd, OSU, Died Oct. 13, 2013

Maple Mount — Sister Jean Gertrude Mudd, 92, an Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph, died Oct. 13, 2013, at Mount Saint Joseph, in her 72nd year of religious life. She was a native of Fredericktown.

An educator for 49 years, Sister Jean Gertrude was "little but mighty" and always encouraged her young students to learn. She began making beautiful quilts in 1996 and continued until her retirement. She taught at Sts.

Joseph and Paul School, Owensboro, 1967-73, and served in health care at Mount Saint Joseph, 1980-84. She also taught elsewhere in Kentucky, in Missouri and Nebraska.

Survivors include two sisters, Geneva Mudd, Springfield, and Gertrude Nally, Bardstown; three brothers, Thomas Mudd and Joseph A. Mudd, Springfield, and Bernard Mudd, Bardstown; nieces and nephews, and the members of her religious community.

The funeral Mass was Oct. 17 at Mount Saint Joseph, with burial in the convent cemetery. Glenn Funeral Home and Crematory, Owensboro, was in charge of arrangements. Memorial gifts for Sister Jean Gertrude Mudd may take the form of donations to the An Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, 8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, KY 42356.

St. Vincent de Paul "Centering on Service" Capital Campaign



Currently a plan is underway to consolidate the current stores and warehouse into one centrally located St. Vincent de Paul Center. This center is located at 18th and Daviess Streets in Owensboro. It will serve as a hub for activities including Thrift Shop operations, donor drop off, warehousing and outreach. Give what you can today, and we will reinvest it wisely for the needy.

Please send your investment to:
St. Vincent de Paul
1205 W. 9th St.
Owensboro, KY 42301
270-683-0062



www.svdpusa.org

"Help us help others! Invest in St. Vincent de Paul"

"Thomas Merton Never was a Senior Citizen" A One-Day Retreat Saturday, Nov. 16



Retreat Directors:
Father Anthony Shonis
Sister Mary Matthias Ward
8 a.m. – 4 p.m.



This retreat day includes "Prayer and Meditation on Growing Old," talks about Thomas Merton at various ages/stages in his life and a closing service.

To register, contact Kathy McCarty
270-229-0206 • kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org

The \$25 fee
includes lunch.

A flyer can be found
at ursulinesmsj.org
under Conference &
Retreat Center



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999
270-229-4103
www.ursulinesmsj.org
info.msjs@ursulinesmsj.org

Indian batiks, prints on display at Saint Meinrad Archabbey Library

Saint Meinrad Archabbey Library Gallery, St. Meinrad, IN, will host an exhibit of batiks and woodblock prints by Indian artist Dr. Solomon P. Raj. The exhibit will be on display from October 17 through December 20.

Raj is a native of Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, India. Now 93 years old, he is still operating the St. Luke Kalit Lala Ashram that teaches how to communicate the gospel in dance, drama, poetry and visual art. His lifelong passion has been to visualize biblical stories within an Indian context.

Of particular importance in his art has been the affirmation of women, the disenfranchised and refugees. These are represented by the Dalit caste (untouchable), of which he is a member. Many of his works use seldom-illustrated themes, such as sharing a cup of water (Matt. 10:42), Hagar abandoned (Gen. 21:14), and Jeremiah's yoke (Jer. 27-28).

Raj is an ordained minister of the Lutheran Church of Andhra Pradesh. He has a master's degree in communication from Indiana University at Bloomington and a PhD in communication from the University of Birmingham, United Kingdom.

For library hours, call (812) 357-6401



Artwork by Dr. Solomon P. Raj is called "Jonah in Extremis."

or (800) 987-7311, or visit the Archabbey Library's website: www.saintmeinrad.edu/library/hours/.

The exhibit is free and open to the public. Those wishing to view the exhibit may want to arrive at least 30 minutes before closing time.

St. Thomas More Rosary Garden Club Becomes a New Ministry



Artist Linda Ogden describes the process of creating the bas relief as Ana Sredl holds a completed tile.

PADUCAH, Ky. - When the Acts of Mercy Chapel was nearly complete at St. Thomas More Parish, Fr. J. Patrick Reynolds approached the Arts and Furnishing Committee with a vision for a simple garden that would be enjoyed from inside the chapel as well as from outside. It was to be available for quiet meditation and was referred to during the building phase as the Meditation Garden.

As the garden developed with the fountain, green space, benches, and beautiful bronze statue, Holy Family, parishioners began to approach Fr. Pat and the committee about the possibility of adding the Mysteries of the Rosary within the garden. Committee members researched similar gardens and discovered a local artist who could design tiles of each mystery that would be attached to the walls inside the garden.

As the artist considered how to create the Mysteries of the Rosary for this very special space, it was decided that the use of bas relief images would bring the images alive and tie with the design elements found within the chapel of the art pieces Pieta and Wedding at Cana. As the garden began reflecting the components of the Rosary, Fr. Pat agreed that the space would be used for prayer and

meditation, but would have a new name to reflect the images within and would now be known as The Rosary Garden.

On Wednesday, October 9, 2013 the St. Thomas More Rosary Garden Club officially kicked off their new ministry with a wine and cheese reception to welcome those who wanted to participate in this ministry. Artist Linda Ogden was on hand with one of the completed tiles to talk about the creation process and what it has meant to her spiritually to work on these pieces for the garden.

The goals of the Rosary Garden group are to promote fellowship, raise funds for the maintenance of the garden, maintain the garden for prayer and reflection, and perpetuate the Rosary in the hearts of its members. Members will meet the first Monday of each month and begin with the praying of the Rosary at 1 p.m. All levels of gardeners are welcomed to join in support of this beautiful addition to St. Thomas More.

Charter Rosary Garden Club members L to R Phyllis Stovesand, Cyndi Dickens, Karen Petter, and Janet Colgan work to manicure the restful place of prayer. Story and photos submitted by Missy Eckenberg



Join our Spinners Weekend!
Nov. 15-17, 2013



Whether you are an experienced spinner, weaver, knitter, crocheter or a beginner, you are welcome to attend the Arts at the Mount spinning gatherings at Mount Saint Joseph (located 12 miles west of Owensboro on Highway 56).

Enjoy the fellowship of those who appreciate this traditional skill.

The group plans to "spin, knit and talk until we're done!"

For information on room rates, costs, etc., or to register, contact Kathy McCarty: 270-229-0206

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org • www.ursulinesmsj.org

Future dates: Jan. 4, March 7-9 (weekend retreat), May 10



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999

Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph 2013-2014 Quilt Club Tickets ARE STILL AVAILABLE!



License No. 0290

Sister Ruth Mattingly

You get multiple chances to win a handmade quilt with our Quilt Club annual memberships, available for only \$20 each.

Buy one for yourself and one for a friend!

A new quilt is raffled each month.

For details, visit www.ursulinesmsj.org, click on "Help the Sisters," then "Quilt Club."

Get 10 chances to win a quilt if you sign up by Dec. 5.
ORDER YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

270-229-4103 ext. 448 • april.ray@maplemount.org

An Inspired Life

On Friday, 9/20/13 a Walk-a-Thon was held to help raise funds for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation at St. Mary Elementary School. The students and staff were inspired by Marina Singler, a 2nd grader who has been living with Type 1 Diabetes for 3 years. Marina gave a speech to St. Mary Middle and High School students about what it's like living with Diabetes and encouraged them to help support JDRF, too. In her speech Marina wrote, "I can't just eat a cupcake whenever I want to...I don't like Diabetes, but it makes me special." Submitted by Carrie Gottschalk Singler



Angela and the Gift of Contemplation

"Angela and the Gift of Contemplation" drew 15 people to the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center on Aug. 17, as Sister Ann McGrew explained Saint Angela Merici's dual role in living both a contemplative and apostolic life.



Sister Ann McGrew, right, director of the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center, talks with Ursuline Associate Melissa Tuley, left, during the daylong retreat. Also pictured, from left, are Irene Parker, Don Parker, Melanie Odom-Groh, Chris Kormelink, Joyce Kormelink and Jim Sauer.

Join us for Catholic Catechism

Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center is offering an opportunity to study the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults. You are welcome to attend any or all sessions.



DATES:

- Nov. 14
- Dec. 5
- Jan. 9

Study the
Catechism
with us!

One Thursday each month

10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Each session is \$10 (includes lunch)

A program book is \$5

LEADERS: Sister Ann McGrew, OSU & Sister Marietta Wethington, OSU

To register, call
Kathy McCarty
(270) 229-0206
or email
kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999

Located 12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56

Working diligently on their mandalas are, from left, Joyce Kormelink, Chris Kormelink, Kim Hester, Jim Sauer and Joan Perry. A mandala is a form of meditation and prayer taken from Eastern religions. When everyone finished, they described the spiritual significance of their work.
MSJ Photos



There and Back Again: An Arabic Tale

By Grace Babbs

For seven weeks this summer, I found myself living in the awe-inspiring city of Amman, Jordan through an opportunity spotlighted by the Gatton Academy. The National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y) is a scholarship through the US State Department to instruct students in critical languages through complete immersion. The experience serves to teach linguistic skills, cultural awareness and to promote international dialogue.

The immersive language experience is unlike any other language program. When I arrived in-country, I could say nothing more than, "Hello, my name is Grace" and count to ten. Over the course of the summer, I developed situational language skills organically, rather than in the classroom setting instead of sitting at my desk hunched over textbook learning vocabulary. I learned the language by haggling over prices with shopkeepers, giving directions back to my apartment to taxi drivers, and writing down my host mom's recipes to share with my family when I returned home.

In addition to our real-world language experience, we spent four hours a day in the classroom studying the nuances of the Arabic language. We were taught by native scholars. On the weekends, we took excursions to the surrounding countryside to study Arab history and culture and appreciate the country's natural beauty. We floated in the Dead Sea, rode camels, ran down sand dunes, and saw renowned archaeological sites.

However, the most rewarding aspects by far were the interactions we had with Jordanian locals, especially my host family. The Jordanians with whom I came into contact were the most hospitable and generous individuals



Grace Babbs at Ajloun Castle. Grace is a senior at Gatton Academy and St. Mary High School; she is from St. Thomas More Church, Paducah. Her parents are Sheri and Scott Babbs

I have ever met. For instance, one night I was invited to iftar (the breaking of Ramadan fast) with a friend's host family. My friend explained to me the relations of the twenty-four of the twenty-five people with whom we were eating. She was unsure of the last man's relationships to the rest of the family. When she asked her host mother the relationship, she quickly



Grace Babbs and Joe Schack, a NSLI-Y participant from Cincinnati, in Wadi Rum. Submitted photos

replied, "We met him yesterday. He is our new best friend. He stayed here eight hours yesterday, and he will stay for as long today."

I have honestly been forever changed by my trip to Jordan with NSLI-Y. In addition to greatly advancing in my Arabic studies, I have begun to truly think globally. The Middle East is no longer a distant and seemingly violent place in my mind. It has become a second home, a beautiful landscape with even more beautiful people. This Western Kentucky girl has grown into a global student ambassador.

Mount Saint Joseph Ursuline Sisters' Oral History Project Debut

The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph are proud to announce the debut of their Oral History Project webpage. Beginning in February 2013, the Archives and Development Office for the community have been interviewing Ursuline Sisters about their lives as religious. Most interviews will include information about the sisters' childhood, early education, vocation discernment, ministries they have served and related information about the community. What makes these interviews additionally special is that they also include interviews with the Ursuline Sisters from Belleville and Paola, who have merged with Mount Saint Joseph in 2005 and 2009, respectively. These interviews will give listeners knowledge and insight to the good works done by these women religious.

The interviews have been divid-



Sister Clarita Browning OSU is interviewed by Marian Bennett in August 2013 for the Oral History Project. Dan Heckel photo

ed into sections based on topic and have been uploaded to YouTube and include a modest slide show on the sister.

Oral histories are not a new thing to Mount Saint Joseph. The community interviewed and transcribed the stories of many sisters in the late 1970s-1980s. At present the Archives is in the process of migrating these interviews from analog to digital. For many, a transcription has already been made.

We hope you enjoy these stories and share them as you like. It has been and continues to be a privilege to interview the sisters and come to know them better. New interviews will be added regularly to the Oral History page. Be sure to check back often for new additions!

The link to the interviews can be found here: <http://ursulinesmsj.org/about-us/archives/oral-history-project>.

Creating Memories That Will Last A Lifetime

November, 2013 39

Submitted by Kathy Humphrey

UNIONTOWN, Ky. - On September 18, 2013, The Central Deanery Faith Formation Families from Union, Henderson, Webster and Crittenden counties gathered at St. Agnes Catholic Church with Bishop Medley and all the priests of the Central Deanery to celebrate Mass. This was a good opportunity for children who don't attend the Catholic schools to meet with Bishop Medley and other students who attend weekly Faith Formation.

Bishop Medley welcomed the people at the opening, but it was his homily that brought our attention to the diversity of the people gathered. By calling counties to stand, we acknowledged our geographic merging. By calling the grades to stand, we witnessed our maturing growth. Bishop Medley spoke of our desire to pray as one, to embrace our strength, and live out our faith as Christ calls us.

Each child made a birthday card for Bishop Medley and a basket with the cards was presented to him following mass. Bishop Medley promised to read every card, if not that very night. Every one proceeded to the parish picnic area where lights were strung thru trees. Benches and picnic tables were placed in a circle for an inviting atmosphere.

After eating, some students enjoyed age-appropriate games such as Land Skis and Parachute. Children surrounded the light parachute to maintain momentum and keep the ball in the center. All enjoyed a wonderful time with good fellowship.

This second gathering of Faith Formation with Bishop Medley was a positive and precious experience for families. To witness the priests of the Central Deanery behind the altar while Bishop Medley presided created memories that will last a lifetime.



Photo above right, Bishop William Medley and priests concelebrating Mass at the second Gathering of the Central Deanery Faith Formation.

Photo at far left, Children from 11 parishes of Henderson, Union, Webster and Crittenden counties surrounding the light parachute while maintaining momentum and keeping the ball in the center.

Photo below center, Bishop Medley explaining to the congregation gathered at St. Agnes Parish in Uniontown that he is the shepherd of the diocese.

Photo at lower right, Children working as a team to maneuver land skis.



Called. Transformed. Sent to Serve.

By Donna Tarantino

Called. Transformed. Sent to Serve. This was the theme for the annual International Catholic Stewardship Council (ICSC) Conference held this year in Dallas, Texas. The conference brought together nearly 1,100 bishops, priests, parish staff members, and volunteers from Alaska to Wyoming in the United States, and from Antigua to the United Kingdom abroad. I thought I endured a long travel day until I realized that some attendees traveled from as far away as Australia and Africa! Regardless of geographical or cultural differences, the common threads among conference attendees were the desire to share our faith and to enrich our knowledge and understanding of Catholic stewardship.

Part of my position as a staff member of St. Thomas More Church in Paducah is to help promote an understanding of stewardship. Stewardship is not a burden or an obligation but rather a way of life, responding to God's call to carefully tend the gifts of talent, time, and treasure entrusted to our care. Since 2005, our parish has embraced an annual three-phase process which encourages us to live as Christian stewards all year through. Our Stewardship of Prayer re-

newal, held during Advent, invites us to deepen our relationship with God by making a personal pledge to increase prayer in our lives. Each Lent, we are asked to share a portion of our treasure by making an annual financial pledge to our parish through Stewardship of Giving. During late summer, the Stewardship of Ministry renewal reminds us to share our God-given gifts and talents (and yes, we all have them) through a pledge to volunteer in parish ministry. We believe that these annual renewals are year-round reminders that everything—all our gifts—come from God, and that we glorify God by giving back to Him a portion of those gifts in thanksgiving. The fruits of living a stewardship way of life benefit not only our parish but also the larger community. Embracing stewardship benefits the giver by the deepening of faith and the joyful gratification that comes from service and sharing. Where you find an active Christian steward, you find someone who is grateful for their blessings and who strives to live each day with faith, hope, and perseverance.

The ICSC Conference was an excellent opportunity to listen to presentations on a wide variety of stewardship topics offered by both renowned professionals

as well as clergy and staff from parishes who have experienced great success with their stewardship efforts. Each of the conference liturgies was uplifting and inspiring. At the beginning of every session, meal, and gathering, we prayed a stewardship prayer together which reminded us of our common goals and our Catholic stewardship tradition. It was a pleasure to try to meet and talk with as many attendees as possible to share information and our experiences. If only there had been enough time to meet more!

After nearly nine years of working to foster stewardship, I have two profound reflections from my time at the ICSC conference: 1) that I believe we're on a very positive stewardship track at St. Thomas More, and 2) that there's always a great deal more to learn and share with our parishioners. I returned with a tote bag stuffed with notes and ideas...too many to realistically be able to put into practice right away. Even if we implement just a few at a time, I have returned with a wealth of resources and information, and with the renewed realization that each and every one of us is called, transformed, and sent to serve.



A few of STM's picnic volunteers paused from busy preparations (on a very hot day!) for our annual parish picnic. From left, Sister Lucy Bonifas, Picnic Coordinator Camille Warden, and Nancy Burch.



Ready and waiting for the crowd at the ice cream social following this year's Fortnight for Freedom Mass are, from left, Barb Harris, Sherri Speis, and Dolores Webber.



Members of St. Thomas More's youth group work to feed the hungry at Paducah's Community Kitchen. From left, Karina, Emily, Ian, Isaac, Olivia, Ben, and Youth Minister Matt Rochette.

Notre Dame Expert: Migration Integral to America

By Mel Howard

OWENSBORO, Ky. - The speaker for the Diocesan Presbyteral Day in the Catholic Pastoral Center was Mr. Allert Brown-Gort, Faculty Fellow, Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame. He was invited to share information and insights about immigration in the US with diocesan clergy and Hispanic Ministers.

Before the presentation, Father Tony Shonis, Director of the diocesan Committee for the Ongoing Formation of Priests, asked Mrs. Lilly Barr to come to the podium to receive a plaque recognizing her 12 years teaching Spanish at Owensboro Catholic Middle School. Fr. Shonis said that the plaque was in recognition of the Hispanic mission of Catholic Schools. Mrs. Barr teaches classes totally in Spanish with an emphasis on helping students to speak Spanish conversationally and to understand the traditions and customs of Latinos who immigrate to the US.

This presbyteral day was a time for the clergy and Hispanic Ministers in the diocese to hear current research in US immigration issues and to network about best practices for ministering among immigrant people who worship in the parishes of the diocese.

Mr. Allert Brown-Gort used a Powerpoint presentation to illustrate the ideas of his talk, "A Short Introduction to Immigration and Immigration Reform" in the US. "Migration is an integral part of the human experience of an American," he said. The push factors which impel people to immigrants here are mainly poverty and security, he said. The pull factors are economy, demand, reception, and environment, he said.

"Immigration," Brown-Gort said, "is hard to describe and easy to 'dema-



Mr. Allert Brown-Gort, Faculty Fellow, Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame. He was invited to share information and insights about immigration in the US with diocesan clergy and Hispanic Ministers. Mel Howard Photos

gogue' about. Immigrants are the 'poster children' of unintended consequences. It is the society that demands their labor. The demagoguery about immigration too often responds to politics, not fact."

Labels. Do we call people Latinos or Hispanics? "That depends on the region of the country," Brown-Gort said. "Hispanic does not describe all Latinos. The word excludes, for example, Africans and the indigenous cultures of Latin America. The word Latino describes a variety of national origins - Mexican, Central American, Cuban, Puerto Rican, South American ..."

Latinos have been influential in the USA for a long time. "The first Thanksgiving was celebrated in the United States (El Paso) in 1597. Saint Augustine, FL is the oldest city in the US, founded in 1565, Latinos are at once one of the oldest and one of the newest cultures in the US," Brown-Gort said.

A citizen of both the United States and Mexico, Brown-Gort studies and comments upon immigration policy, the role of culture in shaping values and political systems, civil service reform and the political views of Mexican nationals in the United States. In addition to writing numerous op-ed pieces on immigration, he has served as an advisor to the U.S. Senate on Hispanic issues. He is particularly critical of draconian proposals for immigration policy reform. "Immigrants are here mostly because they have responded to a demand for workers, and taking away this supply will have consequences," he has said. "Even if the law is not successful in sending unauthorized immigrants away, it would drive them further underground, increasing both the levels of the informal economy and the probability of exploitation by unscrupulous employers." - <http://news.nd.edu/for-the-media/nd-experts/faculty/allert-brown-gort/>

In the picture at left, Bishop William Medley introduced to the priests of the diocese Reverend Timothy Khui Shing Ling from Diocese of Hakha - Archdiocese of Mandalay, who is ministering at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Bowling Green now.



Bishop William Medley speaking to the priests of the Diocese of Owensboro. Mel Howard Photos



Mr. Allert Brown-Gort speaking about American perceptions of immigrants and the history of immigration in the USA.

Brown-Gort's Presentation was based on his current research, including a national qualitative study of the opinions of the Mexican migrant and Mexican American communities; effects of the national immigration discourse on Latino political behavior; attempts by governments in the Americas to manage relations with their diasporas to assist their foreign policy goals.

MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH ACADEMY AND JUNIOR COLLEGE



**ALUMNAE MEMORIAL
MASS • 4 P.M.
SATURDAY, NOV. 2**

MAPLE MOUNT, KY.

THIS MASS IS CELEBRATED IN
REMEMBRANCE OF ALL DECEASED
CLASSMATES, FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THE
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**Multilingual Mass Celebration Parish of
Saints Peter and Paul**

By Luis Aju

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. - In the parish of Saints Peter and Paul. On Sunday, September 22, the presence of people with many different cultures and languages was celebrated.

The event was celebrated with the Eucharist as an act of Common Union. Notwithstanding the different languages as a means of communication between people from different cultures, and showed how we keep language as one of the values of each of our cultures.

It was impressive to hear the vocabulary of each of those who read the readings in their own original language. The languages that were heard in the readings were: Italian, French, German, English, Latin and Spanish. Everyone shared his or her language to hear. In the congregation we were tentative trying to hear for similar words in our own language in order to follow the message, by hearing and meditating the same message of God was able to reach everyone.

After the gathering of the various languages, we gather at the table, where we all enjoyed the taste of the food, just as we had enjoyed the music and the prayers of the mass. After a Mass for this intention, we were closer to each other.

People of North, Central and



The Pastor, Fr. Richard Meredith, right, gives his Homily in English and Fr Julio Barrera makes simultaneous translation. thus all present receive the message completely. Thanks to the two priests who celebrated the Mass. Larena Lawson Photo

South America were able to attend. We did it without seeing colors or any human difference. To God we are all his children. He understands us from any language we may use to speak to him.

We congratulate Pastor Fr. Richard Meredith and Fr. Julio Barrera and Carl Schmitt, for organizing this type of events, especially for giving value to all the people who come to the parish from various cultural backgrounds. God bless you.

Photos and written by Luis Aju



Webinar participants meeting on September 26, 2013: Ken Bennett, Brandon Harley, Louanne Payne, Sr. Ethel Marie Biri, Fr. Mike Clark, Teresa Henry, Molly Thompson, and Rita Heinz.

**Webinar Encourages Continued
Alertness and Preparedness**

A group composed of Diocesan Review Board members and diocesan personnel gathered in the Catholic Pastoral Center on Thursday, September 26, for "Charter Implementation Training." This seminar, sponsored by the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), was made available as a webinar to dioceses and individuals throughout the nation.

The purpose of the webinar was to share information about the Catholic Church's continued efforts to provide healing for those hurt in the past, prevent abuse from happening now, and determine how to continue to create safe settings for children and young people.

Following prayer, Archbishop Wilton Gregory of Atlanta began with a chronology of the U.S. Catholic Church's efforts to combat sexual abuse of minors, up to and including the development and 2011 revision of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. He spoke about a significant shift he observed in the understanding of "protecting our own" from signifying the ordained to including children, young people, and vulnerable adults. All of us are "our own."

Additional presentations included "Effective Use of Review Boards;" "Program of Priestly Formation and the Protection of Youth: Screening & Admissions" regarding seminarians; "What's it Like to be a Survivor of Clergy Sexual Abuse" presented by an adult survivor who has finally found her way back to faith; "Pastoral Care of Victims" which focused on much that has been learned about victims' issues and how to respond; and "Transparency and Accountability," an encouraging reminder about our continued need for openness in the Church.

For participants, the day provided a heartening and affirming picture of what's happening throughout the nation and in our own diocese. All who attended came away with new insights, confirmation of the work being done, and renewed energy for this important work.

Anyone interested in viewing the PowerPoint presentations or the soon-to-be archived video presentations may contact the Office of Safe Environment at 270-683-1545, ext. 353.

Visita a la Parroquia de Franklin Ky.

El día 6 de Octubre, Día domingo, a las 12:00 Medio día.

Por Luis Aju, Director del Ministerio Hispano.

La parroquia está ubicada en la ciudad de Franklin, Diócesis de Owensboro en Kentucky. La visita se debe a que existe una población hispana en esa área, que la diócesis se ha trazado la meta de encontrar las personas, familias hispanas dispersos en las parroquias de la Diócesis.

El domingo que visite la comunidad, no habían venido muchos, por diversas razones, pero el número de personas que asisten a la misa o alguna otra actividad los días domingos, así como venir a la misa, otros por trabajos que a la familia le interesa guardar, porque en nuestro medio es muy difícil dejar la familia, teniendo un empleo estable, no se puede dejar, para el mundo latino, dejar un trabajo es no llevar la comida y otras necesidades a la casa, esto incluye niños y grandes. Es muy difícil encontrar un padre de familia retirado, nadie tiene un plan de retiro y vive de ello, a eso se debe la ausencia de muchos, por necesidad, aunque comprendemos que la vida de comunidad es importante, pero también es importante



El P. Roberto Drury, da la bendición a un niño, porque no ha hecho su Primera Comunión, esto es una necesidad, la formación de los niños desde su niñez, acerca de la vida sacramental. No recibe la comunión pero pide una bendición. Es una buena muestra de Fe. F.Luis Aju

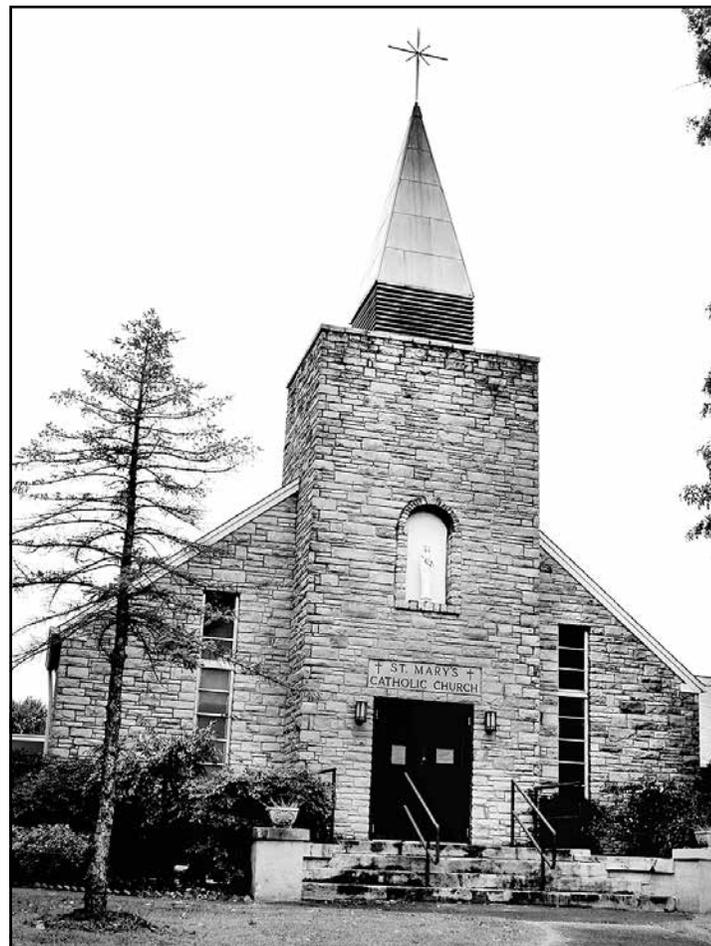
dar atender a la familia.

De muchas maneras se puede servir a la iglesia de hoy, muchas veces no asistimos a misa, por atender las necesidades de alguna familia, con una necesidad urgente. Esto es una de las razones que mucha gente tiene o también algún miembro de la familia enfermo, pero nadie puede decir, porque no fue a la misa alguna vez se haya olvidado de Dios, eso no es cierto.

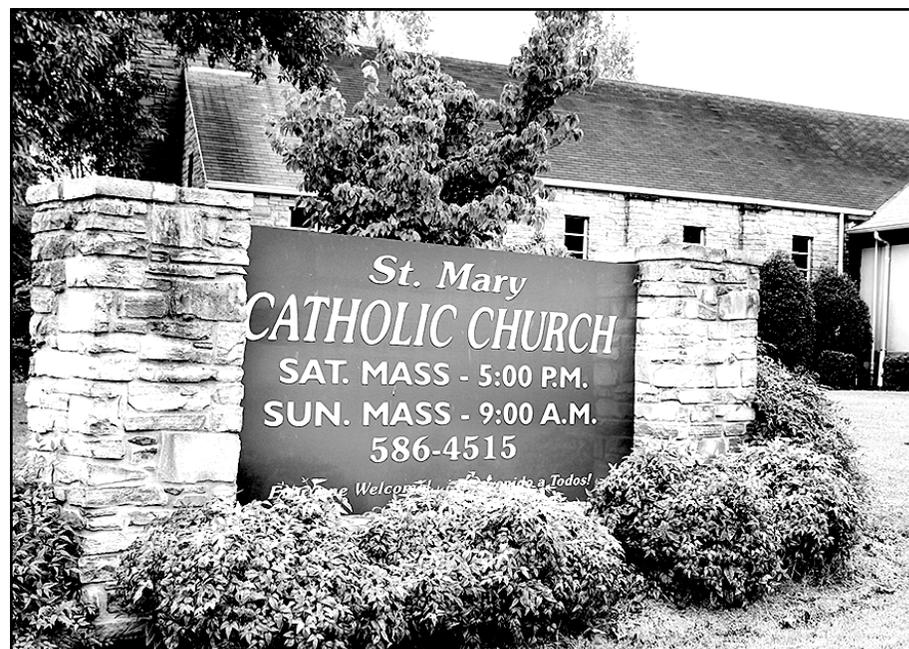
Puedo decir que el Párroco, está abierto a recibir y atender a las necesidades de la comunidad, particularmente en la Parroquia antes mencionado. Dios bendiga a todos de la Comunidad de La Iglesia de Sta. María de Franklin, Paz y bien!



Son las pocas personas que asistieron a la misa de a las 12:00 medio día, el día domingo 6 de Octubre. Poca gente pero se pudo ver y sentir la fe, y que vibra en el semblante de cada uno. El P. Roberto, celebra la Misa en Espanol, lo cual indica un buen deseo de servir a la comunidad hispana de la parroquia.



En el tablero, abajo, no se encuentra la hora de la misa en espanol, pero a las 12:00 medio día, se celebra la Misa en espanol. Quienes quieren ir a la misa, lo puede encontrar a esa hora. Es te medio de comunicacion sirve para invitarlo cordialmente y ser parte de esta comunidad que necesita de su presencia. Todos son bienvenidos. F.Luis Aju



Día de los Santos y Difuntos en casi toda la América Latina y conocido como “Día de los Muertos” en algunos países.

Day of the Saints and Deceased in Latin America also known as “Día de los Muertos”, in some countries.

By Luis Aju, Director of the Office for Hispanic Ministries, Diocese of Owensboro

For us Catholics of Latin America, we commemorate a day for all Saints and Deceased in our families and community which is November 2nd.

These celebrations are not conjoined with any other; it is only for, “the Saints and the dead.” During this day, special food is made for those who have already gone before us, but also for the living people whose lives have been inspirations for us still here on earth. For these reasons, we decorate our houses and churches where we would usually find the Patron Saint of our towns.

On November 2nd, we are accustomed to reciting this prayer for each loved one: “May the mercy of God shine upon the faithful departed and may they rest in peace Amen.”

It is our custom to prepare the food that the deceased enjoyed best and take it to the cemetery and eat lunch, or dinner around

the grave as a reminder of their family life. Whether man, woman, boy or girl, the day is in honor of the loved one.

As many people know, we believe in the afterlife, whether it may be happiness, or suffering; that is only in God's hands. We accompany our deceased in prayer asking God to help and amend their faults and mistakes of their earthly life. We do not forget our dead. We honor them and ask God for their eternal happiness in eternal life.

Do not forget that on Ash Wednesday we are reminded that, “Dust thou art and to dust you shall return.” During these November days, I recommend to take a minute and think, how is your relationship with others and therefore with God?

Maybe it is worth making an examination of conscience. Would you agree?



En esta foto, podemos apreciar mas, al grupo de jovenes quienes trabajaron para instalar el altar dedicado a nuestros difuntos, toda la comunidad hispana de la Parroquia agradece por este gesto tan grande en exponer y traer a la memoria nuestra los actos que se realizan en el día de los difuntos. tambien gracias al Sr. de la comunidad de habla Ingles. ayudando a velar por el fuego, signo de vida aun el día 2 de noviembre. F. Luis Aju

Por Luis Aju

Para nosotros los católicos de la América Latina, conmemoramos el día de todos los santos y difuntos de nuestras familias y de la comunidad el 2 de noviembre.

Estas celebraciones no se conjugan con otra fiesta, solamente “Día de los Santos y Difuntos”. Para el día de los Santos, se hace comida especial porque celebramos el día de los que ya se nos adelantaron, pero también las personas vivas cuyas vidas son una inspiración

para nosotros los militantes, que aún estamos en la tierra. Por eso adornamos nuestras casas y templos donde usualmente está el Patrón (a) del pueblo.

El día 2 de noviembre, estamos acostumbrados a rezar esta pequeña oración por cada ser querido: Que la misericordia de Dios brille sobre los fieles difuntos y descansen en paz Amen. se acostumbra, hacer la comida que al difunto le gustaba y llevarlo al cementerio y comer el almuerzo, o cena alrededor de su tumba donde, hace memoria de su vida familiar. Sea hombre, mujer, niño o niña, el día es en honor a la persona fallecida

Como es del conocimiento de muchas personas. Nosotros creemos en la otra vida, sea la felicidad, sea el sufrimiento, que solo en las manos de Dios esta. Acompañamos a nuestros difuntos, pidiendo a Dios en Oración, para ayudarlo y enmendar



No matarás. Do Not Murder.

Mel Howard Photo

sus faltas y errores cometidos en su vida terrenal. No olvidamos nuestros difuntos, solo los honramos pidiéndole a Dios por su felicidad en la vida eterna.

No olvidemos que, el miércoles de ceniza nos lo recuerdan. “Polvo eres y al polvo volverás” En estos días solo le recomiendo pensar, como va su relación con el prójimo y por lo tanto con Dios. A lo mejor vale la pena hacer un examen de conciencia. ¿No le parece?



De la izquierda, Este es el altar construido por los jovenes de la Parrouia de Santos Jose y Pablo, honrando en el recuerdo a nuestros difuntos pero que estan presentes en nuestra memoria y porque creemos que viven intecediendo por nosotros ante Dios. Tambien es el lugar de encuentro donde la comida y bebida hacen un signo de union entre ellos y nosotros. en su memoria comemos juntos ese dia. F. Luis Aju

4 Noviembre, 2013

Celebration de la Misa Multilingue Parroquia de Santos Pedro y Pablo

Por Luis Aju

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. - En la parroquia de Santos Pedro y Pablo.

El día domingo 22 de Septiembre, se celebró la presencia de las personas de varias culturas y diferentes lenguas.

Se celebró el evento, con la celebración de la Eucaristía como acto de Común Unión. No obstante las diferentes lenguas como medio de comunicación entre las personas de diferente cultura, y como lengua lo guardamos como uno de los valores de cada una de nuestras culturas.

Ha sido impresionante escuchar el léxico de cada uno de los que han leído las lecturas en su idioma original. Las lenguas que se escucharon en las lecturas fueron: italiano, francés, alemán, inglés, latín y español. Solo compartieron su idioma para escuchar. En la congregación

las personas solo seguimos la cercanía de palabras a nuestro idioma para seguir el mensaje, escuchado y meditado llegan al mismo mensaje de Dios a las personas.

Después del encuentro de los varios lenguajes, nos reunimos a la mesa, donde todos disfrutamos el sabor de la comida, como lo habíamos disfrutado en la música, las oraciones de la misa. Después de una misa de esta intención, nos vimos más cerca el uno al otro.

Asistieron personas del Norte, Centro y Sur América. Sin ver colores o alguna diferencia humana. Para Dios todos somos hijos de Él y nos comprende desde cualquier idioma que le hablemos.

Felicitemos al P. Richard Meredith como Pastor, P. Julio Barrera y Carl Schmitt, por organizar este tipo de eventos, especialmente dándoles el valor a todas las personas que acuden a la parroquia procedente de varias culturas. Dios los bendiga.

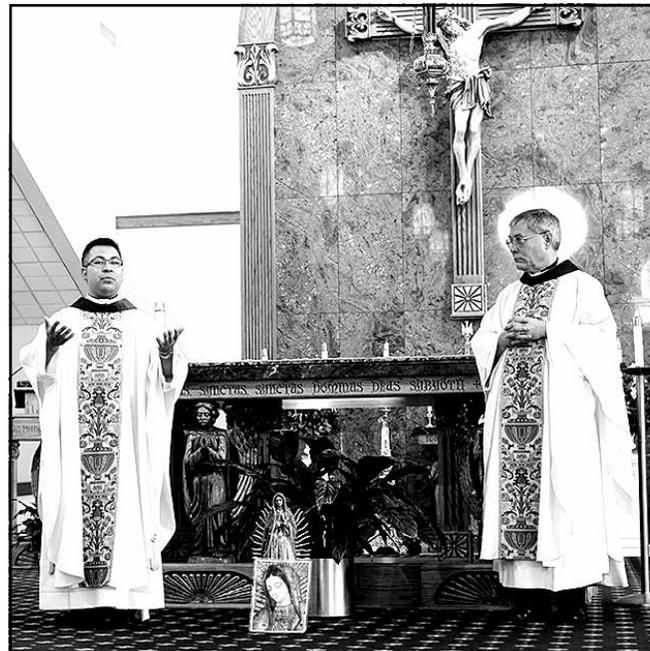
Fotos y redacción: Luis Aju



Ninos, jovenes y adultos, han venido a participar en la Misa Multilingue el dia 22 de Septiembre en la Iglesia de Sts. Pedro y Pablo. La celebracion se debe a la presencia de varias culturas de America latina. Estas son familias. F.Luis Aju



Dos Sras. leeran las lecturas en Ingles y espanol. Lo cual fue bien recibido por la comunidad de la Parroquia. F. Luis Aju



El Parroco da su Homilia en Ingles y el P. Julio B. hace la traduccion simultanea. de esta manera todos los presentes recibimos el mensaje, completo. Gracias a los dos sacerdotes que celebraron la Misa. Foto por Larena Lawson



El P. Julio y el P. Richard, dan la comunion a la gente que recibe durante el tiempo de la comunion. Es muy imprtante que toda la gente ve, que todos somos llamados para recibir a Jesus, en la Hostia y en el vino. Un signo de Fe. F.Luis Aju



Una familia de la Parroquia, recibe la imagen, patrono de las vocaciones y esa familia se llevo, para pedir en oracion abundantes vocaciones para la Iglesia. F. Luisaju



Padre, Richard M. Parroco de la Iglesia y el Padre Julio Barrera reciben de las manos de la Sra. miembro de la Parroquia las orendas del Pan y Vino que se convirtira pronto en el cuerpo y sangre del Senor. F.Luis Aju

por Mel Howard

OWENSBORO, KY.- El conferenciante por el Día Presbiteral de la Diócesis, en el Centro Pastoral Católico, fue el señor Allert Brown-Gort, Instructor del Instituto Kellogg para estudios internacionales de la Universidad de Notre Dame. Fue invitado a compartir información y conocimientos personales sobre inmigración en Estados Unidos con el clero diocesano y los monasterios hispanos.

Antes de la presentación, el Padre Tony Shonis, Director del comité diocesano del curso de formación de curas, pidió a la Señora Lilly Barr que se acercara al podio a recibir una placa en reconocimiento a sus 12 años enseñando español en la Escuela primaria Católica de Owensboro. El Padre Shonis dijo que la placa fue en reconocimiento por la misión hispana en las escuelas católicas. La señora Barr enseña clases totalmente en español, con la intención de ayudar a los alumnos a hablar un español de nivel de conversación y a entender las tradiciones y costumbres de los latinos que migran a Estados Unidos.

Este Día Presbiteral fue un tiempo para el clero y los monasterios hispanos de la diócesis, para escuchar sobre nuevas investigaciones en temas de inmigración en Estados Unidos y para difundir mejores prácticas en la predicación entre in-



Allert Brown-Gort

migrantes que asisten a las iglesias de la diócesis.

El señor Allert Brown-Gort, utilizó una presentación de powerpoint para demostrar las ideas de su charla, "Una corta introducción a Inmigración y Reforma migratoria". "Migración es una parte integral de la experiencia humana de un Americano" dijo. Los factores

principales que empujan a las personas a inmigrar son la pobreza y la seguridad, lo que los atrae son la economía, demanda, recepción y el ambiente, dijo.

"Inmigración es difícil de describir, pero muy fácil de criticar. Inmigrantes son los "ejemplos" de las consecuencias no buscadas. Es la sociedad quien demanda su trabajo. La crítica sobre inmigración muchas veces se debe a respuestas políticas, no hechos." dijo Brown-Gort.

Etiquetas: debemos llamar a las personas Latinos o Hispanos?. "Eso depende de la región del país" dijo Brown-Gort. Hispano no describe a todos los latinos, la palabra no incluye por ejemplo: Africanos y las culturas indígenas de Latinoamérica. La palabra latino describe a una variedad de orígenes nacionales: Mexicanos, Centroamericanos, Puertorriqueños, Sudamericanos..."

Los latinos han sido muy influyentes en Estados Unidos por mucho tiempo. "El primer Día de Gracias fue celebrado en Estados Unidos (El Paso) en 1597. San Agustín, FL, es la ciudad más antigua, fundada en 1565. La cultura latina, ha sido al mismo tiempo una de las más antiguas y nuevas culturas en Estados Unidos, dijo Brown-Gort.

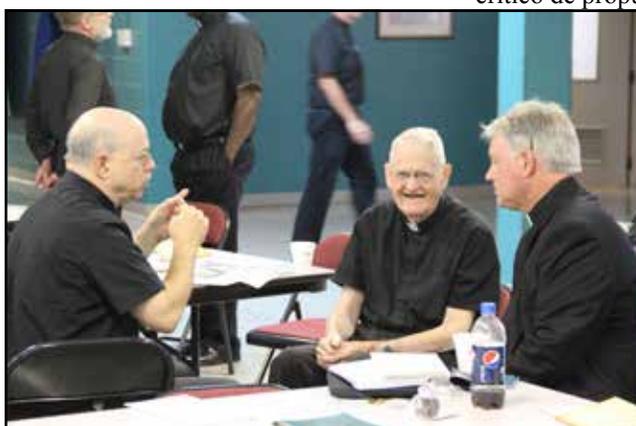
Ciudadano de ambos, Estados Unidos y México, Brown-Gort estudia y comenta sobre políticas migratorias, el rol de la cultura sobre valores y sistemas políticos, servicio social y puntos de vista de Mexicanos en Estados Unidos. A parte de escribir editoriales de inmigración, ha colaborado como consejero en el senado de Estados Unidos en temas Hispanos. Es particularmente crítico de propuestas severas para la reforma política de

inmigración. "Los inmigrantes vienen especialmente debido a la demanda de trabajadores necesarios y bajando esta demanda traería consecuencias" dijo. Incluso, si la ley no tiene éxito enviando a los inmigrantes no autorizados, esto los colocaría aun más por debajo, aumentando ambos, el nivel de la economía informal y la probabilidad de explotación de los empleadores sin moral". - <http://news.nd.edu/for-the-media/nd-experts/faculty/allert-brown-gort/>

Su presentación está basada en investigaciones actuales, incluyendo el estudio cualitativo de opiniones de Mexicanos migrantes y comunidades Mexicana-Americanas, los efectos del análisis migratorio nacional sobre comportamiento político latino y los intentos de los gobiernos de las Américas para manejar las relaciones con sus diásporas para colaborar con sus metas de política extranjera.



Monseñor William F. Medley, Obispo de Owensboro, hablar a los sacerdotes de la Dicoese de Owensboro. Mel Howard Fotos



Fotos: arriba izquierda, el P. Frank Roof hablando con el Padre. Carmelo; parte inferior izquierda, el Padre. David Kennedy, el padre. Ben Luther, padre. Richard Cash en la conversación, medio arriba, izquierda, Obispo Medley introducción de P. Timothy Khui Shing Ling, de la Diócesis de Hakha - Arquidiócesis de Mandalay arriba a la derecha media, Luis Aju hablando con el P. Joshua McCarty, media inferior izquierda, el Diácono Heriberto hablar con Sra Gina Holmes, medio inferior derecha, Diocesano Canciller Kevin Kauffeld hablar con el Padre. Mike Williams

Una Reflexión Al Ver La Tierra Santa A Través De Los Ojos De San Pedro

(Viene de la página 1)



**Monseñor
William F.
Medley
Obispo de
Owensboro**

“¿Quién dice la gente que soy yo.” Pedro con confianza respondió que él sabía que Jesús era el Mesías y Jesús afirmó su visión y dijo: “Tú eres Pedro (su nombre de pila hasta entonces era Simón) y sobre esta roca edificaré mi iglesia.” Desde aquí, Jesús les dijo a los apóstoles que ellos deberían de dirigir su mirada hacia Jerusalén, donde sería juzgado, condenado y crucificado. Pedro, fascinado por su nuevo estatus, afirmó que no volvería a permitir que esto suceda. Jesús le reprendió severamente: “¡Quítate de delante de mí, Satanás!”. Imagínese la confusión que Pedro debió de haber sentido de ser llamado roca a ser llamado Satanás!

Jesús y los discípulos viajaron a Jerusalén y a lo largo de la jornada pasaron por el monte Tabor. Para ese entonces, Pedro parecía haber recuperado el favor del Señor y fue elegido junto con Santiago y Juan a la experiencia de la Transfiguración de Jesús y la aparición de Moisés y Elías. Pedro fue tan llenado por la experiencia que quería erigir carpas para que todos hubiesen podido permanecer en la cima de la montaña de forma indefinida. Pero los ojos de Jesús estaban en Jerusalén.

Caminamos por el sendero del Domingo de Ramos en Jerusalén. Sólo podía imaginar la emoción que Pedro debió de haber sentido como parecía que Jesús, y seguramente sus compañeros, estaban tomando la ciudad en medio de gritos de Hosanna!

En el Monte Sión conmemoramos la Cena del Señor y de nuevo el reflejo era a través de los ojos de Pedro. Protestó que no podía permitir que Jesús le lavara los pies, pero accedió cuando Jesús dejó claro que era un ejemplo. Durante la comida Jesús, con el corazón lleno de pena, confió que uno de los doce lo traicionaría y Pedro afirmó que seguro que no sería él. Seguramente fue abatido cuando Jesús predijo que él lo negaría tres veces.

En el Jardín de Getsemaní reflexioné sobre la incapacidad de Pedro a mantenerse despierto y orar con el Señor en la hora de su agonía. Desde aquí, los soldados vinieron a arrestar a Jesús y los evangelios nos dicen que Pedro cobardemente “seguía de lejos.” □ □ En el lugar del tribunal de Caifás, hay una escultura de tamaño real de Pedro en medio de otros personajes. Pedro tiene las manos levantadas y su boca abierta. Uno casi puede oír su afirmación definitiva, “Yo no conozco a ese hombre.” En una colum-



**Obispo Medley celebrar la Misa en el Monte de las Bienaventuranzas.
Bishop Medley celebrating Mass at Mount of the Beatitudes.**



**Obispo Medley celebrar la Misa en la Basilica de la Anunciación.
Bishop Medley celebrating Mass at the Basilica of the Annunciation.**

na arriba de la escultura esta el gallo cantando.

Como peregrinos recurrimos el camino de la cruz por las calles de Jerusalén. Pero, por supuesto, ya que los evangelios relatan, Pedro no estaba al alcance de la mano allí, ni en el Calvario, cuando Jesús fue crucificado y murió. El Santo Sepulcro marca el lugar de la sepultura de Jesús y su resurrección. Una vez más, Pedro toma parte en la historia, por haber sido alertado por María Magdalena, y Juan que descubren una tumba vacía.

Para completar mis reflexiones a través de los ojos de Pedro mi mente me llevó de nuevo a la mar de Galilea, donde los discípulos habían reanudado su pesca después de la muerte de Jesús. Aquí se encontraron con Jesús en la orilla del lago y tres veces Jesús preguntó a Pedro: “¿Me amas?” Tres veces para equilibrar sus tres negaciones. Y el mandato de Jesús: “Apacienta mis corderos, apacienta mis ovejas.”

Todos somos Pedro en varios puntos en nuestra vida, confidentes y audaces en la fe un minuto, y fracasos y decepcionantes en próximos. La constante en la vida de Pedro y en nuestras vidas es el amor incondicional de Jesús. Que Dios los bendiga a todos.

William F. Medley

+ Mons. William F. Medley
Obispo de Owensboro

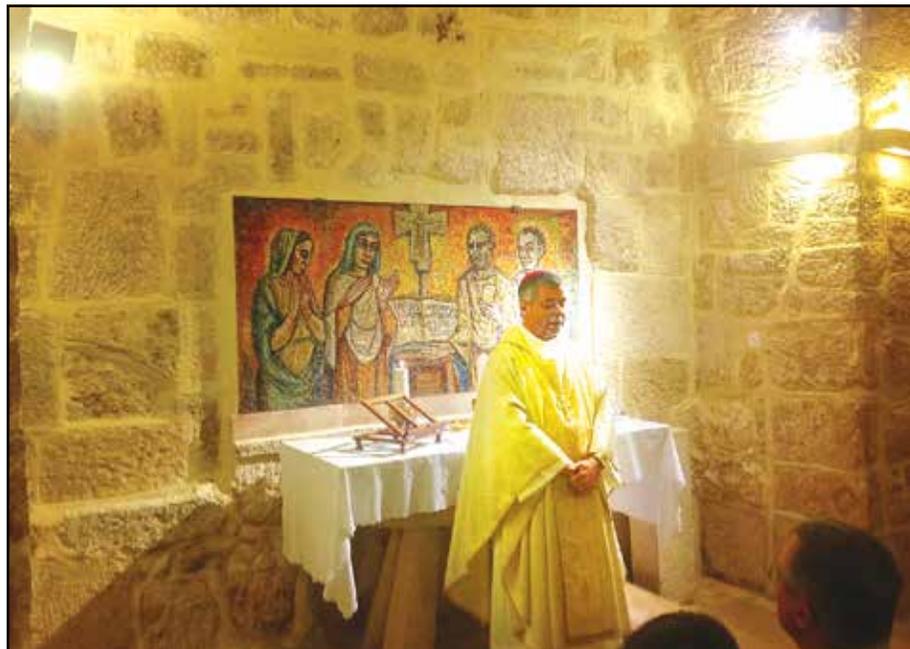
Calendario Del Obispo Medley Para Noviembre 2013

Nov. 1	9:00 a.m.	Misa de la escuela, Owensboro Catholic 4-6 Campus.
Nov. 2	6:00 p.m.	Cena/Subasta del sistema escolar de St. Mary., Paducah
Nov. 3	10:30 a.m.	Misa y Bendición, Inmaculada Concepción, Hawesville
Nov. 5	9:00 a.m.	Misa y reunión del staff de CPC
	4:30 p.m.	Misa, Conferencia de Líderes, Lake Barkley
Nov. 8-14		Reunión General de USCCB, Baltimore
Nov. 16	1:30 p.m.	Misa, 20mo Aniversario del Ministerio Hispano
Nov. 17	10:30 a.m.	Confirmación, Parroquia de San Jerónimo, Fancy Farm
Nov. 18	9:45 a.m.	Reunión de la Junta de Sacerdotes, CPC
Nov. 19	10-2:00 p.m.	Día Presbiteral, CPC
Nov. 20	8:30 a.m.	Reunión de finanzas del Consejo Diocesano
Nov. 20-21		Visita al Seminario Colegial del Obispo Simón Bruté, Indianápolis
Nov. 21-23		NCYC, Indianápolis
Nov. 26	10-3:00 p.m.	Horas de oficina, Hospital Lourdes
Nov. 30	5:00 p.m.	Admisión a candidatura, Gary Clark, St. Paul, Lietchfield.

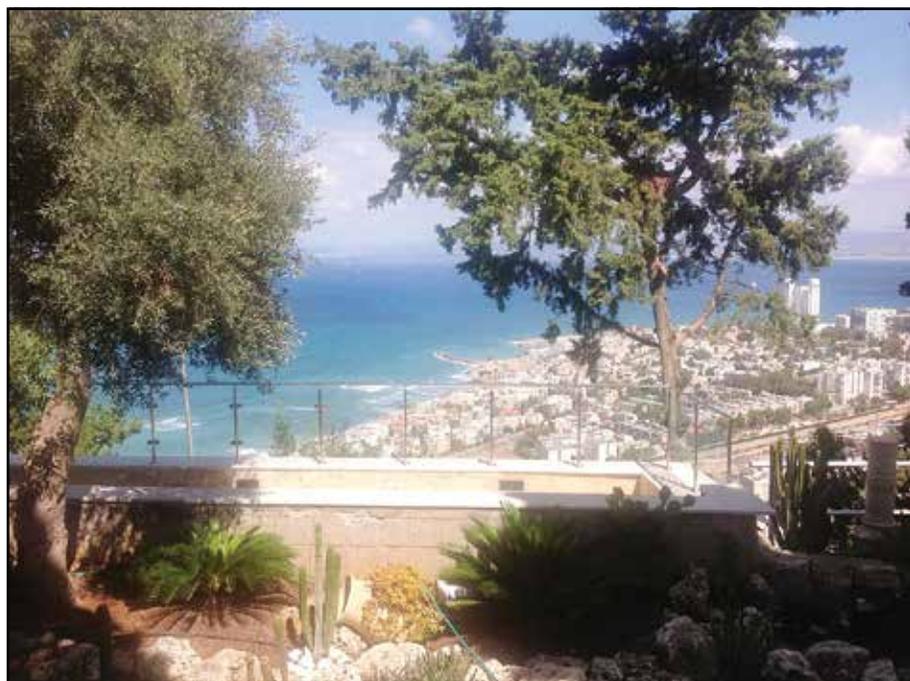
Una Reflexión Al Ver La Tierra Santa A Través De Los Ojos De San Pedro

Queridos hermanos y hermanas,

El mes pasado tuve el privilegio de unirme a otras 27 personas en una peregrinación a Tierra Santa. Aunque ya había visitado Tierra Santa antes, me encontré esta vez mirando a los santuarios y lugares sagrados a través de otros ojos. Empezamos en la parte norte de Israel / Palestina alrededor del Mar de Galilea. Al visitar las excavaciones de la antigua ciudad de Capernaum, me encontré a mí mismo imaginando la experiencia de Pedro, Andrés, Santiago y Juan, todos los pescadores, como Jesús los



Capilla de San Jerónimo en la iglesia de la Natividad, donde vivió durante 39 años, mientras que la traducción de la Biblia. Chapel of St. Jerome at the Church of the Nativity where he lived for 39 years while translating the Bible.

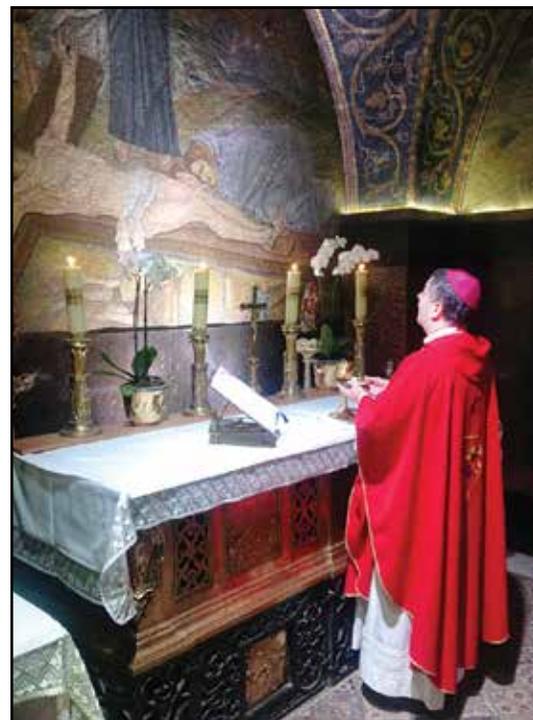


habría encontrado por la orilla del mar y les hubiera pedido dejar sus redes de pesca detrás para seguirlo. A partir de ese sitio encontré mis reflexiones centradas en Pedro, sus triunfos y sus fracasos, mientras seguía a Jesús.

Experimentamos un paseo en barco por el Mar de Galilea. Fue en una expedición similar en la que Pedro proclamó que si el Señor lo llamaría, el caminaría sobre el agua. Bueno, como sucedió una y otra vez, el entusiasmo de Pedro no fue igualado por su fe. □ □ El salió de la barca, pero rápidamente se hundió cuando él apartó los ojos del Señor.

Visitamos y oramos en Cesarea de Filipo donde Jesús le presentó a los apóstoles un examen parcial, preguntando:

Continúa en la página 2



Obispo Medley celebrar la misa cerca del lugar de la crucifixión. Celebrating Mass near the site of the crucifixion.

En la foto de la izquierda, Salida del sol sobre el mar de Galilea. Fuera de Carmelitas Pilgrim Center en Haifa, Israel. Fotos cortesía de la Diócesis de Owensboro web www:rcdok.org Sunrise over the Sea of Galilee. Outside of Carmelite Pilgrim Center in Haifa, Israel. Photos courtesy of the Owensboro Diocesan website www:rcdok.org



A partir de octubre 2-12, Obispo Medley se llevó una peregrinación a Tierra Santa - visita en Nazaret, Capernaum, Belén, Jerusalén Obispo Medley orando con el grupo en el río Jordán, antes de la renovación de las promesas bautismales.