



Around the Diocese Page 14



Español Página 16



Youth Page 30



Cardinal Dolan visits western Kentucky

Cardinal Timothy Dolan and Fr. Larry Richards, two of the speakers for the 2017 Catholic Men's Conference of Western Kentucky, speak with Bishop William F. Medley at Owensboro's RiverPark Center on Feb. 11. [Page 8](#)

CONTENTS



Caring ministry Tom and Amy Payne wanted to give back to the community and help people suffering illness. Enter the Gennesaret Retreats, which are now available in the Diocese of Owensboro **Page 10**

6 Gasper's uniquely Catholic camps help youth 'encounter Christ'

Soon to reach 10 years, diocese camp sees how much it's grown

12 Fr. Carmelo Jimenez Salinas becomes U.S. citizen

Says experience is 'bittersweet'

24 2017 parish picnics schedule

Your guide to picnics within the Diocese of Owensboro

Correction: In the February 2017 issue of the WKC, the totals for the Disciple Response Fund were incorrectly stated. The number of donors is 5,680. The target amount is \$600,000. The pledged amount is \$818,405. The amount paid as of the February publication is \$658,942. The amount of pledges due is \$159,463. The WKC regrets this error.

To submit stories and articles

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month prior to the publishing month. The Western Kentucky Catholic will take reader-submitted content into consideration but no submissions are guaranteed placement, due to space restrictions.

Article guidelines: The Western Kentucky Catholic will consider your articles within a 500-word limit pertaining to issues and events within our diocese. **Photo guidelines:** The Western Kentucky Catholic will consider your high-resolution digital photos showing special moments and memories from within our diocese. Photos must be a JPEG format (ending in ".jpg") and sent via email. A photo description, date, and name of photographer must be included. Please email your articles or photos to wkc.editor@pastoral.org by the 15th of the month prior to the publishing month.

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The Western Kentucky Catholic comes to your home as a direct use of your parish assessment dollars: "Those who exercise authority in the Church will take care to ensure that there is responsible exchange of freely held and expressed opinion among the People of God" - Pastoral Instruction of the Means of Social Communications, #116, Jan. 29, 1971.

Opinions expressed in submitted columns and letters to the editor in The Western Kentucky Catholic may be edited for space, a lack of charity or a lack of clarity, and are not endorsed by the publisher or editor. No submissions are guaranteed placement in The Western Kentucky Catholic.

Please politely indicate any factual errors in this publication by emailing wkc.editor@pastoral.org.

5 Archives

6 Features

12 Around the Diocese

16 Español

23 Upcoming Events

26 Opinion

28 Vocations

30 Youth

A Word from Bishop Medley

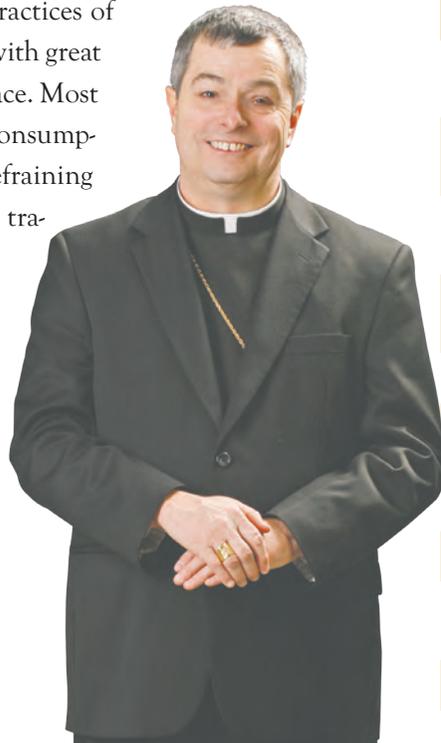
My dear people of God,

The season of Lent is upon us again. Though as Catholics we may be inclined inwardly to groan just a little at the thought of a season that calls us to penance, we must always remind ourselves that the word "Lent," in fact, means "Spring." Rightfully, then, this season of penance or denial sets the stage for new life and rebirth.

In looking for a Lenten topic to share as this season begins, I thought of the Gospel's mandate that we engage in prayer, fasting and almsgiving. This year, I thought, perhaps, some reflection on fasting might help some to recover a Church tradition that has been largely forgotten or at least misunderstood.

Having learned a few things in the digital age, I began my reflection where the modern world goes to reflect. I Googled "fasting." Some very curious articles emerged, not the least of which was "The Idiot's Guide to Fasting and Abstinence: 5 Things to Know." Actually, it is a good read and I recommend it.

The Catholic Church has legislated practices of fasting and abstinence through the ages, with great variations from age to age and place to place. Most basically, fasting is a reduction of one's consumption of food, while abstinence involves refraining from a certain food. So, in recent past tradition, all the days of Lent were days of fasting, specifying that the devout would only partake of one full meal each day, with the other meals, perhaps, being lighter fare. The abstinence expected was to refrain from meat on Fridays; at one time this was expected 52 weeks of the year. While the Church still challenges the faithful to observe Fridays as days of penance, the specific obligation to abstain from meat has been limited to



Continues on page 4

BISHOP MEDLEY'S CALENDAR MARCH 2017

- MARCH 1** 12:05 p.m. Ash Wednesday Mass – St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro
- MARCH 2** "Visioning Day" with priests
- MARCH 5** 2:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. Rite of Election – St. Stephen Cathedral
- MARCH 6** "Visioning Day" with priests
- MARCH 7** 8:00 a.m. School Mass – Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville
6:00 p.m. Serra Club Dinner
- MARCH 8** 9:00 a.m. Staff Mass & Meeting – McRaith Catholic Center (MCC)
- MARCH 9** Visit to Saint Meinrad Seminary
- MARCH 12** 10:30 a.m. Closing Mass at Youth 2000 – Owensboro Convention Center
2:00 p.m. Scout Religious Emblem Mass – St. Stephen Cathedral
- MARCH 13** 9:00 a.m. Mass with Region V Family Life Directors – Mount St. Joseph
- MARCH 14** "Visioning Day" with priests
- MARCH 15** 8:30 a.m. Diocesan Finance Council– MCC
- MARCH 15-16** Visit to Bishop Simon Bruté Seminary
- MARCH 18** 4:00 p.m. Mass for Black Catholic Gathering – Christ the King, Madisonville
- MARCH 19** 9:30 a.m. Confirmation St. Edward, Fulton
4:00 p.m. Blessing of the Gym, St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville
- MARCH 20** 10:00 a.m. Priest Personnel Meeting
1:30 p.m. Priests' Council Meeting
- MARCH 21** 9:00 a.m. Senior Conversations Owensboro Catholic High School
6:00 p.m. Confirmation St. Peter, Waverly
- MARCH 22** "Visioning Day" with priests
- MARCH 23** 8:00 a.m. School Mass & Senior Conversations – Trinity High School, Whitesville
- MARCH 25** 4:00 p.m. Confirmation – St. Ann, Morganfield
- MARCH 26** 11:00 a.m. Confirmation – St. Thomas More, Paducah
- MARCH 28** 10:00 a.m. School Mass – St. Mary School System, Paducah
12 - 4:00 p.m. Paducah Office Hours
- MARCH 30** 9:00 a.m. School Mass – St. Romuald, Hardinsburg

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Continued from page 3

Lenten Fridays. Ash Wednesday, then and now, is observed by both fasting and abstinence.

So, why? Does our Church suggest that God may be pleased by our self-denial? Well, yes and no. We should not suggest that God is pleased when his children refrain from the goodness and the bounty of His creation. In the Garden of Eden, God admonished Adam and Eve to enjoy all that had been created. But that very story portrays how unbridled human consumption may often turn out. Adam and Eve (and we) grow all too quickly to presume an entitlement to everything we could possibly want or desire. We lose sight of all creation as a generous gift from the Creator. All too often, it is a short step to the conclusion that we do not need God, that we are self-sufficient in this world. Yes, Satan, the master of deceit in every age, can package temptation to look most attractive.

In the communities in which we live, few of us have ever experienced real deprivation from food. We enjoy a bounty almost unparalleled in human history. The reality, however, is that often there are people living not that very far from us who subsist on very little, maybe a bowl of beans or rice. This truth just underscores how blind consumption can render us.

So now are we going to fix all this in 40 days of Lent? Will our selfish inclinations end? Will no one in the world want for food? Not exactly! To me, fasting raises consciousness. It reminds me that God is the source of all that I have and all that I desire. World hunger is little affected if I forego a hamburger or a steak. But, perhaps, this very mild self-denial prompts me to think of those who fast not because they have so much, but because they have almost

nothing. If I can think more often of those who have little, fasting can lead me to prayer. If I can think more often of those who have little, fasting can lead me to almsgiving. And, then, the circle of prayer, fasting and almsgiving bears the genuine fruit of human compassion.

There are jokes recounted of pious Catholics denying themselves meat on a Friday, and then banqueting on lobster or other extravagant seafood. Uh – maybe the point has been missed.

Fasting in its purest form involves self-denial of some sort. If you love a good fish sandwich, then denying yourself a chicken breast is not really a sacrifice. (Here in the Diocese of Owensboro, however, it is quite proper to promote the fine fish dinners served up by many of our parishes and Knights of Columbus organizations. Lent and hospitality!)

Maybe, then, some of us should look to other opportunities for self-denial during Lent. Traditionally, some have abstained from alcohol or cigarettes. Others limit their TV watching. Some give up candy. Dare we consider fasting from social media: turning off cellphones, shutting down Facebook and Twitter? There is a lot of time wasted in some of these endeavors. Might we pray a little more if we did not have a phone or an iPad to distract us 24/7?

Lent: 40 days to ready ourselves for new life and new challenges from God. But, first, we have to make room and, for a little while, something else needs to go. Fasting and abstinence; try it, you'll like it.

+ William F. Medley

Most Reverend William F. Medley
Diocese of Owensboro

Brescia to host “Maryland to Kentucky” genealogy conference in June, all welcome to attend

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

In 1785, a group of 25 Catholic families in Maryland decided to migrate to Kentucky to seek a better economic situation and to escape the strains on religious freedom, due to Maryland’s anti-Catholic biases of that time.

The families settled in what are today Kentucky’s Nelson, Washington and Marion counties in Kentucky, and many families later expanded even fur-



Fr. Stephen Badin ministered to the early Catholic settlers in Kentucky. Photo via commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=15041829.

ther west across the state – including western Kentucky.

On June 22-25, this Maryland-to-Kentucky journey will be remembered and celebrated at the 2017 Maryland to Kentucky and Beyond Genealogy Conference, hosted at Brescia University in Owensboro.

The conference was established in 1990 in Nazareth, Ky., as a reunion for descendants of these pioneers and as a way to share genealogical information. It now draws participants and researchers from around the country – the last conference in 2014 saw 465 attendees from 26 states.

Ed Cecil, vice-president of the organization’s board of directors, said the conference is open to “everybody and anybody – not just Catholics.”

Cecil, who attends St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro, said the conference is an opportunity to share research, “and it’s amazing what you can find.”

Sister George Mary Hagan, OSU, is a member of the board of directors and will give two presentations during the conference on “how the Catholics kept their faith when they came to the wilderness of western Kentucky.”

Sister Hagan said the families traveled down the Ohio River and settled at Pottinger’s Creek in today’s Nelson County. She explained that before a priest could be sent to minister to them, they kept their faith with Liturgy of the Hours and tracing the Sign of the Cross on their children’s foreheads.

Sister Hagan’s talk will explore the faith of those

original families in central Kentucky, but will also discuss the Catholicism of those who later traveled to western Kentucky.

Sister will also talk about Fr. Stephen Badin, who is called the “apostle of Kentucky” and ministered to the Catholic families in Kentucky after being the first priest ordained in the United States.

Thursday’s conference activities include registration, orientation and keynote presentations. Friday and Saturday include 40 class session options, genealogy sharing and vendors; Saturday also features a banquet at Blessed Mother Parish Hall with speaker Fr. Ray Goetz.

Conference concludes with Sunday Mass at St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro celebrated by Bishop William F. Medley and Fr. Jerry Riney, cathedral rector.



Attend the conference

The 2017 Maryland to Kentucky and Beyond Genealogy Conference will be held June 22-25, 2017, at Brescia University in Owensboro. To learn more or to register for the conference, visit <https://sites.google.com/site/mdtoky3/>. Follow the conference at [Facebook.com/MDtoKYandBeyondInc](https://www.facebook.com/MDtoKYandBeyondInc). Contact president of the board of directors, Jane Hagan Smith, at marylandtokentucky@gmail.com or (502) 366-4962 or (502) 552-8087 (cell).

Gaspar's uniquely Catholic camps help youth 'encounter Christ'

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC



In this undated photo, Fr. Mike Williams, Gaspar's chaplain, celebrates Mass at Quest Camp, a week-long program for seventh and eighth grade youth. WKC file photo.

It is a curious phenomenon that the fastest camp to fill up at Gaspar River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center has no promise of long, sunny days or warm weather to explore the river.

Camp director Ben Warrell was initially "completely surprised" at how registrations poured in for Christmas/New Year's Camp set during Dec. 29 to Jan. 1.

He now attributes it to support from both the

youth and their parents.

"Our high school kids could be out anywhere on New Year's Eve," many parents have told Warrell, "but our kids are at Mass."

Joe Bland, director of the Office of Family Life for the Diocese of Owensboro and member of Gaspar's board of directors, said the Christmas/New Year's Camp is "a six-month reunion for these kids with the friends they made at camp" during the summer.

Editor's Note: This is the third in a five-part series commemorating the 10-year anniversary of Gaspar River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center.

"That's the beauty of camp," said Bland, who added that the winter camp has even seen kids bundle up to ride the zip line and other outdoor activities. "When I was growing up, your friends were within a five-block radius of your house. Now, kids can have friends from all over the diocese."

Eucharistic presence

The eight camps currently offered are Explorer Camp for third and fourth-graders; Expedition Camp for fifth and sixth-graders; Quest Camp for seventh and eighth-graders; Camp LIFE (Living It For Eternity) for ninth through twelfth-graders; Made for More for high school men; Camp Identity for ninth through twelfth-graders; Eucharistic Life Camp for 18 and up; and Christmas/New Year's Camp for eighth through twelfth-graders.

Warrell said the camps for younger kids help them ask "who am I, and why am I here?" while the camps for older youth "help them figure out their gifts and talents; what am I called to do?"

"It's giving the kids an opportunity to encounter Christ," said Warrell, explaining that Gaspar's chapel provides an anchoring presence for all the camps.

"Having Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel here makes all the difference in the world," he said.

Besides typical camp activities like kayaking, ca-

Continues on page 7

Continued from page 6

noeing, tubing on the river, zip-lining, archery, hiking, campfires, skits and more, each camp also offers opportunities for Mass, adoration, catechesis, praise and worship, confession and personal prayer.

Growing programs

Warrell said Gasper is always open to ideas and suggestions for new camps. In 2016, for instance, Gasper held the first Made for More Camp for high school boys, led by the diocesan Office of Vocations.

Fr. Jason McClure, diocese vocations director, said he had approached Warrell about the idea back in 2014, and Warrell “couldn’t have been more helpful.”

“When we began, we were hoping for at least five participants,” said Fr. McClure. “We ended up with 17 and based on the evaluations by the participants, we achieved our goal and I would certainly consider our first camp a great success.”

Made for More Camp returns in summer 2017, and Fr. McClure recommended talking to Warrell if someone is interested in starting a new camp.

“More camps mean greater success for Gasper River, which is a win for the camp, the diocese, and the Church,” said Fr. McClure.

A new camp this summer is Camp Identity, which Warrell said is a program “for kids seeking to go deeper.”

Camp Identity explores questions of Catholic anthropology such as “Who am I among my friends? How do we all grow in holiness? How do I see myself as God sees me, and how do I see other people as God sees them?”

Bland said Camp Identity includes studies in St. John Paul II’s “Theology of the Body” teachings, but



The diocese’s Office of Vocations contacted Warrell about starting a camp for high school men, and Made for More Camp held its inaugural summer in 2016. Photo courtesy of Corey Bruns.

is crafted in a way to “reach a young audience – and camp was a perfect vehicle for that.”

Changing lives

Warrell said Gasper strives “to keep camp as affordable as possible; our camp fees are currently about half of the national average.”

He credited the parishes “who have really stepped up and helped out” in spreading the word about the camp, and sometimes offering financial assistance, too.

Warrell said he encourages the youth to give back to their parishes by getting involved at church during all of the other weeks of the year that they are not at Gasper.

“Six or seven priests have said to me on separate occasions that we can see the difference between

kids who have been part of camp, and those who haven’t,” said Warrell, adding that he has also heard this from parents and principals.

Bland said he has seen God work at Gasper so many times that he has learned to take it all in stride: “Yeah, that’s God.”

“That camp has changed the face of this diocese – and even salvation history – forever,” he said.

Learn more

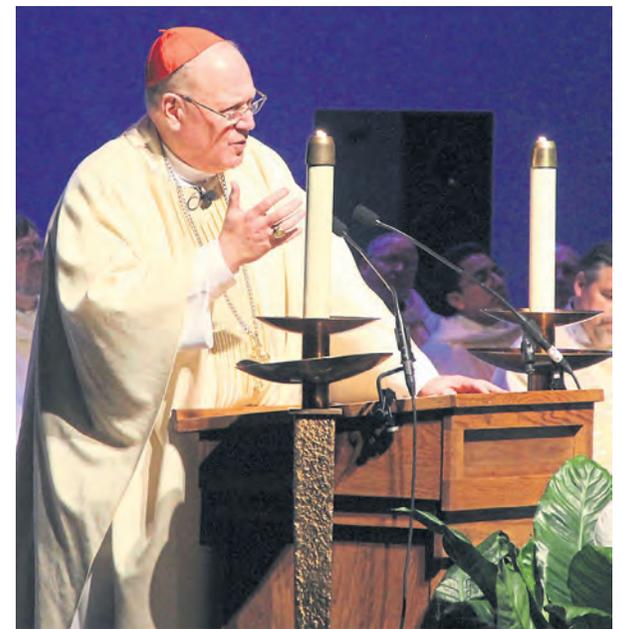
To learn more about Gasper River, how to register for a camp or how to donate, visit gasperriverretreatcenter.org.

2017 men's conference draws 950, Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York gives keynote

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC



A smiling Cardinal Timothy Dolan enters the RiverPark Center in downtown Owensboro during the Feb. 11, 2017 Catholic Men's Conference of Western Kentucky. Photo by Elizabeth Wong Barnstead/WKC.



Cardinal Timothy Dolan was main celebrant and homilist at the Saturday vigil Mass concluding the 2017 Catholic Men's Conference of Western Kentucky at the RiverPark Center in downtown Owensboro. Photo by Elizabeth Wong Barnstead/WKC.

In his homily for the Mass concluding the annual Catholic Men's Conference of Western Kentucky on Feb. 11, Cardinal Timothy Dolan asked the congregation why God gave humanity free will if he knew they would "botch it up."

"All he wants from us is love and trust, and love and trust can never be coerced," said Cardinal Dolan.

Earlier that day, Cardinal Dolan had given his keynote address on the importance of remaining

united to the Catholic Church, despite the sins and struggles of its faithful.

The cardinal told the 950 men gathered at the RiverPark Center in downtown Owensboro that it is crucial to "own up to the flaws, the dysfunction in our spiritual family."

"Be patient with the Church," said Cardinal Dolan, quoting St. John Paul II, who was known to have publically and frequently apologized for the Church's wrongdoings over the course of his 25-plus

years as pope.

"If we're not afraid to show the wounds of our Church, maybe the wounded will come back to us," said the cardinal.

Other speakers that day were Fr. Larry Richards, an author and speaker, and Robert Rogers, a speaker, author and songwriter. Both emphasized the reading of the scriptures to remain steeped in faith.

Fr. Richards' talk challenged the men to live au-

Continues on page 9

Continued from page 8

thentic Catholic manhood without excuses.

He offered the statement, “No Bible, no breakfast. No Bible, no bed,” as a way to remember to read the scriptures each day.

Rogers, who came from Kansas to speak at the conference, told the story of losing his wife and children in a tragic flash flood, but then building his life back up through the grace of God.

“The only way I could get through the flash flood and death of my family members was through the Word of God,” said Rogers, who has since remarried and now has four children.

Jim Creighton, who traveled to the conference with his brother Knights of Columbus from SS. Peter and Paul Parish in Hopkinsville, said he enjoyed the conference and the speakers.

He said Fr. Richards’ presentations were especially compelling: “Either you go to heaven or you go to hell – that’s a message that a lot of men need to hear. Read your Bible, not your phone.”

The Mass at the end of the conference was open to the public, and many participants’ families joined them for the liturgy.

The conference also included opportunities for confession, lunch, and free time to socialize and visit the many vendors.



Catholic Men's Conference

For those who missed the 2017 conference, more photos can be viewed at [Facebook.com/DioceseOfOwensboro](https://www.facebook.com/DioceseOfOwensboro). For updates about the 2018 conference, visit kycatholic.com.



Cardinal Timothy Dolan hugs fellow conference speaker Robert Rogers and Rogers’ wife, Inga. Photo by Tina Kasey/Office of Communications.



Fr. Larry Richards speaks to a nearly full RiverPark Center. Photo by Elizabeth Wong Barnstead/WKC.

Jesus is ‘focal point’ of Gennesaret Retreats for ill persons

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

For those with chronic, serious or terminal illnesses, the Gennesaret Retreat “is an opportunity to get away from their regular environment,” said Tom Payne, who with his wife, Amy, coordinates these retreats for the Diocese of Owensboro.

“Illness and sickness can play games with peoples’ minds,” said Tom. “Sometimes people begin to think, ‘why am I being punished?’”

Tom echoed what he and Amy have learned from Fr. Paul Scaglione, who established the original Gennesaret Retreats in New Jersey: “You are not being punished, and you are not defined by your illness.”

Amy said what actually defines a person is that, “you are loved by God.”

“As the weekend goes on, you don’t get away from your illness, but it’s not the focal point,” said Tom. Amy added, “Jesus is the focal point.”

The Gennesaret Retreats began in New Jersey about 20 years ago, and have since expanded to New York, Louisville, Ky., and Louisiana.

The Diocese of Owensboro team held its first retreat in spring 2016, its second in fall 2016 and is currently accepting applicants for the March 17-19 retreat.

Fr. Ed Bradley is one of the several priests who help during the retreats. He described the retreats as “powerful” and said guests are reminded that “God loves them and wants to care for them.”

“There is a beautiful dynamic between guest and guest,” he said, adding that for many, the only company they usually experience are weekly doctor’s appointments.

Held at Mount St. Joseph Conference and Retreat Center in Maple Mount, the retreats are free for all guests – that’s what the team calls the participants – and for any accompanying caregivers.

The retreat also features a team of medical professionals, hospitality ministers, liturgical ministers and “nuts and bolts” ministers, who manage the logistics to make the experience smooth and peaceful.

Amy added that each guest is “buddied-up with a medical professional – not hovering, but just being there.”

Special dietary needs for each guest can be provided, as well as other needs like shower chairs and bed rails. The team also arranges that each guest has a private room, and transportation assistance is available.



Fr. Ed Bradley. WKC file photo.



Tom and Amy Payne. Photo by Elizabeth Wong Barnstead/WKC.

Continues on page 11

Continued from page 10

“Safety is really a key thing,” said Amy. She added that the team is trained to dial 9-1-1 if an emergency occurs, and that the retreat center is conveniently close to a firehouse.

The Paynes expressed gratitude to their friend Sister Michele Intravia, OSU, an Ursuline Sister of Mount St. Joseph who encouraged them to use the Maple Mount retreat center.

“The Mount has been fantastic to work with,” said Amy.

Tom added that while the retreat offers daily Mass and confession opportunities, many non-Catholics have also attended and felt comfortable in the low-key, flexible setting.

Amy said she and Tom went through the journey of illness with their own parents, and saw “how im-

portant it is for families and people struggling with illness to know that the Lord is there for you.”

“You get to step back and hear in each talk how loved you are by the Lord,” she said.

How to help

Those interested in donating to the Diocese of Owensboro’s Gennesaret Retreats, offering services as a medical professional, or helping in other ways may contact Tom or Amy Payne of Owensboro at (270) 686-7739 or apayneat2251@hotmail.com.



2017 Gennesaret Retreats

March 17-19; Sept. 29-Oct. 1; both at Mount St. Joseph Conference and Retreat Center in Maple Mount.

Those who have a chronic or serious health issue could be a candidate for the Gennesaret retreat, designed for persons whose medical conditions would otherwise hinder them from attending a weekend overnight retreat. Retreats are free-of-charge for all, including any accompanying caregivers. To find out more or to obtain a retreat application packet, contact Tom or Amy Payne at (270) 686-7739 or apayneat2251@hotmail.com. The retreat accepts guests on a first-come, first-served basis.

Spiritual Direction Training Program

Feeling called to companion others on their journey with God?

Sign up for the 2017-2019 Spiritual Direction Training Program, sponsored by Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center and the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph.

Beginning Oct. 16, you will meet for a weekly training session eight times over a two-year period, entering into study, reflection and prayer around a topic fundamental to the understanding and practice of spiritual direction. You will receive intense training, practice and supervision by a coordinating team of religious sisters and educators.

The program, which leads to certification as a spiritual director, takes place on a quiet, rural campus in Maple Mount. Close to 50 individuals from across the U.S. have completed the program since it began in 2004.

Limited scholarships are available. Please register by Aug. 31.

To register or for more information, contact Sister Mary Matthias Ward
270-229-0200

mary.ward@maplemount.org

A brochure can be found at ursulinesmsj.org



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356

Fr. Carmelo Jimenez Salinas becomes U.S. citizen 'for my people'

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Fr. Carmelo Jimenez Salinas, pastor of St. Michael Parish in Sebree, came to serve the Diocese of Owensboro on April 28, 2006, little imagining that 11 years later he would become a citizen of the United States.

The Jan. 26, 2017 naturalization ceremony was more than an important moment for him personally, Fr. Jimenez told *The Western Kentucky Catholic*, "but for the people I serve."

Fr. Jimenez is a priest of the Archdiocese of Tuxtla Gutiérrez in Chiapas, Mexico, and originally thought he would minister in western Kentucky for a short time, then return home.

But after realizing the great need to serve the Latino population in western Kentucky, Fr. Jimenez, his diocese's archbishop and Bishop John J. McRaith agreed that he should stay longer.

The years went by, and last June Fr. Jimenez finally decided to pursue U.S. citizenship.

Now he has dual citizenship - "Mexico, and here," he said.

He also said the naturalization ceremony was bittersweet.

"Bitter" in the sense that "all the people who spoke that day, spoke on welcoming us to this country," he said. "A lot of Hispanic people want to (receive citizenship), no matter how expensive or long; if they have the opportunity, they do it."

"But many people, they can't do that," said Fr.

Jimenez, referencing individuals who enter the United States illegally to support their family or seek a better life - and do not have an opportunity to achieve legal status.

The "sweet" part of the bittersweet experience was after the naturalization ceremony.

After news of Fr. Jimenez's citizenship was shared on Facebook, "I received a lot of comments and 'congratulations, Father!' A lot of sweet and encouraging words," he said.

Fr. Jimenez's heart misses his home country, but realizes the significance of his ministry in Kentucky, "not only with Hispanic people, but with all people; not only inside the Church, but outside the Church, too."

"This is why I became an American citizen," he said. "I can speak for my people."

Fr. Jimenez gave encouragement to those who are afraid to go through the naturalization process, that, "they might be afraid of the interview part, but it was not too difficult in my experience."

He also offered a message to people who do not have legal status: "Don't be afraid with all of these immigration issues happening these days, because God knows what will happen to all of us. When we have confidence in God, he will always take care of us."



Fr. Jimenez stands with Chris Gutiérrez, director of the Office of Hispanic Ministry for the Diocese of Owensboro on Jan. 26, 2017, after Fr. Jimenez's naturalization ceremony in Louisville. Photo courtesy of Chris Gutiérrez.

**April is National
Child Abuse Prevention
Month**



You are invited to join
Bishop Medley for
Evening Prayer

Wednesday,
April 5, 2017
at 6:30 p.m.

Blessed Mother Parish
601 E. 23rd St.
Owensboro, KY 42303

**Pray for protection and
healing for all impacted
by child abuse.**

**Catholic Charities now accepting nominations for the
2017 John J. McRaith Providing Help, Creating Hope Award**

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Owensboro established the John J. McRaith Providing Help, Creating Hope Award in 2013 to recognize individuals or groups in our diocese who abundantly show the virtue of charity in their work and deeds, aligned with the mission of Catholic Charities.

The criteria are broad and encompassing. Groups and persons who reside within the diocese are eligible, regardless of their religious preference or where their charitable assistance occurred. The award is named after Bishop Emeritus John J. McRaith who retired as bishop of the Owensboro diocese January 5, 2009.

The mission of Catholic Charities is: integrating and coordinating social and charitable works; providing spiritual, educational, financial, and emotional support to those in need, and engaging in works of charity.

To nominate a group or individual, please complete the form below. All nominations should be submitted by March 24, 2017.

Name of individual or group you are nominating: _____

Address of nominee/s: _____

Nominated by: _____

Parish of person or committee making nomination: _____

Parish of nominee: _____

Who can we contact if further information is needed?

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email address: _____

Please describe charity performed; use separate sheet if necessary:

Please mail form to: Catholic Charities, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, KY 42301



Photo courtesy of Maria Korte.

St. Francis de Sales honors mothers with Mass, roses

Maria Korte of St. Francis de Sales Parish writes: "The Knights of Columbus celebrated Respect Life weekend during a Sunday Mass at St. Francis de Sales Parish in Paducah with a Rose and Rosary Ceremony. This year each mother with a new child born within the last year was called up during Mass to receive a blessed rosary and long stem rose. Six new mothers and babies received roses and rosaries during the Mass on Jan 22. Ten fourth-degree Knights in full regalia from Fr. John Fallon Assembly 312 conducted the presentation."



Photo courtesy of Rosary Chapel.

Rosary Chapel donates to local retirement center

In this photo, Burford Wilson, Rosary Chapel's social concerns/Christian outreach chair, presents a check to Dava Dillon, activity director for Jackson House Apartments and W. B. Sanders Retirement Center in Paducah. This donation will help provide funds for Jackson House and W.B. Sanders residents to have grocery carts.



Photo courtesy of Chris Gutiérrez.

Bishop Medley visits Mexico

From Feb. 13-19, Bishop William F. Medley; Fr. Carmelo Jimenez, pastor of St. Michael Parish in Sebree; Fr. Jason McClure, diocese vocations director and vicar for clergy; and Chris Gutiérrez, director of the diocese Office of Hispanic Ministry, visited Mexico to meet with the local bishops and religious communities. A highlight of the trip was when Fr. Jimenez, Bishop Medley and Fr. McClure celebrated Mass at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City on Feb. 16. Stay tuned for more coverage of their trip in the April issue of the WKC.

Mark your calendar for Cathedral Preschool's registration

Cathedral Preschool has been serving families since 1986 and educating God's "little ones" is what we do best! Cathedral Preschool open registration for the 2017-2018 school year begins on Monday, Feb. 13, 2017 at 7:30 a.m. for new families. Families who currently have children enrolled, as well as families who are members of St. Stephen Cathedral, were allowed to register the week beginning Feb. 6, 2017. The cut-off date for the child's birthday is August 1. Cathedral preschool will provide your three, four and five-year-old children with:

- Daily prayer in the classroom as well as a weekly Bible lesson
- A research-based academic curriculum that will prepare them for kindergarten
- Minds-in-Motion program for supporting your child's physical and academic development
- Age-appropriate loving and caring environment in a Christ-centered atmosphere
- Socialization and learning to be with peers
- Listening skills, independence and learning to follow routines

- An outlook for good health; serving healthy snacks and encouraging movement and exercise

All in all, Cathedral Preschool has what your child needs to be prepared for kindergarten and they will have a great time doing it! Families are welcome to visit at 600 Locust Street in Owensboro or call (270) 926-1652 to request a registration packet. Information is also available on the website: www.cathedralpreschool.com.

Fish fries 2017 in the Diocese of Owensboro

Editor's note: Canons 1250 and 1251 state that all Fridays are days of penance in the Catholic Church. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops requests that Catholics abstain from meat on Fridays during Lent, and practice some form of penance on the other Fridays throughout the year. Due to fish being a popular Lenten Friday option in this part of the world, the tradition of Friday fish fries has become a common activity for many. Below is information for Lent 2017 fish fries held in the Diocese of Owensboro, provided by the parishes. Questions may be directed to the individual parishes.

Precious Blood, Owensboro

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; April 7; all 5 p.m.

Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro

April 7, 5-7 p.m.

St. Agnes, Uniontown

March 3, 17 & 31; all 5 p.m.

Holy Guardian Angels, Irvington

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; April 7, all 4-7 p.m.
Eastern Standard Time

St. William & St. Lawrence, Philpot

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; April 7; all at 4:30-6 p.m. at St. Lawrence location

St. Pius X, Calvert City

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; April 7; all 4-7 p.m.

St. Martin, Rome

March 10; 5 p.m.

St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph

Fish fry and auction (live & silent), April 7; serving at 5:30 p.m., auction at 6:30 p.m.

St. Ann, Morganfield

March 10, 24; April 7; all 5 p.m.

St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley

March 10, 24; all 6 p.m.

St. Columba, Lewisport

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; April 7; all 4:30 p.m.

To Report Allegations of Sexual Abuse

Anyone aware of the abuse of a person under the age of eighteen is required by law to report this to the proper state authorities: local law enforcement or the Kentucky Child Abuse Hotline (toll-free: 1-877-KYSAFE1; 1-877-597-2331). In addition, to report to the diocese abuse by church personnel (paid or volunteer) either past or present, please call the Pastoral Assistance Coordinator at this confidential phone line: 270-852-8380. The Diocese of Owensboro revised its sexual abuse policy, effective July 1, 2014 and it is available at parishes and also on the diocesan website (owensborodiocese.org/safe). The members of the Board who deal with sexual abuse allegations in the Diocese of Owensboro are as follows: Mr. Ken Bennett (Chair, Rev. Mike Clark, JCL, Dr. Michael Farina, Rhonda Gillham, Ed Hodskins, Mary Beth Hurley, Tony Kraus, Mike Marsili, Leslie Phelps, Kelly Roe, Lanny Thomas, and Jennifer Hendricks-Wright. Richard Murphy serves as the Bishop's liaison to the Review Board. The safety of our children is the responsibility of every Christian.



VOCARE
CELEBRATING VOCATIONS TO PRIESTHOOD & CONSECRATED LIFE
DIOCESE OF OWENSBORO

Save the Date!

SEPTEMBER 22, 2017

OWENSBORO
CONVENTION
CENTER

OWENSBORODIOCESE.ORG/VOCARE

Lenten Day of Prayer

Presented by
Monsignor Bernard Powers

Saturday,
April 8

9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

\$25 (includes lunch)

*This prayer day will include Mass and
Reconciliation.*

To register, contact Kathy: (270) 229-0206

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org

ursulinesmsj.org



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356

Una Palabra del Obispo Medley

Una vez más ha llegado el tiempo de la Cuaresma. Aunque como Católicos tenemos la tendencia de quizás quejarnos un poco al pensar en la temporada que nos llama a la penitencia, siempre hay que recordarnos que la palabra “Cuaresma” de hecho significa “Primavera.” Legítimamente, entonces esta temporada de penitencia y de sacrificio prepara el camino para la vida nueva y el renacimiento.

Cuando buscaba un tema de la Cuaresma para compartir este año, pensé en el mandato del Evangelio de comprometernos a la oración, el ayuno y en dar limosna. Este año, sin embargo, tal vez reflexionar sobre el ayuno puede ayudar a algunos recuperar una tradición de la Iglesia que ha sido en gran parte

olvidada o por lo menos mal entendido.

Como he aprendido algunas cosas en la era digital, empecé mi reflexión donde el mundo moderno va para reflexionar. Fui a Google y puse “ayunar.” Algunos

artículos curiosos salieron, entre los cuales destaca “El Manual para Tontos sobre el Ayuno y Abstinencia: 5 Cosas que Deben Saber.” De hecho es un buen artículo y lo recomiendo.

La Iglesia Católica ha legislado las prácticas de ayunar y abstinencia a través de los años, con gran diferencias de edad a edad y de lugar a lugar. Básicamente, ayunar es reducir la cantidad de comida que uno consume, en cambio la abstinencia es evitar cierta comida. Entonces, en la tradición del pasado reciente, todos los días de la Cuaresma han sido días de ayuno, especificando que los devotos solamente tendrían una comida entera cada día, y las otras comidas serían algo más leve. La abstinencia es no comer carne los días viernes; en un tiempo eso fue la norma las 52 semanas del año. Aunque la Iglesia todavía desafía a los fieles en observar los viernes como días de penitencia, la obligación específica de abstenerse de la carne ha sido limitada a los viernes de la Cuaresma. El Miércoles de Ceniza, en el pasado y hasta la fecha, se observa con ayuno y también abstinencia.

¿Entonces, para qué? ¿Por qué nuestra Iglesia sugiere que le agrada a Dios si nos negamos a nosotros mismos? Bueno, sí y no. No debemos sugerir que le agrada a Dios cuando sus hijos se abstengan de lo bueno y la abundancia de su creación. En el Jardín del Edén, Dios exhortó a Adán y Eva disfrutar de todo lo que había creado. Pero esta misma historia retrata lo que el consumo desenfrenado de los humanos puede causar con frecuencia. Adán y Eva (y nosotros) muy pronto llegan a presumir un derecho a todo lo que podríamos querer o desear. Perdemos de vista que toda la creación es un don generoso del

Creador. Con demasiada frecuencia nos lleva pronto a la conclusión que no necesitamos a Dios, que somos autosuficientes en este mundo. Sí, Satanás, el maestro de la decepción en cada tiempo, puede disfrazar a la tentación para que parezca tan atractiva.

En las comunidades donde vivimos, muy pocos de nosotros hemos experimentado verdadera privación de comida. Disfrutamos una abundancia casi sin paralelo en la historia humana. La realidad, sin embargo, es que con frecuencia hay personas que viven no tan lejos de nosotros quienes subsisten con muy poco, quizás un plato de arroz o frijol. Esta verdad subraya qué tan ciegos podemos ser cuando consumimos sin pensar.

¿Entonces cómo vamos a corregir todo eso en 40 días de la Cuaresma? ¿Vamos a deshacernos de nuestras inclinaciones egoístas? ¿A nadie en el mundo le faltará comida? ¿No exactamente! Para mí, ayunar me concientiza. Me recuerda que Dios es la fuente de todo lo que tengo y todo lo que quiero. Si yo evito comer una hamburguesa o carne asada casi no afecta al hambre en el mundo. Pero, tal vez, negarme algo tan sencillo me provoca pensar en aquellos que ayunan no porque tienen tanto, sino porque no tienen casi nada. Si puedo pensar más seguido en los que tienen poco, ayunar me puede llevar a la oración. Si puedo pensar más seguido en los que tienen poco, ayunar me puede llevar a dar limosna. Y entonces, el círculo de oración, ayuno y limosna engendra la fruta auténtica de la compasión humana.

Hay bromas que circulan de Católicos piadosos

Continúa en página 17



Continuado de la página 16

que sacrifican al no comer carne en un viernes y entonces se dan un banquete de langosta y otros mariscos extravagantes. Uh – tal vez han perdido el sentido.

Ayunar en su forma más pura involucra sacrificio de alguna forma. Si le encanta un sándwich de pescado, entonces evitar comer una pechuga de pollo realmente no es un sacrificio. (Aquí en la Diócesis de Owensboro, sin embargo, es tan apropiado promover las cenas de pescado tan buenas que sirven en muchas parroquias y por las organizaciones de los Caballeros de Colón. ¡La Cuaresma y la hospitalidad!)

Quizás, entonces, algunos de nosotros debemos buscar otras oportunidades de sacrificio durante la Cuaresma. Tradicionalmente algunos han sacrificado alcohol o cigarrillos. Otros ponen límites en el tiempo que pasan viendo la televisión. Algunos sacrifican dulces. ¿Nos atreveríamos a considerar ayunar de las redes sociales: apagando los celulares, Facebook y Twitter? Hay mucho tiempo malgastado en algunas de estas actividades. ¿Podríamos rezar un poco más si no tuviéramos un teléfono o tableta para distraernos 24/7?

Cuaresma: 40 días para prepararnos para la vida nueva y retos nuevos de Dios. Pero primeramente tenemos que hacer espacio y, por un tiempo, algo más tiene que salir. Ayuno y abstinencia; inténtelos, le van a gustar.



Obispo William F. Medley
Diócesis de Owensboro

Ferías Parroquiales del 2017

FECHA	HORA DE SERVIR	PARROQUIA
3 Junio	Sirviendo a las 4 p.m.	San José, Leitchfield
10 Junio	4-9pm Evento SPIRITFEST	Santo Espíritu, Bowling Green
10 Junio	Sirviendo a las 4 p.m.	San Pio X, Owensboro
8 Julio	Sirviendo a las 4 p.m.	San Alfonso, San José
5 Agosto	Sirviendo al mediodía	Santísimo Sacramento, Owensboro
9 Septiembre	Sirviendo a las 4 p.m.	Santísima Madre, Owensboro
16 Septiembre	Sirviendo de 4-8 p.m.	Cristo Rey, Madisonville
23 Septiembre	Comida y Rifa 2-4 p.m.	Inmaculada, Owensboro
24 Septiembre	Sirviendo al mediodía	San Leo, Murray
24 Septiembre	Sirviendo 1 p.m.	San Miguel, Sebree

EL CALENDARIO DEL OBISPO MEDLEY PARA MARZO DEL 2017:

MARZO 1	12:05 p.m. Misa de Miércoles de Ceniza en la Catedral
MARZO 2	"Día de Visión" con sacerdotes
MARZO 5	2:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. Rito de Elección – Catedral
MARZO 6	"Día de Visión" con sacerdotes
MARZO 7	8:00 a.m. Misa Escolar – Santos Pedro y Pablo, Hopkinsville 6:00 p.m. Cena del Club Serra
MARZO 8	9:00 a.m. Misa y Reunión del Consejo Sacerdotal – Centro Católico McRaith (MCC)
MARZO 9	Visita al Seminario del San Meinrad
MARZO 12	10:30 a.m. Misa de Clausura – Youth 2000, Centro de Convenciones de Owensboro 2:00 pm. Misa de los Emblemas de Scout – Catedral
MARZO 13	9:00 a.m. Misa con los Directores de Vida Familiar de la Región V – MSJ
MARZO 14	"Día de Visión" con sacerdotes
MARZO 15	8:30 a.m. Reunión del Consejo Diocesano de Finanzas – MCC
MARZO 15-16	Visita al Seminario Obispo Simón Bruté
MARZO 18	4:00 p.m. Misa para el Encuentro de Católicos Negros – Cristo Rey, Madisonville
MARZO 19	9:30 a.m. Confirmación – San Eduardo, Fulton (Para San Eduardo y San Judas) 4:00 p.m. Bendición del Gimnasio – Santa María del Bosque, Whitesville
MARZO 20	10:00 a.m. Reunión del Consejo de Personal Sacerdotal – MCC 1:30 p.m. Reunión del Consejo Sacerdotal – MCC
MARZO 21	9:00 a.m. Conversaciones con los "Seniors" – Escuela Preparatoria Católica de Owensboro 6:00 p.m. Confirmación – San Pedro, Waverly (Para San Pedro, Sagrado Corazón y Santa Inés)
MARZO 22	"Día de Visión" con sacerdotes
MARZO 23	8:00 a.m. Misa Escolar y Conversaciones con los "Seniors" Escuela Preparatoria de la Trinidad
MARZO 25	4:00 p.m. Confirmación – Santa Ana, Morganfield
MARZO 26	11:00 a.m. Confirmación – Santo Tomas Moro, Paducah
MARZO 28	10:00 a.m. Misa Escolar – Systema Escolar de Santa María, Paducah 12:00 p.m. Horas de Oficina de Paducah
MARZO 30	9:00 a.m. Misa Escolar – San Romualdo, Hardinsburg

Parroquias con Misas en Español

Parroquia del Santo Redentor, Beaver Dam

Sábados – 5:00 p.m.

13th & Madison Streets, Beaver Dam, KY 42320
Contacto: Padre Juan René (270) 903-8070

Parroquia de San José, Bowling Green

Jueves – 6:30 p.m.

Sábados – 7:00 p.m.

Domingos – 12:30 p.m.

434 Church Street, Bowling Green, KY 42101
Contacto: Sra. Gina Holmes (270) 777-5925

Parroquia de San Francisco de Asis, Elkton

Domingos – 12:00 p.m.

Misa en Guthrie, KY - 6:00 p.m.

221 Allensville Street, Elkton, KY 42220
Contacto: Diácono Heriberto Rodríguez (302) 438-7335
o Roberto Cruz (270) 498-8559

Parroquia de Santa María, Franklin

Domingos – 1:30 p.m.

403 North Main Street, Franklin, KY 42134
Contacto: Padre Daniel Dillard (270) 586-4515

Parroquia del Santo Nombre de Jesús, Henderson

Domingos – 1:00 p.m.

511 2nd Street, Henderson, KY 42420
Contacto: Abraham Brown (270) 724-2172

Parroquia de Santos Pedro y Pablo,

Hopkinsville

Domingos – 2:00 p.m. y 10:30 p.m.

Jueves – 5:30 p.m.

902 East 9th Street, Hopkinsville, KY 42240
Contacto: Padre Basilio Az Cuc (270) 885-8522 o Mayra Tirado (270) 498-6456

Parroquia San José, Leitchfield

Cada 2do y 4to Domingos de Mes 10:30 p.m.

109 West Walnut Street, Leitchfield KY 42754
Contacto: Padre Steve Hohman (270) 784-1520

Parroquia de Cristo Rey, Madisonville

Domingos – 6:00 p.m.

1600 Kingsway Drive, Madisonville, KY 42431
Contacto: Padre Juan Vaughan (270) 821-5494

Parroquia de San José, Mayfield

Domingos – 12:30 p.m.

702 West Broadway, Mayfield, KY 42066
Contacto: Hermana Eloisa Torralba (270) 356-0339

Parroquia de la Santísima Trinidad, Morgantown

Domingos – 9:15 a.m.

766 Logansport Road, Morgantown, KY 42261
Contacto: Padre Juan René (270) 903-8070

Parroquia de San Leo, Murray

Sábados – 5:30 p.m.

401 North 12th Street, Murray, KY 42071
Contacto: Padre Eugene Batungbacal (270) 753-3876

Parroquia Santos José y Pablo, Owensboro

Domingos – 12:00 p.m. y 10:30 p.m.

609 East 4th Street, Owensboro, KY 42303
Contacto: Hermana Pilar Hinojosa (706) 936-3525

Parroquia de Santo Tomás Moro, Paducah

Domingos – 1:00 p.m.

3er. Jueves de Mes 8:30 a.m. (Capilla Hospital de Lourdes)

5645 Blandville Road, Paducah, KY 42001
Contacto: Hermana Celia Sanchez (423) 883-5757

Parroquia del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús, Russellville

Domingos – 2:00 p.m.

296 West 6th Street, Russellville, KY 42276
Contacto: Hermana Patricia Sullivan, OP (270) 726-6963

Parroquia Cristo Rey, Scottsville

Cada Primer Martes de Mes – 7:00 p.m.

298 Bluegrass Drive, Scottsville, KY 42164
Contacto: Padre Daniel Dillard (270) 586-4515

Parroquia de San Miguel Arcangel, Sebree

Miércoles – 12:00 p.m.

Jueves – 12:00 p.m.

Domingos – 12:00 p.m. y 7:30 p.m.

57 Watkins Road, Sebree, KY 42455
Contacto: Patti Gutiérrez (270) 302-2782 o Padre Carmelo Jiménez (270) 881-7737

Para Hacer Informe de Alegatos de Abuso Sexual

Cualquier persona que sepa de un abuso de un menor de dieciocho años es obligado por ley informarles a las autoridades estatales apropiadas: policía local o la línea dedicada para el Abuso Infantil de Kentucky (gratis: 1-877-KYSAFE1; 1-877-597-2331).

Además, para informar a la Diócesis sobre el abuso por parte de algún personal (pagado o voluntario) de la Iglesia, en el pasado o presente, favor de llamar a la Coordinadora de

Asistencia Pastoral a esta línea confidencial: 270-852-8380. La Diócesis de Owensboro acaba de revisar su reglamento sobre el abuso sexual, efectivo el 1 de Julio del 2014 y está disponible en todas las parroquias y también en el sitio web diocesano (www.rcdok.org/safe).

Los miembros de la junta que responden a las alegaciones de abuso sexual en la Diócesis de Owensboro son los siguientes: Mr. Ken Bennett (Presidente), Mr. Mike Boone,

Ms. Kaye Castlen, Rev. Mike Clark, JCL, Dr. Michael Farina, Mr. Mike Flaherty, Ms. Rhonda Gillham, Mr. Brandon Harley, Ms. Mary Beth Hurley, Mr. Tony Kraus, Mr. Michael Marsili, Ms. Kelly Roe (Vice-Presidente), y Ms. Jennifer Hendricks-Wright. Richard Murphy sirve como enlace entre el Obispo y la Junta de Revisión Diocesano. La seguridad de nuestros niños es la responsabilidad de cada Cristiano.

Los campamentos singularmente Católicos en Gasper ayudan a los niños tener un ‘Encuentro con Cristo’

POR ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, EL CATÓLICO DE KENTUCKY OCCIDENTAL



La Oficina Diocesana de Vocaciones contactó a Warrell con la idea de empezar un campamento para jóvenes varones y el Campamento Hecho para Más se llevó a cabo por primera vez en el verano del 2016. Foto por cortesía de Corey Bruns.

Es un fenómeno curioso que el campamento que se llenó lo más rápido en el Campamento Juvenil Católico y Centro de Retiros del Río Gasper no tenía ninguna promesa de días largos y soleados ni clima bonito para explorar al río.

El director del Campamento Ben Warrell al principio estaba “totalmente sorprendido” por tantas inscripciones al Campamento de Navidad/Fin de Año que se hace entre el 29 de diciembre el 1 de enero.

Ahora piensa que es por el apoyo de los mismos jóvenes y también sus papás.

“Nuestros jóvenes de las escuelas preparatorias podrían estar en cualquier lugar en el Fin de Año,” muchos papás le han dicho a Warrell, “Pero nuestros jóvenes están en Misa.”

en sus chamarras usando la tirolina y otras actividades afuera. “Cuando yo estaba creciendo, los amigos estaban a cinco cuadras de tu casa máximo. Ahora pueden tener amigos de toda la Diócesis.”

La presencia Eucarística

Los ocho campamentos que actualmente ofrecidos son Campamento Explorador para niños de tercer y cuarto grado; Campamento Expedición para niños de quinto y sexto grado; Campamento Búsqueda para los niños de séptimo y octavo; Campamento VIDA (Vivirlo por la Eternidad por sus siglas en inglés) para los adolescentes entre noveno y doceavo grados; Hecho para Más para adolescentes

Joe Bland, el director de la Oficina de Vida Familiar de la Diócesis de Owensboro y miembro de la mesa directiva de Gasper, mencionó que el Campamento de Navidad/Fin de Año es “una reunión después de seis meses para los jóvenes con sus amigos que conocieron en los campamentos” durante el verano.

“Esto es lo hermoso del campamento,” dijo Bland, añadiendo que en el campamento del invierno ha visto incluso a los jóvenes

varones entre noveno y doceavo grados; Campamento Identidad para los adolescentes de entre noveno y doceavo grados; Campamento Vida Eucarística para los mayores de 18 años; y Campamento Navidad/Fin de Año para los adolescentes entre octavo y doceavo grados.

Warrell comentó que los campamentos para los niños pequeños les ayudan a preguntarse: “¿quién soy yo y por qué estoy aquí?” mientras que los campamentos para los adolescentes y jóvenes “les ayudan a explorar sus dones y talentos; ¿qué soy llamado hacer?”

“Es darles a los niños una oportunidad de tener un encuentro con Cristo,” dijo Warrell, explicando que la capilla de Gasper provee una presencia que sostiene a todos los campamentos.

“Tener a Jesús en el Santísimo Sacramento en la capilla aquí hace toda la diferencia,” comentó.

Aparte de las actividades típicas de un campamento como piragüismo, canotaje, tirolina, tiro con arco, excursionismo, fogatas, comedias y más, cada campamento también ofrece las oportunidades de ir a Misa, adoración, catequesis, alabanzas, confesión y oración personal.

Programas Crecientes

Warrell mencionó que Gasper siempre está abierto a ideas y sugerencias para campamentos nuevos. En el 2016, por ejemplo, Gasper llevó a cabo el primer Campamento Hecho para Más para los jóvenes varones de la escuela preparatoria, guiado por la

Continúa en página 20

Oficina Diocesana de Vocaciones.

El Padre Jason McClure, director diocesano de vocaciones, mencionó que se había acercado a Warrell sobre la idea en 2014, y Warrell “fue de mucha ayuda.”

“Cuando empezamos queríamos por lo menos cinco participantes,” dijo el P. McClure. “Al final tuvimos 17 y basado en las evaluaciones de los participantes, logramos nuestra meta y ciertamente considero nuestro primer campamento un gran éxito.”

Campamento Hecho para Más regresa en el verano del 2017 y el P. McClure recomienda hablar con Warrell si alguien tiene interés de empezar un nuevo campamento.

“Más campamentos significan más éxito para el Río Gasper, lo cual es ventaja para el campamento, la diócesis y la Iglesia,” dijo el P. McClure.

Un campamento nuevo este verano es Campamento Identidad, lo cual dice Warrell que es un

programa “para adolescentes que quieren algo más profundo.”

Campamento Identidad explora preguntas de la antropología Católica cómo “¿Quién soy entre mis amigos? ¿Cómo podemos todos crecer en santidad? ¿Cómo verme a mí mismo como Dios me ve, y cómo puedo ver a otras personas cómo Dios los ve?”

Bland dijo que el Campamento Identidad incluye estudios de las enseñanzas de la “Teología del Cuerpo”, pero se ha construido de una forma para “llegar a una audiencia de adolescentes – y un campamento es el vehículo perfecto para eso.”

Cambiando Vidas

Warrell comentó que Gasper se esfuerza “para mantener los campamentos los más económicos posibles; el costo de nuestros campamentos es como la mitad del promedio nacional.”

Él les da crédito a las parroquias “las cuales han ayudado mucho” en correr la voz sobre el campamen-

to y a veces ofreciendo ayuda financiera también.

Warrell dijo que se anima a los adolescentes recompensar a la parroquia con involucrarse en su iglesia en todas las otras semanas del año que no están en Gasper.

“Seis o siete de nuestros sacerdotes han llegado conmigo en diferentes ocasiones diciendo que pueden ver la diferencia entre los niños quienes han sido parte de un campamento y los que no,” dijo Warrell, añadiendo que también ha escuchado lo mismo de papás y directores de las escuelas.”

Bland dijo que ha visto a Dios trabajando en Gasper tantas veces que ya lo toma como normal: “Claro, es Dios.”

“El campamento ha cambiado el rostro de esta diócesis – e incluso la historia de salvación – para siempre,” dijo.

Para aprender más sobre el Río Gasper, cómo inscribirse en un campamento o como hacer una donación, visita gasperriverretreatcenter.org.



La Conferencia de Hombres Católicos de Kentucky Occidental del 2017 se llevó acabo el 11 de febrero en el Centro RiverPark en Owensboro. Los oradores incluyeron al Padre Larry Richards y Robert Rogers. El orador principal fue el Cardenal Timothy Dolan, arzobispo de Nueva York, quien también presidió la Misa de las 5 p.m. en la clausura de la conferencia. Aproximadamente 950 hombres asistieron.



Cada enero, el Padre Julio Cesar Palarino Castro visita a la Diócesis de Owensboro y presta una mano para ayudar en varias necesidades pastorales incluyendo dirigiendo un Encuentro Familiar Diocesano que atrae más de 300 participantes adultos. El Encuentro de este año se llevó acabo en la Parroquia de Santos Pedro y Pablo en Hopkinsville el 21 de enero. (Fotos por cortesía de Cristóbal Gutiérrez.)



El Padre Julio Cesar Palarino Castro es originario de Uruguay, pero es sacerdote de la Arquidiócesis de la Plata, Argentina. El 24 de enero hispanos de varias parroquias de a través de la diócesis se reunieron en Hopkinsville para felicitarlo y reconocerle por su 25 aniversario de sacerdocio. El P. Julio ha sido un don maravilloso para la comunidad hispana en nuestra diócesis por los últimos cinco años. (Fotos por cortesía de Cristóbal Gutiérrez.)

El Padre Carmelo Jiménez Salinas se convierte en ciudadano de los Estados Unidos ‘por mi gente’

POR ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, EL CATÓLICO DE KENTUCKY OCCIDENTAL

El Padre Carmelo Jiménez Salinas, párroco de la Parroquia de San Miguel en Sebree, vino a servir en la Diócesis de Owensboro el 28 de Abril del 2006, sin imaginar que casi 11 años después se convertiría en ciudadano de los Estados Unidos.

El 26 de Enero del 2017 la ceremonia de naturalización fue más que un momento importante sólo para él personalmente, comentó el P. Jiménez al Católico de Kentucky Occidental, “pero fue por las personas a quien sirvo.”

El P. Jiménez es un sacerdote de la Arquidiócesis de Tuxtla Gutiérrez en Chiapas, México, y al principio pensó que iba a servir en Kentucky occidental por un corto tiempo y luego regresar a casa.

Pero al ver la gran necesidad de servir a la población latina en Kentucky occidental, el P. Jiménez, su Arzobispo y el Obispo Juan J. McRaith se pusieron de acuerdo en que debía quedarse más tiempo.

Los años iban pasando y el Junio pasado el P. Jiménez por fin decidió aplicar para la ciudadanía de los Estados Unidos.

Ahora tiene doble ciudadanía – “México y aquí,” dijo.

También dijo que la ceremonia de naturalización fue alegre y triste a la vez.

“Triste” en el sentido que “todas las personas que hablaron ese día, nos daban la bienvenida a este país,” comentó. “Muchas personas hispanas quieren (recibir la ciudadanía), sin importar qué tan caro y largo sea el proceso; si tuvieran la oportunidad, lo harían.”

“Pero muchas personas no lo pueden hacer,” dijo el P. Jiménez, haciendo referencia a los individuos que entran a los Estados Unidos ilegalmente para sacar a su familia adelante o darles lo necesario – y no tienen la oportunidad de lograr un estatus legal.

La parte alegre de la experiencia fue después de la ceremonia de naturalización.

Después de que alguien compartió las noticias de la ciudadanía del P. Jiménez en Facebook, “recibí muchos comentarios y ¡felicidades Padre! Muchas palabras agradables y alentadoras,” comentó.

En su corazón el P. Jiménez extraña a su país de origen, pero se da cuenta de la importancia de su ministerio en Kentucky, “no solamente con la gente hispana pero con toda la gente, y no solamente dentro de la Iglesia, pero afuera también.”

“Por eso me hice ciudadano de los Estados Unidos,” dijo. “Puedo hablar por mi gente.”

El P. Jiménez animó a los que tienen miedo al proceso de naturalización, que, “tal vez tienen miedo de la entrevista, pero no fue tan difícil en mi experiencia.”

También ofreció un mensaje a la gente que no tienen estatus legal: “No tengan miedo por todas las cosas que están pasando ahora con la migración en estos días porque Dios sabe lo que nos va a pasar a todos nosotros. Cuando confiamos en Dios, siempre nos cuidará.”



El Padre Jiménez junto con Cristóbal Gutiérrez, director de la Oficina de Ministerio Hispano de la Diócesis de Owensboro el 26 de Enero del 2017 después de la ceremonia de naturalización del P. Jiménez en Louisville. Foto por cortesía de Cristóbal Gutiérrez.

¿Le interesa el sacerdocio o la vida religiosa?

Póngase en contacto con la Oficina de Vocaciones de la Diócesis de Owensboro a jason.mcclure@pastoral.org o llamando (270) 683-1545 (oficina) o (270) 875-2868 (celular del P. Jason). Aprenda más en owensborodiocese.org/vocations.

México

Entre el 13 al 19 de febrero, el Obispo William F. Medley; el Padre Carmelo Jiménez, párroco de la Parroquia de San Miguel en Sebree; el Padre Jason McClure, director diocesano de vocaciones y vicario del clero; y Cristóbal Gutiérrez, director diocesano de la Oficina de Ministerio Hispano, visitaron a México para reunirse con los obispos locales y comunidades religiosas. Un momento especial del viaje fue cuando el P. Jiménez, el Obispo Medley y el P. McClure celebraron la Misa en la Basílica de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe en la Ciudad de México el 16 de febrero. En el periódico de Abril del Católico de Kentucky Occidental habrá más cobertura de su viaje.

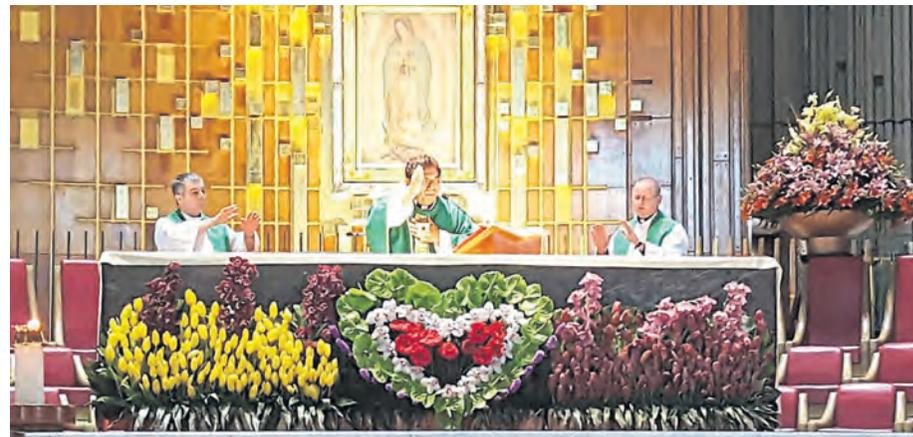
Youth 2000 celebra 20 años de un 'fin de semana centrado en Dios'



Individuos entre 13 y 30 años están invitados al vigésimo Youth 2000 anual el 10 al 12 de marzo en el Centro de Convenciones de Owensboro. El retiro centrado en la Eucaristía fue una respuesta al llamado del San Juan Pablo II de preparar a la juventud en vivir y proclamar el Evangelio de Jesús, “dando a conocer a Cristo al mundo moderno.” El retiro del fin de semana es guiado por los Frailes Franciscanos de la Renovación de la Ciudad de Nueva York. Para información de cómo inscribirse, llama a (270) 683-1545 o visita a marianshrineky.org.

Próximo Retiro de Discernimiento

La Oficina de Vocaciones tendrá un Retiro de Discernimiento para hombres de 18 a 25 años de edad el fin de semana del 31 de marzo al 2 de abril. El retiro tendrá lugar en el Seminario y Escuela de Teología de San Meinrad en Indiana y es para los hombres que están discerniendo su vocación, especialmente aquellos que están discerniendo una posible vocación al sacerdocio. Para más información o para inscribirse en el retiro, visite owensborovocations.com o llame a la Oficina Vocacional a (270) 683-1545.



V Encuentro

¡El proceso del V Encuentro ha empezado en la Diócesis de Owensboro! El quinto proceso de Encuentro en los Estados Unidos invita a los líderes diocesanos y parroquiales a tener un encuentro con los católicos hispanos, especialmente con los que viven en las periferias. La meta del V Encuentro es discernir maneras en que la Iglesia Católica de los Estados Unidos pueda responder, servir e involucrar mejor a los hispanos como discípulos misioneros. Póngase en contacto con su parroquia para aprender cómo el proceso del V Encuentro se está implementando al nivel local y visita vencuentro.org para aprender más sobre el proceso al nivel nacional.

Taller de Capacidades interculturales viene a la diócesis en junio

El 6 al 8 de junio del 2017, la Diócesis de Owensboro será anfitrión de un taller llamado “Construyendo Competencias Interculturales para los Ministros,” y tendrá lugar en el Centro de Conferencias y Retiros del Monte San José en Maple Mount. Los participantes aprenderán sobre los asuntos de la diversidad en términos de la identidad eclesial y la misión de evangelizar; entender mejor la cultura y cómo funciona; desarrollar habilidades de comunicación intercultural en ambientes pastorales; expandir el conocimiento de los obstáculos que impiden las relaciones interculturales efectivas; y fomentar la integración eclesial en vez de asimilación en ambientes de la iglesia, con una espiritualidad de reconciliación y misión. Aprender más en owensborodiocese.org/bicmworkshop (Nota: este taller será dado en Inglés.)

MARCH 2017 BULLETIN BOARD

Nominations for 2016-17 McRaith Catechetical award now being accepted

The Offices of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry are asking for nominations for the Bishop John J. McRaith Catechetical Leader Award. The recipient of this award will be announced at the Appreciation Dinner for Catechetical and Youth Ministers on May 8, 2017 at the Fr. John Vaughan Center in Owensboro. Nominees should be (or have been) professional ministers working for a minimum of five years in the Diocese of Owensboro in the field of catechetics. Contact elaine.robertson@pastoral.org to learn more or for nomination forms. All nominations should be emailed or sent to Religious Education Office, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, KY 42301-2130 by April 25.

Join us for annual Black Catholic Ministry gathering

"The Spirit of the Lord is Upon Me: act justly, love goodness, and walk humbly with your God." The Diocese of Owensboro's annual Black Catholic Spring Gathering with Bishop William F. Medley will be held at Christ the King Parish Hall in Madisonville on Saturday, March 18 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Continental breakfast and lunch will be served. Come and bring a friend to this celebration of fun and fellowship. Everyone is welcome; all ages, all faiths and all ethnicities. Ethnic attire is welcome. Sales of afro-centric attire, giftware, religious items and youth Bibles will be available at this gathering. Registration and information for the July 6-9 National Black Catholic Congress, which will be held in Orlando, Fla. this year will be completed and finalized at this gathering. Please register for this gathering by March 15; call the Office of Black Catholic Ministry at (270) 683-1545 or email veronica.wilhite@pastoral.org. There is no cost, but a count for meal preparation is needed. Volunteers are always welcome to greet, assist with prayer and whatever the Holy Spirit moves you to offer. Hope to see you there! The Office of Black Catholic Ministry in the Diocese of Owensboro is located at the McRaith Catholic Center, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, KY, 42301 and directed by F. Veronica Wilhite.

V Encuentro is happening in the Diocese of Owensboro

The V Encuentro process has begun in the Diocese of Owensboro! The V Encuentro, as the fifth Encuentro process in the United States, invites diocesan

leaders and parishes to encounter Hispanic and Latino Catholics, especially those living on the margins. The goal of the V Encuentro is to discern ways in which the Catholic Church in the United States can better respond to, serve, and engage Hispanics and Latinos as fellow missionary disciples. Learn more at vencuentro.org.

Yarn Spinners at the Mount

Weekends of March 3-5, June 2-4, Aug. 11-13, Nov. 3-5 at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center. Whether you are an experienced yarn spinner, weaver, rug hooker, knitter, crocheter or a beginner, you are welcome to attend the Arts at the Mount weekend retreats. Enjoy the fellowship of those who appreciate this traditional skill. For information on room rates, costs, etc., contact Kathy McCarty: (270) 229-0206 or kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org.

You could win this home for \$100!



Sts. Joseph & Paul Parish is raffling a brand-new Martin Custom Builders home located at 4135 Mayflower Dr., Owensboro. The home features 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, a 2 car garage, granite countertops and soft close cabinets throughout! The raffle will be held on March 18, 2017 at 10 a.m. in the parish hall.

You may purchase your tickets with cash or check at the following locations:

- Sts. Joseph & Paul Parish Office
- Martin Custom Builders
- Owensboro Catholic Schools- All locations

If you would like to purchase your ticket with a credit card you may do so at:

- Sts. Joseph & Paul Parish Office
- On our website www.stjpc.org
- On Facebook page of catholiceducationhomeraffle.com

- By phone at 270-683-5641

Catholic Campaign for Human Development seeks 2017 applicants

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) is a national social justice program of the United States Catholic Bishops. Its mission is to address the root causes of poverty in America through promotion and support of community controlled, self-help organizations, and through transformative education of the non-poor. Every November the Diocese of Owensboro participates in the CCHD collection, and a percentage of the collection is retained to provide funding for local organizations that meet CCHD criteria. The diocese's Catholic Charities office allocates the funding through grants. To obtain an application, contact Richard Murphy in the Social Concerns office at (270) 683-1545 or richard.murphy@pastoral.org. Applications must be received by May 20, 2017 so grants can be awarded on or before June 20, 2017. For full criteria and more information visit owensborodiocese.org/cchd.

"Focus on Faith" continues March 9

Thursdays: March 9, April 13, May 11, June 8, Aug. 10, Sept. 14, Oct. 12, Nov. 9, Dec. 14 from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Led by Ursuline Sister Ann McGrew. Fee: \$20 per class (includes lunch). At Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center. These monthly classes in 2017 will be based on the Apostolic Exhortation, "The Joy of Love," by Pope Francis. Join us as we "Focus on Faith" and delve into this interesting book. Feel free to attend any or all sessions. To register, contact Kathy McCarty: (270)229-0206 or kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org.

Intercultural competencies workshop coming to diocese in June

On June 6-8, 2017, the Diocese of Owensboro will host a workshop titled "Building Intercultural Competencies for Ministers," held at Mount St. Joseph Conference and Retreat Center in Maple Mount. Participants will learn how to better frame issues of diversity in terms of the Church's identity and mission to evangelize; seek an understanding of culture and how it works; develop intercultural communication skills in pastoral settings; expand one's knowledge of the obstacles which impede effective intercultural relations; and foster ecclesial integration rather than

Continues on page 25

UPCOMING EVENTS

2017 Parish Picnic Schedule for the Diocese of Owensboro

Editor's note: Don't forget to attend the International Bar-B-Q Festival in downtown Owensboro on May 12-13, 2017. Many parish cooking teams will be represented at the festival.

DATE	SERVING TIME	PARISH
MAY 28	Serving at 11 a.m.	St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville
JUNE 3	Booths open at 3 p.m.; serving at 4 p.m.	Precious Blood, Owensboro
JUNE 3	Serving at 4 p.m.	St. Joseph, Leitchfield
JUNE 10	4-9 p.m. SPIRITFEST parish picnic event	Holy Spirit, Bowling Green
JUNE 10	Serving at 4 p.m.	St. Pius X, Owensboro
JUNE 24	Serving at 5 p.m.	St. Peter of Antioch, Waverly
JULY 1	Serving at 4 p.m.	St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho
JULY 1	Serving at 3 p.m.	St. Anthony the Abbot, Axtel
JULY 8	Serving at 4 p.m.	St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph
JULY 8	Serving at 4 p.m.	Immaculate Conception, Hawesville
JULY 15	Serving at 4 p.m.	St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley
JULY 22	Serving at 4 p.m.	St. Mary of the Woods, McQuady
JULY 29	Serving at 3 p.m.	St. Paul, Leitchfield
AUG 1	Drive-thru picnic beginning at 5 p.m.	St. Martin, Rome
AUG 5	Serving at 10 a.m.	St. Jerome, Fancy Farm
AUG 5	Serving at noon	Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro
AUG 12	Serving at 5 p.m.	St. Ann, Morganfield
AUG 26	Serving at 3 p.m. EST	Holy Guardian Angels, Irvington
SEPT 9	Serving at 4 p.m.	Blessed Mother, Owensboro
SEPT 9	Serving at 5 p.m.	St. Agnes, Uniontown
SEPT 16	Serving from 4-8 p.m.	Christ the King, Madisonville
SEPT 16	Serving at 4 p.m.	St. Columba, Lewisport
SEPT 17	Serving at 11 a.m.; St. Lawrence picnic grounds	St. William & St. Lawrence, Philpot
SEPT 23	BBQ & raffle 2-4 p.m.	Immaculate, Owensboro
SEPT 24	Serving at noon	St. Leo, Murray
SEPT 24	Serving at 11 a.m.	St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville
SEPT 24	Serving at 1 p.m.	St. Michael, Sebree
SEPT 30	10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Honeyfest Dinner & Silent Auction	St. Elizabeth, Clarkson



Eucharistic Adoration

At Mount Saint Joseph Motherhouse Chapel. Second Sunday of each month: March 12, April 9, May 14, June 11, etc., from 3 p.m.-5 p.m. Adoration will conclude with evening prayer. Adoration also takes place every Friday from 3 p.m.-5 p.m.

St. Gerard Life Home

Providing housing and services to pregnant women and their babies

If you or someone you know is experiencing a crisis or unplanned pregnancy, call us at 270-852-8328 or toll-free at 1-877-803-5064.

Considering Adoption?

Catholic Charities of Owensboro serves pregnant women experiencing an unplanned pregnancy and couples who wish to adopt. To learn more, call 270-852-8328 or visit KyCaringConnection.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Continued from page 23

assimilation in church settings, with a spirituality of reconciliation and mission. Learn more at owensborodiocese.org/bicmworkshop.

Alzheimer's education programs for March

Registration required for all programs; call 1.800.272.3900 to register.

The Basics: Memory Loss, Dementia & Alzheimer's Disease: \$5 donation suggested. Designed for general public; \$15 fee for professionals. March 7, 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Healthpark, 1006 Ford Ave, Owensboro.

Dementia Conversations: \$5 donation suggested. Designed for family caregivers; please no professionals. March 7, 12-1 p.m. at Healthpark.

Legal and Financial Planning: \$5 donation suggested. Designed for family caregivers; please no professionals. A representative from Ky Elderlaw will address issues such as power of attorney, guardianship, and handling finances and property of a person with dementia. March 28, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., McCracken County Extension Office, 2025 New Holt Rd, Paducah.

Mount Saint Joseph Academy and Junior College Reunion

All students and faculty of Mount Saint Joseph Academy or Junior College are invited back for Alumnae Weekend on May 20-21 at Maple Mount. Activities include a memory room; supper and prayers on Saturday evening; class pictures; breakfast with the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph and Mass on Sunday, and the popular awards banquet where anniversary classes and Maple Leaf Award winners will be recognized. Accommodations are available for a fee. The cost of the catered awards banquet is \$25. To register, contact Marian Bennett at (270)229-2006 or alumnae.ms@maplemount.org. More details will be posted on ursulinesmsj.org (click on Alumnae, then Alumnae Weekend).

Remember to support Catholic Relief Services during Lent

The Catholic Relief Services Collection (CRSC) will take place the weekend of March 25-26 this year and the Diocese of Owensboro's Office of Social Concerns encourages all parishes to participate. Catholic Relief Services' annual Rice Bowl is also happening through all of Lent. The CRSC supports six Catholic agencies to provide humanitarian aid, legal services and advocate for some of the most vulnerable populations at home and abroad. To learn more or obtain resources, contact Richard Murphy in the

Social Concerns office at richard.murphy@pastoral.org, call (270) 683-1545 or visit owensborodiocese.org/social-concerns.

' Tables of Hope' at Lourdes on April 25

On Tuesday, April 25, at 6:30 p.m., Our Lady of Lourdes in Owensboro is sponsoring "Tables of Hope." We need people to sponsor a table and ask that you decorate your table in whatever theme you wish with silverware, china, glassware, centerpieces, etc., and invited eight of your friends to share the evening with you. The cost is \$25 per person for the meal, consisting of salad, entrée, green beans, twice-baked potatoes, roll, tea, coffee, etc., and desserts. There will be a guest speaker for the evening and hopefully, a silent auction. The money raised will be split between St. Benedict's Men's Shelter and Crossroads Women's Shelter. Only 25 tables available. Reserve yours early. If you wish to reserve a table or just wish to attend, please call Our Lady of Lourdes at (270) 684-5369.

Catholic Women's Conference

Save the date for August 25-26 to attend this women's conference at Kentucky Dam Village. Christian faith and fashion blogger, Cyndi Spivey and Catholic blogger, speaker and author, Hallie Lord will be the featured speakers. Bishop Medley will preside over Saturday morning Mass. This conference is coordinated by St. Jerome in Fancy Farm and sponsored by the diocese.

Evening with an Ursuline Dinner/Presentations

At Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center. First Tuesday of each month from 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. The \$20 fee includes dinner in the Center dining room. To register, contact Kathy McCarty: (270) 229-0206 or kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org.
 March 7: Sister Vivian Bowles - Belief and Expectations
 April 4: Sister Amelia Stenger - The Environment and Our Health
 May 2: Sister Mary Matthias Ward - Mary, The Mother of God...The Mother of the Church
 June 6: Sister Ann McGrew - Mandalas
 July 11: Sister Marietta Wethington - Centering Prayer
 Aug. 1: Sister Ann McGrew - Lectio Divina

To have your events listed in our Bulletin Board, email information of no more than 200 words to wkc.editor@pastoral.org by the 15th of the month prior to the publishing month.

Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center

MARCH

3-5 Yarn Spinners Weekend

7 Evening with an Ursuline dinner & presentation: Belief and Expectation

9 Focus on Faith Book Study

10-12 Women's Retreat: Called by Name

12-16 Diocese Region 5 Retreat

17-19 Gennesaret Retreat Weekend

18 Confirmation Retreat Day led by Sister Michael Marie Friedman

24-26 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program

31-2 Charismatic Youth Retreat

APRIL

3-7 Spiritual Direction Training (Week 7)

4 Evening with an Ursuline dinner & presentation: Environment & Health

8 Sts. Joseph & Paul RCIA

13 Focus on Faith Book Study

18-20 Chix with Stix

22-23 Catholic Engaged Encounter

28-30 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program

MAY

2 Evening with an Ursuline dinner & presentation: Mary the Mother of God

5-6 Chapel Hill Women's Retreat

10 Owensboro Catholic 6th Grade Prayer Day

11 Focus on Faith Book Study

12-14 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program

13 Private Wedding Reception

20-21 Mount Saint Joseph Academy Reunion

Center-sponsored programs are BOLD. Please call to register. Also call to schedule an event. **270-229-0206**

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org

ursulinesmsj.org

Located 12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

'Mercy begins at home,' says St. Thomas More parishioner

BY WILLIAM MURPHY, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Tip O'Neill, long-time congressman and former speaker of the U. S. House of Representatives, was often quoted as saying, "All politics is local." While Pope Francis likely never took any tips from O'Neill, the pope's teachings and the Jubilee Year of Mercy suggest that we should give special emphasis to keep local our mercy as well as our politics. There are many needs all over the world, but we should never forget to look in our own backyard first. Pope Francis also suggests that the Catholic Church does not have a monopoly on good deeds. Partnering with other organizations, both religious and secular, is often the most effective way to serve the needs of all God's people in our own communities.

In 1973, Paducah area religious groups had the foresight to form Paducah Cooperative Ministries as a way for people of different faiths to pool their efforts and resources to serve the basic needs of local residents. PCM's motto is "Doing God's work with human hands." Nearly 70 congregations join forces to provide support to PCM, representing virtually every major Christian, Jewish, and Islamic place of worship in the area. Deacon Terry Larbes from St. Thomas More Parish is currently the chair of the PCM board of directors. PCM provides a food bank, emergency services, short-term shelter for homeless families, and various educational and counseling services to break the cycle of poverty and homelessness. St. Thomas More committed to provide the major furnishings for four new houses in a new PCM complex, the Fresh Start Village. This program provides

temporary housing for up to nine months, day care, and basic family counseling so single mothers can become self-supporting. In November, St. Thomas More hosted the annual Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Service sponsored by PCM, where portions of the worship service were contributed by Christian, Islamic, and Jewish congregations in the area.

St. Thomas More's pastors and pastoral council have long recognized the need to go outside traditional Catholic avenues to support local community needs. Excluding its support of the St. Mary School System, the congregation provided nearly \$120,000 last year to support 10 different local organizations whose services ranged from soup kitchens to housing homeless men to local tornado relief efforts. This amount did not include the hundreds of pounds of food left in baskets in the church gathering space nor the hundreds of Christmas gifts provided for our Giving Tree project during the Christmas season. Some of the services provided by these local organizations very likely assist some St. Thomas More parishioners, but most of those served will forever be unknown to the congregation.

When asked in the temple who was his neighbor, Jesus told the parable about the Good Samaritan, a foreigner. The Jubilee Year of Mercy should have brought home to us that everyone in our community is our neighbor, not just those in the pews of our own Catholic church, and we should extend our compassion and mercy to all regardless of their reli-



Paducah Cooperative Ministry's Fresh Start homes. Photo courtesy of St. Thomas More Parish.

gious affiliation.

William Murphy is a pastoral council member of St. Thomas More Parish, Paducah.

Preparing for Confirmation?

Join us for a
Confirmation Retreat Day
Saturday, March 18
9 a.m.-3 p.m.



Led by **Sister Michael Marie Friedman, OSU**

Attend a Confirmation preparation day. Together with others, you will talk about prayer, your relationship with God and the sacrament of Confirmation. Explore values, trust, cooperation, prayer and service, and celebrate Reconciliation. **All parishes are invited. \$25 fee includes lunch.**

To register, contact Kathy: (270) 229-0206
kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



Mount Saint Joseph
 Conference and Retreat Center
 8001 Cummings Road
 Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356

How aware are you about Cursillo held in the Owensboro diocese?

BY SISTER ELAINE BURKE, OSU, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

I have been inspired by the scripture reading for the feast of St. Angela which is January 22. It reads, "This is how it is with the Kingdom of God, it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land and would sleep and rise night and day and the seed would sprout and grow he knows not how" (Mark 4:26-27).

I have had many experiences in the Cursillo movement since October 1969 when I made the second women's Cursillo in the basement of St. Stephen Cathedral. The men and women, priests and religious made the first Cursillo in Owensboro in 1968. They laid the foundation and it is due to their dedication, participation, and living as a community. By their example many people are aware how Christ has touched their life, and they too want to experience a spiritual renewal. It is often said, "We want what they have received." How effective a witness one can be will depend on one's union with Jesus through prayer, the sacraments and God's grace. Openness to the Holy Spirit is what makes the weekends happen.

During the Cursillo weekend you will hear a morning or evening meditation each day. The first one will get you started on how to know yourself more and the gifts you bring to the weekend. You may find you need to make some changes in your life. You will hear scripture stories about persons like Martha and Mary, Peter, and those of different personalities and how they react to God and events. We are loved by God and God has a message for each of us. There are other meditations as well that will get you thinking, especially about "Who is Jesus" and how he is human and divine and how experiences

some struggles just as he did.

Believe me, you will be fed spiritual food, ordinary food, friendship, community, and many graces as you give of yourself and be yourself. Everything that happens on the weekend tends toward being a living witness of a community striving to live as true Christians. It enables us to develop a deeper personal communion with God and our neighbor. You, then, will be able to take the knowledge you received out to your homes, your community, the Church and your workplace.

Cursillo requires the gifts and efforts of many people to build up the Kingdom of God. I'm truly grateful for the opportunity to be a spiritual director on the teams over the years. I have worked closely

with the people in this diocese who have been team members. The team members are priests, religious, lay men and women. I have witnessed their dedication, service, spirituality, gifts and desire to spread the Cursillo movement. The Cursillo message will continue to spread because anyone who has made a Cursillo can tell you how God has worked and is still working in their lives. We rely on the Holy Spirit to guide us and give us the graces we need.

Sister Elaine Burke, OSU, is an Ursuline Sister of Mount St. Joseph and former spiritual director for the Diocese of Owensboro's Cursillo movement. Upcoming Cursillo retreats are March 9-12 (for men), and March 23-26 (for women). To register, contact Mary Hagan at (270) 240-4778.

The Glenmary Sisters would like to congratulate raffle winners

Joe and Misty Kulpeksa
Caruthersville, Missouri

The Kulpeksas won a trip for two to the Holy Land with the pilgrimage being led by Fr. Jaroslaw (Jarek) Skrzypek of the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau.



Left to right: Fr. Jarek, Misty, Sr. Darlene, and Joe.



Glenmary Sisters

P.O. Box 22264 - Owensboro, KY 42304
270-686-8401 / 800-301-2689

glenmarysisters.org

Lent: A time of discernment

BY FR. JASON MCCLURE, OFFICE OF VOCATIONS



Fr. Jason McClure

“Grant, O Lord, that we may begin with holy fasting, this campaign of Christian service, so that, as we take up battle against spiritual evils, we may be armed with weapons of self-restraint.” And so begins the season of Lent. As we enter into this sacred time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we are met with these powerful words in the opening prayer of Ash Wednesday Mass. Lent provides so many opportunities for us to pray about, reflect upon, and discern the many ways God is calling us to serve.

We journey through these 40 days leading up to Holy Week by prayerfully reflecting upon the self-giving, sacrificial love of Jesus, most profoundly displayed on the cross. On Holy Thursday, we remember the moment in Salvation History when Jesus gave the Church the sacraments of Holy Eucharist and of Holy Orders. Called to imitate Christ, who then washed the feet of his disciples, giving the command “For I have given you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you” (John 13:15), the life of his disciple is marked by that same selfless, sacrificial love.

It’s that sacrificial love that unites man and woman in the bond of holy matrimony. It’s the same sacrificial love that unites a man to the Church in the sacrament of the holy priesthood.

Lent is a sacred time with many opportunities to deepen our relationship with Christ and his Church. It is a time for us to embark upon this campaign of Christian service, imitating the one who came to serve, not to be served. It is a time for us to reflect on the sacramental life of the Church. And it is a time for us to discern God’s call and our specific vocations.

May this time of Lent be filled with many blessings and may those God is calling to a life of Christian service in the holy priesthood, find the courage to say yes, have support from family and friends, and know the joy of doing God’s will.

Fr. Jason McClure serves as director of the Office of Vocations and vicar for clergy in the Diocese of Owensboro.



Discernment retreat

The Office of Vocations is hosting a Discernment Retreat for college-age men (ages 18-25) the weekend of March 31 – April 2. The retreat will take place at St. Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology and is for men who are discerning their vocation, especially for those who are discerning a possible vocation to priesthood. For more information or to register for the Discernment Retreat, visit our website, owensborovocations.com, call the Vocations Office at (270) 683-1545 or email jason.mcclure@pastoral.org or fred.litke@pastoral.org.

Contact our Office of Vocations

 (270) 683-1545
  vocations@pastoral.org
 owensborovocations.com
 [Facebook.com/owensborovocations](https://www.facebook.com/owensborovocations)

Ursulines invite you to join sisters in the blogosphere

BY MOUNT ST. JOSEPH STAFF

To gain some insights and inspiration, visit the Ursuline Sisters' website to read new blogs by Sisters Monica Seaton and Stephany Nelson.

Sister Seaton, who began as director of vocation ministry in 2016, began her blog "Vineyard of Hope" on Jan. 3, with a focus on hope. As she explained in her first blog, she came across an icon of St. Angela holding grapes, symbolic of her vineyard as well as the group of women she brought together.

"Vineyard represents the bond all the women who have chosen to live in community as Ursuline Sisters of Mount St. Joseph," she said. "Hope is the attitude with which we approach each tomorrow on our journey toward heaven."

Sister Seaton hopes to shine some light on what it means to be an Ursuline Sister, as she talks with young women about whether religious life may be for them.

Sister Nelson began her blog "Sticky Notes" on Jan. 6. Now halfway through her first year as a novice, Sister Nelson will give readers a unique vantage point on the life of someone new to religious life.

She got the name for her blog from the movie "War Room." One of the main characters has a specific prayer space where she writes her prayer requests and answers to prayer requests on sticky notes and posts them to the wall in her "War Room."

"For the last year I have written prayer requests, notes of affirmation, and quotes that have enriched my prayer and my life in general," Sister Nelson said in her first blog. "My thought is to post a quote for the week that comes either from my studies, my prayer time, or a sermon and post it on my 'wall.' Then, I will explain why I chose that particular quote and what it means to me in the light of my novitiate experiences."

Both blogs can be found at ursulinesmsj.org/blogs.



Wonder what it's like being a Nun?

Interested in *Religious Life*?

Passionist Vocation Retreats

Open to Single, Catholic women ages 17-30

March 10-12, 2017

(Register by Sunday, March 5)

June 9 - 11, 2017

October 13 - 15, 2017

Interested? Contact us:

Vocation Director

Passionist Nuns

8564 Crisp Road

Whitesville, KY 42378-9782

(270) 233-4571

vocations@passionistnuns.org



Summer retreats at the Mount for women religious

Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center; week of July 16-21. "Mysticism of Desire: The Way of Spiritual Intimacy" is the theme of this weeklong retreat for women religious. This retreat will rehabilitate desire as the spiritual energy nourishing our spiritual lives. Through prayer and discernment, we will deepen our intimacy with God. Retreat Director is Fr. Daniel Renaud, OMI. Fr. Renaud is a priest with the Congregation of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate. Preacher, speaker and spiritual guide in both Canada and the U.S., he has extensive experience in spiritual direction and in the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises and is a member of Spiritual Directors International. He now ministers at Immaculata Retreat House, an oblate apostolate in Willimantic, Conn. Directed retreats for women religious will also be offered, led by Spiritual Directors Sister Helen O'Brien, OSU, and Sister Mary Matthias Ward, OSU. Retreat cost is \$450 or \$275 for commuters. Contact Kathy McCarty at 270-229-0206 or kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org.

Find a brochure at ursulinesmsj.org under Conference & Retreat Center.



Noah Russelburg (right) and Andrew Glass (left) participate in a flag-folding exercise with Troop KY-2016. Photo courtesy of William Russelburg.



The school held the last-ever junior varsity basketball game and boys' and girls' basketball games in that facility. Photo by diocese communications staff.



Sixth-graders Andrew Schmitt, Kurt Witherspoon and Cole Howell write messages to their adopted seminarians to put in Valentine's Day goodie boxes. Photo courtesy of Immaculate Parish.

Trail Life USA troop formed in Fancy Farm

William Russelburg, a parishioner of St. Jerome Parish in Fancy Farm, writes that the parish recently formed a troop of Trail Life USA scouts, named Troop KY-2016. He explained: "Trail Life USA is a Christ-centered scout program for boys ages 6-18," and that those interested in joining the troop or learning more can call (270) 970-1862. The troop currently has four members and invites other young men to join.

Trinity High School holds final games in old gym

The evening of Feb. 16 saw a memorable night in Trinity High School's old gym, affectionately known as "The Barn," as the school community held the last-ever junior varsity basketball game and boys' and girls' basketball games to be played in that facility. That night also saw inductions into Trinity's Hall of Fame, senior night and a special recognition of the 1971-72 basketball team by former Coach Bryce Roberts. The school will hold a dedication for the newly-built gym on March 19 with Bishop Medley.

Immaculate religious ed supports diocesan seminarians with prayer, care boxes

Every Wednesday night at the religious education classes at Immaculate Parish in Owensboro, the students pray for nine young men studying for the priesthood. Each class has adopted a seminarian and prays for them in their classroom, sends them notes and goodie boxes, too.

During opening prayer, these seminarians' pictures are displayed on PowerPoint as the children fervently pray for them and pray that more will hear the calling to priesthood and religious life. Each class has heard from their seminarian and enjoys the communication. The five current seminarians for the Diocese of Owensboro – Corey Bruns, Chris Kight, CJ Glaser, Martin Mikulcik and Doug Payne – are included in prayer. Also included in prayer are four seminarians from the Dioceses of Oklahoma City and Tulsa, who are friends with Diane Willis, Immaculate's director of religious education.



Join us for a TEC regional reunion & 40-year anniversary celebration

"Western Kentucky Teens Encountering Christ!" Join your regional TEC community on March 26, 2017 for Mass at 4:30 p.m. at all locations, with food and games to follow in each parish's hall. As we travel through Lent and make sacrifices in our lives, let us also join together to renew our commitment to Christ. If interested, please contact Diane Hicks McIntyre at (270) 970-3241 or Abby Thomas at (270) 903-2125. Locations are: Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, 4029 Frederica St., Owensboro, KY, 42301
St. Thomas More Parish, 5645 Blandville Rd., Paducah, KY, 42001
Holy Spirit Parish, 4754 Smallhouse Rd., Bowling Green, KY, 42104

March Wedding Anniversaries

5, 10, 25, 40, 50 and More Than 50 Years of Marriage

Blessed Mother, Owensboro

R. C. & Margaret Keith, 60

Holy Guardian Angel, Irvington

David & Brenda Cox, 25

Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson

Jeffrey & Pamela Collins, 25

Paul & Nina Drury, 58

William & Charlotte Faulkner, 61

Harry & Jennifer Jones, 25

Robert & Liz Shea, 63

Elvis & Carolyn Stone, 40

Jerry & Jewel Marie Williams, 58

Holy Spirit, Bowling Green

Tim & Kate Vaughn, 25

Immaculate Conception, Earlington

Joe & Beverly Wilson, 5

Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

Larry & Betty Clark, 51

William & Sarah Kemper, Jr., 55

Jack & Krista Hundley III, 25

Carroll & Joyce Ferguson, 60

Dennis & Gloria Ramage, 55

Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro

Paul Christopher & Lynne Payne, Jr., 25

Bruce & Stacy Thompson, 40

Precious Blood, Owensboro

Steve & Kim Collignon, 40

Paul & Doris Westerfield, 60

Sacred Heart, Russellville

Harry & Gretchen Allen, 10

St. Ann, Morganfield

Michael & Melissa Fox, 25

St. Anthony, Browns Valley

Charles & Andrea Hamilton, 52

St. Anthony the Abbot,

Hardinsburg

Warren & Wanda Carwile, 25

Bobbie & Mary Moore, 59

St. Benedict, Wax

Damon & Reva Stasel

Brad & Consetta Johnston, 40

St. Columba, Lewisport

Jimmie & Carol Harper, 55

St. Denis, Fancy Farm

Jack & Rose Riggs, 60

Jerry & Barbara Hayden, 51

St. Edward, Fulton

Paul & Mary Pennell, 61

St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Clarkson

Raymond & Carol Hill, 55

St. Francis Borgia, Sturgis

Tony & Lita Pfingston, 50

St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

Richard & Brenda Hayden, 55

Charles & Marie Riggs, 67

Pat & Betty Robinson, 52

John D. & Lynda Oldham, 52

St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

Kyle & Rashell Dalton, 10

St. John the Baptist, Fordsville

J. C. & Maggie Edge, 59

St. John the Evangelist, Paducah

Thomas & Helen Ellington, 64

St. Joseph, Bowling Green

Jose & Angelica Fabian, 10

St. Joseph, Leitchfield

Daniel & Jill Horn, 5

St. Joseph, Mayfield

Leonard & Barbara Webb, 55

Howard & Imogene Riley, 69

St. Mary, Franklin

Roger & Mary Beth Farley, 30

St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho

Peter & Nicole Ebelhar, 5

Jim & Barbara Pinkston, 55

St. Mary of the Woods, McQuady

Danny & Karen Sherron, 40

St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Steve & Jennifer Szemethy, 25

Tony & Charlotte Burch, 40

St. Peter, Waverly

Dan & Dottie Davis, 40

St. Pius X, Owensboro

Stephen & Nancy Boarman, 40

Jerome & Gail Loraine Hoesli, 60

St. Stephen, Cadiz

Delbert & Kim Roeder, 40

Gerald & Maxine Corbey, 58

St. Thomas More, Paducah

Marcus & Opal Cooper, 60

Joe & Betty Falconite, 62

St. William, Knottsville

Zachary & Allison Elizabeth Sheldon, 5

Devin Michael & Chastity Berry, 5

Bernard & Janet Schartung, 40

Robert & Doris Payne, 50

SS. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro

Jeff & Raechell Roby, 5

Craig & Sarah Thomas, 5

Kevin & Shannon Robbins, 10

Joseph L. & Betty Johnson, 60

SS. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

Stephen & Carole Keel, 5

Charles & Danielle Andersen, 10

Roy & Rita Black, 40

Richard & Betti Block, 55

20th Annual YOUTH 2000

A Eucharistic-Centered Retreat
March 10-12, 2017
Owensboro Convention Center

“The light shines in the
darkness, and the darkness
has not overcome it.”
- John 1:5

Ages 13-30

(270) 683-1545
marianshrineky.org



Youth 2000 to celebrate 20 years of a 'God-centered weekend'

BY LISA BIVINS, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC



Youth 2000 participants sing praise and worship during adoration in 2014. WKC file photo.

The Diocesan Marian Shrine, the Office of Youth Ministry and the Office of Faith Formation will host the 20th annual Youth 2000 on March 10-12, 2017 at the Owensboro Convention Center.

Youth 2000, which came to the United States in the early 1990s, is for people ages 13 to 30. The Eucharistic-centered retreat was the answer to St. John Paul II's call to prepare young people to live and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus, "Making Christ known in the modern world."

Youth 2000 is an international spiritual initiative established to draw young people through the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit to imitate Mary, the Mother of God, by fostering a spirit of prayer, adoration, and obedience to the will of God.

The Franciscan Friars of the Renewal from New York City lead the retreat weekend. They bring the true message of St. Francis with them as they help the young people to become the evangelizers of the New Evangelization. St. Francis taught by example

and these friars live and proclaim the Gospel message with joy and enthusiasm while working with the poorest of the poor! One of their famous lines to the young people about their vows of poverty, chastity and obedience is, "No money, no honey, and a boss!"

Owensboro Youth 2000 is the longest consecutive running retreat in the United States. As we celebrate 20 years of leading young people to a personal encounter with Jesus in the Holy Eucharist, we asked a few of our past participants to share their experiences.

Madeleine Edge, a freshman at the University of Kentucky, said, "Youth 2000 has shaped me into the woman I am today. I find myself longing for it every single year; it never gets old. I see it to continue to influence my life long after the weekend is over." This will be her eighth year attending.

Kristen Linn, married to Jacob Linn, said, "It allows you to have an escape from the everyday temptations and struggles of the world for a God-centered weekend! It gives you a community of people to help you learn more about your faith as well as an opportunity to grow in your relationship with the Lord."

Ben Englert, a junior at Murray State University, said, "Youth 2000 helped me stay connected to my faith throughout my high school years. It was an amazing opportunity to remove myself from the busy day-to-day life activities and surround myself in prayer and devotion to God with hundreds of other students all sharing and growing in their faith as well."

For registration information, call (270) 683-1545 or visit marianshrineky.org.

Lisa Bivins attends Immaculate Parish in Owensboro.