

THE WESTERN
KENTUCKY



Catholic

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Español

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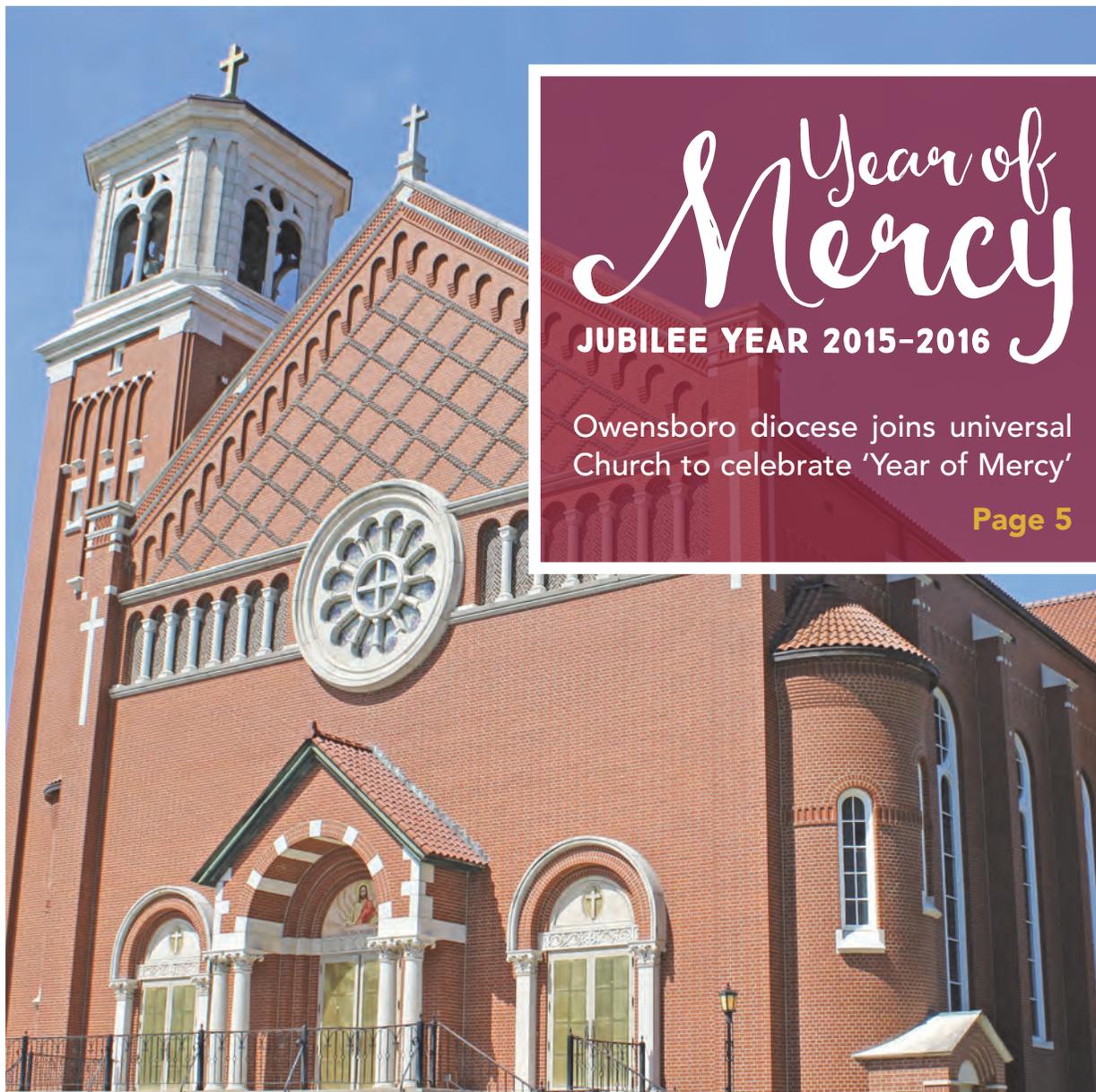
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Year of
Mercy

JUBILEE YEAR 2015-2016

Owensboro diocese joins universal
Church to celebrate 'Year of Mercy'

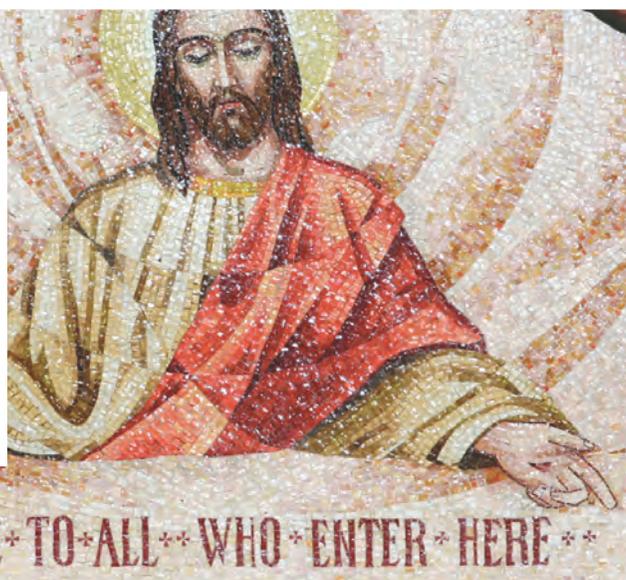
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Peace to all

This mosaic of Jesus graces the top of the main entrance to St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro. The cathedral will feature a special "Door of Mercy" during the Catholic Church's 2015-16 Year of Mercy.

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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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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.

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A Word from Bishop Medley

Dear sisters and brothers,

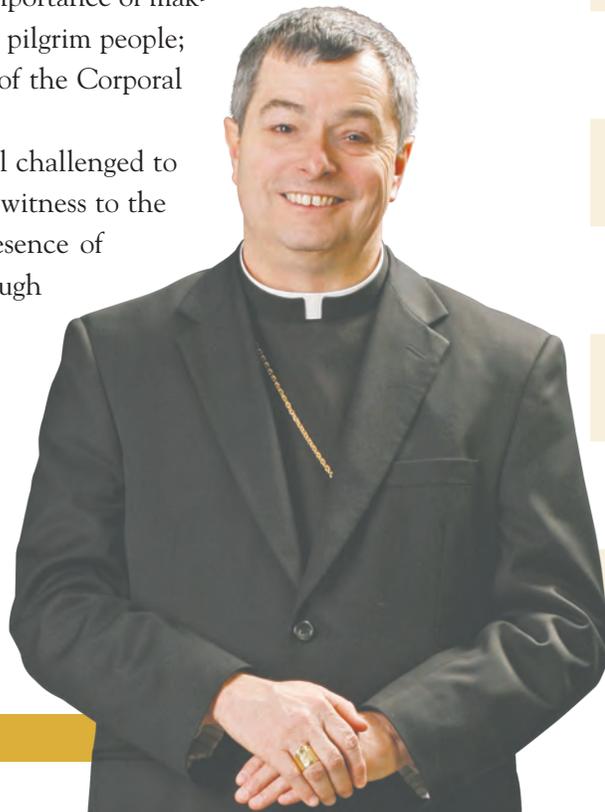
“Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.” With these words from the Gospel Pope Francis has invited the Church and the world to reflect upon the unbounded richness of God’s mercy. In keeping with ancient Church tradition Pope Francis has decreed that there should be observed an extraordinary year of reflection, prayer and action to announce and celebrate God’s infinite mercy. This Jubilee Year of Mercy begins on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8, 2015 and extends through the Feast of Christ the King on November 20, 2016.

In announcing this Extraordinary Jubilee Year the Holy Father invited all Catholics to observe this special time for the Church “to make more evident its mission to be a witness of mercy.” During these coming months we should participate as we can in meeting people’s real needs with concrete assistance, and to experience and recognize with gratitude the mercy of God in our own lives.

In his proclamation of the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy Pope Francis explains how in Jesus Christ, in his words and actions, the mercy of God has been revealed. He calls us to focus our attention on several key areas: encountering the mercy of God through the sacrament of Mercy – Reconciliation; the importance of making a pilgrimage as a reminder that we are a pilgrim people; and, living mercifully through the practice of the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.

In this Jubilee Year, Catholics should feel challenged to make it evident that the Church is a living witness to the compassion of God. By recognizing the presence of the Father’s mercy in our own lives, through prayer, reflection, and reconciliation, we are then prepared to search out and respond to the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of those in our community – the sick, the imprisoned, the poor, the stranger – and bring mercy to others.

“Today is a time of mercy!” This was the message Pope Francis gave to the 270 Synod fathers from some 120 countries at



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BISHOP MEDLEY'S CALENDAR ● DECEMBER 2015

- NOV 30 - DEC 2** Province Bishop's and Priests' Council Provincial Meeting – Memphis, TN
- DEC 3** 5:00 p.m. ● Special St. Luke Presentation – Louisville, KY
- DEC 5** 5:30 p.m. ● Confirmation – St. Ambrose, Henshaw
- DEC 8** 12:05 p.m. ● Mass, Opening of Jubilee of Mercy – St. Stephen Cathedral
- DEC 9** Catholic Conference of Kentucky Executive Board Meeting – Louisville, KY
- DEC 12** 5:00 a.m. ● Morning Prayer and Mass – Our Lady of Guadalupe, Sts. Peter and Paul, Hopkinsville
6:00 p.m. ● Mass, Our Lady of Guadalupe – Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson
- DEC 13** 11:00 a.m. ● Mass and Opening of the Holy Door of Mercy – St. Stephen Cathedral
- DEC 15** 9:00 a.m. ● McRaith Catholic Center Staff Mass and Meeting
- DEC 16** 8:30 a.m. ● Diocesan Finance Council Meeting – MCC
- DEC 17** 9:00 a.m. ● School Mass – OCES K-3 Campus
- DEC 22** 10:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. ● Paducah Office Hours – Lourdes Hospital
- DEC 23** McRaith Catholic Center Works of Mercy Day
- DEC 24** 11:00 p.m. ● Christmas Mass – St. Stephen Cathedral

A Special Announcement from the Office of Bishop William F. Medley

Diocese of Owensboro fostering evolving communications initiatives

Good communications are essential to every relationship, whether for families, friends or businesses. But it is especially true for the Catholic Church.

Soon after he was named the third bishop for the Diocese of Owensboro, then-bishop John J. McRaith made communications a priority, ushering in its first era of contemporary diocesan-wide communications.

Bishop William F. Medley, along with his leadership team, has not only continued that commitment, but is further-developing efforts to evolve the local Church's ability to teach and evangelize.

Media was once dominated by print and free public broadcasts, for instance. Mel Howard, the first editor of *The Western Kentucky Catholic*, pioneered the newspaper in the 1980s, and the paper is still mailed to every registered home in the diocese. Later, the diocese became one of the first in the nation to have parish-wide email capabilities as well as a website in the mid-1990s.

Just before the new millennium, a locally-broadcast television Mass was made available throughout western Kentucky, southern Indiana, southern Illinois and parts of eastern Missouri. The "TV Mass" came as a godsend to viewers in a time when cable and satellite were not nearly as common as today.

Today, the dominance of print and broadcast media has diminished in favor of texting, Face-

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Pope Francis' prayer for the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us to be merciful like the
heavenly Father,
and have told us that whoever sees
you sees Him.
Show us your face and we will be saved.
Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and
Matthew from being enslaved by money;
the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking
happiness only in created things;
made Peter weep after his betrayal,
and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.
Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us,
the words that you spoke to the Samaritan
woman:
"If you knew the gift of God!"

You are the visible face of the invisible Father,
of the God who manifests his power above
all by forgiveness and mercy:
let the Church be your visible face in the
world, its Lord risen and glorified.

You willed that your ministers would also be
clothed in weakness
in order that they may feel compassion for
those in ignorance and error:
let everyone who approaches them feel
sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of
us with its anointing,
so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of
grace from the Lord,
and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm,
may bring good news to the poor,
proclaim liberty to captives and the
oppressed,
and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this of you, Lord Jesus, through the
intercession of Mary, Mother of
Mercy; you who live and reign with the
Father and the Holy Spirit forever and ever.
Amen.

A Word from Bishop Medley ...

Continued from page 3

the closing Mass for the meeting of the Synod of Bishops on the family in St. Peter's Basilica on October 25. Much of the Synod discussion had centered on healing broken families and recognizing that hurts experienced within families are often deep-seated and long lasting. But the Synod affirmed too the heroic lives of husbands and wives, mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers upholding and witnessing to faith. These heroes of mercy hold the keys to healing the broken.

My prayer is that the Jubilee Year of Mercy will not just come and go as one more pious exercise,

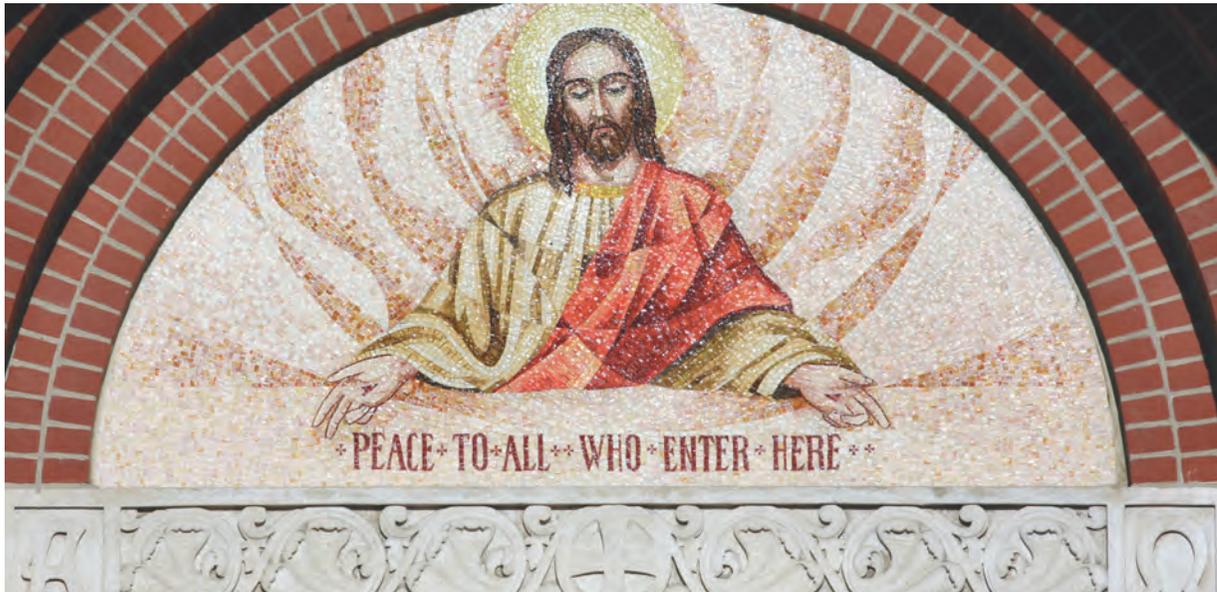
but as it unfolds individuals, parishes, the diocese and the universal Church might point to concrete measures that the Gospel message of mercy is sign of hope and promise in our 21st century.

May God Bless You All!



Most Reverend William F. Medley
Diocese of Owensboro

Owensboro diocese joins universal Church to celebrate Year of Mercy



Mosaic reading "Peace to all who enter here" graces the top of St. Stephen Cathedral's main doors. Western Kentucky Catholic file photo.

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Dec. 8, 2015, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, marked the beginning of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, also known as the Year of Mercy.

Martha Hagan, co-director of the diocese's Office of Worship, said that in calling for this year, Pope Francis places particular emphasis on the concept of mercy.

"As usual, Pope Francis makes things concrete for us," said Hagan, who serves in the Worship Office with Fr. Larry McBride. "He tells us that the recipe for living mercifully is in the living out of

the corporal and spiritual works of mercy."

This year, which concludes on Nov. 20, 2016, the Solemnity of Christ the King, is only the third extraordinary jubilee in the Church's 700-year tradition of holding jubilees.

The last extraordinary jubilee was 1983 and led by Pope John Paul II to celebrate 1,950 years since Jesus' death and resurrection; the first-ever extraordinary jubilee was called by Pope Pius XI in 1933 to also celebrate Jesus' death and resurrection.

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Year of
Mercy
JUBILEE YEAR 2015-2016

 **Save the Date!**

On Sunday, Dec. 13, at 11 a.m. Bishop Medley will open the Door of Mercy at St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro. The door will remain open until Nov. 13, 2016. All are invited and encouraged to make a pilgrimage to the Door of Mercy during the Jubilee Year.



Beginning on Dec. 8, St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro, as the mother church of the diocese, will have a Holy Door for pilgrims to visit and walk through until the conclusion of the year in November 2016. Western Kentucky Catholic file photo.

Pilgrimage sites

On Nov. 1, 2015, the Solemnity of All Saints, Bishop William F. Medley released a decree designating the six pilgrimage sites for the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy. Check out the upcoming issues of The Western Kentucky Catholic for more information about these pilgrimage opportunities.

St. Stephen Cathedral ● Owensboro

Ursuline Sisters of Mount St. Joseph Motherhouse Chapel ● Owensboro

St. Thomas More Works of Mercy Chapel ● Paducah

Fathers of Mercy Chapel of Divine Mercy ● Auburn

Marian Shrine at St. Joseph Parish ● Bowling Green

St. Mary of the Woods Parish ● McQuady



St. Mary of the Woods Parish in McQuady will be one of the six pilgrimage sites for the Diocese of Owensboro as designated by Bishop Medley. Western Kentucky Catholic file photo.

Year of Mercy ... Continued from page 5

The Catholic Church's motto for the year is "Merciful like the Father," based on Luke 6:36, "Be merciful just as your Father is merciful."

With this in mind, the diocese Worship Office is releasing a booklet to parishes to help experience the Year of Mercy through hands-on resources.

Six pilgrimage sites around the Diocese of Owensboro have been designated by Bishop William F. Medley, and will offer the opportunity to gain a plenary indulgence at these sites if certain conditions are followed.

The six sites are St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro, the Ursuline Sisters of Mount St. Joseph Motherhouse Chapel in Owensboro, St. Thomas More Parish's Works of Mercy Chapel in Paducah, the Fathers of Mercy Chapel of Divine Mercy in Auburn, the Marian Shrine at St. Joseph Parish in

Bowling Green and St. Mary of the Woods Parish in McQuady.

There will also be a "Door of Mercy" at St. Stephen Cathedral – the mother church of the diocese – for pilgrims to walk through. This centuries-old tradition of having a holy year door will also be available in Rome and in other dioceses around the world, following Pope Francis' request for this to take place.

Hagan said everyone is called to play a two-fold part in celebrating the jubilee year.

"First, to allow ourselves to encounter the mercy of God (most especially in the Sacrament of Reconciliation)," she said, "and then to show that mercy to others by increasing our participation in the corporal and spiritual works of mercy."

Diocesan resources include information on pilgrimage sites, such as the site's contact person, Mass schedule, confession schedule and adoration schedule.

The Works of Mercy

The fourteen Works of Mercy are divided into two categories.

The Corporal Works of Mercy

- Give food to the hungry
- Give drink to the thirsty
- Clothe the naked
- Visit the sick
- Shelter the homeless
- Visit the imprisoned
- Bury the dead

The Spiritual Works of Mercy

- Admonish the sinner
- Instruct the ignorant
- Counsel the doubtful
- Comfort the sorrowful
- Bear wrongs patiently
- Forgive all injuries
- Pray for the living and the dead

The diocesan booklet also includes catechist and teacher resources on teaching about mercy, small group resources and a section called "Mercy in the Movies" – a family-friendly way to discuss how mercy is portrayed in film.

"This year is a gift to the Church," said Hagan. "It is an invitation to each of us to take the time to focus ourselves and to notice Jesus gazing upon us with His mercy and to allow His love to change our hearts and make us new." ♦

Christmas joy brought by 'lovely' Knottsville community

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD,
THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Every Christmas, Mary Lou Payne is “just amazed” at the people of St. William and St. Lawrence Parishes who come to assist their neighbors in need.

“It’s so edifying to see people come forward and help so much,” said Payne, who collaborates with a team of volunteers from the Knottsville-area parishes to set up “giving trees” to help local people have a merry Christmas.

Armed with gift tags cut from old Christmas cards and threaded on yarn, the volunteers write general information like “boy, girl, man or woman,” as well as age and sometimes other helpful details, and hang the tags on the trees. One tree is hosted at each parish, and about 15 families are helped each year,

Payne said she became involved in the St. William and St. Lawrence giving trees in 2004, but the project had been going on beforehand. Thanks to a request from Sr. Mary Eula Johnson, SCN, Payne started coordinating the giving tree that year.

Payne works with Patsy Johnson at St. William and Wilma Knott at St. Lawrence to run the initiative, which involves collecting lists of families who could use the help. About 20 of the tags are used to provide items for residents of the Bishop Soenneker Home in Knottsville.

“Anybody we helped one year we always call the next year,” to see if they are still in need, said Payne. Often enough the people say they are good for this year.

Editor’s Note

December 8 opens the Jubilee Year of Mercy, established by Pope Francis to last from Dec. 8, 2015, to Nov. 20, 2016. As a special series celebrating the Works of Mercy, The Western Kentucky

Catholic will be highlighting stories of individuals who live these Works.

This month’s article tells the story of St. William and St. Lawrence Parishes, whose parishioners exemplify the two Works “Give Food to the Hungry,” and “Clothe the Naked.”

Year of
Mercy
JUBILEE YEAR 2015-2016

“People do not take advantage of it,” said Payne, adding that only once in 12 years did she recall someone trying to take advantage of the assistance.

Many people she calls to check up on respond, “I haven’t lost my job; help those who did.”

The trees go up the weekend before Advent begins, and the parishioners begin their mission of generosity, which Payne says goes above and beyond.

“A little girl wants a blouse, and ends up with two or three and some jewelry!” said Payne.

Each family can ask for four items, and two of them must be gift cards, said Payne, though some families ask for all gift cards to make their own gift-giving more personal.

In recent years, with the arrival of Fr. John Okoro as the parishes’ pastor, 10 tags are now placed on each tree to purchase supplies for a school from Fr. Okoro’s hometown in Nigeria.

“He’s overwhelmed by the response,” said Payne.

Most people who receive gifts through the giving trees also receive baskets of food, Payne added. And the baskets always include staples to help feed families beyond the holidays.

Payne expressed thanks to local organizations such as the Knottsville-area recreational women’s volleyball group, the Knights of Columbus, the Lions Club, and Mary Carrico Memorial School, which holds a whole food drive.

Payne said this year a local woman moved into a new house and said they could store the items in a room her new house, much to the volunteers’ delight.

“People at Saints William and Lawrence are so generous, but they love this giving tree,” said Payne. “I’ve been there 42 years – it’s just a lovely, lovely community.” ♦

Trinity students experience history, beauty with Traveling Classroom

BY CHRISTINA RHODES, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

People say you travel far to appreciate what's on your doorstep.

I cannot believe that the third Traveling Classroom adventure has already come to an end. Our travelers prepared for and looked forward to this trip for 18 months, and the 11 days in Ireland, Wales, Scotland and England passed more quickly than I thought possible.

Students and their families met early on Oct. 8 in the school parking lot and we left shortly after tearful goodbyes and a blessing. The next 18 hours of travel ended in landing at the Shannon, Ireland airport on Oct. 9 at 7 a.m.

The tour started almost immediately as our guide picked us up and drove us to the two castles we would visit that day at Bunratty. In Killarney that afternoon about half of the students took a horse-drawn trap to Ross Castle. Our tired party slept well that night.

The morning of Oct. 10 we left for an eight-hour trek around the Ring of Kerry. The students had studied it, watched a video, read a bit and talked about it in class, but the views they witnessed were more than they expected.

"So pretty!"

"Wow!"

"Look at the mountains!"

"The grass is so green!"

"Oh, my gosh! It's so beautiful!"

The horses, cows and sheep reminded them of home, but seen in front of the Atlantic Ocean,



Trinity High School students arrive at Edinburgh Castle, Scotland, during their fall 2015 Traveling Classroom trip. Photo courtesy of Christina Rhodes.

beautiful lakes, and high mountain elevations was more than they'd expected.

Oct. 11 morning took us to Blarney Castle, where all the students and chaperones kissed the stone, explored the caves, drove to the Rock of Cashel and then drove to Dublin.

On Oct. 12 we drove through Dublin, admiring the beautiful Georgian homes, touring St. Patrick's Cathedral, and ending up at Trinity College, where we saw the Book of Kells.

Some students then went shopping, and the others learned about and participated in the Gaelic Games.

The students came back from the outing and enthusiastically shared what they'd learned about

the games' history and animatedly described how they'd spent their time.

Oct. 13-14 was a blur. We took a ferry into Wales, stopping at a small town called, I kid you not, Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlllantysiliogogoch. Our next stop was to one of the most beautiful castles, Beaumaris, which mean "beautiful marsh."

We stayed at The Hand Hotel that evening, which was an experience in itself. The students found articles online suggesting it was haunted, and it was the oldest and sort of creepiest hotel we visited.

The best part about that night, though was spending our time together in the common areas.

Caleb Goetz, one of our student-travelers, found a way to ease nervous classmates when he began to play the piano and encouraged the others to sing. The mood lightened considerably.

Our trip to Scotland took us through England's Lake District and included a stop at the home of William Wordsworth. We also visited Holyrood Palace, official residence of the British monarch in Scotland, and then drove to Edinburgh Castle. St. Margaret's Chapel, the oldest structure there, dates back to the mid-1100s.

We then traveled to London and the next day we saw Big Ben, Parliament, Westminster Abbey, and St. Paul's Cathedral. We witnessed the changing of the guard at Buckingham Palace and visited Piccadilly Circus. Our whole group took a trip on the London Eye, and that evening, some of us attended "Wicked" in London's theatre district.

On Saturday, one group of students visited the National Gallery, seeing works of art they recognized from their schoolbooks, and the others drove to Windsor Castle to try and catch a glimpse of the queen, but were unsuccessful.

The last day of our trip ended with our attending Mass at Westminster Cathedral, which included seeing the remains of St. John Southworth.

The Traveling Classroom would not have happened without the help of many sponsors for whom we are so grateful. The students started each day of our trip praying for their sponsors, and they ended every night sharing something good from the day.

We have all had many stories to share since we returned, but I am happy to end every story I tell with "We have such good kids. We'd make the trip with them all over again."

Christina Rhodes is an English teacher at Trinity High School, Whitesville. ♦

Independent auditing firm finds diocese compliant with charter

BY RICHARD MURPHY, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Stone Bridge Business Partners, an independent audit firm employed by the United States Catholic Conference Bishops, recently conducted a thorough review of all the principle articles of the Diocese of Owensboro's compliance plan effort within the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People for the 2014/15 audit period. Their Audit Letter dated 9-17-15 stated:

"Based on the results of our recently performed on-site audit of the Diocese of Owensboro, the Diocese has been found compliant with all audited articles within the Charter.... The conclusions reached as to the compliance of your Diocese are based upon inquiry, observation, and the review of specifically requested documentation furnished to StoneBridge Business Partners during the course of the Audit."

In 2002 when the sexual abuse of minors at the hands of clergy came clearly to light, the Catholic Bishops met in Dallas Texas and developed the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, a 17 article document that spelled out the rules for insuring the safety and welfare of our children.

Nearly all the Dioceses in the United States, including ours, signed on to the document, and agreed to be governed by its articles. To insure accountability and transparency of the process, the participating Dioceses

agreed to stand for routine audits to show compliance to the Charter's provisions. An onsite audit by the independent auditors is conducted every three years in each of the participating Dioceses in the United States.

The onsite audit for Fiscal 2015 was conducted for our Diocese on August 25-27, 2015 at the McRaith Catholic Center. It involved the examination of documented proof of compliance for each of the 17 articles and conversations with a wide array of over 20 leaders within the Diocese structure, including the Bishop, and in two different Parishes and Schools.

All of us can welcome the results of the audit that we are in compliance with its provisions. We must also remain vigilant to insure the continued protection of each child entrusted to us by the Good Lord. Every effort is being made to insure their safety, but if we come across any indication of abuse, then it is important to report this as soon as possible to the proper civil authorities, and if it is Church related, then to report it to the Pastoral Assistance Coordinator, Mrs. Rita Heinz at 270.852.8380.

These reports of abuse will be carefully investigated by law enforcement for wrong doing, possible prosecution, and victims needs will be addressed to promote healing. ♦

December Wedding Anniversaries

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

Blessed Mother, Owensboro

Thomas & Lois Wedding, 53
Ron & Greta Beals, 60
Dan & Jennifer Schultz, 25
Phillip & Judy Day, 40

Christ the King, Madisonville

Robert & Floy Daugherty, 62
Sherrell & Jeannie Calhoun, 57

Christ the King, Scottsville

Tom & Nancy Stuller, 25

Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson

Spencer & Ruby Chappell, 59
David & Juanita Cheaney, 56
Samuel & Rebecca Fabrizio, 25
Joshua & Emily Heistand, 10
Forrest & Mary Meuth, 54
Kevin & Lindsey Newman, 10
Robert & Betty Pritchett, 60
Scott & Julie Stewart, 10
Clyde & Janice Sutton, Jr., 53
Robert & Carlene Williams, 54

Holy Spirit, Bowling Green

Bobby & Lindsey Garansuay, 10
Julio & Erika Gomez, 10
James & Maria Thoune, 25
Leon & Jane Brasher, 50
Joseph & Bernice Jakub, 54
Larry & Anita Willoughby, 12
William & Lynda Svanoe, 53
William & Sharon McKay, 51

Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

Gary & Neida Grant, 50
Robert & Dotty Clark, 57
John K. & Kay Steele, 54

Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro

Jeremy & Lauren Coomes, 10
Robert & Jane Borders, 40
Greg & Bonnie Howard, 40
Otis & Judy Hicks, 52

Resurrection, Dawson Springs

Joe & Mazie Mastromarino, 63

Sacred Heart, Russellville

Erasmus & Gloria Gomez, 53

St. Agnes, Uniontown

Alvin & Betty Lou Borup, 57
Brown & Willie Mae Foster, 56
Jerry & Carole Gough, 55
George & Martha Greenwell, 62
Jerry & Jeanette Lee, 52

St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph

Chris & Joyce Kormelink, 52

St. Ann, Morganfield

Bobby & Doris Jean Davis, 10
Larry & Gaile Brown, 55
Justin & Wilma Jean Wolfe, 52
John F. & Madonna Wyatt, 56

St. Anthony, Axtel

George & Alda Mohr, 10

St. Benedict, Wax

Stacy & Allen Wilson, 25

St. Charles, Livermore

Larry & Patricia Hardison, 51
David & Betty Abrams, 56
George & Carol Rhodes, 50

St. Denis, Fancy Farm

Barry & Connie Ballew, 40
Billy Joe & Donna Sue Burgess, 55

St. Edward, Fulton

Don & Rachel Cox, 62

St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Clarkson

James Altus & Wanda Higdon, 59

St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

Mark & Bonnie Roof, 40
David & Edith Keeney, 55
John & Patricia English, 62

St. Henry, Aurora

Jerry and Edna Jones, 60

St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

Joseph W. & Ruth Ann Higdon, 60
Sam & Ella Dean Hayden, 61

St. John the Evangelist, Paducah

Bill & Mary Lee Anderson, 40
Darryl & Teresa Wheat, 25
Adam & Tammie Horbovetz, 10

St. Joseph, Bowling Green

Don & Imogene Poston, 65
William & Joanne Powell, 56
John & Rita Riley, 52

St. Joseph, Leitchfield

Don & Anita Jagers, 40

St. Joseph, Mayfield

Leroy & Betty Dowdy, 60
Sanford & Ernestine Sumner, 69

St. Lawrence, Philpot

Jerry & Shirley Powers, 53

St. Leo, Murray

Paul & Barbara Sachse, 53
Phillip & Sarah Bryan, 54
David & Kendra Korando, 25

St. Mary, LaCenter

David & Gladys Fraser, 56
Butch & Janie Rainer, 51

St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho

Kevin & Rebecca Schwartz, 10
Greg & Laurie Payne, 25

St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Bruce & Gina Sloan, 25
David & Judy Connor, 51
Charles & Linda Payne, 53
Raymond & Emma Whistle, 63
Bud & Mildred Boarman, 71

St. Michael, Sebree

Darryl & Carmen Periard, 51

St. Michael the Archangel, Oak Grove

Mac & Sue Elroy, 63
Bernard & Amalie Canby, 52

St. Paul, Leitchfield

Jimmie & Helen Clemons, 53
William L. & Edna Drake, 69
Derek & Mary Ann Conder, 40

St. Peter, Waverly

Lloyd Lee & Georgia Smith, 40

St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley

James & Bonnie O'Bryan, 10
James & Christy Sauer, 25

St. Pius X, Owensboro

Wayne & Martha Carrico, 40
Wm. Donald & Sylvia Hamilton, 56

St. Romuald, Hardinsburg

Randall & Doris Priest, 54
Don & Sue Ford, 51

St. Sebastian, Calhoun

Larry & Patricia Hardison, 51
David & Betty Abrams, 56
George & Carol Rhodes, 50

St. Stephen, Cadiz

Salvador & Irene Jaso, 64
Raymond & Roberta Ward, 57

St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

Ricky & Julia Houston, 40

St. Thomas More, Paducah

John & Paula Hubert, 25
Thomas & Janet Montgomery, 60
Robert & Carol Crane, 62

St. William, Knottsville

Joseph & Minnie Payne, 53
Paul & Brenda Clemons, 51

SS. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro

Bradley & Robin Osborne, 10
Gary & Ellen Aud, 25

SS. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

Tom & Julie Folz, 10
Matthew & Brandy Nittler, 25
William & Jenny Rush, 25
Gene & Franki Durbin, 54
Bill & Linda Harkins, 57
Edwin & Kathleen Roeder, 64

Archives Corner

DECEMBER 2015

Take a walk down memory lane to days gone by in the Diocese of Owensboro! To learn more about the Archives Office and how they can help you find historical information about the Diocese of Owensboro, contact our archivist Heidi Taylor-Caudill at Heidi.caudill@pastoral.org or call (270) 683-1545 and ask for Archives.



Members of the Serra Club pose for a group photograph during their 1982 Christmas party for clergy and seminarians at Gabe's Restaurant in Owensboro.



On Dec. 9, 1937 Pope Pius XI issued a Papal Bull creating the new Diocese of Owensboro. A week later, the Messenger-Inquirer announced the appointment of Francis R. Cotton as the first bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro. The installation of Bishop Cotton took place at St. Stephen Cathedral on March 8, 1938.

Fordsville parishioners pray for U.S.



On Oct. 10 parishioners of St. John the Baptist Parish, Fordsville, participated in a Public Square Rosary Crusade to pray for America through the intercession of Our Lady. Participants included Marilyn Lewis, Janie Goodman, Cindy Muncy, Lee and Connie Roberts, Jim and Dorothy Roberts, Frank and Margaret Montgomery, Dennis, Thomas and Joseph Payne. Photo courtesy of St. John the Baptist Parish.

Religious life serves Grand Rivers



On Sept. 12 St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Grand Rivers celebrated Mass and a meal with Bishop Medley. Also visiting at the time was Fr. Jesu Raj, HGN, of the Diocese of Lexington, and Fr. M. Alex Ravindran, province superior of the Mary Queen of Apostles Province of the Heralds of Good News religious order. On Sept. 25, a dinner celebration honored the jubilee of Sr. Michael Marie Friedman, OSU, who serves the parish. In this photo, courtesy of Tom Fusco, Sr. Friedman cuts her cake.

From the Office of the Chancellor

It is my pleasure to introduce to you the new members of the diocesan Communication team. The team was formed in a response to the report of both consultants from the Catholic Press Association and National Leadership Roundtable on Church Management. Areas were identified where the diocese could better evangelize while embracing current communication trends and best practices. The team will be in place effective November 30, 2015. They are:



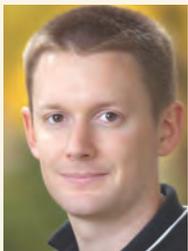
Tina Kasey, Director of Communications for the Diocese of Owensboro.

Tina Kasey has more than eight years of experience in public relations and communications with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism from Western Kentucky University and MBA from Brescia. She worked for eight years as the Director of Public Relations/Marketing/Webmaster for Brescia University and more recently worked as the Director of Marketing and Communications for the University of Kentucky School of Law.



Elizabeth Barnstead, Editor and Coordinator of Diocesan publications for the Diocese of Owensboro.

Elizabeth joined the diocese in April 2015 and has currently been serving as interim editor of The Western Kentucky Catholic. Previously Elizabeth was as a reporter for the Archdiocese of Detroit's Michigan Catholic newspaper. She has a communication arts degree with a concentration in journalism from Franciscan University, Steubenville, OH.



T.J. Stinnett, Media Specialist for the Diocese of Owensboro.

T.J. has been the Production manager for Gideon Productions since 2012 and has many years of experience in videography, photography, graphics, audio, website design and social media. T.J. has a Bachelor's degree in Broadcasting from Western Kentucky University, and while at Western he spent time working at Gasper River. He will oversee all website duties as well as other digital media.

Kevin Kauffeld

Chancellor, Diocese of Owensboro

Liturgical ministers weekend at St. Edward



On Nov. 8 Fr. Robert Drury re-commissioned all liturgical ministers at St. Edward Parish, Fulton. Parishioner Susie Fenwick explained, "The fact that the Church has lay ministers besides the priests and deacons shows that all people are members of the universal and local churches, and that we are called to participate as fully as possible." Photo courtesy of St. Edward Parish.

Election Day burgoo helps K of C charities



The Uniontown Knights of Columbus were busy on Election Day 2015. Using the tradition of cast iron kettles and wood fire, seven kettles of burgoo were filled, making 241 gallons. This event continues to grow in popularity every year, as the money raised helps several K of C charities. Photo courtesy of St. Agnes Parish.

Pastor installation lands on Priesthood Sunday



On Oct. 25, St. Leo Parish in Murray celebrated the installation by Bishop William F. Medley of Fr. Brandon Williams as their new pastor. The installation coincided with Priesthood Sunday, fitting for celebrating a new pastor. Photo courtesy of Larena Lawson.

Immaculate honors 20 years for music director



Many parishioners were present on Oct. 25 at the 10 a.m. Mass at Immaculate Parish, Owensboro, to honor music director Matt Gray for 20 years of service. Matt Warren, chairperson of the parish council presented Matt with a new Fender guitar as a gift from the parish. Fr. Tony Jones and the parish staff had had a song written by Catholic composer Trevor Thompson dedicated to Gray, titled "Well Done Good and Faithful Servant." Several members of the adult choir performed the song and two other songs that day in Gray's honor.

Bishop Medley speaks on the synod

In the past, synod gatherings, unlike the recently-ended Synod of Bishops on the family, did not cause this much controversy, said Bishop William F. Medley in a Nov. 3 presentation at Lake Barkley.



"For the most part synods have come and gone with just a little bit of fanfare," he said.

But the Oct. 4-25, 2015 Synod of Bishops on the family was different, Bishop Medley said.

Addressing the participants of the 2015 Mid-South Catholic Leadership Conference, Bishop Medley said the heightened attention to this synod was due to several key factors. These included open discussions about the reception of Holy Communion by divorced and civilly-remarried Catholics, as well as pastoral care of those experiencing same-sex attraction.

While the synod discussed many issues about the family, such as improving pre-marriage preparation, Bishop Medley acknowledged that much of American society has focused on the Holy Communion question.

"If I stood up here and said 'I've got an answer,' I wouldn't be looking at everything on the table," said Bishop Medley, acknowledging that these are hard questions.

The synod's final 94-paragraph document was released in Italian in October, but as of this publication's deadline an authorized English translation had not been released. ♦

Remembering deceased Knights

Fr. Bruce Fogle celebrated a memorial Mass and candlelight service for the deceased members of the St. John Knights of Columbus Council #10962 on Oct. 14 at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Paducah. The gathering drew about 120 to support deceased Knights' loved ones. Afterwards attendees went to the Knights of Columbus Hall for dinner. Pictured is young Alex Horbovetz, who with his dad, Adam, is enjoying the meal. Photo courtesy of Paul S. Roof.



Marian Shrine celebrates 25th congress

On Oct. 4, the Mary, Mother of the Church and Model for All Christians diocesan shrine in Bowling Green celebrated its 25th Marian Congress. Events included the crowning of a statue of Mary; guest speaker Sr. M. Francis Teresa Scully, DCJ; the Chaplet of Divine Mercy; a procession of the Our Lady of Fatima statue escorted by the Knights of Columbus; exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; blessing of the sick and enrollment in the Brown Scapular. This year the Marian Shrine suffered the loss of the shrine's director, Fr. Ben Luther, and so a special tribute to him was held. The shrine will be one of the six pilgrimage sites for the Jubilee of Mercy.



Easton and Emma Scott crown the Mary statue under guidance of Congress chairperson Jeanie Spears. Photo courtesy of Joann Bradford.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Events at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center

To register for sponsored events at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center, contact Kathy McCarty at 270-229-0206 or kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org

Evening with an Ursuline Dinner/Presentation

First Tuesday of each month ● 5 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center

The \$20 fee includes dinner.

- | | | | |
|---------------|--|---------------|---|
| Jan. 5 | Sister Rose Marita O'Bryan, OSU – <i>Change and Transition: A Reflection</i> | May 3 | Sister Vivian Bowles, OSU – <i>Mind Management</i> |
| Feb. 2 | Sister Amelia Stenger, OSU – <i>Why Do I Feel Guilty When it's Time to Relax? Dealing with Everyday Stress</i> | June 7 | Sister Ann McGrew, OSU – <i>The Choice to Say "Yes;" The Choice to Say "No"</i> |
| Mar. 1 | Sister Marietta Wethington, OSU – <i>Angela, A Woman for All Time</i> | July 5 | Sister Mary Matthias Ward, OSU – <i>Blueprint for Life: Beatitudes</i> |
| Apr. 5 | Sister Ruth Gehres, OSU – <i>Chile: An Ursuline Adventure</i> | Aug. 2 | Sister Ruth Gehres, OSU – <i>The Gift of Forgiveness</i> |

Rediscover Catholicism

Thursday, Dec. 10 (last session)

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center

Presenter: Sister Ann McGrew, OSU

The \$10 fee includes lunch. This is a study based on the bestselling book, "Rediscover Catholicism" by Matthew Kelly. He reveals the essence of authentic Catholic spirituality while addressing some of the most important questions we face today as individuals and as a Church.

Eucharistic Adoration

Second Sunday of each month

Dec. 13, Jan. 10, Feb. 14, March 13

NEW TIME: 3 p.m.-5 p.m. (The time has been extended to two hours during the Year of Mercy)

Mount Saint Joseph Motherhouse Chapel

Adoration will conclude with evening prayer. Adoration also takes place every Friday from 3 p.m.-5 p.m.

Mount Saint Joseph Quilt Club

Sign up by Dec. 3 to get your name into the 2015-16 Quilt of the Month Club drawings. The drawings take place the first Friday of each month. For a \$20 ticket, you can still get 10 chances to win a handmade quilt. Or sign up by Jan. 7 to get 9 chances to win. To order your ticket(s), contact Kris Mango at 270-229-2009 or kris.mango@maplemount.org

YOU CAN EARN
5.8%



on your gift to
The Catholic Foundation
of Western Kentucky

A 75 year old donor can receive a guaranteed income for life by contributing to The Catholic Foundation of Western Kentucky with a Charitable Gift Annuity! Rates vary based on age of donor.

For example, if you give a \$25,000 Charitable Gift Annuity to The Catholic Foundation of Western Kentucky, your benefits include:

- \$1,450 annual income
- generous charitable tax deductions
- over half the income tax free
- potential reduced estate taxes
- \$10,000 minimum

You can designate the Diocese of Owensboro, your parish or school as the beneficiary of your generosity.

For more information, please call
Kevin Kauffeld at 270-683-1545

UPCOMING EVENTS



Taxes & Giving at Christmas & Year's End

Many people enjoy using Christmas and year's end as a special time to give to their favorite Catholic institutions and also positively impact their federal and state income taxes. Christmas and year end giving provides many advantages to you, the donor.

- All gifts made on or before December 31 are tax deductible for the tax year in which your gift is made.
- The knowledge that your gift is assisting and advancing the mission of the Catholic Church here on earth.
- Celebrating the joy of Christmas by giving in the true spirit of the season. A last reminder to make that special gift or increased gift that you've wanted to make during the year.
- If you are an itemizer, your Christmas gift may be just the right decision to allow you to itemize and lower your tax bill. (Check with your tax advisor.)
- Most importantly, make a return to God of your blessings at Christmas and assist the church in striving to achieve its mission of serving God's people, not only at Christmas but throughout the year.

For more information on how to give a financial gift just contact Kevin Kauffeld with the Stewardship and Development Office @ 270-570-4726.

MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER

DECEMBER

- 1 Evening with an Ursuline dinner and presentation: **The Art of Waiting**
- 4-6 **Yarn Spinners Weekend Retreat**
- 5 **Advent with Saint Angela Retreat Day**
- 9 **Advent Day of Prayer (Msgr. Powers)**
- 10 **Rediscover Catholicism**
- 18-20 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program
- 27-31 Ursuline Sisters' Chapter of Elections

JANUARY 2016

- 5 Evening with an Ursuline dinner and presentation: **Change and Transition**
- 8-10 **Yarn Spinners Weekend Retreat**

11-15 **Spiritual Direction Training Program (Week 2)**

- 16-22 St. Meinrad Retreat Week
- 22-24 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program
- 29-31 Retrouvaille

FEBRUARY 2016

- 2 Evening with an Ursuline dinner and presentation: **Why Do I Feel Guilty When it's Time to Relax?**
- 6-7 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 10 Once More With Love
- 21-24 MSJ Quilting Friends
- 26-28 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program



Center-sponsored programs are **BOLD**. Please call to register.
We are located 12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56.
To register or schedule an event, call Kathy McCarty: 270-229-0206
kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org • www.ursulinemsj.org
Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

Join our Spinning Retreat Weekends!

Upcoming Weekends: Dec. 4-6

**Next year: Jan. 8-10, March 4-6,
June 3-5, Aug. 26-28, Nov. 4-6**



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 at Mount Saint Joseph. Enjoy the fellowship of those who appreciate this traditional skill.

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

For information on room rates, meal costs, etc.,
or to register, contact Kathy McCarty:
270-229-0206 • kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

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

DECEMBER 2015 BULLETIN BOARD

■ **K of C contest to keep Christ in Christmas**

Our Lady of Lourdes Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a poster contest. The "Keep Christ in Christmas" Poster Contest is for all young people between the ages of 5 and 14. Entries in the Poster Contest must include a slogan reflecting the topic and an original visual image. All entries must be 11x17 in size and will become property of the Knights of Columbus and will not be returned. For more information contact Drew Hardesty at (270) 684-5369 or dhardesty@lourdescatholicchurch.com or visit www.lourdescatholicchurch.com and click on the poster contest link for more details.

■ **Feisty Fifties of Immaculate to tour Orlando**

Join the Feisty Fifties of Immaculate and Diamond Tours as we motor to Orlando, Florida the week before Holy Week, March 13-19, 2016. We will spend a day at the Holy Land Experience, so fitting for Lent, see ancient Jerusalem recreated and reenactments

of Jesus' life and death. See the Morse museum and the chapel interior designed by Tiffany and the world's largest collection of his stained glass works. Florida's Natural Grove House is also featured, to learn about the orange juice and citrus industry, with samples. Then to Bok Tower Gardens with a 60-bell carillon and concerts. Then off to Davidson of Dundee Citrus Candy Factory – see how candies, jams and marmalades are made the old-fashioned way. All this and the Florida sunshine too! The price for this trip is \$540.00 per person, two in a room, with a \$75.00 deposit and the balance due Jan. 6, 2016. For more information go to GroupTrips.com/FeistyFifties or email ben.mickey@juno.com or call Mickey Brewer (270.685.3015) for a flyer.

■ **Gethsemani 'Monks Road' book now available**

In celebrating the Year of Consecrated Life, we are happy to offer "Monks Road" – a brief history of our Trappist monastic life with pictures of our life at the

Abbey of Gethsemani and text by Fr. Michael Casey and Fr. Clyde Crews. Please order online at gethsemanifarms.org or call our toll-free number 1-800-549-0912. The monks also make and sell Kentucky Bourbon Fruitcake and several flavors of delicious Fudge.

■ **Alzheimer's Association educational programs for families in western Kentucky**

'Creating Positive Holiday Experiences': This program will teach tips and strategies for making the holidays enjoyable by minimizing stress and frustration for everyone. Specific topics include but are not limited to; travel, maintaining a routine, facilitating communication and knowing when to say "no" to others. Dec. 15, 2015, 1 –3 p.m. CT, Healthpark, 1006 Ford Ave, Owensboro. Registration required for all events. For more information and to register, call 1.800.272.3900. \$5 donation suggested. Designed for families only; please no professionals.

How To Live Your Life As A Catholic Man

Catholic Men's Conference – Saturday, Feb. 13, 2016 at St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro

A day of worship and fellowship as we listen to nationally renowned Catholic Evangelists and celebrate Mass with Bishop William F. Medley.

The Catholic Men's Conference of Western Kentucky will take place Saturday, February 13, 2016, at St. Stephen Cathedral beginning with registration at 8:30 a.m. The conference will address the subject of how to live your life as a Catholic man and will include nationally renowned and dynamic Catholic speakers such as Tim Staples, Director of Apologetics and Evangelization at Catholic Answers, and Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers, who has appeared numerous times on the EWTN radio and television stations with an emphasis in male spirituality and and marriage enrichment, as well as Fr. Gerald Baker, who has helped establish numerous Catholic radio stations throughout the Owensboro Diocese. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be available. The Conference will conclude with Mass celebrated by Bishop Medley.

The Conference is open to men who are high school seniors or older.

The cost is \$30 for adults and \$15 for students, and it includes lunch. There is more information at their website – www.kycatholic.com

Schedule:

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2016

St. Stephen Cathedral, 610 Locust Street, Owensboro, Kentucky 42301

8:30 a.m. ● Registration/Will Call (coffee and donuts)

9:30 a.m. ● Conference begins

12:00 p.m. ● Sacrament of Reconciliation and lunch (included with admission)

4:10 p.m. ● Conference ends

5:00 p.m. ● Mass with Bishop Medley at St. Stephen Cathedral

Your entire family is welcome to join in the celebration of Mass.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Saturday, Dec. 12 is the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Queen of Mexico and Empress of the American continent. Here are the 2015 parish schedules to celebrate this feast.

St. Susan Parish, Elkton

Dec. 12 – Mass and celebration at 7 p.m.

Holy Redeemer Parish, Beaver Dam

Dec. 12 – Mass and celebration (with Mariachi band) at 4 p.m.

SS. Joseph and Paul Parish, Owensboro

Dec. 12 – “Mañanitas” at 4:30 a.m.

Bilingual Mass and celebration at 7 p.m.

St. Michael Parish, Sebree

Dec. 11 – Vigil 9 p.m.

Dec. 12 – “Mañanitas,” Mass and celebration at 12 midnight

Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Henderson

Dec. 12 – Bilingual Mass and celebration at 6 p.m.

St. Thomas More Parish, Paducah

Dec. 11 – Vigil Mass and celebration at 8 p.m.

Sacred Heart Parish, Russelville

Dec. 12 – Mass at 7 p.m.

SS. Peter and Paul Parish, Hopkinsville

Dec. 12 – “Mañanitas” (with Mariachi band) at 5 a.m.

Bilingual Mass at 8 a.m.

Mass of the Roses and celebration at noon

St. Joseph Parish, Bowling Green

Dec. 11 – Vigil at 6:30 p.m.

Vigil Mass at 11 p.m.

“Mañanitas” at 12 midnight

Join us for these Advent Days of Prayer...

Saturday, Dec. 5: Advent with Angela: What Angela Teaches About Waiting -- led by Sister Ann McGrew, OSU

Saint Angela Merici spent her life listening to God and waiting to hear God's message concerning the vision she had as a young adult. Today, during the season of Advent, we listen and wait for God's message concerning our life in service to others.

Wednesday, Dec. 9: Advent Prayer Retreat Day -- led by Monsignor Bernard Powers

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

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

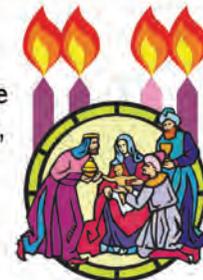
Cost: \$20 includes program and lunch.

Contact Kathy McCarty to register

270-229-0206 • kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

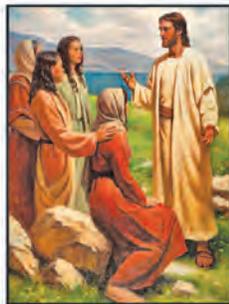
8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999
270-229-4103
www.ursulinesmsj.org

Join us for the Spring Women's Retreat...

The Tender Mercy of God: Jesus and Gospel Women

March 11-13, 2016

Retreat Director: Sister Cheryl Clemons, OSU



During this retreat weekend, participants will reflect on “the tender mercy of God” as embodied in Jesus’ treatment of a number of women in the gospels. Jesus extended divine mercy to childless women, women whose children had died, poor and sick women, “foreign” women, “sinners” and to women outside conventional roles. Through reading, reflecting and sharing, attendees will translate the face of God’s mercy toward Gospel women into the experience of God’s mercy today.



Sister Cheryl

Retreat begins at 7 p.m. Friday and ends after lunch Sunday. Fee: \$180 for residents or \$130 for commuters.

Get a 10% discount if paid in full by Feb. 11, 2016.

A limited number of scholarships are available. Contact Sister Ann McGrew: 270-229-0200

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



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro



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8001 Cummings Road
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www.ursulinesmsj.org

EL CALENDARIO DEL OBISPO MEDLEY PARA DICIEMBRE 2015

- NOVIEMBRE 30 - DICIEMBRE 2** Reunión Provincial de los Obispos y los Consejos Sacerdotales – Memphis, TN
- DICIEMBRE 3** 5:00 p.m. ● Presentación Especial de San Lucas – Louisville, KY
- DICIEMBRE 5** 5:30 p.m. ● Confirmación – San Ambrosio, Henshaw
- DICIEMBRE 8** 12:05 p.m. ● Misa, Apertura del Jubileo de la Misericordia Catedral de San Esteban
- DICIEMBRE 9** Reunión de la Junta Directiva de la Conferencia Católica de Kentucky – Louisville
- DICIEMBRE 12** 5:00 a.m. ● Mañanitas y Misa, Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe Santos Pedro y Pablo, Hopkinsville
6:00 p.m. ● Misa, Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe – Santo Nombre de Jesús, Henderson
- DICIEMBRE 13** 11:00 a.m. ● Misa y Apertura de la Puerta Santa de la Misericordia – Catedral de San Esteban
- DICIEMBRE 15** 9:00 a.m. ● Misa y Reunión del Personal del Centro Católico McRaith
- DICIEMBRE 16** 8:30 a.m. ● Reunión del Consejo Diocesano de Finanzas – MCC
- DICIEMBRE 17** 9:00 a.m. ● Misa Escolar – Campus de OCES K-3
- DICIEMBRE 22** 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. ● Horas de Oficina en Paducah – Hospital de Lourdes
- DICIEMBRE 23** Día de Obras de Misericordia del Centro Católico McRaith
- DICIEMBRE 24** 11:00 p.m. ● Misa de Navidad – Catedral de San Esteban

Una Palabra del Obispo Medley

Queridos hermanas y hermanos,

“Sean misericordiosos como el Padre.” Con estas palabras del evangelio el Papa Francisco ha invitado a la Iglesia y al mundo reflexionar sobre la riqueza inmensa de la misericordia del Padre. Siguiendo la tradición antigua de la Iglesia el Papa Francisco ha decretado que se observará un año extraordinario de reflexión, oración y acción para anunciar y celebrar la misericordia infinita de Dios. Este Jubileo de la Misericordia empieza en la Solemnidad de la Inmaculada Concepción el 8 de diciembre del 2015 y se extiende hasta el domingo de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo Rey del Universo el 20 de noviembre del 2016. Al anunciar este Jubileo Extraordinario el Santo Padre invita a todos los católicos observar este tiempo especial para la Iglesia “*hacer más evidente su misión de ser testigo de la misericordia.*” Durante los próximos meses debemos participar como sea posible en satisfacer las necesidades verdaderas de la gente con ayuda concreta, y para experimentar y reconocer con gratitud la misericordia de Dios en nuestras propias vidas.

En su proclamación del Jubileo Extraordinario de la Misericordia el Papa Francisco explica cómo en Jesucristo, en sus palabras y acciones, se revela la misericordia de Dios. Nos llama a enfocar nuestra atención en algunas áreas claves: tener un encuentro con la misericordia de Dios a través del sacramento de la misericordia – la Reconciliación; la importancia de hacer una peregrinación para recordarnos que somos un pueblo peregrino; y vivir la misericordia a través de la práctica de las Obras Corporales y Espirituales de Misericordia.

Durante este Jubileo los católicos debemos sentirnos desafiados para hacer evidente que la Iglesia es un testimonio vivo de la compasión de Dios. Reconociendo la presencia de la misericordia del Padre en nuestras propias vidas, a través de la oración, reflexión y reconciliación,



y entonces estaremos preparados para ir en búsqueda y responder a las necesidades físicas, emocionales y espirituales de los demás en nuestra comunidad – los enfermos, los encarcelados, los pobres, los extranjeros – y llevar la misericordia a los demás.

“¡Hoy es tiempo de misericordia!” Esto fue el mensaje que el Papa Francisco dio a los 270 Padres Sinodales de unos 120 países en la Misa de clausura del Sínodo de los Obispos sobre la Familia en la Basílica de San Pedro el 25 de Octubre. Muchas de las discusiones del Sínodo se centraron en la sanación de las familias rotas y en reconocer que el dolor experimentado en las familias muchas veces es arraigado y duradero. Pero el Sínodo afirmó también las vidas heroicas de esposos y esposas, madres y padres, hermanas y hermanos que mantienen y dan testimonio de la fe. Estos héroes de la misericordia tienen las llaves para sanar a los quebrantados.

Mi oración es que el Jubileo de la Misericordia no se pasara como un ejercicio piadoso nada más, sino que en este tiempo individuos, parroquias, la diócesis y la Iglesia universal pueda mostrar con medidas concretas que el mensaje de la misericordia del evangelio es un signo de esperanza y promesa en nuestro siglo 21.



Obispo William F. Medley
Diócesis de Owensboro

La oración del Papa Francisco para el Extraordinario Jubileo del Año de la Misericordia

Señor Jesucristo,
tú nos has enseñado a ser misericordiosos como el Padre del cielo,
y nos has dicho que quien te ve, lo ve también a Él.
Muéstranos tu rostro y obtendremos la salvación.
Tu mirada llena de amor liberó a Zaqueo y a Mateo de la esclavitud del dinero;
a la adúltera y a la Magdalena del buscar la felicidad solamente en una creatura;
hizo llorar a Pedro luego de la traición,
y aseguró el Paraíso al ladrón arrepentido.
Haz que cada uno de nosotros escuche como propia la palabra que dijiste a la samaritana:
¡Si conocieras el don de Dios!

Tú eres el rostro visible del Padre invisible,
del Dios que manifiesta su omnipotencia sobre todo con el perdón y la misericordia:
haz que, en el mundo, la Iglesia sea el rostro visible de Ti, su Señor, resucitado y glorioso.
Tú has querido que también tus ministros fueran revestidos de debilidad
para que sientan sincera compasión por los que se encuentran en la ignorancia o en el error:
haz que quien se acerque a uno de ellos se sienta esperado, amado y perdonado por Dios.

Manda tu Espíritu y conságranos a todos con su unción
para que el Jubileo de la Misericordia sea un año de gracia del Señor
y tu Iglesia pueda, con renovado entusiasmo, llevar la Buena Nueva a los pobres
proclamar la libertad a los prisioneros y oprimidos
y restituir la vista a los ciegos.
Te lo pedimos por intercesión de María, Madre de la Misericordia,
a ti que vives y reinas con el Padre y el Espíritu Santo por los siglos de los siglos.
Amén.

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El Jubileo de la Misericordia empieza el 8 de Diciembre

El Jubileo Extraordinario de la Misericordia, también conocido como el Año de la Misericordia, empezó el 8 de diciembre, en la Solemnidad de la Inmaculada Concepción.

Martha Hagan, la codirectora de la Oficina Diocesana de Liturgia, dijo que en hacer el llamado para este año, el Papa Francisco pone énfasis particular en el concepto de la misericordia.

“Como siempre, el Papa Francisco nos hace las cosas concretas,” dijo Hagan. “Nos dice que la receta para vivir con misericordia es poner en práctica las obras corporales y espirituales de misericordia.”

El lema para este año en la Diócesis de Owens-



boro, como en la Iglesia universal, es “Misericordiosos como el Padre,” basado en Lucas 6:36, “Sean misericordiosos como su Padre es misericordioso.”

“Este año es un regalo a la Iglesia,” dijo Hagan. “Es una invitación a cada uno de nosotros de tomar el tiempo de enfocarnos y darnos cuenta que Jesús nos mira con su misericordia y dejar que su amor cambie nuestros corazones y nos haga nuevos.” ♦

Las Obras de Misericordia

Las Obras Corporales de Misericordia

Dar de comer al hambriento.
Dar de beber al sediento.
Vestir al desnudo.
Visitar a los presos.
Dar albergue al que no lo tiene.
Visitar a los enfermos.
Enterrar a los muertos.

Las Obras Espirituales de Misericordia

Enseñar al que no sabe.
Dar consejo al que tiene duda.
Consolar al triste.
Sufrir con paciencia las flaquezas del prójimo.
Perdonar las ofensas.
Corregir al que lo necesite.
Rezar por los vivos y los muertos.

Sitios de Peregrinación

El 1 de Noviembre del 2015, en la Solemnidad de Todos los Santos, el Obispo William F. Medley, lanzó un decreto designando los seis sitios de peregrinación para el Jubileo Extraordinario de la Misericordia. Fíjese en las siguientes ediciones del Católico de Kentucky Occidental para más información sobre estas oportunidades de peregrinación.

Catedral de San Esteban ● Owensboro

Capilla de la Casa Madre de las Hermanas Ursulinas del Monte San José ● Owensboro

La Capilla de las Obras de Misericordia de Santo Tomás Moro ● Paducah

La Capilla de la Divina Misericordia de los Padres de la Misericordia ● Auburn

El Santuario Mariano en la Parroquia de San José ● Bowling Green

La Parroquia de Santa María del Bosque ● McQuady

El Año de la Misericordia

¿Tu comunidad tiene planes de celebrar el Año de la Misericordia?

¡Manda fotos y artículos al wkc.editor@pastoral.org antes del 15 de cada mes!

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 Santa Susana, Elkton

Domingos – 12:00 p.m.

221 Allensville Street, Elkton, KY 42220

Contacto: Diácono Heriberto Rodríguez (302) 438-7335

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 Santa María y Santo Santiago, Guthrie

Sábados – 6:00 p.m.

313 3rd Street, Guthrie, KY 42234

Contacto: Diácono Heriberto Rodríguez (302) 438-7335

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 Julio Barrera (270) 885-8522

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 – 6:30 p.m.

401 North 12th Street, Murray, KY 42071

Contacto: Padre Brandon Williams (270) 302-5374

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 Esther Ordoñez (270) 816-0657

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.

Altars de Muertos

El 2 de Nov. fue la fiesta de Todos los Fieles Difuntos o el Día de los Muertos. Aquí están algunas fotos de a través de la Diócesis de altares en las parroquias conmemorando nuestros seres queridos difuntos.

Parroquia del Santo Nombre, Henderson



Parroquia de San Miguel, Sebree



Parroquia de Santos José y Pablo, Owensboro



Comenzamos un Tiempo de Gracia



Hola a Todos

Un saludo a cada uno. Estamos sin duda en este último mes del año comenzando un doble tiempo de Gracia. Unidos al amor maternal de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, el tiempo de adviento por supuesto que nos encaminará hacia el misterio de la encarnación donde una vez más seremos retados a pensar si es que en realidad somos personas que dejamos que Dios renazca y habite en nosotros. Para algunos de nosotros ser religiosos en ciertos momentos del año es una cosa; pero conversión real, entrega continua

¡Comparta sus noticias con el Católico de Kentucky Occidental!

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y el dejar que se haga la voluntad de Dios cualquiera que sea en la vida de uno es otra. Por otro lado también estamos a punto de entrar en el Año de la Misericordia este 8 de diciembre solemnidad de la Inmaculada Concepción. Cuanta oportunidad de gracia y de renovación. Las palabras maternas de Guadalupe, si las escuchamos con atención, tendrán la oportunidad única de renovar nuestra fe en Jesús. “¿No estoy yo aquí que soy tu Madre?” sin duda son palabras retadoras. Retadoras porque en un tiempo donde más y más muchos pareciéramos pre-

tender prescindir de cualquier ayuda externa y nos volvemos cada día más individualistas y autosuficientes, resultan palabras retadoras. Las Palabras de Guadalupe presuponen la necesidad nuestra de su cobijo, de su cuidado, protección e intercesión ante su hijo Jesucristo. Ojala y en este año los que aún no hemos podido dar el sí al acompañamiento de María en nuestras vidas, podamos tener la gracia de abandonarnos a su gracia. Ya que es a través siem-

Continúa en página 23

Parroquianos Hispanos, Anglos se preparan para el Año de la Misericordia en Mayfield



Miembros de la comunidad hispana de la Parroquia de San José en Mayfield asisten una reunión de formación con el P. Eric Riley. Foto por cortesía de la Parroquia de San José.

La Parroquia de San José se abrió al proceso “Cristo Renueva su Parroquia” en 2012. Se lo trajo la Madre Eloisa Torralba Aquino MAG [La Congregación de Misioneras del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús “Ad Gentes” (M.A.G.)], asociada de pastoral en el Ministerio Hispano. El primer fin de semana en español tuvo lugar en el fin de semana de Acción de Gracias en el 2012 para un grupo de 38 hombres. Desde entonces 460 parroquianos han experimentado el fin de semana de renovación en

inglés o español y muchos han participado en las reuniones semanales de seguimiento.

Nuestros grupos de hombres y mujeres de Cristo Renueva su Parroquia de habla español se siguen reuniendo cada semana en diferentes grupos para estudio bíblico, oración y sesiones de formación espiritual.

En Mayo, 240 personas asistieron una presentación de una noche sobre las fundaciones bíblicas de la Misa, presentada por el P. Eric Riley. Después la gente pidió oportunidades similares, y el P. Riley escogió el serie de videos “A Quick Journey Through the Bible” para los adultos de habla inglés y “Un Rápido Recorrido por la Biblia” para los adultos de habla español (lo cual guiarán la Madre Eloisa, la Madre María Morales Solano, MAG, y el P. Riley).

Los niños en las clases de educación religiosa de Inglés y Español están aprendiendo con “Great Adventure Kids” estudio bíblico, y los adolescentes también están usando una serie para su edad.

La Parroquia de San José pide a Dios que Cristo esté renovando su parroquia en fe, esperanza y caridad, para que puedan caminar con audacia en la tierra de los vivos e invitar a otros venir y encontrarse con el Cristo Vivo en el venidero Jubileo de la Misericordia. ♦

El Año de la
Misericordia

¿Tu comunidad tiene
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Comenzamos un Tiempo de Gracia ... Continuación de página 22

pre de María como es que llegamos a Jesús.

Por otro lado arranca el Año de la Misericordia. Otra oportunidad enorme de practicar esas obras de misericordia y de renovarnos en el perdón. Las parábolas de la misericordia en los evangelios quizás sean una buena herramienta para arrancar y tomar nos la temperatura en cuanto a cómo practicamos y

recibimos la misericordia. ¡Cuánta! necesidad hay en nuestras familias de esta tan importante gracia.

Durante este año tendremos la oportunidad de tanto en sus parroquias como a nivel diocesano de reflexionar en esta virtud. Ojala y que cada uno nos abramos a esa gracia de Dios que nos ofrece.

Me despido no sin antes y con anticipación de-

searles una muy alegre y piadosa fiesta guadalupana. Unas hermosas posadas y una muy Feliz Navidad y Fin de Año.

Dios los Bendiga

Cristóbal Gutierrez

Oficina del Ministerio Hispano

Is God calling you or someone you know to be a priest?

"They share the most intimate moments of life and death with us. They pour the water of life into our souls. They feed us with living bread from heaven. They're waiting in the confessional to unburden us from sin. They receive the vows that transform man and woman into husband and wife. They're with

us when we're sick, our final escorts from time into eternity... One word sums up the priesthood: love.

"Not the flawed love of human beings. But the love that created space and time, hung on the cross, and rose from the dead and

promised that he would never leave us and who reaches out to the world today through the hands of His priests."

From "Priesthood," a web video by Chris Stefanick of RealLifeCatholic.com

Contact our Office of Vocations

☎ (270) 683-1545 ✉ jason.mcclure@pastoral.org fred.litke@pastoral.org 🌐 owensborovocations.com 📌 [Facebook.com/owensborovocations](https://www.facebook.com/owensborovocations)

Upcoming deacon discernment meetings

In September 2016 the diocese will commence the Third Class (English) to form men who are called to become Permanent Deacons. The formation period for the Third Class will be from 2016 to 2021. As of Sept. 1, 2016 an applicant's age should be a minimum of 30 or a maximum of 60. (A variance from the age requirements can be requested.)

Information meetings will be held in early 2016. The meetings will present basic information concerning the diaconate; there will be an opportunity for "questions & answers." The spouses of the men are encouraged to participate in the Information Meeting. The Information Meetings are scheduled for:

- **Feb. 28, 2016** from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Holy Spirit Parish in Bowling Green
- **March 6, 2016** from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at St Thomas More Parish in Paducah

- **March 13, 2016** from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Owensboro

In order to be selected to join the Third Class which starts in Sept. 2016 the men will need to submit an application and participate in interviews. Please refer to the Diocese of Owensboro's website for additional information and application forms: http://rcdok.org/vocations/permanent_diaconate/.

Discernment of an ecclesial vocation does not take place in a vacuum; the Christian community and its pastors play key roles in this process. In the Diocese of Owensboro, when someone inquires of the diaconate he is counseled to meet with his pastor and discuss his application to the program if he has not yet done so.

If the man inquiring is married then the wife is encouraged to participate in the discussions with the pastor. As part of the initial application, the



Fr. Suneesh Mathew, HGN, talks about consecrated life for priests and brothers. He is a member of the Heralds of Good News community. Photo courtesy of Ursuline Sisters of Mount St. Joseph.

pastor's recommendation and attestation that the individual meets the canonical requirements for formation is required before admission to the program.

We encourage the submittal of the application before the Information Meeting; however, it is not required. ♦

October Mass celebrates the Year of Consecrated Life

The Ursuline Sisters of Mount St. Joseph and other religious women and men were honored on Saturday, Oct. 24, 2015 with a special Mass and meal at Immaculate Parish in Owensboro. Everyone in the diocese was invited to the 10 a.m. Mass – celebrated by Bishop Medley – to commemorate the Year of Consecrated Life and to honor the sisters, brothers and priests of religious orders who minister in western Kentucky. All of our diocese’s jubilarians were also honored at the Mass.

All photos courtesy of Ursuline Sisters of Mount St. Joseph. ♦



The women religious celebrating jubilees sat in the front pews, including, (L-R): Ursuline Sisters of Mount St. Joseph Marcella Schrant, Francis Louise Johnson and Teresa Riley; Sr. Jeannette Fennewald, a School Sister of Notre Dame, and Ursuline Sisters Barbara Jean Head and Mary Henning.

Right: Ursuline Sister Catherine Marie Lauterwasser is recognized for her 60th jubilee. All of this year’s jubilarians were honored during the Mass.



Ursuline Associate Charlotte Paez of Owensboro (right) talks to Sr. Debra Ann Bailey with the Sisters of the Lamb of God. Seated at left is Sr. Mary Agnes, also a Sister of the Lamb of God.



Mary and Advent: A poem

BY MSGR. BERNARD POWERS, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

O Mary,
we stand with you
waiting for the fullness of time,
waiting for time
to be fulfilled.
We accompany you
going toward Bethlehem...
going to the city of birth.

We pray with you:
“My soul magnifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my
Savior.”

Mary,
with you in faith
we accept the message
and respond:
“Thy will be done”
by me
and in me.

Mary,
with you we share hope...
hope in the promise of the Lord,
for your heel crushes
the serpent.

Mary,
we love with you
and our hearts become
the dwelling place of the Son
and we give flesh
to the Word of God.

Mary,
with humility...
we come in readiness,
willing to be the servant,
the handmaid,

for the Savior is present
...asking.

Mary,
of David’s family
you are born,
and of you is born
David’s son...
our Redeemer...
and we adore.....

Msgr. Powers writes from St. Elizabeth Parish, Curdsville.

Chastity advocate Jason Evert gives powerful presentation at St. Mary in Paducah

BY TYLER OWEN, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Jason Evert, a nationally-known speaker who has presented to more than one million people about the virtue of chastity, gave a presentation entitled "Love or Lust?" to the St. Mary Middle and High School students on Oct. 26.

Evert also provided a session for parents entitled "Parenting for Purity" beforehand, giving advice and different approaches on how to speak with their kids about chastity and the "birds and the bees" talk.

The next morning Evert gave another presentation to any students or members of the faculty and staff who were unable to make Monday's presentation.

These presentations were part of Evert's visit to western Kentucky, which included presentations to youth and parents in Owensboro.

The high-energy presentations were based on the issues and topics teens face in everyday life while tying that to chastity. Laughs were frequent

as topics sometimes uncomfortable for teens were softened with punchlines and relatable teenage experiences and jargon. The message was serious and influential as Evert cited the positives of abstinence before marriage and the negatives of caving into temptations teens face daily.

Evert recalled the true story of a 15-year-old girl on the wrong path. But it wasn't too late, he said. She changed directions and spent time writing love letters to and saving herself for her future husband.

"I received those letters on our wedding day," said Evert.

He and his wife, Crystalina — a fellow chastity speaker — have been married 11 years and are expecting their sixth child soon.

"How grateful am I?" the 39-year-old said, holding up an ultrasound picture of his unborn son. "My boy exists today because my brave wife turned things around in high school."

Evert holds a master's degree in theology and



Jason Evert speaks to teens at St. Mary High School in Paducah the evening of Oct. 26. Photo courtesy of St. Mary High School.

has ministered to teens across the globe through the auspices of Catholic Answers for 12 years.

His participation in the Life Teen program at his home parish and his background in assisting with and leading teen retreats throughout high school and college, as well as ministering to women through crisis pregnancy counseling, helped shape his desire to reach out to teens. ♦



Learn More

To learn more about Jason Evert's mission, visit chastityproject.org.

Confirmation retreat at Gasper

The eighth-grade confirmation class from Immaculate Parish spent a day retreat at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center on Nov. 3. Six high schoolers helped with the retreat, which was based on the parable of the Sower and the Seed. Students performed the skit in present-day situations, played a game trying to get "seeds and not weeds" and prayed to grow in God's love. Students and their sponsors will meet again on Dec. 6 for another retreat and then see Bishop Medley at the diocese's January confirmation retreat on Jan. 31, 2016. Photo courtesy of Immaculate Parish.



Rainbow Mass draws students from near and far

Students from Catholic schools across the Diocese of Owensboro gathered in the Owensboro Sportscenter for an Oct. 22 Mass with Bishop William F. Medley and a number of priests, in addition to parents, school faculty and staff and diocesan employees.

Rainbow Mass, named for the many colors of school uniforms and banners carried up at the beginning of Mass, takes place every other year and is attended by hundreds of people. ♦

Top: Before Mass begins, Bishop William F. Medley greets students from John Paul II School, Morganfield.

Bottom: The Rainbow Mass was aptly named for the colorful school banners and uniforms that fill the Owensboro Sportscenter every other year. Here, students of Owensboro Catholic K-3 Campus carry their school's banner. Photos by Elizabeth Wong Barnstead, The Western Kentucky Catholic.



Leitchfield students welcome bishop



Bishop Medley visited and celebrated Mass with St. Paul School in Leitchfield on Nov. 9. Here, he greets religion class along with Gina Sims (far left), Fr. Steve Hohman (right) and Sr. Anne Michelle Mudd, OSU, (far right). Photo courtesy of Ann Flaherty.

'What makes a saint?'



Nov. 12 saw Bishop Medley's visit and Mass with Owensboro Catholic Middle School. Following Mass the bishop visited the eighth-graders, including religion class. His conversation covered confirmation, the Year of Mercy and other pertinent questions about Catholicism. In this photo Bishop Medley asks one student if her classmate if she thinks her classmate, Logan Jones, is a saint, and if so, why? The student said yes, and the bishop used this to talk about "what makes a saint." Photo courtesy of Ann Flaherty.

Hopkinsville student five-time cross country champion

SS. Peter and Paul School, Hopkinsville, sent 11 runners to compete in the KTCCCA Meet of Champions in Lexington, KY, on Oct. 24. Tomás Duncan, a seventh-grader, became a five-time cross country state champion winning the Boys' Middle School Championship 4K at Masterson Station Park. He ran a 13:34:01 and finished first out of 461 runners.

Also competing in the championship races were Tobiás Duncan, Walter Kunnmann, Anna King and Luke Shouse. SPPS runners in the KTCCCA Open Race were Ryan Luckey, Nic Luckey, Eva Blankenberger, Tahlon Goodin, Hunter Goodin and Ozzy Goodin.



Tomás Duncan runs in the KTCCCA Meet of Champions on Oct. 24. Photo courtesy of SS. Peter and Paul School.

Paducah girls' group views Goretti relics

BY CAROLINE VEATCH, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Recently, the Paducah Sisters of Service experienced a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity – viewing the relics of St. Maria Goretti!

When Sisters of Service was first created, St. Maria Goretti was chosen as the patron saint of the group.

St. Maria was a girl who lived with her mother and her many siblings. When she was just 11, she was sitting with her little sister at the top of a staircase outside her home. A man named Alessandro suddenly pulled her inside and threatened to kill her with a knife if she did not do what he said.

When Maria said no, he stabbed her nine times. He went in his bedroom where he locked himself in. Maria was able to pull herself to the door and tried to unhook the latch, but she couldn't. Alessandro heard her, so he came out of his room and stabbed her five more times.

She was taken to the hospital where she died. Before she died, she forgave Alessandro for everything he had done to her.

When Sisters of Service learned that her relics were coming to the United States, they knew immediately they wanted to go.

The viewing was at the Cathedral in Bellville, IL. The long line wrapped around the block and through the inside of the Cathedral.

Along the path to her casket, SOS bought souvenirs and read banners telling the story of the life of Maria Goretti. When they got to the front of the line, they were encouraged to touch the sacramen-



The ladies of SOS went to Belleville, Illinois, to view and venerate the relics of St. Maria Goretti, their group's patron saint. Photo courtesy of Sisters of Service.

tals they had brought, or bought, to the glass encasing her body. In doing so, their articles became third class relics.

They had 15 seconds to say a prayer and to see St. Maria. After they had all gone through, they waited and prayed in the church for a few more minutes.

This trip was fun and one of their favorites as a group.

Caroline Veatch is a St. Mary High School sophomore and SOS member. ♦

SS. Peter & Paul student elected KYA Governor



Lauren Langhi, an eighth-grader at SS. Peter and Paul School in Hopkinsville, was recently elected Governor of the Kentucky Youth Assembly (KYA). More than 1150 Kentucky students attended the conference in Louisville, which included 24 delegates from SPPS that presented two bills. Lauren won against 11 other candidates, and as Governor will preside over next year's students. Her parents are Michael and Michelle Langhi, and the KYA sponsors are Jennifer Groves and Brenda Chaudoin. In this picture, Lauren and the 23 other delegates return to Hopkinsville with a police escort through town. Photo courtesy of SS. Peter and Paul School.

A 'Good Samaritan' at St. Mary School

Recently Ryan Chua, an eighth-grader and cross-country team member at St. Mary School System in Paducah brought the "Good Samaritan" parable to life. Felicia LaBarge, kindergarten teacher at St. Mary, writes: "In October Ryan was asked by Paducah Tilghman High School's Cross County coach to run a race against one of their students on the team. The student needed one more race so he would be eligible to run at regionals. Ryan immediately said yes....Ryan received no benefit from running the race. Thank you Ryan for showing us the way and thank you Coach Halicks for your outstanding practice in sportsmanship. That is why I send my children to St. Mary and that is why I teach at St. Mary."



Christ renews Mayfield parish in prep for Year of Mercy



Hispanic CRHP participants attend a spiritual formation meeting at St. Joseph Parish, Mayfield. Photo courtesy of St. Joseph Parish.

BY MELISSA G. ARMSTRONG, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Building on a foundation laid by many generations of lay leaders, consecrated religious and clergy, St. Joseph Parish welcomed the “Christ Renews His Parish” (or “CRHP”) renewal process in 2012.

It was brought to our parish by Madre Eloisa Torrabla Aquino MAG [La Congregación de Misioneras del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús “Ad Gentes” (M.A.G.)], pastoral associate in Hispanic Ministry. Our first weekend was held in Spanish for a group of 38 men on Thanksgiving weekend 2012.

Since that time there have been about 460 parishioners who have experienced the renewal weekend either in Spanish or English and the follow-up spiritual formation meetings.

Last year on Tuesday evenings, our English-speaking women from CRHP had weekly Bible studies and sessions with Bishop Robert Barron’s “Catholicism” video series; our English-speaking men from CRHP spent weekly sessions with a program called “That Man Is You.”

Our Spanish-speaking men and women’s CRHP groups continue to meet weekly in various groups for Bible study, prayer, and spiritual formation sessions. Along with CRHP we also have a large group of parishioners who attend an adult Bible study between the Sunday Masses, which focuses on the readings of the day.

On May 26, 2015, 240 CRHP participants, parishioners and visitors attended a presentation on the biblical foundations of the Mass, by Fr. Eric Riley, our pastor.

After requests for similar opportunities, and after consulting with the parish staff and parish council, Fr. Riley brought in a Bible study series that the whole parish could share.

He chose Jeff Cavins’ series “A Quick Journey Through the Bible” for English-speaking adults and “Un Rápido Recorrido por la Biblia” video series (which Madre Eloisa, Madre Maria Morales Solano, MAG, and Fr. Riley moderate) for Spanish-speaking adults.

With our youth, our parish catechists and Fr. Riley moderate Mark Hart’s video series, “T3: The

Teen Timeline” for high school and “Encounter” for middle school. Our children in English and Spanish religious education classes are following the schedule with “Great Adventure Kids” Bible study.

Our prayer is that Christ is renewing his parish in faith, hope and charity, so that we may walk boldly in the land of the living and invite others to come and encounter Christ in the Jubilee of Mercy.

St. Joseph is excited to continue to offer scripture studies over the next few months. Topics will include The Prophets, The Book of Revelation and The Gospel of Matthew. Fr. Riley says these studies have been well-received with close to 100 English-speaking, and another 100 Spanish-speaking parishioners.

Melissa G. Armstrong is director of religious education at St. Joseph Parish, Mayfield. ♦

Year of
Mercy
JUBILEE YEAR 2015-2016

Living the Year of Mercy

Does your parish have plans to celebrate the Year of Mercy? Send high-resolution photos and 500-word-maximum articles about your activities to wkc.editor@pastoral.org.

Owensboro diocese mission trip to Jamaica ‘just amazing’

BY RICHARD MURPHY, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

A group from St. Stephen Cathedral Parish, and a couple of friends from Paducah, just got back from a Mandeville Jamaica mission immersion trip to our sister diocese.

It was my third trip, and I recommend you go, but not for the reason that the Beach Boys’ song “Kokomo” might suggest, “to get away from it all.” Rather, my reason is to experience what it’s like to see the needs of so many wonderful people and to see the Catholic Church meet those needs.

How many places have you been recently where you can pick avocados right outside your door, eat fried breadfruit and try an amazing array of other delicious fruits not sold in American supermarkets? For a place the size of Connecticut, it has a large feeling to it, and its populous are a diverse and talented people. Jamaicans are very industrious and like to make work fun.

Our group worked with a team of Jamaican men who are employed by the Diocese of Mandeville. Over the course of three days we worked together to prefabricate a house, drive it into the bush, and build it on the side of a mountain.

The Diocese of Mandeville staff meets, interacts and encourages impoverished families daily. Into this mix was added the Diocese of Owensboro’s group called Pilgrims of Hope, generally a group of Mission Immersion trip alumni.



Dr. and Mrs. John and Janet Colgan at St. Teresa Basic School in Black River, Jamaica. Photo courtesy of Richard Murphy.

Pilgrims of Hope offered funds to cover the cost of establishing small business operations for families vetted by the Mandeville diocese. Families became self-supporting and not at the whim of those who would easily take advantage of them.

Now consider the Water with Blessings. This ministry was started by Sr. Lorraine Lauter, OSU, an Ursuline Sister from Maple Mount, Ky. Water with Blessings equips, empowers and entrusts mothers (calling them “Water Women”) as agents of clean water for their communities.

The mothers are equipped with the highest-quality filtration system, a water filter that filters out 99.999 percent of all biological contaminate.

Holy Name Parish from Henderson started this program in Jamaica and trained the trainers to continue the ministry. St. Jerome of Fancy Farm supplied more than 60 filters for future operation and trained 15 women. We trained another 27 people and they in turn promised to work with three other families each in their area, or 81 additional families

in the Maggotty, Jamaica area.

The Diocese of Owensboro has a history of helping with the educational needs of our sister diocese because the future of the next generation of Jamaicans is at stake. Our diocese assists through Pilgrims of Hope-provided scholarships for high school students, Ash Wednesday collections, container collections of school supplies and visits to their institutions to better understand needs.

Being a sister diocese is a partnership: each diocese might be able to do some work alone, but together, it is just amazing. ♦

Get Involved

To learn how you can participate in the Diocese of Owensboro’s partnership with the Diocese of Mandeville, Jamaica, call Richard Murphy in the Social Concerns office at (270) 683-1545.

Dear Cursillistas



Sr. Elaine Burke, OSU, holding her plaque commemorating 13 years as spiritual advisor to the local Cursillo Movement.

Thank you!

Greetings to one and all,

I was truly grateful for your article in *The Western Kentucky Catholic* in the November issue about my involvement in the Cursillo Movement. I made the second women's Cursillo in October 1969 at St. Stephen Cathedral. At that time there were 46 women candidates plus the team. Even though

the number of candidates making Cursillo today is fewer, Cursillo is still living and active.

My involvement with Cursillo in the Diocese of Owensboro began when I was appointed the diocesan Coordinator of Religious Education (then called CCD). I began my search for laypersons to be catechists in the parishes, and started with those already seeking ways to serve the diocese.

It did touch the hearts of many who had made a Cursillo and also the candidates who were making Cursillos on my weekend. You may say you're not sure if my intention for making the Cursillo was the right reason, but it worked for me!

I am in awe of the many laypersons who have made Cursillos. Their spirituality and love of Jesus Christ has grown and they are so committed to God, the Church and their communities. They have done much to evangelize the environments at

their workplaces and homes. They attend Ultreyas, leader school, secretariat meetings and formations to become a team member for both men and women Cursillos.

I have given of my time and gifts in every way possible, especially as spiritual director on the weekends. Bishop McRaith appointed me as the spiritual advisor to the Cursillo in 2002; I have been forever grateful for my 13 years of service and the blessings I received because of those who have become such a part of my life.

My gratitude extends also to Bishop Medley who has truly supported and encouraged us in so many ways. The priests and consecrated religious, both women and men, and the deacons who have also been an integral part of the spiritual growth of the Cursillistas deserve great praise.

I owe a deep debt of gratitude for the many sacrifices each of you made through your gifts of time, talent, and your desire to spread the Kingdom of God.

Sr. Elaine Burke, OSU

Welcome, Fr. Tom!

Please welcome Fr. Tom Buckman as our new spiritual advisor. We are very grateful to Bishop Medley for appointing him for our Cursillo Movement. We thank Fr. Buckman for prayerfully considering the position and saying "Yes." Fr. Buckman serves as pastor of St. Pius X Parish in Owensboro and has added Cursillo to his apostolate. Merry Christmas to everyone this month as we celebrate the joyous birth of Jesus as a child and one of us. May God give your families what they need and the love and peace of the Holy Spirit.

God's blessings and De Colores!

Mary Hagan

Upcoming Cursillo Meetings

Owensboro

Blessed Mother Parish hall
Dec. 7: Leader's School at 7 p.m.
(First Monday of each month.)
Dec. 28: Ultreya at 7 p.m.

Hopkinsville

SS. Peter and Paul Parish
Dec. 20: Ultreya at 2 p.m.
Leader's School follows at 3 p.m.

Cursillo Weekends

Hawesville Cursillo Center
Men's: June 9-12, 2016
Women's: June 16-19, 2016

To learn more about the Cursillo Movement in the Diocese of Owensboro contact Mary Hagan at (270) 240-4778 or email haganm95@yahoo.com.

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.

A Special Announcement from the Office of Bishop William F. Medley ...

Continued from page 4

book, Twitter and even more communications technologies that change on an almost-daily basis. Young Catholics are being swept into the current of today's secular philosophies, and the Church's traditional communications methods are no longer reaching this demographic.

A group of Catholic communications consultants recently reviewed the diocesan plan, and while the group applauded many of the diocese's print and broadcast efforts, they recommended additional resources that could serve parishes throughout our 32-county region. This included devising a plan that would bring the most effective communications tools to teach and inform the people of western Kentucky.

Readers of The Western Kentucky Catholic noticed some changes in content delivery through its recent redesign, producing a new look and style while remaining faithful to the paper's roots of community-oriented news and faith-filled articles.

Considerations were also taken regarding the local TV Mass. Broadcasting the Mass was becoming increasingly more expensive and the Mass no longer reached as many homes within our diocesan region. Its primary viewership in recent years was established to be in southern Indiana, not even

within the diocesan boundaries. Other televised Mass options, such as EWTN, are now frequently accessed by our local faithful.

After much consideration based on the communications consultants guidance, the decision was made to discontinue the TV Mass by the end of 2015.

As a result, the diocesan communications team will now have resources to provide better access to reaching every Catholic household in western Kentucky in this rapidly-changing 21st century.

The Diocese of Owensboro communications initiatives may have evolved, but our roots are the same. Following in the footsteps of Bishop McRaith, our diocese will continue to serve our people of western Kentucky through teaching, evangelizing and communicating. ♦

¡El Católico de Kentucky
Occidental ahora se ve diferente!
Aparte de otros cambios de
diseño gráfico, ahora se encuentra
la sección en español en medio
del periódico, en vez de atrás.

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 web site (www.rcdok.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), 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-Chair), and Ms. 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.