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A Eucharistic procession enters Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center during the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage's visit to the diocese. **Page 6**

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# A Word From Bishop Medley

## As we enter the third year of the Eucharistic Revival, let us go out on mission

My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Go in peace. Go forth, the Mass is ended. Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life. Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

To all to these commendations we instinctively reply, “Thanks be to God.”

I once heard a retreat master, speaking of the Holy Mass, suggest that an appropriate “send-off” from Mass might be: “The Mass never ends. Go in peace.”

As we begin the final year of the three-year Eucharistic Revival in the Catholic Church of the United States, that message might be a good one to carry with us. We should have a mindset that we are always renewed and revived by the Eucharist. In turn, as Catholics, we should constantly see the Eucharist as the “source and summit” of Christian life.

The focus of this third year of Eucharistic Revival is Mission. We must remind ourselves and challenge ourselves to know the Great Commission of Jesus Christ: *Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations; baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.*

Just last month more than 50,000 Catholics gathered in Indianapolis for the 10th Eucharistic Congress, the first in our country since the bicentennial

year of 1976. That Congress was held in Philadelphia as part of the United States bicentennial celebration. This Eucharistic Congress completed the second year of this current revival.

The National Eucharistic Pilgrimages had approached Indianapolis from four corners of our nation. The southern route procession passed through the Diocese of Owensboro June 30-July 3. Processions and special celebrations marked that passage and more than a thousand people shared locally in those events.

As we begin this third year of revival, the Church should look with fresh eyes on the Great Commission of Jesus. We have extended our diocesan Acts 2:42 small faith-sharing groups who will begin to meet in September and continue through next May.

I want to review one of my video reflections offered last year in my series of meditations on parts of the Mass. I reflected upon the Consecration narrative in the Mass where we recall the words of Jesus as he takes the bread at the Last Supper: *Take this, all of you, and eat of it, for this is my Body, which will be given up for you.*

Then taking the chalice, Jesus said: *Take this, all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my Blood, the Blood of the new and eternal covenant, which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.*

Summing up the rich blessing just offered to his disciples, Jesus extended this gift for all ages and

BISHOP MEDLEY'S AUGUST 2024 CALENDAR	
<b>AUGUST 2</b>	8:30 AM   Mass for OCS Staff Retreat – Blessed Mother, Owensboro
<b>AUGUST 3</b>	2 PM   Opening Prayer for Fancy Farm Picnic – St. Jerome, Fancy Farm
<b>AUGUST 11</b>	11 AM   Mass for the 150th Anniversary of Arrival of Ursuline Sisters in Daviess County – Mount Saint Joseph, Maple Mount  2 PM   Sophia Awards – St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro
<b>AUGUST 13-15</b>	Catholic Conference of Kentucky Meeting and Bishops of the Province Meeting – Louisville
<b>AUGUST 17</b>	10 AM   Dedication of Resurrection Church – Dawson Springs
<b>AUGUST 18</b>	2 PM   Marriage Anniversary Celebration – St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro
<b>AUGUST 19</b>	10 AM   Priest Personnel Meeting – McRaith Catholic Center, Owensboro  1:30 PM   Priests' Council Meeting – McRaith Catholic Center, Owensboro
<b>AUGUST 21</b>	6 PM   Confirmation – St. Francis of Assisi, Guthrie
<b>AUGUST 24</b>	9 AM   Parish Ministry and Leadership Conference – The Bruce, Hopkinsville  4:30 PM   Confirmation – Holy Spirit, Bowling Green
<b>AUGUST 25</b>	4 PM   Mass for 75th Anniversary of Blessed Sacrament Chapel – Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Owensboro
<b>AUGUST 27</b>	10 AM – 2 PM   Paducah Office, Mercy Health – Lourdes Hospital, Paducah
<b>AUGUST 28</b>	6 PM   Confirmation – St. Francis of Assisi, Guthrie

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*Bishop Medley continued from page 3*

times: *Do this memory of me.*

So, three commends: *Take and eat; Take and drink; and Do this in memory of me.*

The evangelists Matthew, Mark and Luke recount the Last Supper narrative very similarly. John, however, accentuates a facet of that supper not recorded by the other three. John notes that Jesus washed the feet of his disciples at that Last Supper. And he instructed them: *If I, then, the Lord and Master, have washed your feet, you should wash each other's feet.*

The figurative action of Jesus to wash his disciples' feet is a Eucharistic action. From this flows a command equal to taking and eating and drinking of the Body and Blood of Jesus. This command is very much Mission-oriented. Herein is found the meaning of the retreat master who suggested that the Mass does not end but it continues whenever we, in the name of Jesus, wash feet, feed the hungry, visit the sick and imprisoned, and comfort the dying. The Mass does not end but continues when we

instruct others in the faith, when we act on behalf of justice, and when we welcome the stranger into our midst.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
May God bless you always!

*+ William F. Medley*

**Most Reverend William F. Medley**  
Diocese of Owensboro

## Living like Logan: Tower #68 dedicated, honoring teen who 'led people to Jesus'

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

The boys had been friends since before grade school.

"We met through our older sisters," said Clayton Lewis of his friend and Owensboro Catholic High School classmate Logan Davis.

When Clayton was going into fourth grade, he attended his first summer at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat in Bowling Green: "It was a great experience," he said.

After Clayton returned home to Owensboro from camp, Logan's mom, Karla Davis, took the two boys to a splash park in town.

"I remember telling Logan how great a time I'd had," said Clayton.

This inspired Logan, who decided to check out camp the following year when he was entering fifth grade.

"After his first time going, he knew it was his place," said Clayton, explaining that his friend soon



COURTESY OF KARLA DAVIS

(Left photo) Karla Davis, Logan Davis' mom, surrounded by his friends and classmates at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center on June 22, 2024. (Right photo) Immediate family members of Logan Davis smile for a photo around the sign next to Tower #68 after the tower was blessed and dedicated by Fr. Jason McClure.



became a regular Gasper camper – attending every summer and the Christmas/New Year's camp as well.

Clayton said that for many kids who go to Gasper, it provides an opportunity to connect or reconnect with the Catholic faith.

But for Logan, that wasn't the case.

"It was a continuation of his faith that he lived every day," said Clayton. "He knew his faith, and if someone had a question about it, he was the man to talk to."

And it wasn't just "head knowledge" of the faith: Logan embraced the "heart" aspect of his faith, too.

Clayton said that he, Logan and their Owensboro

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### *Tower #68 continued from page 4*

friends would coordinate with friends from other cities to make sure they could attend the same week at Gasper each summer.

But even when attending with friends, “Logan would still branch out and make an effort to eat with others, hanging out with them,” especially if there were other youths who seemed to be outsiders, said Clayton.

As Logan grew up and got involved in other activities like football, the Catholic camp remained a central aspect of his life. Clayton said the 6-foot-3, 320-pound offensive guard and defensive tackle just had a way of bringing others together and helping them feel seen.

And he “always loved talking about Gasper,” said Clayton.

The entire community was rocked when Logan, a rising high school senior, died in a car accident on July 11, 2020. He had just turned 18 on May 5.

Logan’s funeral Mass was held outdoors at Steele Stadium in Owensboro, due to pandemic restrictions at the time. According to local news coverage, approximately 1,000 mourners filled the stands.

In the days that followed the teen’s death, Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center was contacted about having a climbing tower donated to them.

The 40-foot structure included the option for beginner and advanced climbing sides and a free flight element. Gasper’s staff knew this was an opportunity to not only expand what it could offer to future campers, but to also honor Logan’s faithful witness.

After receiving a grant for \$50,000 to complete the tower, Gasper named it Tower #68 – after Logan’s football jersey number. They nicknamed

the free flight element – which involves wearing a full body harness, getting hooked into the belay device, and jumping – the “Leap of Faith.”

Tower #68 debuted at camp last year and has become a noteworthy feature on the campus.

In an August 2023 WKC article, Ben Warrell, Gasper’s camp director, said this new outdoor activity is “a beautiful thing” to see the campers stretch themselves, which offers the opportunity “to continually challenge these young people to grow as people and in their faith as well.”

On June 22, 2024, Logan’s family and close friends gathered for the tower to be dedicated and blessed by Gasper’s chaplain Fr. Jason McClure, who had been the chaplain of Owensboro Catholic

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ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

The sign for Tower #68 is seen at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center, featuring a plaque composed by Ben Warrell, camp director, which reads “Logan Davis was an incredible young man, athlete, and camper. He had a deep faith and desire for others to know the love of Jesus Christ. He constantly challenged his friends, peers, and even the Gasper staff to grow not just in faith but in all areas of their lives. Logan was our biggest camper, so it fits that we name our biggest adventure activity in his honor. Logan played #68 on the Owensboro Catholic High School football team. He and Gasper share the same goal: challenging people to know, love, and serve Jesus Christ. Through this tower, he continues to challenge every person we serve in the same way. Live like Logan!”



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

Tower #68 is seen during its debut summer in 2023 in this file photo.

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High School when Logan was a student there.

Karla said there were approximately 90 people at the dedication, including 12 of Logan's classmates and friends.

"It was a really good day," said Karla. "Just a celebration for Logan."

Hayley Davis, Logan's sister, was also present, and commented that it was significant for Tower #68 to be "the biggest thing at camp, and Logan was their biggest camper."

Karla said the camp meant the world to her son: "He always seemed filled with joy and the Holy Spirit when he came back from Gasper," she said.

Hayley agreed: "He was always big on connections with people, and at Gasper the people were genuine and shared the same mentality and values as he did." "He was all about that - leading people to Jesus," said Karla.

At Logan's funeral in 2020, the Mass programs

contained an excerpt from a journal entry that Hayley had discovered after his death.

In his journal, Logan had written: "My God, my God, I love you. I love you. There is no words I can use to express my wanting to be with you in heaven, the goal and our destiny. I'm ready whenever you call my spirit home, its yours. I ask that when you call me home that everyone will be happy not sad, for they will know that we love them. Until this moment I'll keep praying. I'll keep loving you even if it's tomorrow or a thousand years."

They determined the entry had been written several years prior.

Clayton, who was at the June 22 dedication, echoed this sentiment, remembering how Logan was "always ready to go" - knowing that earthly life is temporary, but heaven is forever.

Clayton said his friend was a good example of regularly going to confession, and that he always

stressed that "if the Lord is calling me now, I'm ready. That heaven's the main goal."

"And if that meant going early... that meant going early," said Clayton.

He said that after the dedication, many people took the opportunity to try out the tower's elements. Clayton was one of those who even did the Leap of Faith, which he closely connected to the feeling of taking a leap when "answering the Lord's call."

He said Logan "continues to inspire me" and even has his friend's rosary hanging on his rearview mirror "to remind me to pray."

He said it made sense that reuniting with his friends and classmates for the dedication was because of Logan.

"It was always him that brought everyone together," said Clayton. "So of course it was Tower #68 that brought us back together." ■

## 'A faith that has grown for many years' Parishioners come together to celebrate National Eucharistic Pilgrimage in Owensboro diocese

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE  
WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Maria Molina felt her faith grow after the combined efforts of not just her fellow parishioners, but her "whole diocese," welcomed the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage to western Kentucky during the first week of July.

"I'm grateful and blessed that this came together," said Molina, a parishioner of St. Mary's in Franklin, Ky., which was the pilgrimage's first stop in the

Diocese of Owensboro. "Without the community, we couldn't have done it."

The diocese of 78 parishes and 32 counties hosted the pilgrims of the St. Juan Diego Route, which was focused on the southern portion of the United States. A total of four routes, coming from the four corners of the U.S., would converge in Indianapolis for the National Eucharistic Congress on July 17-21.

A team of Catholic young adults, given the title of Perpetual Pilgrims, were assigned to each route



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC  
Br. Simeon Synoski, CFR, and Joshua Velasquez, a Perpetual Pilgrim for the St. Juan Diego Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, pray before the Blessed Sacrament in the Pilgrims' van on July 1, 2024, after a period of Adoration and confessions at the Fathers of Mercy motherhouse chapel in Auburn, Ky. The St. Juan Diego Route came to the Diocese of Owensboro, Ky., from June 30-July 1, 2024.

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RILEY GREIF | WKC

A young man kneels and bows his head during the July 1, 2024 Eucharistic procession in Auburn, Ky., which was held for 4.8 miles down the highway during the visit of the St. Juan Diego Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage to the Diocese of Owensboro.

and have been traveling across the country since the Pilgrimage began in May. Their journeys have included a combination of processing through regions with the Blessed Sacrament in a monstrance and driving in a van designed with a special altar for the monstrance to be displayed.

Molina coordinated the hospitality and meals served during the June 30 and July 1 pilgrimage events at St. Mary's, which included a Eucharistic procession from the town square to the church; evening Mass in Spanish; a Holy Hour and Benediction; a communal dinner in the parish hall; and an early morning Mass and breakfast the following day with another Eucharistic procession downtown.

She said she was thankful to all who helped prepare the meals, and credited nearby St. Joseph's

in Bowling Green for their parishioners' skills in creating the alfombras (which translates as "carpet" in Spanish and depicts religious imagery in sand and sawdust), outside St. Mary's for the processions.

"It was a great experience... it was just a blessing," said Molina.

Felipe Campos - whose wife, Nancy, served as one of the cooks in the parish kitchen - said his parish came together because of the leadership of their pastor, Fr. Tom Buckman.

"This is a faith that has been growing for many years," said Campos, adding that he and his wife have witnessed their faith bear fruit in the vocation of their son, who is a recently-ordained priest of the Congregation of the Holy Cross in Notre Dame, Ind.

While many from around the diocese participated



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

Fr. Ben Cameron, CPM, passes a cornfield while leading part of the July 1, 2024 Eucharistic procession in Auburn, Ky.,

in the celebrations, it was common for visitors to attend as well.

One visitor was James Armstrong III, a youth minister from Charlotte, N.C., and member of the Youth Apostles, a mixed Public Association of Christian Faithful.

Armstrong had attended several of the events in Franklin - including the morning procession in which he helped carry the canopy over the priest bearing the monstrance.

Armstrong told The Western Kentucky Catholic that he had recently learned his heritage included being Chaldean Catholic, and that he has been on a spiritual journey to connect with his roots. A few weeks ago, he had attended a conference in Michigan for Chaldean Catholics, and decided to extend his travels by visiting several stops along the

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ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

Volunteers outside St. Joseph Parish in Bowling Green, Ky., prepare alfombras (which translates as “carpet” in Spanish and depicts religious imagery in sand and sawdust), on July 3.



RILEY GREIF | WKC

The interior of St. Joseph Parish in Bowling Green, Ky., is seen during a morning Mass prior to a Eucharistic procession on July 3, during the visit of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage to the Diocese of Owensboro.

National Eucharistic Pilgrimage.

“We are a Eucharistic people,” said Armstrong, and emphasized that the Pilgrimage was a natural “opportunity to exercise our Catholic faith.”

After the celebrations concluded in Franklin, the Pilgrims traveled to Sacred Heart Parish in Russellville, Ky., for a luncheon and panel discussion in the parish hall. There, the St. Juan Diego Pilgrims formally introduced themselves to the community: Camille Anigbogu, Shayla Elm, Issy Martin-Dye, Charlie McCullough, Joshua Velasquez, Mackenzie Warrens, and seminarians Noah U’Ren and Dylan James Young.

They were also joined by two Franciscan Friars of the Renewal: Fr. Dismas Kline, CFR; and Br. Simeon Synoski, CFR. The friars were traveling with the team for several weeks, per an arrangement with the CFR community to assign friars to accompany the Pilgrims on every step of the journey.

Karen Critchlow and Denise Robey were two parish volunteers who helped prepare the luncheon in Russellville that day.

Critchlow was excited to assist, having participated in the diocese’s Acts 2:42 small group initiative, in which parishioners gathered each month to watch videos from Bishop William F. Medley and discuss topics relating to the Eucharist.

“I’m hoping (the Revival) opens our eyes to what we miss because of our own goals,” said Critchlow, adding that sometimes “what God has in store for us” is “probably not as complicated as (humans) can make it.”

Robey said the main theme she would take away from the Pilgrimage’s visit was that, after encountering the Perpetual Pilgrims, “that the young people are still here (in the Church). If you can see their faith and their witness, there’s hope! It means a lot to me.”

Following the luncheon, the Pilgrimage continued to Auburn, Ky., where a Eucharistic procession took place along the highway for about 4.8 miles. While high heat indexes and severe humidity had been increasing for the past few weeks in Kentucky, that day hovered between the 70s and 80s – providing a welcome respite for those participating in the procession.

The walk included three stops along the way, in which a priest offered Benediction to the faithful and water bottles were provided by volunteers.

Brandi Besand, a member of St. Leo Parish in Murray – which is about two hours from Auburn – had come to the procession with her husband on their parish’s Knights of Columbus-sponsored bus trip.

Besand said she became Catholic about 20 years ago, after experiencing the example of a Catholic friend and taking religious studies classes at Murray

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*Pilgrimage continued from page 8*



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

A Kentucky state flag waves in the wind as Fr. Tom Buckman, pastor of St. Mary Parish in Franklin, Ky., leads a Eucharistic procession through downtown July 1.



RILEY GREIF | WKC

As Fr. Bruce Fogle (right), pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Paducah, Ky., leads a July 1, 2024, Eucharistic procession for 4.8 miles down the highway in Auburn, Ky., cows are seen to turn and begin following along.

State University.

“Something drew me to the history and tradition of our faith, and still draws me,” she said, adding that she hoped to take what she experienced with the Pilgrimage “to step out of my comfort zone” and get more involved in parish life.

Ella Freels, a middle schooler whose family belongs to St. Pius X Parish in Owensboro, had the opportunity to serve as a candle bearer for the Eucharistic procession that day.

“It was very special to lead the way for Jesus and see other people follow along,” said Freels. “I saw people kneeling as we were walking by on the roads, and it was an honor to be there.”

She added that she was excited to go to Indianapolis later that month for the Congress, and

“to see everything come together!”

The Eucharistic procession passed by numerous farms with crops and livestock, including a field of sheep that ran to the fence and began following along. Later, a field of cows was seen to do the same.

The faithful concluded the procession at the motherhouse chapel of the Fathers of Mercy religious congregation, which is based in Auburn. There, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament took place; a homily was given by Fr. Wade Menezes, CPM; and many of the faithful lined up for confession.

After a period of prayer, the Perpetual Pilgrims journeyed out to Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center, where they formally processed with the Blessed Sacrament onto the property – surrounded by the fifth and sixth-graders who were

attending camp that week. Several children had the opportunity to serve as candle bearers and to ring the processional bells.

Fr. Kline led the procession into the chapel within the camp’s Boone Lodge, and the campers knelt for a period of quiet Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament.

The following day – July 2 – was a rest day for the Perpetual Pilgrims, but they joined the campers in the afternoon for a question-and-answer panel, and later for dinner in the dining hall.

July 3, as the final full day for the Pilgrims within the Diocese of Owensboro, began with 7 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph Parish in Bowling Green. It was followed by a Eucharistic procession through the city’s downtown, toward St. Thomas Aquinas

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Catholic Newman Center at Western Kentucky University. The Newman Center hosted a period of Adoration, as well as the rosary led Edana LeRoy, a member of the diocesan Marian Shrine Committee. The group then processed back to St. Joseph Parish.

Throughout this procession, local people stepped out of their offices or peered out their windows to watch the group walk down the street. One man, smoking a cigarette outside the county jail, removed his hat; other people were seen to pull out their cellphones to take pictures or video of the procession.

Check Ledford, the grand knight for the Fr. Ben Powers Council #1315 of the Knights of Columbus and a member of St. Joseph Parish, told the WKC that “this is the day the Lord has made – and what a day it is!”

“This day was like a day I’ve never seen in my life,” said Ledford, who had walked in the procession. “I’m so glad to be a part of this, to witness this. This is a day I will always remember and cherish.”

That afternoon, Holy Spirit Parish in Bowling Green hosted a Eucharistic Revival retreat day led by Sr. Cheryl Clemons, OSU. In the evening, the Perpetual Pilgrims joined the faithful of Holy Spirit – plus many visitors – for one last procession in the diocese, which began at the parking lot entrance and led to the open doors of the church, where Bishop William F. Medley awaited.

The bishop presided at the following Mass, which was celebrated in English and in dialects from Myanmar, in honor of the parish’s flourishing Myanmar Catholic population.

Nicholas Haw Paw, the parish’s music director for the Myanmar Catholic choir, said the day was “wonderful.”

“We should have celebrations like this every

year, so the young people can see how important the Eucharist is,” said Haw Paw, who is part of a delegation from Holy Spirit that will attend the Asian and Pacific Island National Encounter in Indianapolis, to be held prior to the Congress.

Bernadine Naing, a leader in the parish community who also participated in the celebrations that day, said that the Eucharistic is the center of the Catholic faith and that “for me, if there was no celebration of the Mass, I would not be Catholic.”

“No matter what language you speak, everyone can participate in the Mass,” said Naing. He said it is helpful for Catholics to grow their faith with religious books and films, but emphasized that “we must also experience Christ in the Eucharist – such as in Adoration.”

“It’s really simple, but so deep,” he said. ■



RILEY GREIF | WKC

Bishop William F. Medley presides at Mass, assisted by Dcn. Dale DePoyster during a July 3, 2024, evening Mass at Holy Spirit Parish in Bowling Green, Ky., which was celebrated while the St. Juan Diego Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage passed through the Diocese of Owensboro.



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ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

A woman kneels before the Blessed Sacrament amid a Eucharistic procession in downtown Bowling Green, Ky., on July 3, 2024, during the visit of the St. Juan Diego Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage to the Diocese of Owensboro.

## FEATURES



RILEY GREIF | WKC

Fr. Ryan Harpole, pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Bowling Green, Ky., leads a Eucharistic procession in downtown Bowling Green on July 3, 2024, during the visit of the St. Juan Diego Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage to the Diocese of Owensboro.



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

Issy Martin-Dye, a Perpetual Pilgrim with the St. Juan Diego Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, speaks to a crowd at Sacred Heart Parish in Russellville, Ky., on July 1, 2024.



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

A Eucharistic procession takes place at Holy Spirit Parish in Bowling Green, Ky., as part of the visit of the St. Juan Diego Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage to the Diocese of Owensboro, Ky.

## Joining with Catholics from across U.S., more than 200 from Diocese of Owensboro attend Eucharistic Congress

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Fr. John Vaughan, the pastor of Immaculate Parish in Owensboro, not only celebrated his 50th ordination anniversary on July 20, but he was able to do so “with more than 50,000 of my closest friends!” he quipped, being one of more than 200 Diocese of Owensboro participants attending the 10th National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis, which saw 50,000 registrations.

He told The Western Kentucky Catholic that he hoped his experiences at the Congress would “help me better love and appreciate the Eucharist” and that the Congress, which was held July 17-21 in the Indiana Convention Center and nearby Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, was “a great picture of the Church gathered around the Eucharist.”

Fr. Vaughan said that some favorite moments of his priesthood have been centered around the Eucharist, and that he hopes future priests will find in their vocations “the happiness and satisfaction that I’ve found in mine.”

The more than 50,000 registrants came from around the United States to participate in multi-lingual Masses, special sessions, Adoration, workshops, music, confession, and a downtown procession through the city streets on Saturday. The Congress was a major highlight of the National Eucharistic Revival, which is a three-year initiative from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to

increase love of and understanding about the Eucharist. Bishop William F. Medley attended as well, and concelebrated the daily morning liturgies held in Lucas Oil.

Marti Frank, a young adult parishioner of St. Joseph in Bowling Green, is a middle school teacher and was able to utilize her summer break to attend the Congress. She was one of the attendees of a special luncheon on Friday hosted by Bishop Medley at a local restaurant, which was open to any Diocese of Owensboro parishioner attending the Congress.

Frank said a highlight for her was getting to listen to the granddaughter of Dorothy Day, an American woman from the early 20th century who founded the Catholic Worker Movement and has been declared a Servant of God in the canonization process.

“It has been refreshing to be in a space where you can feel the Holy Spirit with so many other believers,” she said. “You can feel it in the air.”

The closing Mass was presided over by Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, Pope Francis’ special envoy to the Congress, who told the faithful that “a Eucharistic people is a missionary and evangelizing people.”

At the end of the Congress, Bishop Andrew H. Cozzens of Crookston, Minnesota, board chairman of the National Eucharistic Congress, Inc., received enthusiastic support for the idea of an 11th National



RILEY GREIF | WKC

Thousands gathered in Lucas Oil Stadium applaud during the evening Revival Session on Saturday, July 20, 2024.

Eucharistic Congress, revealing one is planned for 2033 – the Year of Redemption – but another one could happen sooner.

He also announced a National Eucharistic Pilgrimage from Indianapolis to Los Angeles for Corpus Christi Sunday in 2025, and urged participants to commit to the USCCB’s forthcoming Walk With One initiative and accompany a person back to the faith.

Eight-year-old Lillian Dorth came from Owensboro with her mom, Kristin Dorth, and several other family members to attend the Congress.

Lillian said that in each session, she enjoyed writing down “Holy Things I Want to Remember” in her notebook.

And during the nightly Adoration opportunities, she said that every time Jesus was brought forth in the monstrance, she realized more and more that “I am a child of God.” ■

*OSV News contributed to this story.*

## FEATURES



RILEY GREIF | WKC  
Eight-year-old Lillian Dorth, parishioner of Our Lady of Lourdes, takes notes while listening to Revival Session presentations at the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis on July 17, 2024.



RILEY GREIF | WKC  
Fr. John Vaughan, pastor of Immaculate Parish, distributes Communion during Mass, Friday July 19, 2024, the day before his 50th ordination anniversary.



RILEY GREIF | WKC  
Bishop William F. Medley sings as he participates in the Eucharistic procession in downtown Indianapolis, Saturday, July 20, 2024.



RILEY GREIF | WKC  
Sr. Chanh Ngo, Michelle Rhinerson, and Nichole Rhinerson in the Indianapolis Convention Center as volunteers at National Eucharistic Congress on July 18, 2024.



RILEY GREIF | WKC  
Eucharistic Adoration takes place on the steps of the Indiana World War Memorial in Indianapolis at the culmination of a July 20 procession through downtown.



RILEY GREIF | WKC  
National Eucharistic Congress attendees from St. Pius X Parish in Owensboro gather for a group photo July 19, 2024.



RILEY GREIF | WKC

National Eucharistic Congress attendees from the Diocese of Owensboro gather for a group photo after lunch with Bishop William F. Medley July 19, 2024. More than 200 people from the diocese attended the Congress in Indianapolis, which saw more than 50,000 registrations by the end of the week.



RILEY GREIF | WKC

Monstrance made for the National Eucharistic Congress is seen during Adoration in Lucas Oil Stadium on Thursday, July 18, 2024.



RILEY GREIF | WKC

Sts. Peter and Paul parishioners Athena, Karla, and Anelise Wagner in the exhibit hall of the National Eucharistic Congress on July 18, 2024

## Fullness and radiant faith: More than 300 Asian and Pacific Island Catholics inspired at national encounter

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

More than 300 people listened as Andrew Khai, a young adult parishioner of Holy Spirit in Bowling Green, Ky., shared about his refugee experience during a July 15-17 national encounter of Asian and Pacific Island Catholics in Indianapolis.

After escaping with his family members from the sociopolitical turmoil of Myanmar (also known as

Burma), Khai resided for three years as a refugee in Malaysia before being able to enter the United States, where he has now lived for nearly 13 years.

Khai, who is today is settled in Bowling Green with an established career as a police officer, credited his “very religious” parents for their family prayer, which “kept us together.”

“If I survived, you can, too,” said Khai to the audience, encouraging them amid challenges faced by the Asian and Pacific Island (API) community in



COURTESY OF ANDREW MUNG

Andrew Khai, a parishioner of Holy Spirit in Bowling Green, Ky., shares about his experience as a Burmese refugee while speaking on a July 16 panel during the Asian and Pacific Island Catholics National Encounter, held at Indiana University ahead of the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis.

*Continues on page 15*

## FEATURES

### *API Catholics continued from page 14*

the United States.

The encounter, which was titled “Radiant Faith: The Witness of Asian and Pacific Island Catholics,” brought together a diverse array of API cultures, including that of the Philippines, India, Vietnam, Myanmar, Laos, Samoa, Korea, and China. Participants ranged from young adults to seniors, and included laypeople, religious, and clergy.

The sold-out gathering was overseen by the subcommittee for Asian and Pacific Island Affairs under the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church and took place immediately prior to the National Eucharistic Congress. Approximately 14 U.S. bishops who currently serve API communities in their dioceses were present, including Bishop Mar Joy Alappatt of the Eastern rite St. Thomas Syro-Malabar Catholic Eparchy of Chicago.

Over the three-day experience, participants attended liturgies, meals, prayer time, small groups, and cultural presentations. They celebrated a closing Mass presided over by Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, the pro-prefect of the Dicastery for Evangelization’s Section for First Evangelization and New Particular Churches, and Pope Francis’ special envoy to the Eucharistic Congress.

Another aspect of the encounter, which drew inspiration from the USCCB’s 2018 document, “Encountering Christ in Harmony: A Pastoral Response to Our Asian and Pacific Island Brothers and Sisters,” featured workshops on themes such as identity, immigration, generations, leadership in the Church, and evangelizing through an API lens. After the workshops, small groups gathered to share their reflections – which were ultimately brought together in a synthesis presented on the final day.

Near the end of the encounter, Khai told The



COURTESY OF ANDREW MUNG

Burmese parishioners of Holy Spirit in Bowling Green, Ky., are seen before traveling to Indianapolis for the July 15-17 Asian and Pacific Island Catholics National Encounter, held at Indiana University ahead of the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis.

Western Kentucky Catholic that he appreciated the experience, especially the liturgies, which had incorporated a variety of API languages: “It was inspiring.”

Khai, who had traveled out with about 22 fellow Burmese parishioners – including his parochial vicar, Fr. Martin Ma Na Ling, who was the second Burmese priest to ever be ordained in the United States – said he hoped more opportunities like this would be offered.

“I feel we should invest more in things like this,” he said, adding that he had attended the workshop on intergenerational topics. “Imagine having more young people here and involved at future events.”

Khai said that while he had previously attended gatherings for Burmese Catholics, he enjoyed meeting others from the API Catholic community. He suggested that organizers invest “time and energy” into experiences like these.

“You can see the fullness here,” he said. ■



COURTESY OF ANDREW MUNG

A woman proclaims the Word during a Mass for the July 15-17 Asian and Pacific Island Catholics National Encounter, held at Indiana University ahead of the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis. The gathering drew more than 300 attendees.

# School choice: Supporting more education opportunities for current and future generations

July 26, 2024

Dear Citizens of Kentucky,

As we prepare for another exciting and successful school year, we want to discuss an important piece of legislation: Amendment 2, titled “AN ACT proposing to create a new section of the Constitution of Kentucky related to education funding.” The original bill (HB 2), passed by the General Assembly on March 15, 2024, and will be up for a vote in November, giving Kentucky citizens the opportunity to decide on a constitutional amendment (Amendment 2) related to educational funding and school choice.

Some organizations claim that this amendment aims to divert funds from public schools to private institutions. However, this divisive narrative only serves to create confusion and anger, ultimately hindering opportunities for Kentucky children to succeed both socially and academically. Achievement gaps are often opportunity gaps, and maintaining this division benefits certain organizations while disadvantaging Kentucky children.

Amendment 2 is about choice and ensuring that Kentucky citizens retain their voice in educational matters. Voting against Amendment 2 disregards the importance of choice, potentially limiting educational opportunities for future generations. This amendment does not reduce funding or resources for public schools; instead, it empowers citizens to have a say in educational opportunities in the state. Voting no relinquishes this right, possibly forever.

When we look at neighboring states, it’s clear that Kentucky is an outlier. We encourage you to visit the Ed Choice Kentucky webpage and explore the ‘States’ tab (<https://www.edchoiceky.com/states>) to see which states have school choice programs. Kentucky is the only state from Michigan to Florida and New Hampshire to Colorado without school choice laws. Despite these programs, public schools in surrounding states continue to thrive and flourish. We urge you to conduct your own research. Kentucky’s children and families have been restricted by self-serving groups for too long, and it’s time for change.

Although we currently serve students, families, and parishioners in Catholic schools, many of years our careers have also been deeply rooted in public education. This conversation is not about choosing sides but about building a consensus on true accountability—allowing students and families to have a voice and choice in their education.

In Catholic schools, we acknowledge that we are not always the best fit for every student, but we believe in the importance of having that choice. Public schools are not always the best option either, and currently, many families lack any alternative forcing their child to attend a school that does not fit or meet their immediate needs. Admitting and accepting this reality is crucial and the first step toward putting children first in our decision-making. By voting against Amendment 2, you are giving up your right to educational choice for current and future generations.



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

Students work on a science project in front of a bulletin board reading “Always Be Kind” at John Paul II School in Morganfield, Ky., on Jan. 20, 2023.

As Psychologist Adam Grant suggests, innovation does not require being the first to do something, rather do it differently and better than the first. Kentucky is far from the first to have any type of school choice but it’s time for us to do things differently and better. It’s time for Kentucky to embrace change and improve education for our children. It’s time to vote Yes on Amendment 2.

In His Humble Service,

*Dr. Mary Beth Bowling, Superintendent of Schools,  
Archdiocese of Louisville*

*Kendra McGuire, Superintendent of Catholic Schools,  
Diocese of Covington*

*Dr. Kyle Lee, Secretariat/Superintendent of Schools,  
Diocese of Lexington*

*David Kessler, Superintendent of Catholic Schools  
Office, Diocese of Owensboro* ■



## Youth honored for servant leadership

BY WKC STAFF

This summer, the Office of Youth Ministry announced the recipients of the annual Servant Leaders in Ministry (SLIM) awards. After receiving nominations from parishes, the youth ministry office team selects up to 18 youth from around the diocese who have made outstanding contributions to their parishes, communities, and diocese overall.

The names are submitted to Robin Tomes, administrative assistant for the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, who coordinates with office director Charlie Hardesty in reviewing the nominees.

“Please join us in congratulating these tremendous young leaders for their service,” said

Hardesty. “They are true witnesses to a life of faith and service in their schools, parishes, local communities, and beyond.”

This year’s 18 winners received an engraved plaque, and all nominated youth received a certificate of recognition. This year’s winners and certificate of recognition recipients are listed below:

### Award winners:

Jackson Howard, Blessed Mother in Owensboro, nominated by Christina Barnard

Ethan Gough, Blessed Sacrament Chapel in Owensboro, nominated by Sr. Jeannette Fennewald, SSND

Shelby Hughes, Christ the King in Scottsville, nominated by Fr. Tom Buckman

*Continues on page 18*



COURTESY OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH  
Lori Brown, youth minister for St. John the Evangelist Parish in Paducah, presents David DeNeve a SLIM award for the Paducah Deanery. David’s mom and dad, Barb and Bryan, and Fr. Bruce Fogle, pastor, are also pictured.



COURTESY OF BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL  
Ethan Gough receives a SLIM award from Fr. Shibu Cheriakunnel, parochial vicar at Blessed Sacrament Chapel in Owensboro.



COURTESY OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES PARISH  
David Record (left) and Isabelle Washburn (right) with their pastor Fr. Gary Clark of St. Francis de Sales Parish in Paducah, each received SLIM awards this year.



COURTESY OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH  
Wesley Stelmach, a recipient of the SLIM certificate, smiles for a photo with his pastor, Fr. J. Patrick Reynolds, at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Owensboro.

## SLIM continued from page 17

Thomas Berger, Holy Name of Jesus in Henderson, nominated by Beth Probus

Isaac Goldsberry, Holy Name of Jesus in Henderson, nominated by Beth Probus

Isabelle Washburn, St. Francis de Sales in Paducah, nominated by Kelly Groves

David Record, St. Francis de Sales in Paducah, nominated by Kelly Groves

Gage Munsell, St. Jerome in Fancy Farm, nominated by Peyton Hutson

Allie Buckman, St. Jerome in Fancy Farm, nominated by Peyton Hutson

David DeNeve, St. John the Evangelist in Paducah, nominated by Lorie Brown

John Smith, St. Joseph, Leitchfield in nominated by Dcn. Robert Higbee

Nicholas Caldwell, St. Leo in Murray, nominated

by Debra D'Angelo

EJ Stauffer, St. Mary of the Woods in Whitesville, nominated by Johnny Sherfick

Ariel Molina, Jr., St. Mary in Franklin, nominated by Fr. Tom Buckman

Molly Geary, St. Paul in Leitchfield, nominated by Gina Sims

Spencer Harris, St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro, nominated by Karina Romero

Nickolaus Klar, Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville, nominated by Fr. Chris Kight

Athena Wagner, Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville, nominated by Fr. Chris Kight

### Certificate recipients:

RayAnne Howard, Blessed Mother in Owensboro, nominated by Christina Barnard

Cooper Danzer, Blessed Mother in

Owensboro, nominated by Christina Barnard

Wesley Stelmach, Our Lady of Lourdes in Owensboro, nominated by Sandy Fleming

Ethan Wimsatt, Precious Blood in Owensboro, nominated by Helen Bennett

Meredith Fischer, St. Anthony in Utica, nominated by Elaine Strain

Rebecca Depoyster, St. Paul in Leitchfield, nominated by Gina Sims

Dustin Payne, St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro, nominated by Karina Romero

Andrew Folz, Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville, nominated by Fr. Chris Kight

To learn more about youth ministry in the Diocese of Owensboro, visit [owensborodiocese.org/youth-ministry](http://owensborodiocese.org/youth-ministry). ■

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Continues on page 18



OSV NEWS PHOTO/NANCY WIECHEC, CNS FILE  
Mary is shown being taken up to heaven in a painting inside a dome of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Baltimore.

BY DCN. JAY W. VANHOOSIER, OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

The Assumption of Mary, celebrated on August 15, commemorates the belief that the Virgin Mary, having completed her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory. This feast day is more than a celebration of Mary's unique role in salvation history; it offers profound insights into social justice, emphasizing the dignity of the human person, the call to serve the marginalized, and the ultimate destiny of humanity.

The Assumption underscores the inherent dignity and sanctity of human life. Mary's Assumption into heaven highlights that every human person is created in the image and likeness of God and is destined for eternal communion with Him. This belief calls

## The Assumption of Mary: Lessons for social justice

Catholics to recognize and affirm the dignity of every person, from conception to natural death. In the context of social justice, this means advocating for the rights of the unborn, the poor, the sick, the elderly, and all who are vulnerable. The Assumption reminds us that our earthly existence is not the end; every person has an eternal destiny, which compels us to respect and protect life at all stages.

Mary's life, as depicted in the Gospels, was one of humility and service. She identified with the poor and the lowly, exemplified by her Magnificat, where she proclaims that God has "lifted up the lowly" and "filled the hungry with good things" (Luke 1:52-53). The Assumption of Mary into heaven is a validation of her humility and her solidarity with the marginalized. It challenges Catholics to embrace a preferential option for the poor, advocating for policies and practices that uplift those who are marginalized and oppressed. Social justice, inspired by Mary's Assumption, calls for a commitment to economic equality, access to education, healthcare, and opportunities that enable all individuals to thrive.

Mary's Assumption also highlights the significant role of women in God's plan of salvation. Throughout history, women's contributions to society and the Church have often been undervalued or overlooked. The Assumption affirms the dignity and worth of women, calling for their full participation in all areas of life. In terms of social justice, this translates to advocating for gender equality, ensuring that women have equal access to education, employment, and leadership opportunities. It also means addressing and combating all forms of violence and discrimination against women.

The Assumption of Mary points to the hope of resurrection and eternal life, a hope that is not just personal but communal. It reminds us that our ultimate destiny is to be with God, in a community of love and justice. This vision inspires Catholics to work towards building a just and peaceful world, reflecting the Kingdom of God here on earth. It motivates believers to engage in acts of charity and justice, knowing that their efforts contribute to a greater reality that transcends this world.

Finally, the Assumption emphasizes the importance of solidarity and community. Mary, assumed into heaven, is not isolated but is part of the Communion of Saints. This reflects the Catholic teaching that we are all interconnected, and our actions impact the broader community. Social justice, therefore, requires a commitment to the common good, recognizing that our well-being is linked to the well-being of others. It calls for collaborative efforts to address social injustices, environmental issues, and systemic inequalities.

The Assumption of Mary is a profound theological truth that offers rich insights for social justice. It calls Catholics to recognize the dignity of every human person, prioritize the needs of the poor, advocate for the rights and contributions of women, and work towards a just and hopeful future. Inspired by Mary's example and destiny, believers are called to engage actively in creating a world that reflects God's love, justice, and peace. ■

*Dcn. Jay W. VanHoosier is the Director of Faith Formation for the Diocese of Owensboro. For more information visit [owensborodiocese.org/faith-formation](http://owensborodiocese.org/faith-formation), email [jay.vanhoosier@pastoral.org](mailto:jay.vanhoosier@pastoral.org) or call (270) 852-8324.*

# Jesus' mission is our mission!

BY DR. JEFF ANDRINI, OFFICE OF  
EVANGELIZATION AND DISCIPLESHIP

“The Church exists to evangelize” (Pope Paul VI, *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, no. 16). From the beginning of the Catholic Church, Jesus sent his disciples on mission to baptize and teach all he had taught them. He gives us this same commissioning today. We are to share the good news of God’s love, mercy and provision in our lives with the world, filled with the joy, knowledge, and experience of a relationship with God. Each of us is to be on mission.

At times in our history, the Catholic Church has been a bit like a football stadium on a Sunday afternoon. Twenty-two battle weary players in desperate need of a little rest and 80,000 fans in desperate need of a little exercise. The analogy is that we have depended on ordained and vowed religious to care for us and our world. The laity have been more like spectators and under-engaged in the mission. Today, like the Early Church, we are realizing that the Holy Spirit works through each of us. Scripture tells us that, “you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light” (1 Peter 2:9).

How do we fuel the mission? There is only one way... we are limited human beings, and we need to be connected to the divine vine of Jesus Christ! “I am the vine, and you are the branches... apart from me you can do nothing” (John 15: 1-5). As we receive Jesus into our bodies in Holy Communion, we are invited to live in communion with the Trinity all week long. Our daily prayer lives are meant to be a

source of strength and power and together with the sacraments of the Church; we are to live lives of joy and service to the world. The Holy Spirit plays an important role, as without God, we can do nothing of lasting worth, but connected to the Holy Spirit and in union with God. Jesus says, “rivers of living water that will flow from within him who believes in me” (John 7:38).

As Catholics, we have so many tools, practices and opportunities to grow in this divine life and live the mission of Jesus, but we must avail ourselves of these opportunities. I would like to invite you to one such event this month. The Parish Ministry and Leadership Conference, which will be held at the Bruce Convention Center in Hopkinsville on Saturday, August 24 from 8:30-3:30 p.m., is titled “Baptism: A call to share your Gifts.”

There will be Mass with Bishop Medley, keynote presentations by Fr. Wayne Cavelier and Dr. Jason Winkle and much more! Go to <https://owensborodiocese.org/pml-conference> for more information or scan the QR code with this article.

Join us and find many new ways to celebrate and live Year Three of the National Eucharistic Revival, titled “Sent on Mission.” ■

God bless you,  
Jeff

*Dr. Jeff Andrini is the director of the Office of Evangelization and Discipleship, and can be reached at [jeff.andrini@pastoral.org](mailto:jeff.andrini@pastoral.org)*

Scan this QR code  
for more information:





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## 'Led by Our Lady'- Sister María de Guadalupe Velazquez pronounces Solemn Vows as Poor Clare Nun



COURTESY OF THE POOR CLARE NUNS

Sister María de Guadalupe of Jesus Crucified holding her bridal candle and wearing the ring and crown of thorns which are traditionally bestowed upon a Poor Clare nun after she pronounces solemn vows of obedience, poverty, chastity and enclosure.



COURTESY OF THE POOR CLARE NUNS

In this photo (taken from the Sisters' side of the Chapel), Sister María de Guadalupe prostrates before the altar as the Litany of the Saints is sung during her solemn profession on May 4, 2024.

BY THE POOR CLARE NUNS OF OUR LADY OF MERCY, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

On August 11, the Church celebrates the feast of St. Clare of Assisi, the spiritual daughter of St. Francis and the foundress of an order of enclosed contemplative nuns. Nearly 800 years after Pope Innocent IV approved the Rule of St. Clare (the first religious rule written by a woman), her form of Gospel living – marked by poverty, simplicity and a strong fraternal life – is still attracting followers. Among these is a young woman from the Owensboro diocese who made her solemn profession earlier this summer at the Poor Clare Monastery of Our Lady of Mercy in Belleville, Illinois.

Sister María de Guadalupe of Jesus Crucified (Norly Cristina Velazquez) and her large family moved to Owensboro, Ky., when she was a teenager. She participated in the Hispanic youth group at Sts. Joseph and Paul Parish and served as a catechist. After graduating from Daviess County High School in 2011 and working for a time, she began to pray more intensely about where God was leading her in life. While she admired the active Sisters who served in her home parish, she felt strong attraction to the contemplative life. “My next questions were: Do such nuns still exist? Where are they? How can I contact them?” she said.

A first search on the internet didn't seem to point anywhere. “It was in early December,” Sister remembered, “so I decided to make this my special intention for the novena to Our Lady de Guadalupe.”

Returning to the internet, Sister discovered a monastery that wasn't too far from her home. “I called and actually spoke to a nun who offered to send me some materials. I opened their package on December 12, and the first thing I did was watch the vocation video that was inside. It was the answer to my novena! When I finished watching, I was crying because this was exactly what I was looking for.”

Norly Cristina entered the Monastery of Our Lady of Mercy on March 6, 2015, as a postulant. The following March, she was clothed in the holy habit and received her religious name: Sister María de Guadalupe of Jesus Crucified. After completing a two-year novitiate, she pronounced her simple vows on May 8, 2018. Sister María's spiritual formation as a Poor Clare continued through six years of temporary profession, and culminated in the total gift of herself to Christ and His Church through her profession of solemn vows of obedience, poverty, chastity and enclosure. Most Rev. Michael G. McGovern, Bishop of Belleville, was the main celebrant at the Mass enfolded the bilingual profession ceremony on May 4, 2024. He was joined at the altar by seven other priests including Fr. Albert Bremer III of the Owensboro diocese who was Sister María's parochial vicar when she entered the monastery. Dcn. Chris Gutierrez, who led youth ministry at Sister's home parish, proclaimed the Gospel in Spanish.

As a Poor Clare Nun, Sister María's life is especially dedicated to the praise and worship of God. Her vocation is fulfilled through her participation in the Church's Liturgy, the seven-fold offering of the Divine Office and daily times of Eucharistic adoration. She

*Continues on page 22*

**Poor Clare continued from page 21**

has also served her community as sacristan, baker and assistant cook. As a Bride of Christ and spiritual mother of souls, all the needs of the world are held close to her heart in prayer. For more information about the Poor Clare Monastery in Belleville, IL, to view their vocation video or find out how to submit prayer intentions, you are welcome to visit their website: <https://www.poorclares-belleville.info>. ■

## Happy anniversary to our priests!

In August we celebrate the ordination anniversaries of:

Fr. J. Edward Bradley | Ordained 8/9/1975, Retired

Fr. Jerry Riney | Ordained 8/9/1975, Retired

Fr. Julian Ibemere | Ordained 8/6/1998, Pastor of St. Michael Parish, Oak Grove

Fr. John Ighacho | Ordained 8/28/1990, Pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Central City; and St. Anthony Parish, Browns Valley

Fr. Jean Rene Kalombo | Ordained 8/19/1995 Pastor of Sts. Joseph and Paul Parish, Owensboro

Fr. Jude Okeoma | Ordained 8/22/2009, Pastor of Rosary Chapel, Paducah; and St. Mary Parish, LaCenter

Fr. Chrispin Onoko | Ordained 8/25/1990, Pastor of St. Denis Parish, Fancy Farm; and St. Charles Parish, Bardwell

*Editor's note: In our May 2024 issue, we failed to include the anniversaries of Fr. Christopher Grief and Fr. Christopher Kight. We apologize for this omission.*

# Write straight with crooked lines, says Fr. Schoettle on 50th anniversary

BY RACHEL HALL, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

On June 7th, 2024, Fr. Joe Schoettle, parochial vicar at Our Lady of Lourdes in Owensboro, celebrated 50 years since his ordination. The second oldest of 15 children, Fr. Schoettle had several family members in attendance from Indiana. Pastor Fr. Pat Reynolds hosted the celebration with evening vespers, followed by a dinner reception in the parish hall.

Reflecting on the evening, Fr. Schoettle embraced the centuries-old aphorism, “Write straight with crooked lines.” He shared how life’s twists and turns, under God’s guidance, can lead one exactly where they are meant to be.

Fr. Schoettle graduated from the Latin School of Indianapolis in 1966, Saint Meinrad College in 1970, and Saint Meinrad School of Theology in 1974. He was ordained a priest in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis in 1974. In his speech, Fr. Schoettle said, “I always felt a calling to be a priest.” Since joining the Diocese of Owensboro in 2018, he added, “Lourdes feels like home.”

After Vespers, Fr. Schoettle greeted parishioners, and as his sister hugged him, she said, “This is your path, Joe. You really are where you are meant to be.” ■



RACHEL HALL | WKC

Fr. Joe Schoettle poses with his family after the Evening Vespers on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at Our Lady of Lourdes in Owensboro, celebrating his 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination.



RACHEL HALL WKC

Fr. Joe Schoettle greets parishioners after the Evening Vespers on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at Our Lady of Lourdes in Owensboro, celebrating his 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination.

### Laity supporting vocations through Serra Club

BY LAVIDA MISCHEL, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

On June 26, Serra Club members gathered to worship at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish's 5:30 Mass and were excited to hear the vocation story of Fr. Pat Reynolds in the parish hall.

The Diocese of Owensboro's Serra Club began in 1963 and its current president is Ernie Taliaferro. Ser-rans meet twice a month. The first meeting takes place

at Briarpatch in Owensboro and the second meeting takes place at various scheduled parishes, beginning with Mass and followed by the vocation story of the pastor. The Serra Club is accepting new members; however, membership is not required to attend the vocation story gathering. All are welcome!

Upcoming dates are Aug. 21, p.m. at Precious Blood in Owensboro, followed by the vocation story of Fr. Carl McCarthy; Sept. 26 noon Mass at Blessed Mother in Owensboro, followed by the vocation story of Fr. Brandon Williams; and an October date to be announced at St. Mary Magdalene in Sorgho, followed by the vocation story of Fr. Jamie Dennis.

Serra USA was formed in 1935, when a small group

of lay people in Seattle decided to form an organization with a purpose to promote and foster vocations to the priesthood and consecrated religious life. They chose Fr. Junipero Serra, the great missionary, as their patron and named the organization Serra Club. Serra's additional purpose is to assist members in their own vocation, and in recognizing and responding to God's call to holiness in Jesus Christ and to the Holy Spirit.

Please consider joining Serra Club in prayer for vocations. To become a member, contact Ernie Taliaferro (270-302-5355) or Lavidia Mischel (270-929-2740) or any Serra Club member. ■

*Lavidia Mischel is the administrative assistant for St. Mary Magdalene Parish and a Serra Club member.*



## A call to action, a call to love

### Parishes invited to support foster kids and families in western Ky.

BY KATINA HAYDEN, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Owensboro is supporting Kentucky's foster and adoptive program and would like to ask for support from the community and parishes by supporting foster homes and/or helping parishioners who are fostering children.

Currently there are over 13,000 children in Kentucky's foster care system and there are more children than there are foster homes. The average age a child enters foster care is 7 years old and the average time a child is in foster care is over 35 months.

Oftentimes, state child protection social workers will stay the night in offices with children until a

foster home is available. As I write this, I am aware of at least three children sleeping within a child protection office while being supervised by child protection staff – and have been for days. This has become a regular occurrence for children to stay in child protection county offices in Kentucky.

Many foster homes are full; therefore, are unable to accept any more children into their home. Many of these children will return to their parents, but unfortunately, not all children will be able to reunite with their birth parents – so they will need people to be their forever parents.

Kentucky's children need your help! It would be great to have multiple foster homes within a parish and have the parishes support these foster families. Do you know of someone in your parish who you think would be a great foster parent? Would your

parish be willing to support foster parents?

Your parish could support foster parents by starting a Foster Club that could furnish a meal or babysit; provide monetarily for a child to do an extracurricular activity; donate gift baskets, games, or gift cards; or pray for these children and families.

For more information, go to <https://prd.webapps.chfs.ky.gov/kyfaces> or contact the local offices:

Kristi Raley can be reached at [kristi.Raley@ky.gov](mailto:kristi.Raley@ky.gov)  
 Michaelle Johnson can be reached at [michaelle.johnson@ky.gov](mailto:michaelle.johnson@ky.gov)

Fonda Walker can be reached at [fonda.walker@ky.gov](mailto:fonda.walker@ky.gov)

*Katina Hayden is the director of case management for Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Owensboro.*



# A look at some future projects in the diocesan archives

BY EDWARD WILSON, ARCHIVES

Each year, after The Western Kentucky Catholic's break, I like to give an overview of what projects the archives will be setting our sights on moving forward. So, let's get to it.

Like every other year, this year has been filled with a variety of projects both big and small. The day-to-day tasks, of course, continue. Information requests, accessioning, articles, and more, have been continuing at a solid pace. The completion of the monthly video series for the Mount's 150th anniversary will soon be wrapping up. More exciting than these simple tasks, however, are the larger ones we have in the works – many of them being the culmination of a lot of prior work and discussion.

This year, the archives, with the assistance of the diocesan tribunal, has finished and will be releasing an informational booklet to our parishes. This booklet contains details about archival practices as well as assistance with many frequently asked questions about sacramental policies.

Perhaps one of the largest archival ventures in a long time is also coming to completion. The demolition of the Mount Saint Joseph Academy building displaced thousands of items from the museum. They have been placed in the archives until a decision could be made on rehousing or accessioning. After much discussion, a decision has been reached. I will go into more detail about this in the future, but the finish line has been drawn and completion of the process is within our grasp.

Perhaps the most exciting project of all is a large-scale digitization project at the Mount. This has

been in discussion for a while now and groundwork is currently being laid. We have purchased several pieces of specialized equipment for the project and there is seemingly no medium we won't be able to digitize. We will be able to utilize the reel-to-reel digitization center that we established at the McRaith Catholic Center over the last few years for audio. With the addition of the new technology purchased at the Mount, we will even be able to digitize film negatives and slides. We are currently working with the Mount's technology department to find the best software for our specific digitization and access needs. There is a lot of software available, but some have become dated or have too limited a scope for the varied informational mediums we are dealing with. It is very likely that in time this project will be replicated at the McRaith Center.

As strange as it may seem to many, one of the primary goals of the archives is to help inspire the faith of the diocese utilizing our history. We try to keep this in mind with every endeavor we pursue. Christ has built this diocese with the heroic acts and heroic faith of incredible Catholics, and he continues to do so. The archives looks forward to another year of utilizing the past to inspire the present. We do this to build an even more courageous Catholic future. ■

*Edward Wilson is the director of the Diocese of Owensboro's Archives and the Archives of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph. Comments and questions may be sent to [edward.wilson@pastoral.org](mailto:edward.wilson@pastoral.org).*



COURTESY OF ARCHIVES  
Pictured is the digitization capabilities of the archives in 2009: a single HP scanner for photographs and documents.

Saturday, September 28, 2024

## CRAFTING FOR A CAUSE



A benefit event for St. Gianna Crisis Pregnancy Home

Registration fee \$60 includes

- ~ 6ft table
- ~ Door prizes
- ~ Pasta dinner

VENDORS ~ FOOD TRUCKS

Register by texting Lisa at 270.303.9271

9 am to 8 pm CST  
Holy Spirit Catholic Church  
4754 Smallhouse Rd, Bowling Green



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### AUGUST 2024 BULLETIN BOARD

#### Mass and confession times in the Diocese of Owensboro

Did you know you can view Mass times on the diocese's website? Visit <https://owensborodiocese.org/find-a-parish/> for a list of parishes, Mass times and more. As confession times are subject to change, visitors are encouraged to contact the parishes directly for their most up-to-date confession schedule.

#### The King of Mercy conference Aug. 24

The Fathers of Mercy present The King of Mercy: A Family Conference to Celebrate the Eucharistic Revival. Aug. 24, 2024 from 9:30 a.m.-5:15 p.m. at 806 Shaker Museum Rd., Auburn, Ky. Bring the whole family to this free event: Eucharistic Holy Hour with Adoration, the Holy Rosary, Eucharistic Procession and Benediction. Venerate first-class relics of all 12 apostles and the True Cross. Lunch provided. Solemn Mass to celebrate the Eucharistic Revival and receive Holy Communion to receive a Plenary Indulgence. Confessions available. Presentations from religious orders. For more information, to register, and a complete schedule, visit [www.familyvocations.org](http://www.familyvocations.org).

#### Mount Saint Joseph Academy Alumnae Weekend Aug. 24-25

All former students and faculty of Mount Saint Joseph Academy or Junior College, Maple Mount, Ky., are invited to Alumnae Weekend on Aug. 24-25, 2024. This year's theme will be based on the 150th Anniversary slogan of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph: "Cultivating the Vine Saint Angela Entrusted to Us." Alumnae will gather on Saturday for a welcome-back dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Hall, 4029 Frederica St., Owensboro. On Sunday, alumnae can attend Mass at 9:30 a.m. in the Motherhouse Chapel at Maple Mount. This will be followed by activities in Maple Hall: a business meeting, class photos, and the annual banquet which includes the Maple Leaf awards. The Saturday supper is \$15, and the Sunday catered awards banquet is \$25. Alumnae are also asked to pay their annual dues of \$25. To register for Alumnae Weekend, contact Doreen Abbott at 270-229-2006 or [alumnae.ms@maplemount.org](mailto:alumnae.ms@maplemount.org). A registration form can be found at <https://ursulinesmsj.org/alumnae-weekend-registration/>

#### Sept. 20 Holy Name School Fall Festival

Sept. 20 from 5-10 p.m. and Sept. 21 from 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Fish fry, pork chop and chicken dinners, game booths, rides, food booths, family bingo, live auction, silent auction, haunted house, and much more. Fun for everyone! For more information contact the school office at (270) 827-3425.

#### A scout is reverent

As we begin a new school year, it is time to begin working toward Scout religious emblems. They include for Cub Scouts: Light of Christ and Parvuli Dei and for Boy Scouts: Ad Altare Dei and Pope Pius XII and Light is Life (Eastern Catholic) and for Girl Scouts and others: God is Love, Family of God, I Live My Faith, Mary the First Disciple, The Spirit Alive, and Missio. For more information on these, visit <https://owensborodiocese.org/scouting>.

#### Watch new history videos about the Ursuline Sisters

As part of their 150th year celebration, the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph (Maple Mount, Ky.) are releasing brief new videos about their history on the 15th of each month in 2024. The Ursuline Sisters are celebrating 150 years since their arrival in Daviess County, Ky., and 150 years of service to God's people. Their anniversary theme is: "Cultivating the Vine Saint Angela Entrusted to Us." To see links to the videos, photos of anniversary events, and upcoming events throughout the year, visit <https://ursulinesmsj.org/150-years/>. You can also find the videos on the Ursuline Sisters' YouTube channel: [www.youtube.com/user/UrsulineSistersMSJ](http://www.youtube.com/user/UrsulineSistersMSJ). Be sure to follow the Ursuline Sisters on their website, social media, or by email (sign up at <https://ursulinesmsj.org/subscribe/> and click on The Pilgrimage) to be informed about the release of future videos.

#### Need a meeting space? Maple Hall is available at Mount Saint Joseph

Need a meeting space for up to 200 people? Maple Hall (formerly known as Mount Saint Joseph Auditorium/Gym) is available for rent. It is located on the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph campus, 8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, Ky., 12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56, across from the park. Maple Hall is an open space with a kitchen equipped for catering. It's perfect for hosting receptions, parties, reunions, etc. There are two rental options -- a partial rental for up to four hours (\$100) and a full rental which allows use for a full day (\$200). The use of 8-foot

tables and chairs is included in the rental fee (user is responsible for setup, or this can be done for you for an additional fee). To reserve Maple Hall, contact the Mount Saint Joseph Finance Office by email: [ap@maplemount.org](mailto:ap@maplemount.org) or call the switchboard at 270-229-4103 and ask to speak to the Finance Office. Normal business hours are Monday through Friday 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. You can find out more on this webpage: <https://ursulinesmsj.org/renting-maple-hall/>

#### Support groups for victims/survivors of clergy abuse

The Diocese of Owensboro would like to share some support group opportunities made available through the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. These groups are open to all victims/survivors in the United States. Learn more at <https://owensborodiocese.org/support-group/> and <https://owensborodiocese.org/safe/>. You are also invited to visit <https://www.awakecommunity.org/>, a community of abuse survivors, concerned Catholics, and allies responding to the wounds of sexual abuse in the Catholic Church.

## ACTS 2:42 GROUPS

ON MISSION AS A EUCHARISTIC PEOPLE

YEAR OF MISSION

- Gather in small parish groups
- Hear insight from Bishop Medley & other Pastoral Leaders
- Connect with fellow Catholics over the Source & Summit of our Catholic faith.

visit [owensborodiocese.org/acts242/](https://owensborodiocese.org/acts242/)

Coming Fall  
2024



NATIONAL  
Eucharistic  
Revival



Office of Evangelization & Discipleship  
DIOCESE OF OWENSBORO

# August Wedding Anniversaries

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

**A note from the WKC: Make sure your anniversary is listed!** As the WKC returns from our summer printing break and begins printing again with this August issue, now is a great time to make sure your parish has your wedding anniversary on their list. The WKC recognizes 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> and over anniversaries being celebrated for the month printed (i.e. this edition shows the milestone anniversaries for August). In order to appear in the WKC's monthly anniversaries, you must be listed by your parish. Please contact your parish directly to make sure your anniversary is on file with them.

### **Blessed Mother, Owensboro**

David Thompson & Vicki Frey, 40  
Drew & Jeannette Ward, 56  
Harold & Rhonda Staples, 53  
James & Alma Topper, 54  
John & Rose Meister, 53  
Joseph & Geraldine Jarboe, 51  
Kevin & Kellie Parker, 25  
Marvin & Martha Hayden, 56  
Pat & Hope Yager, 5  
Raymond & Theresa Payne, 64  
Ron & Mereda Hicks, 52  
Steve & Brenda Hagan, 55

### **Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro**

Clint & Cassidy Campbell, 10

### **Christ the King, Madisonville**

David & Ellen Walters, 65  
Doug & Patricia Pilson, 56  
Frank & Barbara Schnapf, 56  
James & Judy Donley, 56  
Paul & Gwen Bergman, 58  
Ron & Marsha Segebarth, 56  
Tommy & Carol Richardson, 58

### **Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson**

Armando & Holivia Sandoval, 53  
Bill & Judy McClellan, 61  
Carl & Christi Honeycutt, 25  
Charles & Sonya Mauzey, 40  
Cory & Emily Bridges, 10  
Danny & Debbie Bullock, 51  
Danny & Janie Jacobs, 60  
Gary & Kim Powell, 40  
Jimmy & Debbie Hagan, 53  
John Shelman & Susy Solorza, 10  
Keith & Diane Utley, 55  
Kelly & Kelly Bennett, 5  
Matthew & Michelle Nobles, 10

Mike & Kay Smith, 52  
Ricky & Lynn Payne, 40  
Scottie & Cynthia Long, 51  
Stephen & Briana Alvey, 25  
Thomas & Mary Duncan, 58  
Thomas & Sandra Rugg, 52  
Thomas & Yvonne Drury, 50

### **Holy Spirit, Bowling Green**

Cravens & Leslie Priest, 25  
Gary & Rita Larimore, 40  
Gregory & Mercedes Mills, 40  
Jack & Carole Hoeft, 52  
Jerome & Michelle Fabie, 10  
John & Jocelyn Knepler, 55  
Mbuto Kitungano & Asende Basengelele, 5  
Steve & Ann Bolt, 51  
William & Darlene Sims, 60  
William & Linda Brian, 56

### **Holy Trinity, Morgantown**

Larry & Mary Martin, 62  
Teddy & Margie Seiler, 54

### **Immaculate Conception, Earlington**

Johnny & Elizabeth Wix, 56

### **Immaculate Conception, Hawesville**

Dan & Shirley Hagman, 64  
James & Brenda Adkins, 56  
Nathan & Tina Powers, 40

### **Immaculate, Owensboro**

Al & Rose Clark, 68  
Buzz & Patsy Van Meter, 59  
Dan & Jeanie McCormack, 10  
Edward & Nannette Parish, 54  
Gary & Bonnie Roberts, 57  
James & Sharon Murphy, 59  
John & Margie Wathen, 69

### **Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro**

Al & Judy Mattingly, 53  
Brian & Susen Wink, 5  
Kenneth & Johanna

Boarman, 62  
Matthew & Jessica Johnson, 5  
Mike & Linda Todd, 56  
Thomas & Cindi Reisz, 54  
Thurman & Margaret Bennett, 40  
Todd & Mia Bertke, 25  
Wayne & Laura Edge, 54

### **Precious Blood, Owensboro**

Bill & June Johnson, 64  
Otis & Rita Webb, 40  
Paul & Tancy Payne, 56  
Roger & Linda Haynes, 51

### **Rosary Chapel, Paducah**

Jack & Frances Pullen, 56  
Mike & Julia Ward, 55

### **Sacred Heart, Hickman**

Gerald & Mary Harris, 57  
Jimmy & Barb Blanton, 59  
Jimmy & Pat Cooley, 64

### **Sacred Heart, Waverly**

Charles & Nancy Clements, 53

### **St. Agnes, Uniontown**

Bill & Lora Lee Duncan, 55  
Billy & Linda Thomas, 50  
Brad & Amy Morris, 25  
Damon & Cathy Dayberry, 57  
Gary & Jill Utley, 40  
Joshua & Kayla Graham, 10  
Kevin & Kristin Baird, 10

### **St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph**

Charles & Sarah Dant, 59  
Randy & Elaine Blandford, 52

### **St. Ann, Morganfield**

Anthony & Judy Moore, 50  
Charles & Elizabeth Acker, 57  
Fred & Bonnie Hooper, 57  
James & Dorothy Buckman, 67  
John & Yvonne Davis, 58  
Joseph & Susan Nalley, 25  
Kenny & Judy Willett, 57

### **St. Anthony of Padua, Grand Rivers**

Dan & Cindy O'Brien, 54  
Paul & Diane Quayle, 57  
**St. Anthony, Browns Valley**  
Steve & Tracie Boarman, 25

### **St. Anthony, Peonia**

James & Donna McLemore, 55  
Joe & Theresa Reuther, 57

### **St. Augustine, Grayson Springs**

David & Mary Doris Simon, 66  
Joseph & Jody Ziegler, 53

### **St. Augustine, Reed**

Ben & Stanette Blair, 56

### **St. Charles, Livermore**

Derek & Candace Miller, 25

### **St. Columba, Lewisport**

Eddie & Rachel Gray, 52  
Harry & Pat Roberts, 52  
Jason & Anna Toler, 25

### **St. Edward, Fulton**

Jerry & Mary Ann Hobbs, 64  
Tommie & Melinda Briggs, 53

### **St. Elizabeth, Clarkson**

Charlie & Brenda Stinson, 52

### **St. Francis Borgia, Sturgis**

Bobby & Faye Greenwell, 66  
Michael & Rosanne Thornsbury, 51

### **St. Francis de Sales, Paducah**

Darrell & Cindy Boyd, 51  
Jim & Judie Bonner, 54  
William & Judith Hayden, 65

### **St. Henry, Aurora**

Gary & Lavonne Hanlon, 66  
Ray & Ann Davis, 57  
Ty & Nancy Thill, 56

### **St. Jerome, Fancy Farm**

Benny & Ruthie Wood, 51  
David & Emmalene Hayden, 53  
Grant & Claudette Mills, 57  
J Michael & Penny Toon, 10

Joseph & Paula Elliott, 53  
Mark & Mandy Thompson, 25  
Norris & Elexie McNutt, 52  
T.J. & Beth Munsell, 25  
William & Angela Higdon, 51

### **St. John the Evangelist, Paducah**

David & Elizabeth Goewert, 56  
Frank & Kay Kern, 61  
Richard & Susan Durbin, 54  
William & Heidi Ballard, 61

### **St. John the Evangelist, Sunfish**

Danny & Glenda Kiernan, 60

### **St. Joseph, Bowling Green**

Dan & Jennifer Murphy, 57  
Ralph & Mary Wilken, 54  
Ronnie & Paula Miller, 55  
Tom & Peggy Cahill, 64

### **St. Joseph, Mayfield**

Charles & Christie Henson, 52  
Domingo & Alma Oronia, 10  
Gerald & Pam Brooks, 56  
James & Judy Hobbs, 56  
Joey & Nancy Wilson, 54  
Larry & Rose Seay, 54

### **St. Leo, Murray**

Andy & Lou Ann Conklin, 54  
Doug & Anne Walton, 52  
James & Susan Koegel, 54

### **St. Martin, Rome**

Larry & Donna Kamuf, 52

### **St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho**

Bill & Judi Head, 57

### **St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville**

Frank & Connie Hagan, 50  
Gene & Brenda Hamilton, 52  
Jimmy & Lisa Phelps, 40  
Lewis & Jeanie Jean, 55  
Richard & Mary Thompson, 40

### **St. Mary, Franklin**

Dean & Sharon Henderson, 59

*Continues on page 27*

## PARISH PICNICS

### Anniversaries continued from page 26

- John & Paula Herrmann, 57  
**St. Mary, LaCenter**  
 Jerry & Julie Owsley, 56  
 Joe & Betty Lane, 52  
**St. Michael, Sebree**  
 Bobby & Susie Blanford, 61  
**St. Paul, Princeton**  
 George & Sharon Barber, 53  
 Ray & Brittani Weatherspoon, 5  
 Tommy & Kay Cotton, 56  
**St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley**  
 Jack & Vicki Stogsdill, 50  
 Joe Bill & Barbara McKay, 61
- Steve & Sally Moss, 53  
**St. Peter of Antioch, Waverly**  
 David & Janie Nixon, 56  
 Joe & Tammy Blue, 40  
 John & Gwynn Royster, 53  
 Ralph & Kay Wolfe, 51  
**St. Pius X, Calvert City**  
 Larry & Judy Krouse, 54  
 Ray & Alice Lucas, 67  
 RJ & Diane Witowski, 56  
**St. Pius X, Owensboro**  
 Al & Jane Johnson, 59  
 David & Jennifer Brown, 51  
 Greg & Marion Bates, 51  
 Richard & Mary Coy, 63
- Thomas & Mary Payne, 50  
**St. Romuald, Hardinsburg**  
 Larry & Patti Mattingly, 62  
 PJ & Martha O'Donoghue, 56  
 Raymond & Margie Wethington, 64  
 Ron & Jamesetta Whitfill, 52  
**St. Sebastian, Calhoun**  
 Donald & Cindy Durbin, 58  
 Jerry & Mary Abney, 65  
**St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro**  
 Ed & Gloria Cecil, 55  
 Ed & Mary Riney, 57  
 Elmo & Dora Thompson, 62  
 Mike & Susan Fulkerson, 60  
 Nathan & Amanda Reffitt, 25  
 Raymond & Barbara Trogolo, 67
- St. Stephen, Cadiz**  
 Charles & Nola Courtney, 53  
 Gus & Carol Puth, 59  
 Wayne & Nancy Gundry, 53  
**St. Thomas More, Paducah**  
 Anthony & Cecilia Toren, 61  
 Brent & Brittany Nunn, 10  
 David & Sally Roof, 40  
 Frank & Nancy Burch, 54  
 Gary & Linda Whitelock, 54  
 Harry & Julie Brigance, 56  
 James & Jeanine Taylor, 53  
 James & Julia Harper, 62  
 Jason & Katherine Armstrong, 5  
 Jerry & Diane Stoverink, 52  
 Matt & Abby LaFont, 25  
 Rich & JoAnne Miller, 63  
 Richard & Pat Heflin, 54
- St. William, Knottsville**  
 Charles & Ann Roby, 58  
 Charles & Susie Hamilton, 50  
 David & Mallory Miller, 10  
 Robert & Karyl Millay, 52  
**St. William, Marion**  
 Gordon & Carole Guess, 54  
 Lynn & Kathy Bechler, 56  
**Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro**  
 Carl & Terry Working, 50  
 David & Iona Clark, 55  
 Donnie & Connie Clark, 51  
 Drew & Rachael Frey, 10  
 Edward & Mary Haynes, 57  
 Jerry & Cecilia Wilkerson, 51  
 Robert & Sharon Settles, 5

## 2024 Parish Picnic Schedule in the Diocese of Owensboro

Note: Parish picnics and cooking teams are a longstanding tradition in the parishes of the Diocese of Owensboro. Parishioners and non-parishioners alike gather to celebrate with food, games and community during the warmest months of the year. All questions about the individual picnics should be directed to the parishes at the numbers provided with each listing.

- Aug. 3**  
 Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Owensboro  
 Street address: 602 Sycamore St., Owensboro  
 Serving noon-2 p.m.  
 Contact: (270) 926-4741
- Aug. 3**  
 St. Jerome, Fancy Farm  
 Street address: 20 KY-339, Fancy Farm  
 Serving 11 a.m.-7 p.m. (picnic begins 10 a.m., ends 10 p.m.)  
 Contact: Andy Hayden (270) 705-4312
- Aug. 6**  
 St. Martin, Rome  
 Street address: 5856 State Route 81, Owensboro  
 Serving 4 p.m. (drive-thru only)  
 Contact: (270) 685-0339
- Aug. 10**  
 St. Ann, Morganfield  
 Street address: 304 S. Church St., Morganfield  
 Serving 5 p.m.
- Contact: Laura Ervin (270) 997-0223
- Aug. 24**  
 Holy Guardian Angels, Irvington  
 Street address: 301 W High St., Irvington  
 Serving 2-6 p.m. Eastern Time  
 Contact: Matt Pike (270) 668-3102
- Sept. 7**  
 Christ the King, Scottsville  
 Street address: 298 Bluegrass Rd., Scottsville  
 Serving 10 a.m.-6 p.m.  
 Contact: Valerie Vargo (270) 943-0370 or Modonna Creasy (615) 633-3333
- Sept. 7**  
 St. Agnes, Uniontown  
 Street address: 413 5th St., Uniontown  
 Serving 5 p.m.  
 Contact: Steven Gough (270) 952-3071 or Travis Hancock (270) 952-2500
- Sept. 7**  
 St. John the Evangelist, Paducah  
 Street address: 6705 Old US Hwy. 45 South, Paducah  
 Serving 11 a.m.-2 p.m. and 4-7 p.m.  
 Contact: (270) 554-3810
- Sept. 14**  
 St. Joseph, Central City  
 Street address: 109 S. 3rd St, Central City  
 Serving 11 a.m.-3 p.m.  
 Contact: Parish office (270) 754-1164
- Sept. 14**  
 St. Romuald, Hardinsburg  
 Street address: 394 N. Hwy 259, Hardinsburg  
 Serving 4 p.m.  
 Contact: (270) 756-2356
- Sept. 15**  
 Mary Carrico Catholic School Fall Picnic
- Street address: 6119 St. Lawrence Rd., Philpot (St. Lawrence picnic grounds)  
 Serving 11 a.m.  
 Contact: (270) 281-5526 (school office)
- Sept. 21**  
 Blessed Mother, Owensboro  
 Street address: 601 E. 23rd St., Owensboro (Entering from J.R. Miller Blvd. to 22nd St. into the church parking lot)  
 Serving 3 p.m. (drive-thru only)  
 Contact: (270) 683-8444
- Sept. 21**  
 Christ the King, Madisonville  
 Street address: 1600 Kingsway Dr., Madisonville  
 Serving 4-8 p.m.  
 Contact: Erin Clark (270) 821-8271
- Sept. 21**  
 St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Clarkson (Honeyfest Meal)
- Street address: 306 Clifty Ave., Clarkson  
 Serving 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.  
 Contact: Parish office (270) 242-4414
- Sept. 28**  
 Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Street address: 2516 Christie Pl., Owensboro  
 Serving 11 a.m.-1 p.m. (pick-up only)  
 Contact: John Jones (270) 316-2214
- Sept. 29**  
 St. Leo, Murray  
 Street address: 401 N 12th St., Murray  
 Serving Noon-5 p.m.  
 Contact: Kevin D'Angelo (270) 293-7061
- Sept. 29**  
 St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville  
 Street address: 10534 Main Cross St., Whitesville  
 Serving 11 a.m.  
 Contact: (270) 233-4196

## Un Mensaje del Obispo Medley: Al entrar en el tercer año del Avivamiento Eucarístico, salgamos en misión

Muy estimados hermanos y hermanas en Cristo,

“Vayan en paz”. “Vayan, la Misa ha terminado”. “Vayan en paz, glorificando al Señor con sus vidas”. “Vayan y anuncien el Evangelio del Señor”.

A todas estas aclamaciones respondemos instintivamente: “Demos gracias a Dios”.

Una vez escuché a un director de retiro, hablando de la Santa Misa, sugerir que una “despedida” apropiada de la Misa podría ser: “La Misa nunca termina. Vayan en paz”.

Al comenzar el último año del Avivamiento Eucarístico de tres años en la Iglesia católica de los Estados Unidos, podría ser bueno llevarnos ese mensaje con nosotros. Debemos tener la mentalidad de que la Eucaristía siempre nos renueva y revive. A su vez, como católicos, debemos ver constantemente la Eucaristía como la “fuente y culmen” de la vida cristiana.

El enfoque de este tercer año de Avivamiento Eucarístico es la misión. Debemos recordarnos y desafiarnos en conocer la Gran Comisión de Jesucristo: “Vayan, y hagan que todos los pueblos sean mis discípulos, bautizándolos en el nombre del Padre y del Hijo y del Espíritu Santo, y enseñándoles a cumplir todo lo que yo les he mandado. Y yo estaré siempre con ustedes hasta el fin del mundo”.

El mes pasado más de 50,000 católicos se reunieron en Indianápolis para el X Congreso Eucarístico, el primero en nuestro país desde el año del bicentenario de 1976. Ese Congreso se celebró en Filadelfia como parte de la celebración del bicentenario de los Estados Unidos. Este Congreso Eucarístico completó el segundo año de este avivamiento actual.

Peregrinaciones Eucarísticas Nacionales desde cuatro

puntos del país arribaron en Indianápolis desde cuatro rincones de nuestra nación. La procesión de la ruta sur llamada San Juan Diego pasó por la Diócesis de Owensboro entre el 30 de junio al 3 de julio. Se dieron procesiones y celebraciones especiales que marcaron ese trayecto, y donde localmente más de mil personas participaron en esos eventos.

Al comenzar este tercer año de avivamiento, la Iglesia debe mirar con ojos nuevos la Gran Comisión de Jesús. En nuestra diócesis hemos continuado nuestras Pequeñas Comunidades de Hechos 2,42 para compartir la fe. De nuevo comenzarán a reunirse en septiembre y continuarán hasta el próximo mayo.

Quiero repasar una de mis reflexiones ofrecidas por video el año pasado en mi serie de meditaciones en inglés sobre las partes de la Misa. En uno de esos videos reflexioné sobre la narrativa de la Consagración en la Misa donde recordamos las palabras de Jesús mientras toma el pan en la Última Cena: “*Tomen y coman todos de él, porque esto es mi cuerpo, que será entregado por ustedes*”.

Luego Jesús, tomando el cáliz, dijo: “*Tomen y beban todos de él, porque éste es el cáliz de mi sangre, sangre de la alianza nueva y eterna, que será derramada por ustedes y por muchos para el perdón de los pecados*”.

Resumiendo la rica bendición que acaba de ofrecer a sus discípulos, Jesús extendió este don para todas las edades y tiempos: “*Hagan esto en conmemoración mía*”.

Entonces, son tres mandatos: *Tomen y coman; tomen y beban; y hagan esto en conmemoración mía*.

Los evangelistas Mateo, Marcos y Lucas relatan la narración de la Última Cena de manera muy similar. Juan, sin embargo, acentúa una faceta de esa cena que

### CALENDARIO DEL OBISPO MEDLEY AGOSTO DE 2024

2 de agosto	8:30 a.m.   Misa para el retiro del personal de OCS – Santísima Madre, Owensboro
3 de agosto	2 p.m.   Oración inicial para el picnic en Fancy Farm – San Jerónimo, Fancy Farm
11 de agosto	11 a.m.   Misa por el 150 aniversario de la llegada de las Hermanas Ursulinas al Condado de Daviess – Monte San José, Maple Mount 2 p.m.   Misa de entrega de los premios Sofia – Catedral de San Esteban, Owensboro
13-15 de agosto	Reunión de la Conferencia Católica de Kentucky y Reunión de los Obispos de la Provincia – Louisville
17 de agosto	10 a.m.   Dedicación de la Iglesia de la Resurrección – Dawson Springs
18 de agosto	2 p.m.   Celebración Diocesana de los Aniversarios de Matrimonios – Catedral de San Esteban, Owensboro
19 de agosto	10 a.m.   Reunión del Consejo de Personal Sacerdotal – Centro Católico McRaith, Owensboro 1:30 p.m.   Reunión del Consejo Sacerdotal – Centro Católico McRaith, Owensboro
21 de agosto	6 p.m.   Confirmación – San Francisco de Asís, Guthrie
24 de agosto	9 a.m.   Conferencia de Liderazgo y Ministerio Parroquial – Centro de Convenciones Bruce, Hopkinsville 4:30 p.m.   Confirmación – Espíritu Santo, Bowling Green
25 de agosto	4 p.m.   Misa por el 75 aniversario de la Capilla del Santísimo Sacramento – Capilla del Santísimo Sacramento, Owensboro
27 de agosto	10 a.m. – 2 p.m.   Horas de Oficina en Paducah – Hospital Mercy Health – Lourdes, Paducah
28 de agosto	6 p.m.   Confirmación – San Francisco de Asís, Guthrie

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los otros tres no registraron. Juan señala que Jesús lavó los pies de sus discípulos en esa Última Cena. Y les dio instrucciones: *Si yo, que soy el Señor y el Maestro, les he lavado los pies, ustedes también deben lavarse los pies unos a otros.*

La acción figurativa de Jesús de lavar los pies a sus discípulos es una acción eucarística. De esto surge un mandato equivalente a tomar, comer y beber el Cuerpo y la Sangre de Jesús. Este mandato está muy orientado a la

misión. Así se entiende lo que el director de aquel retiro del que les mencione al principio de este artículo sugirió al decir que la Misa no termina, sino que continúa cada vez que nosotros, en el nombre de Jesús, lavamos los pies, alimentamos a los hambrientos, visitamos a los enfermos y a los encarcelados, y consolamos a los moribundos. La Misa no termina, sino que continúa cuando instruimos a otros en la fe, cuando actuamos en nombre de la justicia

y cuando damos la bienvenida al extraño entre nosotros.

Vayamos en paz para amar y servir al Señor.  
¡Que Dios los bendiga siempre!

+ William F. Medley

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

## ‘Dirigida por Nuestra Señora’ - La Hermana María de Guadalupe Velázquez pronuncia votos solemnes como monja clarisa

POR LAS MONJAS CLARISAS DE NUESTRA SEÑORA DE LA MERCED, ESPECIAL PARA EL CATÓLICO DE KENTUCKY OCCIDENTAL

El 11 de agosto, la Iglesia celebra la fiesta de Santa Clara de Asís, hija espiritual de San Francisco y fundadora de una orden de monjas contemplativas de clausura. Casi 800 años después de que el Papa Inocencio IV aprobara la Regla de Santa Clara (la primera regla religiosa escrita por una mujer), su forma de vivir el Evangelio –marcada por la pobreza, la sencillez y una fuerte vida fraterna– sigue atrayendo seguidores. Entre ellas se encuentra una joven de la Diócesis de Owensboro que hizo su profesión solemne a principios de este verano en el Monasterio de Clarisas de Nuestra Señora de la Merced en Belleville, Illinois.

La Hermana María de Guadalupe de Jesús Crucificado (Norly Cristina Velázquez) y su numerosa familia se mudaron a Owensboro, Kentucky, cuando ella era adolescente. Participó en el grupo de jóvenes hispanos de la Parroquia Santos José y Pablo y se desempeñó como catequista. Después de graduarse de la escuela preparatoria del condado de Daviess en 2011 y trabajar durante un tiempo, comenzó a

orar más intensamente sobre hacia dónde la estaba guiando Dios en la vida. Si bien admiraba a las Hermanas activas que servían en su parroquia, sentía una fuerte atracción por la vida contemplativa. Ella cuenta, “Mis siguientes preguntas fueron: ¿Existen todavía monjas así? ¿Dónde están? ¿Cómo puedo ponerme en contacto con ellas?”

Una primera búsqueda en Internet no pareció llevar a ninguna parte. “Fue a principios de diciembre”, recordó la Hermana, “así que decidí hacer de esta mi intención especial para la novena a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe”. Al regresar a Internet, ella descubrió un monasterio que no estaba muy lejos de su casa. “Llamé y hablé con una monja que se ofreció a enviarme algunos materiales. Abrí su paquete el 12 de diciembre y lo primero que hice fue ver el video vocacional que había dentro. ¡Fue la respuesta a mi novena! Cuando terminé de verlo, estaba llorando porque esto era exactamente lo que estaba buscando”.

Norly Cristina ingresó como postulante al Monasterio de Nuestra Señora de la Merced el 6 de marzo de 2015. El marzo siguiente, fue vestida con el santo hábito y recibió su nombre religioso: Hermana



FOTO POR CORTESÍA DE LAS CLARISAS  
La Hermana María de Guadalupe de Jesús Crucificado sosteniendo su cirio nupcial y luciendo el anillo y la corona de espinas que tradicionalmente se otorga a una Monja Clarisa después de pronunciar votos solemnes de obediencia, pobreza, castidad y clausura.

María de Guadalupe de Jesús Crucificado. Después de completar el noviciado de dos años, pronunció sus votos temporales el 8 de mayo de 2018. La formación espiritual de la Hermana María de Guadalupe como Clarisa continuó a lo largo de seis años de profesión temporal, y culminó con la entrega total de sí misma a Cristo y a su Iglesia a través de su profesión de votos solemnes perpetuos de obediencia, pobreza, castidad y clausura. Monseñor Michael G. McGovern, Obispo de Belleville Illinois, fue el celebrante principal de la

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Misa que cerró la ceremonia de profesión bilingüe el 4 de mayo de 2024. A él se unieron en el altar otros siete sacerdotes, entre ellos el P. Albert Bremer III de la Diócesis de Owensboro quien era vicario parroquial de la Hermana María cuando ella ingresó al monasterio. El Diácono Cristóbal Gutiérrez, quien dirigió la pastoral juvenil en la parroquia de la Hermana, proclamó el Evangelio en español.

Como Monja Clarisa, la vida de la Hermana María está especialmente dedicada a la alabanza y adoración a Dios. Su vocación se cumple a través de su participación en la Liturgia de la Iglesia, el ofrecimiento y rezo de las siete horas del Oficio Divino completo y los momentos diarios de adoración eucarística. También ha servido a su comunidad como sacristana, panadera y ayudante de cocina. Como Esposa de Cristo y madre espiritual de las almas, todas las necesidades del mundo se mantienen cerca de su corazón en oración. Para obtener más información sobre el Monasterio de las Clarisas en Belleville, IL, para ver su video vocacional o descubrir cómo enviar intenciones de oración, pueden visitar su sitio web: <https://poorclares-belleville.info> ■



FOTO POR CORTESÍA DE LAS CLARISAS

En esta foto (tomada desde el lado de la Capilla de las Hermanas), la Hermana María de Guadalupe se postra ante el altar mientras se canta la Letanía de los Santos durante su profesión solemne el 4 de mayo de 2024.

## ‘Una fe que ha crecido durante muchos años’: los feligreses se reúnen para celebrar la Peregrinación Eucarística Nacional en la Diócesis de Owensboro



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

Voluntarios a las afueras de la Parroquia San José en Bowling Green, Kentucky, preparando las alfombras (que representan imágenes religiosas en arena y aserrín), en la mañana del 3 de julio de 2024, durante la visita de la Ruta San Juan Diego de la Peregrinación Eucarística Nacional a la Diócesis de Owensboro.

POR ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, EL CATÓLICO DE KENTUCKY OCCIDENTAL

María Molina sintió que su fe crecía después de que esfuerzos combinados no sólo de sus compañeros feligreses, sino de “toda su diócesis”, dieron la bienvenida a la Peregrinación Eucarística Nacional al oeste de Kentucky durante la primera semana de julio.

“Estoy agradecida y bendecida de que esto se haya logrado”, dijo Molina, líder de la Parroquia Santa María en Franklin, KY, donde se dio la primera parada de la peregrinación en la Diócesis de Owensboro. “Sin la comunidad, no podríamos haberlo hecho”.

La diócesis de 78 parroquias y 32 condados dio la bienvenida a los peregrinos de la Ruta de San Juan Diego, que viajó por la parte sur de los Estados Unidos. Un total de cuatro rutas, provenientes de los cuatro



RILEY GREIF | WKC

El P. Ryan Harpole, párroco de la Parroquia San José en Bowling Green, KY, dirige una procesión eucarística en el centro de Bowling Green, KY, el 3 de julio de 2024, durante la visita de la Ruta de San Juan Diego de la Peregrinación Eucarística Nacional a la Diócesis de Owensboro.

rincones de los Estados Unidos, convergieron en Indianápolis para el Congreso Eucarístico Nacional del 17 al 21 de julio.

Un equipo de jóvenes católicos, a los que se les dio el título de Peregrinos Perpetuos, fueron asignados a cada ruta y que estuvieron viajando por todo el país desde el comienzo de la Peregrinación en mayo. Sus recorridos incluyeron una combinación de momentos de caminata a través de regiones con el Santísimo Sacramento en una custodia y otros momentos viajando en una camioneta diseñada con un altar especial para exponer al Santísimo.

Molina coordinó la hospitalidad y las comidas servidas durante los eventos de peregrinación del 30 de junio y el 1 de julio en la Parroquia Santa María, estos incluyeron una procesión eucarística desde la plaza del pueblo hasta la iglesia; una Misa vespertina en español; una Hora Santa y la Bendición con el Santísimo Sacramento; una cena comunitaria en el salón parroquial; y una Misa

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temprano en la mañana y un desayuno al día siguiente con otra procesión eucarística en el centro.

Mencionó que estaba agradecida con todos los que ayudaron a preparar las comidas y agradeció a la cercana Parroquia San José en Bowling Green por las habilidades de sus feligreses en crear las alfombras fuera de la Parroquia Santa María para las procesiones.

“Fue una gran experiencia... fue simplemente una bendición”, dijo Molina.

Felipe Campos - cuya esposa, Nancy, era una de las cocineras en la cocina parroquial - dijo que su parroquia se unió gracias al liderazgo de su párroco, el P. Tom Buckman.

“Esta es una fe que viene creciendo desde hace muchos años”, dijo Campos, y agregó que él y su esposa han sido testigos de cómo su fe da frutos en la vocación de su hijo, quien es un sacerdote recién ordenado de la Congregación de Santa Cruz en Notre Dame, Indiana.

Después de que concluyeron las celebraciones en Franklin, los peregrinos viajaron a la Parroquia Sagrado Corazón en Russellville, KY, para un almuerzo y una presentación en el salón parroquial. Allí, los Peregrinos de la Ruta San Juan Diego se presentaron formalmente a la comunidad: Camille Anigbogu, Shayla Elm, Issy Martin-Dye, Charlie McCullough, Joshua Velásquez, Mackenzie Warrens y los seminaristas Noah U'Ren y Dylan James Young.

A ellos también se unieron dos Frailes Franciscanos de la Renovación: El P. Dismas Kline, CFR; y el Hno. Simeón Synoski, CFR. Los frailes viajaron con el equipo durante varias semanas, según un acuerdo con la comunidad CFR para asignar frailes que acompañaran a los peregrinos en cada paso del viaje.

Después del almuerzo, la peregrinación continuó hasta Auburn, KY, donde tuvo lugar una procesión eucarística a lo largo de la carretera durante aproximadamente 4.8 millas. Si bien los altos índices

de calor y la humedad extrema habían aumentado en Kentucky durante las semanas previas, ese día oscilaba entre los 70 y 80 grados, lo que brindó un bienvenido respiro para quienes participaron en la procesión.

Los fieles concluyeron la procesión en la capilla de la casa madre de la congregación religiosa de los Padres de la Misericordia, con sede en Auburn. Allí se ofrecieron confesiones durante la Adoración Eucarística.

Después de un período de oración, los Peregrinos Perpetuos viajaron al Campamento Juvenil Católico y Centro de Retiros del Río Gasper, donde caminaron en una procesión formal con el Santísimo Sacramento hacia la propiedad, rodeados por los estudiantes de quinto y sexto grado que asistían al campamento esa semana. Varios niños tuvieron la oportunidad de servir como portadores de velas y tocar las campanas procesionales.

El P. Kline dirigió la procesión hasta la capilla dentro del Boone Lodge del campamento, y los campistas se arrodillaron para un período de adoración en silencio ante el Santísimo Sacramento.

El día siguiente, el 2 de julio, fue un día de descanso para los Peregrinos Perpetuos, pero se unieron a los campistas por la tarde para un panel de preguntas y respuestas, y más tarde para cenar en el comedor.

El 3 de julio, como último día completo para los peregrinos dentro de la Diócesis de Owensboro, comenzó con una Misa a las 7 a.m. en la Parroquia San José en Bowling Green. Fue seguida por una procesión eucarística por el centro de la ciudad, hacia el Centro Católico Newman de Santo Tomás de Aquino en la Universidad Western Kentucky. El Centro Newman fue anfitrión de un período de Adoración. Luego, el grupo regresó en procesión a la Parroquia San José.

Esa tarde, la Parroquia Espíritu Santo en Bowling Green organizó un retiro de Avivamiento Eucarístico dirigido por la Hna. Cheryl Clemons, OSU. Por la



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

Una mujer se arrodilla ante el Santísimo Sacramento en medio de una procesión eucarística en el centro de Bowling Green, KY, el 3 de julio de 2024, durante la visita de la Ruta de San Juan Diego de la Peregrinación Eucarística Nacional a la Diócesis de Owensboro.

noche, los Peregrinos Perpetuos se unieron a los fieles del Espíritu Santo - además de muchos visitantes - para una última procesión en la diócesis, que comenzó en la entrada del estacionamiento y condujo a las puertas abiertas de la iglesia, donde esperaba el Obispo William F. Medley.

El obispo presidió la Misa, que se celebró en inglés y en dialectos de Myanmar, en honor a la floreciente población católica de Myanmar de la parroquia.

Bernadine Naing, líder de la comunidad parroquial que participó en las celebraciones de ese día, dijo que la Eucaristía es el centro de la fe católica y que “para mí, si no hubiera celebración de la Misa, no sería católica”.

“No importa el idioma que hables, todos pueden participar en la Misa”, dijo Naing. Dijo que es útil para los católicos hacer crecer su fe con libros y películas religiosas, pero enfatizó que “también debemos experimentar a Cristo en la Eucaristía, como en la Adoración”.

“Es realmente sencillo, pero muy profundo”, dijo. ■

# Más de 50,000 personas se inscribieron para el Congreso Eucarístico Nacional

POR EL PERSONAL DE WKC

Entre el 17 al 21 de julio se celebró el X Congreso Eucarístico Nacional en el Centro de Convenciones de Indiana y en el cercano Estadio Lucas Oil de Indianápolis. Más de 50,000 personas vinieron de todo Estados Unidos para participar en Misas, sesiones especiales (incluyendo opciones en español), Adoración, talleres, música, confesión y una procesión por las calles de la ciudad el sábado. El Congreso fue un punto destacado del Avivamiento Eucarístico Nacional, que es una iniciativa de tres años de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos para aumentar el amor y la comprensión de la Eucaristía. ■



RILEY GREIF | WKC  
El Obispo William F. Medley canta mientras participa en la procesión eucarística en el centro de Indianápolis, el sábado 20 de julio de 2024.



RILEY GREIF | WKC  
Miembros de la familia Gutiérrez de Owensboro sonríen para una foto después de participar en la procesión eucarística por el centro de Indianápolis el 20 de julio de 2024.



RILEY GREIF | WKC  
Miles de personas reunidas en el Estadio Lucas Oil aplaudieron durante la sesión de avivamiento vespertina del sábado 20 de julio de 2024.