

THE WESTERN KENTUCKY



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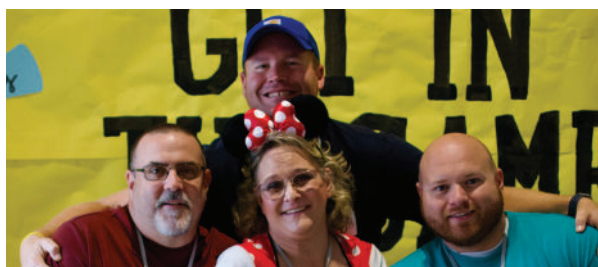
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Bishop William F. Medley greets faithful attending Mass at Our Lady of the Congo Cathedral in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, in September 2024. **Page 7**

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Students of Owensboro Catholic 4-6 Campus dress up as saints on Nov. 1, 2023, in observance of the Solemnity of All Saints. In his column this month, Dcn. Jay W. VanHoosier writes about this holy day. [Page 10](#)

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Front page main photo courtesy of Fr. Emmanuel Udoh.

Submissions

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

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

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A Word From Bishop Medley

Universality of our Church seen during visits to seven home countries of our international priests

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In October I achieved a goal I set for myself more than six years ago. With my recently-completed 20-day pilgrimage to the Democratic Republic of Congo and Kenya, I have now visited the seven nations from which our international priests now serving in our diocese have come.

In 2018 I observed that the Diocese of Owensboro, and for that matter scores of dioceses across the United States, had growing numbers of international priests serving parishes and schools. Bishop John J. McRaith saw the blessing and opportunity that inviting priests from different nations and cultures might bring to western Kentucky. Clearly, he was observing a national trend of declining numbers of native-born priests in the United States, but I know he also recognized the promise of our local Church better reflecting the universality of the Church.

In 2018 I visited Mexico and had opportunities to meet and visit with the families of Fr. Carmelo Jimenez and Fr. Julio Barrera. This visit afforded me an opportunity to visit the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, one of the great Marian shrines in the world, and to better grasp the spirituality of the vast number of Hispanic migrants coming to Kentucky.

In January of 2020 I visited India and Myanmar, formerly known as Burma. Over the previous 15 years, many Indian priests had come to our diocese, most initially members of the religious congregation the Heralds of Good News. In India I visited in the homes and met the families of our priests. My travels



COURTESY OF FR. EMMANUEL UDOH

Bishop William F. Medley meets with family members of Fr. John Ighacho in Mombasa, Kenya, during his September pastoral visit to the Democratic Republic of Congo and Kenya.

there were confined to the southwestern state of Kerala. Though still a tiny minority, Kerala is home to a greater percentage of Catholics than other Indian states.

Over the previous decade, communities of Myanmar (Burmese) refugees had settled in Kentucky and parishes in Bowling Green and Owensboro, were striving to serve the Catholics among them. Fr. Timothy Ling had served our diocese as a visitor and opened the door to two seminarians coming to our diocese, Stephen Van Lal Than and Martin Ma Na Ling. I visited with their families and met the bishop who made it possible for them to come to Kentucky. Fr. Stephen was ordained to the priesthood in 2020 and Fr. Martin in 2022.

It was in our return to the U.S. in February of 2020 that I began to learn of the emerging pandemic and found myself among only a handful of people not wearing masks in the airport in Doha where we were changing flights. (How things quickly changed not long

after!)

Guatemala was my destination in 2022 and there I visited the family of Fr. Basilio Az Cuc. In planning this journey, I had hoped to again meet Fr. Basilio's mother, who had come to Owensboro for his ordination in 2016. Sadly, she passed away in the year before my visit, but I met Fr. Basilio's siblings and dozens of his nieces and nephews.

Ambitiously, I thought that I might be able to encompass three African nations in one journey. But the logistics of travel, visas, and complications of crossing multiple national borders proved to be too much.

So in 2023 I visited Nigeria and met the families of Frs. Uwem Enoch, Emmanuel Udoh, John Okoro, Julian Ibemere and Jude Okeoma. Nigeria is a very large country (one and a half the size of Texas) and my travels involved several flights with the country. Also, there I visited the foundation of the Franciscan Sisters of the

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Immaculate Conception in Lagos. Among the fruits of this visit will be the arrival of a couple of additional Nigerian priests to Kentucky in the year to come.

So, this brings me to my most recent pilgrimage. In the Democratic Republic of Congo, I concelebrated Mass in the cathedral in Kinshasa and then shared a lunch with the family of Fr. Jean Rene Kalombo.

In Kenya I traveled across a large country again. In Mombasa, in the east on the Indian Ocean, I met the archbishop and several priests of the archdiocese. There I shared meals with the families of Fr. John Ighacho and Fr. Chrispin Oneko.

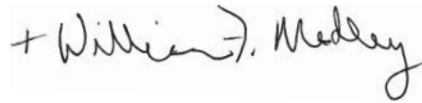
Traveling to the west I visited Kisumu where I celebrated Sunday Mass (lasting four hours) in the home parish of Fr. Michael Charles Abiero. Sadly, Fr. Michael Charles' mother had died only a few days before my arrival, but he invited me to visit her home and to bless the gravesite where she would be buried. Also, in Kisumu we met and shared a meal with additional

relatives of Fr. Chrispin.


Returning to Nairobi, the capital and largest city, I was invited by the archbishop to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation in a relatively new parish. Twelve hundred people attended the Mass, and I confirmed more than 320, mostly children and youth.

Now I have visited the seven nations that now are providing priests to our local Church. I understand even better the ideals that Bishop McRaith was pursuing in inviting the most recent international priests to the Diocese of Owensboro.

May God bless you always!



Most Reverend William F. Medley
Diocese of Owensboro



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BISHOP MEDLEY'S NOVEMBER 2024 CALENDAR	
Nov. 1	12:05 p.m. All Saints' Day Mass – St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro
Nov. 2	11:30 a.m. Mass for Black Catholic History Month – St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro
Nov. 6	10 a.m. Catholic Conference of Kentucky Meeting – Louisville
Nov. 7	8:30 a.m. Diocesan Finance Council Meeting – McRaith Catholic Center
Nov. 9	11 a.m. Jubilee of Religious Celebration – St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho
Nov. 10-14	U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Meeting – Baltimore
Nov. 18	10 a.m. Priest Personnel Meeting – McRaith Catholic Center
Nov. 19-21	Bishops of the Province Meeting – Memphis
Nov. 23	5 p.m. Closing Mass for Owensboro Diocese Youth Conference – The Bruce, Hopkinsville
Nov. 24	5:30 p.m. Mass for Newman Center in Murray – St. Leo Parish, Murray
Nov. 26	10 a.m. Paducah Office Hours – Mercy Health Lourdes Hospital
Nov. 27	10 a.m. McRaith Catholic Center Staff Meeting – McRaith Catholic Center
Nov. 28	8 a.m. Thanksgiving Day Mass – St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

Honor Flight demonstrates gratitude for veterans' service



COURTESY OF HONOR FLIGHT KENTUCKY
A banner reading "Welcome Veterans – America Thanks You for Your Service" is seen at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport in Virginia, as the participants of Honor Flight Kentucky's May 18, 2024 mission arrive.

BY ANDY TELLI, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

On Veterans Day, Nov. 11, each year, the nation pauses to show its gratitude and appreciation for its military veterans.

That also was the mission of Bill Blincoe, director of project/risk management for the Diocese of Owensboro's McRaith Catholic Center, earlier this year when he served as a guardian on an Honor Flight to Washington, D.C., for more than 60 veterans.

"I was so honored to be part of this," Blincoe said. "It increased the respect I had for the sacrifices these guys made."

Honor Flight Kentucky sponsors three flights a year so that World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans can visit the many war memorials and Arlington National Cemetery in the nation's

capital, explained Kelli Parmley, the organization's executive director.

Between 60 and 65 veterans are on each flight, and each is accompanied by a guardian to help them, some of whom have trouble walking because of health issues, as they visit the various sights throughout what is a long day. The flight also includes staff and volunteers from Honor Flight Kentucky, medical personnel, and various guests. Typically, nearly 150 people fill a commercial airliner for the flight, Parmley said.

Blincoe was invited to serve as a guardian by his son-in-law Zach Farmer, a former Green Beret, who works for District Court Judge Lindsay Hughes Thurston in Lexington. The judge is a member of the board of directors of Honor Flight Kentucky.

The judge "had asked my so-in-law to act as a guardian," Blincoe said. "They needed another guardian. My son-in-law reached out to me. ... I said I'm there." Blincoe himself is not a veteran, but his father and father-in-law, as well as his son-in-law, were. "I have tremendous respect for anybody who's done it," he said.

The traveling party gathered at Bluegrass Airport in Lexington early on a Saturday morning to prepare for the flight to Washington.

It was at the airport that Blincoe first met the Vietnam veteran he was to serve as guardian. "I introduced myself to him and told him how honored I was to make this day special for him,"

Blincoe said.

After landing at Reagan National Airport, the group typically visits the Iwo Jima and Air Force memorials, the 9/11 Memorial at the Pentagon, and Arlington National Cemetery, Parmley said. "We plan that arrival time about a year out because we want to make sure we can participate in the wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier," Parmley said.

After lunch at the Women's War Memorial, the group visits the World War II Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial, The Korean War Veterans Memorial, and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

"My guy wanted to see the Vietnam War memorial, the wall," Blincoe said, and they were able to find the name of the veteran's friend who had died in the war, he said.



COURTESY OF HONOR FLIGHT KENTUCKY
Veterans smile as they are welcomed to Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport in Virginia as part of Honor Flight Kentucky's May 18, 2024 mission.

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COURTESY OF HONOR FLIGHT KENTUCKY
Children and families holding handmade signs and wearing patriotic attire welcome the veterans of Honor Flight Kentucky's May 18, 2024 mission to Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport in Virginia.

The day was filled with emotional moments, Blincoe said. "One of the really uplifting and interesting things about the whole day, anytime we left the airport, anytime we arrived ... you'd have large groups of people anywhere we went lined up and clapping. It was pretty cool."

Before flying back to Lexington, Honor Flight Kentucky organized a mail call for the veterans, like the ones they had when they were in the service, Blincoe said. Each veteran received a package of letters from school children and others from the Lexington area expressing gratitude for their service.

Blincoe's veteran "was delighted. He had 50 pieces of mail. He opened and read each one," he said. "It was a moving experience for everybody in there."

It was a day Blincoe would love to repeat. "If called, I'd do this in a heartbeat," he said. "If anything, it just solidified my respect and honor for these people." ■

To learn more about Honor Flight Kentucky, visit www.honorflightky.org.

'We'll turn this into a beautiful home,' vows Mayfield family as new house is dedicated post-tornado

BY STACEY MENSER, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Recovery continues in western Kentucky communities devastated by the Dec. 10, 2021 tornadoes, and Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Owensboro is there walking alongside survivors and witnessing new beginnings each day.

On Sept. 19, Catholic Charities case managers and staff celebrated the completion of the 19th new home built by the diocese in western Kentucky since the 2021 devastation.

"This is our first house in Mayfield," said Katina Hayden, disaster operations coordinator for Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Owensboro. "We built

18 houses in the last two years in Hopkins and Caldwell counties by partnering with Mennonite Disaster Service."

For the Mayfield home build, Catholic Charities partnered with another Mennonite organization, Christian Public Service, which provides long-term volunteer opportunities for young men and women of the church.

"We are a small part of this," said Hayden at the Sept. 19 home dedication, where community members and recovery partners gathered to celebrate with Miguel Osorio Marin and his family as they received the keys to their new home.

Miguel lost his home, his job, and time with his children as a result of the 2021 tornado. The Osorio



COURTESY OF STACEY MENSER
Fr. Darrell Venters, pastor of St. Jerome Parish in Fancy Farm, blesses the home of the Osorio Marin family in Mayfield, which was rebuilt after the 2021 tornado destroyed the family's home.



COURTESY OF KATINA HAYDEN
New homeowner Miguel Osorio Marin prepares lunch for volunteers and community members who attended his Sept. 19 home dedication in Mayfield.

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Marin family, like many families affected by the disaster, had to live separately because of temporary housing situations.

Catholic Charities case manager Karina Gonzalez has worked with Miguel the last two years. She made connections with local churches and other build partners in the community to get a plan in place to build the family a new home on their lot in Mayfield. Gonzalez coordinated funding and resources, while Christian Public Service volunteers and Joe Orr of Homes of Hope for Kentucky worked on the construction.

Devonn Friesen, a California resident working in Mayfield with Christian Public Service, supervised the build and oversaw the work of young men volunteering from Oregon, Brazil, and Alberta, Canada.

“We can build a house. But Miguel and his family will make this a home,” Friesen said during the dedication.

Fr. Darrell Venters of St. Jerome Parish in Fancy Farm gave a blessing over the home and the Osorio Marin family, and the young men from CPS led a singing of Amazing Grace before the homeowner received the keys.

“It’s incredible the work you have done,” Miguel said. “I am thankful to God; and with his help, we’ll turn this into a beautiful home.”

To show his thanks, Miguel prepared a meal and served the volunteers and supporters who helped bring his family into a new home. ■

Catholic Charities is planning more home builds in Mayfield in the coming year by partnering with Christian Public Service. To learn more about the organization, visit www.cps-inc.org.

With ‘deep appreciation,’ Bishop Medley completes seven-country pastoral visit project begun six years ago

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

For Bishop William F. Medley, a lasting aspect of his legacy as the shepherd of the Diocese of Owensboro will be his initiative to visit the seven countries from which have come the many international priests serving western Kentucky.

“I have looked around and seen what an impact international priests have had on our parishes,” he said, explaining that his pastoral visits have meant to show “what a deep appreciation I have, and our local Church has, for our international priests.”

The bishop said that currently, about one-third of the Diocese of Owensboro’s presbyterate is made up of priests who were born outside the United States – a point he often emphasizes at diocesan liturgies like Chrism Mass.

After returning from his Sept. 19-Oct. 9, 2024 pastoral visit to Kenya and the Democratic Republic of Congo, the bishop spoke with The Western Kentucky Catholic about his global journeys.

“My focus on this (project) began with my visit to Mexico in 2018, to meet and honor the families of Fr. Carmelo Jimenez and Fr. Julio Barrera,” said Bishop Medley.

After that initial visit went well, the bishop traveled to India, Myanmar (Burma), Guatemala, and Nigeria over the next few years, hoping to express his gratitude to the families, bishops, and dioceses of the international priests now serving in



COURTESY OF FR. EMMANUEL UDOH
(Left to right) Fr. Jean Rene Kalombo, Bishop William F. Medley, and Fr. Emmanuel Udoh at the airport in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, on Sept. 20, at the beginning

the Diocese of Owensboro.

His Nigeria trip, which took place in fall 2023, was originally intended to span across other African countries, but travel visa logistics ended up being too much for one trip. So this year, he returned to Africa to complete the journey.

During this most recent visit, Bishop Medley had the chance to meet and thank the families of Fr. Jean Rene Kalombo, Fr. John Ighacho, Fr. Chrispin Onoko, and Fr. Michael Charles Ajigo Abiero. He flew out two days after his 72nd birthday and traveled with Fr. Emmanuel Udoh, who had

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accompanied him on his Africa trip in 2023.

The bishop said lengthy Masses were common in the African nations he visited, and he observed the fast-growing Catholic faith across the continent.

“At Fr. Michael Charles’ home parish in Kenya, we celebrated a four-hour-long Mass with 500-600 people there for Sunday Mass,” he said. “I confirmed 320 people at a Mass in Nairobi, and was the first bishop to visit that church, was still in the process of being built.”

The bishop said that for the time being, he does not anticipate visiting additional countries, but the door is never closed – especially if more priests from other nations are one day sent to serve in the Kentucky diocese.

For now, he is glad for the opportunity to have expressed his gratitude in-person.

“I would call that a great success,” he said. ■



COURTESY OF FR. EMMANUEL UDOH

On Oct. 1, Bishop William F. Medley and Archbishop Maurice Muhatia Makumba of the Archdiocese of Kisumu, Kenya – the native archdiocese of Fr. Michael Charles Ajigo Abiero.



COURTESY OF FR. EMMANUEL UDOH

Bishop William F. Medley visits St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Mombasa, Kenya, and meets with Fr. Maxwell Okello in September 2024. Fr. Okello served in the Diocese of Owensboro’s tribunal from 2007-2009.

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COURTESY OF FR. EMMANUEL UDOH

Bishop Medley meets with the family of Fr. Jean Rene Kalombo in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, on Sept. 22.



COURTESY OF FR. EMMANUEL UDOH

Bishop Medley visits with several relatives of Fr. John Ighacho (wearing hat) during his visit to Mombasa, Kenya, to meet with Fr. Ighacho’s family on Sept. 26.

Catholic Charities attorney appreciates warm Kentucky welcome, looks forward to welcoming other newcomers

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE
WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Anjuli Rose Alameddine, a staff attorney with Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Owensboro, was born in Texas and had many friends who were migrants – causing her to witness firsthand the challenges that her friends’ families experienced in seeking a new life in the United States.

“It is so important to have empathy and understanding for those that have had to leave everything they know behind and start over in an unfamiliar place,” said Alameddine, who joined Catholic Charities on Aug. 29 as an Immigrant Justice Corps (IJC) fellow through the Acacia Network to serve unaccompanied minors.

Alameddine’s family also has their personal story of the immigration experience. Her dad emigrated to the U.S. in the 1980s, in hopes of providing a better life for his family.

“He did not want to leave and has always really missed his home,” she said of her father. “A lot of people who have come from other countries – it’s not because they want to; for many migrants, leaving it was their only option.”

As a youth, Alameddine attended a Christian school in eastern Kentucky, which caused her to fall in love with the Bluegrass State and meet international classmates, many of whom were migrants themselves.

“Seeing all my peers’ struggles made me want to help other people get a chance at the same American dream that my dad had,” she said. “I saw

many injustices within the immigration system and wanted to change things.”

Alameddine studied at J. David Rosenberg College of Law at University of Kentucky in Lexington, focusing on immigration law, and founded the Immigration Law Society at the university to inspire her peers to explore immigration law. She earned her bachelor of business administration in management and marketing in 2021, and served as a law clerk for Church Law, PLLC, and worked as a legal extern at Kentucky Refugee Ministries.

In her two-year fellowship with Catholic Charities, Alameddine will represent unaccompanied children in the immigration system, managing her own caseload of young people to represent in state court, immigration court, and the USCIS system.

“Federal law provides special protections for immigrant children” she said, explaining that her role is to represent these children – whose circumstances are often that they were abused or neglected by one or both parents – and see what can be done to help them receive legal status.

Alameddine encouraged people who are more established in the community to recognize their opportunity to “be welcome and give newcomers grace.”

“I fell in love with Kentucky,” she said. “I love the welcoming community of Kentucky and its welcoming culture. I’m excited to be in Owensboro. I’m very appreciative of the warm welcome I have received, and I look forward to meeting more new people here!” ■



COURTESY OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES
Anjuli Alameddine is sworn in by Susan Montalvo-Gesser in Frankfort, Ky., on Oct. 18, 2024.

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Encounter Love/Encounter Jesus: A retreat for you!

BY DR. JEFF ANDRINI, OFFICE OF
EVANGELIZATION AND DISCIPLESHIP

Many parishes around the diocese have hosted the Encounter Love/Encounter Jesus event over the past two years and the evaluations have been extremely positive. However, the Office of Evangelization and Discipleship is far short of its goal to offer this event in every parish of the Diocese of Owensboro, and we want more people to experience this opportunity. Are you looking for a shot in the arm for your spiritual life? Would you like to grow as a disciple of Jesus? Join us!

Who: Open to all adults in any parish of the diocese.

What: A retreat based on the Kerygma, which is the proclamation of the Gospel message, along with time for reflection and an experience of God's loving presence.

Where: Held at the McRaith Catholic Center, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, KY.

When: Saturday, Nov. 16, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Includes coffee, muffins and lunch.

Why: In 2017, Bishop William F. Medley founded

the Office of Evangelization, and all diocesan and parish leadership went through the USCCB's document titled, "Living as Missionary Disciples." Over four years we spent one year on each of the following themes: Encounter, Accompany, Community, and Send. The Encounter Love/Encounter Jesus retreat highlights a special prayer service that people find incredibly moving, healing and hopeful. In addition, we discuss these four important pillars that are key for personal and parish renewal focused on the mission of Jesus.

Busy on Nov. 16, but interested in attending? Talk to your pastor and/or your parish staff and ask if they would be willing to host this in your parish. It could be done on a Saturday morning or Sunday afternoon, or we could come one weeknight for two weeks in a row. Better yet, ask your pastor and parish staff if they would support you if you offered the event at the parish. (Fill out the form at this link and we can work out the details this fall, winter or spring to host at your parish: <https://owensborodiocese.org/encounter-love-encounter-jesus>.)

God wants to encounter each of us daily in our walk

with the Lord. Our Catholic faith is so much more than an intellectual experience. We do need to know our faith, but just like priests and lay ecclesial ministry leaders, all the laity need to be formed in four essential areas: Human, Spiritual, Intellectual, and Pastoral. This retreat is an invitation to experience God's love and grow in each of these important dimensions of adult faith formation. Join us and invite a friend as well. Register by using the QR code with this article, and we hope to see you on Nov. 16 or at your parish sometime soon.

Please pray for all those who have attended this retreat and for those who will on Nov. 16 – thank you! Need more information? Email me at jeff.andrini@pastoral.org.

Peace,
Jeff

*Dr. Jeff Andrini is the director
of the Office of Evangelization
and Discipleship.*



Intimate connection: The saints and the Eucharist

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

The Solemnity of All Saints is a profound celebration in the Catholic Church, honoring not only the canonized saints but also the countless

unnamed individuals who have lived lives of holiness and faith. This feast reminds us of the universal call to holiness and how the saints, by their example, draw us ever closer to the Eucharist and to our vocation as Christian disciples.

Saints as witnesses to the Eucharist

The Eucharist lies at the heart of the saints' lives, serving as the source of their strength and guidance. For saints throughout history, such as St. Francis of Assisi and St. Thérèse of Lisieux, the Eucharist was not merely symbolic, but the Real Presence of Christ that nourished their faith and devotion. Their

Eucharistic spirituality was marked by deep reverence and love, as they found in this sacrament the model of perfect sacrifice.

The Eucharist, central to the saints' lives, is not a private devotion but a communal celebration, uniting the living and the dead in the Body of Christ. Through this sacrament, we are united with both Christ and the saints, forming one communion. All Saints' Day, therefore, highlights the "Communion of Saints," reminding us that the Church transcends the earthly realm and extends into heaven.

The saints call us to discipleship

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The saints' lives reveal that the Eucharist compels action. Each saint lived out discipleship uniquely but shared a common mission of following Christ wholeheartedly. Their examples call us not just to receive the Eucharist but to live Eucharistically, embodying Christ's self-giving love in our daily lives. The Eucharist empowers us for this mission, urging us to be Christ's hands and feet in the world.

Saints like St. Teresa of Calcutta, St. Maximilian Kolbe, and St. Augustine demonstrated that discipleship requires self-sacrifice, the willingness to take up one's cross, and trust in God's grace. Their lives of service, sacrifice, and theological reflection transformed the world and challenge us to follow Christ with the same radical commitment.

Drawing us to the Eucharist and the saints

All Saints' Day invites us to reflect on the saints' relationship to the Eucharist. Just as they drew strength from it, we are called to frequent and devout reception of this sacrament. The Eucharist nourishes us spiritually and prepares us to live out our call to holiness.

This feast is not only a celebration of those who have reached heaven but also a reminder of our own call to sainthood. The saints, through their lives and intercession, encourage us to pursue holiness and guide us on our journey of discipleship. As we honor them, we are inspired to live lives rooted in the Eucharist, striving for the same holiness they attained. Ultimately, All Saints' Day teaches us that sainthood is possible, and the Eucharist is our source of grace for that journey. ■

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

Faithful urged to pray for religious liberty with novena ahead of Nov. 24 feast of Christ the King

WASHINGTON (OSV News) – The U.S. bishops' Committee for Religious Liberty is encouraging Catholics to take part in a Nov. 15-23 novena ahead of the feast of Christ the King, celebrated this year on Nov. 24.

The feast day, which falls on the last Sunday of each liturgical year, is "a fitting moment" in the liturgical year to promote the church's teaching on religious freedom, because the feast was "born out of resistance to totalitarian incursions against religious liberty," according to the committee's foundational document, "Our First Most, Cherished Liberty: A Statement on Religious Liberty," first issued in 2012.

"We also urge that the Solemnity of Christ the King ... be a day specifically employed by bishops and priests to preach about religious liberty, both here and abroad," the document says. "To all our fellow Catholics, we urge an intensification of your prayers and fasting for a new birth of freedom in our beloved country. We invite you to join us in an urgent prayer for religious liberty."

The committee prepared materials to help educate the faithful about this solemnity, which the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops shared with diocesan communications offices. The USCCB's Office of Public Affairs provided the material to OSV News Oct. 22.

The novena can be found at <https://www.usccb.org/Christ-the-King-2024-novena>. For each day there is a dedicated intention, to be followed by an Our Father, a Hail Mary, the Glory Be and a prayer to Christ the King.

"May all people of faith be free to gather in houses of worship without fear" is the intention for Day 1. The daily intentions for the rest of the novena include praying that God give "hope and courage to people who live in fear of persecution under unjust blasphemy laws," that he protect "all migrants and refugees" and that he "give us the courage to bear witness to the truth of the Gospel."

Pope Pius XI added the feast of Christ the King to the annual church liturgical calendar in 1925 with his encyclical "Quas Primas" ("In the First") to respond to growing secularism and atheism.

During the early 20th century, in Mexico, Russia and some parts of Europe, "militantly secularistic regimes threatened not just the Catholic Church and its faithful but civilization itself," according to the USCCB committee's materials prepared for the novena. "Pope Pius XI's encyclical gave Catholics hope and – while governments around them crumbled – the assurance that Christ the King shall reign forever. Jesus Christ 'is very truth, and it is from him that truth must be obediently received by all mankind'" ("Quas Primas," 7).

"Testifying to the truth is a significant part of Jesus' mission. That mission persists in the body of Christ, that is, the Church. The Church is called to bear witness to the truth," the committee said. "As Catholics, we help to build up the common good in our society by bearing witness to the reign of Christ in public life."

"The Solemnity of Christ the King is a day for Catholics to rededicate themselves to the truth by

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listening to the voice of Christ and to recognizing the reign of Christ by obeying his word,” the committee added, urging all of the faithful to “acknowledge Christ’s kingship in our individual lives ... by examining our consciences, so that we can hear how Christ is calling us to grow in truth.”

To that end, the committee suggested questions the faithful should ask themselves: “Have I held back from speaking truthfully because of fear? Or, have I been so committed to my political faction that I have perpetuated untruths? Have I been obstinate in refusing to listen to others who are also seeking the truth in good faith?” ■

Education choice is a matter of justice

BY JASON HALL, CATHOLIC CONFERENCE OF KENTUCKY

As Election Day nears, the debate around school choice and Amendment 2 is heating up. It is essential that we be clear about what this amendment would do and why the Catholic Church supports it.

As we have seen this debate play out, we have encountered arguments that Amendment 2 does not align with Church teaching, that the bishops are mistaken in their support and are not fulfilling the Church’s mission to care for the poor and defend the common good when they encourage Catholics to vote in favor of the amendment.

This argument misrepresents both Church teaching and the record of Kentucky’s bishops in promoting policies that advance the common good.

The bishops, through the Catholic Conference of Kentucky, have long supported legislators’ efforts to enact a more progressive tax system that will enable Kentucky to fully meet all of our obligations. CCK also supports numerous initiatives to protect the vulnerable, lift up the marginalized, expand access to health care, and more fully protect and respect the dignity of each and every human person.

Church teaching is clear that empowering families to make educational choice for their children is also a matter of justice.

The Church teaches that parents are the primary

educators of their children. The state has an important role to play in supporting them in fulfilling that responsibility.

Pope St. Paul IV was very explicit on the policy implications of this principle when he taught that, as a matter of distributive justice, public policy must ensure a quality education for all children and also enable all parents to be “truly free to choose according to their conscience the schools they want for their children.”

Pope Francis has clearly affirmed this teaching. In *Amoris Laetitia*, the Holy Father’s major document on the family, he recognizes the education of children to be the duty and right of parents and, with regard to government’s role, says, “The State offers educational programmes in a subsidiary way, supporting the parents in their indeclinable role; parents themselves enjoy the right to choose freely the kind of education – accessible and of good quality – which they wish to give their children in accordance with their convictions.”

The school choice programs the bishops support, such as HB 563 in the 2021 legislative session, are focused on helping low-income families enjoy the same options as higher income families already do. We already have school choice for those who can choose what school district they live in, or who are fortunate enough to have access to a well-funded non-public school that can offer assistance.

Fortunately, we also have many excellent public schools serving their students well. But, there are also



RACHEL HALL | WKC

Students, faculty and staff at Owensboro Catholic Schools K-3 Campus participate in an activity celebrating last year’s Catholic Schools Week on February 3, 2023.

many children who are in environments that simply do not work for them, and whose families lack the means to get them into schools where they can thrive.

The government, and by extension all of us, have an obligation to support a robust, well-funded public education system, and also enact programs that empower parents to perform the duties that are rightfully theirs. These are not contradictory obligations, and we can’t hold one hostage to the other. We have to do both.

Amendment 2 does not represent the end of the process. It is a necessary step to correct for an unfortunate Supreme Court decision that prevents programs like HB 563 from providing help to low-income students in both public and private schools. I encourage all Catholics to help Kentucky take this step by supporting Amendment 2 in November. ■

Jason Hall is the executive director of the Catholic Conference of Kentucky. This column originally ran in the Oct. 4, 2024 issue of The Record, the newspaper of the Archdiocese of Louisville.

Safety first: Catholic schools increase preparedness and prevention



COURTESY OF SCOTT INGRAM

Scott Ingram delivers classroom safety backpacks to Clint Board, principal of St. Romuald Interparochial School in Hardinsburg, on Oct. 21, 2024.

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Catholic Schools Office superintendent David Kessler's philosophy when it comes to school security is that "I come to work here; I come to school here; I should feel safe when I'm here."

Every school year, Kessler, who oversees all 17 schools within the Diocese of Owensboro, reminds school councils to include a focus on safety operations and procedures.

"Just so it's continually something you talk about as a group," he said. "It is good for people to understand why you do the things you do (for safety purposes)."

Kessler has been working with Scott Ingram – diocesan director of disaster prevention, preparedness, and emergency operations – to perform risk assessments for the diocese's schools. The assessments include studying data on locations where behavioral incidents are more likely to take place during the school day.

"That's where Scott's background in law enforcement is helpful, to see from someone else's

perspective, who is in your corner, to help you evaluate the needs of your school," said Kessler.

Ingram retired in 2016 from his position as a detective with the Daviess County Sheriff's Department, where he was assigned to the State of Kentucky's Cabinet of Health and Family Services to perform specialized investigations, receiving multiple awards and honors for his service.

If school assessments can identify "problem areas," said Kessler, they then discuss "how could we improve (school) procedures" to decrease the likelihood of these situations developing.

One tangible step is Ingram providing safety and disaster training for school faculty and staff.

While no procedure is perfect, "it helps the schools feel more confident in case something happens," said Kessler.

Ingram said the goal is to take "some of that stress off" the schools when it comes to safety.

He emphasized that disaster preparedness does not just refer to physical violence: "With the tornado activity we've had in this region, we want the teachers to be prepared with whatever they need to do in any situation."

A tangible step is providing every classroom in the diocese – through a grant from the Catholic Foundation of Western Kentucky, which is funded by the annual Disciples Response Fund – with a backpack filled with basic safety necessities.

In addition to first-aid items like an emergency blanket and a tourniquet, all backpacks bear a reflective "Diocese of Owensboro Catholic Schools Office" logo to quickly identify the person carrying it in the event of a crisis.

Ingram is encouraging the schools to include the backpacks in the schools' routine health and safety trainings but said that they are welcome to personalize them according to the classrooms' unique needs.

"I explained at our principals meeting to show how they work," said Kessler. "We're giving them the basics – and they can decide what works for them."

By press day for this issue of the WKC, Ingram will have delivered all 412 backpacks to the 17 schools.

Kessler said that this falls in line with his ongoing initiative to foster greater equity across the schools, no matter their size or location.

"Every classroom will have the essentials," he said. "It's like having an AED machine, you hope you never have to use it, but you want it available." ■



Laughter and tears coexist at Camp Logan as kids find comfort in shared grief

BY HALEY DAVIS, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Grief is a confusing and all-consuming emotion for many of us adults – and kids are no exception.

As I stood at the door at the end of the day, thanking families for being part of Camp Logan, I felt a mix of emotions: sadness that Camp Logan is needed by so many, and pride in what we are doing to support kids grieving the loss of a loved one.

Camp Logan is a one-day event held each spring and fall for children who have lost someone special to them. The camp, originally established by Betty Medley-Wallace, a grief counselor at Glenn Funeral Home in Owensboro, had been running for many years before the pandemic. After the loss of my brother Logan in 2020, my mom, Karla Davis, frequently met with Betty. She expressed her desire to keep Logan's memory alive, which led to the camp taking on a new name, adding deeper significance to our mission.

At Camp Logan, laughter and tears coexist, creating a space where kids can find comfort in shared grief. Logan's spirit, love of Christ, and desire to help others drive the camp. He was always a listening ear, showing true empathy to friends and strangers alike.

During Camp Logan, we have art projects, group discussions, and a memorial service that encourages all kids to express themselves. Our volunteers often share their own experiences with loss, reinforcing that these kids are not alone in their grief.

What strikes me most is the kids' willingness to



COURTESY OF CAMP LOGAN

The participants and volunteers of the most recent Camp Logan, which was held Sept. 21, 2024 and hosted at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Owensboro.

open up. There's something incredibly powerful about sitting with them as they share their stories. I see them finding comfort in each other, which is exactly what we aimed for – the feeling of being understood.

The growth of Camp Logan has been remarkable. Each session draws in more children and families eager to participate. As we close the camp each time, I see hugs exchanged, volunteers excited to return, and I feel proud of all that we are doing. We are building a network of support that extends beyond these few hours.

It's a bittersweet reminder that we're here because of something tragic. I often wonder what

Logan would think of all this. Knowing him, I think he would be joyful at how his name is becoming synonymous with hope and healing.

As we wrap up our third Camp Logan, I'm reminded that grief is not just sorrow; it's also love – love for those we've lost and love for each other as we navigate this difficult journey together. Camp Logan is a testament to that love, a place where we can be raw, real, and resilient. For me, it's a way to carry Logan's spirit forward, ensuring he is never forgotten. ■

Glenn Funeral Home offers Camp Logan free of charge to all interested in attending each spring and fall. For more information, feel free to reach out to them at (270) 683-1505.

With ‘like-minded folks in the trenches of ministry,’ Thriveanooga provides space for youth ministers to remember the importance of their work



COURTESY OF PROJECTYM

Youth ministry leaders participate in discussions during this fall’s Thriveanooga event, which was hosted by ProjectYM.



COURTESY OF PROJECTYM

A group photo of this fall’s Thriveanooga event, which was hosted by ProjectYM in Chattanooga.

BY CHARLIE HARDESTY, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Youth ministry is a challenge. It can feel lonely, unsupported, exhausting, and shallow. It is also beautiful. There are moments of deep connection, joy, fun, and fellowship. When a young person truly gets it, that they are seen, known, and loved, not only by their Church, but by God – that is the sweet spot.

Being a youth leader is a rollercoaster ride of emotions, events, pouring oneself out, late nights, interesting food, and taking care of teens. Not everyone gets it. But Thriveanooga is an event – not a conference – which brings youth leaders together who get it. For one week each September, youth leaders descend into downtown Chattanooga, Tenn., to grow in ministry, support one another,

pray, laugh, cry, and mostly remember what makes the challenging work of youth ministry so special.

Thriveanooga is put on by ProjectYM, which is a Catholic organization “built for youth ministers by youth ministers.” Their mission is to come alongside Catholic youth leaders and help them thrive. They do this by offering community, resources, and support.

In recent years, the Diocese of Owensboro has collaborated with ProjectYM offering formation for parish catechetical leaders in 2019, an overnight formation for youth leaders from the KY/TN province in 2022, and formation for the presbyterate in 2023. For the past two years, we have been taking youth leaders to Thriveanooga and I have been a team leader at the event.

Matt Knight, who has been to Thriveanooga twice, shares, “I always put it on my calendar. I get to



COURTESY OF PROJECTYM

Thriveanooga participants from the Diocese of Owensboro: John and Beth Probus from Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Henderson, Matt Knight from St. Pius X Parish in Owensboro, and Charlie Hardesty, director of the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

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be around like-minded folks who are in the trenches of ministry with me. I also love the opportunity to collaborate with other youth ministers from across the country with fresh and new ideas that help our ministry program at St. Pius X."

Beth and John Probus from Holy Name in Henderson have also both attended Thriveanooga the past two years. Beth reflects, "Thriveanooga is a network of youth ministers working together to better the outcome of your youth program. God truly has His hands upon this experience!"

According to John, who was the winner of this year's mega-prize package at Thriveanooga, "I always enjoy going to Thriveanooga because of the faith family you encounter. I get to hear, but also talk about ways to engage our youth. You get a lot of awesome ideas."

As the director of the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, it is my responsibility to resource and help our parish youth leaders offer the best ministry possible for their parish teens. I believe ProjectYM creates some of the best community, networking, support, and ministry ideas available today and is a great asset in the field of Catholic youth ministry. I look forward to collaborating with them for many years to come.

We will again be taking youth leaders to Thriveanooga in September of 2025. ProjectYM is also working to provide a similar experience for Catholic school campus ministers in June 2025. For more information of what ProjectYM offers, please check out <https://projectym.com/>. ■

Charlie Hardesty can be reached at charlie.hardesty@pastoral.org and (270) 683-1545.

St. Teresa Thrift Store and Ministries donates over \$120,000 to local nonprofits in fight against food insecurity



COURTESY OF ST. TERESA MINISTRIES

St. Teresea Thrift Store and Ministries representatives smile for a photo with local nonprofits who received a total of \$120,000 to combat food insecurity in Warren County.

BY ST. TERESA MINISTRIES

On Oct. 16, St. Teresa Thrift Store and Ministries marked World Food Day with a special event, donating over \$120,000 to local nonprofit organizations dedicated to combating food insecurity in Warren County. This generous donation reflects the ministry's ongoing mission to support vulnerable populations and strengthen the community through charitable giving.

The funds were distributed among key local organizations that provide essential food services, including Glean KY, MEALS INC, and the St. Vincent de Paul Conferences of Holy Spirit and St. Joseph Parishes. These organizations work tirelessly to address the growing need for food assistance, providing nutritious meals and pantry staples to individuals and families facing hunger.

Through the generous donations of items from community members, which are then sold in the thrift

store, St. Teresa Ministries raises funds to support local organizations. The profits generated from these sales are reinvested back into Warren County. Over the past three years, the ministry has contributed over \$350,000 in aid, helping to feed more than 70,000 families in the community.

"We are humbled and grateful to be able to support these incredible organizations, who are on the front lines of the fight against food insecurity," said Jennifer Bailey, director of development and marketing for St. Teresa Thrift Store and Ministries. "Our goal is to continue building partnerships and working together to ensure that all those in need have access to the resources and support they deserve."

The World Food Day of Giving event highlights the collective power of community support, with volunteers, donors, and shoppers playing a key role in making a lasting difference in the lives of those in need. Learn more at www.stteresaministries.org. ■

Sorgho pastor holds 'open caboose' for parishioners

BY LAVIDA MISCHER, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

On Sept. 22, parishioners of St. Mary Magdalene Parish in Sorgho, Ky., enjoyed a beautiful day on the Dennis Family Farm in Caneyville, where their pastor, Fr. Jamie Dennis, grew up.

Fr. Dennis, who likes to spend his time off in a refurbished caboose at the farm, and who has recently added a second caboose, provided an open house – or open caboose – to his Sorgho parish family.

Being diagnosed with a progressive eye condition in



COURTESY OF LAVIDA MISCHER

Fr. Jamie Dennis is seen with his parishioners of St. Mary Magdalene during an open house at his refurbished caboose in Caneyville on Sept. 22.

2nd grade and eventually blind by 8th grade, Fr. Dennis realizes the importance of having a familiar prayer and retreat center for himself, and regularly opens his family's home for others to visit.

"The family farm is not only a refuge for me but also a place of independence. Living on the farm from birth,

I know every inch of the 100-acre property," he said.

If you would like to visit Dennis Family Farm, reach out to the office at St. Mary Magdalene Parish at (270) 771-4436. ■

Lavida Mischel is the administrative assistant for St. Mary Magdalene Parish in Sorgho.

Blessed Mother parishioner celebrates 100 years young

BY ELLEN HIGDON, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Mary Louise Johnson Hayden celebrated her 100th birthday on Oct. 13, 2024. She was married to the late John William Hayden Sr., in 1945, and together they had five children, 13 grandchildren, 26 great grandchildren, and two great-great grandchildren. She was most recently a member of Blessed Mother Parish in Owensboro, and is a resident of Fern Terra.



COURTESY OF ELLEN HIGDON

Dcn. Tim Nugent of St. Anthony Parish in Browns Valley gives a blessing to Mary Louise Johnson Hayden during her 100th birthday celebration at Fern Terra in Owensboro on Oct. 13, 2024.

At her party that day, she received a blessing from Dcn. Tim Nugent of St. Anthony Parish in Browns Valley. She and the residents of Fern Terra were entertained by the Higdon Brothers Band, composed



COURTESY OF ELLEN HIGDON

Mary Louise Johnson Hayden poses for a photo with balloons and a cake celebrating her 100th birthday on Oct. 13, 2024, at Fern Terra in Owensboro.

of Ed, Phil, and Bernard Higdon and Mike Aull. She had been a teacher for many years at St. Pius X Catholic School in Owensboro. ■

Pilgrims encounter Christ, the Good Shepherd, during Ireland pilgrimage

BY ROBIN L. MURPHEY, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Each of us are pilgrims on a journey to “discover the place of [our] resurrection,” as Monica Weis wrote in “Thomas Merton and the Celts: A New World Opening Up.” This pilgrimage is part of daily life as we die to this world to rise again in the love and graces of the Triune God, living our own Paschal Mystery, through our baptism.

In August, 21 pilgrims from across the Diocese of Owensboro set off for Ireland by car, plane, bus, and foot to further encounter Christ.

Like the rocky hillsides and cliffs, amid Ireland’s beauty is a rocky past. During the penal period, priests were banned from publicly shepherding their flocks, those who remained faced martyrdom. Catholics though were not dissuaded in their forbidden faith. Instead, they went deep into the foliage and hillsides finding secluded areas with significant-sized rocks, many ruins of old monasteries destroyed by Cromwell’s forces. These rock surfaces became altars – or “Mass rocks” – for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, and places Catholics prayed and worshiped in secrecy from persecution. Many remain hidden, but known Mass rocks continued to serve as places where local and global Catholics embrace and express their Catholic faith, increasing in 2020 as enclosed gatherings were restricted.

Beyond these visible expressions of faith, the diocesan pilgrims were reminded daily of Christ, the Good Shepherd. Fields, hillsides, and roadways were smattered with sheep being shepherded as they roamed. Each day, the pilgrims’ journey began with the flock gathering for the reception of Christ in the Holy Eucharist and a shepherding message grounding their journey.

The 21 pilgrims stepped away from their everyday lives to discover their place of resurrection and return with new wisdom and humility in Christ. As the pilgrims returned transformed, may we too share in their experience: seeing life in a new way – embracing the natural and spiritual worlds centered in Christ, being challenged to look up and beyond the temporary of the earth to the eternal triumph of Calvary’s death. May we give ourselves to Christ and remember those who have gone before and are living today in a world of persecution.

You don’t have to travel to exotic or far-off places to experience the beauty, diversity, history, and spiritual depths of the faith. But you are called to be open to step out into the unknown and walk with Christ and one another. Many opportunities exist across the diocese, in your local parishes and communities to engage in the faith and accompany others as we navigate our earthly journey toward eternal life. ■

Robin L. Murphey is the communications coordinator for Immaculate Parish in Owensboro.



COURTESY OF ROBIN L. MURPHEY
(Left to right) Fr. Mike Clark and Fr. Will Thompson, the spiritual directors for the Ireland pilgrimage, concelebrate Mass at the Our Lady of Knock Shrine on Aug. 25, 2024.



COURTESY OF ROBIN L. MURPHEY
An altar with a penal cross is seen at Tobernalt Holy Well and the site of a Mass rock on Aug. 25, 2024.

Prayer for our world encouraged during Black Catholic History Month

BY F. VERONICA WILHITE, OFFICE OF BLACK CATHOLIC MINISTRY

November is Black Catholic History Month. During this month we celebrate the long history and proud heritage of Black Catholics. Three commemorative dates fall in November: St. Augustine's birthday, Nov. 13; St. Martin de Porres' feast day, Nov. 3; and the memorial of Our Lady of Kibeho on Nov. 28. November is also when Catholics celebrate the feasts of All Saints and All Souls, an occasion to recall in a special way the saints and souls of Africa and the African diaspora who were lost enroute and after arriving as slaves in the Americas.

As Catholics, celebration of the lives of the saints is a strong tradition. As Americans we only have three native-born saints: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (canonized 1975), foundress of the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph; St. Katharine Drexel, (canonized 2000), educator for the Indian and Negro population and foundress of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament and Xavier University of Louisiana, the only Historically Black Catholic University in the United States; and St. Kateri Tekakwitha (canonized 2012) the first and only Native American to be canonized.

As Black Catholics we had a few African saints



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

A picture of Servant of God Sister Thea Bowman, as well as pictures of Servant of God Julia Greeley and Servant of God Mother Mary Lange, are seen during the Diocese of Owensboro's Nov. 4, 2023 Black Catholic History Month Mass at St. Stephen Cathedral, in Owensboro.

in our tradition such as St. Josephine Bakhita, St. Monica and St. Augustine along with St. Martin de Porres from South America. Today there is a growing number of American candidates for sainthood six of whom are Black. We ask for your prayers especially during this month and throughout the year for the causes for sainthood of these six Black holy people:

Servant of God Sister Thea Bowman F.S.P.A.

Venerable Henriette Delille

Venerable Pierre Toussaint

Servant of God Mother Mary Lange

Venerable Father Augustus Tolton

Servant of God Julia Greeley

Our Lady of Kibeho is the only Vatican-approved Marian apparition in Africa, which occurred in Kibeho, Rwanda. Our Lady first appeared to a young schoolgirl, Alphonsine Mumureke on Nov. 28, 1981. Subsequently she appeared to Anathalie Mukamazimpaka and Marie Claire Mukangango. The message of Our Lady of Kibeho was a simple one of love and repentance. She also showed the

three girls horrific visions of what would happen if people did not repent. In 1994, the visions the three schoolgirls saw came to pass in the Rwandan Genocide. Among those killed at Kibeho was Marie Claire Mukangango. Today, Kibeho has been restored and the shrine at Kibeho is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows, a place of repentance, of peace and of healing for Rwanda and for all people.

The best known 'apostle' of Our Lady of Kibeho is Immaculée Ilibagiza, a Rwandan Tutsi, the only survivor of the genocide in her entire family. Today, she speaks about the grace and forgiveness of God and devotion to Our Lady. According to Immaculée, Our Lady encourages prayer. During this current time of turmoil and political unrest, let this month of Black history celebration be especially prayerful and reflective on our love of God and our brothers and sisters throughout the world. ■

F. Veronica Wilhite is the director of the Office of Black Catholic Ministry.

The joys of the priesthood

Editor's note: During a Presbyteral Day for the priests of the diocese, the Office of Communications invited the priests to share an experience from their everyday life that has brought them joy in their priesthood. In the days approaching Priesthood Sunday (Sept. 29), we posted excerpts from what they shared with us on the Office of Vocations' social media. We've reprinted these reflections below.

Fr. Basilio Az Cuc

One Saturday morning, he trained 10 new altar servers for St. Thomas More Parish in Paducah. "I was so happy to see the excitement and the joy of the children - they are amazed with the Mass. Their joy gave me joy."

Fr. Tom Buckman

He says it brings him "joy and delight to celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter." He says "No doubt the Holy Spirit is alive and at work in the Church!"

Fr. Gary Clark

He is brought great joy in "praying Mass with the schoolchildren of St. Mary School System in Paducah."

Fr. Ray Clark

He receives joy in "sharing God's word in scripture, in various forms."

Fr. Robert Drury

"In a three-month period, 11 young persons, 18 years old and younger, and a 40-year-old woman, came to me personally and asked for the Sacrament of Confirmation." This has brought him incredible joy.

Fr. Steve Hohman

A favorite joy of his priesthood: After celebrating a Mass in Spanish for the Feast of Our Lady of

Guadalupe, he was approached by some parents who asked to have their children confirmed. After "faithfully and enthusiastically" attending every Confirmation class and the Confirmation retreat, the young people were confirmed by Bishop Medley.

Fr. John Igacho

His joys include "celebrating the Eucharist" and helping people experience "liberation and healing" in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, as well as hearing parishioners say "Your homily spoke to me - thank you."

Fr. Carmelo Jimenez

A powerful memory of his priesthood was when a young girl with a disability who belongs to his parish was rushed to the hospital in Louisville after getting very sick. "I went to Louisville to anoint her." The doctors said the girl would need to spend a week in the hospital, but the next day, the girl's mother called Fr. Carmelo to say they were on their way back home, and that the girl was going to be ok.

Fr. David Kennedy

He experiences great joy when "driving to visit the sick to bring them Holy Communion... We are all friends in Jesus Christ, and preparing for Eternal Life with the Lord forever."

Fr. Martin Ma Na Ling

"I knew that I wanted to be a priest at the age of seven years old... Whenever I visit the hospitals, the nursing homes, the homes of the elderly who need the sacraments, I feel the joy of the priesthood, the presence of God, the love of God and the powerful ministry of God. When I celebrate the Mass, as I hold the Body and Blood of Christ himself in my hands to give to the People of God, that makes me



RILEY GREIF | WKC

Priests from throughout the Diocese gather in conversation before the ordination of Fr. Christopher Grief and Fr. Chris Kight at St. Thomas More, Paducah, on May 20, 2023.

joyful."

Fr. Richard Meredith

"It is a joy to hear confessions, to speak of Jesus' practical grace and mercy, and to refresh hope, faith, and encouragement."

Fr. Ken Mikulcik

"Having taken trips to Honduras as a seminarian and as a young priest and serving Honduran immigrants, has brought me a quiet joy each week when I am with them."

Fr. Jegin Puthenpurackal

"A couple of people from my parishes on most Sundays come to me and say that my homily was getting into their hearts directly." He has joy when

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National Vocation Awareness Week, held this year from Nov. 3-9, is an annual celebration in the United States to promote vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life. Learn about vocational discernment in our diocese at owensborodiocese.org/vocations.

Joys of priesthood continued from page 20

he sees people “pay utmost attention during the Mass and take the Mass seriously.”

Fr. John Thomas

A recent joy of his priesthood: “I, not long ago, met a young man I baptized 30 years ago. It was beautiful when we realized we had already met.”

Fr. Will Thompson

“Helping people grow closer to Jesus Christ brings me great joy... As a priest, having the ability to witness Christ working in people’s lives brings me great joy!”

Fr. John Vaughan

“Not for the first time, but I was privileged to accompany a parishioner in the final days of his earthly journey. It was a joy to pray with him, to comfort him and to share the sacraments of the Church in his final days and hours.” ■

Mount Saint Joseph exhibit at the Owensboro Museum of Science and History

BY EDWARD WILSON, ARCHIVES

If you attended a Catholic school in the Diocese of Owensboro, then it is likely that at some point you took a class trip to Mount Saint Joseph. My class came all the way up from Christ the King in Madisonville. (I can still remember how to Irish line dance just like Sr. Elaine Burke taught us that day.) The MSJ museum was another standout feature of a visit to the Mount. If you missed the chance to experience the Mount’s museum, or if you yearn for the childhood experience of gazing upon the historic treasures of Mount Saint Joseph, then you will be happy to hear that you will have a chance to do so in November.

The Mount is celebrating its 150th anniversary and we have had several events to commemorate this occasion. One of the final events is an exhibit at the Owensboro Museum of Science and History at 122 E 2nd St. in downtown Owensboro. The exhibit will display some of the oldest and most sacred items in the entire diocese. This is your chance to see the historic items of some of the saintliest individuals

to ever reside in western Kentucky.

The deconstruction of the 1874 academy building necessitated the rehousing of several thousand items, many of these worthy of archival preservation. Due to archival overcrowding, several of the large items were stored in offsite, temperature-controlled storage facilities while the appraisal process took place. The process is now nearly complete, and the stored items will make their way back to the Mount. However, we thought this would be a perfect opportunity to share these historic items with the community before they return home.

The Owensboro Museum of Science and History seemed like the perfect fit for such a display. With some items dating back even further than the 1874 opening of the academy, there is so much local history to be taken in. We will feature items from the Mount’s founder, Fr. Paul Joseph Volk, the Mount’s first local superior, Mother Augustine Bloemer, and its first mother superior, Mother Aloysius Willett, after gaining independence from the Ursulines of Louisville. The deep German roots of the Mount will also be illustrated.



COURTESY OF ARCHIVES

In this April 1995 file photo, Sr. Mary Victor Rogers, OSU, awaits visitors for Mount Saint Joseph’s museum open house.

Whether you are interested in Catholic history or local history, this exhibit is for you. The official public opening is Nov. 6. We in the archives very much appreciate the help and hospitality of our friends at the Owensboro Museum of Science and History for assisting us in bringing this history straight into the heart of Owensboro. For hours and information about visiting the museum, check out owensboromuseum.org/visit. ■

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.

November 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! The WKC recognizes 5th, 10th, 25th, 40th, 50th 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

Barry & Beth Young, 25
David & Jerri Rudd, 62
Donald & Lucy Hare, 69
Gene & Linda Howard, 60
Henry & Bernadette Hayden, 60
James & Monica Payne, 54
Joseph & Beverly Carrico, 55
Mark & Susan Stallings, 40
Randall & Ruthie Payne, 57
Stanley & Katherine
Saalwaechter, 40
Van & Shirley Brown, 51

Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro

Philip & Joyce Moorman, 67

Christ the King, Scottsville

Ken & Barb Felix, 40
Leroy & Jean Jansen, 55
Mark & Denise White, 50

Holy Cross, Providence
Claude & Sherry Melton, 60

Holy Guardian Angels, Irvington

Alvin & Loretta Heck, 73

Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson

Billy & Sandy Haynes, 63
Chester & Julie Watson, 50
David & Kathleen Brauer, 54
Gary & Brenda Crawford, 55
Larry & Jane Denton, 65
Leocadio & Brandi Lopez, 10
Neal & Patricia Sigler, 52
Ralph & Jeannine O'Nan, 66
Steve & Debby Hayden, 52
Steve & Pam Austin, 58
William & Pam Crawford, 58

Holy Spirit, Bowling Green

Bernard & Lois Schwitzgebel,

65
Don & Judy Dobernic, 59
Ignatius & Scholastica Cing, 25
John & Linda Meyer, 60
John & Sharon Barnett, 50
Randy & Jean Thompson, 63
Robert & Gayle Cron, 55
Timothy & Martha Vogel, 56
Wesley & Gail Simone, 56
Zachary & Katelyn Simpson, 10

Immaculate Conception, Hawesville

Mike & Sheila Ogle, 59

Immaculate, Owensboro

Bill & Martha Mills, 63
Dana & Kevin Kabalen, 5
Joe & JoAnne Mason, 57

John & Becky Neal, 52
Larry & Becky Horsman, 51
Larry & Jean Sims, 56
Link & Marsha Bell, 53
Matt & Courtney Allen, 5
PJ & Sarah Hayden, 58
Zach & Haleigh Woodard, 10
Our Lady of Lourdes,
Owensboro
David & Trudy Thomas, 50
Donald & Janice Crask, 57
Ed & Mary Ricke, 25
Estil & Dianne Woodward, 61
Gene & Shirley Zoglman, 64
Roy & Virginia Stevens, 53
Stephen & Patty Johnson, 60
Stephen & Sherry Jones, 50
Precious Blood, Owensboro
Larry & Linda Jollay, 57

Larry & Paulette Boswell, 54
Mike & Vicki Howard, 55
Sherman & Dolores Roberts, 61
William & Shelby Martin, 57

Resurrection, Dawson Springs

Jimmie & Patricia Solomon, 56

Sacred Heart, Russellville

Kenneth & Karen Brown, 55

St. Agnes, Uniontown

David & Beverly Clements, 53
Jerry & Debi Yates, 25
Kimball & Fay Alvey, 55
Larry & Connie Turner, 52
Larry & Nancy Hancock, 91
Rance & Robin Hill, 10
Ross & Jane Thomas, 65

St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph

Austin & Jacqueline Glenn, 5
Keith & Kris Weise, 40

Continues on page 27



RILEY GREIF | WKC

The Diocese of Owensboro's annual Marriage Anniversary Mass was held Aug. 18, 2024. Couples from across the diocese celebrating anniversaries of 5, 10, 25, 40, 50, and more than 50 years of marriage were invited to celebrate and renew their marriage vows.

ANNIVERSARIES

St. Ann, Morganfield

Eddie & Mary Jo Steward, 59

Gary & Cathy Welden, 56
Jamie & Erica Waller, 10
Mike & Brenda Thomas, 55

St. Anthony, Axtel

Ken & Nori Baurle, 59

St. Anthony, Browns Valley

Alex & Sarah Marks, 50
Danny & Melissa Jarboe, 25

St. Augustine, Grayson Springs

John & Sue Mudd, 61

St. Charles, Bardwell

Dan & Janie Thomas, 58
Darryl & Angela Burgess, 56

Walter & Ethel O'Neill, 60
Wayne & Diane Wilson, 54

St. Charles, Livermore

James & Margie Logsdon, 61

St. Columba, Lewisport

David & Shelley Poole, 25

St. Denis, Fancy Farm

Ray & Sue Potts, 54

St. Edward, Fulton

Bill & Jean Fenwick, 72

St. Elizabeth, Curdsville

Rick & Birgit Jones, 50

St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

Harry & Jane Junkerman, 51

Irvin & Jean Langston, 52

Robert & Jeanne

Alexander, 40

St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

Charles & Mary Ann

Thomas, 66

David & Susan Newhouse, 50

Edward & Lyndia Elder, 61

Hardy & Joyce Hayden, 55

James & Ramona Lee, 10

Jerry & Linda Hari, 52

Joe & Angie Burgess, 50

Joe & Wanda Mathys, 62

Philip & Teresa Hobbs, 52

Raymond & Rosie Hayden, 52

Tommy & Nancy Ballard, 56

St. John the Baptist, Fordsville

Leo & Jo Ann Kauffeld, 54

St. John the Evangelist, Paducah

Francis & Dorothy Scheer, 70

Marvin & Marie Willett, 56

St. John the Evangelist, Sunfish

Bill & Cathy Canty, 53

St. Joseph, Bowling Green

Ben & Susan Warrell, 25

Joe & Sandra Miller, 56

Stan & Cody Young, 62

St. Joseph, Leitchfield

Alton & Sheila Cannon, 51

St. Joseph, Mayfield

Fred & Nancy Lancaster, 55

Howard & Rita Darnell, 61

Kenneth & Wanda Shelby, 40

Rickey & Denise Oliver, 5

St. Lawrence, Philpot

James & Pam

Higdon, 50

St. Leo, Murray

David & Margaret

Perez, 58

Mark & Jackie

Kennedy, 55

St. Martin, Rome

Bobby & Mary Reisz, 52

Larry & Phyllis

Henderson, 56

Wayne & Betty

Hamilton, 59

St. Mary

Magdalene, Sorgho

Jim & Martha

Kamuf, 61

St. Mary of the Woods, McQuady

Gary & Patty

Carwile, 55

St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Brandon & Savannah

Kinsey, 5

Dennis & Barb Evans, 52

Dub & Evelyn Millay, 70

Gary & Sylvia Howard, 55

Pat & Doris Waldeck, 53

Tony & Sandra Johnson, 62

St. Mary, Franklin

Allan & Wendy Cravalho, 40

Harry & Mae King, 61

St. Mary, LaCenter

Kenny & Norma Anselm, 55

Pat & Joan Hutchins, 57

St. Michael, Sebree

Artemio & Maria Gabriela

Barco, 64

Benjamin & Jeana Otero

Sanchez, 25

St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley

Hugh & Betty Cecil, 72

Michael & Nancy Coomes, 25

St. Peter of Antioch, Waverly

Denny & Gayle Hancock, 51

Quaid & Audrey Girten, 5

St. Pius X, Calvert City

James & Shirley Poat, 58

Jerry & Gayle Seay, 71

St. Pius X, Owensboro

Dennis & Charlotte Gatton, 65

Don & Linda Logsdon, 55

Gary & Beverly Estes, 54

George & Geraldine Keller, 60

Michael & Nancy Ferguson, 56

Paul & Judy Brown, 54

St. Romuald, Hardinsburg

Freddy & Mari Townshend, 54

George & Nancy Walz, 59

Jake & Emily Fackler, 5

Jim & Gail Pollock, 54

Jim & Sheila Sills, 51

Paul & Debbie Flood, 53

St. Rose of Lima, Cloverport

Bill & Candy Weatherholt, 54

St. Sebastian, Calhoun

Tony & Cindy Searcy, 50

St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

Dennis & Beverly Cecil, 51

Larry & Dianne Fulkerson, 5

St. Stephen, Cadiz

Joe & Janie Anderson, 59

St. Thomas More, Paducah

Galen & Nicole Stegman, 51

Jim & Sharon Godec, 62

John & Camille Warden, 54

John & Mary Ann Graves, 55

Mike & Yvonne Bosch, 58

St. William, Knottsville

Huck & Barbara Huskisson, 57

Thomas & Stella Boehman, 60

Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro

James & Joyce Logsdon, 58

Kelly & Becky Ward, 52

Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

Austin & Sarah Martin, 5

David & Peggy Watzek, 50

Frank & Kip Thomas, 40

John & Margie Cook, 58

Ronny & Darlene Fuller, 60

The Ursuline Sisters' online Quilt Sale is here!

Starting Monday, Nov. 4, 2024

You don't want to miss it!

Get an early start on your

Christmas shopping!

You can find the quilts online at

www.ursulinesmsj.org/online-quilt-sale

Many quilts are for sale in a range of sizes, including baby quilts. All are unique. The sizes and prices are included in the captions. There are also a couple of special afghans and a framed cross-stitched photo.

The quilts are made by Ursuline Sisters, Associates and friends.

Thanks for your purchase. The proceeds provide funding for the Ursuline Sisters to continue their mission and ministries.

**To order a quilt, contact Carol Braden-Clarke: 270-229-2008
carol.braden-clark@maplemount.org**



Ursuline Sisters
of Mount Saint Joseph

8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, KY



NOVEMBER 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.

Celebrate Black Catholic History Month

Everyone is invited to the Diocese of Owensboro's celebration of Black Catholic History Month on Saturday, Nov. 2, 2024, at St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro. Bishop William F. Medley will celebrate Mass at 11:30 a.m. with lunch immediately afterward. Mark your calendar and bring family and friends for this gathering of fun and fellowship. Hope to see you there! For more information, contact F. Veronica Wilhite, Black Catholic Ministry director, at veronica.wilhite@pastoral.org.

Community Engagement Day at St. Peter of Alcantara in Stanley

Date: Nov. 16, 2024

Time: 9 a.m.- 12 noon

Location: St. Peter of Alcantara Parish Hall

Address: 81 Church St., Owensboro KY 42301

What to expect: Resources within our community will be present so you may ask questions and learn more about what is available to you and your family. Representatives from St. Vincent de Paul, CareNet, St. Benedict's Homeless Shelter, Owensboro Health, our food pantry, and others will be present. We will also have representatives from our parish committees. All are welcome as we open the parish hall at St. Peter's for our Community Engagement Day. To learn more, contact Robin Tucker at (270) 315-8847.

St. Henry Christmas Bazaar Nov. 16

St. Henry Parish, 16097 US Hwy. 68 E. in Aurora, Ky., will be having our annual Christmas Bazaar and Bake Sale on Saturday, Nov. 16, from 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. There will be a variety of vendors, arts & crafts, as well as a silent auction and delicious homemade baked goods. All are welcome! Join

us to begin your Christmas shopping! Please contact the parish office at (270) 474-8058 for more information.

High school youth invited to a NET retreat

Free and open to all who attend. Come and deepen your faith, forge new friendships, and connect with a vibrant community of young Catholics. This is your chance to grow spiritually, have fun, and make lasting memories. Don't miss out - register now and be part of something truly meaningful! Saturday, Nov. 16, from 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. at St. Ann Parish Hall in Morganfield, KY. Register today at <https://tinyurl.com/bx4j96sm>.

Homemade sausage sale at Precious Blood

The Knights of Columbus Bishop Soenneker Council 10725 at Precious Blood Parish in Owensboro once again is hosting its annual homemade sausage sale. You can place your order now for 2-pound rolls for \$9.50 each or links for \$4.75 per pound. The rolls and links come in regular, smoked and spicy flavors. Orders are due by Nov. 17, and you can pick up your order between 9 a.m. and noon Sunday, Nov. 24, at Precious Blood Parish, 3306 Fenmore St., Owensboro, 42301. Don't wait, place your order today! Call or text (270) 570-3192 or email relbigshew@gmail.com. Proceeds from the sale will support the Council's charities.

Serra Club presents Vocation Story and Sandwiches

Join us at St. Mary Magdalene Parish in Sorgho on Tuesday, Nov. 19 for 6 p.m. Mass followed by sandwiches and Fr. Jamie Dennis sharing his vocation story. All are invited! For more information, contact Laida Mischel at (270) 929-2740.

Attend Brescia's annual Fall/Winter Concert

Brescia University's Fall/Winter Concert will be Thursday, Nov. 21 at 7 p.m. in Taylor Lecture Hall on campus. The band and choir will perform. The concert is free and open to the public. Contact Brett Ballard with any questions at brett.ballard@brescia.edu.

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. 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.

St. Teresa of Avila: Woman of Prayer, Teacher of Prayer

Presented by Fr. Mark O'Keefe, OSB. Carmel Home Chapel. Nov. 25, 26, and 27. 7 a.m. Holy Mass. Conferences at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Fr. Mark O'Keefe, O.S.B. is a Benedictine monk and priest of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in Indiana. Professed in 1978 and ordained in 1983, with a doctorate from The Catholic University of America (1987), he is Professor of Moral Theology at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology. A long-held interest in the relationship between ethics and spirituality--our moral and spiritual lives--has lead him to the study of Teresa of Avila and John of the Cross as models of viewing the Christian life in a dynamic and holistic way. Carmel Home is located at 2501 Old Hartford Rd., Owensboro, KY 42303. Questions: (270) 683-0227

Sign up now for a 2025 Cursillo retreat

-What is Cursillo? Cursillo is Spanish for "short course." The weekend starts on a Thursday evening at Gasper River Retreat Center in Bowling Green. It ends the following Sunday evening. During those three days, you will live and work together with others attending the weekend with you while listening to talks given by priests and laity. You will also attend daily Mass, morning and evening prayers, and pray the rosary.

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-How is it formatted? Your sponsor will take you Thursday evening and pick you up Sunday. There are talks by laity, priests and deacons. After these, you will have a chance to share insights with others. You will also have the opportunity to attend follow-up activities to the weekend (hence encounter) to help you continue in your journey, such as small group and parish group reunions.

-Why attend? The Cursillo is an encounter with Christ. The goal of the movement is that Christ be the prime influence in society. So the primary objective of the Cursillo Movement is to further develop a consciousness of their power and mission to become leaders in the work of Christian renewal.

-Who is invited? Practicing adult Catholics in good standing who are ready to unplug (no phones or electronics) from Thursday evening until Sunday evening while learning and reflecting in a group environment on their faith.

-Where is it? At our beautiful diocesan Gasper River Retreat Center in Bowling Green.

-When is it? The men's weekend is Feb. 27-March 2, 2025. The women's weekend is March 6-9, 2025. We are currently taking registration for these weekend encounters! If you are interested in attending, please contact Christy Allard at (270) 889-1526 or christyallard1@gmail.com. You can also talk with any parishioner at your church who you know has attended a Cursillo.

A scout is reverent

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>.

Help Sts. Joseph and Paul support Haitian sister parish

Sts. Joseph and Paul parishioner, Melvin Fleischmann, and other parish missionaries met a young boy named Jemci (pronounced Jaime) in 2017 on a mission trip to our sister parish and

school in Haiti. Jemci was born blind. Through the use of WhatsApp and Jemci's school principal, we are able to trade messages with one another periodically. Donations allow us to send his mother money every five or six months to help with food and clothing. If you would like to make a donation to help support Jemci and his mother, Bernadette, you may send it to Sts. Joseph & Paul Catholic Church, 609 E. 4th St. Owensboro, KY 42303. You may also contact the parish at (270) 683-5641 if you would like more information about supporting our sister parish and school in Haiti, or how your parish can learn about supporting parishes in other countries.

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.

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. 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.

Join Ursuline Sisters for Adoration on Fridays and first Sundays

The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph invite the public to join them for Eucharistic Adoration on the first Sunday of the month from 1 p.m.-5 p.m. at the Motherhouse Chapel, 8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, Ky. (12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56). The Ursuline Sisters also have Eucharistic Adoration on Fridays from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., and the public is welcome to attend. Adoration on the second Friday of each month is dedicated to praying for vocations. The Adoration concludes with evening prayer. To see Adoration and Mass times for the Ursuline Sisters, visit <https://ursulinesmsj.org/mass-prayer-times/>

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 6-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 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/> ■

Un Mensaje del Obispo Medley

La universalidad de nuestra Iglesia se refleja en las visitas a siete países de origen de nuestros sacerdotes internacionales

Mis queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo,

En octubre cumplí un objetivo que me había propuesto hace más de seis años. Con mi recientemente finalizada peregrinación de 20 días a la República Democrática del Congo y Kenia, he visitado las siete naciones de donde provienen nuestros sacerdotes internacionales que ahora sirven en nuestra diócesis.

En 2018 observé que la Diócesis de Owensboro, y en realidad decenas de diócesis en todo Estados Unidos, tenían un número creciente de sacerdotes internacionales al servicio de parroquias y escuelas. El Obispo John J. McRaith vio la bendición y la oportunidad que invitar a sacerdotes de diferentes naciones y culturas podría traer a Kentucky occidental. Claramente, estaba observando una tendencia nacional de disminución del número de sacerdotes nativos en los Estados Unidos, pero sé que también reconoció la promesa de que nuestra Iglesia local reflejara mejor la universalidad de la Iglesia.

En 2018 visité México y tuve la oportunidad de conocer y visitar a las familias del P. Carmelo Jiménez y el P. Julio Barrera. Esta visita me brindó la oportunidad de visitar la Basílica de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, uno de los grandes santuarios marianos del mundo, y comprender mejor la espiritualidad del gran número de inmigrantes hispanos que llegan a Kentucky.

En enero de 2020 visité la India y Myanmar. Durante los últimos 15 años, muchos sacerdotes in-

dios habían llegado a nuestra diócesis, la mayoría inicialmente miembros de la congregación religiosa de los Heralds of Good News [Heraldos de la Buena Nueva]. En la India visité los hogares y conocí a las familias de nuestros sacerdotes. Mis viajes allí se limitaron al estado suroccidental de Kerala. Aunque todavía es una pequeña minoría, Kerala alberga un mayor porcentaje de católicos que otros estados de la India.

En ese viaje también visité Myanmar, antes conocida como Birmania. Durante la década anterior, comunidades de refugiados de Myanmar (birmanos) se habían establecido en Kentucky y las parroquias de Bowling Green y Owensboro se esforzaban por servir a los católicos entre ellos. El Padre Timothy Ling había servido en nuestra diócesis como visitante y abrió la puerta a dos seminaristas que venían a nuestra diócesis, Stephen Van Lal Than y Martin Ma Na Ling. Visité a sus familias y conocí al obispo que hizo posible que vinieran a Kentucky. El Padre Stephen fue ordenado sacerdote en 2020 y el Padre Martin en 2022.

Fue a nuestro regreso a los Estados Unidos en febrero de 2020 que comencé a enterarme de la pandemia emergente y me encontré entre un puñado de personas que no usaban mascarillas en el aeropuerto de Doha donde estábamos cambiando de vuelo. (¡Qué rápido cambiaron las cosas al poco tiempo!)

Guatemala fue mi destino en 2022 y allí visité a la familia del P. Basilio Az Cuc. Al planificar este

CALENDARIO DEL OBISPO MEDLEY NOVIEMBRE DE 2024	
1 de nov.	12:05 p.m. Misa del Día de Todos los Santos – Catedral de San Esteban, Owensboro
2 de nov.	11:30 a.m. Misa para el Mes de la Historia Católica Negra – Catedral de San Esteban, Owensboro
6 de nov.	10 a.m. Reunión de la Conferencia Católica de Kentucky – Louisville
7 de nov.	8:30 a.m. Reunión del Consejo Diocesano de Finanzas – Centro Católico McRaith
9 de nov.	11 a.m. Celebración de jubileos religiosos – Santa María Magdalena, Sorgho
10-14 de nov.	Reunión de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos – Baltimore, Maryland
18 de nov.	10 a.m. Reunión del Consejo de Personal Sacerdotal – Centro Católico McRaith, Owensboro
19-21 de nov.	Reunión de Obispos de la Provincia – Memphis
23 de nov.	5 p.m. Misa de Clausura de la Conferencia de Adolescentes de la Diócesis de Owensboro (ODYC) – Centro de Convenciones Bruce, Hopkinsville
24 de nov.	5:30 p.m. Misa en el Centro Católico Newman de Murray – Parroquia San León, Murray
26 de nov.	10 a.m. Horas de oficina en Paducah – Hospital Mercy Health Lourdes
27 de nov.	10 a.m. Reunión del personal diocesano – Centro Católico McRaith
28 de nov.	8 a.m. Misa de Acción de Gracias – Catedral de San Esteban, Owensboro

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viaje, esperaba volver a encontrarme con la madre del Padre Basilio, quien había venido a Owensboro para su ordenación en 2016. Lamentablemente, ella falleció el año anterior a mi visita, pero conocí a los hermanos del Padre Basilio y a docenas de sus sobrinos y sobrinas.

Ambiciosamente pensé que podría abarcar tres naciones africanas en un solo viaje. Pero la logística del viaje, las visas y las complicaciones de cruzar múltiples fronteras nacionales resultaron ser demasiado.

Así que, en 2023 visité Nigeria y conocí a las familias de los Padres Uwem Enoch, Emmanuel Udoh, John Okoro, Julian Ibemere y Jude Okeoma. Nigeria es un país muy grande (casi el doble del tamaño de Texas) y mis viajes implicaron varios vuelos dentro del país. También visité la fundación de las Hermanas Franciscanas de la Inmaculada Concepción en Lagos. Entre los frutos de esta visita estará la llegada de un par de sacerdotes nigerianos adicionales a Kentucky el próximo año.

Así que esto me lleva a mi peregrinación más reciente. En la República Democrática del Congo, concelebré la Misa en la catedral de Kinshasa y luego compartí un almuerzo con la familia del Padre Juan René Kalombo.

En Kenia volví a viajar por un gran país. En Mombasa, al este en el Océano Índico, conocí al arzobispo y a varios sacerdotes de la arquidiócesis. Allí compartí comidas con las familias del P. John Ighacho y del P. Chrispin Oneko.

Viajando hacia el oeste visité Kisumu, donde celebré la Misa dominical (de cuatro horas de duración) en la parroquia donde va la familia del Padre Michael Charles Abiero. Lamentablemente, la madre del Padre Michael Charles había fallecido sólo unos días antes de mi llegada, pero él me invitó a visitar su casa y bendecir la tumba donde sería enterrada.



FOTO POR CORTESÍA DEL P. EMMANUEL UDOH

El Obispo William F. Medley se reúne con familiares del Padre John Ighacho en Mombasa, Kenia, durante su visita pastoral de septiembre a la República Democrática del Congo y Kenia.

Además, en Kisumu nos reunimos y compartimos una comida con otros familiares del P. Chrispin

Al regresar a Nairobi, la capital y ciudad más grande, el arzobispo me invitó a celebrar el Sacramento de la Confirmación en una parroquia relativamente nueva. A la Misa asistieron mil doscientas personas y confirmé a más de 320, en su mayoría niños y jóvenes.

Ahora he visitado las siete naciones que actualmente proporcionan sacerdotes a nuestra Iglesia local. Entiendo aún mejor los ideales que perseguía el Obispo McRaith al invitar a los más recientes sacerdotes internacionales a la Diócesis de Owensboro.

¡Que Dios los bendiga siempre!

+ William F. Medley

Obispo William F. Medley
Diócesis de Owensboro

Parroquias con misa en Español



Para Hacer Informe de Alegatos de Abuso Sexual

Para denunciar una sospecha de abuso, llame a la Línea Directa de Protección Infantil de Kentucky: 1-877-KYSAFE1 o 1-877-597-2331 (llamada gratuita) o comuníquese con su Fiscal Local del Commonwealth. Para reportar abuso, actual o pasado, a la diócesis por parte de cualquier persona que actúe en nombre de la Iglesia, llame a Scott Ingram, Coordinadora de Asistencia Pastoral (inglés) al 270-852-8380, o Miguel Quintanilla, Coordinadoras de Asistencia Pastoral (español) al 270-880-8360. También puede visitar la Oficina de Ambiente Seguro (owensborodiocese.org/safe) para obtener más información. Para hacer un informe de abuso sexual de un menor de edad o conducta inapropiada relacionada por parte de algún obispo, visite <https://reportbishopabuse.org/es>.

“Convertiremos esto en un hermoso hogar”, promete la familia Mayfield mientras se dedica la nueva casa después del tornado

POR STACEY MENSER, ESPECIAL PARA EL CATÓLICO DE KENTUCKY OCCIDENTAL

La recuperación continúa en las comunidades de Kentucky occidental devastadas por el tornado del 10 de diciembre de 2021, y día tras día Caridades Católicas de la Diócesis de Owensboro ha sido testigo de nuevos comienzos al acompañar paso a paso a los sobrevivientes.

El 19 de septiembre, los administradores de casos y el personal de Caridades Católicas celebraron la finalización de la decimonovena casa nueva construida por la diócesis en el oeste de Kentucky desde el tornado de 2021.

“Esta es nuestra primera casa en Mayfield”, dijo Katina Hayden, Coordinadora de Operaciones de Desastres de Caridades Católicas de la Diócesis de Owensboro. “Construimos 18 casas en los últimos dos años en los condados de Hopkins y Caldwell al asociarnos con el Servicio Menonita de Desastres”.

Para la construcción de la casa en Mayfield, Caridades Católicas se asoció con otra organización menonita, Christian Public Service, que ofrece oportunidades de voluntariado a largo plazo para hombres y mujeres jóvenes de la iglesia.

“Somos una pequeña parte de esto”, dijo Hayden en la inauguración de la casa el 19 de septiembre, donde los miembros de la comunidad y los socios de recuperación se reunieron para celebrar con Miguel Osorio Marín y su familia mientras recibían las llaves de su nuevo hogar.

Miguel perdió su casa, su trabajo y el tiempo con



FOTO POR CORTESÍA DE STACEY MENSER

El Padre Darrell Venters, párroco de la Parroquia San Jerónimo en Fancy Farm, bendice la casa de la familia Osorio Marín en Mayfield, que fue reconstruida después de que el tornado de 2021 destruyera la casa de la familia.

sus hijos como resultado del tornado de 2021. La familia Osorio Marín, al igual que muchas familias afectadas por el desastre, tuvo que vivir separada debido a situaciones de vivienda temporal.

La administradora de casos de Caridades Católicas, Karina González, ha trabajado con Miguel los últimos dos años. Hizo conexiones con iglesias locales y otros socios de construcción en la comunidad para poner en marcha un plan para construir un nuevo hogar para la familia en su lote en Mayfield. González coordinó los fondos y los recursos, mientras que los voluntarios del Servicio Público Cristiano y Joe Orr de Homes of Hope for Kentucky trabajaron en la construcción.

Devonn Friesen, un residente de California que trabaja en Mayfield con Christian Public Service (CPS), supervisó la construcción y el trabajo de los jóvenes voluntarios de Oregón, Brasil, y Alberta, Canadá.



FOTO POR CORTESÍA DE KATINA HAYDEN

El nuevo propietario Miguel Osorio Marín prepara el almuerzo para los voluntarios y miembros de la comunidad que asistieron a la dedicación de su hogar el 19 de septiembre en Mayfield.

“Podemos construir una casa, pero Miguel y su familia harán de esto un hogar”, dijo Friesen durante la dedicación.

El P. Darrell Venters de San Jerónimo en Fancy Farm ofreció una bendición sobre la casa y la familia Osorio Marín, y los jóvenes de CPS dirigieron un canto de Amazing Grace antes de que el dueño de la casa recibiera las llaves.

“Es increíble el trabajo que han hecho”, dijo Osorio Marín. “Estoy agradecido con Dios; y con su ayuda, convertiremos esto en un hermoso hogar”.

Para mostrar su agradecimiento, Miguel preparó una comida y sirvió a los voluntarios y otros que ayudaron a traer a su familia a un nuevo hogar.■

Caridades Católicas está planeando la construcción de más viviendas en Mayfield el próximo año asociándose con Christian Public Service. Para obtener más información sobre la organización, visite www.cps-inc.org.

Con ‘profundo agradecimiento’, el Obispo Medley completa el proyecto de visita pastoral a siete países que comenzó hace seis años

POR ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, EL CATÓLICO DE KENTUCKY OCCIDENTAL

Para el Obispo William F. Medley, un aspecto duradero de su legado como pastor de la Diócesis de Owensboro será su iniciativa de visitar los siete países de donde provienen los numerosos sacerdotes internacionales que sirven en Kentucky occidental.

“He mirado a mi alrededor y he visto el impacto que han tenido los sacerdotes internacionales en nuestras parroquias”, dijo, explicando que sus visitas pastorales han tenido como objetivo mostrar “el profundo agradecimiento que tengo, y que tiene nuestra Iglesia local, por nuestros sacerdotes internacionales”.

El obispo dijo que actualmente, aproximadamente un tercio del presbiterio de la Diócesis de Owensboro está compuesto por sacerdotes que nacieron fuera de los Estados Unidos, un punto que a menudo enfatiza en liturgias diocesanas como la Misa Crismal.

Después de regresar de su visita pastoral del 19 de septiembre al 9 de octubre de 2024 a Kenia y la República Democrática del Congo, el obispo habló con El Católico de Kentucky Occidental sobre sus viajes alrededor del mundo.

“Mi enfoque en este (proyecto) comenzó con mi visita a México en 2018, para conocer y honrar a las familias del Padre Carmelo Jiménez y el Padre Julio Barrera”, dijo el Obispo Medley.

Después de que esa visita inicial salió bien, el obispo viajó a la India, Myanmar (Birmania), Guatemala y Nigeria durante los siguientes años, con la esperanza de expresar su gratitud a las familias, obispos y diócesis de los sacerdotes internacionales que ahora sirven en la Diócesis de Owensboro.

Su viaje a Nigeria, que se realizó en el otoño de 2023, originalmente estaba previsto que abarcara otros países africanos, pero la logística de las visas de viaje terminó siendo demasiado para un solo viaje. Por lo tanto, este año regresó a África para completar el viaje.

Durante esta visita más reciente, el Obispo Medley tuvo la oportunidad de conocer y agradecer a las familias del P. Juan René Kalombo, P. John Ighacho, P. Chrispin Onoko y el P. Michael Charles Ajigo Abiero. Voló dos días después de cumplir 72 años y viajó con el P. Emmanuel Udoh, quien lo había acompañado en su viaje a África en 2023.

El obispo dijo que por el momento no prevé visitar más países, pero la puerta nunca está cerrada, especialmente si algún día más sacerdotes de otras naciones son enviados a servir en la diócesis de Kentucky.

Por ahora, se alegra de tener la oportunidad de haber expresado su gratitud en persona.

“Yo diría que fue un gran éxito”, dijo. ■



FOTO POR CORTESÍA DEL P. EMMANUEL UDOH
(De izquierda a derecha) El Padre Juan René Kalombo, el Obispo William F. Medley y el Padre Emmanuel Udoh en el aeropuerto de Kinshasa, República Democrática del Congo, el 20 de septiembre, al comienzo de la visita pastoral del obispo a la República Democrática del Congo y Kenia.



FOTO POR CORTESÍA DEL P. EMMANUEL UDOH
El Obispo William F. Medley saluda a los fieles que asisten a la Misa en la Catedral de Nuestra Señora del Congo en Kinshasa, República Democrática del Congo, en septiembre de 2024.

La abogada de Caridades Católicas agradece la cálida bienvenida de Kentucky y espera dar la bienvenida a otros recién llegados

POR ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, EL CATÓLICO DE KENTUCKY OCCIDENTAL

Anjuli Rose Alameddine, abogada de Caridades Católicas de la Diócesis de Owensboro, nació en Texas y tenía muchos amigos que eran inmigrantes, lo que le permitió presenciar de primera mano los desafíos que experimentaron las familias de sus amigos al buscar una nueva vida en los Estados Unidos.

“Es muy importante tener empatía y comprensión hacia aquellos que han tenido que dejar atrás todo lo que conocen y comenzar de nuevo en un lugar desconocido”, dijo Alameddine, quien se unió a Caridades Católicas el 29 de agosto como becaria del Immigrant Justice Corps (IJC) a través de Acacia Network para ayudar a menores no acompañados.

La familia de Alameddine también tiene su historia personal de la experiencia de inmigración. Su padre emigró a Estados Unidos en la década de 1980, con la esperanza de brindar una vida mejor a su familia.

“Él no quería irse y siempre extrañó mucho su casa”, dijo sobre su padre. “Mucha gente que viene de otros países no lo hace porque quiera, para muchos migrantes irse era su única opción”.

Cuando era joven, Alameddine asistió a una escuela cristiana en el este de Kentucky, lo que la hizo enamorarse del estado del Bluegrass y conocer a compañeros de clase internacionales, muchos de los cuales eran inmigrantes.

“Ver las dificultades de mis compañeros me hizo querer ayudar a otras personas a tener la oportunidad de alcanzar el mismo sueño americano que tuvo

mi padre”, dijo. “Vi muchas injusticias dentro del sistema de inmigración y quería cambiar las cosas”.

Alameddine estudió en la Facultad de Derecho J. David Rosenberg de la Universidad de Kentucky en Lexington, concentrándose en derecho de inmigración, y fundó la Sociedad de Derecho de Inmigración en la universidad para inspirar a sus compañeros a explorar el derecho de inmigración. Obtuvo su licenciatura en administración de empresas en gestión y marketing en 2021, y se desempeñó como asistente legal en Church Law, PLLC, y trabajó como pasante legal en Kentucky Refugee Ministries.

En su beca de dos años con Caridades Católicas, Alameddine representará a niños no acompañados en el sistema de inmigración, manejando su propia carga de casos de jóvenes para representar en el tribunal estatal, el tribunal de inmigración y el sistema USCIS.

“La ley federal brinda protecciones especiales para los niños inmigrantes”, dijo, explicando que su papel es representar a estos niños –cuyas circunstancias a menudo son que fueron abusados o descuidados por uno o ambos padres– y ver qué se puede hacer para ayudarlos a recibir estatus legal.

Alameddine alentó a las personas más establecidas en la comunidad a reconocer su oportunidad de “dar la bienvenida y brindar la gracia a los recién llegados”.

“Me enamoré de Kentucky”, dijo. “Me encanta la acogedora comunidad de Kentucky y su cultura acogedora. Estoy emocionada de estar en Owensboro. “¡Estoy muy agradecida por la cálida bienvenida que he recibido y espero conocer a más gente nueva aquí!”■



FOTO POR CORTESÍA DE CARIDADES CATÓLICAS
Anjuli Alameddine prestó juramento ante el Juez C. Shea Nickell después de una moción especial para su admisión por Susan Montalvo-Gesser en Frankfort, Ky., el 18 de octubre de 2024.



FOTO POR CORTESÍA DE CARIDADES CATÓLICAS
Anjuli Alameddine con Susan Montalvo-Gesser, directora de Caridades Católicas de la Diócesis de Owensboro, después de que Alameddine prestó juramento ante el Juez C. Shea Nickell en Frankfort, Ky., el 18 de octubre de 2024.

Ministros hispanos se renuevan en el encuentro anual



FOTO POR CORTESÍA DEL DIÁCONO CRISTÓBAL GUTIÉRREZ
(De izquierda a derecha) El Obispo Auxiliar Mario A. Avilés de la Diócesis de Brownsville, Texas, con el Padre Carmelo Jiménez, párroco de la Parroquia San Miguel en Sebree, Kentucky, en la reunión del 8 al 11 de octubre de la Asociación Católica Nacional de Directores Diocesanos del Ministerio Hispano.



POR EL PERSONAL DE WKC

Del 8 al 11 de octubre de 2024, los ministros hispanos/latinos se reunieron en Miami, Florida, para la reunión anual de la Asociación Católica Nacional de Directores Diocesanos del Ministerio Hispano. El Diácono Cristóbal Gutiérrez, director del Ministerio Hispano/Latino de la Diócesis de Owensboro, y el Padre Carmelo Jiménez, párroco de la Parroquia San Miguel en Sebree, asistieron desde el Kentucky occidental.

Según un informe de la Agencia Católica de Noticias, asistieron aproximadamente 200 personas de 65 diócesis de todo Estados Unidos. La Arquidiócesis de Miami y el Instituto Pastoral del Sureste para el Ministerio Hispano fueron los anfitriones de la conferencia. El año que viene la reunión se celebrará en Nueva York. ■



FOTO POR CORTESÍA DEL DIÁCONO CRISTÓBAL GUTIÉRREZ
El Diácono Cristóbal Gutiérrez y el Padre Carmelo Jiménez, párroco de la Parroquia San Miguel en Sebree, se toman una selfie durante la reunión del 8 al 11 de octubre de la Asociación Católica Nacional de Directores Diocesanos del Ministerio Hispano.

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Seminarians stay active on the hill with annual 5K



COURTESY OF SAINT MEINRAD ARCHABBEY
Runners cross the start line during this year's On the Hill 5K hosted by Saint Meinrad Archabbey, which was held Sept. 21.

BY WKC STAFF

On Sept. 21, Saint Meinrad Archabbey hosted its annual On the Hill 5K, which was open to all. Runners were welcome to come early to attend Mass with the monks in Saint Meinrad's chapel. Two of the runners this year included Diocese of Owensboro seminarians Tommy Rhodes and Wes Wheatley, who entered the seminary this fall. Rhodes and Wheatley, along with fellow seminarian Kevin Foster, are in their propaedeutic year, – a formation stage to develop a life of prayer, study, fraternity, and appropriate docility to formation. To learn more about priestly discernment in the Diocese of Owensboro, contact vocations director Fr. Daniel Dillard at daniel.dillard@pastoral.org. ■



COURTESY OF SAINT MEINRAD ARCHABBEY
Diocese of Owensboro seminarian Tommy Rhodes participates in this year's On the Hill 5K hosted by Saint Meinrad Archabbey, which took place Sept. 21 and was open to all.



COURTESY OF SAINT MEINRAD ARCHABBEY
Diocese of Owensboro seminarian Wes Wheatley participates in this year's On the Hill 5K hosted by Saint Meinrad Archabbey, held on Sept. 21.