

THE WESTERN
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Catholic

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Faith, floods and unsung heroes

Thanks to volunteers stepping up, young people are able to participate in YOUTH 2000 in Owensboro during the weekend of March 14-16, which continued on despite a hailstorm that inflicted significant damage to the local area. **Page 14**



'God is always first' Page 5



Español Página 28



A saintly name Page 24

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



Multicolored prayer cards for several of the Diocese of Owensboro's Jubilee of Hope pilgrimage sites, along with a stamp for the St. Francis de Sales Parish pilgrimage location in Paducah, are seen in this Feb. 20 photo. These materials are part of the diocese's passport initiative encouraging pilgrims to visit all six of the locations. [Page 8](#)

ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

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Front page main photo courtesy of St. Leo Parish in Murray.

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.

Article guidelines: The Western Kentucky Catholic will consider submitted articles pertaining to issues and events within our diocese. Please contact the editor in advance for a word limit, as space varies by month.

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: *Why did God make us?*

Many may remember their first formal religious instruction being presented in a question-and-answer format; that is, a catechism.

Question: “Who made you?” Answer: “God made me.”

Question: “Why did God make you?” Answer: “God made me to know him, to love Him, and to serve Him in this world and to be happy with Him in the next.”

This is a very simple formula, and one can find volumes of theological discourse on these questions, but we might be hard-pressed to state this any more succinctly and accurately.

For sure, this simple question-and-answer only opens the door to delving more deeply into the mystery of our relationship with God and with our neighbor.

To know God is a lifelong project. God continues to reveal himself to us in many times and places throughout life. If you were asked as a second grader how you know God, that answer might be different from that of a teenager. It continues to change through life and that knowledge required more of us. With God’s grace, our growing knowledge brings many blessings and strengthens us to endure difficult times. If we have spent time with persons nearing death, for instance, we see them even then continuing to grow in the knowledge of God.

Knowing God is not a passive exercise. As children and students, we consciously study the tenets of our faith. Even beyond our formal education, we can learn about God in homilies presented at Mass. This underscores the tremendous obligation of the preacher, deacons and priests, to thoughtfully

prepare homilies with the intention of helping others grow in knowledge of God.

To love God is not an academic task. We love God with heart and soul and mind and strength. That is, when we are our best.

Love can be imperfect. I think of the reality that St. Peter failed Jesus famously in many Gospel stories. Yet it was Peter whom Jesus chose to be the rock upon which he would build the Church. Jesus recognized the depths of Peter’s love when Peter said, “You know all things, Lord, you know that I love you.” And Peter always recognized Jesus’ love for him.

Love is a difficult virtue for others to judge or perhaps even to observe. This is true not just in the divine-human relationship but in all of our human relationships. Sometimes people can seem positively indifferent to the needs of others, but in a trial, they may be the first to step up.

To serve God we need to study and follow the commandments. The commandments draw a course for worship and respect for God but also for all that God has created. First, we serve those created in the image and likeness of God – but must be mindful as well to honor all of creation: we must care for God’s creation

Over my years as a priest, I have preached hundreds of funerals. Many times I have come back to this simple catechism understanding of our purpose in life. I have found this formula especially comforting when facing the death of a young person. Had their purpose to know and love and serve God been completed? Not in our eyes, perhaps – but in God’s eyes. At the same time, I also have referenced

BISHOP MEDLEY’S APRIL 2025 CALENDAR	
April 1	8 AM School Mass – St. Paul School, Leitchfield
April 2-3	Installation of Archbishop Casey – Cincinnati
April 6	10:30 AM Confirmation – Precious Blood Parish, Owensboro
April 8	6 PM Taize Prayer for Reparation and Healing – St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro
April 9	8:30 AM School Mass – Mary Carrico Catholic School, Knottsville
April 10	12 noon Mass for Region V Youth and Yount Adult Directors – Gasper River Retreat Center, Bowling Green
April 13	11 AM Palm Sunday Mass – Cathedral
April 15	6:30 PM Chrism Mass – Owensboro Sportscenter
April 17	7 PM Mass of the Lord’s Supper – Cathedral
April 18	3 PM Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday) – Cathedral
April 19	8 PM Easter Vigil in the Holy Night – Cathedral
April 21	10 AM Priest Personnel Meeting – McRaith Catholic Center, Owensboro
April 22	Visit to Saint Meinrad Seminary, Indiana
April 23	10 AM Diocesan Staff Meeting – McRaith Catholic Center
April 23	6 PM Confirmation – St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Oak Grove

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FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE

A Word From Bishop Medley continued from page 3

BISHOP MEDLEY'S APRIL 2025 CALENDAR CONTINUED	
April 24	8 AM School Mass & Senior Conversations – Trinity High School, Whitesville
	6 PM Confirmation – Sts. William and Lawrence Parishes, Daviess County
April 26	5 PM Confirmation – St. Pius X Parish, Owensboro
April 27	8:30 AM Confirmation – St. Mary Parish, Franklin
	2 PM Confirmation – St. Mary of the Woods Parish, Whitesville
April 28	6 PM Confirmation – St. Joseph Parish, Central City
April 29	6:30 PM Confirmation – Blessed Mothe Parish, Owensboro
April 30	8:30 AM School Mass & Senior Conversations – St. Mary High School, Paducah
April 30	6:30 PM Confirmation – St. Jerome Parish, Fancy Farm

Happy anniversary to our priests!

Fr. Tony Shonis
Ordained 4/3/1971
Retired

Fr. Shaiju Thomas
Ordained 4/7/1999
Pastor of St. Anthony Parish, Axtel; and St. Mary of the Woods Parish, McQuady

Fr. Carmelo Jimenez Salinas
Ordained 4/25/1999
Pastor of St. Michael Parish, Sebree

Fr. Ramesh Kattermetla
Ordained 4/25/2011
Parochial vicar of St. Mary of the Woods Parish, Whitesville; and St. John the Baptist, Fordsville

this life's mission when celebrating the funeral of one who has lived a very long life.

For all of us, our destination is to be happy with God in the next life.

This is God's gracious gift to give, and his wisdom to determine when.

+ William F. Medley

Most Reverend William F. Medley
Diocese of Owensboro

Priest assignments 2025 in the Diocese of Owensboro

The Office of the Bishop has announced the priest assignments for 2025. All assignments are effective June 10, 2025. Please pray for those who will soon begin their transition into a new assignment and for the communities they serve.

PARISH PASTOR

- **Dillard, Rev. Daniel:** Pastor, St. Martin Parish in Rome.
- **Hostetter, Rev. Larry:** Pastor, St. Pius X Parish in Owensboro and part-time instructor at Brescia University.
- **McBride, Rev. Larry:** Pastor, Parish of the Immaculate in Owensboro.
- **Oneko, Rev. Chrispin:** Pastor, St. Sebastian Parish in Calhoun and St. Charles Parish in Livermore.
- **Puthenpurackal, Rev. Jegin:** Pastor, St. Stephen Parish in Cadiz and St. Henry Parish in Aurora.
- **Pynadath, Rev. Sinoj:** Pastor, St. Denis Parish in Fancy Farm and St. Charles Parish in Bardwell.
- **Thomas, Rev. Santhosh:** Pastor, St. Joseph Parish in Leitchfield and St. John Parish in Sunfish.

PAROCHIAL VICAR

- **Cheriyankunnel, Rev. Shibu:** Parochial Vicar, Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Henderson.
- **Grief, Rev. Christopher:** Parochial Vicar, St. Stephen Cathedral and Blessed Sacrament Chapel in Owensboro.
- **Jaconette, Dcn. Conrad:** Parochial Vicar, Sts. Peter & Paul Parish in Hopkinsville.
- **Kight, Rev. Christopher:** Parochial Vicar, St. Joseph Parish in Bowling Green.
- **Ling, Rev. Martin:** Parochial Vicar, St. Pius X Parish in Owensboro.
- **Mang, Rev. John Paul:** Parochial Vicar, Holy Spirit Parish in Bowling Green.

OTHER

- **Bruns, Rev. Corey** Director of Vocations Office. Effective June 10, 2025.
- **Trawick, Rev. Greg:** Retiring from active ministry.
- **Vaughan, Rev. John:** Retiring from active ministry.

'God never abandons me'- Myanmar refugee family, approved but in limbo, prays for good news while waiting to enter U.S.

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Fr. Martin Ma Na Ling's older brother, Stephen, loves God and the Church.

"Wherever he goes, whatever he does, God is always first," said Fr. Martin, the parochial vicar of Holy Spirit Parish in Bowling Green.

And when Stephen developed health issues, he told Fr. Martin that "once I get well again, I want to do more and more for God."

"I don't just say that because he is my brother - he really is a very good person," Fr. Martin said in a recent interview with The Western Kentucky Catholic.

The problem is that Stephen, his wife, and their four small children are living as refugees in Malaysia and currently have no way out of their situation.

Fr. Martin has not seen his brother in person since 2009, when Stephen left their family's village in Myanmar (formerly known as Burma) to seek a better life in a new land. This was prior to the 2021 coup that has resulted in an ongoing civil war of violence and bloodshed - but even in 2009, the Southeast Asian country existed in sociopolitical unrest and offered few opportunities to rise out of poverty.

Fr. Martin's father was a convert to Catholicism who worked as a catechist for their village. Unfortunately, his job did not pay enough - about \$2-3 a day - to support his family of eight children.

And yet, "God is so good, even though my family was so poor," said Fr. Martin of his family's devout upbringing.

When Stephen, the eldest, reached adulthood, he decided to migrate to Malaysia, where he could find a job and send money back home, as many Myanmar immigrants do.

On Dec. 16, 2009, Fr. Martin's father held a farewell party to see Stephen off. They took a photo together, which is "the only family picture we took ever," said Fr. Martin, the second eldest, who was 19 when his brother left.

The Malaysian government does not recognize rights for asylum seekers, refugees, or stateless persons, and contrary to popular misconception, there are no refugee camps in the country. Instead, people enter the country and often live in crowded urban areas that offer employment for undocumented persons. The work can be unsafe and inconsistent, but for these individuals it is the only option to support themselves and their families.

Stephen was able to find a job and, as promised, sent money home for his parents and siblings.

"He paid for my university education, and all our educations," said Fr. Martin of himself and his younger siblings. "He saved our lives - our whole family's lives."

Fr. Martin stayed in touch with his brother, who helped form Fr. Martin's faith, especially his love of sacred music and devotion to the Blessed Mother. In 2017, when young seminarian Martin learned that he had been chosen to go to the United States to study and be ordained a priest for the Diocese of Owensboro, Ky., "the first person I called was my brother," he said.

Stephen's girlfriend later joined him in Malaysia,



COURTESY OF FR. MARTIN MA NA LING
In this photo taken Dec. 16, 2009, Fr. Martin Ma Na Ling's siblings and parents gather for a farewell party before his older brother, Stephen, would leave their home village in Myanmar to start a new life. A young future Fr. Ma Na Ling is seen on the far right. This is the family's only picture together.

they got married, and they now have four children whom they are raising in the Catholic faith.

But the conditions in Malaysia remained difficult for those who have no path to citizenship in that country. According to Forced Migration Review, immigration raids are a regular occurrence and those who are detained may be beaten, crammed into too-small holding cells rife with disease, and if deported, are often left at border zones hundreds of miles from their native regions.

Stephen had been a hardworking mechanic for years, but more recently, the harsh living and working conditions resulted in kidney problems.

"He was fired because he couldn't work, and they lost their home," said Fr. Martin.

Stephen and his wife decided to apply for refugee

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status through the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in hopes that the United States would welcome them and their children.

“Everything seemed (to indicate) it was time for them to come,” said Fr. Martin, whose Bowling Green parish is thriving with 200 Myanmar families that came as refugees to the United States.

Stephen’s family of six was approved, and they were scheduled to fly into the United States on Feb. 4, 2025.

“He already had airplane tickets,” said Fr. Martin.

But one week before their flight, they learned that due to an executive order issued by U.S. President Donald Trump, the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program had been suspended as of Jan. 27, with the order stating that admitting refugees through this program “would be detrimental to the interests of the United States.”

Today, Stephen’s family is stuck in limbo, knowing they have been approved in the system, though

unable to enter the U.S.

Returning to Myanmar is not an option; the civil war has only worsened and targeted attacks on Catholics are increasing, which recently included the bombing of a Catholic pastoral center and the murder of a young priest.

Despite everything, Stephen “keeps praying, (saying) ‘Everything according to God’s plan,’” said Fr. Martin.

The family takes one day at a time, praying for a change in the U.S. policy. They now live by a Catholic chapel and Stephen plays music and serves as a catechist, like his father. The four kids are learning English at a school that was set up for migrant children, and his wife supports the family by working as a wedding makeup artist.

An organization through the local Catholic Church, similar to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, assists the family with their needs.

“He keeps asking me if there is any good news, but it is not, right now,” said Fr. Martin, who also continues to pray that his brother’s family will be



COURTESY OF FR. MARTIN MA NA LING
In this 2024 photo, Stephen, the brother of Fr. Martin Ma Na Ling, is seen with his wife and four children. Stephen and his wife married in Malaysia, and their four children were also born there. To date, the family has not been able to enter the United States.

able to come soon.

Stephen told Fr. Martin, “God never abandons me; if we need anything, he provides.”

“I hope I will see him again,” said Fr. Martin. “It’s been 15 years.” ■

‘Showing the face of God is love and mercy’ Local pastor appointed Missionary of Mercy

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE
WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

A local pastor, Fr. José Carmelo Jiménez Salinas, has been appointed by the Holy See to serve as a Missionary of Mercy.

“I feel so blessed, not only for myself but also for all the faithful... to show others that the face of God is love and mercy,” said Fr. Jiménez, the pastor of St. Michael Parish in Sebree.

Pope Francis created the Missionaries of Mercy role in 2016 during the Jubilee of Mercy, which he continued and institutionalized in the 2022 Apostolic Constitution on the Roman Curia.

Missionaries of Mercy are priests given faculties to absolve penitents of certain sins which are otherwise reserved to the Holy Father to absolve, due to their seriousness. These include the profanation of the Eucharist and the direct violation of the sacramental seal by a priest hearing a confession.



COURTESY OF MARTHA HAGAN
Bishop William F. Medley stands with Fr. José Carmelo Jiménez Salinas while displaying the decree designating Fr. Jiménez’s role of Missionary of Mercy on Feb. 26, 2025, in Mary, Mother of the Church Chapel in the McRaith Catholic Center.

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FEATURES

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COURTESY OF MARTHA HAGAN

Bishop William F. Medley and Fr. José Carmelo Jiménez Salinas look at the decree designating Fr. Jiménez's role of Missionary of Mercy on Feb. 26, 2025, in Mary, Mother of the Church Chapel in the McRaith Catholic Center.

The decree from the Vatican, appointing Fr. Jiménez a Missionary of Mercy on Jan. 30, 2025, stated that his role is to place himself “at the disposal of pastors (parish priests), shrine rectors and diocesan bishops, conducting missions and initiatives related particularly to the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the preaching of the mystery of God’s Divine Mercy, especially during the ‘most important’ moments of the liturgical year.”

The Sebree priest said there are about 127 Missionaries of Mercy in the United States, out of the roughly 1,200 spread across the globe. The Diocese of Owensboro has only had one Missionary of Mercy other than Fr. Jiménez; Fr. Daniel Kreutzer, who died in late 2022.

Fr. Jiménez feels blessed to show people “the mercy of God” in an even greater capacity than before, he said.

As a priest for 26 years this April, Fr. Jiménez is devoted to helping the faithful better appreciate the

Sacrament of Reconciliation.

After hearing someone’s confession and giving them absolution, he is moved by “the peace in their faces. Sometimes, they have carried their sins a long time,” he said. “That is a powerful moment – being able to see people at peace.”

And now, if a priest encounters one of those situations of a serious sin while hearing a penitent’s confession and is unable to absolve them, “they can send them to me,” said Fr. Jiménez.

The same week that Fr. Jiménez received word that he was appointed to be a Missionary of Mercy, he was surprised to receive a phone call from a priest in Tennessee.

He had not spoken to many people about this appointment yet, but word had reached the Tennessee pastor, who wished to help a penitent needing absolution for a serious situation. Fr. Jiménez was able to meet with the penitent and hear their confession.

Fr. Jiménez said many people, as children, grew up with the misunderstanding that God is focused on punishing them, which could not be farther from the truth.

“People point fingers – but God opens his arms and receives us,” he said.

Fr. Jiménez primarily works with the immigrant community in western Kentucky, many of whom experienced trauma when escaping violence in their homelands and still live in fear today.

He realized he could help “to console and comfort the immigrants” if he was accepted to serve as a Missionary of Mercy, so he asked Bishop William F. Medley if he would be willing to recommend him to the Holy See for this role.

Bishop Medley was glad to do so, and after receiving the decree from the Vatican, presented it to

Fr. Jiménez on Feb. 26 before diocesan staff in the pastoral center chapel.

Fr. Jiménez said his emphasis on reconciliation stems from his own conversion experience, which took place through confession. After being away from the Church for eight years as a young adult growing up in Mexico, he unwillingly attended a retreat with a friend.

During that retreat, he agreed to go to confession for the first time in years, which brought him back to God and the Church.

Today, Fr. Jiménez often tells people that “confession, for me, is the moment to receive a big hug from God.”

In addition to continuing his regular pastor duties, Fr. Jiménez is available to conduct parish missions. Currently, he is scheduled to offer missions in Sebree and Franklin, Ky., and in Tennessee. ■

Beauty Through Brokenness

An Afternoon for Parents Picking Up the Pieces After Child Loss

Sunday, April 27, 2025

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM



For more information or to register, scan this QR code with your phone camera.



Diocese of
OWENSBORO



Pilgrimage sites offer a journey through diversity of the diocese

BY ANDY TELLI, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

For the Jubilee Year 2025, Pope Francis invited Catholics around the world to make a journey of faith as pilgrims of hope.

Many will be fortunate enough to make a pilgrimage to Rome during the Jubilee Year, which continues throughout 2025. But for others, they can make a pilgrimage to local churches, including here in the Diocese of Owensboro.

Bishop William F. Medley has designated six pilgrimage sites around the diocese where people can visit and receive a plenary indulgence to be spared the temporal punishment for their sins.

The six pilgrimage sites make a loop around the diocese and include: St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro, St. Romuald Parish in Hardinsburg, the Diocesan Marian Shrine at St. Joseph Parish in Bowling Green, St. Leo Parish in Murray, St. Francis de Sales Parish in Paducah, and Holy Redeemer Parish in Beaver Dam.

The sites were selected with geography in mind, said Dcn. Ken Bennett, co-coordinator of the diocesan Office of Worship.

“The idea was to spread it around so it would be reasonable for people to make it to one of these sites,” Dcn. Bennett said.

A plenary indulgence is a way for the faithful to grow closer to God and deepen their faith while also praying for the intentions of the Church. People can receive an indulgence by:

Visiting one of the six pilgrimage sites.

Detaching from all sin, which means having a



COURTESY OF OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Pictured are the exclusive stamps for each pilgrimage site: St. Leo, Murray; St. Romuald Parish, Hardinsburg; Holy Redeemer Parish, Beaver Dam; St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro; St. Francis de Sales Parish, Paducah; and the Diocesan Marian Shrine at St. Joseph, Bowling Green.

sincere desire to turn away from even small sins and grow in holiness.

Going to confession, receiving holy Communion, and praying for the pope’s intentions. These steps can be done a few days before or after a person visits a pilgrimage site, but it’s ideal to receive Communion and say the prayer on the same day. For the prayer, people can say any prayer they choose, but an Our Father and a Hail Mary are suggested.

Here is a rundown of the six pilgrimage sites in the Diocese of Owensboro:

St. Stephen Cathedral

610 Locust St., Owensboro

Parish office: (270) 683-6525

St. Stephen was established as a parish in 1839, the first parish in the city of Owensboro. When the Diocese of Owensboro was created in 1937, St. Stephen was designated as its cathedral. The current church building is the third that has housed the parish and was built between 1924 and 1926. It was designed in anticipation of the day it would be designated as a cathedral. In 2012, a renovation of the cathedral was completed and the new altar was dedicated.

Free tours of the cathedral providing an overview

of its beauty and history are available throughout the year for groups or individuals. To schedule a tour, call the parish office at (270) 683-6525.

Mass schedule: 7 a.m. and 12:05 p.m. Monday through Friday; 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (Sunday vigil) Saturday; 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday.

Confessions: 9:30-11 a.m. Saturday or by appointment by calling the church office.

St. Romuald Parish

394 N. Hwy 259, Hardinsburg

Parish office: (270)756-2356

St. Romuald Parish was established in 1810, making it one of the oldest parishes in the Diocese of Owensboro. The current church building, the parish’s third, was dedicated in 1903.

The parish, located in Breckinridge County at the northeastern edge of the diocese, has about 450 registered families who are “very actively involved,” said Fr. Tony Jones, St. Romuald’s pastor.

“It was an honor to be asked to be on the pilgrimage,” Fr. Jones said. Making a pilgrimage to the diocesan sites “is an opportunity to learn about our diocese,” he added.

Fr. Jones is hopeful families will visit the pilgrimage sites together so their children can be part of the

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experience. “Anything we can do for families is good because families are the foundation of our Church.”

Being a pilgrimage site is also an opportunity to explain indulgences, Fr. Jones said. “It’s a teachable moment,” he said. “It’s a part of our faith that needs to be preserved.”

Mass schedule: 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 9 a.m. Friday; 5 p.m. Saturday; 7 and 10 a.m. Sunday.

Confessions: 4 p.m. Wednesday and 4 p.m. Saturday.

Groups that want to make a pilgrimage to St. Romuald can call ahead to the parish office to arrange a Mass, confessions, or a tour of the church, Fr. Jones said.

Diocesan Marian Shrine

St. Joseph Parish, 434 Church Ave., Bowling Green

Parish office: (270) 842-2525

The Marian Shrine at St. Joseph Parish, dedicated to Mary, Mother of the Church and model of all Christians, was declared a diocesan shrine by former Owensboro Bishop John J. McRaith in 1989.

“Devotion to Our Lady always leads to devotion to Christ,” said Fr. Ryan Harpole, pastor of St. Joseph and rector of the shrine.

The Marian Shrine features nine stained glass windows, depicting the Blessed Mother at various times in the history of the church, including Mary’s role and presence at Cana; the apparitions of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Our Lady of La Salette, Our Lady of Lourdes, Our Lady of Fatima and the Virgin of the Revelation at Tre Fontane in Rome; the Miraculous Medal; the Tri-Millennium 2000; and the Legion of Mary. The central window depicts the “Miracle of the Sun” at Fatima in 1917.

The shrine and St. Joseph Parish host an annual Marian Congress each October.

“We primarily use it like a prayer chapel,” Fr. Harpole said of the shrine. “There is an altar and a tabernacle so people can pray in adoration at any time.”

Mass schedule: 5:30 p.m. Tuesday in English; 7 a.m. Thursday and Friday in English; 8:30 a.m. on the First Saturday in English; 6:30 p.m. Thursday in Spanish; 4 p.m. Saturday (Sunday Vigil) in English; 8 and 10 a.m. Sunday in English; noon and 2 p.m. Sunday in Spanish.

Confessions: 4:15-5:15 p.m. Tuesday; 5-6 p.m. Thursday’ and 2-3:30 p.m. Saturday. The Fathers of Mercy in nearby Auburn, Kentucky, also offer confessions every day, Fr. Harpole noted.

St. Leo Parish

401 N. 12th St., Murray

Parish office: (270) 753-3876

St. Leo Parish was born in 1933 during the height of the Great Depression. The need for a parish in Calloway County became clear with the construction of the Civilian Conservation Corps Camp in Murray.

Mass was first celebrated at the camp and then later in the home of Harry Fenton. As the congregation grew, a church was built on 12th Street in 1943, which was replaced by a new church in 1963. In 2012, a major renovation and expansion of the church was dedicated, and the parish has grown to nearly 450 families.

“St. Leo Parish is a diverse parish,” said Joy Navan, interim director of evangelization at St. Leo. “Because we’re a university town, we have Catholics from many different nations. Also, we have a large Spanish-speaking population.”

For the Jubilee, besides being a pilgrimage site, St. Leo is planning several events, Navan said. One of those events, An Evening of Adoration Reflections and Readings, was held on Tuesday, March 11. Other

planned events include a talk on the Rosary on May 8; a Silver Rose prayer service, which promotes the dignity of all human life and honors Our Lady of Guadalupe and is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, at the 5:30 p.m. Spanish Mass on May 31; a talk in October on St. John Henry Newman by Fr. Denis Robinson, president-rector of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology; and a parish mission, “Trifecta of Divine Mercy,” presented by Fr. Bill Garrott, O.P., Nov. 8-11.

“We feel blessed and are enthusiastic to be a part of the proclamation of the Gospel in western Kentucky,” said Fr. Josh McCarty, pastor of St. Leo. “Our doors are wide open to visitors.”

Mass Schedule: 12:05 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; 6 p.m. Wednesday; 4 p.m. Saturday (Sunday vigil) in English and 5:30 p.m. Saturday in Spanish; 8 and 11 a.m. Sunday.

Confessions: 11:30 a.m.-noon Tuesday; 5-5:45 p.m. Wednesday; 3-3:45 p.m. Saturday. Or by appointment by calling the parish office.

St. Francis de Sales Parish

116 S. Sixth St., Paducah

Parish office: (270)442-1923

St. Francis de Sales Parish has a long and fruitful history in the city of Paducah.

It was established in 1848 at its current site, just six blocks from the Ohio River. “We’re the oldest church here in Paducah still on its original site,” said Zach Ault, pastoral minister at St. Francis de Sales for 18 years.

The current church building is the parish’s third, and it was dedicated on May 13, 1900. “We’re getting ready to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the dedication of the church,” Ault said.

The church was restored and renovated in 2011. “It’s an incredible church,” Ault said.

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Pilgrimage sites continued from page 9

Designating pilgrimage sites during the Jubilee where people can receive an indulgence “is a beautiful tradition of the Church,” Ault said. “It gives people more exposure to the Universal Church and shows our unity. It gives us an opportunity to be proud of our Church and our community.”

Mass schedule: 12:05 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday; 8 a.m. Friday, followed by Eucharistic Adoration; 5 p.m. Saturday; 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday.

Confessions: 3:30-4:30 p.m. Saturday or by appointment by calling the parish office.

Holy Redeemer Parish

107 13th St., Beaver Dam

Parish office: (270) 274-3414

Holy Redeemer Parish was first organized in

the 1950s as a mission staffed by the Glenmary Home Missioners, explained Fr. Julio Barrera, pastor of Holy Redeemer and Holy Trinity Parish in Morgantown.

The current church was built in 1964 and is the spiritual home for about 150 families, including a large Spanish-speaking community, Fr. Barrera said.

When parishioners first learned they had been selected by Bishop Medley as a pilgrimage site, “Everybody was a little surprised. At first, they didn’t know what it meant,” Fr. Barrera said. “The community was surprised and then very happy. They are excited to welcome pilgrims.”

To be selected as a pilgrimage site sends the

message “we are part of the Universal Church,” Fr. Barrera said. “Also, it is a great opportunity for the community to exercise this great gift of hospitality... Being a person of hospitality is a key element for any Christian.”

The ability to receive an indulgence with a visit to Holy Redeemer “is a great opportunity for every Christian to receive the graces from God,” Fr. Barrera said.

Mass schedule: 5:30 p.m. Wednesday in English; 5:30 p.m. Thursday in Spanish; 8 a.m. Friday in English; 4 p.m. Saturday in English; 5:30 p.m. in Spanish; and 11 a.m. Sunday in English.

Confessions: 5 p.m. Thursday. ■

Passport is guide through Jubilee of Hope 2025 pilgrimage sites

BY ANDY TELLI, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

For the Jubilee of Hope 2025, Bishop William F. Medley has designated six pilgrimage sites around the Diocese of Owensboro, Ky., where people can visit, pray, and obtain a plenary indulgence to be spared the temporal punishment for sins.

To aid those who visit one, two, three, or even all six of the pilgrimage sites, the diocesan communications office has published a passport filled with information about how to participate in the jubilee, how to obtain a plenary indulgence, and details on each of the pilgrimage sites, as well as other resources.

“It was a way to engage the community,” Rachel

Hall, director of communications for the diocese, said of the passport.

The six pilgrimage sites make a broad loop through western Kentucky and include:

St. Stephen Cathedral, 610 Locust St., Owensboro

St. Romuald Parish, 394 N. Highway 259, Hardinsburg

Holy Redeemer Parish, 107 13th St., Beaver Dam

Diocesan Shrine of Mary at St. Joseph Parish, 434 Church Ave., Bowling Green

St. Leo Parish, 401 N. 12th St., Murray

St. Francis de Sales Parish, S. 116 Sixth St., Paducah

“There are a lot of beautiful parishes in our



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

A “passport” booklet, being used as part of the Diocese of Owensboro’s Jubilee of Hope celebration across its six pilgrimage sites, is seen opened to a page with the diocesan map and other information to help local pilgrims participate in the jubilee, in this Feb. 20 photo.

diocese, and this is good reason to go see them,” Hall said. “It can be challenging to get from one end of the diocese to the other. It takes an event like this for people to venture out.”

At each of the pilgrimage sites, people can pick


Passport continued from page 10

up English and Spanish jubilee prayer cards and a copy of the passport, which is also available in English or Spanish. In the passport is information about how to connect more deeply to the spiritual life during the jubilee, including Eucharistic Adoration, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and the jubilee year itself.

Each site has an exclusive stamp that is themed according to that respective site, such as a lion stamp for St. Leo and a book stamp for St. Francis de Sales, the patron of writers. If visitors get all six pages stamped at the different sites, they can receive a free tote bag from the diocese by emailing photos of the stamped passport to communications@pastoral.org or uploading photos by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/oborohope>. ■

Andy Telli writes from Owensboro, Ky.


Just Need to Talk?



Catholic Charities collaborates with several counselors who offer their services at a reduced rate for parishioners of the Diocese of Owensboro.

For a list of counselors ready to speak to you, visit owensborodiocese.org/counseling.

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Parishes raise awareness of child abuse prevention with pinwheel displays

BY ANDY TELLI, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Every April, in front of Holy Name of Jesus Parish and School on busy Second Street in Henderson, people driving and walking by will notice the display of blue pinwheels.

The pinwheels, which evoke the whimsical and fun life every child should have, are also a reminder of the children denied that kind of life because of an important societal issue: child abuse.

Holy Name is among several parishes and schools in the Diocese of Owensboro that participate in the national Pinwheels for Prevention program sponsored by the Prevent Child Abuse America organization. The program is designed to raise awareness about child abuse and efforts to prevent it, and April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

“I know it catches their attention when they’re driving down the street,” Terra Hurtte, office manager at Holy Name School, said of the display of pinwheels. “Typically, we’ll have one or two parents post it on social media.”

Bringing awareness to the problem of child abuse is important, Hurtte said. “It’s important that we all do our part to prevent that from happening in our hometown.”

It’s a similar story at Immaculate Conception Parish in Hawesville, where the church is located



COURTESY OF TERRA HURTTE

In this undated photo, a sign is seen outside Holy Name of Jesus Parish and School in Henderson, reading “No excuse for child abuse. Keep our children safe... Make child abuse prevention a priority!”

downtown right at the bridge across the Ohio River.

“People ask about it and that gives us the opportunity to explain what they’re for,” said Nicole Ballard, director of religious education at Immaculate Conception. The display is an important reminder that adults must be advocates for children’s safety “because they can’t be advocates for themselves,” Ballard said.

Businesses across Owensboro participate in the national pinwheels program. When Janice Hendricks, the Safe Environment coordinator for the Diocese of Owensboro, heard about the program, she was eager to have the diocese’s parishes and schools join the effort.

“I try to supply churches and schools with yard signs and pinwheels to put up in the month of April to let people know we are all standing together,” Hendricks said. “We have a lot of people across western Kentucky who can make an impact.”

The pinwheels program falls in the same month

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Pinwheels continued from page 11



COURTESY OF TERRA HURTTE

Outside Holy Name of Jesus School in Henderson, the lawn is spotted with shining blue pinwheels, which are often associated with child abuse awareness, in this undated photo.

as the diocesan prayer service in remembrance of victims and survivors of abuse by people working on behalf of the Church, Hendricks explained.

“Many of those people were harmed when they were children. It seemed the pinwheel program went hand-in-hand with that,” she said.

This year, the prayer service of remembrance will be held at 6 p.m. April 8, at St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro. The service, which lasts 30-45 minutes, will be livestreamed on the cathedral’s social media platforms, Hendricks said.

The Catholic Church has been wounded by its own history of sex abuse, but it’s not alone in that regard. “It happens to children all over, often by people they are close to,” Hendricks said. “You need to be aware of what’s going on in your circle” to help prevent abuse, she added.

The diocesan Safe Environment program offers several initiatives to help children and adults understand the problem and how to prevent abuse. All employees and volunteers who work with children are required to complete training on how to recognize signs of abuse and how to prevent it, as well as undergo background checks. Each parish has a Safe Environment coordinator to oversee those efforts.

Each fall, all children in Catholic schools and religious education programs in the diocese

participate in the Circle of Grace program, which addresses the issue from a Catholic perspective in an age-appropriate fashion, Hendricks said.

In 2002, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops adopted the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, which is a comprehensive set of procedures for addressing allegations of sexual abuse of minors. The Charter also includes guidelines for reconciliation, healing, accountability, and prevention of further acts of abuse.

The USCCB’s Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection oversees a process to audit all dioceses to determine if they are implementing the practices required by the Charter. In November 2024, the Diocese of Owensboro was informed that an audit of its Safe Environment program found it was in full compliance with the Charter.

“I have a lot of people across the diocese in parishes and schools working hard to make sure they are following the rules,” Hendricks said. ■

Hardinsburg youths confirmed

BY WKC STAFF

On Feb. 26, 2025, Bishop William F. Medley confirmed the youths of St. Romuald Parish in Hardinsburg. These 16 youths are some of the roughly 5,000-6,000 young people confirmed by Bishop Medley during his 15-year ministry as bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro, Ky. ■



COURTESY OF GAYLE A. POOLE

The spring 2025 Confirmation class at St. Romuald Parish in Hardinsburg was confirmed on Feb. 26, 2025. Front row (left to right) Angelina Glenn, Gretchen Rednour, Presley Heavrin, Lola Van Lahr, Madelyne Coleman, Mary Emma Pile, Maryann Coleman. Back row (left to right) Clay Lucas, Parker Morsey, Brody Hodskins, Hayden Fentress, Bishop William F. Medley, Fr. Tony Jones, Dean Ray, Lucas Pate, Andrew O’Bryan, Jake Oelze, Barrett O’Bryan.

Called to new life: Seminarian reflects on Lazarus Retreat as small group leader

BY TOMMY RHODES, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

This past February I was blessed to be a small group leader for the 2025 Lazarus Retreat which took place at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center. During the retreat, I was given the opportunity to accompany many of the youth from the Diocese of Owensboro in following the story of Lazarus, a beloved friend of Jesus, who experienced death and rose to new life at the call of Jesus Christ.

Each day was full of engaging talks; personal reflections; social activities; and, at the very center of it all, He who is the resurrection and the life: Jesus Christ. Participants of this retreat were invited to place themselves in the events of John's Gospel. There, Jesus is told of Lazarus's illness, travels to Bethany, witnesses the sorrow of Mary and Martha,

weeps for love of Lazarus and his family, has the stone rolled away from the tomb, lifts up his eyes to the Father, and cries with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out."

As a small group leader for this retreat, I was able to witness youth from all around our diocese enter into the Gospel reflecting on the events of their own faith journeys to see where Jesus, their beloved friend, was calling them to new life in Himself.

Likewise, I, myself, was privileged to reflect on this story of Lazarus in light of my experiences as a seminarian for the Diocese of Owensboro. I was reminded how I am also called each and every day at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology to draw close to Jesus in personal and communal prayer, listen to Him calling me to detach from the world, die to self, and rise to new life in Him.

As I come to the last semester of my Propaedeu-

tic Year of formation, I am amazed at the wonderful experiences I have been able to take part in within our diocese and am blessed to have been able to work alongside the Lazarus Retreat team to bring the joy of the Gospel to the hearts and minds of the youth. ■



COURTESY OF KARINA ROMERO
Small groups meet in Boone Lodge during the Lazarus Retreat weekend held Feb. 14-16, 2025, at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center in Bowling Green.



COURTESY OF OLIVIA ROMERO
The group of participants and adult leaders who attended the Feb. 14-16, 2025 Lazarus Retreat are seen in Boone Lodge at Gasper River.



RILEY GREIF | WKC
Participants celebrate and pop confetti during Sunday morning breakfast at the conclusion of this spring's Lazarus Retreat, which was held Feb. 14-16, 2025, at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center in Bowling Green.

Faith, floods, and the unsung heroes of YOUTH 2000



RILEY GREIF | WKC

The YOUTH 2000 participants are seen in the gym at Brescia University during the March 14-16, 2025 retreat. The retreat was able to continue despite damaging storms that happened over the weekend, thanks to the efforts of many volunteers.



COURTESY OF FR. COREY D. BRUNS

Seminarians Wes Wheatley, Hunter Dickens, and Tommy Rhodes mop up water from leaks created from early morning hail damage during YOUTH 2000.

BY CHARLIE HARDESTY, OFFICE OF YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

We had worried all week about the potentially dangerous storms that would hit over the weekend of YOUTH 2000 this March 14-16. After a mostly normal start to the retreat on Friday, I found myself sitting in my truck in a carwash bay at 4:30 a.m. (I know... brilliant!) watching hail like I had never seen before pelt the ground. Driving home, I remember thinking that wasn't too bad.

By 7:30 a.m., I arrived at Brescia University excited for day two, only to be met at the door by Dcn. Tim Nugent who expressed, "We may have a water problem." That, as it turned out, proved to be an understatement.

This was the 28th year of YOUTH 2000 in the Diocese of Owensboro. With over 650 participants

registered, that was the highest number we had seen as a post-pandemic. The retreat itself was fantastic and in so many ways was the powerful experience we have come to expect with inspiring talks, great liturgy and prayer, adoration, music, and young people coming alive in their faith.

Behind the scenes, however, there was chaos, tons of water pouring in, and countless unsung heroes that stepped forward to make sure the young people participating in YOUTH 2000 would have the best experience possible. Stepping forward were hundreds of adults - "adults who care" - doing everything possible to keep YOUTH 2000 afloat (see what I did there?).

First, I wish to acknowledge Venessa and Kelly, part of the maintenance team at Brescia. When I arrived Saturday morning, they were already hard at work mopping and cleaning the water that had crept

in overnight. Exceptional were their efforts for the next 10 hours, battling the flood, all while keeping the garbage cans emptied, and making sure every need for a successful retreat was met.

Three of our seminarians - Tommy Rhodes, Hunter Dickens, and Wes Wheatley - thought they were coming to hang out with youth and to represent vocations for the weekend. By Saturday afternoon, they had snapped into full on mop squad. Once Fr. Larry Hostetter and the staff at Brescia arrived to assess the damage, they quickly began every effort they could to help control the water and keep the retreat going. Dcn. Tim, who was there with merchandise from his store, was never seen without a mop in his hand.

Once the water began pouring through the ceiling of the cafeteria, countless adult volunteers jumped into action moving as many tables as

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YOUTH

YOUTH 2000 continued from page 14

possible and chairs into the lobby so that dinner could still happen.

I must give special recognition to Lisa Bivins. Through the spirit and faithfulness of her and her family, we were ultimately able to keep the other aspects of the retreat going in the gym like normal. Lisa worked to constantly remind all of us that Jesus is with us and, “We’ve got this!”

Through it all, there was worry and concern, but little complaint. The young people were absolutely amazing and willing to be flexible at every turn. Many of you have read in past articles my effort to rally “adults who care” in our diocese. At YOUTH 2000 2025, “adults who care” were on full display! ■



RILEY GREIF | WKC
Mary Osborn, Amelia Evans, an unknown youth, and Abby Hayden during post-Mass snack break at this year's YOUTH 2000.



RILEY GREIF | WKC
Boys clap their hands and sing during YOUTH 2000 this past March 2025.



RILEY GREIF | WKC
Youths sing and dance at the beginning of the weekend-long YOUTH 2000 retreat on March 14, 2025.



RILEY GREIF | WKC
A youth attends the Sacrament of Reconciliation during this year's YOUTH 2000.



COURTESY OF FR. COREY D. BRUNS
A youth faces the "burning bush" in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during this year's YOUTH 2000.

The goal of the National Eucharistic Revival

BY DR. JEFF ANDRINI, OFFICE OF
EVANGELIZATION & DISCIPLESHIP

As the National Eucharistic Revival comes to and end on Pentecost on June 8, 2025, we can look back over this three-year journey and reflect on if it has met its goal. The mission was 1) “to renew the Church by enkindling a living relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist,” and 2) “to inspire a movement of Catholics who are healed, converted, formed and unified by an encounter with Jesus and then sent out for the life of the world.” While this goal will never be fully met on this side of heaven, we have experienced and witnessed a great move of the Holy Spirit across our country and in our diocese.

The title of our Acts 2:42 small group session this month is “Inviting People to the Bread of Life.” The participant booklet says, “we are all blind beggars leading other blind beggars to the Bread of Life. As we reflect in humility and contemplation, it is not too difficult to see that our lives would be so different if it were not for God’s love and mercy.”

Of course, it would be so amazing to have all our family, friends, coworkers and even strangers receive the Eucharist and be transformed into Christ’s love. However, the first step is to realize this transformation in our own lives. How are you allowing Jesus in the Holy Eucharist to change you? As you receive self-giving love of Jesus and worship him in the Eucharist, are you becoming the self-giving love of Jesus in your daily life?

I recently attended the men’s Cursillo weekend in our diocese. There is a men’s retreat coming up on April 25-26 at Rough River; I am in a support group with two other Christian men; and my wife and I are in an Acts 2:42 group. Where have you found growth, support and accountability in your life? Prayerfully consider where God might be calling you to be involved with other Christians and be transformed. And then, at the table of the Lord, you will be more ready, open and aware of how God is working in your life. While this is so important, it is not the goal.

The goal is to be missionary disciples of Jesus. We are his body, hands, feet, and voice to a troubled and hurting world. It is necessary that we live joy-filled, abundant lives in union with the Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This power and transformation come from God, and then our mission and the goal is that we live it and share it with the world.

As we love people, express care and concern for them and value them as God’s children, people see our support and desire to be in relationship with us. As these relationships grow, we can invite them for a parish event that would be welcoming and offer them hope. Eventually we can invite them to the Bread of Life at Mass!

Peace,
Jeff ■

Dr. Jeff Andrini is the director of the Office of Evangelization and Discipleship and can be reached at jeff.andrini@pastoral.org.



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

Fr. Tom Buckman processes with the Eucharist on June 30, 2024, during the visit of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage to his parish of St. Mary’s in Franklin, Ky.

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Sharing in the divinity of Christ: The mystery of water and wine, theosis, and our baptismal call

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

During the preparation of the gifts at Mass, the deacon or priest pours a small amount of water into the chalice of wine, praying: “By the mystery of this water and wine, may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity.”

This simple yet profound moment holds deep theological significance, linking the mystery of the Incarnation, the Eastern Christian concept of theosis (divinization), and our baptismal call to be active disciples in the world.

The symbolism of water and wine: The mingling of water and wine in the chalice is more than a practical action—it is a rich symbol of our participation in Christ. The wine represents Christ’s divinity, while the water represents our humanity. Just as the two become one in the chalice, so too are we invited to be united with Christ. The words of the prayer recall the Incarnation: God the Son humbly took on human nature so that we might share in His divine life. This imagery aligns closely with the Eastern Christian understanding of theosis, the belief that through Christ, we are called to become partakers of the divine nature (cf. 2 Peter 1:4).

Theosis – Sharing in God’s divine life: In Eastern Christianity, theosis expresses the idea that through grace, humanity is drawn into the life of

God. St. Athanasius famously said, “God became man so that man might become God.” This does not mean we become God by nature, but that we are invited to share in God’s holiness, love, and eternal life. The mingling of water and wine during the Mass reflects this spiritual transformation. Just as the water is absorbed into the wine and no longer separate, so too are we, through our relationship with Christ, drawn into the divine life. This process of divinization is not just for the future but begins now, in the life of grace.

Baptism – The beginning of our divinization: Our journey into divine life begins at baptism, where we are spiritually reborn and become members of Christ’s Body. Baptism is not merely a ritual cleansing – it is the moment we are grafted into the life of the Trinity. St. Paul reminds us that through baptism, we are united with Christ’s death and resurrection (Romans 6:3-5), initiating our transformation in Him. Yet, this gift of divine participation is not passive. Baptism calls us to discipleship. The more we live in Christ – through prayer, the sacraments, and love for others – the more we are conformed to His divine image.

Discipleship – Living the mystery of water and wine: The words spoken by the deacon during Mass challenge us to reflect on our response to Christ’s invitation. If we are called to share in His divine life, we must also live as His disciples in the world. This means: Cultivating holiness through prayer and



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

In this Feb. 22, 2023 Ash Wednesday file photo, Fr. John Thomas, rector of St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro, pours the wine into chalices.

sacramental life; serving others with the humility of Christ, who emptied Himself for our sake (Philippians 2:5-8); and witnessing to the Gospel, bringing Christ’s love into our families, workplaces, and communities.

In every Mass, as water is mixed with wine, we are reminded of our sacred calling: to become like Christ and to make Him present in the world. Through grace, we are being divinized – transformed by love into the image of God.

May we embrace this mystery and faithfully live our baptismal call, bringing Christ’s light into the world. ■

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.

Perfume of the priesthood: *Helping make the balsam for Sacred Chrism*

BY DCN. CONRAD JACONETTE, SPECIAL TO
THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

The scent of Sacred Chrism is unmistakable – a fragrance reserved for the Church’s most sacred moments. Most of us are anointed with Chrism only twice in our lives: first, at Baptism, when the priest or deacon anoints the crown of our head with the sign of the cross, marking us as sharers in Christ’s mission as priest, prophet, and king; and then at Confirmation, when the bishop seals us with Chrism on our forehead, completing the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Yet, how often do we pause to consider where this sacred oil comes from? How is it made? Why do we use it? This year, I had the privilege of assisting Fr. Richard Meredith, pastor of Holy Name of Jesus in Henderson, in crafting the perfumed balsam that is infused into olive oil and consecrated by Bishop Medley at the annual Chrism Mass. What an extraordinary experience!

Following the instructions given in Exodus 30:23-25, Fr. Meredith blends pure extracts of myrrh, cinnamon, lemongrass, clove, and anise to recreate the millennia-old Jewish anointing perfume. He meticulously converts ancient measurements – shekels and hins – into modern imperial ounces. For decades, he has refined the formula, striving to remain as faithful as possible to the ancient tradition.

As a trained biochemist, I have always been

drawn to the art of mixing, blending, and infusing. But my desire to assist Fr. Meredith in making this sacred balsam was not merely scientific or historical. It was profoundly personal. I will be anointed with Sacred Chrism one more time.

On May 31, 2025, I will be ordained into the Sacred Order of the Priesthood. During this life-changing moment, the bishop will anoint the palms of my hands with Sacred Chrism, consecrating me as a priest to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Eucharist, marking me in “*persona Christi*” – a living sign of Christ, the head of the Church.

Immediately after my hands are anointed, I will use a fine linen cloth, called a Manutergium, to wipe the Sacred Chrism from my palms. This Manutergium will then be placed in a wooden box and presented to my mother at my Mass of Thanksgiving. According to tradition, when the mother of a priest enters heaven, Christ will ask her, “What have you done for My Kingdom?” She will reply, “I gave You my son to be Your priest. Here is his Sacred Manutergium.”

What a profound joy it has been to help make this holy balsam – a perfume that will be blessed by the bishop, used to anoint my hands as a priest of Jesus Christ, and ultimately placed in my mother’s hands to be presented before the Lord.

What a beautiful gift God has given us! What a beautiful Church!■

Dcn. Conrad Jaconette is a seminarian of the Diocese of Owensboro.



COURTESY OF BRESCIA UNIVERSITY
Severe damage to Brescia University is seen in this photo taken after the hail that impacted western Kentucky in the early morning of March 15.

All invited to support communities in hailstorm aftermath

BY WKC STAFF

“Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.” -Philippians 2:4

Recent storms brought flooding, hail, and wind damage to western Kentucky, but communities across our diocese stepped up – opening parish doors for shelter, repairing damages, and ensuring events like YOUTH 2000 could continue despite the challenges.

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Hailstorm recovery continued from page 18

While natural disasters cannot always be prevented, preparedness is key. Scott Ingram, the Diocese of Owensboro's director of disaster prevention, preparedness, and emergency operations, is offering free training programs for all Catholic schools, parishes, and their staff. These programs provide practical steps and real recommendations to help create a safe and resilient community.

To support local recovery efforts, please consider donating:

- Brescia University Recovery Fund: brescia.edu/give
- Owensboro Catholic Middle School Recovery Fund: owensborocatholic.org/support-ocs/

Thank you for your prayers and generosity as our community rebuilds. ■



COURTESY OF BRESCIA UNIVERSITY

A shop vac and caution sign are seen in a room at Brescia University that was flooded and damaged by the severe hailstorm that impacted western Kentucky in the early morning of March 15.

‘What can be healed this Lent?’ asks bishop at Ash Wednesday liturgy

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

At the crowded 12:05 p.m. Mass for Ash Wednesday at St. Stephen Cathedral on March 5, Bishop William F. Medley reflected back to the 2021 tornados that tore across western Kentucky.

In addition to lives lost and homes destroyed, “the earth itself seemed to be disfigured,” he said, describing massive trees torn out at the roots.

Bishop Medley recalled that in spring 2022, despite all that had happened, nature began to heal and grow back. Likewise, Lent is a time for healing and flourishing in God’s life, the bishop said.

“As we make resolutions of how we will live these 40 days of Lent, what ‘disfigurement’ will begin to heal, in harmony with Christ and the Church?” he asked. “What about my inner life can be transformed as the earth is being transformed?” ■



RILEY GRIEF | WKC

Bishop William F. Medley gives the homily during the March 5 Ash Wednesday 12:05 p.m. Mass at St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro.



RILEY GRIEF | WKC

Dcn. Conrad Jaconette, a seminarian of the Diocese of Owensboro, distributes ashes to Sidney Booth and baby Vincent at the 12:05 p.m. Ash Wednesday Mass at St. Stephen Cathedral on March 5.



RILEY GRIEF | WKC

Altar servers stand at the front of the church during the March 5 Ash Wednesday 12:05 p.m. Mass at St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro.

Candidates, catechumens, welcomed during next step on their journeys to the Catholic Church

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

In early March, the Diocese of Owensboro held the annual celebrations of Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion. Three separate celebrations were held: on March 2 at St. Jerome Parish in Fancy Farm, and on March 9 at 2 p.m. and at 6 p.m. at St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro.

The Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion are for those who are undergoing the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (known as OCIA) to enter the final phase of catechetical and spiritual formation as they prepare to enter the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil.

The Rite of Election portion was for catechumens – those who have never been baptized – and the Call to Continuing Conversion portion was for candidates – those who have already been validly baptized and who are experiencing the call on their hearts to enter into full communion of the Catholic Church. ■



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC
A young woman smiles after meeting Bishop William F. Medley during the March 9, 2025, 2 p.m. Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion at St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro.



COURTESY OF ZACH AULT
A baptized candidate meets Bishop William F. Medley during the March 2, 2025 Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion held at St. Jerome Parish in Fancy Farm.



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC
A woman places her hand in prayer on the shoulder of a girl she is sponsoring to enter the Catholic Church, during the March 9, 2025, 2 p.m. Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion at St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro.



COURTESY OF ZACH AULT
A catechumen inscribes her name into the Book of the Elect during the March 2, 2025 Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion held at St. Jerome Parish in Fancy Farm.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul – Diocesan Council of Western Kentucky, Inc., welcomes their new president



COURTESY OF SVDP

James “Jim” Dale has been named the new president of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul – Diocesan Council of Western Kentucky, Inc.

BY BELINDA ABELL, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

James “Jim” Dale didn’t know the path he was eventually to take in life would lead him to St. Vincent de Paul but he’s thankful every day that it did.

Jim and his wife Cathy belong to St. Mary Parish in Franklin, Ky., but that’s not where his Vincentian journey started. It began more than 10 years ago in Connors, Georgia. After he and his wife married, they decided they needed to go back to church. Jim was a Baptist and Cathy was a lapsed Catholic. They first attended a Baptist church didn’t find the open, welcoming atmosphere they were looking for. Cathy suggested they try the Catholic Church there.

Jim found the people to be welcoming, caring, and unpretentious. Soon Cathy became involved in the local St. Vincent de Paul conference. Jim wanted to spend more time with his wife, so he joined her in serving with St. Vincent de Paul. And as he became more involved, he found the Vincentian path aligned with his thoughts and feelings of servant leadership. As life would have it, a job opportunity opened up in Bowling Green, Ky., so they left their home and church in Georgia and made their way to Kentucky.

Upon their move to Bowling Green, Cathy and Jim joined Holy Spirit and again became involved with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. During this time, both Jim and Cathy served as SVdP conference presidents. Jim also found himself serving as a district president.

Recently, he was chosen to serve as the new diocesan council president for the 32-county service area.

“St. Vincent de Paul shows the way we feel,” said Jim. “Cathy and I love to share, to share what we have, share of ourselves, sharing of ourselves to others in order to help.”

Jim has set goals for his tenure as president: “I have two goals. The first one that I’d like to accomplish in my three years as council president is that all Vincentians feel part of a team. None of us can succeed alone. The second, I think we need to examine opening more thrift stores. I’d like to see at least one more opened in the diocese to further

benefit the people we are serving.”

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul – Diocesan Council of Western Kentucky, Inc. serves 32 counties with 22 SVDP conferences, three SVDP districts, and six thrift stores. If you are interested in learning more about the Society visit svdpwky.org or give us a call at (270)315-5747. ■

Belinda Abell is the external affairs director for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul – Diocesan Council of Western Kentucky, Inc.

Tribunal Explains

Myth: A declaration of invalidity (annulment) can take years to be decided.

Truth:

Currently it is taking approximately one year to decide a formal case from the time it is formally accepted by the Tribunal to a final decision. If there are delays in a case it is most often because of the lack of quick, detailed testimony of witnesses.

One of the ways the Church addresses this need is through the ministry offered by the Diocesan Tribunal which is designed to help individuals in the healing process by seeking clarification with regard to their marriage.

Further information will be published monthly. If you have questions, please contact the Tribunal at 270-683-1545 or Tribunal@pastoral.org.

Enkindled: 79th Women's Catholic Cursillo weekend at Gasper River



COURTESY OF BETH HENDRICKSON

The participants of the March 6-9, 2025 women's Cursillo are seen at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center in Bowling Green.

BY DCN. BRETT MILLS, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Congratulations to the 10 ladies who were first-time participants at the 79th Women's Catholic Cursillo in the Diocese of Owensboro. The retreat was held March 6-9 at the Gasper River Camp in Bowling Green.

Just what is a Cursillo Weekend, and what is the Cursillo Movement that makes these encounters such a vital part of the Church's life?

Cursillo is a recognized Apostolic Movement of the Catholic Church, approved by bishops and popes alike. Originating in the 1940s in Spain, drawing inspiration from the earlier and more general movement called Catholic Action, Cursillo came to the United States in 1957 and

has been active in the Diocese of Owensboro since the late 1960s.

While an ecumenical version of Cursillo exists, the Catholic Cursillo retains its deep roots in the Church's mission and stands as one of the most enduring aspects of the New Evangelization.

As the newest participants have discovered, a Catholic Cursillo Weekend is aimed at helping individuals center on Christ.

By embracing what Vatican II urged to be "full and active participation" in the Church and the world - as a real and freely chosen part of who they are in everyday life.

Through prayer, reflection, and community, attendees receive the support necessary to maintain that transforming and evangelizing identity.

Plans are already underway for the next Catholic Cursillo Weekends - both men's and women's retreats are scheduled for February and March 2026.

Consider giving a Catholic Cursillo Weekend the same opportunity that Jesus offered to two curious disciples: "Come and see." For more information visit www.cursillo-owensboro.org. ■



COURTESY OF BETH HENDRICKSON

Anita Coffman participates in the March 6-9, 2025 women's Cursillo held at Gasper River.

Ursuline Sisters experience “Pilgrims of Hope” retreat

BY MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH STAFF

Half of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph were in retreat the week of March 2-7, led by Fr. Adrian Burke, OSB, who talked about Pope Francis’ call to be Pilgrims of Hope in Jubilee Year 2025. Fr. Burke is a member of the Benedictine monastic community at Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad, Ind. His current role is offering spiritual direction and preaching retreats. He met with the sisters twice a day in the Rainbow Room of Saint Joseph Villa. ■



COURTESY OF MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH
While giving a March 2-7 retreat to the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, Fr. Adrian Burke, OSB, talks about hope being the duty of all Christians – to bear hope and be hope in the world. On the board behind him contains a verse from Romans 5:5, “Hope does not disappoint.”



COURTESY OF MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH
Fr. Adrian Burke, OSB, speaks during the March 3 afternoon session in the Rainbow Room of Saint Joseph Villa at Mount Saint Joseph during a retreat from March 2-7.



COURTESY OF MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH
Cindy Murphy, (left), laughs with Karen McCarty as they sew on Monday, March 10, during Quilting Friends at Mount Saint Joseph. Both women are members of the St. Martin Parish quilt ministry in Daviess County.

Quilters gather at Mount to support sisters’ mission

BY MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH STAFF

Nearly two dozen Quilting Friends came to Mount Saint Joseph in Maple Mount on March 9-12, 2025, to make quilt tops for the Ursuline Sisters. The quilt tops will either be hand-quilted for the Mount Quilt Club, or machine-quilted to use for Quilt Bingo on Sept. 14, both of which serve to support the mission of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph. Several of the women are involved in quilt ministries at their parishes in the Diocese of Owensboro. ■

Did you know a saint named Precious Blood Catholic Church?

BY EDWARD WILSON, ARCHIVES

By 1960, Catholicism in the United States was enjoying a period of incredible acceptance. The religion that was seen as a foreign invader only a few generations prior, was now becoming viewed as downright American. Catholic movies like “The Song of Bernadette” and “The Bells of St. Mary’s” captured the hearts of the country. The Fighting Sullivan Brothers became tragic heroes, dying at the Battle of Guadalcanal; the country mourned the Irish American, Catholic brothers, forever placing them in a place of national reverence. Bishop Fulton Sheen, a young, Emmy-winning bishop with the hint of an Irish brogue, became one of the most beloved and respected authorities on religion in the whole country. Vocations were high and so was church attendance. The Church was growing larger and larger in the U.S. With all this going on in the country, Catholicism in the little city of Owensboro was growing as well.

In 1959, the Catholic churches in Owensboro were quite literally overflowing. That year, Our Lady of Lourdes celebrated their first Mass. Two years prior, St. Pius X was dedicated. Three years prior to that, Immaculate was built. But even with the addition of three large churches in five years, the number of Catholics in the small city still needed more room to worship. This caused Bishop Francis R. Cotton to look to the northwestern part of the city. It was decided that a church would be built there to serve the Catholics in the area that were currently served by the overwhelmed cathedral. It was announced that the church would be called

Precious Blood.

This name may have surprised many. Most of the large projects established under the leadership of Bishop Cotton received Marian titles, like Blessed Mother, Immaculate, and Our Lady of Lourdes. The bishop was even insistent on referring to Owensboro Catholic High by its title as Assumption High School. So why is Precious Blood, Precious Blood?

Fr. Maurice Teill, who was crucial in the organization of the parish, as well as its third pastor, revealed that the name was suggested to Bishop Cotton by Pope John XXIII during his ad limina (when a bishop makes his routine visit to the pope). This makes perfect sense when looking at the Church during this period. Pope St. John XXIII, who was canonized in 2014, had a deep devotion to the Precious Blood and encourage the devotion among all Catholics. In 1960, the same year the first Mass at Precious Blood was celebrated, the pope released “On Promoting Devotion to the Most Precious Blood.” Likewise, during this period there was a movement gaining momentum to offer the Precious Blood as well as the Eucharistic Host, a practice that had not been utilized for centuries.

One of the most interesting things about history is how something as small as a name can have such a big story. A church’s name, just like many other things, may seem simple but it can have an origin that is anything but! ■

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.



COURTESY OF ARCHIVES

Bishop Francis R. Cotton and Pope St. John XXIII are seen during Bishop Cotton’s ad limina visit in this undated photo.



Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph

Quilt Club

We still have Quilt Club tickets!
 It’s not too late to get your Quilt of the Month Club ticket! **If you enter by May 1**, you will have 11 chances to win a beautiful handmade quilt. Drawings occur on the first Friday of each month. Only 2,500 tickets (\$25 each) will be sold. Contact Carol Braden-Clarke: **270-229-2009**
carol.braden-clark@maplemount.org
 Order online: ursulinesmsj.org/quilt-club



Ursuline Sisters
 of Mount Saint Joseph
 8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, KY 42356

License No. 0290

APRIL 2025 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.

Sts. William and Lawrence Lenten mission

St. William and St. Lawrence Parishes in Daviess County, Ky., gladly welcome everyone to our Parish Lenten Mission on April 6-8, 2025, 6-7:30 p.m. at St. Lawrence Church. Fr. Wade Menezes of the Fathers of Mercy will be leading the Parish Mission. The theme will be the Holy Eucharist. On April 6, at 7:15 p.m. we will also have opportunities for confession. Questions: director of religious education Amber Berry at (270) 281-4802.

Ecce Homo: Behold the Man, Behold your Mother – An online Lenten retreat

Are you ready to make Holy Week a powerful experience? The Lord is specially preparing for you many graces during the celebration of His most sacred mysteries this Lent. Come and do so under the care and protection He gave us from the Cross, the Blessed Mother. Walk through the Passion with our Lady of Sorrows and join us for "Behold the Man, Behold Your Mother," Avila Foundation's annual online Lenten retreat, held this year on April 10-12. Keynote speakers include Bishop John Barres of Rockville Centre, Bishop Liam Cary of Oregon, Fr. Jacob Powell, Dr. Mark Miravalle, Sister Dede Byrne, Dr. Ralph Martin and Dr. Margaret Turek! Join us for reflections on Our Lady of Sorrows from the Passionist Nuns of St. Joseph Monastery and walk through healing a mother wound with Fr. Derek Sakowski. Experience the prayers and reflections of our 30+ breakout speakers, including Cardinal Anders Arborelius, Bishop Gerardo Colaccico, Fr. Jeremiah Shryock, Fr. Robert Altier, Simone Rizkallah, Laura Phelps, Ruth Berghorst, Dr. Michael Gama, Dr. Andrew Seely, Dr. Elizabeth Mitchell, Sterling Jacquith, and many more! The retreat is free, a donation optional. If you can't attend live, you will

receive a link to the recordings. To register: <https://spiritualdirection.com/ecce-homo-2025>

Nominate a pastoral minister or volunteer for the 2025 catechetical leader award

The Offices of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry are asking for nominations for the Bishop John J. McRaith Catechetical Leader Award. The recipient of this award will be announced sometime this spring. Anyone from the Diocese of Owensboro may nominate an individual for this award. Nominees should be (or have been) professional ministers or volunteers, working for a minimum of 5 years in the Diocese of Owensboro in the field of catechetics. Some ministerial roles to be considered are Director of Faith Formation, Coordinator of Faith Formation, Pastoral Associate, Youth Minister, etc. The recipient of the award is a role model as an outstanding human being; committed to Diocesan, Parish and Community service; shows a deep sense of spirituality; is knowledgeable, and committed to continuing their intellectual, spiritual and collaborative growth. The deadline for nominations is April 14, 2025. The Core Committee for Religious Education, consisting of the Diocesan Directors of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry will discern and select the recipient. All nomination forms should be submitted online (online is preferred) or mailed to the Youth Ministry Office, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, KY 42301-2130 or emailed to robin.tomes@pastoral.org by April 15, 2025. Online nomination link (preferred method): <https://owensborodiocese.org/catechetical-leader-award/>.

May and September retreats for healing after abortion

If you are suffering from grief or trauma from an abortion, come experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreat during this Jubilee Year of Hope! There will be two Catholic retreats offered during May and September 2025, sponsored by Rachel's Vineyard of Bowling Green. Our weekend retreats will combine discussions, spiritual exercises, the sacrament of reconciliation, a Memorial Service and a Mass of Entrustment of our Children to Jesus. Participation is strictly confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and compassion. For more information or registration contact us on our confidential

hotline (270-474-4707) or email (retreats@hopeafterabortionky.com). The cost is \$200 for meals, private room, and all retreat materials. If you have a financial burden, assistance is available – no one is ever turned away due to financial need! More information is available on our website: HopeAfterAbortionKY.com For a complete listing of retreat dates and locations contact 1-877-HOPE-4-ME or visit the Rachel's Vineyard website at www.rachelsvineyard.org.

Nominate the 2024-2025 Outstanding Catholic School Educator of the Year

The Catholic Schools Office and the Principals and Administrators of Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools (PACESS) are again asking for nominations for Outstanding Catholic School Educator of the Year. The winner will be announced at the 2025 Celebration of Catholic Schools event. Anyone, with the exception of an immediate family member, may nominate an educator for the award. All information concerning nominees will be kept confidential, including the name of the person submitting the nomination. The educator must currently be employed in the Diocese of Owensboro and must have taught for a minimum of five years in the diocesan schools. The outstanding Catholic School Educator must be a role model as an outstanding human being; have a major influence in the lives of students; show concern with the faith development as well as the physical, mental and emotional development of students; and encourage students to improve their abilities and talents. The deadline for nominations is July 1, 2025. A committee will serve as judges. For the nomination form, visit <https://owensborodiocese.org/educator-award/>.

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

All are invited to attend an
ecumenical
Taizé
prayer service

with Bishop William F. Medley

Tuesday, April 8, 2025
6 PM

St. Stephen Cathedral
610 Locust Street
Owensboro, KY

For protection and
healing of victims of
sexual abuse and those
who care about them

Sponsored by the
Diocese of Owensboro's
Office of Safe Environment

Learn more at:
owensborodiocese.org/safe

Looking for our
2025 parish fish
fries list? Visit the
WKC online!



St. Gianna
CRISIS PREGNANCY HOME

JOIN US FOR
An Evening In Italy

SPONSORED BY
St. Teresa
MINISTRIES

BENEFITING
ST. GIANNA CRISIS PREGNANCY HOME

— 05.10.2025 —
6:00 PM | LA GALA

COCKTAIL HOUR | APPETIZERS | DINNER
SILENT & LIVE AUCTIONS
SPECIAL GUEST HOST,
COACH JACK HARBAUGH

SELLING FAST...
SECURE YOUR
TICKETS TODAY!



Whom Shall I Send?

Are you being called to the Vocation of the Permanent Diaconate?
The next cohort of applicants discerning the Permanent Diaconate is being formed.
Please discuss your call with your pastor and submit your application at
owensborodiocese.org/permanent-diaconate.
Questions? Contact Deacon Tim Nugent at tim.nugent@pastoral.org

April 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

Al & Molly Thompson, 40
Bobby & Patricia Rafferty, 62
Danny & Patty Merimee, 57
Darrell & Sharon Payne, 53
David & Laura Sandifer, 25
Louis & Mary Aull, 64
Robert & Pat Risch, 58
Tony & Carolyn Clark, 56

Christ the King, Madisonville

John & Diane Clark, 56
William & Rebecca Markham, 59

Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson

Carl & Reba Grossman, 52
Clifford & Helen Romain, 56
David & Bonnie Bartley, 54
Dick & Sheila Beaven, 53
Jack & Reiko Adams, 54
Michael & Latasha Biggs, 10
Ronald & Brenda Sauer, 58
Thomas & Vickie Phillips, 50
Tom & Peg Lewis, 57

Holy Redeemer, Beaver Dam

Tim & Mary Stenberg, 51

Holy Spirit, Bowling Green

Benedict Reh & Kue Rosy Meh, 10
Christopher & Kate Ray, 25
Everett & Mary Leasor, 59
Fernando & Gabriela Alfaya, 25
James & Helen Bailey, 69
James & Kathy Adams, 57
Kevin & Hannah Taylor, 10
Poe Reh & Jay Paulu, 10

Immaculate Conception, Earlington

John & Velma Davis, 57

Immaculate Conception, Hawesville

Clayton & Gloria Gray, 63
John & Marlene Wheatley, 52

Immaculate, Owensboro

Brandon & Chassidy Staves, 10
Charles & Mary Lois Payne, 64
David & Mary Jane Strehl, 56
Don & Mary Weaver, 61
James & Mary Basham, 53
Mark & Holly Pfeifer, 25
Rex & Peggy Robinson, 61

Todd & Pat Stelmach, 56
Tommy & Robyn Scales, 25

Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

Bill & Deborah Glenn, 55
Brad & Beverly Hamilton, 65
Gregory & Deborah Arnold, 55
Tony & Eileen Mattingly, 53

Precious Blood, Owensboro

Michael & Brenda Swift, 57
Philip & Brenda Phelps, 56

Sacred Heart, Waverly

Mike & Barbara Davis, 56

St. Agnes, Uniontown

Benny & Rita French, 71
Bill & Charlene Hite, 56
Dickie & Cheryl Berry, 53
Harold & Diane Lynn, 54
Lark & Sharon Buckman, 55
Larry & Vickie Rhodes, 57
Pete & Laura Hagan, 51
Warren & Liz Blake, 10

St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph

Bruce & Sheila Blandford, 54
Donald & Ginny Peters, 63

St. Ann, Morganfield

Cameron & Erin Berrong, 10
Mike & Cathy Greenwell, 56
Roger & Cindy Wells, 52
Ronald & Ellen Mattingly, 59

St. Anthony, Axtel

Jackson & Sidney Critchelow, 5
Kenneth & Amanda Dowell, 10
Pat & Wilma Lenhart, 61

St. Anthony, Browns Valley

Joseph & Sharon Wink, 56
Mike & Donna Koger, 55

St. Anthony, Peonia

Tom & Bonnie Osbourne, 56

St. Augustine, Reed

Hershel & Barbara Smith, 56
Tony & Christa Hundley, 51

St. Charles, Livermore

John & Marsha Logsdon, 57
Ron & Patty Humphrey, 53

St. Francis Borgia, Sturgis

Roger & Irene Price, 57

St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

David & Andrea Berschied, 53
James & Velda Carbonel, 61
John & Cindy Davis, 50
Larry & LaDonna Roberts, 55
Philip & Marilyn Wright, 53
Tim & Leslie Moore, 40

St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

Jason & Stephanie Wilson, 25
Joseph E & Joyce Toon, 56
Leo & Jeanette Pendel, 10
Robert & Marilyn Thompson, 53

St. John the Evangelist, Paducah

Arvil & Ruth McKendree, 51

St. Joseph, Bowling Green

Chris & Jennifer Vowels, 25
John & Kathrun Villarreal, 40
Lizandro & Morena Lovos, 25
Michael & Darlene Fuqua, 54
Miguel & Graciela Rodriguez Herrera, 10

St. Joseph, Central City

Grant & Brenda Phillips, 59

St. Joseph, Mayfield

Charles & Elaine Bobbett, 40
Joe & Evelyn Jolley, 61
Mario & Amalia Medina, 58
Sebastian & Bertha Hurtado, 10
Tony & Lindsay Luciano, 59

St. Leo, Murray

Douglas & Vicky Lambert, 59
Ed & Marilyn Wolf, 62

St. Martin, Rome

Richard & Anita Dixon, 62
Thomas & Teri Murphy, 50

St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho

Gerald & Betty Bartley, 62
Matthew & Jane Thomas, 25

St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Aaron & Heather Stephens, 10
Christopher & Sheila Roberts, 40
Michael & Kathy Turner, 51
Michael & Marie Bartlett, 50
Ray & Patty Hamilton, 59
Roger & Brenda Hagan, 56
Tommy & Joyce Higdon, 60

Tyler & Emma Grant, 10
Wayne & Doris Rhodes, 55

St. Mary, Franklin

Earl & Sheila Harrington, 51
Mike & Betty Glodoski, 51
Tom & Regina Cozzy, 73

St. Michael, Sebree

Tommy & Pamela McCarty, 54

St. Paul, Princeton

Herman & Beth Berton, 64

St. Peter of Antioch, Waverly

Billy Steve & Connie Peak, 55
Fred & Phyllis Crowdus, 55

St. Pius X, Calvert City

Jim & Rose Drury, 66

St. Pius X, Owensboro

Baw Reh & Peh Meh, 10
Bernard & Elsie Galloway, 61
Charles & Lois Hoskins, 61
Mae & Mya Aye, 10
Stephen & Anna Carrico, 50

St. Romuald, Hardinsburg

Buddy & Kay Payne, 50
Carl & Thelma Jarboe, 64
Jerry & Pat Sturgeon, 57
Joe & Rhonda Walz, 25
John & Helen O'Reilly, 66
Kevin & Leslie Kasey, 25
Larry & Martha Severs, 53

St. Rose of Lima, Cloverport

Tommy & Barbara Smith, 56

St. Sebastian, Calhoun

Michael & Kimberly Cooper, 25
Ralph & Judy Ward, 64

St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

Charles & Mary Ann Medley, 55
Jason & Jamie Thompson, 10
Mark & Martha Sims, 51
Ronald & Phyllis Calvert, 52

St. Stephen, Cadiz

John & Paula Hall, 60
Kenneth & Barbara Powers, 60
Paul & Dawn Cunningham, 65
Robert & Alyce Chmielewski, 62

Continues on page 28

Anniversaries continued from page 27

St. Thomas More, Paducah

Bill & Robin Woods, 40
Jim & Mary Bumpous, 61
Menh Nguyen & Valerie Vu, 10
Steve & Earline Wurth, 61

St. William, Knottsville

Brian & Laura Clouse, 25
Bruce & Sandy Whitehouse, 55
Gary & Donna Thompson, 50
Paul & Theresa Crowe, 63
Roger & Mary Ann Adams, 62
Ronnie & Rebecca Howard, 53

St. William, Marion

Jack & Debbye Mason, 57

Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro

David & Mary Patton, 59
Jeremy and Megan Storm, 10
Jim & Sharon Embry, 53
Joe & Beverly Maxwell, 53
John & Esther Blandford, 55
Joseph & Brenda Bean, 53
Kevin & Jennefer Greenlee, 10
Larry & Debbie Simon, 50
Paul & Joyce Lambert, 61
Russell & Sheila Roby, 51
Stephen & Diane Lindsey, 52

Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

Bill & Harriette Hancock, 70
Christopher & Jennifer Diedrich, 10
Clifford & Carol Simpson, 64
Kevin & Julia Felton, 51
Paul & Winter Rush, 5

Un mensaje del Obispo Medley: *¿Por qué nos creó Dios?*

Muchos quizá recuerden que su primera instrucción religiosa formal se presentó en un formato de preguntas y respuestas, es decir, un catecismo.

Pregunta: “¿Quién te creó?” Respuesta: “Dios me creó.”

Pregunta: “¿Por qué te creó Dios?” Respuesta: “Dios me creó para conocerlo, amarlo, servirlo en este mundo y ser feliz con Él en el venidero”.

Se trata de una fórmula muy sencilla, sobre la que se pueden encontrar numerosos discursos teológicos, pero sería difícil expresarlo de forma más sucinta y precisa.

Seguramente esta sencilla pregunta y respuesta no hace más que abrir la puerta para ahondar más en el misterio de nuestra relación con Dios y con el prójimo.

Conocer a Dios es un proyecto de toda la vida. Dios continúa revelándose a nosotros en muchos momentos y lugares a lo largo de la vida. Si a ustedes, cuando estaban en segundo grado, les preguntaran cómo conocen a Dios, la respuesta podría ser diferente a la de un adolescente. Sigue cambiando a lo largo de la vida y ese conocimiento requiere más de nosotros. Con la gracia de Dios, nuestro creciente conocimiento trae muchas bendiciones y nos fortalece para soportar tiempos difíciles. Si hemos pasado tiempo con personas cercanas a la muerte, por ejemplo, vemos que incluso entonces continúan creciendo en el conocimiento de Dios.

Conocer a Dios no es un ejercicio pasivo. Como niños y estudiantes, estudiamos conscientemente los

principios de nuestra fe. Incluso más allá de nuestra educación formal, podemos aprender acerca de Dios en las homilias presentadas en la Misa. Esto subraya la tremenda obligación del predicador, los diáconos y los sacerdotes, de preparar cuidadosamente las homilias con la intención de ayudar a otros a crecer en el conocimiento de Dios.

Amar a Dios no es una tarea académica. Amamos a Dios con el corazón, el alma, la mente y la fuerza. Es decir, cuando estamos en nuestro mejor momento.

El amor puede ser imperfecto. Pienso en la realidad de que San Pedro le falló a Jesús notoriamente en muchas historias del Evangelio. Sin embargo, fue Pedro a quien Jesús eligió para ser la piedra sobre la cual edificar la Iglesia. Jesús reconoció la profundidad del amor de Pedro cuando Pedro dijo: “Señor, tú lo sabes todo; tú bien sabes que te quiero”. Y Pedro siempre reconoció el amor de Jesús por él.

El amor es una virtud difícil de juzgar o incluso de observar para los demás. Esto es cierto no sólo en la relación divino-humana, sino en todas nuestras relaciones humanas. A veces hay personas que parecen absolutamente indiferentes a las necesidades de los demás, pero en una situación difícil, pueden ser los primeros en ofrecer ayuda.

Para servir a Dios necesitamos estudiar y seguir los mandamientos. Los mandamientos trazan un rumbo para el culto y el respeto a Dios, pero también a todo lo que Dios ha creado. En primer lugar, servimos a los que fueron creados a imagen y semejanza de Dios, pero también debemos ser

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>.

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conscientes de honrar a toda la creación: debemos cuidar la creación de Dios.

A lo largo de mis años como sacerdote, he predicado cientos de funerales. Muchas veces he vuelto a esta sencilla comprensión catequética de nuestro propósito en la vida. He encontrado esta fórmula especialmente reconfortante ante la muerte de una persona joven. ¿Se había cumplido su propósito de conocer, amar y servir a Dios? Tal vez no ante nuestros ojos, sino ante los ojos de Dios. Al mismo tiempo, también he hecho referencia a la misión de esta vida al celebrar el funeral de alguien que ha vivido una vida muy larga.

Para todos nosotros, nuestro destino es ser felices con Dios en la próxima vida.

+ William F. Medley

Obispo William F. Medley
Diócesis de Owensboro



**Parroquias con misa
en Español**

CALENDARIO DEL OBISPO MEDLEY ABRIL DE 2025	
1 de abril	8:00 a. m. Misa escolar – Escuela San Pablo, Leitchfield
2-3 de abril	Instalación del Arzobispo Casey – Cincinnati
6 de abril	10:30 a.m. Confirmación – Parroquia Preciosa Sangre, Owensboro
8 de abril	6 p.m. Oración estilo Taize para la Reparación y Sanación – Catedral de San Esteban, Owensboro
9 de abril	8:30 a.m. Misa escolar - Escuela Católica María Carrico, Knottsville
10 de abril	12:00 mediodía Misa para los Directores de Ministerio con Adolescentes y Jóvenes Adultos de la Región V – Centro de Retiros del Río Gasper, Bowling Green
13 de abril	11 a.m. Misa del Domingo de Ramos – Catedral
15 de abril	6:30 p.m. Misa Crismal, Centro deportivo de Owensboro (Sportscenter)
17 de abril	7 p.m. Misa de la Cena del Señor – Catedral
18 de abril	3 p.m. Viernes Santo – Catedral
19 de abril	8 p.m. Vigilia Pascual en la Noche Santa – Catedral
21 de abril	10 a.m. Reunión del Consejo de Personal Sacerdotal – Centro Católico McRaith, Owensboro

22 de abril	Visita al Seminario de San Meinrad, Indiana
23 de abril	10 a.m. Reunión del personal diocesano – Centro Católico McRaith 6 p.m. Confirmación – Parroquia San Miguel Arcángel, Oak Grove
24 de abril	8 a.m. Misa escolar & Conversaciones con los "Seniors" – Escuela Preparatoria Trinidad, Whitesville 6 p.m. Confirmación – Parroquias San Guillermo y San Lorenzo, condado de Daviess
26 de abril	5 p.m. Confirmación – Parroquia de San Pío X, Owensboro
27 de abril	8:30 a.m. Confirmación – Parroquia Santa María, Franklin 2 p.m. Confirmación – Parroquia Santa María del Bosque, Whitesville
28 de abril	6 p.m. Confirmación – Parroquia San José, Central City
29 de abril	6:30 p.m. Confirmación – Parroquia Santísima Madre, Owensboro
30 de abril	8:30 a.m. Misa escolar y conversaciones con los "Seniors" – Escuela Preparatoria Santa María, Paducah 6:30 p.m. Confirmación – Parroquia San Jerónimo, Fancy Farm



FOTO POR CORTESÍA DE MARTHA HAGAN
El Obispo William F. Medley junto al P. José Carmelo Jiménez Salinas muestra el decreto que designa al P. Jiménez como Misionero de la Misericordia el 26 de febrero de 2025 en la capilla de María, Madre de la Iglesia, en el Centro Católico McRaith.

'Mostrar que el rostro de Dios es amor y misericordia':

Párroco local nombrado Misionero de la Misericordia

POR ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, EL CATÓLICO DE KENTUCKY OCCIDENTAL

Un párroco local, el P. José Carmelo Jiménez Salinas, ha sido nombrado por la Santa Sede para servir como Misionero de la Misericordia.

“Me siento muy bendecido, no solo por mí, sino también por todos los fieles... para mostrar a los

demás que el rostro de Dios es amor y misericordia”, dijo el P. Jiménez, párroco de la Parroquia San Miguel en Sebree.

El Papa Francisco creó el rol de los Misioneros de la Misericordia en 2016 durante el Jubileo de la Misericordia, que continuó e institucionalizó en la Constitución Apostólica sobre la Curia Romana de 2022.

Los Misioneros de la Misericordia son sacerdotes a quienes se les dan facultades para absolver a los penitentes de ciertos pecados que de otro modo estarían reservados al Santo Padre para absolver, debido a su gravedad. Entre ellas se incluyen la profanación de la Eucaristía y la violación directa del secreto sacramental por parte de un sacerdote al escuchar una confesión.

El decreto del Vaticano, que nombró al P. Jiménez como un Misionero de la Misericordia el 30 de enero de 2025, establecía que su función era ponerse "a disposición de los párrocos, rectores de santuarios y obispos diocesanos, llevando a cabo misiones e iniciativas relacionadas particularmente con la celebración del Sacramento de la Reconciliación y la predicación del misterio de la Divina Misericordia de Dios, especialmente durante los momentos más importantes del año litúrgico".

El sacerdote de Sebree dijo que hay alrededor de 127 Misioneros de la Misericordia en los Estados Unidos, de los aproximadamente 1,200 distribuidos en todo el mundo. La Diócesis de Owensboro solo ha tenido un Misionero de la Misericordia además del P. Jiménez: el P. Daniel Kreutzer, quien falleció a finales de 2022.

El P. Jiménez se siente bendecido de poder mostrar a la gente “la misericordia de Dios” de una manera aún mayor que antes, dijo.

El P. Jiménez, quien cumple 26 años como

sacerdote este abril, se dedica a ayudar a los fieles a apreciar mejor el Sacramento de la Reconciliación.

Después de escuchar la confesión de alguien y darle la absolución, le conmueve “la paz en sus rostros. A veces, han cargado con sus pecados durante mucho tiempo”, dijo. “Es un momento muy fuerte poder ver a la gente en paz”.

Y ahora, si un sacerdote se encuentra con una de esas situaciones de pecado grave al escuchar la confesión de un penitente y no puede absolverle, “puede enviármelo”, dijo el P. Jiménez.

La misma semana en que el P. Jiménez recibió la noticia de que había sido nombrado Misionero de la Misericordia, se sorprendió al recibir una llamada telefónica de un sacerdote de Tennessee.

Aún no había hablado con mucha gente sobre este nombramiento, pero la noticia había llegado al párroco de Tennessee, que deseaba ayudar a un penitente que necesitaba la absolución de una situación grave. El P. Jiménez pudo reunirse con el penitente y escuchar su confesión.

El P. Jiménez dijo que muchas personas, cuando eran niños, crecieron con la idea errónea de que Dios se enfoca en castigarlos, lo que no podría estar más lejos de la verdad.

“La gente nos señala con el dedo, pero Dios abre sus brazos y nos recibe”, dijo.

El P. Jiménez trabaja principalmente con la comunidad inmigrante del oeste de Kentucky, muchos de los cuales experimentaron traumas al escapar de la violencia en sus países de origen y aún viven con miedo hoy.

Se dio cuenta de que podría ayudar a “consolar y confortar a los inmigrantes” si era aceptado para servir como Misionero de la Misericordia, por lo que le preguntó al Obispo William F. Medley si estaría dispuesto a recomendarlo a la Santa Sede para ese

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cargo.

El Obispo Medley se alegró de hacerlo y, después de recibir el decreto del Vaticano, se lo presentó al P. Jiménez el 26 de febrero ante el personal diocesano en la capilla del centro pastoral.

El P. Jiménez dijo que su énfasis en la reconciliación proviene de su propia experiencia de conversión, que tuvo lugar a través de la confesión. Después de estar alejado de la Iglesia durante ocho años cuando era un joven adulto creciendo en México, asistió sin querer a un retiro con un amigo.

Durante ese retiro, aceptó confesarse por primera vez en años, lo que lo llevó de nuevo a Dios y a la Iglesia.

Hoy, el P. Jiménez suele decir a la gente que "la confesión, para mí, es el momento de recibir un gran abrazo de Dios".

Además de continuar con sus funciones pastorales habituales, el P. Jiménez está disponible para realizar misiones parroquiales. Actualmente, tiene previsto ofrecer misiones en Sebree y Franklin, Ky., y en Tennessee. ■



FOTO POR CORTESÍA DE MARTHA HAGAN
El Obispo William F. Medley junto al P. José Carmelo Jiménez Salinas miran al decreto que designa al P. Jiménez como Misionero de la Misericordia el 26 de febrero de 2025 en la capilla de María, Madre de la Iglesia, en el Centro Católico McRaith.

Los lugares de peregrinación ofrecen un recorrido por la diversidad de la diócesis

POR ANDY TELLI, EL CATÓLICO DE KENTUCKY OCCIDENTAL

Para el Año Jubilar 2025, el Papa Francisco invitó a los católicos de todo el mundo a realizar un camino de fe como peregrinos de esperanza.

Muchos tendrán la suerte de poder hacer una peregrinación a Roma durante el Año Jubilar, que continuará durante todo el año 2025. Pero para otros, pueden hacer una peregrinación a las iglesias locales, incluso aquí en la Diócesis de Owensboro.

El Obispo William F. Medley ha designado seis sitios de peregrinación en la diócesis donde la gente puede visitarlos y recibir una indulgencia plenaria para evitar el castigo temporal por sus pecados.

Los seis sitios de peregrinación forman un circuito alrededor de la diócesis e incluyen: la Catedral de San Esteban, la Parroquia San Romualdo en Hardinsburg, el Santuario Mariano Diocesano en Bowling Green, la Parroquia San León en Murray, la Parroquia San Francisco de Sales en Paducah, y la Parroquia Santo Redentor en Beaver Dam.

Los sitios fueron seleccionados teniendo en cuenta la geografía, dijo el Diácono Ken Bennett, co-coordinador de la Oficina Diocesana de Culto.

“La idea era distribuir los sitios para que fuera razonable que la gente acudiera a uno de ellos”, dijo el Diácono Bennett.

Santuario Mariano Diocesano

St. Joseph Parish, 434 Church Ave., Bowling

Green. Oficina parroquial: (270) 842-2525

El Santuario Mariano en la Parroquia San José, dedicado a María, Madre de la Iglesia y modelo de todos los cristianos, fue declarado santuario diocesano por el entonces obispo de Owensboro, John J. McRaith, en 1989.

Horario de Misas: 5:30 p.m. martes en inglés; 7 a.m. jueves y viernes en inglés; 8:30 a.m. primer sábado en inglés; 6:30 p.m. jueves en español; 4 p.m. sábados (Vigilia dominical) en inglés; 8 y 10 a.m. domingos en inglés; mediodía y 2 p.m. domingos en español.

Confesiones: 4:15-5:15 p.m. martes; 5-6 p.m. jueves and 2-3:30 p.m. sábados. Los Padres de la Misericordia de la cercana Auburn, Kentucky, también ofrecen confesiones todos los días, señaló el P. Harpole.

Parroquia San León

401 N. 12th St., Murray. Oficina parroquial: (270) 753-3876

Para el Jubileo, además de ser un sitio de peregrinación, San León está planeando varios eventos. Uno de esos eventos, una Noche de Adoración, Reflexiones y Lecturas, se llevó a cabo el martes 11 de marzo. Otros eventos planificados incluyen un servicio de oración de la Rosa de Plata, que promueve la dignidad de toda vida humana y honra a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe y está patrocinado por los Caballeros de Colón, en la Misa en español de las 5:30 p.m. el 31 de mayo.

Horario de Misas: 12:05 p.m. lunes, martes, jueves y viernes; 6 p.m. miércoles; 4 p.m. sábados (vigilia dominical) en inglés y 5:30 p.m. sábados en español; 8 y 11 a.m. domingos.

Confesiones: 11:30 a.m. al mediodía martes; 5-5:45 p.m. miércoles; 3-3:45 p.m. sábados. O con cita previa llamando a la oficina parroquial.

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Parroquia San Francisco de Sales

116 S. Sixth St., Paducah. Oficina parroquial: (270) 442-1923

Horario de Misas: 12:05 p.m. martes a jueves; 8 a.m. viernes, seguida de la Adoración Eucarística; 5 p.m. sábados; 8:30 y 11 a.m. domingos.

Confesiones: 3:30-4:30 p.m. sábados o con cita previa llamando a la oficina parroquial.

Parroquia Santo Redentor

107 13th St., Beaver Dam. Oficina parroquial: (270) 274-3414

La Parroquia Santo Redentor se organizó por primera vez en la década de 1950 como una misión atendida por los Glenmary Home Missioners, explicó el P. Julio Barrera, párroco de las Parroquias Santo Redentor y la Santísima Trinidad en Morgantown.

Cuando los feligreses se enteraron por primera vez que había sido seleccionada por el Obispo Medley como sitio de peregrinación, “todos quedaron un poco sorprendidos. Al principio, no sabían qué significaba”, dijo el P. Barrera. “La comunidad quedó sorprendida y luego muy contenta. Están entusiasmados por recibir a los peregrinos”.

Ser seleccionado como sitio de peregrinación transmite el mensaje de que “somos parte de la Iglesia Universal”, afirmó el P. Barrera. “Además, es una gran oportunidad para que la comunidad ejerza este gran don de la hospitalidad... Ser hospitalario es fundamental para cualquier cristiano”.

La posibilidad de recibir una indulgencia con una visita al Santísimo Redentor “es una gran oportunidad para que todo cristiano reciba la gracia de Dios”, dijo el P. Barrera.

Horario de Misas: 5:30 p.m. miércoles en inglés; 5:30 p.m. jueves en español; 8 a.m. viernes en inglés; 4 p.m. sábados en inglés; 5:30 p.m. en español; y 11 a.m. domingos en inglés.

Confesiones: 5 p.m. jueves. ■



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

En esta foto del 20 de febrero se ve abierto en una página con el mapa diocesano y otra información para ayudar a los peregrinos locales a participar en el jubileo, un librito de “pasaporte”, que se utiliza como parte de la celebración del Jubileo de la Esperanza de la Diócesis de Owensboro en sus seis sitios de peregrinación.

El “Pasaporte” es una guía para los sitios de peregrinación del Jubileo de Esperanza 2025

Para ayudar a quienes visitan uno, dos, tres o incluso los seis sitios de peregrinación, la oficina de co-comunicaciones diocesana ha publicado un “pasaporte” lleno de información sobre cómo participar en el jubileo, cómo obtener una indulgencia plenaria y detalles sobre cada uno de los sitios de peregrinación, así como otros recursos. En cada uno de los sitios de peregrinación, se puede recoger tarjetas con la oración del jubileo en inglés y español y una copia del pasaporte, que también está disponible en inglés o español. En el pasaporte hay información sobre cómo conectarse más profundamente con la vida espiritual durante el jubileo, incluyendo la Adoración Eucarística, el Sacramento de la Reconciliación y el año jubilar mismo. Cada sitio tiene un sello exclusivo cuya temática está acorde al sitio respectivo. Si los visitantes sellan las seis páginas en los diferentes sitios, pueden recibir una bolsa de mano gratis de la diócesis enviando fotos del pasaporte sellado por correo electrónico a communications@pastoral.org o subiendo las fotos visitando <https://tinyurl.com/oborohope>.