

THE WESTERN
KENTUCKY



Catholic

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Faith, fun
and mercy

Year of
Mercy
JUBILEE YEAR 2015-2016

Diocese-wide
'Encuentro' draws
Hispanic community together to pray,
celebrates the Jubilee Year of Mercy

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Español

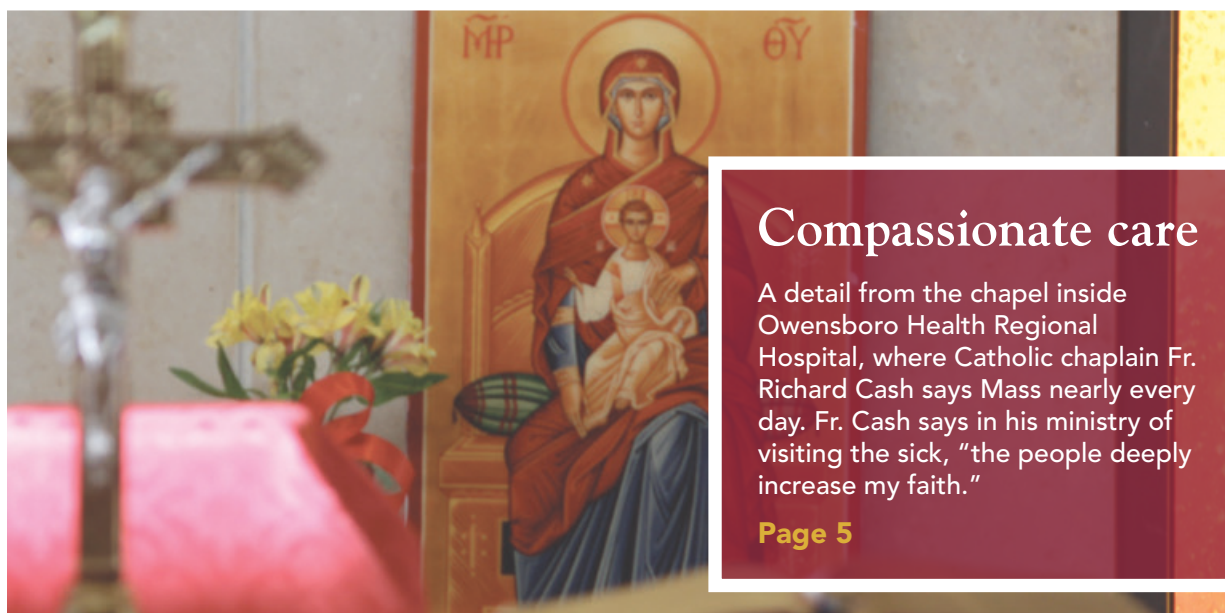
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To submit stories and articles

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

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

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

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The Holy Eucharist: Source and Summit of Christian Life

My dear people of God,

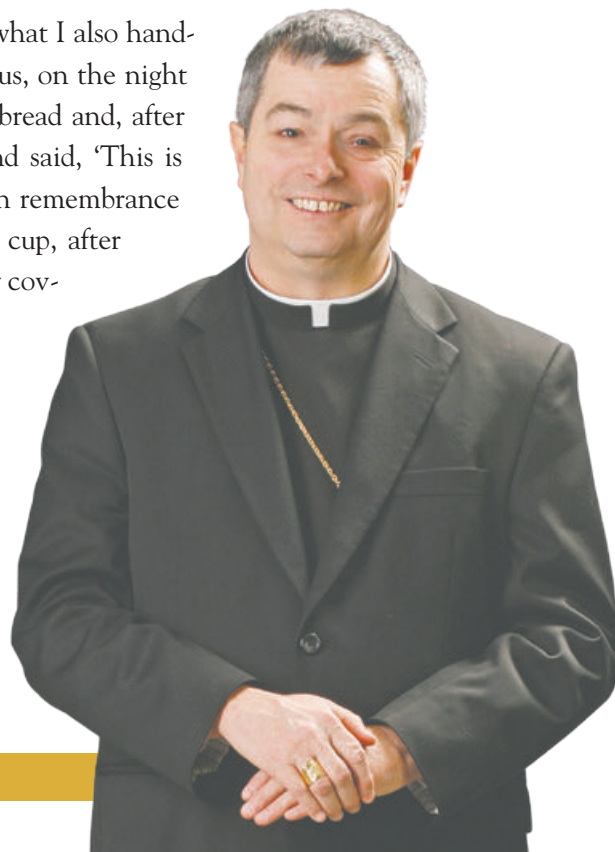
I am often asked the question, "Why do you remain a Roman Catholic?" You may pause to think that someone would ask this question of a bishop. But the context is usually that the questioner is often disillusioned by the Catholic Church as they know it in our day, or perhaps even across its history. After all, the failures and shortcomings of the followers of Christ are epic. That failure did not take long; even the lives of the Apostles are marked by human sin. The imperfections of the Church still are documented and displayed in 2016.

In the interest of some balance, allow me to note too that the Catholic Church, from the Apostles onward, is rich in accomplishments and heroic witness. The lives of saints portray some of the greatest charity and nobility of human history.

But my answer; why do I remain? I answer now as I would have fifty years ago. I am Catholic because I believe that Jesus abides with this flawed Church through the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.

"For I received from the Lord what I also handed on from you, that the Lord Jesus, on the night before he was handed over, took bread and, after he had given thanks, broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you, do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way also the cup, after supper saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as long as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes." (I Corinthians 11: 23-26)

The Church speaks of the Holy Eucharist as the "real presence" of Christ continuing in the



BISHOP MEDLEY'S CALENDAR ● MARCH 2016

- MAR 1** 9:00 a.m. ● McRaith Catholic Center Staff Mass & Meeting – MCC
- MAR 5** 4:30 p.m. ● Pastor Installation, Fr. Joshua McCarty – St. Joseph Parish, Central City
- MAR 6** 6:00 p.m. ● Mass – Murray State University Newman Center
- MAR 7** Meeting, USCCB Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People
- MAR 8** 9:00 a.m. ● Conversations with Seniors – Owensboro Catholic High School
6:00 p.m. ● Confirmation – St. Agnes Parish, Uniontown
- MAR 9** 8:30 a.m. ● School Mass – Mary Carrico Memorial School, Knottsville
- MAR 10** 8:00 a.m. ● School Mass – Sts. Peter and Paul School, Hopkinsville
- MAR 13** 10:30 a.m. ● Mass, Youth 2000 – Owensboro Convention Center
2:00 p.m. ● Scout Religious Emblem Mass – St. Stephen Cathedral
- MAR 16** 8:30 a.m. ● Diocesan Finance Council Meeting – MCC
- MAR 17** 8:00 a.m. ● School Mass – Trinity High School, Whitesville
9:00 a.m. ● Conversations with Seniors – Trinity High School
- MAR 19** 10:00 a.m. ● Mass, Feast of St. Joseph – Mount St. Joseph, Maple Mount
- MAR 20** 11:00 a.m. ● Palm Sunday Mass – St. Stephen Cathedral
- MAR 22** 6:30 p.m. ● Chrism Mass – Owensboro Sportscenter
12:00 p.m. ● Priests' Personnel Committee Meeting – MCC
1:30 p.m. ● Priests' Council Meeting – MCC
- MAR 24** 6:00 p.m. ● Evening Mass of the Lord's Last Supper – St. Stephen Cathedral
- MAR 25** 3:00 p.m. ● Good Friday of the Lord's Passion – St. Stephen Cathedral
- MAR 26** 8:00 p.m. ● Easter Vigil – St. Stephen Cathedral
- MAR 29** 10:00 a.m. ● School Mass – St. Mary Middle School, Paducah
12-3:00 p.m. ● Paducah Office Hours – Lourdes Hospital
- MAR 31** 9:00 a.m. ● School Mass – Owensboro Catholic 4-6 Campus

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A Word from Bishop Medley ... Continued from page 3

world. Yes, Christ's presence is manifest in many ways: in the other sacraments, in the proclamation of the Word of God, and very notably in the assembly of the faithful who gather to share in this remembrance. The Eucharist though, I would say, is a premier presence of Christ. It is that ritual action that Jesus himself defined and entrusted so powerfully to the Apostles and to the Church at the Last Supper. Historically we know that the Church as a community and institution has evolved and had many faces over twenty centuries. But Paul's words to the Corinthians document that Church from its earliest days found this ritual, this sacrament, constitutive of what it means to follow Christ.

The Fathers of the Second Vatican Council, in reflecting on the Holy Eucharist, speak in *Lumen Gentium* of the sacrament as the "source and summit of Christian life." By this they teach us that the sacrament of Holy Communion is the source to which we come to enrich the very life of Christ within us. Likewise it is the summit where we celebrate and extol our shared life in Christ.

Often I look out upon the assembly at Mass and realize that these few dozen or maybe many thousands of people come with very diverse motives. On any given Sunday there may well be someone who just days before has learned of a serious illness of a loved one or themselves. Some are in deep depression, concerned over a failing marriage or children headed in a wrong direction. But others are there carrying a secret that they know new life has been conceived and is growing within them. Perhaps a dream has been fulfilled or a milestone accomplished.

For all of these the Holy Eucharist is an apt place to come to worship, to celebrate, to find consolation and hope. The Church wisely seeks to observe life's profound moments near the table of the Eucharist, celebrating Baptism, Matrimony and Christian funerals there.

Whatever extreme of human emotion one brings to the Lord's table, it is always a place of mercy. Every time we approach the table the last public words we speak are a plea for mercy: "Lord I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed." I believe that our Lord does not hesitate for one moment to speak that word. As Pope Francis has so aptly reminded us, the name of God is mercy. We are not perfect as we approach the altar and most likely will not be perfect for long when we leave. But in this moment of grace Jesus Christ heals our souls. Holy Communion is not a reward for saints but a medicine for sinners. I have often remarked that if only saints could come to Holy Communion that we could save a lot of money on bread and wine.

Holy Thursday is March 24. On this sacred night we celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper. We remember the institution of the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. As a prelude to eating and drinking the bread and wine that has become the Body and Blood of Christ, the Church celebrates a once a year ritual. The priest(s) call forth from the assembly of the faithful men and women to symbolically have their feet washed, recalling Jesus' own action at the Last Supper. "As I have done, so must you do." So, there is a cost to the sacrament: we must commit over and over again to serving our neighbor, especially the least among us.

Check your Church bulletin and plan now to celebrate this Commemoration of the Lord's Sup-

per in your parish.

I guess I could write a book, or several books, about why I am a Catholic and love this flawed Church. But the heart of my answer would always be that I am fed and nurtured by her, just as Jesus intended.



Most Reverend William F. Medley
Diocese of Owensboro

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month



Join Bishop Medley
for Evening Prayer

Wednesday, April 13, 2016
6:30 PM

Pray for PROTECTION and HEALING
for all impacted by child abuse.

St. Francis de Sales Church
116 South 6th Street, Paducah, KY

At your service

Hospital chaplains touch lives with compassionate care



Fr. Richard Cash, Catholic chaplain assigned to Owensboro Health Regional Hospital, celebrates Mass in the hospital chapel on Feb. 5. Photo by Elizabeth Wong Barnstead, The Western Kentucky Catholic.

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Fr. Richard Cash had just finished a busy round of his ministry as a hospital, hospice and nursing home chaplain, and was relieved to sit down to a quiet dinner.

Then his cellphone rang – it was the switchboard operator at Owensboro Health Regional Hospital – and he learned that a critically-ill patient needed Anointing of the Sick as soon as possible.

He asked the restaurant to package up his food and ran out the door. Fr. Cash reached the hospital in time to do the anointing before the patient passed away.

This was just an ordinary day for Fr. Cash, who has served as the Catholic chaplain at the Owensboro hospital since its opening in 2013.

“I’m on call six days a week, 24 hours a day,” said Fr. Cash, who recently shared this story with The Western Kentucky Catholic.

His day off is Thursday, but he recalls Bishop Emeritus John J. McRaith once telling him that “it doesn’t matter if it’s your day off; if someone’s dying, you go.”

And Fr. Cash knows this is important, citing “some beautiful confessions” he has heard from people who have not been to confession in years.

“As they get closer to death, they want to be closer to God,” he said.

Michael Onuoha, director of Spiritual Care Ser-

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Year of
Mercy
JUBILEE YEAR 2015-2016

Living the Year of Mercy

The Jubilee Year of Mercy was established by Pope Francis to last from Dec. 8, 2015 to Nov. 20, 2016. The Western Kentucky Catholic is celebrating this

holy year by featuring a series highlighting individuals who live the works of mercy around the Diocese of Owensboro. This month’s article tells the story of Catholic hospital chaplains, whose ministry exemplifies the work of “Visiting the Sick.”



An icon of Mary and Jesus rests in the sanctuary area of the Owensboro Health Regional Hospital chapel, where Fr. Richard Cash celebrates Mass on most days. Photo by Elizabeth Wong Barnstead, The Western Kentucky Catholic.



LaDonna Stevens, one of the Catholic employees at Owensboro Health Regional Hospital, often serves as sacristan and lector at the 12:02 Masses in the hospital chapel. Photo by Elizabeth Wong Barnstead, The Western Kentucky Catholic.

Bringing comfort

It's hard to watch others suffer. Dr. Matt Carrico, an Owensboro-based doctor, offers some simple advice to bring comfort when visiting the sick.

Be present: "Frequently people just need someone to be with them. Reassurance, emotional support, that sort of thing."

Listen: "I find that a lot of times people need to be heard. One of the best therapies is to listen."

The power of touch: "People need that physical contact sometimes."

Personal attention: "When I see (a patient) I do my best to try to really listen to them, understand what is bothering them and what their questions are, and make sure they understand that I know where they're coming from."

At your service ... Continued from page 5

vices at Lourdes Hospital in Paducah, would agree.

He has learned that "representing God's presence" to patients is what medical chaplaincy is all about.

Especially for critically-ill patients, "the need for that spiritual dimension takes priority," said Onuoha, who is a parishioner of St. Francis de Sales Parish in Paducah.

"Even in those overwhelming experiences," he said, acknowledging that life as a chaplain can be emotionally draining, "you reflect back on those you've touched. They keep us going; motivate us."

Fr. Cash called his ministry to both patients and hospital staff – including nurses, technicians, valets, receptionists, doctors and other employees that keep the hospital running – "part of the New Evangelization."

"The people deeply increase my faith," he said. "I get to see lots of beautiful things."

Being there

Onuoha's role as director includes his overseeing the seven hospital chaplains at Lourdes Hospital. He still does, however, minister to patients himself.

He recalled one patient, a young woman who had just miscarried her first pregnancy.

"It was so very difficult, devastating for her," he said. "She already had this attachment to the baby. She was blaming herself, and questioning God."

Spiritual Care helped arrange a funeral for the baby, and Onuoha spent time with the woman, who was Christian but was struggling greatly.

"As chaplains we are not to advise or preach to people or try to change their views, but guide them

through that view and what is going on," said Onuoha.

Onuoha kept up communication with her, and each day saw "a little progress," he said.

By the time she was discharged from the hospital the woman was on the road toward some emotional healing. The following year she returned and thanked Onuoha for his help.

"I can't really tell what I did," he said. "Except be there for her."

Onuoha said he is grateful for his team of chaplains, knowing that they can rely on each other as a support system. He is also appreciative of the hospital's chapel being open 24/7, where he can take time to reflect between tasks.

When a day is particularly exhausting, someone always seems to appear in his office to thank him for his care.

"It's a sign that God has put me here for a reason," he said.

Onuoha is also proud that Lourdes Hospital, as the only Catholic hospital in western Kentucky, is part of Mercy Healthcare – connecting its relevance to the Jubilee of Mercy.

"We're here to be the face of Christ," he said, and encouraged Catholics during the Jubilee Year to consider volunteering at hospitals or taking Holy Communion to sick and shut-ins.

"Part of our tradition as Catholics is to show mercy to others," he said.

Here to help

Fr. Cash said that if he doesn't have a specific assignment during the day he will make "cold calls," just visiting the different floors of the hospital to see

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Diocese-wide pilgrimage sites available through Year of Mercy

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Starting on Dec. 8, 2015, the first day of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, six pilgrimage sites were made available in the Diocese of Owensboro, Kentucky.

The pilgrimage sites are spread across western Kentucky so that faithful throughout the diocese may take part in the pilgrimage, or even visit all six.

The pilgrimage sites are St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro, the Chapel of Mercy at St. Thomas More Parish in Paducah, the Fathers of Mercy Chapel of Divine Mercy in Auburn, the Marian Shrine at St. Joseph Parish in Bowling Green, St. Mary of the Woods Parish in McQuady, and the Ursuline Sisters of Mount St. Joseph Motherhouse Chapel in Maple Mount.

Pilgrims are welcome to attend Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, confession and other Year of Mercy celebrations at these sites. Groups of more than eight to 10 pilgrims are advised to call ahead of time, so the pilgrimage sites can plan accordingly.

The contact at St. Stephen Cathedral is Michael Bogdan, who can be reached at (270) 852-8327. Weekend Masses at the cathedral are 5 p.m. vigil Mass on Saturday, and 7 a.m., 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Sunday.

The cathedral's daily weekday Masses are 7 a.m. and 12:05 p.m. Eucharistic adoration is on first Fridays from 5:30-6:30 p.m. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on Saturdays from 9:30-11:30 a.m., as well as on the Thursdays before first Fridays, from 4-5 p.m.



A detail from the Door of Mercy at St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro. File photo.



The tabernacle and stained glass windows inside the Chapel of Mercy at St. Thomas More Parish, Paducah. File photo.

There will be a special celebration for the Year of Mercy on June 3, 2016, the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Additionally, the Door of Mercy for the Diocese of Owensboro is located at the cathedral, and pilgrims are welcome to walk through as part of the pilgrimage. All other dioceses are encouraged to have a Door of Mercy at their own cathedrals as a sign of communion with the holy door at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.

The contact at the Chapel of Mercy at St. Thomas More Parish, Paducah, is Lois Bell at (270)

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Above: St. Mary of the Woods Parish, McQuady; one of the six pilgrimage sites in the Diocese of Owensboro. **Below:** The exterior of the motherhouse chapel belonging to the Ursuline Sisters of Mount St. Joseph in Maple Mount. File photos.



Diocese-wide pilgrimage sites ... Continued from page 7

534-9000. Weekend Masses are 5:30 vigil Mass on Saturday, plus 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday Mass in English, and 1 p.m. Sunday Mass in Spanish. Weekday Masses are 6 p.m. Monday, 7 a.m. Tuesday, 6 p.m. Thursday and 7 a.m. Friday.

There is perpetual adoration in the Chapel of Mercy. Reconciliation is available from 4-5 p.m. Saturday and 5:30-6 p.m. Thursday. On December 8, 2015 there was solemn sung vespers celebrating the opening of the Year of Mercy.



A detail from the ceiling of the Fathers of Mercy Chapel of Divine Mercy in Auburn. File photo.

The contact at the Fathers of Mercy Chapel of Divine Mercy in Auburn is Fr. Joel Rogers, CPM, at (270) 361-9613. Sunday Mass is at 10 a.m., and weekday Masses are 7:30 a.m. daily.

The daily eucharistic adoration is a 4:30-5:30 p.m. holy hour, but Year of Mercy special hours include the additional Mondays from 7-9 p.m. and Friday from 2-5:30 p.m.

Reconciliation at the Fathers of Mercy Chapel is Sunday from 9:15-10 a.m., and after every daily and Sunday Mass. Reconciliation is also available Mondays from 7-9 p.m. and Fridays from 3-5 p.m.



The interior of the Marian Shrine at St. Joseph Parish, Bowling Green. File photo.

A Year of Mercy celebration will take place here on April 3 for Divine Mercy Sunday, consisting of 10 a.m. Mass and devotions from 2-4 p.m. with confessions available in the morning and afternoon.

The contact at the Marian Shrine at St. Joseph Parish, Bowling Green, is the parish office at (270) 842-2525. Weekend Masses are 5 p.m. vigil Mass in English and 7 p.m. vigil Mass in Spanish, both on Saturday. Sunday Masses are 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. in English, and 12:30 p.m. in Spanish.

Weekday Masses at this location are 7 a.m. daily, plus the first Saturday of the month at 8:30 a.m., including first Saturday devotions.

Eucharistic adoration at the Marian Shrine is available upon request. Reconciliation is available from 3-4:30 p.m. on Saturday, 5-6 p.m. on Thursday and 6:30-8 p.m. on Wednesdays in Advent and Lent.

The contact at St. Mary of the Woods Parish in McQuady is Sister Mary Agnes at (270) 756-2093. Weekend Masses are 4 p.m. vigil on Saturday and 8 a.m. on Sunday. Weekday Masses are 6 p.m. on Tuesday and 8 a.m. on Thursday.

Eucharistic adoration is the first Thursday of the month, and reconciliation is available from 3:15-3:45 p.m. on Saturday.

The contact at the Ursuline Sisters of Mount St. Joseph Motherhouse Chapel, Maple Mount, is Sister Mary Matthias Ward, OSU, at (270) 229-2011. Sunday Mass is 11 a.m.

Daily Mass at the motherhouse chapel is 7:15 a.m., but 9 a.m. on holidays. Eucharistic adoration is Friday from 3-5 p.m. ending with Evening Prayer of the Church. Adoration is also available on the

second Sunday of the month from 3-5 p.m., also ending with evening prayer.

Reconciliation will be available at the motherhouse chapel on Sunday, March 13 at 4 p.m. Programs celebrating the Year of Mercy will be offered at the Mount St. Joseph Conference and Retreat Center on the same campus; contact ursulinesmsj.org to learn more. ♦

At your service ... Continued from page 6

if anyone needs a priest.

“It’s my joy to help the pastors,” he said, explaining that patients often want to see their own priests, but he is available if their pastors have other commitments.

Sometimes the hospital’s chaplains of other denominations, as well as nurses and emergency room staff, will even contact him for the Catholic patients.

“I always take the public elevator because I end up with four or five new patients,” he said, noting that when people see his Roman collar they often approach him just to talk.

He emphasized his availability to do anointings before surgeries, explaining that patients need

only to call the hospital switchboard and ask for the priest.

Since Fr. Cash is the only Catholic chaplain at the Owensboro hospital, he said he is happy to have volunteers from local parishes who serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for the bedridden.

And despite his busy schedule, he says Mass in the hospital’s open-24/7-chapel every day (except Thursday) at 12:02 p.m. – a celebration attended by hospital staff and visitors alike.

“Bishop Medley has been very kind to have a priest full-time at the hospital,” he said. “It’s a blessing.” ♦

Need a chaplain?

Patients at Owensboro Health Regional Hospital may request a priest’s services by calling switchboard, which is simply dialing “0” from a hospital phone, and asking for the Catholic chaplain. Those not using a hospital phone may dial switchboard at (270) 417-2000 and ask for the Catholic chaplain, or call the Pastoral Care office at (270) 417-2100.

Patients at Lourdes Hospital in Paducah may request chaplain services by calling switchboard, which is simply dialing “0” from a hospital phone, and asking for a Catholic chaplain. Those not using a hospital phone may dial (270) 444-2444 and ask for Spiritual Care Services.

RCIA programs thrive with community focus

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD,
THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

A successful RCIA program is “all about relationships,” says Elaine Robertson, director of the Office of Faith Formation for the Diocese of Owensboro.

RCIA, which stands for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, is the process through which adults become Catholic. RCIA programs vary by parish, but often include weekly sessions throughout the year leading up to the Easter Vigil, when these individuals formally enter the Church.

Unfortunately, after the Easter Vigil, some new Catholics will stop coming to church, often through disengagement when post-Easter RCIA classes end.

Too often, “we just kind of drop them and forget to check up on them, to make them aware they are still thought of,” said Robertson.

She said it is important to have a strong parish community both to help an RCIA program thrive, and also to help new members feel welcome.

Drew Hardesty, director of religious education, or DRE, at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Owensboro, said that from the first day of RCIA “I try to stress what the next months have in store, and how important it is to come back after Easter.”

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RCIA programs thrive ...
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Hardesty said the first RCIA class after the Easter Vigil spends the entire period reflecting on the whole vigil experience.

“If they understand and see that’s what they can experience at every Mass, they may come back,” said Hardesty. “That’s when I try to teach them how to stay Catholic.”

Rose Wheeler, DRE at Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Henderson, said their RCIA team has been restructuring the RCIA program – after being inspired by the “TeamRCIA” parish resource – to make it year-round.

“You don’t have to do it on your own – that’s the model of RCIA that I love,” said Wheeler.

Part of this involves Wheeler meeting one-on-one with “inquirers,” or those who are curious about Catholicism, in three short sessions before any kind of commitment to attending RCIA.

“Everyone doesn’t fit in a box,” she said, explaining that the method of pre-meeting with inquirers has worked out well for Holy Name’s format.

The short meetings involve simple discussions so that Wheeler can learn the inquirers’ perspectives. Conversations include what is prayer, what is a relationship with God and what the person wants a community to be.

“I allow them to ask me anything,” said Wheeler, emphasizing that she has met with people from many backgrounds, all before actually starting RCIA.

Robertson suggested that the RCIA team carefully selects sponsors – the individuals who walk beside the catechumens and candidates during RCIA – who can introduce them to parish minis-

Did you know?

The people going through the RCIA process are called catechumens or candidates, depending on what sacraments they will receive at the Easter Vigil. Catechumens are those who have never been validly baptized and will receive the three sacraments of initiation – baptism, Eucharist and confirmation – at the vigil. Candidates are individuals who were validly baptized in the past, whether by the Catholic Church or a non-Catholic denomination, but who would like to complete the process with the Catholic Church by receiving the sacraments of Holy Communion and confirmation.

tries to join.

“Sponsors are coming as friends,” said Robertson.

She encouraged parishioners to “say hello to these people,” since seeking out new faces is better than waiting for the new faces to come to you.

Hardesty agrees: “The whole process is community-oriented,” he said.

Besides building up community connections over and over, Hardesty and his RCIA team like to hold a potluck at the end of the year and “bring in the people in charge of all the ministries.”

“We have the neophytes” – the term for newly-initiated Catholics – “write down what ministries they are interested in,” he said, and the ministries will reach out to them later.

Holy Name’s program follows a similar setup of sharing a meal and connecting participants with potential ministries.

The different ministries provide the food, and someone from the ministry is encouraged to share why they are involved. The RCIA team tries to bring in ministries relevant to the topic discussed that evening, such as the rosary society when discussing Mary, or the Bible study group when learning about scripture.

“It has been very well –received by these ministries!” said Wheeler.

Robertson offered a comparison to when a son or daughter becomes engaged: families do their utmost to make the new family member feel welcome and loved.

“We need that relationship in there somewhere,” she said.

Hardesty said that besides post-Easter classes to discuss things like raising a Catholic family or understanding evangelization, he likes to provide resources for the neophytes. This way, they can grow in their faith even after RCIA at Lourdes has ended.

“Easter’s just the beginning, not the end,” said Hardesty. ♦

St. Gerard Life Home

Providing housing and services to pregnant women and their babies

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

Archives Corner

MARCH 2016

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



Parishioners exit St. Leo Catholic Church in Murray, Kentucky, after attending the church's blessing and dedication by Bishop Francis R. Cotton in 1949.



Students from the First Communion class at SS. Joseph and Paul Grade School in Owensboro, Kentucky, on May 17, 1953.

St. Francis de Sales Parish brings mercy to poor, hungry



Fr. Bruce McCarty and staff members, Jennifer Record, Zach Ault, Douglas P. Arnold, Mark Lewis, Maria Korte and Sharla Wells, of St. Francis de Sales Parish, have begun preparing and serving meals on the first Wednesday of each month at Community Kitchen in Paducah. They began serving a meal before Thanksgiving and felt this would be a good way to celebrate the Year of Mercy and give back to the community by helping feed the hungry. Photo courtesy of St. Francis de Sales Parish.

Year of Mercy to be focus for Chrism Mass 2016

This year the Diocese of Owensboro's March 22 Chrism Mass will incorporate the Year of Mercy into the liturgical environment. Catholic schools and parishes in the diocese are invited to participate in the "Hands of Mercy" project, which consists in writing recently-done "works of mercy" on paper hand-shaped cutouts. Submitted photos, sent to Office of Worship co-director Martha Hagan at martha.hagan@pastoral.org, may be shared to show children and/or adults performing works of mercy. These cutouts and photos will be used to contribute to the liturgical environment. Hand cutouts must have arrived at the McRaith Catholic Center by March 10. For more information and to learn how your parish or school can submit cutouts for the Chrism Mass, contact Martha Hagan by email or at (270) 852-8366.

Annual parish Good Friday collection to support Holy Land

On Feb. 10, 2016, (Ash Wednesday), Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, prefect of the Congregation for Eastern Churches, released a letter thanking Catholic bishops around the world for their commitment to the upcoming Good Friday collection in their dioceses. This annual collection gathers much-needed funds for the suffering Christians in the Holy Land, which is currently undergoing agonizing persecution. Cardinal Sandri writes: "In this Jubilee year, we are urged more than ever to demonstrate our mercy and solicitude for our brothers in the Middle East. Refugees, displaced persons, the elderly, children, and the sick are all in need of our help."

Considering Adoption?

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

DRF pilot program a success

During the August 17, 2015 Priest Council Meeting for the Diocese of Owensboro it was agreed that chancellor Kevin Kauffeld would bring in a consultant to work on the diocese's annual appeal, known as the Disciples Response Fund. The pilot program that resulted used four parishes – Blessed Mother, Owensboro; St. Anthony, Browns Valley; St. Joseph, Bowling Green and St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro – to test the idea.

The pilot program was successful, with a 100 percent increase in pledges this year versus last year. As of Jan. 11, 2016, the collected pledges of all four of these parishes have exceeded 2015's appeal. Blessed Mother drew an 80 percent increase, St. Anthony drew a 126 percent increase, St. Joseph drew a 332 percent increase and

St. Stephen drew a 47 percent increase. Additionally, there was a total of 232 first-time givers to the appeal, and 30 percent of pledges to St. Joseph's campaign was from the Hispanic community.

In a Jan. 11 presentation to the 2016 Priest's Convocation, Kauffeld said that the significance of this new program was more than a direct-mail appeal. "Other than a training manual and some bulletin announcements, the in-pew process is what had been added but the most significant, I believe, is the pastor's initiative to get behind the promotion of the appeal."

Further steps will include meetings between Bishop William F. Medley and the Priest Council to discuss the results and determine any changes to the DRF appeal process.

To Report Allegations of Sexual Abuse

Anyone aware of the abuse of a person under the age of eighteen is required by law to report this to the proper state authorities: local law enforcement or the Kentucky Child Abuse Hotline (toll-free: 1-877-KYSAFE1; 1-877-597-2331).

In addition, to report to the diocese abuse by church personnel (paid or volunteer) either past or present, please call the Pastoral Assistance Coordinator at this confidential phone line: 270-852-8380. The Diocese of Owensboro revised its sexual abuse policy, effective July 1, 2014 and it is available at parishes and also on the diocesan web site (www.rcdok.org/safe).

The members of the Board who deal with sexual abuse allegations in the Diocese of Owensboro are as follows: Mr. Ken Bennett (Chair), Mr. Mike Boone, Ms. Kaye Castlen, Rev. Mike Clark, JCL, Dr. Michael Farina, Mr. Mike Flaherty, Ms. Rhonda Gillham, Mr. Brandon Harley, Ms. Mary Beth Hurley, Mr. Tony Kraus, Mr. Michael Marsili, Ms. Kelly Roe (Vice-Chair), and Ms. Jennifer Hendricks-Wright. Richard Murphy serves as the Bishop's liaison to the Review Board. The safety of our children is the responsibility of every Christian.

Faith taking flight: Pilot-catechumen ready to join Catholic Church

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD,
THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

It's just what comes from having a career as a pilot, but catechumen Peter Carroll and his wife, Whitney, have had to relocate a lot.

"We say that we live the life of two gypsies," said Peter, who works as a private pilot for MidAmerica Jet, based in Owensboro.

Peter will become Catholic at St. Stephen Cathedral's Easter Vigil on March 26, which will mark both the end of a long journey of seeking, and the beginning of a new journey in faith.

The Carrolls came to Owensboro in summer 2014, and wanted to make as much of a home as possible in the western Kentucky city. This included Whitney's interest in rejoining the Catholic Church, which was the religion of her youth.

Peter said his wife pointed out that no matter where you go around the world, "you can count on the Catholic Church to be the same."

They found their niche with St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro, and Whitney joined RCIA — the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults — so that she could be confirmed. Peter attended Mass and classes with her, but held back from participating himself, due to negative associations with religion from years ago.

The Carrolls, who had been civilly married for seven years already, learned that for Whitney to become Catholic they would need to attend pre-marriage counseling and plan to have their marriage blessed by the Church.

"On April 1, 2015 we were married in the



Peter Carroll, who enters the Catholic Church at St. Stephen Cathedral on March 26, stands in front of an aircraft in the hangar belonging to MidAmerica Jet, where he works as a private pilot. He says that his career as a pilot causes him and his wife to relocate a lot, and the Catholic Church provides a sense of permanency no matter where they go. Photo by Elizabeth Wong Barnstead, The Western Kentucky Catholic.

Church," said Peter, and said their sponsor couple, Kim and Carl Lewis, helped them abundantly during the pre-Catholic-marriage preparation.

During Whitney's RCIA process Peter had experienced growing interest about Catholicism, but because he wanted this journey to be solely about his wife, he hadn't voiced this interest.

But after Whitney's confirmation and their marriage in the Church, Peter began to "feel peace over myself when at Mass."

He began to download Catholic books, such as "Catholicism For Dummies" by Fr. John Trigilio Jr. and Fr. Kenneth Brighenti — which he quipped that he hadn't known was a real book until he Googled "Catholicism for dummies."

Peter realized there was something special about the Catholic Church, and finally told Whitney of his desire to become Catholic, to which she was "more than delighted" and also "relieved."

Peter was clear that this was not anything Whitney was forcing him to do; that this was truly his own decision: "There's a sense of 'I'm not making him do this.'"

While his initiation into the Church is not until the end of March, the Carrolls are already learning what it is like to be a Catholic couple.

"Whitney comes with me nearly every single week for RCIA," said Peter. And on Sunday mornings, Peter is often the one who reminds Whitney to wake up so they can go to Mass.

Peter said he enjoys the RCIA classes at the cathedral.

"I probably ask more questions than anyone else in RCIA history," he said.

Peter said that he personally "craves moral leadership" and appreciates the Church's guidance on moral and ethical matters.

And while Christmas was once just another day in the year for him, Peter said he knows "it is now the culmination of Advent. Holidays now mean something completely different."

"I'm excited about more and more of the pieces fitting together," he said. "It's one of those things you know fits right." ♦

Encuentro Familiar in western Kentucky

BY TINA KASEY, OFFICE OF
COMMUNICATIONS

On January 30, 2016, the Diocese of Owensboro's Office of Hispanic Ministry hosted an "Encuentro" of families at SS. Peter and Paul Parish in Hopkinsville, KY. The theme was "Jubilee Year of Mercy."

For the third year in a row Fr. Julio Palarino from the Archdiocese of la Plata, Argentina was the guest speaker. Fr. Palarino spoke on the parable of the Prodigal Son, found in Luke 15. His talk focused on how we can show mercy to others, just like the father in the parable was merciful to his lost son.

"Reflecting on the 'Year of Mercy'; the 'Encuentro' turned out to be one beautiful sign of unity, faith and devotion amongst Hispanic Catholic families originally from various Latin American Countries but now living in Western Kentucky," said Chris Gutierrez, director of Hispanic Ministry.

Music was provided by the worship team from St. Joseph Parish in Bowling Green; Ben Warrell, director of Gasper River Retreat Center, helped occupy the nearly 130 children below sixth grade age; and Susy Solorza, director of Hispanic Youth and Young Adult Ministry for the diocese, worked with the approximately 30 middle and high school students on Year of Mercy skits.

Lunch was served to the more than 400 in attendance, who came from Beaver Dam, Bowling Green, Elkton, Henderson, Madisonville, Mayfield, Owensboro, Paducah, Russellville, and Sebree. The day concluded with confession and a vigil Mass. ♦



Families gather together to pray for one another during the adoration portion of the Encuentro. Photo by Tina Kasey.



Ben Warrell brings parachutes, balls, hula hoops and a rope for tug-of-war to keep the children entertained. Photo by Tina Kasey.



Tug-of-war is a huge hit with the children! Photo by Tina Kasey.



Fr. Julio Palarino speaks on the parable of the Prodigal Son. Photo by Tina Kasey.

March Wedding Anniversaries

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

Blessed Mother, Owensboro

R. C. & Margaret Keith, 59
Walter & Lillian Redd, 40

Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro

Frank & Gloria Adams, 51

Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson

Paul & Nina Drury, 57
William & Charlotte Faulkner, 60
Kelly & Pammi Hayden, 10
David & Paula Morris, 40
Robert & Liz Shea, 62
Jerry & Jewel Marie Williams, 57

Holy Spirit, Bowling Green

John & Jennifer Simms, 25
William & Janis Newman, 5
Phuong Doan & Nguyen Phan, 5

Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

Larry & Betty Clark, 50
Carroll & Joyce Ferguson, 58
William & Sarah Kemper, Jr., 54
Dennis & Gloria Ramage, 54

Precious Blood, Owensboro

Dennis & Cindy Dowell, 25
Paul & Doris Westerfield, 59

Sacred Heart, Hickman

Don & Deborah Lattus, 40

St. Agnes, Uniontown

Gary & Vickie Lehner, 40
Steve & Terry Buckman, 25

St. Ann, Morganfield

Jerome & Jennifer Duncan, 5
Billy Wayne & Cynthia Greenwell, 40
Steve & Jeanie Hancock, 40

St. Anthony, Axtel

Thomas & Betty Clark, 50
Bobbie & Mary Moore, 59

St. Columba, Lewisport

Jimmie & Carol Harper, 54

St. Denis, Fancy Farm

Jack & Rose Riggs, 59
Jerry & Barbara Hayden, 50

St. Edward, Fulton

Paul & Mary Pennell, 60

St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Clarkson

Raymond & Carol Hill, 54

St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

Dean & Rebecca Canestrini, 25
Pat & Betty Robinson, 51
John & Lynda Oldham, 51
Richard & Brenda Hayden, 54
Charles & Marie Riggs, 68

St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

Allen & Gwen Hobbs, 5
John & Tammy Harris, 25
Andrew & Helen Elliott, 40
James & Fay Johnson, 64

St. John the Baptist, Fordsville

J. C. & Maggie Edge, 58
James & Mary Jane Nelson, 51

St. John the Evangelist, Paducah

Bill & Alisa Clark, 25
Thomas & Helen Ellington, 63

St. Joseph, Bowling Green

Elias & Bridgette Ruiz, 5
Jim & Jill Sauerheber, 5
John & Wanda Purcell, 50

St. Joseph, Mayfield

Leonard & Barbara Webb, 54
Howard & Imogene Riley, 68

St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho

Jim & Barbara Pinkston, 54

St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Wilbur & Patsy Phelps, 57

St. Michael, Oak Grove

Ryan & Kimberly Dela Victoria, 5



Divine Mercy Sunday

Divine Mercy Sunday is a very special Sunday when the Divine Floodgates from Heaven are wide-opened and Jesus offers us the total forgiveness of all sins and punishment to any soul, who goes to Confession and receives Him in Holy Communion, on that day.

WHEN

April 3, 2016
1:30 pm - 4 pm

WHERE

Blessed Mother Catholic Church
601 East 23rd Street,
Owensboro, KY 42303

INFORMATION

Deacon and Joy Bach - 270.685.3743
Kelly Hedges - 270.302.8976

Open the Floodgates of Mercy

"Dear brothers and sisters, I have thought about how the Church can make clear its mission of being a witness of mercy,"

"It's a journey that starts with a spiritual conversion. For this reason I have decided to declare an Extraordinary Jubilee that has the mercy of God at its center. It will be a Holy Year of Mercy."



—Pope Francis

Divine Mercy Agenda

- 1:30 "The Mercy Desire"
- 2:15 Break
- 2:30 "The Mercy Elevator"
- 3:00 Divine Mercy Chaplet
- 3:30 "The Mercy Springs",

Fr. Richard Cash, Speaker

Reconciliation Available

St. Pius X, Owensboro

Min Sung & Ngun Phen, 10
Jerome & Gail Hoesli, 59

St. Romuald, Hardinsburg

Shane & Alison Mattingly, 5

St. Stephen, Cadiz

Gerald & Maxine Corbey, 57

St. Thomas More, Paducah

Jim & Martha Kallaher, 25
Charles & Linda Wilson, 57

Marcus & Opal Cooper, 59

Joe & Betty Falconite, 61

St. William, Knottsville

Logan & Kenya Boarman, 5

SS. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro

Joseph L. & Betty Johnson, 66

SS. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

Richard & Betti Block, 54

Richard & Deborah Narkevic, 25

Jesse & Karla Baker, 5

Events at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center

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

Evening with an Ursuline Dinner/Presentation

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

Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center

The \$20 fee includes dinner.

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

April 5 – Sister Ruth Gehres, OSU *Chile: An Ursuline Adventure*

Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph have ministered in Chile for 50 years. This ministry continues today at Casa Ursulina in the city of Chillán. This program will recognize the early Ursuline pioneers in Chile and introduce you to the lively, fruitful ministry at Casa Ursulina, which celebrates its 19th anniversary in 2016.

May 3 – Sister Vivian Bowles, OSU *Mind Management*

This session stresses self-management for growth and accomplishment. Once we have a clear positive self-image, we can strengthen our inner resources and mental attitudes. We will learn basic affirmations that instill self-acceptance, pleasant personalities, spiritual growth, handling and communication of emotions,

healthier thinking, and motivation. These attributes and skills will further develop self-acceptance that will curtail negative mental games that we tend to play with ourselves and others.

June 7 – Sister Ann McGrew, OSU *The Choice to Say "Yes;" The Choice to Say "No"*

"Indeed, the big decisions in life are hardly ever clear -- except for one. And that one is piercingly clear: life is a series of dilemmas, of options, of conundrums, of possibilities taken and not taken. Negotiating these moments well is the essence of the life well lived." (Quote by Sister Joan Chittister, OSB)

July 5 – Sister Mary Matthias Ward, OSU *Blueprint for Life: Beatitudes*

This presentation is based on the Gospel of Saint Matthew 5:3-10.

Aug. 2 – Sister Ruth Gehres, OSU *The Gift of Forgiveness*

The ability to love and to forgive is above all something that God does in us. In this program we will contemplate the astonishing gift of God's forgiveness . . . and how forgiveness can be a gift that we give to one another and, beyond that, to ourselves.

National Catholic Sisters Week

The third annual National Catholic Sisters Week is March 8-14, 2016. Meet a Sister. Be Inspired. This is a time to celebrate the lives and contributions of Catholic Sisters. Visit www.nationalcatholicsistersweek.org.

Mount Saint Joseph Quilt Club

Sign up by March 30 to get your name into the 2015-16 Quilt of the Month Club drawings. The drawings take place the first Friday of each month. For a \$20 ticket, you can still get six chances to win a handmade quilt. To order your ticket(s), contact Kris Mango at 270-229-2009 or kris.mango@maplemount.org.



SAVE THE DATE
Friday, Sept 23, 2016

THE OWENSBORO
CONVENTION CENTER

Cocktail Hour 5:00 p.m.



Dinner 6:00 p.m.

Events 7:00 p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration

Second Sunday of each month
March 13, April 10, May 8, June 12, July 10, Aug. 14, Oct. 9, Nov. 13, Dec. 11
(Note: There is no Adoration on Sept. 11 – Picnic Day)

3 p.m.-5 p.m. *The time has been extended to two hours during the Year of Mercy.*

Mount Saint Joseph Motherhouse Chapel

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Organ Concert

Sunday, April 3 at 2 p.m.

Mount Saint Joseph Motherhouse Chapel,
8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount

James Wells, director of music at St. Stephen Cathedral, will be playing an organ concert. The public is invited.

Mount Saint Joseph Academy and Junior College Reunion

Weekend of May 14-15, 2016

Alumnae Weekend includes Mass; a banquet where anniversary classes are recognized and Maple Leaf winners are announced; the taking of class photos, and other social activities. For more information, visit ursulinesmsj.org, call 270-229-2006 or email alumnae.ms@maplemount.org. Registration forms will be mailed to alumnae and will be available online in the near future.

Associates and Sisters Day

Saturday, June 11, 2016

Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center

This is the annual day when all Ursuline Associates and Sisters gather at Mount Saint Joseph to listen to inspiring speakers, welcome new associates, renew associate commitments, attend Mass and enjoy lunch and socializing. For more information, visit ursulinesmsj.org, call 270-229-2006 or email associates.ms@maplemount.org. Registration forms will be mailed to associates and will be available online in the near future.

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

The Tender Mercy of God: Jesus and Gospel Women

March 11-13, 2016

Retreat Director: Sister Cheryl Clemons, OSU



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



Sister Cheryl

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

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

To register, contact Kathy: (270) 229-0206 • kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org
Find a brochure at www.ursulinesmsj.org under Conference & Retreat Center

Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

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

NEW Book Study: A Father Who Keeps His Promises

Thursday, March 10, 2016

10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Fee: \$10 per class (includes lunch)

"A FATHER WHO KEEPS HIS PROMISES" is a book by Scott Hahn on God's covenant Love in Scripture. It explains how God patiently reaches out to us — despite our faults and shortcomings — to restore us into relationships with his divine Family. Hahn begins with Adam and Eve and continues down through the generations to the coming of Christ and the birth of the Church.

SCHEDULE: March 10 • April 14 • May 12 • June 9

• Aug. 11 • Sept. 8 • Oct. 13 • Nov. 10 • Dec. 8

Director: Sister Ann McGrew, OSU

Classes take place on the **SECOND THURSDAY** of each month (there is no class in July).
Feel free to attend any and all sessions.

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

Find a flyer at www.ursulinesmsj.org under Conference & Retreat Center

Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 2016 BULLETIN BOARD

■ Lenten fish fries around our diocese

Lent is here and so are our fish fries! Fish fries in western Kentucky include the following:

- **Precious Blood Parish, Owensboro:** Feb. 12, 19, 26 & Mar. 4, 5, 11, 18 at 5:30 p.m.
- **St. Martin Parish, Rome:** Feb. 26 & Mar. 11 at 5 p.m.
- **St. Ann Parish, Morganfield:** Feb. 12, 19, 26 & Mar. 11 at 5-7 p.m.
- **SS. William and Lawrence Parishes:** Feb. 12, 19, 26 & Mar. 4, 11, 18 at 4:30-6:30 p.m.
- **St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph:** Mar. 18 fish fry at 5:30 p.m., live & silent auctions at 6:30 p.m.
- **St. Agnes Parish, Uniontown:** Feb. 19, Mar. 6 & 18 at 5 p.m.
- **St. Columba Parish, Lewisport:** Feb. 12, 19, 26 & Mar. 4, 11, 18 at 4:30-7 p.m.
- **St. Pius X, Calvert City:** Feb. 12, 19, 26 & Mar. 4, 11, 18 at 4:30-7 p.m.
- **Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Owensboro:** Mar. 18 at 5-7 p.m. For information call (270) 926-4741.
- **St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro:** Mar. 11 at 5-7 p.m. in the cathedral undercroft.

■ Lourdes Knights-sponsored Lenten fish fries

Our Lady of Lourdes Knights of Columbus Council is again sponsoring the Lenten Fish Fries on Friday nights during Lent. These will be on Feb. 12, 19, 26, March 4, 11, 18 at 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the parish hall. For \$10 adults get all-you-can-eat catfish fillets, hush puppies, French fries, white beans, coleslaw, desserts, and a drink. Children 5-12 are \$5 and ages 4 and under eat FREE! Serving is in the Parish Hall from 5:30-7:30, with Stations of the Cross at 6:30 p.m.

■ New Divine Mercy film to screen in Paducah

Coming soon: a great way to prepare for the Divine Mercy novena that goes from Good Friday, March 25 through Divine Mercy Sunday, April 3. The touring film produced especially for the Jubilee Year of Mercy, "The Original Image of the Divine Mercy,"

will be shown on two different dates at St. John the Evangelist Parish, 6705 Old US Hwy. 45 S., Paducah, KY, 42003. The 120-minute film will be shown in the church on March 23 and 30 at 6 p.m. The film features prominent Catholic faces including George Weigel, Bishop Robert Barron, Immaculee Ilibagzia, Fr. Dwight Longnecker, Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz, and Jim Gaffigan. All are invited. Donations to help cover the cost of the showing will be accepted. To learn more call the parish office at (270) 554-3810 or visit divinemeracyfilm.com.

■ First diocesan Gennesaret Retreat to be held this spring

The three-day Gennesaret Retreat is designed for persons with chronic or life-threatening medical conditions. The weekend retreat includes time for rest, prayerful reflection, daily conferences, Eucharist and the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. The

retreat staff includes experienced nurses and team members who will provide for the special needs of all retreatants. The Gennesaret Retreat will be held at the Mount St. Joseph Retreat Center in Maple Mount, Ky. on April 29, 30, and May 1, 2016. For more information, call Tom Payne at (270) 929-8544 or Amy Payne at (270) 316-0403.

■ Register today for Gasper River!

Registration Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp has begun and spots fill up quickly! Please visit our website, gasperretreatcenter.org to register online or to download forms and mail them in and for additional information on all camps this summer. We will have over 700 campers this summer, so get those forms in as quickly as you can so you don't miss out. If you have any questions, please contact our office at (270) 781-2466.

MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER

MARCH

- 4-6 Yarn Spinners Weekend
- 10 A Father Who Keeps His Promises
- 11-13 Women's Retreat: Tender Mercy of God
- 11-12 Immaculate Conception Confirmation Retreat
- 18-20 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program

APRIL

- 4-8 Spiritual Direction Training (Week 3)
- 5 Evening with an Ursuline dinner and presentation: Chile - Ursuline Adventure
- 9-10 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 14 A Father Who Keeps His Promises
- 15-17 Glory Conference Women's Retreat

- 19-21 Chix With Stix
- 22-24 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program
- 29-1 Gennesaret Weekend Retreat

MAY

- 3 Evening with an Ursuline dinner and presentation: Mind Management
- 6-8 Christian Women's Retreat
- 11 Owensboro Catholic 4-6 Campus 6th graders Prayer Day
- 12 A Father Who Keeps His Promises
- 14-15 MSJ Academy/Junior College Reunion
- 21-22 Marriage Team Formation
- 27-29 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program
- 27-29 Journaling Ladies



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



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

UPCOMING EVENTS

■ Passionist nuns request translating assistance

The Passionist Nuns of Whitesville need the volunteer help of someone fluent in Italian who has the time to do some translating for them.

Interested? Email Mother Catherine Marie at nunsp@passionistnuns.org.

■ Brescia seeking theology program director

Brescia University (<https://www.brescia.edu/>) has an opening for the Program Director of Living and Leading with Love (LLL) Theology Youth Institute, which will provide Catholic high school students with an on-ground and online theological experience. The Program Director will be a staff position, with the potential for a half-time, non-tenure-track faculty position in theology. The Program Director will continue program development, implementation, and evaluation. The successful candidate will be a practicing Catholic. Employment with Brescia is "at-will." Minimum Qualifications: Master's required in a relevant field; Ph.D. preferred; demonstration of scholarship with a focus on teaching with high school youth; demonstration of pastoral skills with youth; experience in higher education preferred; experience in managing programs; knowledge of instructional technology. Send cover letter, résumé, copy of official transcripts, and three professional references: Brescia University, PR#16-05, 717 Frederica Street, Owensboro, KY 42301.

■ Bishop John J. McRaith Catechetical Leader Award nominations now being accepted

The diocesan Offices of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry are asking for nominations for the Bishop John J. McRaith Catechetical Leader Award. The recipient will be announced at the Appreciation Dinner for Catechetical and Youth Ministers on May 16 at the Fr. John Vaughan Center in Owensboro, Kentucky. Nominees should be (or have been) professional ministers working for a minimum of five years in the Diocese of Owensboro in the field of catechetics. Contact elaine.robertson@pastoral.org for nomination forms or to learn more. All nominations should be mailed to the Religious Education Office, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, KY 42301 or emailed to elaine.robertson@pastoral.org by April 29.

■ Saint Mary Academy seeking school principal

Saint Mary Academy, a 2015 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence of 550 students from preschool through 8th grade in Louisville, KY, is in search of an experienced school principal for the 2016/2017 academic year. We are the parish school for Saint Bernadette Catholic Church, a growing Catholic community with highly involved families located

within Norton Commons. We are seeking a candidate who is a practicing Catholic with a minimum of four years administrative experience and certification to work collaboratively with the parish. Inquiries and resumes should be submitted by March 10th, 2016 to: Principal Search Committee, Attn: Nancy Falls via email at nancyf@stb2008.org or mailed to 6500 Saint Bernadette Avenue, Prospect, KY 40059.

2016 Summer Camp Schedule at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center

Registration is now open! To register or to learn more, visit gasperriverretreatcenter.org, call (270) 781-2466 or email gasperriver@hotmail.com.

March 4th to 6th

Staff Interview Weekend

May 20th to May 27th

Staff Training

May 30th to June 3rd

Eucharistic Life Camp
Age 18 and over

June 5th to June 10th

Expedition I
5th & 6th Grade
Quest I
7th & 8th Grade

June 12th to June 17th

Explorer I
3rd & 4th Grade
Camp LIFE I
High School

June 19th to June 24th

Expedition II
5th & 6th Grade

Quest II
7th & 8th Grade

June 26th to July 1st

Camp LIFE II
High School
Made For More Camp
High School Men

July 3rd to July 8th

Camp LIFE III (large camp)
High School

July 10th to July 15th

Explorer II
3rd & 4th Grade
Expedition III
5th & 6th Grade

July 17th to July 22nd

Quest III (large camp)
7th & 8th Grade

July 24th to July 29th

Expedition IV
5th & 6th Grade
Quest IV
7th & 8th Grade

July 31st to Aug. 5th

Explorer III
3rd & 4th Grade
Camp Lolek
High School
Emphasis on Theology of the Body; "Put out into the Deep!"

Dec. 29th to Jan. 1st

Christmas/New Year's Camp
8th Grade & High School

Catholic Campaign for Human Development Local Grant Information

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) is a national social justice program of the United States Catholic Bishops. Its mission is to address the root causes of poverty in America through promotion and support of community controlled, self-help organizations, and through transformative education of the non-poor. Each year in November, the Diocese of Owensboro, Kentucky participates in the national Catholic Campaign for Human Development collection. From that collection, a percentage of monies are retained to provide grant funding to local organizations which meet CCHD criteria. Catholic Charities administers and allocates the grant funding. To apply, please send a brief narrative of your organization, budgeting information, how your organization would meet the CCHD criteria of systemic change, what community organizations your group receives support from, and whether your organization's policy-making board has one-third low-income members (if your board does not contain one-third of its members who are low-income also include an explanation of why this is not so). Applications for grant funding must be received by **May 20, 2016** so that grants can be awarded on or before **June 20, 2016**. The grant is a non-renewable and must be applied for each year. Three years is the total number of years any one group can receive this grant. Each year several grants are awarded averaging between \$800-\$1200 each. The grant application is a little shorter and a little more simplified to complete this year.

Criteria:

1. The applicant's project must be within the thirty-two counties which comprise the Roman Catholic Diocese of Owensboro. These counties include: Fulton, Hickman, Graves, Ballard, McCracken, Carlisle, Calloway, Marshall, Trigg, Lyon, Livingston, Caldwell, Christian, Hopkins, Muhlenburg, Todd, Logan, Simpson, Allen, Warren, Butler, Edmonson, Grayson, Ohio, Breckinridge, Hancock, Daviess, McLean, Hen-

person, Union, Webster, and Crittenden.

2. The applicant project's policy making board must be at least one-third low-income. If this is not the case, the applicant must explain why the board does not have setting low-income board members. (Low-income board members do not include those considered voluntarily poor such as clergy, religious sisters, students, VISTA volunteers, etc.)
3. The applicant project's efforts must seek to benefit a poverty group.
4. The applicant project must seek to create institutional or systemic change by changing the structures that keep people poor and powerless.
5. CCHD will consider favorably only those projects which demonstrate respect for the dignity of the human person. CCHD will not consider projects or organizations which promote or sup-

port abortion, euthanasia, the death penalty, or any other affront to human life and dignity.

6. The activity for which funding is requested must be consistent with the moral teachings of the Roman Catholic Church.
7. Projects should generate cooperation and solidarity among and within diverse groups in the interest of a more integrated and mutually understanding society.
8. Projects should document that as a result of CCHD funding there are possibilities of generating funds from other sources or of moving towards becoming self-supporting within the time lines established in the proposal.

For more information or to apply, contact Richard Murphy, director of the Office of Social Concerns for the Diocese of Owensboro, at (270) 683-1545 or richard.murphy@pastoral.org.

Join our Spinning Retreat Weekends!

Next Weekend Retreat: March 4-6

Also Scheduled:

June 3-5, Aug. 26-28, Nov. 4-6

Whether you are an experienced yarn spinner, weaver, rug hooker, knitter, crocheter or a beginner, you are welcome to attend the Arts at the Mount weekend retreats at Mount Saint Joseph. Enjoy the fellowship of those who appreciate this traditional skill.

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

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



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

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

2016 Parish Picnic Schedule for the Diocese of Owensboro

Editor's Note: Don't forget to attend the International Bar-B-Q Festival in downtown Owensboro on May 13 and 14, 2016! A number of our parish cooking teams will be represented there. We hope to see you!

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <p>May 22
St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville
Serving at 11 a.m.</p> <hr/> <p>June 4
Precious Blood, Owensboro
Booths open at 3 p.m.; Serving at 4 p.m.
St. Joseph, Leitchfield
Serving at 3 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>June 11
Holy Spirit, Bowling Green
Serving from 4-9 p.m.
St. Pius X, Owensboro
Serving at 4 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>June 18
St. Romuald, Hardinsburg
Serving at 3 p.m.
Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro
Serving at 3 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>June 25
St. Peter of Antioch, Waverly
Serving at 5 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>July 2
St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho
Games begin at 3 p.m.; serving at 4 p.m.
St. Anthony the Abbot, Axtel
Serving at 3 p.m.
St. Denis, Fancy Farm
Serving at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>July 9
Immaculate Conception, Hawesville
Serving at noon
St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph
Booths open at 3 p.m.; serving at 4 p.m.</p> | <p>July 16
St. Charles, Bardwell
Begins 10 a.m.; lunch 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; supper 4:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.; raffle drawing 9 p.m.
St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley
Serving at 4 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>July 23
St. Mary of the Woods, McQuady
Serving at 4 p.m.
Blessed Mother, Owensboro
Serving at 4 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>July 30
St. Paul, Leitchfield
Serving at 3 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Aug. 2
St. Martin, Rome
Drive-through picnic 5 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Aug. 6
St. Jerome, Fancy Farm
Serving at 11 a.m.
Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro
Serving from noon-4 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Aug. 20
Holy Guardian Angels, Irvington
Serving at 3 p.m. Eastern Standard Time</p> <hr/> <p>Aug. 21
St. Pius X, Calvert City
Serving at 3 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Aug. 28
Rosary Chapel, Paducah
Serving at noon</p> | <p>Sept. 9-10
Holy Name of Jesus Fall Festival, Henderson
Friday 5 p.m.-10 p.m.; Saturday 11 a.m.-10 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Sept. 10
St. Agnes, Uniontown
Serving at 4:45 p.m.
St. John the Evangelist, Paducah
Serving at 11 a.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Sept. 11
Mount St. Joseph, Maple Mount
Booths open at 10:30 a.m.; serving at 11:30 a.m.; picnic ends and raffle drawn at 3 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Sept. 17
St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro
Serving from noon-5 p.m.
Christ the King, Madisonville
Serving from 4-8 p.m.
St. Columba, Lewisport
Serving at 4 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Sept. 18
SS. William and Lawrence, Philpot
Serving at 11 a.m.; St. Lawrence picnic grounds
St. Leo, Murray
Serving at noon</p> <hr/> <p>Sept. 24
St. Elizabeth, Clarkson
10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Honeyfest Chicken Dinner, silent auction and raffle
Immaculate, Owensboro
Raffle and barbecue cookout 2-4 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Sept. 25
St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville
Serving at 11 a.m.</p> |
|--|--|---|



St. Francis de Sales celebrates newly confirmed

Bishop William F. Medley confirmed youth of St. Francis de Sales Parish, Paducah, on Feb. 6. Pictured from left to right are (front row) Nadia Pacheco, Sydney Ellegood, Maria Korte (youth minister); (second row) Vicki Ross (catechist), Madison Rupp, Julianna Moore, Abbi Vannatter, Dorian Record; (third row) Fr. Bruce McCarty, Ryan Gillituk, Jessie Moore, Dustin Bilski; (back row) Logan Livesay, Bishop Medley, Abbie Hannan. Photo courtesy of St. Francis de Sales Parish.

Mary Carrico students square dance, visit sisters



Fifth through eighth grade students of Ursuline Sister Mary Celine Weidenbenner at Mary Carrico Catholic School in Knottsville visited Maple Mount on Feb. 4 to square dance for the Ursuline Sisters. These students learned to square dance during their physical education classes starting in the fifth grade, and the dances they learned complement what they learned in their social science classes with Sister Mary Celine. The students began and ended their performance with the prayer, "Lord, what do you want me to do?" Photo courtesy of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount St. Joseph.

19th Annual
YOUTH 2000
 A Eucharistic Centered Retreat for ages 13-30
 at the Owensboro Convention Center

March 11-13, 2016
 Jubilee Year of Mercy

"Let God surprise you with his love and care for you!"
 Bishop William F. Medley

To register or learn more:
MarianShrineKY.org
 (270) 683-1545
 (270) 992-3393

EL CALENDARIO DEL OBISPO MEDLEY PARA MARZO 2016

- MARZO 1** 9:00 a.m. ● Misa y Reunión del Personal del Centro Católico McRaith – MCC
- MARZO 6** 6:00 p.m. ● Misa – Centro de Newman en la Universidad de Murray State
- MARZO 7** Reunión, Comité para la Protección de Niños y Jóvenes del USCCB
- MARZO 8** 9:00 a.m. ● Conversaciones con los “Seniors” – Escuela Preparatoria Católica de Owensboro
6:00 p.m. ● Confirmación – Parroquia San Inés, Uniontown
- MARZO 9** 8:30 a.m. ● Misa Escolar – Escuela Memorial de María Carrico, Knottsville
- MARZO 10** 8:00 a.m. ● Misa Escolar – Escuela de San Pedro y San Pablo, Hopkinsville
- MARZO 13** 10:30 a.m. ● Misa, Youth 2000 – Centro de Convenciones de Owensboro
2:00 p.m. ● Misa de las Emblemas Religiosas de los Scouts – Catedral de San Esteban
- MARZO 16** 8:30 a.m. ● Reunión del Consejo Diocesano de Finanzas – MCC
- MARZO 17** 8:00 a.m. ● Misa Escolar – Escuela Preparatoria de la Trinidad, Whitesville
9:00 a.m. ● Conversaciones con los “Seniors” – Escuela Preparatoria de la Trinidad
- MARZO 19** 10:00 a.m. ● Misa, Fiesta de San José – Monte San José, Maple Mount
- MARZO 20** 11:00 a.m. ● Misa de Domingo de Ramos – Catedral de San Esteban
- MARZO 22** 6:30 p.m. ● Misa Crismal – Centro Deportivo de Owensboro
- MARZO 24** 6:00 p.m. ● Misa de la Última Cena del Señor – Catedral de San Esteban
- MARZO 25** 3:00 p.m. ● Viernes Santo de la Pasión del Señor – Catedral de San Esteban
- MARZO 26** 8:00 p.m. ● Vigilia Pascual – Catedral de San Esteban
- MARZO 29** 10:00 a.m. ● Misa Escolar – Escuela Secundaria de Santa María, Paducah
12-3:00 p.m. ● Horas de Oficina en Paducah – Hospital de Lourdes
- MARZO 31** 9:00 a.m. ● Misa Escolar – Escuela Católica de Owensboro 4-6 Campus

La Santa Eucaristía: Fuente y Culmen de la Vida Cristiana

Mi querido pueblo de Dios,

A menudo me preguntan, “¿Por qué sigues siendo Católico Romano?” Tal vez te preguntarías por qué alguien le hará esa pregunta a un Obispo. Pero el contexto normalmente es que la persona está decepcionada con la Iglesia Católica cómo la conocen hoy en día, o tal vez a través de la historia. Después de todo, los fracasos y defectos de los seguidores de Cristo son épicos. Tal fracaso no tomó mucho tiempo; aún las vidas de los Apóstoles son marcadas por el pecado humano. Las imperfecciones de la Iglesia todavía son documentadas y exhibidas en 2016.

Con el fin de ofrecer un poco de balance, permítame mencionar también que la Iglesia Católica, desde los Apóstoles en adelante, está rica en logros y testimonio heroico. Las vidas de los santos son ejemplos de la caridad y nobleza más grande de la historia humana.

Pero mi respuesta de ¿por qué me quedo? Contesto ahora igual que lo hubiera hecho hace cincuenta años. Yo Católico porque creo que Jesús vive en esta Iglesia imperfecta en el sacramento de la Santa Eucaristía.

“Lo que yo recibí del Señor, y a mi vez les he transmitido, es lo siguiente: El Señor Jesús, la noche en que fue entregado, tomó el pan, dio gracias, lo partió y dijo: «Esto es mi Cuerpo, que se entrega por ustedes. Hagan esto en memoria mía». De la misma manera, después de cenar, tomó la copa, diciendo: «Esta copa es la Nueva Alianza que se sella con mi Sangre. Siempre que la beban, háganlo en memoria mía». Y así, siempre que coman este pan y beban esta copa, proclamarán la



Continúa en página 24

Una Palabra del Obispo Medley ...
Continuación de página 23

muerte del Señor hasta que él vuelva.” (1 Corintios 11:23-26)

La Iglesia habla de la Santa Eucaristía como la “presencia real” de Cristo continuando en el mundo. Sí, se manifiesta la presencia de Cristo en muchas formas: en los demás sacramentos, en la proclamación de la Palabra de Dios, y particularmente en la asamblea de los fieles quienes se juntan para compartir en esta memoria. Pero yo diría sin embargo que la eucaristía es la presencia principal de Cristo. Es la acción ritual que Jesús mismo definió y entregó tan poderosamente a los Apóstoles de la Iglesia en la Última Cena. Pero las palabras de Pablo a los Corintios documentan que la Iglesia desde sus primeros días encontró en este rito, este sacramento, lo primordial de lo que significa seguir a Cristo.

Los Padres del Consejo Vaticano Segundo, reflexionando sobre la Santa Eucaristía, en *Lumen Gentium* dicen que el sacramento es “la fuente y culmen de la vida Cristiana.” Con esto nos enseñan que el sacramento de la Sagrada Comunión es la fuente donde acudimos para enriquecer la vida de Cristo mismo en nosotros. Asimismo es el culmen donde celebramos y ensalzamos nuestra vida compartida en Cristo.

Con frecuencia contemplo la asamblea en la Misa y me doy cuenta de que estas docenas o hasta miles de personas vienen con motivos muy diversos.

Sitios de Peregrinación

El Año de la Misericordia

El 1 de Noviembre del 2015, en la Solemnidad de Todos los Santos, el Obispo William F. Medley, lanzó un decreto designando los seis sitios de peregrinación para el Jubileo Extraordinario de la Misericordia.

Catedral de San Esteban ● Owensboro

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

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

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

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

La Parroquia de Santa María del Bosque ● McQuady

En cualquier Domingo puede haber alguien que días antes se enteró de una enfermedad grave de un ser querido o de sí mismo. Algunos están en una depresión profunda, preocupados por un matrimonio en fracaso o hijos en un mal camino. Pero otros allí están guardando el secreto de una vida nueva que ha sido concebido y está creciendo en sus vientres. Tal vez otros alcanzaron una meta o cumplieron un sueño. Para todos la Santa Eucaristía es un lugar apto para venir a dar culto, celebrar, y encontrar consuelo y esperanza. La Iglesia con mucha sabiduría procura observar los momentos profundos de la vida cerca a la mesa de la Eucaristía, celebrando el Bautizo, el Matrimonio y funerales cristianos allí.

Sin importar cual extremo de las emociones humanas nos acerca a la mesa del Señor, siempre es un lugar de la misericordia. Cada vez que nos acercamos a la mesa las últimas palabras que decimos en voz alta son pedir la misericordia: “Señor, no soy digno de que entres en mi casa, pero una palabra tuya bastará para sanarme.” Creo que nuestro Señor no se espera ni un momento para decir esta palabra. Como el Papa Francisco nos ha recordado tan bien, el nombre de Dios es la misericordia. No somos perfectos al acercarnos al altar y seguramente no seremos perfectos por mucho tiempo después, pero en este momento de gracia Jesucristo nos sana nuestras almas. La Sagrada Comunión no es recompensa para los santos sino una medicina para los pecadores.

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dores. Con frecuencia he dicho que si solamente los santos pudieran venir a la Sagrada Comunión podríamos ahorrar mucho dinero en el pan y vino.

El Jueves Santo es el 24 de Marzo. En esa noche sagrada celebramos la Misa de la Cena del Señor. Recordamos la institución del sacramento de la Santa Eucaristía. Como preludeo de comer y beber el pan y el vino que se ha convertido en el Cuerpo y la Sangre de Cristo, la Iglesia celebra un rito que se hace una sola vez al año. El sacerdote llama de la asamblea de los fieles hombres y mujeres para lavarse los pies simbólicamente, recordando la acción de Jesús en la Última Cena. "Lo que yo he hecho con ustedes, también ustedes lo hagan." Entonces, hay un costo del sacramento, tenemos que comprometernos una y otra vez a servir nuestro prójimo, especialmente el más necesitado entre nosotros.

Observe el boletín en su parroquia y haga planes ahora para celebrar esta Conmemoración de la Cena del Señor en su parroquia.

Supongo que podría escribir un libro, o varios libros, sobre el por qué soy Católico y amo a esta Iglesia imperfecta. Pero en el centro de mi respuesta siempre será que soy alimentado y nutrido por ella, igual como propuso Jesús.



Obispo William F. Medley
Diócesis de Owensboro

Cuaresma y Semana Santa



"Misericordia quiero y no Sacrificios" es el lema cuaresmal escogido por el Papa Francisco que durante esta Cuaresma hemos estado reflexionando. Estamos a poco tiempo de celebrar la semana mayor

o Semana Santa. No hay duda de que durante la cuaresma, siempre se nos presenta una oportunidad más de regresar a Dios a través de la reconciliación. Y reconciliación no solo refiriéndome a lo sacramental pero también reconciliándonos entre unos y otros, es decir, disculpándonos nuestros errores y perdonándonos nuestras faltas. Todos necesitamos algo de que ser perdonados. La cuaresma es como ese calibrador o termómetro que nos ayuda a realizar un alto en nuestra vida y repensar si es que caminamos con Cristo o bien estamos necesitados de referenciar nuestra ruta de vida.

La Semana Santa siempre es una semana bella porque nos encamina a través del misterio de la pasión, muerte y resurrección del Señor. De manera especial el "Triduo" comenzando con el Jueves Santo, nos adentrará en ese misterio del precio que nuestro Señor Jesucristo pago por nuestras culpas. Ojalá y pues, que las disciplinas cuaresmales

de estas últimas semanas antes de la Pascua nos sigan ayudando a acercarnos más al Señor a través del acercamiento de unos con otros.

El Papa Francisco así como el mismo lema para esta cuaresma constantemente nos recuerdan; no es tanto lo exterior o las prácticas de lo que necesita nuestro enfoque sino un cambio de corazón, de actitud y de interés por el más pobre y necesitado en nuestras comunidades. Nosotros también estamos llamados a ser "misioneros de la misericordia" para nuestras comunidades. Nos pasa con frecuencia a los hispanos que hemos venido a los Estados Unidos que casi exclusivamente es el trabajo la cosa a lo que ponemos toda nuestra atención y empeño. Esta semana santa sin embargo; será pues una oportunidad más en nuestras vidas de recalibrar o de darnos un "tune up" -cambio de aceite- espiritual. Aprovechemos y vivamos al máximo las bendiciones de semana santa que la Iglesia nos ofrece. Les deseo una muy fructífera Semana Santa 2016 a cada uno, sus familias y comunidades parroquiales.

Cristóbal Gutiérrez
Oficina del Ministerio Hispano
Diócesis de Owensboro

¡Comparta sus noticias con el Católico de Kentucky Occidental!

Mande fotos y artículos al Católico de Kentucky Occidental a wkc.editor@pastoral.org antes del 15 de cada mes anterior a la publicación.

Parroquias con Misas en Español

Parroquia del Santo Redentor, Beaver Dam

Sábados – 5:00 p.m.

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

Parroquia de San José, Bowling Green

Jueves – 6:30 p.m.

Sábados – 7:00 p.m.

Domingos – 12:30 p.m.

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

Parroquia de Santa Susana, Elkton

Domingos – 12:00 p.m.

221 Allensville Street, Elkton, KY 42220

Contacto: Diácono Heriberto Rodríguez (302) 438-7335

Parroquia de Santa María, Franklin

Domingos – 1:30 p.m.

403 North Main Street, Franklin, KY 42134

Contacto: Padre Daniel Dillard (270) 586-4515

Parroquia Santa María y Santo Santiago, Guthrie

Sábados – 6:00 p.m.

313 3rd Street, Guthrie, KY 42234

Contacto: Diácono Heriberto Rodríguez (302) 438-7335

Parroquia del Santo Nombre de Jesús, Henderson

Domingos – 1:00 p.m.

511 2nd Street, Henderson, KY 42420

Contacto: Abraham Brown (270) 724-2172

Parroquia de Santos Pedro y Pablo, Hopkinsville

Domingos – 2:00 p.m. y 10:30 p.m.

Jueves – 5:30 p.m.

902 East 9th Street, Hopkinsville, KY 42240

Contacto: Padre Julio Barrera (270) 885-8522

Parroquia San José, Leitchfield

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

109 West Walnut Street, Leitchfield KY 42754

Contacto: Padre Steve Hohman (270) 784-1520

Parroquia de Cristo Rey, Madisonville

Domingos – 6:00 p.m.

1600 Kingsway Drive, Madisonville, KY 42431

Contacto: Padre Juan Vaughan (270) 821-5494

Parroquia de San José, Mayfield

Domingos – 12:30 p.m.

702 West Broadway, Mayfield, KY 42066

Contacto: Hermana Eloisa Torralba (270) 356-0339

Parroquia de la Santísima Trinidad, Morgantown

Domingos – 9:15 a.m.

766 Logansport Road, Morgantown, KY 42261

Contacto: Padre Juan René (270) 903-8070

Parroquia de San Leo, Murray

Sábados – 5:30 p.m.

401 North 12th Street, Murray, KY 42071

Contacto: Padre Eugene Batungbacal (270) 753-3876

Parroquia Santos José y Pablo, Owensboro

Domingos – 12:00 p.m. y 10:30 p.m.

609 East 4th Street, Owensboro, KY 42303

Contacto: Hermana Pilar Hinojosa (706) 936-3525

Parroquia de Santo Tomás Moro, Paducah

Domingos – 1:00 p.m.

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

5645 Blandville Road, Paducah, KY 42001

Contacto: Hermana Esther Ordoñez (270) 816-0657

Parroquia del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús, Russellville

Domingos – 2:00 p.m.

296 West 6th Street, Russellville, KY 42276

Contacto: Hermana Patricia Sullivan OP (270) 726-6963

Parroquia Cristo Rey, Scottsville

Cada Primer Martes de Mes – 7:00 p.m.

298 Bluegrass Drive, Scottsville, KY 42164

Contacto: Padre Daniel Dillard (270) 586-4515

Parroquia de San Miguel Arcangel, Sebree

Miércoles – 12:00 p.m.

Jueves – 12:00 p.m.

Domingos – 12:00 p.m. y 7:30 p.m.

57 Watkins Road, Sebree, KY 42455

Contacto: Patti Gutiérrez(270) 302-2782 o Padre Carmelo Jiménez (270) 881-7737

Para Hacer Informe de Alegatos de Abuso Sexual

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

Además, para informar a la Diócesis sobre el abuso por parte de algún personal (pagado o voluntario) de la Iglesia, en el pasado o presente, favor de llamar a la Coordinadora de Asistencia Pastoral a esta línea confidencial: 270-852-8380. La Diócesis de Owensboro acaba de revisar su reglamento sobre el abuso sexual, efectivo el 1 de Julio del 2014 y está disponible en todas las parroquias y también en el sitio web diocesano (www.rcdok.org/safe).

Los miembros de la junta que responden a las alegaciones de abuso sexual en la Diócesis de Owensboro son los siguientes: Mr. Ken Bennett (Presidente), Mr. Mike Boone, Ms. Kaye Castlen, Rev. Mike Clark, JCL, Dr. Michael Farina, Mr. Mike Flaherty, Ms. Rhonda Gillham, Mr. Brandon Harley, Ms. Mary Beth Hurley, Mr. Tony Kraus, Mr. Michael Marsili, Ms. Kelly Roe (Vice-Presidente), y Ms. Jennifer Hendricks-Wright. Richard Murphy sirve como enlace entre el Obispo y la Junta de Revisión Diocesano. La seguridad de nuestros niños es la responsabilidad de cada Cristiano.

Encuentro Familiar

POR TINA KASEY, OFICINA DE COMUNICACIONES

El 30 de enero del 2016, la Oficina de Ministerio Hispano de la Diócesis de Owensboro fue anfitrión de un Encuentro Familiar en la Parroquia de San Pedro y San Pablo en Hopkinsville, KY. El tema fue el “Año de la Misericordia”.

Para el tercer año seguido el Padre Julio Palarino de la Arquidiócesis de La Plata en Argentina fue el predicador invitado. El P. Julio habló acerca de la parábola del Hijo Prodigio que se encuentra en el capítulo 15 de Lucas. Su charla se enfocó en cómo podemos nosotros mostrar la misericordia a otros, igual como el padre en la parábola fue misericordioso con su hijo perdido.

“Reflexionando sobre el ‘Año de la Misericordia’; el Encuentro fue una señal muy bonita de la unidad, fe y devoción de las familias hispanas católicas que tienen su origen de varios países de Latinoamérica pero quienes ahora viven en Kentucky occidental,” dijo Cristóbal Gutiérrez, director del Ministerio Hispano.

Un grupo de alabanzas de la Parroquia de San José en Bowling Green proveyó la música; Ben Warrell, director del Centro de Retiros de Gasper River ayudó entretener a los casi 130 niños menores del 6to grado; y Susy Solorza, directora de la Pastoral Juvenil Hispana de la Diócesis, trabajó con los 30 adolescentes de las escuelas secundarias y preparatorias en obras de teatro sobre el Año de la Misericordia.

Se sirvió el almuerzo a los más de 400 personas presentes, quienes llegaron de Beaver Dam, Bowling Green, Elkton, Henderson, Madisonville, Mayfield, Owensboro, Paducah, Russellville y Sebree. El día se concluyó con confesiones y una misa de vigilia. ♦



Las familias se juntan para rezar unas para otras durante esta parte del Encuentro. Foto por Tina Kasey.



El Padre Carmelo Jiménez Salinas, párroco de la Parroquia San Miguel en Sebree, da la bienvenida a los presentes. Foto por Tina Kasey.



Ben Warrell lleva paracaídas, pelotas, aros y una soga para el juego de tirar de la cuerda para mantener a los niños entretenidos. Foto por Tina Kasey.



¡El juego de tirar de la cuerda fue un gran éxito con los niños! Foto por Tina Kasey.



El Padre Julio Palarino habla acerca de la parábola del Hijo Prodigio. Foto por Tina Kasey.

Six great qualities: How to spot a possible priestly vocation

BY FR. JASON MCCLURE, VOCATIONS DIRECTOR AND VICAR FOR CLERGY, DIOCESE OF OWENSBORO



Fr. Jason McClure

Greetings from the Vocations Office!

The Vocations Office is always encouraging young men to prayerfully consider their specific vocation, whether that be to marriage, single life, consecrated life, or priesthood.

We also ask all the faithful to join us in this ministry, to tell those in whom they see certain qualities, that they think they would make a good priest. Most priests had someone at some point mention a vocation to the priesthood to them.

But what are these qualities? What are we looking for when identifying strong candidates for seminary? The following are some of the qualities that would compel us to encourage someone to think about priesthood.

A passion for the Catholic faith:

Men who enter the seminary have a very apparent love for Jesus Christ and his Church. They are the men who live their lives for Christ and who seem to take the practice of their faith very seriously. They attend Mass regularly. They are involved in the life of their parish. They share their faith with others.

Men of prayer:

We come to know our personal vocation only in the context of prayer. People do not expect priests to be experts in everything but they do expect

them to be men of prayer. Thus, a good candidate for priesthood attends Mass, prays frequently, participates in the sacraments regularly, serves others, and strives to grow spiritually.

A desire and a willingness to serve:

A decision to follow Jesus Christ requires that we imitate him as we seek to serve and not to be served. As Pope Francis put it, “The life of Jesus is a life for others. The life of Jesus is a life for others. It is a life of service.” The priesthood is about service. And so we are looking for young men who possess a desire for helping people grow in Christ and for leading them to serve one another. A good candidate’s activity in his parish is a sign of his willingness to embrace a lifestyle of service to God and his people.

Maturity:

A strong candidate for seminary is one who has achieved normal emotional, psychological, social, and intellectual growth. He must also be leading a virtuous and moral life.

Humility:

Bishop Robert Barron once said that “in order to truly pursue the truth and goodness, it is necessary to let go of the ego and realize that everything we have and are is a gift from God.” A good candidate for seminary is one who is humble, seeking not his own glory but rather, to glorify the Lord with his life.

Courage:

Saying yes to God today is a sincere act of courage. In a world that encourages us to live for one’s self, it takes great courage to accept God’s will for our life. Whether we are called to marriage, priesthood, consecrated life, or to single life, we must have courage to faithfully pursue our vocation and to live our lives for Christ.

If you see in someone any of these qualities, pray for them and encourage them to seek God’s will for their life. Who knows, you might just be the instrument chosen by God to amplify his call in their life. ♦

Contact our Office of Vocations

(270) 683-1545

jason.mcclure@pastoral.org

owensborovocations.com

Facebook.com/owensborovocations

‘Named and clothed with Mercy’

Christie Anna Carmichael receives Passionist habit, new name

BY SISTER MARIA FAUSTINA, CP, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

On December 8, 2015 I was clothed in the Passionist habit – clothed in mercy, betrothed to the Lord in mercy – and given the name Sister Maria Faustina of the Agonizing Heart of Jesus and the Sorrowful Heart of Mary. My eyes were opened to the wondrous relationship between God’s mercy and the intimate love which He has for each of us.

God says through the prophet Hosea to a wayward Israel, “I will espouse you to Me forever...in love and mercy.” Jesus so thirsts for our love that when we return

to Him with all our heart, He not only restores us to Himself but elevates us to a tremendous dignity, calling us to spousal union with Himself. How much He desires this with each one of us! Is it any coincidence that in the parable of the Prodigal Son, the Father puts a ring on the finger of his repentant son? Jesus clothes us in mercy, and forms a “unique and unrepeatable” (MV*, 8) relationship with each soul. In my own life, Jesus Crucified has called me to be His bride; to be one small conduit through which His merciful love may flow from His wounds to the world.

*MV = Misericordiae Vultus, Bull of Indiction for the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, #8, Pope Francis

Sister Maria Faustina writes from Whitesville. ♦



(Left to right) Sister Frances Marie, CP; Sister Marie Faustina, CP; and Sister Lucia Marie, CP. The Passionist nuns ask for prayer for these three novices, and for more new candidates to the Passionist Nuns Monastery. Photo courtesy of the Passionist Nuns of Whitesville.



Pray & Learn

Please pray for Sister Maria Faustina and all young men and women whom our Lord is inviting to embrace the Consecrated Life. See more photos and learn more about Passionist life at www.passionistnunsblog.com.

Seminarians make retreat at MSJ



Seminarians from the St. Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in Indiana made their annual silent retreat at the Mount St. Joseph Conference and Retreat Center in Maple Mount the week of Jan. 17-23. The seminarians meet with priests one-on-one, and otherwise remain silent, other than during evening confessions. Each day they have Mass in the Center Chapel at 11:15 a.m. Pictured here are seminarian retreatants who wait for Mass to begin on Jan. 19. Photo courtesy of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount St. Joseph.

Places of pilgrimage in the Diocese of Owensboro

It's now the Year of Mercy and you are welcome to visit the six pilgrimage sites in our diocese! They are:



St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

610 Locust Street, Owensboro
Contact: Michael Bogdan, (270) 852-8327

Chapel of Mercy, St. Thomas More Parish, Paducah

5645 Blandville Road, Paducah
Contact: Lois Bell, (270) 534-9000

Fathers of Mercy Chapel of Divine Mercy, Auburn

806 Shaker Museum Road, Auburn
Contact: Fr. Joel Rogers, (270) 361-9613

Marian Shrine at St. Joseph Parish, Bowling Green

434 Church Avenue, Bowling Green
Contact: Parish office, (270) 842-2525

St. Mary of the Woods Parish, McQuady

4711 Highway 105 S, Hardinsburg
Contact: Sister Mary Agnes, (270) 756-2093

Ursuline Sisters of Mount St. Joseph Motherhouse Chapel, Maple Mount

8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount
Contact: Sister Mary Matthias Ward, (270) 229-2011

Out of consideration for the places of pilgrimage, pilgrims are asked that if more than 8-10 pilgrims are visiting, contact the site first to ensure that they can accommodate your group.

Dear Cursillistas: Koinonia leads to Cursillo

BY MARY HAGAN, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Koinonia is a stepping stone on the way to Cursillo. Many who have made a Koinonia have asked for the next step to joy and peace that can be kept for the rest of their lives. This is what Cursillo brings to Catholics who can receive reconciliation and be in full communion with the Catholic Church.

Koinonia is based on the model of Cursillo, just as TEC (Teens Encounter Christ) is a model of Cursillo.

Our Cursillo weekend brings men and women from separate retreat weekends to group reunions of a regular weekly meeting for those who carry on this flame of joy and love for Christians. Once a

month these weekly groups of four to eight people gather to share their piety, study, action and close moments with Christ.

At this monthly meeting we have a witness speaker who mirrors living a life of Christ as well as humans can.

Each participant needs a sponsor to bring them to the weekend and walk with them for the next year, helping them at group reunions and Ultreyas (monthly meetings).

If you need a sponsor, contact your parish to be put in touch with someone who has made a Cursillo. You can usually find one participating in the work of the Church, such as parish staff, lectors,

choir, parish council, picnic committee or another area.

Mary Hagan is lay director of the Diocese of Owensboro's Cursillo movement. ♦



Learn More

Upcoming men's Cursillo weekend is June 9-12, 2016; upcoming women's Cursillo weekend is June 16-19, 2016. Weekends are held at the Hawesville Retreat Center, and each weekend costs \$70. To apply, contact Mary Hagan at haganm95@yahoo.com with subject line "Cursillo" or call her at (270) 240-4778. You may also write to her at P.O. Box 222, Owensboro, KY, 42302.

Evangelization: Not bound by race

BY F. VERONICA WILHITE, DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF BLACK CATHOLIC MINISTRY, DIOCESE OF OWENSBORO

As we continue our Lenten journey and prepare for the celebration of Easter, I can only wonder how many of us share this time of prayer, reflection and self-examination with those around us who may not know the true joy of new or renewed faith.

Lent and the Easter season present opportunities for thoughtful evangelization. While we embrace those who join the Church at the Easter Vigil it may also be time to reflect on how we can invite others to explore the joy of God's love and our love for Him. Lenten revivals and missions have long been a source for faith renewal and Holy Week is rich with the Word, rituals and symbols of God's love.

As the daughter of a Baptist who converted to Catholicism before WWII, I know the deep commitment and the powerful love for God of those who come and who join us. My father was very proud of his Catholic faith and evangelized wherever he went. A farmer's son from Petit, he often recounted his faith journey to Catholicism as a teen who came to Owensboro on weekends to play and to pray with Catholic friends. He was well versed in the Bible and would discuss this and his Catholic faith with anyone. He and my mother (a cradle Catholic) would bring people to church if they needed a ride, visit them when they were sick and always bring garden vegetables to them in the summer. When he met a stranger (no matter what race or culture) his first question was always "what church do you go to?" There was always an invi-

tation to come to our church, Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

As Catholics we are called to evangelize and to spread the Good News. Somehow in today's world, many of us, especially Black Catholics, may not be comfortable sharing our faith. I share this story of a Black youth who was evangelized by white Catholic youth because it demonstrates how evangelization should work: not by race but by faith.

Do not be afraid to invite a person of a different color or culture to join you in worship or

a special church program. After visiting Catholic churches around the world I have witnessed our truly diverse, faith-filled, Universal Church. Let us confidently share our faith and the "Good News" with everyone we meet; co-workers, service people, friends, family, and especially the unchurched or those who have fallen away from their Catholic faith and let us be welcoming to all who enter our churches regardless of race or culture. If we all do this, we will evangelize Blacks and all of God's children. Amen? ♦

Announcements from the Office of Black Catholic Ministry

- Volunteers are needed to assist the Black Catholic Commission in planning the next spring diocesan Black Catholic gathering. To volunteer please call the office at (270) 683-1545 and ask for Veronica Wilhite.
- Save the date! Interregional African American Catholic Evangelization Conference, (AACCEC), will be held at the Galt House Hotel in Louisville on June 9-12, 2016. Registration and room is \$200 per person, shared room. Call the office at (270) 683-1545 to register or to volunteer at this event. Transportation may be arranged for Union County, Henderson and Owensboro if we have enough participants.

¿Sabía Usted?

Las personas que están en el proceso del RICA (Rito de Iniciación Cristiana para Adultos) son llamados catecúmenos o candidatos, dependiendo de los sacramentos que recibirán en la Vigilia Pascual. Los catecúmenos son aquellos que nunca han sido válidamente bautizados y que recibirán los sacramentos de iniciación - bautismo, eucaristía y confirmación - durante la vigilia. Los candidatos son individuos quienes fueron válidamente bautizados en el pasado, o por la Iglesia Católica o alguna denominación no Católica, pero que desean completar el proceso de iniciación con la Iglesia Católica al hacer una profesión de fe y recibir los sacramentos de la Eucaristía y Confirmación.

Hacerse Católico



Peter Carroll parado frente a un avión en el hangar que pertenece a MidAmerica Jet, donde trabaja como piloto particular. Foto por Elizabeth Wong Barnstead, el Católico de Kentucky Occidental.

Peter Carroll creció con mucha negatividad relacionada con la religión. Pero cuando su esposa, Whitney, decidió regresar a la fe Católica de su juventud, él tenía más interés.

La carrera de Peter como piloto causa que se tengan que mover seguido, y a Whitney le gusta que la Iglesia Católica siempre sea la misma dondequiera que vayan. Después de que Whitney se hizo Católica, Peter se dio cuenta que sintió una gran paz cuando asistía a la Misa con su esposa – lo cual le dirigió al proceso de RICA (Rito de Iniciación Cristiana para Adultos) en la catedral de San Esteban.

Peter dice que después de su jornada con la RICA está “más agradecido de lo que tiene,” y menos enfocado en lo que no tiene. También le encanta la orientación moral de la Iglesia que le ayuda en su vida.

Peter se hace miembro de la Iglesia Católica en la Vigilia Pascual el sábado, 26 de Marzo del 2016. ♦

Seminaristas viven un retiro en el centro de retiros de las Hermanas Ursulinas



Seminaristas del Seminario y Escuela de Teología de San Meinrad en Indiana realizaron su retiro anual de silencio en el Centro de Conferencias y Retiros del Monte San José en Maple Mount en la semana del 17-23 de Enero. Los seminaristas se reúnen personalmente con un sacerdote y viven un silencio intenso fuera de cuando están confesándose por la noche. Cada día tienen la misa en la capilla del centro a las 11:15am. En la foto se aprecia a los seminaristas retiristas quienes esperan el inicio de la misa el 19 de Enero. (Foto cortesía de las Hnas. Ursulinas del Monte San José)

Lea el resto de la sección en
Español en la página 23