

THE WESTERN
KENTUCKY



Catholic

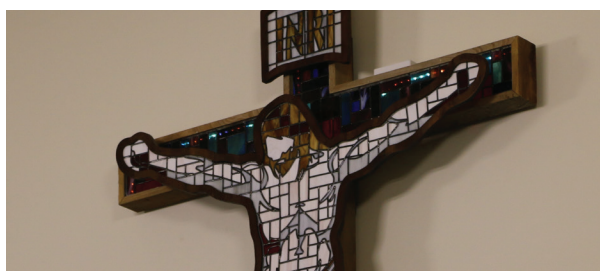
CATÓLICO DE KENTUCKY OCCIDENTAL

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With great hope

Ginny Ponting reaches to touch her rosary to the reliquary containing the incorrupt heart of St. John Vianney. **Page 8**



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Sr. Amelia Stenger, OSU, congregational leader of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, welcomes everyone to the March 19 "In the Footsteps of Paul Volk: A Musical Travelogue on His Writings," commemorating the 100th anniversary of the death of Fr. Paul Volk, who founded the Mount and played a significant role in the history of the Diocese of Owensboro. **Page 16**

ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

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Front page photo by Elizabeth Wong Barnstead | WKC

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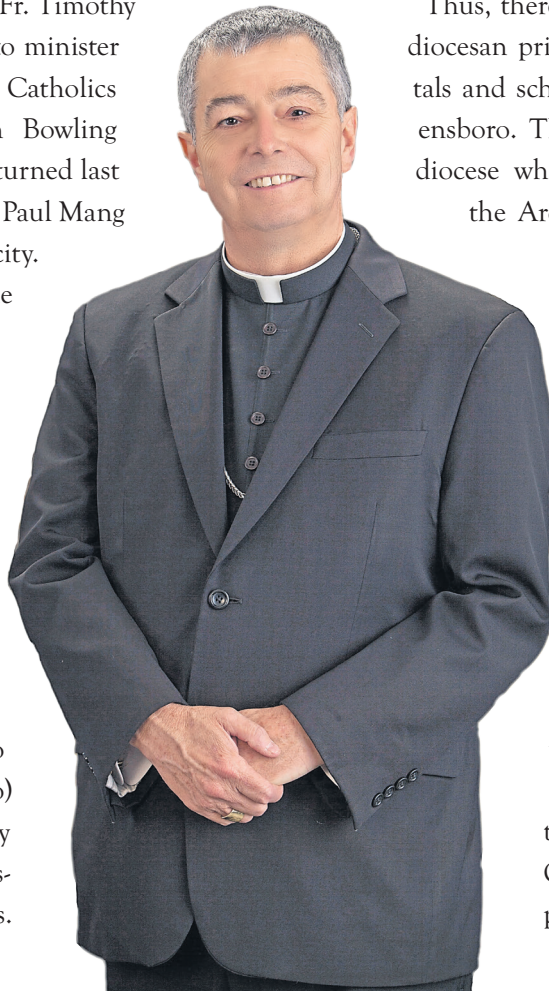
A Word From Bishop Medley

Stephen Van Lal Than will be ordained a transitional deacon at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 13, 2019 at Holy Spirit Parish in Bowling Green. Stephen, age 26, came to the United States and the Diocese of Owensboro in 2017. He had been a seminarian in his native Myanmar when he volunteered to come to the U.S. as a missionary. Myanmar is in Southeast Asia and was formerly known as Burma.

Stephen and fellow seminarian, Martin Ma Na Ling, with their bishop's permission, responded to an invitation from our diocese extended through Fr. Timothy Khui Shing Ling. Fr. Timothy came to our diocese in 2013 to minister to the growing population of Catholics from Myanmar who live in Bowling Green and Owensboro. He returned last year to Myanmar and Fr. John Paul Mang now serves us in that capacity.

When he is ordained to the priesthood, Stephen will join 23 priests who were not born in the United States who currently serve in western Kentucky. Others from Africa, India and Myanmar have come and gone over the last couple of decades.

The Diocese of Owensboro has 87 priests - both incardinated (belonging to the Diocese of Owensboro) and those serving here only temporarily from other dioceses or religious congregations.



Among this number, nine are formally retired and five of these live now at the Carmel Home. Two of the retired are Glenmary priests who have lived and served in the diocese for many years.

One of our diocesan priests serves as a chaplain in a Veterans Administration hospital in Florida, one is a military chaplain serving with the Air Force, one is on loan to another diocese, and one is currently pursuing graduate studies and will return to the Diocese of Owensboro this summer. Nine of our incardinated priests were born outside the U.S.

Thus, there are 56 of our incardinated diocesan priests serving parishes, hospitals and schools of the Diocese of Owensboro. There were 40 priests in the diocese when it was broken off from

the Archdiocese of Louisville and established in 1937. Those

40 priests served 33 parishes and 19 missions.

We are enriched to have six priests who belong to the religious community the Heralds of Good News. In addition to this, we have eight priests serving our diocese on loan to us from foreign dioceses.

There are 78 parishes in the Diocese of Owensboro. Of these, 26 are served by a pastor who was not born in

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BISHOP MEDLEY'S CALENDAR APRIL 2019

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| APRIL 2 | Installation of Bishop Talley – Memphis |
| APRIL 6 | 4 p.m. Mass for Knights of Columbus Exemplification – St. Leo Parish, Murray |
| APRIL 7 | 2 p.m. Celebration for 50th Anniversary of Cursillo – St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro |
| APRIL 9 | Presbyteral Day – McRaith Catholic Center, Owensboro |
| APRIL 10 | 5:30 p.m. VOCARE Reception – St. Thomas More Parish, Paducah |
| APRIL 11 | 9:30 a.m. Senior Conversations – Trinity High School, Whitesville |
| APRIL 13 | 10 a.m. Ordination of Stephen Van Lal Than to the Transitional Diaconate – Holy Spirit Parish, Bowling Green |
| APRIL 15 | 10 a.m. Priest Personnel Meeting
1:30 p.m. Priest Council meeting |
| APRIL 16 | 6:30 p.m. Chrism Mass – Owensboro Sportscenter |
| APRIL 17 | 8:30 a.m. Diocesan Finance Council Meeting |
| APRIL 23 | 9:30 a.m. Mass – St. Joseph School, Bowling Green
6 p.m. Catholic Medical Association Meeting |
| APRIL 24 | 6 p.m. Confirmation – St. Pius X Parish, Owensboro |
| APRIL 25-26 | Brescia University Board Meeting |
| APRIL 27 | 5 p.m. Confirmation – St. Jerome Parish, Fancy Farm

9 a.m. Dedication of Altar and Blessing of Renovated Church – St. Paul Parish, Princeton |
| APRIL 28 | 2 p.m. Confirmation – St. Mary of the Woods Parish, Whitesville |
| APRIL 29 | 6:30 p.m. Evening Prayer for Protection and Healing – Immaculate Conception Parish, Hawesville |
| APRIL 30 | 10 a.m. Mass & Senior Conversations – St. Mary High School, Paducah
6:30 p.m. Confirmation – Blessed Mother Parish, Owensboro |

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the U.S. and seven parishes are served by an associate pastor not born in the U.S. If one does a little math, it is evident that were it not for priests who have come to us as missionaries, we could not have Mass in every parish every Sunday. Many dioceses have responded to similar situations by closing parishes.

There are a lot of lessons to be learned from these statistics:

Like most dioceses of the United States, we have become a missionary diocese dependent upon the rest of the world to supply us with priests. Given the size and diversity of the Catholic Church in the U.S., we should be proudly sending priests to the rest of the world.

These numbers give us added reason to speak favorably of immigrants in our country. The Catholic priesthood is but one profession benefiting from an influx of immigrants. Bias against

immigrants is contrary to the Gospel, especially among Catholics who even now owe them much.

The U.S. Catholic Church owes a great debt to the international Church. We should be especially mindful of this when there are appeals to assist the mission of the Church in other countries.

As I visit the parishes of the diocese, I hear faithful Catholics very appreciative of our foreign-born priests. But occasionally, I hear from people distressed by the heavy accents with which some of our priests speak. Well, this is a two-way street. Yes, priests serving here must sharpen their language and speaking skills. At the same time, we must sharpen our listening skills.

This is not just a 21st-century concern. When Catholic pioneers came into Kentucky in the late 1700s and early 1800s, they were predominantly English-speaking Catholics. The priest missionaries who came to serve them were large-

ly French-speaking priests displaced by Catholic persecution during the French Revolution. The more things change, the more they stay the same.

Final lessons:

- Thank your priests: the ones born and raised in Kentucky, and the ones who have come a long way to serve.
- Come to Holy Spirit on April 13 and celebrate Stephen's diaconate ordination.
- Pray for vocations to priesthood and religious life. ■



Most Reverend William F. Medley
Diocese of Owensboro

Kentucky nun elected Mother President of international congregation

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

The election of a Kentucky native as the first-ever Mother President of an international monastic congregation of nuns is historic, to say the least.

Despite her initial hesitation, through prayer and “powerful graces” Mother Catherine Marie Schuhmann, formerly of St. Joseph Monastery in Whitesville, came to have “Mary’s open heart, and a clear awareness that I would not be alone if I were elected,” she said.

On Jan. 29, 2019, Mother Catherine Marie was

elected the first Mother President of the newly-erected Congregation of the Nuns of the Passion of Jesus Christ.

Mother Catherine Marie had spent more than 57 years of her life as a Passionist nun at the cloistered monastery in western Kentucky. Her years included serving as the community’s mother superior and helping to bring about a flourishing of vocations at the monastery.

But in 2018, she was summoned to Lucca, Italy, to step in as temporary superior of the monastery attached to the shrine of St. Gemma Galgani, a Pas-



COURTESY OF ST. JOSEPH MONASTERY
Mother Catherine Marie and her fellow Passionist nuns greet Pope Francis during his Jan. 30, 2019 General Audience, the day after the elections for the Congregation of the Nuns of the Passion of Jesus Christ.

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sionist saint.

The Italian monastery had been struggling with vocations and maintaining the shrine, and needed a strong mother figure to guide them.

At the time, Mother Catherine Marie believed that her stint away from her beloved Kentucky home was temporary. She anticipated returning to Whitesville in spring 2019, after Lucca had been helped back to its feet.

God was not finished with Mother Catherine Marie, however.

On June 29, 2018, the Holy See had officially erected the Congregation of the Nuns of the Passion of Jesus Christ. The congregation encompasses all female communities of Passionist nuns across the globe.

This juridical structuring is taking place in all female monastic groups throughout the world, which is “a great blessing,” said Mother John Mary Read, the current mother superior of St. Joseph Monastery in Whitesville.

Previously, the female monastic communities were “autonomous, isolated monasteries” who shared some rules and perhaps communicated at times with those who shared the same language, Mother John Mary said in a Feb. 26 interview with the WKC.

But as Mother Catherine Marie explained in a Feb. 6 letter she sent to her friends, family and home monastery, “from long experience, the Church knows we will be stronger if we are united, rather than continuing in isolation (each monastery ‘on its own’).”

The congregation held its first General Chapter from Jan. 21-Feb. 3, 2019. Passionist nun delegates from around the world attended the chapter, which was held in Rome.



COURTESY OF ST. JOSEPH MONASTERY

Mother Catherine Marie at right with her council members and their Passionist Father General Joachim Rego, CP. Her council from left: Sr. Daniela (Brazil), Mother Ana Maria (Mexico), Sr. Martina (Indonesia/Italy) and Sr. Gertrude (Italy/France).

Besides discussing many orders of business that come with gathering previously-isolated monasteries into a unified congregation, the chapter needed to elect a Mother President.

“I had arrived at the chapter with a mind made up that at my age (75), God was not calling me to this service of authority and I was returning to Whitesville in the spring,” said Mother Catherine Marie in her Feb. 6 letter.

However, thanks to the prayers and support of her fellow nuns, she realized: “These nuns would be walking forward with me, supporting me with their own gifts of nature and grace.”

Mother Catherine Marie’s tasks will include serving as a liaison for all female Passionists to the Holy See, holding visitations of monasteries around the world, looking at each monastery’s financial situation, and being involved if a nun is dispensed from

vows. She will also be involved when a new female Passionist monastery is founded, as well as if a monastery is closed.

These tasks span “from the most mundane to the most glorious,” Mother John Mary told the WKC.

She added that Mother Catherine Marie “is so graced; the grace of God is really carrying her... She is very peaceful, she’s a problem-solver, a dreamer, she is so gifted – but, she is begging for prayers.”

It is bittersweet that Mother Catherine Marie will not be returning to Whiteville, but her community knows she is the right woman for the role.

“We are grateful for what this will do for our community and Passionist nuns around the world now, and into the future,” said Mother John Mary. ■

To continue following Mother Catherine Marie’s journey, visit passionistnuns.org/blog.

‘All for the greater glory of God’

Deceased teacher memorialized with unique crucifix



LAURA RIGSBY | WKC

Eddie Miller stands in the art classroom of Owensboro Catholic High School on May 25, 2018 with the newly-completed stained glass crucifix. In 2019 the crucifix was donated to a youth camp in honor of late teacher Tony Kraus.

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE
WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Eddie Miller remembers the conversation.

It was the same day as one of the last school Masses that his friend Tony Kraus attended before lung cancer took his life in November 2017.

“I went and picked him up – he wasn’t able to

drive – so I picked him up, brought him to school,” Miller told the WKC in a May 25, 2018 interview.

Kraus had been fighting cancer ever since it was discovered in September 2017.

On that day in fall 2017 – the day of the school Mass – Miller and Kraus stopped by Miller’s classroom at Owensboro Catholic High School (OCHS),

where Miller taught art and Kraus taught 11th-grade religion.

Kraus wanted to see something Miller had been working on since August 2016.

They went to the art classroom, and together looked at the project: a stained-glass crucifix, just shy of eight feet.

“I said, ‘Tony, there’s just not a place to hang it, is there?’” Miller recalled.

“And he said, ‘Not to keep it safe, and keep it from getting broken, and in a place where people aren’t always going to keep their hands on it, touching it and stuff like that,’” said Miller.

Then, Kraus said, “What do you think about Gasper River?”

“And I said, ‘You know what, that would be the perfect place,’” said Miller.

‘Oh, absolutely’

Kraus had always been the retreat leader for the senior boys’ fall retreat at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center outside of Bowling Green.

But in fall 2017, “Tony was too ill to go with us this time,” said Miller, who also assisted at the retreat.

During the retreat, Miller spoke with Gasper’s director, Ben Warrell.

“I asked Ben, ‘How would you feel if I made something for Gasper River?’” Miller told the WKC. “And he said, ‘Oh, absolutely.’”

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Stained glass crucifix continued from page 6

Then Miller showed Warrell the pictures on his phone of the glass crucifix, “and he got really excited really quick,” Miller told the WKC. “And he said, ‘That would be awesome.’”

Epiphany

Miller liked to find engaging projects for the school’s art club.

In 2016, he had gone to Mass one day at his parish, Our Lady of Lourdes in Owensboro. Arriving early, as he usually did, he listened to the choir warm up and pondered what project to give his students that year.

“We’ve got beautiful stained glass windows,” he said of Lourdes. “And right above where I sit is a stained glass window of Mary. And I’m sitting there looking up at the stained glass, and then at the crucifix, and back at that.”

And then he had “that epiphany.”

Miller thought, “Wow, if I could do a crucifix in stained glass.”

When he went home, he did some sketches. Miller told the WKC it is common to see crosses made of stained glass, but crucifixes made of stained glass are another story.

If stained glass is hung on a wall, there is no light to shine through the colored pieces of glass. So Miller thought about putting a cross-shaped box – which would light up – behind the stained glass Christ.

He coordinated with fellow OCHS teacher, Bill Hagan, who does woodworking, to try out the idea. And it began to come together.

Labor of love

Art club only met once a week, and its members were involved in many other student activities. This was not ideal for a slow and meticulous project.

But Miller knew he had to finish what he had started.

Though the students still assisted when they were able, it “quickly turned into a project that I undertook,” Miller told the WKC.

Still, he didn’t mind working on the crucifix in his free time.

Having started with stained glass when he was “17 or 18” and picking it up as a hobby during his 21 years as a police officer, Miller enjoyed the project.

It was not without its pitfalls.

“Sometimes it would take 45 minutes to an hour just to do one piece,” he said. “You get it almost done, and then it snaps and breaks... or you cut yourself, and bleed all over it – which happened a number of times. And you just pack it up for the night and go home.”

From the start, Kraus believed in the project.

Kraus was Miller’s closest friend at OCHS and they usually ate lunch together. When Miller entered the Catholic Church in 2011, Kraus was his sponsor.

The important stuff

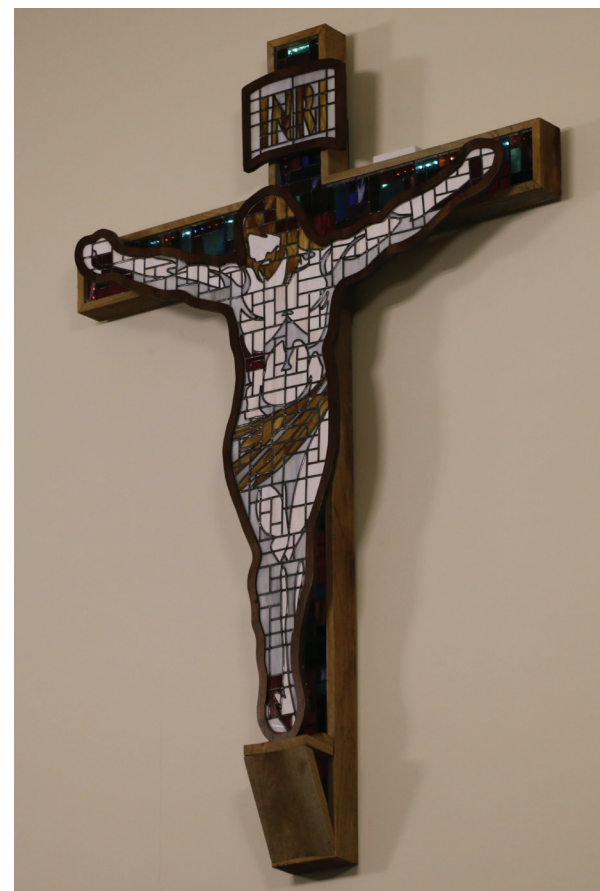
On Nov. 1, 2017 – All Saints Day – Kraus spoke to the students, faculty and staff of OCHS about his prognosis. He explained that he had stage four lung cancer, and that it had spread to his brain.

Kraus talked about his plans for treatment, but added, “What I want to talk about is the stuff that’s really important.”

“Number one: this is what we have learned from this experience,” he said. “God’s love is always present in our lives, regardless of the circumstances.”

Kraus said he, his wife and daughter had experienced support “beyond words” from the school community and beyond.

“Secondly, I have a challenge for each one of



LAURA RIGSBY | WKC

The stained glass crucifix in its new home inside Boone Lodge at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center.

you,” he said. “On a daily basis, starting today, be a blessing to at least one person each day.”

Finally, he taught them a Latin phrase that he had on his classroom wall: “Ad majorem Dei gloriam (All for the greater glory of God).”

“So live your life for the greater glory of God each and every day,” he said.

Kraus passed away on Nov. 26, 2017.

The dedication

On Feb. 14, 2019, Miller stood with Kraus’s wife, Christy, in Boone Lodge at Gasper River.

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'It's just good to be Catholic'

U.S. pilgrimage of St. John Vianney's incorrupt heart makes a stop in Paducah



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

Fr. Bruce Fogle, pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Paducah, processes into the church on March 13, 2019 while carrying the reliquary containing the incorrupt heart of St. John Vianney.

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

The interior of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Paducah was filled to capacity the morning of March 13, 2019, and for good reason: this was the day that the incorrupt heart of St. John Vianney was arriving to be venerated by the local community.

Mass, presided over by Bishop William F. Medley, began at 10 a.m. with a procession of the bishop and clergy into the church. St. John the Evangelist's pastor, Fr. Bruce Fogle, walked in the procession carrying the golden reliquary for the incorrupt heart.



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

Women pray the rosary during the veneration of the incorrupt heart of St. John Vianney at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Paducah on March 13, 2019.

Stopping before the sanctuary, Fr. Fogle placed the reliquary on a table adorned with a white cloth and fresh flowers as the church sang "I Heard the Voice of Jesus."

Bishop Medley explained in his homily that St. John Vianney, who lived from 1786-1859, is the patron saint of parish priests.

"And in our day, in our culture, and in our world, priests need a patron," said Bishop Medley.

The bishop said St. John Vianney, also known as the Curé ("priest") of Ars, "spent virtually his entire priestly life" in the obscure French village of Ars.

i Learn More

To learn more, visit kofc.org/vianney.
For more pictures of the relic's visit to Paducah, visit <https://bit.ly/2TMuZV8>.

Despite that, people began to recognize his great holiness and gift as a confessor. The priest would often spend up to 18 hours a day in the confessional. The saint was also known to have fought with the devil, who would attack him for his faithful ministry to the people.

Bishop Medley said that by 1815, tens of thousands of faithful each year were visiting Ars to speak with the future saint.

Fifty years after his death, in 1909, the priest's body was exhumed and discovered to be incorrupt, including his heart. Along with St. John Vianney's body, the heart is typically reserved for veneration in Ars.

(Veneration of a relic refers to recognizing that God has worked through a saint, and is not the same as worship, which is for God alone.)

Recently, the Knights of Columbus received permission to sponsor a pilgrimage tour of the saint's heart across the United States. The pilgrimage began in November 2018 and will conclude in June 2019.

The relic's stop in Paducah was the only stop within the Diocese of Owensboro, Kentucky. The parish was added to the tour through the efforts of two local K of C members, Paul Roof and Dennis Herricks.

After Mass, the relic was available for veneration by the faithful until 8 p.m. Knights of Columbus in full regalia stood beside the reliquary as a steady line of pilgrims knelt and prayed. Some even touched their rosaries to the reliquary.

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St. John Vianney relic continued from page 8

“It’s just good to be Catholic,” said St. John the Evangelist parishioner Michael Vessels, who had played an instrument called the bowed psaltry as part of the music for the Mass.

Cindy Crivello, a parishioner who was serving as a door greeter for pilgrims that day, said “it has been an honor to be a part of it.”

“It is a wonderful experience for our St. Mary stu-

dents,” Crivello added, referencing the students of St. Mary School System in Paducah who were being bused in shifts throughout the day to venerate the relic.

The Knights of Columbus education, outreach and visitor service manager, Peter Sonski, served as the custodian of the relic – given the responsibility of taking the heart from one pilgrimage stop to the

next.

He told the WKC that the journey “is very edifying.”

“People have great hope,” he said in reference to the laity of the Catholic Church. “This occasion is an opportunity for them to give expression of that hope.” ■

Stained glass crucifix continued from page 7

They looked up at the crucifix, which had recently been hung on a large wall in the lodge’s chapel area.

“Oh wow,” said Christy Kraus softly. “That’s amazing. You did a good job.”

That morning, an assembly of faculty, teachers and OCHS seniors – the last class that Kraus taught – were gathering for Mass in Boone Lodge with Bishop William F. Medley.

During Mass, the bishop blessed the stained glass crucifix – “in honor of Tony, who bore his own cross.”

The bishop explained that the crucifix had been given to Gasper River in memory of Kraus, “who spent his life as a teacher; who spent his life trying to lead others to Jesus Christ.”

In his May 2018 interview with the WKC, Miller had said that, “the cross doesn’t belong to me; it belongs to the school.”

Miller himself began a new chapter recently, when he accepted the position of assistant principal at Owensboro Catholic Middle School starting in fall 2018.

And now, significantly, the crucifix was being given by the school to Gasper River for retreat participants from all over the diocese and beyond.

Miller told the WKC that he never informed Kraus that the crucifix would be dedicated to him. He knew Kraus would never have desired that for himself.

But “now, he’s always here,” said Miller. ■

Laura Rigby contributed to this story.

Watch the video

A video to accompany this story will be released soon. Keep an eye on the Diocese of Owensboro’s social media outlets (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) to catch the video when it comes out.



**GASPER RIVER RETREAT CENTER
ADULT WEEKEND CAMP**

ACCOMPANY

**Come worship and adventure with us on
APRIL 26-28**

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Sons' Catholic education inspired dad to join Church

Charlie Dawson to be baptized at Easter Vigil



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC
Charlie and Angie Dawson at Blessed Mother Parish in Owensboro on Feb. 28, 2019.

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

For many years, Charlie Dawson attended Mass at Blessed Mother Parish in Owensboro with his wife and children, though he was not Catholic himself.

“Our kids would ask why I was not Catholic,” said Dawson, who is a catechumen in RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation), which means he is learning and currently preparing to be baptized into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil on April 20.

Dawson was raised Baptist, and said that as a young person he experienced a lot of “confusion”

about his faith.

He told the WKC that his childhood Sunday school placed a great deal of emphasis on knowing when it was the right time to be baptized – that he would receive a very specific sign from God.

Most of his peers were being baptized around the ages of 10 or 11, but Dawson had heard from a Sunday school teacher that it was “a sin to get baptized if you didn’t hear a call from God.”

So, “I kept waiting,” said Dawson.

Through his childhood and into his adult life, he never received a sign.

Eventually, Dawson met and married his wife, Angie, at her home parish of Blessed Mother in 1999. For his wife, who has been Catholic her entire life, it was important to raise their children Catholic.

They also started going to church as a family, and later enrolled their two boys in the Owensboro Catholic School System.

Dawson became known and welcomed in the Blessed Mother community – even though he was not Catholic – which he appreciated.

He also started seeing the fruits of his sons’ Catholic school education. Dawson and his wife noticed that their boys were recognizing religious imagery –

even when visiting Dawson’s parents’ Baptist church.

“Our son knew every single one of them,” said Dawson of the religious symbols, which had been part of a children’s quiz during an Easter presentation at the Baptist church.

And while that was not the literal sign from God that he had grown up seeking, for Dawson, it was significant to see his sons’ growth in their Catholic faith.

Dawson enrolled in Blessed Mother’s RCIA, knowing that RCIA does not mean a person will become Catholic, but is instead an opportunity to learn more about Catholicism.

“You understand that RCIA is not a commitment to join the Catholic Church – it’s a way to learn more,” he said. But over time and through the weekly classes, he felt a strong tug to fully embrace Catholicism.

Dawson admitted he had been worried about the reaction from his father when learning Dawson was planning to become Catholic.

“I was worried it would hurt my dad, but he was thrilled,” said Dawson. “He cried, he was so happy.”

Dawson said he and his wife believe a big reason for that is the witness of their children’s Catholic school education.

“I’m looking forward to my baptism,” he said. ■

UPCOMING EVENTS

Schedule of 2019 fish fries in the Diocese of Owensboro

Editor's note: Canons 1250 and 1251 state that all Fridays are days of penance in the Catholic Church. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops requests that Catholics abstain from meat on Fridays during Lent, and practice some form of penance on the other Fridays throughout the year. Due to fish being a popular Lenten Friday option in this part of the world, the tradition of Friday fish fries has become a common activity for many. Below is information for 2019 fish fries held in the Diocese of Owensboro, provided by the parishes. Questions may be directed to the individual parishes.

Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Owensboro

April 12; 5-7 p.m.

Christ the King Parish, Scottsville

April 12; 5-8 p.m.; hosted by the Knights of Columbus

Holy Name of Jesus Men's Club (at Holy Name of Jesus School), Henderson April 5, 12; doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Owensboro

April 5, 12; all at 5:30 p.m.; \$10/adults all you can eat

Precious Blood Parish, Owensboro

April 5, 12; all at 5:30 p.m. in parish hall

Knights of Columbus, Clarkson

April 5, 12; all from 4:30 - 7 p.m.; all you can eat;

carryout available; adults \$12; raffles available. For more information: (270) 242-7955.

St. Alphonsus Parish, St. Joseph

April 12; 5:30 p.m.; live auction at 6:30 p.m.

St. Ann Parish, Morganfield

April 12; 5 p.m.

St. Anthony, St. Benedict & St. Augustine Parishes, Grayson County (at Knights of Columbus hall across the street from St. Anthony)

April 5, 12; all from 4:30-7 p.m.

St. Columba, Lewisport

April 5, 12; all from 4:30-7 p.m.

St. John the Evangelist Knights of Columbus, Paducah

April 5, 12; all from 4-7 p.m.; all you can eat;

drive-thru available; located at St. John Knights of Columbus Hall, 6725 U. S. Highway 45 South, Paducah. For more information: (270) 554-0700.

St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley

April 12; 6 p.m.; \$10/each

St. Pius X Parish, Calvert City

April 5, 12; all from 4:30-7 p.m.

St. Romuald Parish, Hardinsburg

April 5, 12; all from 4-7 p.m.

St. Sebastian, Calhoun

April 5, 12; all from 5-7 p.m.

Mary Carrico School/St. William and St. Lawrence Parishes, Knottsville

April 5, 12; all from 4:30-6 p.m.; held at Mary Carrico School Gym, Knottsville

Owensboro Regional Suicide Prevention Coalition

Spring Conference 5/1/2019



Free Community Event at the Hospital Auditorium

PART 1:

GUEST SPEAKERS: Janet Schnell, MSW, LSW, American Association of Suicidology and RonSonlyn S. Clark PsyD Senior Director of Substance Abuse/Prevention Services at RVBH. SIGN IN AT 12:30 PM

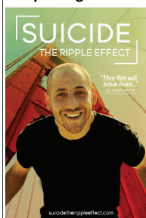
- 1:00 PM – Suicide & Social Media
- 1:25 PM – The Psychological Autopsy
- 2:00 PM – Complicated Grief
- 2:25 PM – Testimonial
- 2:40 PM – Q & A Session
- 3:00 PM -- Suicide Prevention Strategies

Pre-register at this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ORSPC2019>

PART 2:

SUICIDE: The Ripple Effect a documentary highlighting the story of Kevin Hines, who at age 19, attempted to take his own life by jumping from the Golden Gate Bridge.

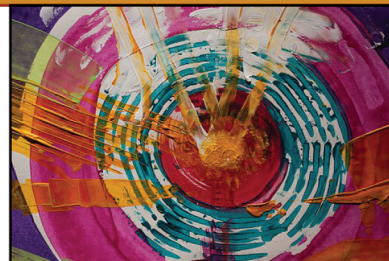
No pre-registration required. Owensboro Health Regional Hospital 1201 Pleasant Valley Road Owensboro, KY



Sign In 6:00 PM
Introduction 6:15 PM
Showing 6:30 PM
Conclusion 8:00 PM

"A film and a movement
for hope & healing."

Awakening the Soul with Creative Arts

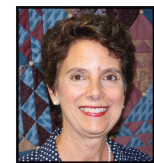


Weekend of June 14-16

Friday evening until Sunday lunch

Presenters:

Maryann Joyce and
Heather Berndt



Maryann Joyce is a spiritual director and Assistant Director of the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center.



Heather Berndt is an artist, graphic designer and spiritual director in Spokane, Wash.

JOIN US for a weekend of play, discovery, joy, and deep connection to God. Retreatants will awaken physical and spiritual senses through gentle creative activities, quiet reflection, and natural elements to open new pathways in our hearts to God's presence. No artistic experience necessary.

\$195 fee includes materials, program, lodging, meals.
Get a 10% discount if paid in full by May 14.

To register, call 270-229-0206
retreatcenter@maplemount.org

Or sign up online: ursulinesmsj.org <https://ursulinesmsj.org/conference-retreat-center/registration-sponsored-programs>



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

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

APRIL 2019 BULLETIN BOARD

To have your events listed in our Bulletin Board, email information of no more than 200 words to wkc.editor@pastoral.org by the 15th of the month prior to the publishing month.

Twilight Retreat April 10: Finding Gold in the Golden Years

Fr. Tony Shonis will present, "Finding the Gold in the Golden Years: A Reflection on Wisdom Literature" on April 10 at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center (12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56). The \$20 fee includes dinner. These Twilight retreats take place on the second Wednesday of each month from 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. To register: 270-229-0206, email retreatcenter@maplemount.org, or online at ursulinesmsj.org/conference-retreat-center/registration-sponsored-programs. Mark your calendar for May 8 when Fr. Ray Clark and Deacon Ken Bennett will present: "Exploring the Psalms."

Holy Name 5K color run/walk

On April 13, 2019, the HNS PTO will be hosting a 5k color run/walk. This event is open to everyone. Proceeds will go to renovate the school playground. Watch our social media pages for details, news, and events. We welcome and encourage you to become more involved.

Young Adult Lenten Retreat April 13

A Young Adult Lenten Retreat will take place on Saturday, April 13, 2019 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Passionist Monastery, 8564 Crisp Road, Whitesville, KY. Come and join other Young Adults from across the diocese for a day of prayer, renewal, and rest. Cost is \$25 and includes continental breakfast and lunch. To register and for more information go to owensborodiocese.org/young-adult-retreat-day or visit [Facebook.com/OwensboroYoungAdult](https://www.facebook.com/OwensboroYoungAdult).

Administrative Professionals Retreat Day April 24

This retreat takes place on Wednesday, April 24, on National Administrative Professionals Day. It is a day for receptionists, secretaries, administrative/executive assistants, and any office staff who are interested in attending. The theme of the presentation is, "The Theology of Caritas." Caritas means a Christian love of humankind. This event takes place from 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center (12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56). It will be led by Dr. Emily DeMoor, a theologian at Brescia University. The \$25 fee includes lunch. Please register by calling 270-229-0206 or email retreatcenter@maplemount.org or sign up online: <https://ursulinesmsj.org/conference-retreat-center/registration-sponsored-programs>.

Nominations for the 2018-2019 Bishop John J. McRaith Catechetical Leader Award

The Offices of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry are asking for nominations for the Bishop John J. McRaith Catechetical Leader Award. The recipient of this award will be announced at the Appreciation Dinner for Catechetical and Youth Ministers on May 10, 2019 at Christ the King Gym, Madisonville, KY. Anyone from the Diocese of Owensboro may nominate an individual for this award. 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 charlie.hardesty@pastoral.org or visit owensborodiocese.org/catechetical-leader-award for the digital nomination form. All nomination forms should be mailed to the Religious Education Office, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, KY 42301-2130 or emailed to charlie.hardesty@pastoral.org by April 22, 2019.

April 25 Brescia Spring Concert

As part of Brescia University's Fine Arts Week, Brescia will have its Spring Concert on Thursday, April 25, 7 p.m., in Taylor Lecture Hall on campus. The concert is free and open to all. The concert includes Brescia's band and choir, as well as other students from Owensboro Catholic High School, the St. Paul School Orchestra (Leitchfield), and some performances by selected Brescia drama students. For more information please call (270) 686-4226.

Save the date for St. Pius X Spring Bazaar

St. Pius X Parish in Calvert City will hold A Spring Bazaar on Saturday, April 27 at the Calvert City Civic Hall on 5th Ave. For more information, contact the parish office at (270) 395-4727.

Join us for a Strong Catholic Marriage workshop

Featuring retreat leaders Greg and Julie Alexander. May 4, 2019, 8 AM-3:30 PM, St. Mary of the Woods Parish Hall, 10534 Main Cross St., Whitesville, KY. Attendees will discover God's plan for marriage, as well as gain practical tools to build a stronger and more joy-filled marriage. After miraculously, returning from the brink of divorce by inviting God back into their relationship, Greg and Julie developed what is now known as The Alexander House, a non-profit apostolate dedicated to proclaiming the beauty, goodness, and truth of marriage. Their revolutionary DateNight Ministry is consistent with Catholic Church teachings, Christian family values, and virtues and has helped hundreds of couples return to live happy and joy-filled marriages. They have been regular guests on EWTN and are one of the most sought after speakers on the vocation of Marriage. For more information contact Fr. Brian Roby:

robby042569@gmail.com or Jason Simon: wodslaye@gmail.com. Contact us by phone at 270-233-4196. To register go to www.stmaryofthewoodswhitesville.org and click Marriage Retreat or mail to St. Mary of the Woods Marriage Retreat, PO Box 1, Whitesville, KY, 42378. Cost is \$30 per couple, continental breakfast and lunch are included.

Abbey Caskets open house on May 5

This year, Abbey Caskets is celebrating its 20th anniversary with an open house on Sunday, May 5, at the office and workshop in St. Meinrad, IN. For over 150 years, the monks of Saint Meinrad Archabbey built the wooden caskets they used for themselves. The simple design drew inquiries from lay people who wanted to be buried in similar caskets. In 1999, the monks decided there was enough interest to start a business. Local craftsmen at Hurst Custom Cabinets of Huntingburg, IN, have been making the caskets and cremation urns since the beginning. In September 2017, a woodworking shop opened on the Archabbey grounds to make the caskets there. With the new workshop on site, Abbey Caskets has developed a new division called Abbey Woodworking to build custom furniture pieces for churches and homes. The public is invited to the open house on May 5, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Central Time. Tours of the workshop will be given. Call 800-987-7380 with any questions.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development seeks 2019 applicants

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 November, the Diocese of Owensboro participates in the CCHD 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. Those interested in applying for the grant should contact Deacon Richard Murphy at 270/683-1545, by email at richard.murphy@pastoral.org or visit owensborodiocese.org/cchd. Grant applications must be received by May 20, 2019 so the grants can be awarded on or before June 20, 2019.

Quiet Time with God and Self June 2-8

What inspires you? What kind of seeds are you planting in your garden or life? Will they grow or die from neglect? Does your body and soul need nourishment? Sign up for a contemplative week just for you. Let the

Continues on page 13

UPCOMING EVENTS

Continued from page 12

peaceful and holy surroundings of Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center feed your faith through prayer, reflection and quiet time to be with God. Cost: \$450 for directed retreat (includes spiritual direction, room and all meals) or \$275 for silent retreat (includes room and all meals) Retreat begins with a social at 7 p.m. on Sunday, June 2, and ends after breakfast on Saturday, June 8. Sr. Mary Matthias Ward will meet with each retreatant to see if you would like spiritual direction during your stay. She is the director of the Retreat Center and has many years of experience in spiritual direction. Please register:

Call 270-229-0206 or email retreatcenter@maplemount.org or register online: <https://ursulinesmsj.org/conference-retreat-center/registration-sponsored-programs>

Nominate a teacher for 2019 Educator of the Year!

The Catholic Schools Office and the Principals and Administrators of Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools (PACESS) are again asking for nominations for Outstanding Catholic School Educator of the Year. The winner will be announced at the 2019 Celebration of Catholic Schools event. Anyone, with the exception of an immediate family member, may nominate an educator for the award. The educator must currently be employed in the Diocese of Owensboro and must have taught for a minimum of five years in the diocesan schools. The outstanding Catholic School Educator must be a role model as an outstanding human being; have a major influence in the lives of students; show concern with the faith development as well as the physical, mental and emotional development of students; and encourage students to improve their abilities and talents. The deadline for nominations is July 1, 2019. For more information and to nominate someone, visit owensborodiocese.org/educator-award.

Black Catholic Conference

Save the Date: Tennessee, Indiana, Kentucky, & Ohio [TIKO] African American Catholic Conference will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio on July 12-14, 2019. The theme of the Conference is "My God Is Awesome!" To learn more, contact veronica.wilhite@pastoral.org.

Holy Land pilgrimage to benefit cause of Servant of God Sr. Thea Bowman

Join us on A JOURNEY OF FAITH TO THE HOLY LAND (Benefiting the Cause for Canonization of Sr. Thea Bowman, Oct. 21-Nov. 1, 2019). Come join us as the Bible comes alive and the Spirituals and Hymns are sung in the Holy Land! Mrs. Veronica Downs-Dorsey will be our song-leader. She was Sr. Thea's musician as she traveled the country. Before leaving the Holy Land we will have an anticipated Mass for All Saints at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the place of Jesus' resurrection, during Mass we will call out the names of our ancestors who have passed on. We will have four-five star hotel

accommodations, English speaking tour guides with individual headsets for the tours, air-conditioned coach buses, breakfast and dinners for most days, airfare and all gratuities are included in the price of the trip. \$4,795 per person in a double room from New Orleans and St. Louis. Final payment due on July 24, 2019. For more information:

Tracy Singer - Operations Manager
Ya'lla Tours USA Inc.
4711 SW Huber St. Ste 1
Portland, OR 97219
Phone: (503) 977-3758 X 106
Toll free: (800) 644-1595 X 106
Fax: (503) 977-3765

The Alzheimer's Association will be presenting Free Education Classes

Registration required for all classes; please call 1.800.272.3900 or go to communityresourcefinder.org to register.

10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's or Related Dementias: April 4, 5-6:30 p.m., Hancock County Senior Center, Hawesville. A light meal will be provided by the Hancock County Health Coalition.

Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body: Tips From the Latest Research: April 17, 9:30-11 a.m., Owensboro Health Park, Classroom B.

Continental breakfast will be provided. Brought to you by an OMHS grant. April 26, 1-2 p.m., Paducah/McCracken County Senior Center.

Important update RE: Sisters of Charity of Nazareth memorial being donated to OCHS

We are grateful to all who have contributed to the SCN Memorial Project on its way to the grounds for Owensboro Catholic High School! We are now 50% and more to our goal of \$9,000 for a bust of a Sister, the stand and plaque, artist and transportation fees. No amount is too small, and large donations, of course, get us closer sooner. We hope that the dedication and blessing can take place prior to the students leaving for the summer. Can you help make this possible by donating or asking a business in the area to be supportive? We are happy to share the following endorsement from an OCHS alumni member: "This memorial to the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, who taught at OCHS for over 30 years, will be a fitting tribute to their unselfish, dedicated service. The Sisters had a positive influence on the lives of the many students they taught during their tenure at the school. I personally feel I benefited greatly in many ways from being fortunate enough to have attended OCHS and be taught by the SCN." Marty Baseheart Hayden - Class of 1958. For more information: Elizabeth Field, 440-510-8690, jimliz@oh.rr.com.



Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999

Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

Upcoming Events Open to All

- April 4 **Focus on Faith: DVD The Mass**
- April 6 **First Quilt Club drawing of new year**
- April 10 **Twilight Retreat with Father Tony Shonis. Dinner begins at 6 p.m.**
- April 12 **Lenten Day of Quiet, includes lunch**
- April 13 **Tree Planting at Thompson-Berry Park in honor of annual appeal donors to Ursuline Sisters**
- April 24 **Administrative Professionals Day 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. includes lunch**
-
- May 8 **Twilight Retreat with Fr. Ray Clark and Deacon Ken Bennett. Dinner at 6.**
- May 9 **Focus on Faith: DVD The Mass**
- May 11 **Contemplative Photography Retreat 9 a.m.-3 p.m. includes lunch**
- May 18-19 **MSJ Academy Alumnae Weekend**
- May 24-26 **Gennesaret Retreat Weekend**
- May 31-2 **Yarn Spinners Retreat Weekend**
-
- June 2-8 **Quiet Time with God and Self** can be either a silent or directed retreat
- June 12 **Twilight Retreat. Dinner at 6 p.m.**
- June 13 **Focus on Faith: DVD The Mass**
- June 14-16 **Awakening the Soul with Creative Arts Retreat - Friday evening to Sunday lunch.**

Only Center-sponsored (not hosted) programs are listed.

Please call to register or to schedule an event for your group or organization. 270-229-0206
retreatcenter@maplemount.org
Or register online: ursulinesmsj.org

Bishop opens Lent with Ash Wednesday liturgy



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC
Bishop William F. Medley prepares to bless the ashes for the March 6, 2019 Ash Wednesday liturgy at noon at St. Stephen Cathedral.

On March 6, 2019, Christians around the world began the season of Lent. Bishop William F. Medley presided at St. Stephen Cathedral's noon Mass that day, and in his homily explained that "fasting wakes us up."

"(Fasting) revives our desire to obey God who alone is capable of satisfying our hunger," said the bishop. "Forty days of this giftedness lies before us."

2019 Parish Picnic Schedule in the Diocese of Owensboro

Editor's note: Parish picnics and cooking teams are a longstanding tradition in the Diocese of Owensboro. Parishioners and non-parishioners alike gather to celebrate with food, games and fellowship during the warmest months of the year. All questions about the individual picnics may be directed to the parishes.

DATE	SERVING TIME	PARISH
MAY 18	Serving at 11 a.m.	Carmel Home, Owensboro
MAY 26	Serving at 11 a.m.	St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville
JUNE 1	Serving at 4 p.m.	Precious Blood, Owensboro
JUNE 1	Serving from 4-10 p.m.	St. Joseph, Leitchfield
JUNE 8	Serving at 4 p.m.	St. Pius X, Owensboro
JUNE 15	Serving at 3 p.m.	Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro
JUNE 15	Serving at 3 p.m.	St. Romuald, Hardinsburg
JUNE 29	Serving at 4 p.m.	St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho
JULY 6	Serving from 4-8 p.m. at St. Anthony location	St. Anthony, St. Benedict & St. Augustine, Grayson County
JULY 6	Serving from 3-9 p.m.	St. Anthony the Abbot, Axtel
JULY 6	Serving 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; 5-7:30 p.m.	St. Denis, Fancy Farm
JULY 13	Serving at 4 p.m.	St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph
JULY 13	Serving at 4 p.m.	Immaculate Conception, Hawesville
JULY 20	Serving 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; 4:30-7:30 p.m.	St. Charles, Bardwell
JULY 20	Serving at 4 p.m.	St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley
JULY 27	Serving from 4-9 p.m.	St. Mary of the Woods, McQuady
JULY 27	Serving from 3-7 p.m.	St. Paul, Leitchfield
AUG 3	Drive-thru starting at 11 a.m.; serving from noon-3 p.m.	Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro
AUG 3	Serving at 10 a.m.	St. Jerome, Fancy Farm
AUG 6	Serving at 4 p.m.; drive-thru BBQ	St. Martin, Rome
AUG 10	Serving at 5 p.m.	St. Ann, Morganfield
AUG 26	Serving at 3 p.m. (EST)	Holy Guardian Angels, Irvington
SEPT 7	Serving at 5 p.m.	St. Agnes, Uniontown
SEPT 14	Serving at 4 p.m.	St. Columba, Lewisport
SEPT 14	Serving at noon	St. Sebastian, Calhoun
SEPT 15	Serving at 11 a.m., Mary Carrico Catholic School Picnic	St. Lawrence Picnic Grounds, Philpot
SEPT 21	Serving at 4 p.m.	Blessed Mother, Owensboro
SEPT 21	Serving from 4-8 p.m.	Christ the King, Madisonville
SEPT 28	Serving from 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.; Drive-thru, Raffle & BBQ	Immaculate, Owensboro
SEPT 28	Serving from 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; Honeyfest Dinner, Silent Auction & Raffle	St. Elizabeth, Clarkson
SEPT 29	Serving at 11 a.m.	St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Priest temporarily suspended pending investigation

March 1, 2019

Owensboro, KY – Fr. Joseph Edward Bradley, priest of the Diocese of Owensboro and current volunteer chaplain at Owensboro Catholic High School, has been temporarily suspended after a report of sexual abuse of a minor was received on Tuesday, February 26.

The allegation refers to sexual abuse by Fr. Bradley in the 1980s while he was principal at Owensboro Catholic High School. In keeping with the policy of the Diocese of Owensboro, this was immediately reported to the local Commonwealth Attorney's Office and the Diocesan Review Board.

After consultation with the Diocesan Review Board, a 12 member group formed in 2002 as mandated by the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, Bishop William F. Medley decided to act upon their recommendation to temporarily suspend Fr. Bradley from public ministry until the investigation is complete.

Fr. Bradley, who was ordained a priest of the diocese in 1975, became a staff member at Owensboro Catholic High School in 1976, where he served as principal from 1980 through 1985. He pastored five parishes in the Diocese of Owensboro; was the vocations director for four years; retired from public ministry in 2011 and began his role as volunteer chaplain at Owensboro Catholic High School at that time.

When an allegation concerning sexual abuse of a minor is received, the following actions are taken in

conformity with the Sexual Abuse Policy and Procedures of the Diocese of Owensboro:

- The diocese submits a report to civil authorities, if not already contacted, and fully cooperates with civil authorities as the investigation proceeds;
- The person who has been accused is placed on an administrative leave of absence;
- The diocese conducts an internal investigation of the accusation.

All of these steps are underway.

“Our policies require that any priest accused of inappropriate conduct with a minor be suspended to assure the safety of children and youth,” said Bishop Medley. “Our commitment is to take seriously any allegation brought to us while at the same time affording Fr. Bradley a presumption of innocence until more information is available.”

To report suspected abuse, call the Kentucky Child Protection Hot Line: 1-877-KYSAFE1 or 1-877-597-2331 (Toll Free) or contact your local Commonwealth Attorney.

To report abuse to the diocese, current or past, by anyone acting in the name of the Church, please call: 270-852-8380 to speak with Louanne Payne, our Pastoral Assistance Coordinator, in English and 270-880-8360 for Nuria Elizondo in Spanish. You may also visit our Office of Safe Environment (owensborodiocese.org/safe) for more information. ■

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month



You are invited to join
Bishop Medley
in prayer

Monday,
April 29, 2019
at 6:30 p.m.

Immaculate Conception
115 Main Street
Hawesville, KY 42348

**Pray for protection and
healing for all impacted
by child abuse.**

Memory of Fr. Paul Volk honored with March 19 concert

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

The motherhouse chapel of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph was filled to capacity the evening of March 19, 2019, for “In the Footsteps of Paul Volk: A Musical Travelogue on His Writings,” which was a collaboration between the Ursuline Sisters and the Diocese of Owensboro.

The year 2019 marks the 100th anniversary of the death of Fr. Volk, who founded Mount Saint Joseph and was an influential figure in the diocese’s history.

March 19 was also the anniversary of Fr. Volk’s ordination. The concert included several musical selections highlighting Fr. Volk’s journey from Germany to the United States and his missions to Latin America, alternating with excerpts read aloud from the priest’s writings.

The concert also featured “Hymn for the 100th Anniversary of Fr. Paul Volk’s Death,” written by Fr. Harry Hagan, OSB, with a tune by diocesan seminarian Corey Bruns. Bruns had participated in and won a contest to compose the melody to accompany Fr. Hagan’s text. ■



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC
Musicians Lisa Screeton, Melissa Zink, Olivia Terry, Leslie Pfingston, James Han, Noah Morsi, Katherine Messer and Morgan Thomas perform during the March 19 concert in honor of historical diocesan figure Fr. Paul Volk. For more pictures from the concert, visit <https://bit.ly/2OB6EvL>.

New to Holy Spirit Catholic Church: ‘The Simon Project - find a Simon, be a Simon’

BY TAMI PERKINS, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

The Simon Project, named after Simon of Cyrene, is a parish-wide Lenten event that promotes Works of Mercy and ministry engagement. Parishioners of the Holy Spirit community have been challenged to meet a parish-wide goal of 40,000 hours of prayer and participation over a 10-week period of time. The kickoff event for the project took place on March 9 and included a ministry fair comprised of 44 Holy Spirit ministries and five community partners, and an interactive reflection called “Experience the Cross.” The event was very well received and brought both old and new faces to the church for a day of food, fellowship and fun. On May 19, the project will conclude with a parish picnic.

The Simon Project aims to encourage individuals and families to volunteer in either parish or community activities, especially during the season of Lent.

Additionally, the project hopes to provide opportunities for individuals to establish a more meaningful prayer life and the confidence to step out of their comfort zone to try something new.

Already, the event has created a wonderful buzz and provided parishioners with unique ways to use the talents God has given them. One parishioner wrote a theme song for the project (which can be heard on our website), while another built a beautiful cross and floral arrangement to use for tracking prayer and participation hours. To learn more about The Simon Project, visit the Holy Spirit website and click on The Simon Project. ■

Tami Perkins serves as the facilitator of ministry engagement at Holy Spirit Parish in Bowling Green.

Rite of Election calls catechumens, candidates, to follow God



TINA KASEY | WKC
Deacon Brett Mills proclaims the Gospel at the 2 p.m. Rite of Election on March 10, 2019.



TINA KASEY | WKC
Bishop William F. Medley shakes hands with a young woman at the 2 p.m. Rite of Election on March 10, 2019.



TINA KASEY | WKC
Several of the newly-elect write their names in the Book of the Elect. Only the elect – previously catechumens – sign this book because the candidates, by virtue of their baptism, already have their name symbolically in the “Book of Life.”

BY WKC STAFF

In the Diocese of Owensboro, this year there are 91 catechumens (awaiting the Sacrament of Baptism at the Easter Vigil) and 135 candidates (awaiting the Sacraments of Confirmation and/or Holy Communion).

On March 10, two Rites of Election were held at St. Stephen Cathedral in the Diocese of Owensboro. The 2 p.m. service had 343 registered to attend, and the 6 p.m. service had 393 registered to attend. These numbers include catechumens, candidates, their family/friends, sponsors/godparents, RCIA

teams and RCIA coordinators. Several pastors came as well.

A Rite of Election in Paducah had been planned for March 3, but was canceled due to weather concerns.

According to Lauren Johnson, the diocese’s co-coordinator of worship, the Rite of Election is not actually about introducing catechumens and candidates to the larger diocesan community or meeting the bishop, though both of these take place.

“Neither of these are the actual meaning of the

rite,” Johnson told the WKC. “It goes back to the history of the Israelites. God called the Israelites out of all the people in the world to be his ‘elect,’ the people of God. After Jesus died, rose from the dead and opened the door to salvation to both Jews and Gentiles, the idea of election didn’t go away, but opened up to all.”

Johnson said that after the catechumens are accepted as elect – “meaning that they have made a decision to join the Church at Easter and be followers of God” – and have been accepted by the bishop, they continue their study and growth during Lent to prepare for the Easter Vigil. ■

April Wedding Anniversaries

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

Blessed Mother, Owensboro

Robert & Pat Risch, 52
 Thomas & Shirley Coomes, 60
 Bobby & Patricia Rafferty, 56
 Louis & Mary Aull, 58
 Joseph & Sharon Wink, 50
 Thomas & Frances Murray, 5
 Brian & Cassie Cecil, 10
 David & Lisa Higdon, 10
 Danny & Patty Merimee, 51
 Douglas & Nancy Dunn, 10
 Carl & Mildred Spurrier, 66
 Tony & Carolyn Clark, 50
 Paul & Joyce Christian, 70
 Kenneth & Elaine Williams, 56

Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro

Frank & Gloria Adams, 54

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All are invited to Mass celebrating persons with disabilities

BY DEACON RICHARD MURPHY, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

The Diocesan Disabilities Awareness Committee invites all persons to attend the sacred liturgy of the Mass celebrating persons with disabilities and their families, called the “Mass of Inclusion” with a reception following in their honor on Sunday, April 28, 2019 at 2 p.m. The Mass will be celebrated at Brescia University’s Chapel at 717 Frederica St., Owensboro, Kentucky.

The main celebrant will be Fr. Jamie Dennis, the associate pastor of St. Mary of the Woods Parish in Whitesville, Kentucky. This liturgy will offer those in attendance the opportunity to actively participate as ministers of hospitality, lectors, petition readers, gift bearers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Those who would be interested in serving in a ministering role or for

volunteering at the reception should call me, Deacon Richard Murphy, at (270) 683-1545. The reception with refreshments will follow the Mass and will also be held in the Student Center.

All pastors and associates are also invited to join in this celebration, that they may see how persons with disabilities can be easily integrated into all aspects of liturgy and worship. Persons with one or more disabilities often find it difficult to experience that they are welcome in their parish church for a wide variety of reasons. Reaching out on the part of the faith community is essential to holding open the door to membership and to express the sense of worth to these individuals. ■

Deacon Richard Murphy is the director of the Office of Social Concerns in the Diocese of Owensboro. To learn more, visit owensborodiocese.org/social-concerns.

A story needing to be told: Selfless seniors

BY PEGGY CLARK, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

While attending the Trinity High School 2019 homecoming game on Jan. 25, I noticed a group of young men sitting together behind the bench of the Trinity basketball team. I realized these young men had been seniors on the 2016 Trinity basketball team. My mind wandered back to senior night of that year. When the time came for the varsity basketball team to run out on the floor, they were led by a little eight-year-old boy, followed by the senior players. After a run around the floor the little boy joined Coach John Kirkpatrick at mid-court and watched the team warm up for the game. The little boy, Easton Pedley, was born with a genetic skin disorder known as Epidermolysis bullosa. What was so amazing to me was the fact that these young men were willing to give up the limelight of their senior

night for Easton. You see, their senior night was being used as a fundraiser to raise money to donate to the Epidermolysis Bullosa Medical Research foundation. This foundation uses 99 percent of money donated for research. Daniel Morris, a senior on the team, came up with the idea, and the school and surrounding communities got behind it 100 percent. Through the selling of t-shirts and money raised at the game, \$6,000 was donated to the foundation.

Fast-forward to the present. The seven young men (and young lady who was the team manager), are continuing their education, working for local businesses, and still enjoying Trinity basketball. Easton is now 11 years old and in the fifth grade at St. Mary of the Woods Catholic School in Whitesville. Easton is a member of the school choir, on the academic team and is an Angel Ambassador.

Easton is my grandson and I want to take this op-



COURTESY OF HOMERS RADIO NETWORK
In 2016, Easton Pedley (center) stands with the Trinity senior basketball players who used their homecoming game to fundraise for Epidermolysis bullosa research.

portunity to thank those “Selfless Seniors” for that night in 2016. May God bless and keep you. ■

Peggy Clark is a member of St. Mary of the Woods Parish in Whitesville.

Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us

Editor's note: This article is the fourth in a series begun in November 2018 on the topic of the Our Father prayer and its connection to the work of evangelization.

BY JOE BLAND, OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION

For those of you that don't personally know me I live in Whitesville, Ky. in eastern Daviess County. So I have a 25-30 minute drive to work each day depending on school traffic. Last year on my way to work I started noticing these signs popping up in peoples' yards with a simple phrase on them: "Be Kind." You may have these appearing in your area as well. My first thought when I saw the sign was, "Why, if we live in a predominantly Christian area with many Catholic and Protestant churches do we have to be reminded to be kind?"

But I think I was asking the wrong question. In fact, I think the wrong statement is on the sign. Now, don't get me wrong, I believe that we all need to be kind to one another. The world would be a much better place if we did. Kindness is a "Fruit of the Spirit" as St. Paul tells us in Galatians 5:22.

But the message on the sign should read, "Forgive" or "Forgive One Another." Here is why I believe this. In The Lord's Prayer we are asking for forgiveness as we forgive others. How many of us actually live by this statement? I'll admit I have struggled with this over the years. But I once heard it said, "Not forgiving someone is like drinking poison and hoping the other person dies." Un-forgiveness is toxic to the body, to our health and most of all to the soul. Forgiveness can lead to both emotional and physical healing.

So, back to the yard sign, if we are holding some-

one bound through not forgiving them we cannot be truly kind. We can be "nice" to them, but nice and kind are two different things. Since kindness is a Fruit of the Holy Spirit, if we have one of the fruits we usually have them all - which are love, joy, peace, patience, KINDNESS, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. If I have not forgiven someone I cannot show them love or charity; thus, true and authentic kindness will not be there along with the rest of the fruits.

You see, when we release someone and actually and truly forgive them we are actually releasing ourselves; we are setting ourselves free through the power and grace of the Holy Spirit. But you might say to me, "I just can't forgive them, if you only knew what they did to me."

I know sometimes wounds in our lives can be very painful; however I point you to two scripture passages from the mouth of Jesus on forgiveness. In Luke 23:34, Jesus is hanging on the cross and he says, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do." The other is found in the Gospel of Matthew 6:14-15 and this passage follows the Lord's Prayer found in Matthew: "If you forgive others their transgressions, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your transgressions."

We are forgiven to the degree that we forgive others. I don't know about you but I don't want anyone here on earth standing in my way of my relationship

with my Heavenly Father. I'm not saying it is easy, because it is not, but I am saying it can only happen through grace that we can forgive. And that comes from God alone. And this Grace brings salvation and healing.

So let's start a new trend. Put a sign in your yard that says, "Forgive and Be Forgiven." ■

Joe Bland is the director of the Office of Evangelization in the Diocese of Owensboro. To learn more, visit owensborodiocese.org/evangelization.



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Called to Life: The Lazarus Retreat



COURTESY OF CHARLIE HARDESTY

Jessy Bennett, co-director of the Lazarus Retreat, gives a presentation during the Feb. 15-17, 2019 retreat.

BY CHARLIE HARDESTY, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Our first-ever Lazarus Retreat took place on Feb. 15-17, 2019 at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center. Utilizing the story of the raising of Lazarus (John 11: 1-46), the youth were invited to explore the things in life that keep them bound up, entombed, and unable to hear the voice of Jesus calling them to life. The goal of the retreat was inviting the young people into the good news of Jesus Christ; helping them abandon the things that lead to death and responding to Jesus calling them to new life.

Jessy Bennett, the youth minister at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Owensboro and co-director for the Lazarus Retreat had this to say about the experience:



COURTESY OF CHARLIE HARDESTY

The participants and leaders of the 2019 Lazarus Retreat, held at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center.

“My hope from the Lazarus Retreat would be that the youth were able to engage with Jesus in a way they never had before. My hope is that he broke through their walls and opened their hearts to all the good things he has for them. But mostly I hope that the young people went back to a community where they were welcomed and will not only be encouraged to go deeper in prayer, but also fed through the life of the community. Lazarus shouldn't be the end of their transformation but the beginning. What happens next for them depends on each community's willingness to engage youth and accompany them in their faith journey.”

We were joined by 35 youth from across the diocese including youth from Blessed Mother, St. Ste-

phen Cathedral, SS. Joseph and Paul, Our Lady of Lourdes, and St. Alphonsus in Owensboro; St. Joseph and Holy Spirit in Bowling Green; Christ the King in Madisonville; Holy Trinity in Morgantown; St. Jerome in Fancy Farm; Holy Redeemer in Beaver Dam; Immaculate Conception and St. Columba in Hancock County; St. Francis de Sales in Paducah; and Sacred Heart in Russellville.

Lindsey Hargitt from Blessed Mother shared, “Lazarus Retreat was an experience unlike anything I have experienced before. To open up just one part of the Gospel and deeply analyze it was incredible. The retreat itself taught me and showed me how wonderful our God is and how our community, the Church, is one of love and compassion.”

Continues on page 24

Priest, sister share why they answered the call and how their vocations bring joy

Editor's note: May 12, 2019 is the 56th annual World Day of Prayer for Vocations. In light of this upcoming day, below are two reflections from a vocations event that was held in Paducah this past January.



COURTESY OF GLYNN SMITH

Fr. Brandon Williams, pastor of St. Leo Parish in Murray, tells youth on Jan. 23, 2019 about his daily life as a priest.

Ryan Chua, 11th grade:

Fr. Brandon Williams' vocation talk for middle and high school on Jan. 23, 2019 was an eye-opener. He reminded me that priests, bishops and the clergy are just regular people like us, but they chose to dedicate their lives to serve God.

I thought that the life of a priest was boring – I was wrong. Not only do they celebrate Mass daily, but they offer weekly confessions, give marriage counseling, provide spiritual advice, and so much more. Every day is different. At times, they get called to give Anointing of the Sick. Another day, they could be invited to a home just for a casual dinner. Other days they help with service projects like build-

ing a house or work at a shelter.

What hit me the most were the things he said like, "I own sweatpants. I wear hoodies. I go hang out with friends like you guys do." Even though I never thought, "Priest can't wear sweatpants," it just felt wrong to me to imagine a priest wearing something so casual. We easily forget that even though priests are representatives of God, they're also human beings. They have to eat. They have to shop for groceries. They have to sleep.

It was comforting to know that I, or anyone, could relate to a priest. My view of them has changed after this talk. Priesthood isn't for everyone – it's a calling, but if I am called to be a priest, I would be certainly happy to say yes to God in the life he desires for me.

Ging Smith, director of Paducah Faith Formation:

Sr. Martha Keller, OSU, came and talked with the middle and high school girls at Paducah Faith Formation on Jan. 23, 2019. We were very grateful that she was able to share her call as an Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph. She opened her talk with a YouTube video and book entitled, "The Three Questions" by Jon J. Muth, and talked about how she felt and came to know God's call to her as a sister.

The young women were very attentive and asked

interesting questions. Sr. Martha had encouraged them to pray to God and ask him to direct and make clear which vocation will complement their God-given gifts, fulfill them and their dreams, enable them to be most generous with themselves, and bring them the most joy. It was very obvious to all those gathered how Sr. Martha loves, enjoys and treasures her life as an Ursuline Sister. One middle schooler told her mother that after listening to Sr. Martha, she is encouraged to be a better person, listening to God and his will for her.

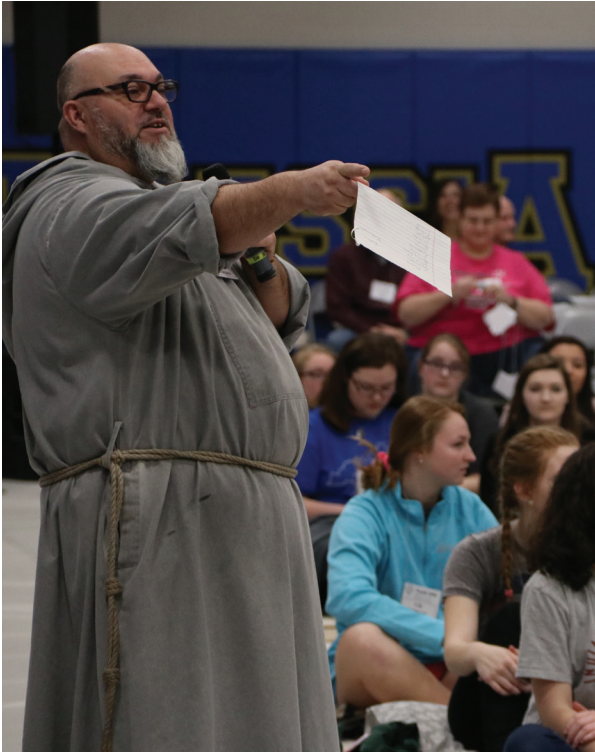
I pray and hope that the rest felt the same and will continually discern God's call for each of them. ■



COURTESY OF GING SMITH

Sr. Martha Keller, OSU, speaks to youth on Jan. 23, 2019 about her calling as a religious sister.

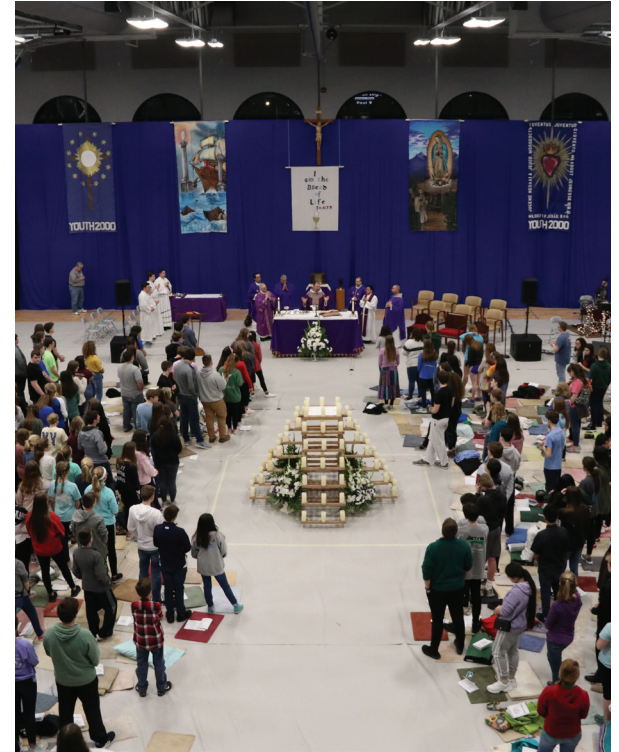
Twenty-second Youth 2000 retreat draws 409 young people



LAURA RIGSBY | WKC
Br. Joachim Bellavance, CFR, leads the youth in a song on Friday, March 8, 2019 at the annual Youth 2000 event held at Brescia University in Owensboro.



LAURA RIGSBY | WKC
Teens sing and clap along to a song at Youth 2000 on Friday, March 8, 2019, at Brescia University in Owensboro.



LAURA RIGSBY | WKC
A total of 409 young people and 121 chaperones attend Mass on Friday, March 8, 2019 at Youth 2000 at Brescia University in Owensboro.

BY WKC STAFF

On March 8-10, 2019, the 22nd annual Youth 2000 retreat took place at the Brescia University's Campus Center in Owensboro.

The retreat consisted in Mass, talks, adoration, question-and-answer panels and drew youth and young adults from all over western Kentucky. This year, the retreat saw 409 participants and 121 chaperones.

Bishop William F. Medley of the Diocese of Owensboro presided at the closing Mass on Sunday morning. ■

Lazarus retreat continued from page 22

“It showed me that I am trying to fill the hole in my heart with human desires, when I should be filling it with the Word and love of God,” said Jolee Hayden Blessed Mother. “My favorite part of the Lazarus Retreat was going back with our small groups and praying over each individual and the struggles they were going through.”

We plan to make the retreat an annual event at Gasper River with the next retreat being held Feb. 14-16, 2020. Information about signing up will be made available in the fall of 2019. ■

Charlie Hardesty is the director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry in the Diocese of Owensboro.

Life's many 'twists and turns' guided monk in discovering his priestly vocation



LAURA RIGSBY | WKC/FILE PHOTO

In this 2017 file photo, outgoing judicial vicar, Fr. Mike Clark, and Bishop William F. Medley look on as Fr. Patrick Cooney, OSB, takes the Oath of Fidelity, recites the Profession of Faith and takes the Oath of Office on assuming his role as judicial vicar for the Diocese of Owensboro on Aug. 2, 2017.

BY FR. PATRICK COONEY, OSB, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

My journey to and life as a priest has taken many twists and turns, and it has only been by looking back at these twists and turns that I have come to see God's hand in my journey.

Both my parents had an uncle who was a diocesan priest. I didn't know my uncles all that well, but

the stories told about them were part of our family's history. I began my journey toward the priesthood in high school. I attended Saint Anthony High School Seminary, an Oblates of Mary Immaculate (OMI) high school seminary, in San Antonio Texas. After graduating from high school, I continued with the Oblates entering St. Edwards University in Austin Texas as a college seminarian for the Oblates in their

house of formation.

After that freshman year, my life took a twist and a turn as I left seminary continuing my college education graduating in 1986 with a B.S. degree in electrical engineering technology from Purdue University. After college my life took another turn as I entered Officer Training School for the United States Air Force, becoming a Second Lieutenant and assigned as a research and developmental engineer working on air to ground weapon systems. After five years in the Air Force my life took another twist and turned as I felt God calling me back to discern priesthood once again in the seminary.

I entered Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology as a seminarian studying for the Diocese of Belleville, Illinois, and on June 1, 1991, I was ordained a diocesan priest. I spent three years as a diocesan priest, first as an associate and then as an administrator of two parishes. One would think that my Benedictine call would have come about due to attending a Benedictine seminary, but the call actually developed from my contact with women Benedictines, especially my sister. My sister had entered and become a Benedictine sister during my time in seminary and I had the honor of being the celebrant at the Mass for her solemn vows. So, after three years in the Diocese of Belleville my life took another twist and turn as I returned to Saint Meinrad but this time entering the novitiate and eventually becoming a Benedictine monk in August of 1995.

I began working and eventually ran the computer

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Fr. Patrick Cooney continued from page 25

department that supported the monastery, seminary and school of theology. But of course, God wasn't done with me. An opportunity arose that allowed me to return to the Air Forces, this time as an Air Force chaplain in the Kentucky Air National Guard (KyANG). Being a chaplain reinvigorated the pastoral side of my priesthood. Working side by side with and ministering to the men and women of the KyANG and the larger Air Force when deployed, gave me an energy that I had never experienced before. But the twist and turns were not yet over.

A need arose in the seminary for an instructor in canon law and so off I went to spend the next five summers at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., studying canon law. After graduating I began to teach canon law in the seminary and began to work on a part time bases for the tribunals of both the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and the Diocese of Owensboro. This lead to working full-time for the tribunal in Indianapolis before Bishop Medley offered me the job as judicial vicar for the Diocese of Owensboro.

My life has taken many twists and turns but each one played a part in who I am today. Each twist and turn has prepared me to face the next door that God has placed on my path. I would not be serving the Diocese of Owensboro if I hadn't walked through those doors that God has opened for me. ■

Fr. Patrick Cooney, OSB, is a monk of Saint Meinrad Archabbey and serves as the judicial vicar of the Diocese of Owensboro.



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Fr. Patrick Cooney, OSB.

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Un Mensaje del Obispo Medley

Stephen Van Lal Than será ordenado diácono transitorio a las 10 a.m. el día sábado, 13 de abril de 2019 en la Parroquia Santo Espíritu en Bowling Green. Stephen, que tiene 26 años, vino a los Estados Unidos y a la Diócesis de Owensboro en 2017. Había sido seminarista en su país natal, Myanmar, cuando se ofreció como voluntario para venir a los Estados Unidos como un misionero. Myanmar se encuentra en el sudeste de Asia y antes se conocía como Birmania.

Stephen y su compañero seminarista, Martin Ma Na Ling, con el permiso de su obispo, respondieron a una invitación de nuestra diócesis extendida a través del Padre Timothy Khui Shing Ling. El P. Timoteo vino a nuestra diócesis en 2013 para ejercer un ministerio con la creciente población de católicos de Myanmar que viven en Bowling Green y Owensboro. Regresó el año pasado a Myanmar y el P. John Paul Mang ahora sirve a nuestra diócesis en esa función.

Cuando sea ordenado al sacerdocio, Stephen se unirá a 23 sacerdotes que no nacieron en los Estados Unidos y que actualmente sirven en el oeste de Kentucky. Otros provenientes de África, India y Myanmar han estado y se han ido en las últimas dos décadas.

La Diócesis de Owensboro tiene 87 sacerdotes, ambos incardinados (que pertenecen a la Diócesis de Owensboro) y aquellos que sirven aquí temporalmente de otras diócesis o congregaciones religiosas. Entre este número, nueve están formalmente jubilados y cinco de ellos viven ahora en el Hogar de las Hermanas Carmelitas. Dos de los jubilados son

sacerdotes de Glenmary que han vivido y servido en la diócesis por muchos años.

Uno de nuestros sacerdotes diocesanos se desempeña como capellán en un hospital de la Administración de Veteranos en Florida, uno es un capellán militar que presta servicios en la Fuerza Aérea, otro está prestando servicios a otra diócesis, y otro está actualmente cursando estudios de posgrado y regresará a la Diócesis de Owensboro este verano. Nueve de nuestros sacerdotes incardinados nacieron fuera de los Estados Unidos.

Por lo tanto, hay 56 de nuestros sacerdotes diocesanos incardinados que sirven parroquias, hospitales y escuelas de la Diócesis de Owensboro. Había 40 sacerdotes en la diócesis cuando se separó de la Arquidiócesis de Louisville y se estableció en 1937. Esos 40 sacerdotes sirvieron 33 parroquias y 19 misiones.

Estamos enriquecidos por tener seis sacerdotes que pertenecen a la comunidad religiosa, los *Heralds of Good News* [Heraldos de la Buena Nueva]. Además de esto, tenemos ocho sacerdotes que nos prestan servicios en nuestra diócesis de diócesis extranjeras.

Hay 78 parroquias en la Diócesis de Owensboro. De estos, 26 son atendidas por un párroco que no nació en los EE. UU. y siete parroquias son atendidas por un vicario parroquial que no nació en los EE. UU. Si uno saca la



Obispo Medley continúa en página 28

EL CALENDARIO DEL OBISPO MEDLEY PARA ABRIL 2019:

ABRIL 2	Instalación del Obispo Talley – Memphis
ABRIL 6	4 p.m. Misa de la Ejemplificación de los Caballeros de Colón – Parroquia San Leo, Murray
ABRIL 7	2 p.m. Celebración del 50 Aniversario de Cursillo – Catedral San Esteban, Owensboro
ABRIL 9	Día del Presbiterio – Centro Católico McRaith, Owensboro
ABRIL 10	5:30 p.m. Recepción VOCARE – Parroquia Santo Tomás Moro, Paducah
ABRIL 11	9:30 a.m. Conversaciones con los "Seniors" – Escuela Preparatoria Trinidad, Whitesville
ABRIL 13	10 a.m. Ordenación de Stephen Van Lal Than al Diaconado Transitorio – Parroquia Santo Espíritu, Bowling Green
ABRIL 15	10 a.m. Reunión del Consejo de Personal Sacerdotal 1:30 p.m. Reunión del Consejo Sacerdotal
ABRIL 16	6:30 p.m. Misa Crismal – Owensboro Sportscenter
ABRIL 17	8:30 a.m. Reunión del Consejo Diocesano de Finanzas
ABRIL 23	9:30 a.m. Misa – Escuela San José, Bowling Green 6 p.m. Reunión de la Asociación Médica Católica
ABRIL 24	6 p.m. Confirmación – Parroquia San Pío X, Owensboro
ABRIL 25-26	Reunión de la Mesa Directiva de la Universidad de Brescia
ABRIL 27	5 p.m. Confirmación – Parroquia San Jerónimo, Fancy Farm
ABRIL 28	9 a.m. Dedicación del Altar y Bendición de la Iglesia Renovada – Parroquia San Pablo, Princeton 2 p.m. Confirmación – Parroquia Santa María del Bosque, Whitesville
ABRIL 29	6:30 p.m. Vísperas por la Protección y Sanación – Parroquia Inmaculada Concepción, Hawesville
ABRIL 30	10 a.m. Misa & Conversaciones con los "Seniors" – Escuela Preparatoria Santa María, Paducah 6:30 p.m. Confirmación – Parroquia Santísima Madre, Owensboro

Continuado de la página 27

cuenta, es evidente que, si no fuera por los sacerdotes que han venido a nosotros como misioneros, no podríamos tener Misa en todas las parroquias todos los domingos. Muchas diócesis han respondido a situaciones similares cerrando parroquias.

Hay muchas lecciones para aprender de estas estadísticas:

Como la mayoría de las diócesis de los Estados Unidos, nos hemos convertido en una diócesis misionera que depende del resto del mundo para proveernos sacerdotes. Dado el tamaño y la diversidad de la Iglesia Católica en los EE. UU., deberíamos enviar orgullosamente a sacerdotes al resto del mundo.

Estos números nos dan una razón adicional para hablar favorablemente de los inmigrantes en nuestro país. El sacerdocio católico no es más que una profesión que se beneficia de la afluencia de inmigrantes. El prejuicio contra los inmigrantes es contrario al Evangelio, especialmente entre los católicos que incluso ahora les deben mucho.

La Iglesia Católica de los Estados Unidos tiene una gran deuda con la Iglesia internacional. Debemos ser especialmente conscientes de esto cuando hay peticiones de ayudar a la misión de la Iglesia en otros países.

Cuando visito las parroquias de la diócesis, escucho a fieles católicos muy agradecidos con nuestros sacerdotes nacidos en el extranjero. Pero ocasionalmente, escucho de personas angustiadas por

los fuertes acentos con los que hablan algunos de nuestros sacerdotes. Bueno, esta es una calle de doble sentido, es decir hay una responsabilidad compartida. Sí, los sacerdotes que sirven aquí deben afinar sus habilidades de lenguaje y habla. Al mismo tiempo, nosotros debemos afinar nuestras habilidades de escuchar.

Esto no es solo una preocupación del siglo XXI. Cuando los pioneros católicos vinieron a Kentucky a fines de la década de 1700 y principios de la de 1800, eran predominantemente católicos de habla inglesa. Los sacerdotes misioneros que vinieron a servirles eran en su mayoría sacerdotes que hablaban francés desplazados por la persecución católica durante la Revolución Francesa. Cuanto más cambian las cosas, más permanecen igual.

Lecciones finales:

- Agradezca a sus sacerdotes: los nacidos y criados en Kentucky, y los que han recorrido un largo camino para servir.
- Venga a la Parroquia Santo Espíritu el 13 de abril y celebre la ordenación de diaconado de Stephen.
- Ore por las vocaciones al sacerdocio y la vida religiosa. ■

+ William F. Medley

Obispo William F. Medley
Diócesis de Owensboro

Para Hacer Informe de Alegatos de Abuso Sexual

Para denunciar una sospecha de abuso, llame a la Línea Directa de Protección Infantil de Kentucky: 1-877-KYSAFE1 o 1-877-597-2331 (llamada gratuita) o comuníquese con su Fiscal Local del Commonwealth. Para reportar abuso, actual o pasado, a la diócesis por parte de cualquier persona que actúe en nombre de la Iglesia, llame a Louanne Payne, Coordinadora de Asistencia Pastoral (inglés) al 270-852-8380, o Nuria Elizondo, Coordinadora de Asistencia Pastoral (español) al 270-880-8360. También puede visitar la Oficina de Ambiente Seguro (owensborodiocese.org/safe) para obtener más información.

La vida llevó a un monje a trabajar para la diócesis

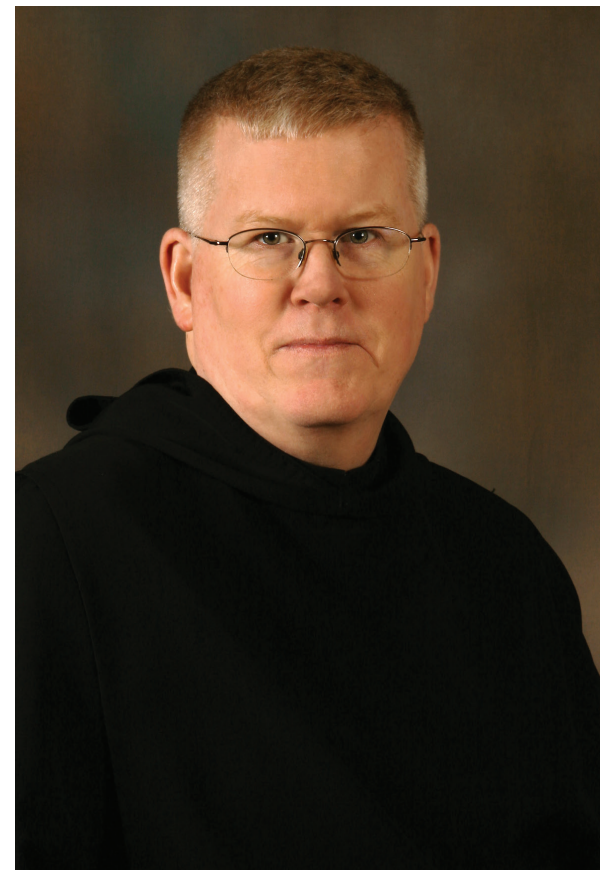


FOTO POR SAINT MEINRAD

El Padre Patrick Cooney, vicario judicial en el tribunal de la diócesis, escribe: "Mi vida ha dado muchos giros y vueltas, pero cada una de ellas tuvo que ver con lo que soy hoy. Cada giro y vuelta me ha preparado para enfrentar la siguiente puerta que Dios ha puesto en mi camino. No estaría sirviendo a la Diócesis de Owensboro si no hubiera entrado por esas puertas que Dios me ha abierto".

Parroquias con Misas en Español

Parroquia del Santo Redentor, Beaver Dam Sábados – 5:00 p.m.

107 13th Street, Beaver Dam, KY 42320
Contacto: Hermana Aida Badillo (270) 903-8070 o parroquia (270) 274-3414

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 San José, Central City Cada Primer Domingo del Mes - 8:00 a.m.

113 South 3rd Street, Central City, KY 42330
Contacto: Padre Josh McCarty (270) 754-1164

Parroquia de San Francisco de Asis, Guthrie

Sábados – 6:00 p.m.
Domingos – 12:00 p.m.

7600 Russellville Road, P.O. Box 297, Guthrie, KY 42234
Contacto: Diácono Heriberto Rodríguez (270) 265-5263 o (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 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 Michael Charles Abiero (270) 885-8522 o Mayra Tirado (270) 498-6456

Parroquia de Cristo Rey, Madisonville

Domingos – 6:00 p.m.

1600 Kingsway Drive, Madisonville, KY 42431
Contacto: Padre Carl McCarthy (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: Hermana Aida Badillo (270) 526-3723 o parroquia (270) 274-3414

Parroquia de San Leo, Murray

Sábados – 5:30 p.m.

401 North 12th Street, Murray, KY 42071
Contacto: Hermana Esperanza Rivera (270) 753-3876

Parroquia Santos José y Pablo, Owensboro

Domingos – 12:00 p.m. y 8:00 p.m.

609 East 4th Street, Owensboro, KY 42303
Contacto: Padre Basilio Az Cuc o Padre Jean Rene Kalombo (270) 683-5641

Parroquia de Santo Tomás Moro, Paducah

Domingos – 1:00 p.m.

5645 Blandville Road, Paducah, KY 42001
Contacto: Hermana Celia Sanchez (423) 883-5757

Parroquia del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús, Russellville

Domingos – 2:00 p.m.

296 West 6th Street, Russellville, KY 42276
Contacto: Padre Ken Mikulcik (270) 726-6963

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: Alyssa Maty (815) 207-3208 o Padre Carmelo Jiménez (270) 881-7737

Picnic Parroquiales del 2019

1 Junio | Sirviendo a las 4 p.m. - San José, Leitchfield

8 Junio | Sirviendo a las 4 p.m. - San Pío X, Owensboro

13 Julio | Sirviendo a las 4 p.m. - San Alfonso, San José

3 Agosto | Sirviendo desde mediodía a 11 a.m.; sirviendo a las 12-3 p.m. -
Santísimo Sacramento, Owensboro

21 Septiembre | Sirviendo a las 4 p.m. - Santísima Madre, Owensboro

28 Septiembre | Solamente por carros; 1-3 p.m. - Inmaculada, Owensboro

De a dos hacia Dios



Hola mis Hermanos

Les cuento que el pasado 16 de Marzo y por primera vez, pudo ofrecerse a nivel diocesano el Retiro para Matrimonios llamado “Banquete de Bodas”. Tempranito este día, y aunque todavía un poco frío pero gracias a Dios soleadito, muchos nos dimos camino hacia el Campamento Católico de Gasper River a las afueras de Bowling Green. Bajo el liderazgo del Padre Lustein Blanco Grajales, un número de hasta 65 parejas se vieron bendecidas por la privilegiada y hermosa oportunidad de profundizar en su relación de matrimonio. Ya en la parroquia de San Miguel en Sebree KY se había ofrecido siendo de gran éxito donde más de 20 parejas pudieron vivir la experiencia. El día consistió de una intensa introspección viendo la realidad como individuos, esposo y esposa seguido como parejas y dentro de un ambiente de apertura hacia el milagro que el Señor Jesús haría en comenzar a sanar y transformar cada matrimonio. Para muchos una experiencia inolvid-

able. Una experiencia de reconocer el propio pecado y las fallas como esposo y esposa en el matrimonio, para luego dejar que Dios comenzara a sanar y transformar para bien cada relación.

Un agradecimiento especial al equipo de servidores de San Miguel, al personal de Gasper River, a las hermanas, Danny May director diocesano de la oficina de matrimonios y vida familiar, al Padre Carmelo y demás sacerdotes que también ayudaron con confesiones este día. Muy en especial obviamente, agradecidos de corazón con el Padre Lustein por su trabajo, liderazgo, pasión y amor por la pastoral matrimonial. Los invito mis hermanos a que constantemente oremos por estos matrimonios y tantos otros que son llamados a esta vocación con necesidad de oración.

Con frecuencia mis hermanos sucede que cuando escuchamos peticiones, o se nos invita a rezar por las “Vocaciones”, seguido vemos excluida de mencionarse esa vocación llamada MATRIMONIO. Pareciera en ocasiones por nuestras oraciones mismas

que omiten mencionar el matrimonio, como si esta vocación fuese menos importante, menos urgente o de menor rango en comparación de las otras. Lo cierto mis hermanos es que el matrimonio también implica renunciar a muchísimo, es también misión, también implica sacrificios enormes y también es vida consagrada. La vocación fundamental del matrimonio cristiano mis hermanos, es tan o incluso más importante que cualquiera de las otras. Sin buenos matrimonios cristianos, no habría familias de donde se diera un ambiente favorable hacia el sacerdocio ni hacia la vocación religiosa. La familia es el primer seminario y también el primer convento. Los papas son los primeros maestros, los primeros formadores. Es por ello importante que cuando pensemos en vocaciones retemos a otros a pensar más ampliamente y ayudemos a ser inclusivos de esta tan importante llamada al matrimonio.

Dios los bendiga

Dcn. Cristóbal Gutierrez

Corazón incorrupto de San Juan Vianney fue traído a Paducah



FOTO POR ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD

El 13 de marzo, los Caballeros de Colón trajeron al corazón incorrupto de San Juan Vianney a la Parroquia San Juan Evangelista en Paducah, donde el Obispo Medley celebró la Misa. La reliquia estuvo disponible para venerarla durante todo el día. San Juan Evangelista fue una parada en una peregrinación de la reliquia a través de los Estados Unidos.

Youth 2000 se llevó a cabo del 8 al 10 de marzo



FOTO POR LAURA RIGSBY

El 22° retiro anual para jóvenes, Youth 2000, tuvo lugar en la Universidad de Brescia en Owensboro. Este año el retiro recibió a 409 participantes y 121 adultos supervisores. El retiro consistió de Misa, pláticas, adoración, paneles y Misa de clausura con el Obispo Medley.



¡Tu parroquia podría salir en el Católico de Kentucky Occidental!

¿Están pasando cosas emocionantes en tu parroquia? ¿Quieren compartir las buenas noticias con otras personas católicas en Kentucky occidental? Si quieres compartir, favor de mandar las fotos y la información por correo electrónico a la editora, Elizabeth Wong Barnstead, al wkc.editor@pastoral.org.



Día de los Refugiados e Inmigrantes en el Capitolio



FOTO POR SUSAN MONTALVO-GESSER

POR SUSAN MONTALVO-GESSER

El 20 de febrero de 2019 fue el Día de los Refugiados e Inmigrantes en el Capitolio. Aproximadamente 60 personas de la diócesis fuimos a Frankfort para reunirnos con legisladores y asistir a una demostración política en la Rotonda del Capitolio. El grupo de nuestra diócesis estaba compuesto por grupos del centro pastoral, el Centro Internacional, la Comisión de Relaciones Humanas de Owensboro, UFCW 227, la Universidad de Brescia y estudiantes de la escuela secundaria.

En conjunto con la demostración, nos reunimos con nuestros legisladores. El objetivo de nuestras reuniones era para pedirles que "no hicieran daño" a nuestros hermanos y hermanas inmigrantes. Tratamos de impartir los siguientes datos al Senador Matt Castlen, a los Representantes Jim Glenn y Rob Wiederstein: los habitantes de Kentucky indocumentados pagan \$37 millones de dólares anuales en impuestos, los inmigrantes en Kentucky tienen 57 por ciento más probabilidades de trabajar que los residentes de Kentucky, y en 2014 las empresas que pertenecen a los inmigrantes contribuyeron \$315 millones a Kentucky. Las personas contaron sus historias y oramos con los legisladores o les dimos una oración compuesta por nuestra causa.

Después de las reuniones con los legisladores, nos unimos con cientos de miembros del estado para apoyar al tema "Y'all means All" [Todos ustedes significan todos]. Escuchamos el poderoso testimonio de varios oradores, incluyendo el del Arzobispo Joseph E. Kurtz. ■