

THE WESTERN
KENTUCKY



Catholic

CATÓLICO DE KENTUCKY OCCIDENTAL

January 2019 ● Volume 46 Issue 1 ● The newspaper of the Diocese of Owensboro ● owensborodiocese.org



Tribunal pioneer

Page 14



Español

Página 27



A life remembered

Page 26



Preserving history

(Left to right) Andy Elliott, Pam Nanny, Gayla Elliott, Denis Wilson and John Carrico gather on Dec. 5, 2018 to share about the legacy of St. Jerome School and Museum in Fancy Farm.

Page 5

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



Teens, parents and youth ministers pray together during an Advent prayer experience held on Dec. 2, 2018 in Owensboro. **Page 20**

Photo courtesy of Chrissy Stevenson.

- 7** Delving into the 'art' of accompaniment
Parish, school, diocesan staff gather for day of prayer and learning
- 14** Fr. Joe Mills honored for 35 years of service to diocesan tribunal
Fr. Mills served as the diocese's first judicial vicar
- 24** The priesthood today is just as important as ever
Fr. Julio Barrera reflects on his vocation and ministry

Front page photo by Elizabeth Wong Barnstead | WKC

Submissions

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

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

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

THE WESTERN KENTUCKY  **Catholic**

Official newspaper of the Diocese of Owensboro

Published monthly, 10 times a year at
600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY 42301

Telephone ● (270) 683-1545

Email ● wkc.editor@pastoral.org

Publisher ● Bishop William F. Medley

Editor ● Elizabeth Wong Barnstead

Contributors ● Laura Clarke, Tina Kasey

Send change of address requests to
cathy.hagan@pastoral.org

View current and archived issues at
owensborodiocese.org/western-kentucky-catholic/

The Western Kentucky Catholic is a member of the
Catholic Press Association.

The Western Kentucky Catholic comes to your home as a direct use of your parish assessment dollars: "Those who exercise authority in the Church will take care to ensure that there is responsible exchange of freely held and expressed opinion among the People of God" - Pastoral Instruction of the Means of Social Communications, #116, Jan. 29, 1971.

Opinions expressed in submitted columns and letters to the editor in The Western Kentucky Catholic may be edited for space, a lack of charity or a lack of clarity, and are not endorsed by the publisher or editor. No submissions are guaranteed placement in The Western Kentucky Catholic.

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

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, call Louanne Payne, Pastoral Assistance Coordinator (English) at 270-852-8380, or Nuria Elizondo, Pastoral Assistance Coordinator (Spanish) at 270-880-8360. You may also visit the Office of Safe Environment (owensborodiocese.org/safe) for more information.

- | | | | |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------|---------------|
| 5 | Features | 20 | Youth |
| 8 | Upcoming Events | 22 | Anniversaries |
| 10 | Around the Diocese | 24 | Vocations |
| 15 | Opinion | 27 | Español |

A Word From Bishop Medley

Building Communities of Welcome

National Migration Week 2019 is to be observed January 6-12 presenting a theme: Building Communities of Welcome. In Kentucky we tend to think that the issues surrounding immigrants and refugees are very contemporary because the national discussion, and particularly the political discussion, has been so inflamed in recent years. In fact, the Catholic Church of the United States has for nearly half a century celebrated National Migration Week. Even in our state the presence of migrants and refugees has been growing over many decades, often unnoticed by us because they are by far a peaceful, hard-working people.

Building Communities of Welcome emphasizes our responsibility as Catholics to engage and welcome newcomers on their arrival, and to help ease their transition into a new life here in the United States.

If following immigration debates as portrayed in politics and in the media, one might assume that all immigrants are dangerous people. We need to pause and assess our own encounters with them. Very, very few of us have had negative experiences and yet still the narrative we hear is one of fear and often hysteria. In the last decade, we have seen throughout western Kentucky a



more visible presence of our new neighbors. When we pass a field where crops are being harvested, we see immigrants. It seems apparent that agriculture across our region would be greatly impaired if not for the presence of immigrants. In hotels and restaurants we encounter our new neighbors courteously serving us. Their English may be broken or heavily accented but they are making a way.

For years we have been warned that immigrants are taking jobs away from citizens. Yet the unemployment rate in the U.S. is the lowest it has been in decades. Could it be that if there were not millions of immigrants in our workforce, our nation's economy might be in peril?

Yet as a nation we still find ourselves polarized over questions about refugees and immigrants. It seems that within government both sides are content to grandstand rather than repair a broken immigration system. I genuinely seek to hear both sides of the debate. My heart, however, is burdened when I see immigrant children separated from parents and actually locked in cages, sometimes for weeks at time. I am appalled when pictures are published showing children being tear-gassed.

Continues on page 4

BISHOP MEDLEY'S CALENDAR JANUARY 2019

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| JAN 2-8 | United States Bishops' Retreat –
Mundelein, IL |
| JAN 11 | 6 p.m. Closing Mass for National Migration Week – St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro |
| JAN 12 | 9:30 a.m. Catholics at the Capital Regional Meeting – Immaculate Parish, Owensboro
3:30 p.m. Confirmation Retreat – St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro |
| JAN 14-17 | Priests' Convocation – St. Meinrad, Indiana |
| JAN 17 | 6 p.m. Diocesan Finance Council Meeting |
| JAN 21 | 10 a.m. Priest Personnel Board Meeting – McRaith Catholic Center (MCC), Owensboro
1:30 p.m. Priests' Council Meeting – MCC |
| JAN 24 | 8 a.m. School Mass – John Paul II School, Morganfield |
| JAN 27 | 9:30 a.m. Confirmation – St. Peter of Alcantara Parish, Stanley |
| JAN 28 | 8 a.m. School Mass – Holy Name of Jesus School, Henderson |
| JAN 29 | 9:30 a.m. All Schools Mass – St. Mary High School, Paducah |
| JAN 30 | 9 a.m. School Mass – Christ the King School, Madisonville
6 p.m. Diocesan Review Board Meeting |
| JAN 31 | 1 p.m. School Mass – Mary Carrico Memorial School, Philpot |

A Word from Bishop Medley continued from page 3

The plight of immigrants and refugees is not just a U.S. problem. Pope Francis speaks often of the tens of millions of refugees around the world caught up in political chaos. He challenges the prosperous countries of the world to provide humanitarian aid and to act upon Jesus' mandate that we "welcome the stranger." There are estimated to be more homeless refugees and displaced persons in the world today than at any time since the end of World War II.

Catholics are called to stand with immigrants and refugees as our sisters and brother. This is who the Catholic Church is. This is what we as Catholics do. Pope Francis invites us to be part of a culture of encounter as we welcome, protect, integrate, and promote immigrants and refugees in our midst.

Immigration is about real people who are trying to find a better life and a new beginning. It is about more than statistics, it's about families. As Pope Francis stated, "Each immigrant has a name, a face and a story."

What can I do? In our democracy we can always voice our opinions and expectations to our elected leaders that immigration reform is doable, that we will be a better country when we accomplish it.

But maybe our first step is to simply speak a kind word and offer a smile to a newcomer. They are in our churches and in our workplaces, we see them in groceries and markets, their children go to school with our children. They are our sisters and brothers. ■



Most Reverend William F. Medley
Diocese of Owensboro

The Diocese of Owensboro Pilgrimage to

ITALY

Rome, Assisi, Florence, Pisa, Lucca,
Brescia, Venice & Padua

OCTOBER 6-16, 2019

\$4,599 from Louisville, KY & Cincinnati, OH
* Price per person in a double room

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR:
Bishop William F. Medley



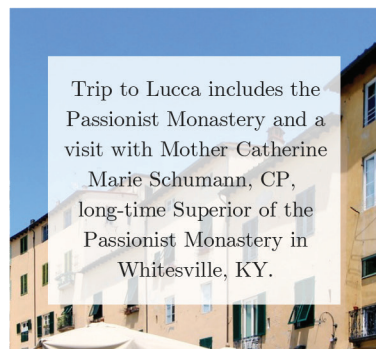
pilgrimages.com/BishopMedley



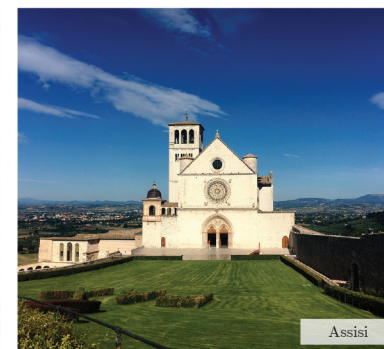
Padua



Rome



Trip to Lucca includes the Passionist Monastery and a visit with Mother Catherine Marie Schumann, CP, long-time Superior of the Passionist Monastery in Whitesville, KY.



Assisi

Mass attendance numbers 2018

Editor's note: Numbers are provided by the Office of Stewardship from Mass counts conducted annually in all parishes during all weekends in September.

Parish, City	Registered Parishioners	Weekly Average	Mass Attendance		Difference
			2018	2017	
Blessed Mother, Owensboro	2099	907	43.21%	41.99%	1.22%
Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro	88	58	65.91%	66.28%	-0.37%
Christ the King, Madisonville	532	357	67.11%	54.02%	13.09%
Christ the King, Scottsville	212	117	55.19%	64.13%	-8.94%
Holy Cross, Providence	15	9	60.00%	86.67%	-26.67%
Holy Guardian Angels, Irvington	241	200	82.99%	93.42%	-10.43%
Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson	3632	1323	36.43%	34.19%	2.24%
Holy Redeemer, Beaver Dam	165	206	124.85%	97.08%	27.77%
Holy Spirit, Bowling Green	4115	1483	36.04%	39.05%	-3.01%
Holy Trinity, Morgantown	86	135	156.98%	229.51%	-72.53%
Immaculate, Owensboro	1923	956	49.71%	68.24%	-18.52%
Immaculate Conception, Earlington	93	95	102.15%	124.73%	-22.58%

Continues on page 6

A Catholic school's legacy

Former St. Jerome School building teaches in a new way



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC
Inside St. Jerome School and Museum, a classroom is set up as it would have looked in days gone by, complete with vintage desks.

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Many people can say they owe a lot to their childhood schools – their education, friendships, and perhaps even inspiration for future careers.

Pam Nanny owes her very existence to the former St. Jerome School in Fancy Farm, which closed in 1985.

In a Dec. 5, 2018 interview with The Western Kentucky Catholic, Nanny said her great-grandfather had brought three of his daughters to Fancy

Farm because of St. Jerome School. While the other daughters went their separate ways after graduating, one of them met and married a local Fancy Farm man.

They settled in Fancy Farm and raised 11 children, from which Nanny is descended.

“I wouldn’t be here today if not for the school,” said Nanny.

Five years ago this month, nine locations on the St. Jerome Parish campus in Fancy Farm were placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

This includes the St. Jerome School building, which opened and held its first classes in 1909. Currently, it is being restored to serve as a museum of school and local artifacts significant to the Catholic community in Fancy Farm.

The restored main floor of the school branches into several former classrooms. One classroom is set up as it would have been in days gone by, complete with vintage desks, chalkboards, a teacher’s desk and a mannequin dressed as a Sister of Charity of Nazareth.

Other rooms display interesting pieces of local history, including a vintage communion wafer press and an antique bank vault from the old Fancy Farm Bank.

Plans are underway to restore the second floor, but the St. Jerome School and Museum has already been used not just as a museum, but also as a venue for birthday parties, bridal showers, and reunions.

John Carrico, along with fellow St. Jerome parish-

ioners Nanny, Andy Elliott, Gayla Elliott, Denis Wilson, and Bill Higdon, is a member of a committee dedicated to preserving the legacy of the St. Jerome School and Museum.

Carrico credited deceased pastor, Fr. David Willett, for spearheading the initiative to restore the building about a decade ago, and current pastor, Fr. Darrell Venters, for his support of the project.

“Fr. Darrell always supported us and still does,” said Carrico.

Andy Elliott explained that before they could do any renovations on the building, Fr. Venters required them to have raised \$150,000 – and for it to be separate from any parish funds.

This stipulation was “critical to our success,” said Carrico.

Continues on page 6



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC
The exterior of St. Jerome School and Museum in Fancy Farm on Dec. 5, 2018.

FEATURES

St. Jerome museum continued from page 5

While the privately-raised donations were crucial, Andy Elliott added that “we had a lot of support from people who donated their time” as well.

Wilson said he has high hopes for the future of the museum.

“As more and more people come in (to visit), we’re hoping people will think

of it as a museum, and not just the old school,” said Wilson.

Carrico agreed.

“We want people to know it’s here and they can use it,” said Carrico. “It’s their history.” ■

Mass attendance continued from page 4

Parish, City	Registered Parishioners	Weekly Average	Mass Attendance 2018	2017	Difference
Immaculate Conception, Hawesville	334	140	41.92%	52.81%	-10.90%
Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro	1956	867	44.33%	44.82%	-0.50%
Precious Blood, Owensboro	810	458	56.54%	62.91%	-6.36%
Resurrection, Dawson Springs	70	59	84.29%	88.57%	-4.29%
Rosary Chapel, Paducah	125	108	86.40%	71.31%	15.09%
Sacred Heart, Hickman	43	36	83.72%	94.12%	-10.40%
Sacred Heart, Russellville	385	193	50.13%	50.98%	-0.85%
Sacred Heart, Waverly	178	115	64.61%	70.72%	-6.11%
Saint Agnes, Uniontown	688	341	49.56%	44.76%	4.80%
Saint Alphonsus, Saint Joseph	468	215	45.94%	46.41%	-0.47%
Saint Ambrose, Henshaw	73	57	78.08%	75.71%	2.37%
Saint Ann, Morganfield	896	419	46.76%	41.71%	5.05%
Saint Anthony, Axtel	624	321	51.44%	77.81%	-26.37%
Saint Anthony, Browns Valley	353	142	40.23%	48.62%	-8.40%
Saint Anthony, Peonia	180	92	51.11%	49.43%	1.68%
Saint Anthony of Padua, Grand Rivers	76	105	138.16%	156.58%	-18.42%
Saint Augustine, Grayson Springs	97	48	49.48%	55.10%	-5.62%
Saint Augustine, Reed	72	49	68.06%	73.08%	-5.02%
Saint Benedict, Wax	150	79	52.67%	65.13%	-12.46%
Saint Charles, Bardwell	133	91	68.42%	83.05%	-14.63%
Saint Charles Borromeo, Livermore	89	53	59.55%	64.44%	-4.89%
Saint Columba, Lewisport	235	121	51.49%	50.00%	1.49%
Saint Denis, Fancy Farm	109	58	53.21%	56.19%	-2.98%
Saint Edward, Fulton	100	52	52.00%	68.00%	-16.00%
Saint Elizabeth, Curdsville	102	90	88.24%	47.88%	40.36%
Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Clarkson	164	155	94.51%	82.21%	12.30%
Saint Francis Borgia, Sturgis	192	120	62.50%	65.63%	-3.13%
Saint Francis de Sales, Paducah	941	494	52.50%	50.09%	2.41%
Saint Francis of Assisi, Todd County	285	228	80.00%	81.90%	-1.90%
Saint Henry, Aurora	186	174	93.55%	121.25%	-27.70%
Saint Jerome, Fancy Farm	1307	730	55.85%	58.08%	-2.23%
Saint John the Baptist, Fordsville	48	35	72.92%	61.33%	11.58%
Saint John the Evangelist, Paducah	715	358	50.07%	55.76%	-5.69%
Saint John the Evangelist, Sunfish	135	53	39.26%	61.45%	-22.19%
Saint Joseph, Bowling Green	3182	813	25.55%	44.73%	-19.18%

Parish, City	Registered Parishioners	Weekly Average	Mass Attendance 2018	2017	Difference
Saint Joseph, Central City	219	139	63.47%	51.93%	11.54%
Saint Joseph, Leitchfield	568	320	56.34%	52.30%	4.04%
Saint Joseph, Mayfield	1397	910	65.14%	60.44%	4.70%
Saints Joseph & Paul, Owensboro	1502	1015	67.58%	59.62%	7.96%
Saint Jude, Clinton	40	30	75.00%	67.39%	7.61%
Saint Lawrence, St. Lawrence	311	187	60.13%	62.82%	-2.70%
Saint Leo, Murray	1010	653	64.65%	56.51%	8.15%
Saint Mark, Eddyville	119	131	110.08%	110.24%	-0.15%
Saint Martin, Rome	313	472	150.80%	122.80%	28.00%
Saint Mary, Franklin	300	240	80.00%	82.01%	-2.01%
Saint Mary, LaCenter	143	78	54.55%	53.61%	0.93%
Saint Mary Magdalene, Sorgho	651	357	54.84%	51.81%	3.02%
Saint Mary of the Woods, McQuady	394	236	59.90%	63.00%	-3.10%
Saint Mary of the Woods, Whitesville	2461	2147	87.24%	79.39%	7.85%
Saint Michael, Sebree	366	233	63.66%	72.88%	-9.22%
Saint Michael the Archangel, Oak Grove	966	382	39.54%	41.11%	-1.56%
Saint Paul, Princeton	82	82	100.00%	97.70%	2.30%
Saint Paul, St. Paul	431	232	53.83%	59.35%	-5.52%
Saint Peter of Alcantara, Stanley	270	156	57.78%	65.00%	-7.22%
Saint Peter of Antioch, Waverly	506	256	50.59%	51.30%	-0.71%
Saints Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville	1494	678	45.38%	47.16%	-1.78%
Saint Pius X, Calvert City	300	217	72.33%	61.00%	11.33%
Saint Pius X, Owensboro	1236	600	48.54%	48.42%	0.12%
Saint Romuald, Hardinsburg	1500	694	46.27%	39.25%	7.02%
Saint Rose of Lima, Cloverport	264	136	51.52%	59.32%	-7.80%
Saint Sebastian, Calhoun	226	139	61.50%	60.10%	1.41%
Saint Stephen, Cadiz	284	183	64.44%	72.52%	-8.08%
Saint Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro	1361	674	49.52%	51.68%	-2.16%
Saint Thomas More, Paducah	2352	855	36.35%	48.97%	-12.62%
Saint William, Knottsville	1156	482	41.70%	51.82%	-10.12%
Saint William of Vercelli, Marion	130	68	52.31%	72.45%	-20.14%
DIOCESAN TOTALS:	51,054	26,297	51.51%	54.01%	-2.50%

For questions about these Mass counts, contact the Office of Stewardship at (270) 683-1545.

Delving into the ‘art’ of accompaniment in Madisonville



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC
Kristin Bird of Burning Hearts Disciples speaks to those gathered for the Dec. 4, 2018 Art of Accompaniment event at the Ballard Convention Center in Madisonville.

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

On Dec. 4, 2018, clergy, parish staff, volunteers, school administrators and diocesan staff gathered at the Ballard Convention Center in Madisonville for The Art of Accompaniment – a day of prayer and learning to guide the Diocese of Owensboro into Year Two of the four-year Living as Missionary Disciples initiative, spearheaded by the Office of Evan-

gelization.

Following Year One (“Encounter”), Year Two is focused on a theme of “Accompany.”

The keynote speaker was Kristin Bird of Burning Hearts Disciples, an evangelization-based ministry in Wisconsin.

Bird talked about evangelizing through accompaniment – walking alongside another person, not unlike how the resurrected Jesus walked alongside the disciples on the Road to Emmaus before they recognized he was the risen Christ.

“Accompaniment is about honoring the dignity and worth of every person who walks into our presence,” said Bird.

Bird challenged the participants, asking if “in

our relationships – are we focused on getting that relationship closer to Jesus?” even if not explicitly discussing Jesus, she said.

The day included lunch and small group time, as well as Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament led by Bishop William F. Medley.

In his homily during adoration, Bishop Medley explained that the “Holy Eucharist is the most profound way that Jesus is with us... But if we leave our churches unchanged... we make it a mockery.”

“We are called to make disciples,” he said, “nourished by the Body of Christ.”

To learn more about evangelization in the Diocese of Owensboro, visit owensborodiocese.org/evangelization. ■



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC
Bishop William F. Medley and Fr. Brandon Williams, co-coordinator of the Office of Worship, pray during Adoration at the Dec. 4, 2018 Art of Accompaniment event at the Ballard Convention Center in Madisonville.

JANUARY 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.

Disabilities Awareness Committee announces start of Sister Audrey Mary Gold Award nominations

The Disabilities Awareness Committee is happy to announce the start of NOMINATIONS FOR The Sister Audrey Mary Gold Award. This award recognizes achievement for a person who works to ensure that ALL are included in parish life regardless of disability. The committee is looking for nominees and will be awarding the Sister Audrey Mary Gold Award on 3-1-19. If you know of someone who fits the criteria, please send an email to nominate the person, or group, on or before, 2-14-19 to Deacon Richard Murphy, director for the Office of Social Concerns for the Diocese of Owensboro at richard.murphy@pastoral.org. Full criteria may be found at owensborodiocese.org/gold-award.

SCN/OCHS Memorial Project

Alumni of Owensboro Catholic High School have begun an effort to establish a permanent memorial honoring the service of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth at OC. The Sisters were the first educators and administrators when OC opened in 1951. The Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, founded in 1812 in Bardstown, KY, were among the first orders of American Sisters. They came to the Owensboro area in 1820, and to Owensboro in 1849. Our proximate goal of \$9K is moving along with donations of \$1500 at present. Steering Committee: Elizabeth Field (Corr), Chair, Sisters Marie Becker, Mary Margaret Cooper, and Mary Eula Johnson, Mrs. Nola Mullen Courtney, Mrs. Mary Lee Pruden Fitzsimmons, and Joan Perry, OSU Associate. If questions, contact Elizabeth Field (1963) Steering Committee chair, jimliz@oh.rr.com /440-510-8690. Please send your tax deductible donation to Owensboro Catholic, Attn: Tracy Miller, 1524 W. Parish Ave., Owensboro, KY, 42301.

A Scout is Reverent

The beginning of a new school year is a good time to begin working on Religious Emblems for Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts and others. These include for Cub Scouts: Light of Christ and Parvuli Dei and for Boy Scouts: Ad altare Dei and Pope Pius XII and Light is Life (Eastern Catholic) and for Girl Scouts and others: God is Love, Family of God, I Live My Faith, Mary the First Disciple, The Spirit Alive, and Missio. After earning these emblems, Bishop Medley will award them at a Scout Mass on March 24, 2019 at 2 p.m. at St. Stephen Cathedral For an introduction to these and a presentation by the Catholic Committee on Scouting at your next meeting, please visit owensborodiocese.org/scouting. The deadline for submitting emblem applications and for requesting a board of review is January 7, 2019. The boards of review are coordinated by Ken Keller at ken.keller@ohio.kyschools.us.

Scotland, Ireland golf tour with Fr. Hostetter

June 14-25, 2019. You are invited to join Brescia University president, Fr. Larry Hostetter, for a tour of Scotland and Ireland. The 11-day trip features a flexible schedule for golfers and non-golfers alike. The itinerary includes play on some of the world's most storied courses OR the opportunity to visit historic sites as well as tour metropolitan cities. You decide. Regardless of which package you choose, your trip will be memorable. The trip includes 10 nights with five-star accommodations, breakfast each morning, four-course dinners, and luxury on-ground transportation. For more information, please contact Lauren McCrary at lauren.mccrary@brescia.edu or 270-686-4236.

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!"

Save the date for two Holy Name School events

At Holy Name School there are always activities and opportunities for involvement. Here are two

things you can look forward to: a St. Patrick's Party and a 5K color/run walk. On March 16, 2019, we'll have a St. Patrick's Day Party for those 21 and older. Call all your friends and come ready to have a good time. 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.

Focus on Faith featuring The Mass begins Jan. 10

The Focus on Faith class, which meets monthly to study the Catholic faith, will be watching and discussing Bishop Robert Barron's DVD series "The Mass" in 2019. The first session will be on Jan. 10 from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The sessions will be led by Sister Ann McGrew, OSU. The \$20 fee per class includes lunch. The group meets at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center (12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56). Call 270-229-0206 or email retreatcenter@maplemount.org or register online at ursulinesmsj.org/conference-retreat-center/registration-sponsored-programs. Future dates: Feb. 14, March 14, April 4, May 9, June 13, Aug. 8, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 12.

A Contemplative Weekend Feb. 8-10

Slow down...Catch your breath...Find your calm. Relax and spend time at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center (12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56). The weekend of Feb. 8-10, Sister Mary Matthias Ward, OSU, will meet with you and provide ample personal time to journey with God and with self. Spiritual direction is available for those who wish it. The \$180 fee includes meals and accommodations. Call 270-229-0206 or email retreatcenter@maplemount.org or register online at ursulinesmsj.org/conference-retreat-center/registration-sponsored-programs.

Spring Women's Retreat: Lord, Teach us to Pray March 15-17

"Lord Teach us to Pray: The Bible and Prayer" is the theme of a March 15-17 spring women's retreat at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Re-

Continues on page 9

UPCOMING EVENTS

Continued from page 8

treat Center. When Jesus' disciples ask him how to pray, Jesus responds by giving us the Our Father. Various biblical stories teach us many other things about prayer. During this weekend, retreatants will reflect on elements of prayer and seek guidance from Scripture and one another. The goal is improving communication with God. The retreat leader is Sister Cheryl Clemons, OSU. The \$180 fee includes meals and accommodations. Commuters can attend for \$130. Take 10 percent off if paid by Feb. 15. Find a brochure at ursulinesmsj.org. To register, call 270-229-0206 or email retreatcenter@maplemount.org or register online at ursulinesmsj.org/conference-retreat-center/registration-sponsored-programs.

Alzheimer's Association Education Classes

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

Designed for general public; Donations welcome.
Understanding Alzheimer's & Dementia: Jan. 16, 7-8 p.m., St Pius X, Owensboro and Jan. 24, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Hopkins Co. Extension Office, Madisonville

Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body Workshop: Tips from the Latest Research: Jan. 22, 5-7:30 p.m., Owensboro Healthpark, Classroom A. Program includes guest speaker Dr. Mahesh Moolani. A light dinner will be provided by Wellington Parc; registration required

Living with Alzheimer's: For Caregivers Only-Late Stage: Designed for family caregivers; please no professionals. Jan. 29, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Paducah Lourdes Hospital Marshal Nemer Pavilion Borders Room

DASK (Divorced and Separated Koinonia)

The Marriage & Family Life Office for the diocese is pleased to bring a Koinonia retreat specifically for those divorced or separated. This Koinonia will take place April 5-7, 2019 at the Mount Saint Joseph Conference & Retreat Center. The cost is \$150, which includes lodging and meals. Scholarships are available upon request. To learn more, contact the Marriage & Family Life Office at 270-683-1545 or email familylife@pastoral.org.



Mike Michalak

is a husband, father and entrepreneur. His ministry revolves around celebrating the gift of Down Syndrome.



Kevin Reilly

is a former pro-football athlete who experienced serious health issues leading him on an incredible faith journey.



Dr. Edward Sri

is a theologian, author and well-known Catholic speaker who appears regularly on EWTN.

Tickets available!

8th Annual
**Catholic Men's Conference
of Western Kentucky**
RiverPark Center, Owensboro, KY

February 2, 2019

For more information and tickets, please visit <http://kycatholic.com/>.



Crossing the Threshold of Faith into the New Year

Saturday, Jan. 26, 2019
9 a.m.-3 p.m.

"Imagine that we could walk through the New Year always listening to a voice saying to us: I have a gift for you and can't wait for you to see it."- Henri Nouwen

Join us for a day of soulful and creative reflection to enter into the New Year honoring our deepest joys and intentions. Participants have an opportunity to reflect on what needs to be left behind from 2018, what needs to be celebrated, and what dreams and desires need to be born in 2019.



Facilitated by Maryann Joyce
Spiritual Director, Retreat Leader and Assistant Director of
Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center

The \$25 fee includes lunch.

To register, call 270-229-0206
retreatcenter@maplemount.org or sign up online:
ursulinesmsj.org/conference-retreat-center/retreats-and-programs



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

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



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

Bishop credits pastors for DRF's increase

Editor's note: Figures in graphs are based on December 20, 2018 totals.

BY WKC STAFF

The Disciples Response Fund (DRF) has seen a tremendous growth this year and Bishop William F. Medley credits not only the hard work of the Stewardship Office, but significantly, the work of the pastors.

“The success of the Disciples Response Fund is attributed to the witness of our pastors and by following the process set forth by the diocese,” said Bishop Medley. “People have supported the DRF because their priest asked them to and I am very proud of what our Church and most especially our pastors have accomplished.”

While the number of participating households to date is fewer than from prior years, the average individual gift is higher.

Kevin Kauffeld, chancellor for the diocese, attributes this increase to donors' better understanding the purpose of the DRF: “We have spent more time emphasizing the good works the monies collected from the DRF achieve and people have responded.”

“This is the difference and the numbers speak for themselves,” said Bishop Medley. “We give because God has first given to us.”

Every parish was assigned a target goal and any parish that exceeds that goal will receive 50 percent back. Half of the 78 parishes in the diocese have already exceeded the goal. Those parishes are highlighted in the accompanying graphs.

“There is still plenty of time before June 30, 2019 to make a gift to the DRF,” said Kauffeld. ■

Parish	Total Families	Total Donors	Target Goal	Pledged Amount	Paid Amount	Pledges Due
Blessed Mother, Owensboro	772	183	\$32,826.95	\$26,691.54	\$23,126.54	\$3,565.00
Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro	70	20	\$1,143.81	\$3,979.00	\$1,224.00	\$2,755.00
Christ the King, Madisonville	282	64	\$11,775.68	\$11,250.00	\$8,000.00	\$3,250.00
Christ the King, Scottsville	75	44	\$1,557.99	\$6,720.00	\$3,487.50	\$3,232.50
Holy Cross, Providence	16	3	\$547.02	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
Holy Guardian Angels, Irvington	100	9	\$2,854.27	\$780.00	\$780.00	\$0.00
Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson	1494	358	\$40,642.16	\$60,205.50	\$42,735.50	\$17,470.00
Holy Spirit, Bowling Green	1396	230	\$35,324.02	\$43,125.50	\$29,930.50	\$13,195.00
Holy Redeemer, Beaver Dam	100	32	\$2,901.33	\$4,321.00	\$3,846.00	\$475.00
Holy Trinity, Morgantown	61	23	\$1,039.04	\$3,145.00	\$1,790.00	\$1,355.00
Immaculate, Owensboro	755	222	\$30,737.14	\$34,311.80	\$24,480.80	\$9,831.00
Immaculate Conception, Hawesville	138	26	\$4,628.99	\$3,974.00	\$3,649.00	\$325.00
Immaculate Conception, Earlington	50	8	\$2,120.87	\$970.00	\$970.00	\$0.00
Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro	759	185	\$29,177.82	\$31,779.21	\$25,591.71	\$6,187.50
Precious Blood, Owensboro	317	118	\$11,655.63	\$13,919.00	\$10,847.50	\$3,071.50
Resurrection, Dawson Springs	30	6	\$1,108.16	\$870.00	\$870.00	\$0.00
Rosary Chapel, Paducah	58	16	\$2,630.26	\$1,761.00	\$1,306.00	\$455.00
Sacred Heart, Hickman	39	10	\$993.29	\$730.00	\$595.00	\$135.00
Sacred Heart, Waverly	71	29	\$3,010.88	\$3,300.00	\$3,000.00	\$300.00
Sacred Heart, Russellville	124	55	\$4,562.03	\$8,883.63	\$5,638.63	\$3,245.00
St. Agnes, Uniontown	297	72	\$8,885.40	\$6,107.00	\$5,482.00	\$625.00
St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph	178	31	\$4,473.48	\$2,194.00	\$2,074.00	\$120.00
St. Ambrose, Henshaw	41	14	\$1,440.41	\$1,475.00	\$1,475.00	\$0.00
St. Ann, Morganfield	388	119	\$11,457.17	\$14,250.00	\$10,795.00	\$3,455.00
St. Anthony, Browns Valley	150	40	\$4,709.84	\$5,665.00	\$4,530.00	\$1,135.00
St. Anthony of Padua, Grand Rivers	36	15	\$1,847.04	\$3,706.00	\$2,231.00	\$1,475.00
St. Anthony, Peonia	80	17	\$1,666.65	\$1,766.00	\$1,456.00	\$310.00
St. Anthony, Axtel	147	21	\$5,891.56	\$2,630.00	\$2,140.00	\$490.00
St. Augustine, Grayson Springs	36	14	\$1,530.33	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
St. Augustine, Reed	54	27	\$2,049.99	\$3,136.00	\$3,111.00	\$25.00
St. Benedict, Wax	58	15	\$1,268.56	\$1,187.00	\$962.00	\$225.00
St. Charles, Livermore	30	17	\$1,416.09	\$2,740.00	\$1,795.00	\$945.00
St. Charles, Bardwell	75	25	\$2,913.59	\$3,570.00	\$2,410.00	\$1,160.00
St. Columba, Lewisport	112	27	\$3,396.04	\$2,925.00	\$2,587.50	\$337.50
St. Denis, Fancy Farm	60	16	\$1,224.83	\$677.00	\$577.00	\$100.00
St. Edward, Fulton	43	8	\$2,482.84	\$780.00	\$780.00	\$0.00
St. Elizabeth, Curdsville	49	7	\$1,966.70	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$0.00
St. Elizabeth, Clarkson	95	37	\$1,983.27	\$4,794.00	\$2,906.50	\$1,887.50
St. Francis Borgia, Sturgis	82	33	\$2,498.34	\$2,970.00	\$2,570.00	\$400.00
St. Francis de Sales, Paducah	544	140	\$20,230.12	\$16,749.11	\$12,629.11	\$4,120.00
St. Francis of Assisi, Todd County	137	40	\$3,358.44	\$5,856.50	\$3,787.50	\$2,069.00
St. Henry, Aurora	119	46	\$2,707.78	\$7,391.00	\$4,896.00	\$2,495.00
St. Jerome, Fancy Farm	507	120	\$15,618.15	\$14,017.00	\$11,394.50	\$2,622.50
St. John the Baptist, Fordsville	39	4	\$1,275.04	\$85.00	\$85.00	\$0.00
St. John the Evangelist, Paducah	295	83	\$13,777.64	\$7,234.30	\$4,871.30	\$2,363.00

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Parish	Total Families	Total Donors	Target Goal	Pledged Amount	Paid Amount	Pledges Due
St. John the Evangelist, Sunfish	48	5	\$909.04	\$605.00	\$585.50	\$19.50
St. Joseph, Central City	131	46	\$3,574.47	\$8,176.00	\$5,361.00	\$2,815.00
St. Joseph, Leitchfield	162	17	\$6,568.27	\$3,725.00	\$3,655.00	\$70.00
St. Joseph, Bowling Green	784	139	\$13,909.84	\$22,224.00	\$13,726.00	\$8,498.00
St. Joseph, Mayfield	359	86	\$12,009.04	\$8,598.00	\$7,034.00	\$1,564.00
Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro	755	215	\$26,098.78	\$32,042.00	\$25,012.00	\$7,030.00
St. Jude, Clinton	31	4	\$1,022.07	\$575.00	\$575.00	\$0.00
St. Lawrence, Philpot	131	34	\$4,127.77	\$3,910.00	\$2,847.50	\$1,062.50
St. Leo, Murray	418	126	\$9,598.32	\$19,197.00	\$13,192.43	\$6,004.57
St. Mark, Eddyville	74	14	\$2,209.30	\$2,570.00	\$2,395.00	\$175.00
St. Martin, Rome	121	49	\$6,062.64	\$6,855.00	\$5,985.00	\$870.00
St. Mary, LaCenter	91	27	\$2,403.19	\$2,237.00	\$1,802.00	\$435.00
St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho	210	64	\$11,188.15	\$5,330.00	\$4,842.50	\$487.50
St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville	838	114	\$26,140.43	\$9,160.00	\$8,400.00	\$760.00
St. Mary, Franklin	165	68	\$4,222.54	\$10,406.00	\$8,216.00	\$2,190.00
St. Mary of the Woods, McQuady	57	11	\$2,536.08	\$1,775.00	\$875.00	\$900.00
St. Michael, Sebree	156	60	\$2,045.94	\$4,507.00	\$3,307.00	\$1,200.00
St. Michael the Archangel, Oak Grove	144	15	\$4,054.22	\$2,095.00	\$1,850.00	\$245.00
St. Paul, Princeton	57	25	\$2,302.56	\$3,484.00	\$2,634.00	\$850.00
St. Paul, Leitchfield	182	73	\$3,521.77	\$4,805.00	\$3,576.00	\$1,229.00
St. Peter of Antioch, Waverly	203	52	\$4,992.30	\$6,511.00	\$5,686.00	\$825.00
St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley	123	63	\$4,360.45	\$7,665.00	\$5,185.00	\$2,480.00
Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville	579	128	\$21,218.78	\$26,508.50	\$21,823.50	\$4,685.00
St. Pius X, Owensboro	445	114	\$17,764.02	\$14,485.00	\$11,197.50	\$3,287.50
St. Pius X, Calvert City	147	32	\$4,830.48	\$4,320.00	\$3,635.00	\$685.00
St. Romuald, Hardinsburg	502	109	\$13,070.77	\$11,687.00	\$8,752.50	\$2,934.50
St. Rose of Lima, Cloverport	134	6	\$4,018.48	\$375.00	\$375.00	\$0.00
St. Sebastian, Calhoun	87	38	\$3,363.09	\$4,083.00	\$3,478.00	\$605.00
St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro	518	195	\$26,104.79	\$41,370.00	\$34,841.50	\$6,528.50
St. Stephen, Cadiz	149	58	\$4,417.80	\$11,762.00	\$8,602.00	\$3,160.00
St. Thomas More, Paducah	856	252	\$43,173.06	\$53,272.00	\$41,484.50	\$11,787.50
St. William, Knottsville	389	87	\$13,433.75	\$8,055.25	\$6,005.25	\$2,050.00
St. William, Marion	65	14	\$1,986.74	\$6,160.00	\$5,805.00	\$355.00
Newman Center, Bowling Green	11	0	\$1,425.06	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Newman House, Murray	1	1	\$29.37	\$29.37	\$29.37	\$0.00
Other Donors	1431	26		\$10,770.00	\$7,520.00	\$3,250.00
Total:	20,913	4,996	\$650,000.00	\$736,050.21	\$561,805.14	\$174,245.07

Bishop Medley dedicates new parish hall for Precious Blood Parish



COURTESY OF PRECIOUS BLOOD PARISH

Fr. Shaijoh Thomas, HGN; Fr. Suneesh Mathew, HGN; Sr. Roseanne Spalding, OSU; Bishop William F. Medley; Fr. Jerry Riney; and Fr. Sinoj Pynadeth, HGN, at the reception following the Nov. 24 dedication of the new parish hall at Precious Blood in Owensboro.



COURTESY OF BILL BLINCOE

The renovated parish hall at Precious Blood includes an expanded dining area.

On Nov. 24, 2018, Bishop William F. Medley presided at the Mass and dedication for the newly-renovated parish hall at Precious Blood Parish in Owensboro. Concelebrants were the parish's pastor, Fr. Suneesh Mathew, HGN, and Fr. Jerry Riney, pastor of St. Stephen Cathedral. Barbeque chicken was prepared by parish volunteers for the reception afterwards.

The project had included new windows throughout the parish hall, kitchen and school area; repaired roof; new ceiling tiles; opening the expanded dining area; new floors; new tables and chairs; and new ceiling-mounted projector with screen.

TWILIGHT RETREAT



Wednesday, Jan. 9
Father Ray Goetz
 will present
**Abandonment and
 Presence in the
 Gospel of Mark**

Dinner: 6 p.m. Followed by presentation
 Cost: \$20

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

This is a new monthly retreat series.
Our next presentation: Wednesday, Feb. 13
 Deacon Victor Fromm—"God, Life and Spiritual Direction"



Mount Saint Joseph
 Conference and Retreat Center
 8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, KY

Ursuline sisters reflect, pray through the season of Advent



COURTESY OF MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH
Bishop William F. Medley speaks with Ursuline sisters gathered at the Mount Saint Joseph Motherhouse on Dec. 13, 2018.



COURTESY OF MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH
Sr. Ann McGrew, OSU, holds one of the books she used to prepare her Dec. 4, 2018 "Evening With an Ursuline" talk.

BY MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH STAFF

Several events took place at Mount Saint Joseph in Maple Mount this past Advent as Ursuline sisters and visitors prepared for the coming of the Lord.

On Dec. 4, 2018, Ursuline Sister Ann McGrew, OSU, shared an ancient prayer tradition during her presentation of "Advent and the O Antiphons," which was the final "Evening With an Ursuline" dinner/presentation. Participants gathered in the Brescia Conference Room at the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center. ("Evening

With an Ursuline" began in September 2014 as a way for Ursuline Sisters to share their knowledge with others. Beginning Jan. 9, it will be replaced by a monthly "Twilight" program featuring a different priest speaking. Fr. Ray Goetz is the first Twilight speaker.)

Later, on Dec. 13, 2018, Bishop William F. Medley spoke to the Ursuline sisters at the Motherhouse about better understanding the message of Isaiah that are read during Advent.

When the prophet Isaiah talked of a Savior who

would "make the mountains low and the valleys filled," people in ancient Israel understood what a miracle that would be, but with modern roads and automobiles, we don't, Bishop Medley said. He asked the sisters "If Isaiah were writing today, what would you consider impossible to see?" The sisters responded with "peace," "no cancer," and "no crime." The bishop said hope is something that sets humans apart: "We're able to hope, and the source of our hope is Jesus Christ." ■

Fr. Joe Mills honored for 35 years of service to diocesan tribunal



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

Bishop William F. Medley, Fr. J. Michael Clark and Fr. Joe Mills share a chuckle at the beginning of the Nov. 29, 2018 Mass in honor of Fr. Mills' 35 years of service to the diocese's tribunal.



ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD | WKC

Fr. John Vaughan shares the Sign of Peace with Fr. Joe Mills at the Nov. 29, 2018 Mass in honor of Fr. Mills' 35 years of service to the diocese's tribunal.

BY ELIZABETH WONG BARNSTEAD, THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

On Nov. 29, 2018, Fr. Joe Mills was honored with a Mass at the McRaith Catholic Center in celebration of his 35 years of service to the Diocese of Owensboro's tribunal.

Fr. Mills, who celebrated his 91st birthday in September, worked with the late Bishop John J. McRaith

to establish the Diocese of Owensboro's tribunal, and was the diocese's first judicial vicar.

Bishop William F. Medley presided at the Nov. 29 Mass and concelebrants were Fr. Patrick Cooney, OSB; Fr. John Vaughan, and Fr. J. Michael Clark.

"I am proud to be a part of this lovely community," said Fr. Mills during the reception which followed. He said it was "overwhelming" to see the

chapel filled with diocesan and tribunal staff at the Mass.

Fr. Mills said that when he first began working for the diocese years ago, he thought he would "just be pushing papers around" and could not have foreseen the enormous impact his job would make.

"I realized this has helped many people come back to the sacraments," he said. ■

Missionary Disciples and Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic School

Editor's note: This column ran in the Nov. 10/11 bulletin at Sts. Peter and Paul Parish in Hopkinsville. It is being reprinted in connection to Catholic Schools Week, which this year is Jan. 27- Feb. 2, 2018.

BY FR. RICHARD MEREDITH, SPECIAL TO
THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

Pastor's Greetings,

Today Catholics are called to be "missionary disciples." The term is in service of the summons to a new evangelization. OK. Jesus Christ does invite you and me to follow him. It is an offer of mercy for our ongoing repentance; an offer of the grace of faith so that we might believe the good news he reveals; an offer of the gift of himself and of life in the Father and the Holy Spirit. To be his disciple is to be transformed into being a member of his living Body and a Temple of the Holy Spirit. OK. The missionary part is where you and I go as gifts of all that Christ gives us to share the Gospel with others as Christ has shared the Gospel with us. This means that by life and by word we invite others to conversion of life, to acceptance of faith, and to reception of the gift of God in Christ. OK. This is all good and true. It works. In fact, it is the primary work of the Church. All that we do as a parish is in the pursuit of this work of the Lord. It is the measure by which we can determine how and where to employ the resources which the Lord provides for us.

From that perspective I want us to consider our parish ministry of Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic School. This parochial school exists so that we might be missionary disciples for our own and for other

children of the community. Parents, of course, are the primary missionary disciples of Jesus Christ toward their own children. The parochial school does not and cannot take their place. It can, however, in the parish community of Catholic faith life, support and confirm the parental offer of conversion, faith, and the sacramental gift of Christ in a whole educational setting for children and youth. While costly,



Catholic Schools
Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.

and here we can only afford pre-school through the eighth grade, and that without many of the extras and special needs programs which public and many private schools offer, the education provided at our school is solid, Christian faith enriched, morally formed, and focused on the good of the child.

While not on the faculty myself, as pastor I have responsibility, working with Mrs. Katie Wyatt, the

principal, to oversee the total functioning of the school. I do have a classroom in which I instruct almost all of the children almost every week. My classroom is the church itself. The church and school buildings are "nested" together deliberately on this campus. The education which is pursued in the church touches the mind, the heart, and the soul of the children, faculty, staff, and parish. It is the highlight of my day to preside at liturgy and to speak to this rich community of persons. I am fully aware that many of the children, while mostly from Christian homes, are not Catholic. I am not out to make them Catholic. Only God can do that. I encourage them to understand how it is that I can intellectually and honestly follow Jesus as a Catholic Christian. I can support the Christian faith of their parents and invite them to make faith and moral choices from the good and the truth which they can find in their hearts. For those who celebrate the sacraments, I celebrate them as faithfully as possible, so that they may mature in them and embrace them with a free and mature conscience in the years beyond their Sts. Peter and Paul education. The conversion of heart needed by all of us fallen people offers them hope facing their own sins, the sins in their families, in the church, and in the world around them. This hope is a most precious thing.

This parish invests around a third of our annual budget in the missionary discipleship of our parochi-

Continues on page 16

Sts. Peter and Paul continued from page 15



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

- Jan. 4-6 **Yarn Spinners Retreat Weekend**
- Jan. 9 **Twilight Retreat with Father Ray Goetz.** Dinner begins at 6 p.m.
- Jan. 10 **Focus on Faith: New DVD series The Mass by Bishop Robert Barron** 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. includes lunch
- Jan. 26 **Crossing the Threshold of Faith into the New Year** (9 a.m.-3 p.m. retreat includes lunch)
-
- Feb. 8-10 **Contemplative Weekend: Open to all who need a getaway with God** includes meals and accommodations
- Feb. 13 **Twilight Retreat with Deacon Victor Fromm.** Dinner begins at 6 p.m.
- Feb. 14 **Focus on Faith: DVD The Mass** 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. includes lunch
-
- Mar. 13 **Twilight Retreat with Father Brian Johnson.** Dinner begins at 6 p.m.
- Mar. 14 **Focus on Faith: DVD The Mass** 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. includes lunch
- Mar. 15-17 **Women's Retreat with Sister Cheryl Clemons: Lord, Teach Us to Pray**
- Mar. 22-24 **Yarn Spinners Retreat Weekend**
- Mar. 23 **Confirmation Retreat Day**

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

al school. It is a huge and sacrificial act of faith. For years the parish has not only offered financial assistance based on objective needs assessment, but it has subsidized the educational costs for every student who attends SPPS. We do not guarantee in any way that our graduates will be Catholic or even Christian as adults. No education makes a person's choices for him or for her. What we offer does ground a person in thinking and learning, in Gospel truth, in history, in the natural sciences, in many of the arts, in Catholic culture, and in forming human society. This gives a humanly free basis for life choices. We

want them all to become saints in Jesus Christ. And we say so. To this end, I am pleased with the operations of our new facility. I support our continuing efforts to improve curricula and the involvement of parents, grandparents, and families. I want us to do our utmost with the resources the Lord provides for us in doing this work for him. At the end of the day, we are his missionary disciples, all of us called to be saints. ■

Fr. Richard Meredith serves as pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul Parish and School in Hopkinsville. .

Dear Cursillistas: Give someone the greatest gift of all

BY KELLEY WHEATLEY, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

With the season of Advent we as Christians are to prepare ourselves for the birth of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Advent is not only a time of preparation and excitement for the birth of Jesus, but it is also a time to reflect on the many gifts that our Lord God gave us. The birth of his Son was a gift like no other. Knowing that he was put here to suffer and die for our sins. As Cursillistas here in the Diocese of Owensboro we should be preparing our hearts and our minds to make a friend, be a friend and bring that friend to Christ. With the upcoming weekends quickly approaching, team members will soon begin formations in preparation for our men's and women's weekends in late February and early March. This is just a small sacrifice that can have a huge impact on someone else's journey to knowing God better. When God gives us the opportunity to impact someone's life in a positive way we should take full advantage of it. So the Cursillo community is calling all Cursillistas to not only spend this Advent in preparation for the birth of Jesus but to offer up prayer and sacrifice for the Cursillo movement throughout our diocese and nationwide. This is the time of year to give someone the greatest gift of all. The gift of knowing God on more personal level. De Colores, Kelley Wheatley ■

Kelley Wheatley is a parishioner of St. Rose of Lima, Cloverport. Learn more about Cursillo at cursillo-owensboro.org.

Trauma

Editor’s note: Since summer 2018, a series of scandals has rocked the Catholic Church, including discoveries about the misconduct of Archbishop Theodore McCarrick of Washington; the release of a report in Pennsylvania detailing decades of cover-ups of child abuse by clergy; and allegations that Vatican authority figures ignored reports of McCarrick’s behavior. Much of the conversation surrounding the latest scandals in the Catholic Church has involved questioning the actions (or lack thereof) of Church leaders, blame-shifting, and legal jargon. All too often, those lost in the shuffle are the victim-survivors of these horrific abuses.

Below, The Western Kentucky Catholic shares an article written by someone who survived the trauma of abuse. While the writer was not harmed by a priest, they shared with the WKC that the aftereffects of abuse are the same. For privacy, the writer’s name is not included.

We ask that you read this article with an open mind, and an open heart.

BY A SURVIVOR

Our brains are magnificent, performing multiple functions without any prompting. One such function is the response to trauma. When a trauma threatens to overwhelm the individual, the brain goes into survival mode. It begins to isolate the harmful event to protect its body. It takes that traumatic event and stores it away, almost “boxing” it up and putting it in storage to allow survival. It is boxed up and put away. We don’t realize that emotional energy is required to keep this box closed. As time passes and life events unfold, that emotional energy is depleted. We can no longer keep that box closed and the contents spill out in the form of nightmares, flashbacks and triggers. What leaks out of the box is very powerful and cannot be easily controlled by the person experiencing this avalanche. Spilling over are the delayed emotions of that event, terror and pain, fear and confinement or lack of control. These emotions burst forth like a volcano and often in response to no immediate “event” that can be seen by another person. It is embarrassing, confusing and so difficult to endure. Having this response creates panic, we don’t want to appear “crazy” or overly emotional to others. It is always about others. Conceal, don’t

feel, and don’t let them know! We have worked so hard to “Let it go” and move forward as is often the advice of well-meaning others. This is why survivors of sexual abuse and rape often report the event years later.

Our brains are demanding that we deal with this

horror and we thought it was in the past. Please know that what we want more than anything is to let that go, but it doesn’t LET GO OF US!

It barges forward like the rudest of uninvited guests. We aren’t wallowing in the event, we are drowning from the emotions released like a break-

Continues on page 18

New Beginnings, in collaboration with the Diocese of Owensboro, will offer a 6-week support group for adult primary and secondary survivors of sexual abuse, based upon the overwhelming response from the Listening Sessions hosted by Bishop Medley throughout the Diocese.

WHO: Adults, age 18 and older

WHEN: Thursday February 28, 2019 6:30 – 7:30pm – Coping Skills
 Thursday March 7, 2019 6:30 – 7:30pm - Trust
 Thursday March 14, 2019 6:30 – 7:30pm – Shame and Guilt
 Thursday March 21, 2019 6:30 – 7:30pm – PTSD
 Thursday March 28, 2019 6:30 – 7:30pm – Trauma Responses
 Thursday April 4, 2019 6:30 – 7:30pm - Healing and Self Care

WHERE: New Beginnings – 1716 Scherm Rd, Owensboro KY
 Phone: 270-926-7273 – please call with any questions

FACILITATOR: Jennifer Francis-Gehring, CSW – Social worker for 20 years, clinical therapist at New Beginnings Sexual Assault Support Services.

The purpose of the support group is to provide support to those affected by sexual abuse, offer education on using positive coping skills and other various topics to promote healing. The topics listed above are open to change. Childcare is not available. Please call Jennifer at New Beginnings (270) 926-7273 with any questions.



Trauma continued from page 17

ing dam. We are scrambling to escape this stored hell that has now brought itself into the forefront of our mind. We don't want anyone to know this horrible, personal, disgusting thing has been done to us. We feel shame for something that we had no control over and were in no position to stop from happening.

I have only begun to escape the horror by working with a therapist to process this trauma. It took years to find someone I could trust and be comfortable telling the unthinkable. I am beginning to heal.

If someone in your life has been through such an event, please just tell them, "I believe you and I love you." They need to feel safe and accepted, not

judged. This is not about you, it's about their pain and feeling they are worthy of love and acceptance. It is a slow process. People believe recovery is a straight line, when it is a roller coaster that continues well past the stop of most rides.

We are not drama seekers, we don't want pity, we want to feel "normal," we want to be free. ■

Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will be Done...

Editor's note: This article is the third 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

The first recorded words of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark are, "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." (Mark 1:15). If Jesus is announcing a kingdom then three things are happening; 1) another kingdom is being replaced, 2) there is a new king, and 3) the kingdom he is establishing will resemble the one already in Heaven.

In the Lord's Prayer this is what we are praying for, that God's kingdom and God's will be done on earth. But sometimes what we fail to grasp is that he wants us to work with him. With the Incarnation – which at the time of this writing we are preparing to celebrate – God's kingdom has come to earth. The heavenly king has emptied himself and taken the form of a slave, of man (Phil. 2:7).

The king has taken on our humanity and entered into our misery. He is a servant king. He has not come to punish but to love. He doesn't give us what we deserve but he gives us what we need. He loves us back into relationship. He is the good king that

has come to the front of the battle lines against the kingdom of darkness, as St. John Paul II called the "culture of death" and he saves or heals the walking wounded and lame. He sets the prisoners free from their bondage and announces a forgiveness of sins.

But he doesn't stop there. He invites us to come and follow him and do the works that he does. He says in St. John's Gospel, "Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these, because I am going to the Father" (Jn. 14:12). The king is giving us authority to act in his name.

Through our baptism we become "subjects" in this kingdom and we are also brothers/sisters of the king through Divine Adoption. Thus we have been given that authority to walk and accompany others praying for and expecting healing in others. If this earthly kingdom is to be like the heavenly kingdom we pray for then we know that there is no sickness and disease in the heavenly kingdom. Jesus came to give us life more abundantly (Jn. 10:10). and it doesn't say anything about waiting till the next life.

Therefore through the power of the Holy Spirit we are given permission and authority to ask in the name of the king to bring about that healing. Jesus did not come to save just our souls but to save human beings (both body and soul), to give us a share in the Glory of God (Jn. 17:22). The word "save" comes from the same Greek root which also can be translated as "to heal." So, healing the body and saving the soul are one in the same. He wishes to make us healthy, to make us "whole" again which is from the same root as "holy."

During this Year of Accompany in the diocese we are invited to reach out and to walk with our wounded brothers and sisters, to bring them back to the king for him to heal. This is the "Will" of the Father. When that is accomplished then we can truly say, "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven." ■

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

CCK: It is time to act on scholarship tax credits

BY ANDREW VANDIVER, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

The Kentucky General Assembly will once again have the opportunity to pass a Scholarship Tax Credit program during its 2019 session which lasts from January to March. If passed, the program would provide nearly \$25 million in charitable donations for tuition assistance to low and middle income families so that they can choose the school that best fits their children's needs. These programs exist in 18 states, including Indiana and Illinois.

A recent poll by EdChoice KY found that a majority, 62 percent, of Kentucky voters, support Scholarship Tax Credits. This support crossed party lines, with backing from registered Independents (69% support), Democrats (56% support), and Republicans (67% support). At a time of great political division, this is an issue that most Kentuckians can agree on.

With this level of support, some of you may wonder why we don't already have this program in the Commonwealth. During the 2018 legislative session, thousands of Kentuckians contacted their legislators in support of Scholarship Tax Credit legislation. The support for Scholarship Tax Credits was recognized by members of the General Assembly, but the legislation was lost in the fray during the contentious debates over public pension reform and tax reform.

With those issues behind us, there is now room for the General Assembly to make Scholarship Tax Credits a top priority. There is good reason to be

optimistic about the 2019 session. All of the 2018 Scholarship Tax Credit bill sponsors who ran for reelection this past November prevailed. Further, two of the program's most outspoken supporters within the General Assembly, Representatives Bam Carney and Chad McCoy, were elected to leadership positions by their colleagues in the House of Representatives.

We are well positioned for success in 2019. Yet, this is not a time for complacency. A large portion of the Kentucky House of Representatives will be new to the legislature. They will need to know that families in their districts support this cause. Returning members will need to be reminded that the issue was left unaddressed in 2018 and that it must be a top priority moving forward.

This is where you have an important role to play. If you want to see this program become a reality in the Commonwealth, contact your state representative and leave them a message in support of Scholarship Tax Credits. You can leave a message by phone Monday through Friday by calling 1-800-372-7181. The operator on the line will assist you in getting the message to your elected officials. You can also email your state representative. To find their email address, visit www.lrc.ky.gov and click "Who's My Legislator" on the left hand side of the page.

A few minutes of your time is all that is needed to give students the opportunity to succeed. ■

Andrew Vandiver serves as the associate director of the Catholic Conference of Kentucky.

KY STUDENTS NEED HELP!

Please ask your State Representative to support a **Scholarship Tax Credits bill in 2019!**

CALL THE KY LEGISLATIVE HOTLINE:

1-800-372-7181

Key Message on Scholarship Tax Credits

Every student, no matter their family background, deserves to learn in the environment that best meets their needs. Scholarship Tax Credits will help expand school choice to all without costing a single penny of Kentucky taxpayer money!

Prepared by the Catholic Conference of Kentucky

**2019-2020
Catholic School
Registration
Coming Soon!**

Find a complete list,
with contact information,
for all Catholic schools in
the Diocese of
Owensboro by visiting
[owensborodiocese.org/
catholic-schools/](http://owensborodiocese.org/catholic-schools/).

Diocese of
OWENSBORO

22ND ANNUAL YOUTH 2000

A EUCHARISTIC-CENTERED RETREAT

MARCH 8-10, 2019

BRESCIA UNIVERSITY CAMPUS CENTER

AGES 13-30

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

(270) 683-1545

OWENSBORODIOCESE.ORG/YOUTH-2000

**"I AM THE
LIVING
BREAD
THAT HAS
COME
DOWN
FROM
HEAVEN."
JOHN 6:51**



Youth experience faith, scriptures on deeper level through Advent prayer experience



COURTESY OF CRISSY STEVENSON

Teens and youth ministers sing and pray on Dec. 2, 2018 during "A Journey Through Advent" prayer experience, held at Blessed Mother Parish in Owensboro.

BY CRISSY STEVENSON, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

On Dec. 2, 2018, youth from several parishes in Owensboro joined together for "A Journey Through Advent" prayer experience held at Blessed Mother Parish. Music, scripture and reflections given by local youth ministers, and quiet time, were all part of this experience. Youth traveled through the four sections of the church as they spent time reflecting on the themes of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

The message below was later shared by a parent of one of the youth who attended.

"Did you know those scripture things at Church can actually connect to real life? If more people knew that, they would like Mass a lot more.' I was floored when my 14-year-old son made this statement in the car coming home from Mass tonight. He then proceeded to tell me how the second reading connected to not just life...HIS life. I was holding back tears. Last week, I made him go to the prayer service youth group event. He didn't want to. When I picked him up, he said it was 'fine' (I thought, at least he isn't complaining). Nothing else was said until we left church tonight. He was proud to know the reading and how to connect it, and he led our whole family in a fantastic conversation about it. I'm in shock. Thanks to you and all who put that night together so much. You changed all of us. I am so grateful."

Crissy Stevenson is the youth minister at St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro.

Parents at the core of education at Holy Name of Jesus School



COURTESY OF HOLY NAME OF JESUS SCHOOL
The HNS Marian House Parents.

BY JULIE EADENS, SPECIAL TO THE
WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

In the 2017-2018 school year Holy Name of Jesus School in Henderson introduced a house system with a goal of providing opportunities for students and faculty to interact across grade levels in healthy competition and support each other as they grow in their Catholic faith. The system encourages teamwork, friendship, service, and leadership.

Houses compete against each other in the areas of academics, athletics, behavior, school spirit, and community service. The house system is successful

on the student level, but we all know no house can be complete without the parents as a core component. Therefore, in year two of our house implementation we are integrating the parents.

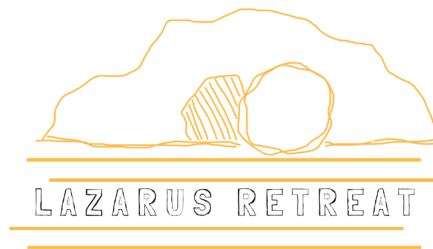
We had our first Parent House Party to introduce them to the system and encourage them to reflect and reinforce the values being taught at school in the home. Parents learned about the Holy Name Cardinal Ten which is a list of rules to live by such as “We are Christ-like” and “We are humble when we win; we maintain self-control when we lose.” After a brief lesson on the Cardinal Ten, parents competed in friendly minute-to-win-it style games for points and to practice using the Cardinal Ten. The evening was well attended and the involvement of the parents as a core component of our house system and values at Holy Name is well under way. ■

Julie Eadens is the president of Holy Name of Jesus School in Henderson.

Lazarus Retreat

High school youth in the diocese are invited to journey together through the story of the raising of Lazarus. Youth will see what it means to be dead in this world and called to life in Jesus.

To register for this event, which takes place February 15-17 at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp & Retreat Center, please visit the Office for Youth Ministry web page at owensborodiocese.org/lazarus-retreat/. The cost is \$50 and covers the meals and lodging. The deadline to register is January 28. There are limited spots available.



COURTESY OF TIFFANY HARRINGTON
A weather balloon is launched from Owensboro Catholic High School on Nov. 13, 2018.

OCHS science classes launch weather balloon

On Nov. 13, 2018, Andy Donahoe’s geography and Neil Corley’s IPS science classes at Owensboro Catholic High School sent a weather balloon to the edge of space to actively learn about jet stream, trajectory, different layers of the atmosphere, how to calculate the average speed of the balloon in ascent, pressure and volume of the balloon as it travelled, and even learned how to write a report for the FAA (a notice to Airmen N.O.T.A.M.). A GoPro camera was attached to the balloon so students and teachers could see footage of the balloon’s journey. The balloon travelled further than expected, landing in West Virginia.

January Wedding Anniversaries

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

Blessed Mother, Owensboro

Larry & Becky Franey, 50
Robert & Debbie Newman, 50
Terry & Jan Storm, 51
Robert & Dena Montgomery, 64

Christ the King, Madisonville

Billy & Patty Folk, 50

Christ the King, Scottsville

James & Carolyn Kreicher, 51

Holy Guardian Angel, Irvington

Ted & Barbara Brown, 61

Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson

Fred & Cleo Brown, 53
James & Sharon Drury, 57
Fred & Sue Hagan, 52
Guy & Frances Hogan, 57
Jerry & Charlotte Hopf, 60
Christopher & Kristin Lovell, 5
Wayne & Sondra Mitchell, 51

Holy Spirit, Bowling Green

Michael & Gayle Michelon, 40
Harry & Constance Lagen, 59
George & Barbara Powers, 59
Basil & Joann Jones, 58
Tom & Rita Parrott, 51
Cin Pau & Cing Ciin, 10

Immaculate Conception, Earlington

Bobby & Theresa May, 65

Immaculate Conception,

Hawesville

John R. & Betty Brown, 57

Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

Robert B. & Jody Kinsey, 10
Bradley & Allee Marie Kirtley, 10
Adam & Andrea Mischel, 10
Ken & Charlene Ackerman, 60
Joseph R. & Frances Millay, 58
James P. & Connie Hayden, 60
George & Beverly Hendrix, 51
William & Suzanne Blanford, 56
Anthony & Mae Kamalich, 65

Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro

Lee & Sarah Rudy, 5
William O. & Angela Mills, 25
Houston II & Bonnie Marks, 25
Philip & June Bell, 58
Melvin & Lois Connor, 62
Gary & Mary Carol Jackson, 55
John W. & Barbara

Montgomery, 55

George & Marsha Ballard, 54

Eleanor & Hal Renshaw, 62

Precious Blood, Owensboro

Doug & Betty Howard, 64
Thomas & Frances Murray, 5
Tim & Penny Blandford, 40
James & Evelyn Mattingly, 66
Mike & Cloa Thompson, 59

Rosary Chapel, Paducah

John & Roslin Dumas, 55

St. Agnes, Uniontown

Hamel & Rose Floyd, 66
Marty & Marilyn Greenwell, 52
Tommy & Joycelyn Hagan, 51

St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph

David & Sharon Thompson, 53

St. Ambrose, Henshaw

Joseph W. & Joanne Sheffer, 55

St. Ann, Morganfield

Kenny & Teresa Lee Thomas, 53

St. Anthony, Browns Valley

Norbert & Helen Rose Smith, 61

St. Francis of Assisi, Elkton

Sheril & Virginia Howard, 51

St. Francis Borgia, Sturgis

Don Edd & Michelle Wright, 51
Jerry & Brenda Stevens, 53

St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

Francis M. & Judith Taylor, 55
Michael J. & Esther Shoulta, 59

St. Henry, Aurora

Paul & Roberta Herman, 56

St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

Joseph & Pearl Stahr, 61
Charles & Shirley Rowe, 60
Conrad & Rozella Spalding, 62

St. John the Evangelist, Paducah

Michael & Shirley Poat, 54
Scott & Mary Allison Smith, 5
Albert & Joyce Worth, 59

St. Joseph, Bowling Green

Robert & Sandra Gasperetti, 53
Frank & Patricia Royal, 51

St. Joseph, Leitchfield

Dennis & Joyce Hall, 25
Johnnie & Nina Justis, 50

St. Joseph, Mayfield

Denny & Nancy Hargrove, 56
James & Frankie Riley, 62

St. Lawrence, Philpot

Paul & Emily Millay, 10
Larry & Betty Johnson, 50

St. Mark, Eddyville

Terry & Sandy Ruxer, 50

St. Mary, Franklin

Larry & Michelle Anderson, 50
Frank & Marie Farmer, 60
Donald & Kathy Bennett, 25

St. Mary, LaCenter

David & Gloria Henderson, 50

St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho

John & Mary Ann Ebelhar, 51
Jim & Amy Hartz, 25

St. Mary of the Woods, McQuady

Harold & Jan Clements, 61

St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

William & Laura Goetz, 10
Charles & Ina Mattingly, 50
Bill & Katie Christian, 59
Joseph & Jackie Head, 62
Dan & Sue Howard, 60

St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley

Kenneth & Martha Pendleton, 58

James & Patty Settles, 59

Eddie & Jeanette Smith, 51

Continues on page 23

ANNIVERSARIES

Continued from page 22

Jerome & Bonnie Blair, 52
William J. & Lillian Young, 65
James & Mary Keller, 62

St. Pius X, Calvert City

Derwood & Pat Doyle, 59

St. Pius X, Owensboro

Leon & Cecilia Aud, 56
Francis & Betty Haynes, 56
Francis Lambert & Mary Howard, 66

St. Romuald, Hardinsburg

Mack & Dolores Mattingly, 60
Logan & Judy Tivitt, 54

St. Stephen, Cadiz

William & Maxine Hobbs, 57

St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

Audie & Sue Cooper, 54
J. C. & Barbara Knott, 52
Donald & Carol Ralph, 53
James R. & Mary Ann Clouse, 59

St. Thomas More, Paducah

Matt & Sara Packer, 5
Jose & Victoria Romero, 25
John & Jackie Roof, 25
James & Camilla Shumaker, 40
George & Becky Hanrahan, 52

St. William, Knottsville

Patrick & Rose Meserve, 53
David Joe & Patricia Payne, 50
Harold & Patricia Bennett, 59

SS. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro

Peter C. & Patty Johnson, 50

SS. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

Jeff & Kasey Lansford, 5
Eduardo & Marisela Plascencia, 10
Mark & Ann Williams, 40
Don & Maxine Hobbs, 58
Levi & Margaret Peterson, 60

You can earn 6.2% on your gift to The Catholic Foundation of Western Kentucky

A 75-year-old donor can receive a guaranteed income for life by contributing to The Catholic Foundation of Western Kentucky with a Charitable Gift Annuity! Rates vary based on the age of the donor. For example, if you give a \$10,000 Charitable Gift Annuity to the foundation, your benefits include:



- \$620 annual income
- Generous charitable tax deductions
- Over half the income tax free
- Potential reduced estate taxes

You can designate the Diocese of Owensboro, your parish, or school as the beneficiary of your generosity. For more information, call Kevin Kauffeld at (270) 683-1545.



National Migration Week 2019 is January 6-12

Please join Bishop
Medley for a special
closing Mass at 6 p.m.
on January 11 at St.
Stephen Cathedral

Learn More: justiceforimmigrants.org | sharejourney.org

Fr. Julio Barrera: The priesthood today is just as important as ever

Editor's note: The following is part of an ongoing WKC series introducing priests from the Diocese of Owensboro who will share their stories and why they love their vocations.



COURTESY OF FR. JULIO BARRERA
Fr. Julio Barrera blesses his parents, Sara and Julio Barrera, Sr., after his June 1, 2013 ordination at St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro.

BY FR. JULIO BARRERA, SPECIAL TO THE WESTERN KENTUCKY CATHOLIC

“The word of the Lord came to me: Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, before you were born, I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you. ‘Ah, Lord God!’ I said, ‘I do not know how to speak. I am too young!’ But the LORD answered me: Do not say, ‘I am too young.’ To whomever I send you, you shall go; whatever I

command you, you shall speak. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you—oracle of the Lord.” – Jeremiah 1:4-8

Every time I think of this reading from Jeremiah 1:4-8 it reminds me of my own calling; in fact, I used this reading during my ordination as priest on June 1, 2013 and this very same dialogue using Jeremiah’s words, continues between God and myself, and again and again God always wins. I am currently the pastor of two wonderful parishes: Holy Redeemer in Beaver Dam and Holy Trinity in Morgantown. Before I came to my present assignment, I served as an associate pastor at SS. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville and sacramental minister in former parishes of St. Susan in Elkton and SS. Mary and James in Guthrie, now St. Francis of Assisi. Then I was assigned as the associate pastor at SS. Joseph and Paul in Owensboro. Every place I have served has help and teach me to be a better person and priest.

I vividly remember that when I was a child, I used to be fascinated about the man wearing “the long robes” and leading the community into prayers and procession around my hometown of Amecameca, Mexico, (now I know that the long robes are called chasubles). I was so attracted to the priesthood without knowing it and without noticing God was awakening the desire deep within my soul to be a priest. I think I was around 10 years old when I started thinking about the priesthood. Catechesis or faith



COURTESY OF ASHLEY WILKERSON
Fr. Julio Barrera while associate pastor of SS. Joseph and Paul Parish in Owensboro.

formation played a very important role in my vocation. I remember that I longed to have a Bible and when I did have it, I was the happiest teenager in the world and I loved reading the psalms and the gospels. Many, many ideas about priesthood came into my mind; I literally was daydreaming of what I could and would do if I were a priest.

During the last year of high school, I started thinking more seriously about priesthood and I had the desire to talk with my parents about it and so I

Continues on page 25

Fr. Julio Barrera continued from page 24



COURTESY OF FR. JULIO BARRERA
Fr. Julio Barrera celebrates Mass in a private chapel of the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City.

did. Mom was ok with my decision but my dad was absolutely opposed to idea of having his only son to become a priest and not carry the family's last name into future generations. It took a few years for my father to fully and completely accept my vocation to the priesthood. At first it was a challenge and definitely was not easy to be studying to be a priest and thinking that I had made the wrong decision. I don't blame my dad at all for not supporting my vocation at the beginning, he was just simply responding to what he thought was best for me but Jesus had a plan. Now that my family sees more clearly what God wanted from me, they are so happy and very proud of my choice. My dad and mom together with my four older sisters have been a key part in my life and in my priesthood in fact, all my family and friends.

I truly believe that the priesthood nowadays continues to be as important as always has been. Since

the very first moment I was ordained priest until today there is a great joy, a happiness beyond telling.

When people ask me about my experience in the priesthood, I respond that even though I thought I had big expectations about it, the reality is that they were far lower expectations than what really God gives. Yes, I have also experienced many challenges such as inculturation, learning a new language and being far away from my family but also, I have experienced the continual presence of God in my life. I love being a priest because I can share my happiness through the celebration of the sacraments. I love my life, I love my priesthood. ■

Fr. Julio Barrera serves as the pastor of Holy Redeemer Parish in Beaver Dam and Holy Trinity Parish in Morgantown. To watch a video about Fr. Barrera's vocation, filmed by fellow diocesan priest Fr. Josh McCarty, visit youtube.com/watch?v=3F6V0I9aomQ.



Photo Courtesy of Lolek Productions

Passionist Vocation Retreats

Open to Single, Catholic
women ages 17-30


March 22-24, 2019

June 14-16, 2019


Interested? Contact us:

Vocation Director
Passionist Nuns
8564 Crisp Road
Whitesville, KY 42378-9782
(270) 233-4571
vocations@passionistnuns.org

Contact our Office of Vocations

 (270) 683-1545

 owensborovocations.com

 jason.mcclure@pastoral.org
fred.litke@pastoral.org

 Facebook.com/owensborovocations

Wonder what it's like being a Nun?
Interested in *Religious Life*?

As diocesan archives founder, Sr. Emma Cecilia Busam preserved the history of Catholicism in western Kentucky



COURTESY OF MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH
Sr. Emma Cecilia Busam, OSU.

Sr. Emma Cecilia Busam, 97, an Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph, died Friday, Dec. 14, 2018, at Mount Saint Joseph, in her 75th year of religious life. Born on July 27, 1921, she was a native of Owensboro, Ky.

Sr. Emma Cecilia was an accomplished teacher and artist who took great interest with her students. She later became an expert archivist, both for her community and the Diocese of Owensboro.

An educator for 38 years, she taught in Kentucky at St. Joseph School, Central City (1945-46), St. William School, Knottsville (1946-51), St. James School, Louisville (1951-56), Holy Cross School, Holy Cross (1956-58), St. Charles School, Bardwell (principal and teacher, 1958-60), Blessed Mother School (1960-61) and Sts. Joseph and Paul School (1961-66, 1970-



ARCHIVES/FILE PHOTO
Sr. Emma Cecilia Busam helps volunteer Bob Powers with a project in April 1997.

71), Owensboro, and St. Anthony School, Axtel (principal and teacher, 1966-70).

She was an art teacher at Brescia College (1960-66, 1970-82) and Owensboro Catholic High School (1971-82), as well as at Mount Saint Joseph Academy and the adult education program of the Owensboro Public Schools (1982-83).

At Mount Saint Joseph, she was director of archives (1983-2001) and of the museum (1983-92). She served as the first archivist for the Diocese of Owensboro, (1991-2011), and upon her retirement, the archives were named in her honor.

“As the first archivist, Sr. Emma Cecilia laid a strong foundation for the diocesan archives,” said Heidi Taylor-Caudill, current director of archives at Mount Saint Joseph and archivist for the Diocese of

Owensboro.

Taylor-Caudill said Sr. Emma Cecilia spent “20 years collecting and preserving materials that document the history of the Diocese of Owensboro and the Catholic community in western Kentucky.”

“Without this groundwork, we would not have access to the records that are so important in helping us to know the past, understand the present, and guide our activities and decisions in the future,” said Taylor-Caudill.

In addition, Sr. Emma Cecilia was a founding member of the Archivists for Congregations of Women Religious, and served as its president from 1995-1996. She was also a charter member of the Academy of Certified Archivists – one of the first archivists in the nation to receive that certification.

In her notes in preparation for a January 2011 meeting with Bishop William F. Medley – shortly before her retirement – Sr. Emma Cecilia wrote: “I have learned a lot. For this I am grateful. I feel I have gotten closer to God... I hope it has all been for the honor and glory of God and the salvation of souls.”

Sr. Emma Cecilia’s survivors include the members of her religious community; a sister, Mary Agnes Vance, of Connersville, Ind.; and nieces and nephews.

The funeral Mass was held on Dec. 18 at Mount Saint Joseph, with burial in the convent cemetery.

Donations in memory of Sr. Emma Cecilia may be made to the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, 8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, KY 42356. ■

Un Mensaje del Obispo Medley

Construyendo Comunidades de Acogida

La Semana Nacional de Migración 2019 se observará del 6 a 12 de enero presentando el tema: Construyendo Comunidades de Acogida. En Kentucky, tendemos a pensar que las cuestiones relacionadas con los inmigrantes y los refugiados son muy modernas porque la discusión nacional, y en particular la discusión política, ha estado muy encendida en los últimos años. Pero en realidad, la Iglesia Católica de los Estados Unidos ha celebrado durante casi medio siglo la Semana Nacional de Migración. Incluso en nuestro estado, la presencia de migrantes y refugiados ha ido creciendo desde hace muchas décadas, a menudo nosotros no los notamos porque son por mucho, un pueblo pacífico y trabajador.

Construyendo Comunidades de Acogida enfatiza nuestra responsabilidad como católicos de involucrar y acoger a los recién llegados y ayudarles a facilitar su transición a una nueva vida aquí en los Estados Unidos.

Si uno sigue los debates sobre inmigración como se muestra en la política y en los medios de comunicación, uno podría asumir que todos los inmigrantes son personas peligrosas. Necesitamos hacer una pausa y evaluar nuestros encuentros personales con ellos. Muy pocos de nosotros hemos tenido experiencias negativas y, sin embargo, las historias que escuchamos son de miedo y, a menudo, de

histeria. En la última década hemos visto en todo el oeste de Kentucky una presencia más visible de nuestros nuevos vecinos. Vemos inmigrantes cuando pasamos por un campo donde se están cosechando cultivos. Parece evidente que la agricultura en nuestra región se vería gravemente afectada si no fuera por la presencia de inmigrantes. En hoteles y restaurantes nos encontramos con nuestros nuevos vecinos que nos atienden con cortesía. Su inglés puede estar mal hablado o con acento fuerte, pero están abriéndose camino.

Durante años nos han advertido que los inmigrantes están quitando empleos a los ciudadanos. Sin embargo, la tasa de desempleo en los Estados Unidos es la más baja desde hace décadas. ¿Puede ser que si no hubiera millones de inmigrantes en nuestra fuerza laboral, la economía de nuestra nación podría estar en peligro?

Sin embargo, como nación todavía nos encontramos divididos con respecto a las preguntas sobre refugiados e inmigrantes. Parece que dentro del gobierno, ambos lados se conforman a fanfarronear en lugar de reparar un sistema roto de inmigración. Sinceramente quiero escuchar ambos lados del debate. Pero mi corazón se agobia cuando veo a niños inmigrantes separados de sus padres y realmente encerrados en jaulas, a veces por semanas. Me horrorizo cuando se publican imágenes que muestran a niños siendo atacados con gas lacrimógeno.

La difícil situación de los inmigrantes y refugiados no es sólo un problema de los Estados Unidos. A menudo, el Papa Francisco habla de las decenas de millones de refugiados en el mundo atrapados

en el caos político. Desafía a los países prósperos del mundo a proporcionar ayuda humanitaria y a

en el caos político. Desafía a los países prósperos del mundo a proporcionar ayuda humanitaria y a

en el caos político. Desafía a los países prósperos del mundo a proporcionar ayuda humanitaria y a

en el caos político. Desafía a los países prósperos del mundo a proporcionar ayuda humanitaria y a

EL CALENDARIO DEL OBISPO MEDLEY PARA ENERO 2019:

ENERO 2-8	Retiro de Obispos de los Estados Unidos – Mundelein, IL
ENERO 11	6 p.m. Misa de Clausura para la Semana Nacional de Migración – Catedral San Esteban, Owensboro
ENERO 12	9:30 a.m. Reunión Regional de Católicos @ el Capitolio – Parroquia Inmaculada, Owensboro 3:30 p.m. Retiro de Confirmación – Catedral San Esteban, Owensboro
ENERO 14-17	Convocación Sacerdotal – San Meinrad, Indiana
ENERO 17	6 p.m. Reunión del Consejo Diocesano de Finanzas
ENERO 21	10 a.m. Reunión del Consejo de Personal Sacerdotal – Centro Católico McRaith (MCC), Owensboro 1:30 p.m. Reunión del Consejo Sacerdotal – MCC
ENERO 24	8 a.m. Misa Escolar – Escuela Juan Pablo II, Morganfield
ENERO 27	9:30 a.m. Confirmación – Parroquia San Pedro de Alcántara, Stanley
ENERO 28	8 a.m. Misa Escolar – Escuela Santo Nombre de Jesús, Henderson
ENERO 29	10:30 a.m. Misa en Celebración del 50 Aniversario de la Parroquia – Parroquia Cristo Rey, Madisonville
ENERO 30	9 a.m. Misa Escolar – Escuela Cristo Rey, Madisonville 6 p.m. Reunión de la Junta de Revisión Diocesana
ENERO 31	1 p.m. Misa Escolar – Escuela Memorial de María Carrico, Philpot



Continúa en página 28

ENCUENTRO DIOCESAN DE FAMILIAS 2019

"LLAMADOS A ACOMPañAR"



HORA SANTA Y CONFESIONES

(Actividades con Niños y Adolescentes)

Sábado 26 de Enero
8:30 am - 3:00 pm
Sts Pedro y Pablo,
Hopkinsville KY



Monseñor
William F.
Medley



P. Julio
Cesar
Palarino

Continuado de la página 27

actuar según el mandato de Jesús, que "acogemos al extranjero." Hoy en día, se calcula que hay más refugiados sin hogar y personas desplazadas en el mundo que en cualquier otro momento desde el final de la Segunda Guerra Mundial.

Los católicos estamos llamados a estar con los inmigrantes y refugiados como nuestros hermanos y hermanas. Así es la Iglesia Católica. Esto es lo que nosotros hacemos como católicos. El Papa Francisco nos invita a ser parte de una cultura de encuentro acogiendo, protegiendo, integrando y promoviendo a los inmigrantes y refugiados a nuestro alrededor. La inmigración se trata de personas reales que están tratando de encontrar una vida mejor y un nuevo comienzo. Se trata de algo más que estadísticas, se trata de familias. Como dijo el Papa Francisco, "Cada inmigrante tiene un nombre, una cara y una historia."

¿Qué podemos hacer? En nuestra democracia podemos siempre expresar nuestras opiniones y expectativas a nuestros líderes electos y decir que una reforma migratoria es posible y que seremos un mejor país cuando lo logremos.

Pero tal vez, nuestro primer paso es simplemente decir una palabra amable y ofrecer una sonrisa a una persona recién llegada. Están en nuestras iglesias y en nuestros lugares de trabajo, los vemos en los mercados y tiendas, sus hijos van a la escuela con nuestros hijos. Ellos son nuestros hermanos y hermanas. ■

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.

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 Mikulcic (270) 726-6963

Parroquia Cristo Rey, Scottsville

Cada Primer Martes de Mes – 7:00 p.m.

298 Bluegrass Drive, Scottsville, KY 42164
Contacto: Padre Daniel Dillard (270) 586-4515

Parroquia de San Miguel Arcangel, Sebree

Miércoles – 12:00 p.m.

Jueves – 12:00 p.m.

Domingos – 12:00 p.m. y 7:30 p.m.

57 Watkins Road, Sebree, KY 42455
Contacto: Alyssa Maty (815) 207-3208 o Padre Carmelo Jiménez (270) 881-7737

¿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.



22ND ANNUAL YOUTH 2000

UN RETIRO CENTRADO EN LA EUCARISTÍA
DEL 8 AL 10 DE MARZO DE 2019

CENTRO DEL CAMPUS DE LA
UNIVERSIDAD DE BRESCIA

PARA OBTENER MÁS INFORMACIÓN:
LLAME AL (270) 683-1545
OWENSBORODIOCESE.ORG/YOUTH-2000

EDADES DE 13 A
30 AÑOS

“YO SOY EL
PAN VIVO
BAJADO
DEL CIELO.”
– JUAN 6:51



Venga a Nosotros Tu Reino

POR JOE BLAND, OFICINA DE EVANGELIZACIÓN

Con la Encarnación, el Reino de Dios ha venido a la tierra. El rey celestial se anonadó a sí mismo y ha tomado la forma de un esclavo, de un hombre (Fil. 2: 7). Pero él no se detiene allí. Él nos invita a venir y seguirlo y hacer las obras que él hace. En el Evangelio de San Juan, él dice: “Les aseguro que el que cree en mí hará también las obras que yo hago, y aún mayores, porque yo me voy al Padre.” (Jn. 14: 12). Durante este Año de Acompañamiento en la diócesis, estamos invitados a acercarnos y caminar con nuestros hermanos y hermanas heridos, y traerlos de vuelta al rey para que él los sane. Esta es la “Voluntad” del Padre. Cuando se logre eso, entonces podremos decir verdaderamente: “Venga a nosotros tu Reino, hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo”.

A mí me encantan mi vida y mi sacerdocio

El P. Julio Barrera es el párroco de la Parroquia Santo Redentor en Beaver Dam y de la Parroquia Santísima Trinidad en Morgantown. Él dice: “Yo realmente creo que el sacerdocio hoy en día sigue siendo tan importante como siempre ha sido. Desde el primer momento que fui ordenado sacerdote hasta hoy he sentido una alegría y una felicidad sin palabras. A mí me encanta mi vida, a mí me encanta mi sacerdocio.”



Continúa en página 31

Continuado de la página 30



**¿Le interesa el sacerdocio
o la vida religiosa?**

Póngase en contacto con la
Oficina de Vocaciones de la
Diócesis de Owensboro a
jason.mcclure@pastoral.org
o llamando (270) 683-1545
(oficina) o (270) 875-2868
(celular del P. Jason).

Aprenda más en
owensborodiocese.org/vocations

Seminarista da el siguiente paso en el camino hacia el sacerdocio

El domingo 18 de noviembre, en la Parroquia de San Pío X en Owensboro, el Obispo William F. Medley presidió el Rito de Admisión a la Candidatura para el seminarista Stephen Van Lal Than, quien cursa el tercer año de teología en el Seminario San Meinrad. Este rito es el siguiente paso de un seminarista para convertirse en un diácono transitorio, eventualmente seguido por la ordenación al sacerdocio.



FOTO POR CORTESÍA DE LARENA LAWSON



**La Semana
Nacional de
Migración 2019 es
del 6 al 12 de
enero**

Por favor acompañemos al Obispo Medley a una misa especial de clausura a las 6 p.m. el 11 de enero en la Catedral San Esteban.

Para obtener más información: justiceforimmigrants.org,
sharejourney.org/es/