

Diocese Of Owensboro Chosen By Catholic Extension For Seminary Endowment Challenge



Catholic Extension will match \$1 for every qualifying \$1 donation raised to fund seminary education.

OWENSBORO, Ky—Praying for priestly vocations now has new support in the Diocese of Owensboro. The Catholic Extension organization has chosen the Diocese of Owensboro as one of only nine dioceses to participate in its 2014 Seminarian Endowment Challenge.

The Seminarian Endowment Challenge Initiative offers matching funds to selected dioceses to grow their long-term funding resources for seminarian education, specifically for new or increased dollars to be raised and designated toward seminarian education endowments. The Challenge also serves as a fundraising stimulus for dioceses by enabling them to leverage this match in order to attract new or increased major gifts.

For every qualifying \$1 the Diocese raises toward its seminarian endowment this year, Catholic Extension will match \$1, up to \$50,000.00. Qualifying donations must be new or increased gifts of \$1,000 or more, or else money raised through special fundraising events designated for the program. In order to qualify for the challenge, all funds must be received in cash or readily marketable securities before December 31, 2014. No pledges will be accepted.

Bishop William F. Medley has been quoted as saying, "The Catholic Extension Society is one of our most generous supporters of not only vocations but in other areas such as Hispanic and Campus ministries as well as



Owensboro Diocesan Seminarians who were present at Youth 2000 at Brescia University March 14-16, 2014 helped out with setting up the worship space, the gym floor for seating, chaperoning, serving at liturgical celebrations, and many general kinds of work required to host Youth 2000. From left are Alex French, Marvin Tomes, Jamie Dennis, Jacob Fischer, Basilio Az Cuc, Sam Rasp, and Corey Bruns. Photo composite by Annie Desmond.

assisting many of our parishes in building projects that are vital to sustaining their ministries. The Seminarian Endowment Challenge gives the diocese another way to raise much-needed funding to support our development efforts for seminarian education.

Since Bishop William F. Medley came to Owensboro, he has wholeheartedly supported the vocation office which is currently led by vocation director, Father Jason McClure and he is assisted by Dr. Fred

Litke. Our seminarian numbers have remained steady at 16 over the past number of years. For those efforts to continue we must continue to raise vocation awareness in our diocese. It currently costs approximately \$30,000/yr for five years or \$ 150,000.00 with an annual office budget of to educate each seminarian.

Visit the diocesan website at www.rcdok.org or the Catholic Extension website at www.catholicextension.org to learn more about the Seminarian Education Challenge, or contact Kevin Kauffeld, Chancellor at kevin.kauffeld@pastoral.org or 270-683-1545 or Dr. Fred Litke, asst. vocation director at fred.litke@pastoral.org or 270-683-1545 for more information.


SAVE the DATE

Diocese of Owensboro

Vocation Awareness Dinner

September 26, 2014

Owensboro Convention Center



Make Plan to attend the 2014 CHRISM MASS ON APRIL 15, 2014 at 6:30 P.M. IN THE OWENSBORO SPORTSCENTER.

Bishop William F. Medley breathing over the jars of Holy Oils during the Rite of Blessing of the Oils.

Change Service Requested

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
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Owensboro, KY
42301
Permit No. 111

Optimal Way To Experience Holy Week: Participate In Holy Days Fully



Most Reverend
William F. Medley,
Bishop
of Owensboro

Dear sisters and brothers,

In coming days the Church enters into the most solemn of feast days. Holy Week will begin as churches throughout the world ritually reenact on Palm Sunday the triumphal entry of Jesus Christ into Jerusalem. Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil on Saturday are celebrated as the Sacred Triduum. We commemorate the Lord's Supper, the Passion and death of Jesus, the waiting at the tomb, and the mystery of the Resurrection.

All of these feasts are celebrated in parish churches, in every parish church unless the pastor has responsibility for multiple churches. The optimal way to experience this season is to participate in each of these holy days fully.

Nestled into these well-known celebrations is an important diocesan celebration that most Catholics have never experienced. Each year the bishop presides at the Chrism Mass. Ideally this ritual would be observed on Holy Thursday morning. However, as the heart of the celebration is to engage all the priests of the diocese in concelebration with their bishop, the observance may be transferred to another day as priests must travel great distances as they must also be in their individual parishes on Holy Thursday evening. In the Diocese of Owensboro the Chrism Mass is celebrated on Tuesday evening of Holy Week.

The Mass, which the bishop concelebrates with the college of priests and at which he consecrates the holy chrism and blesses the other oils, manifests the communion of the presbyters with their bishop.

The holy chrism consecrated by the bishop is used to anoint the newly baptized, seal the candidates for confirmation, and to anoint the hands of priests and the heads of bishops at their ordination, as well as in the rites of anointing pertaining to the dedication of churches and altars. This year at least three men's hands will be consecrated in Holy Orders; Deacons Will Thompson and Emmanuel Udoh will be ordained for the diocese and Deacon John Brossard will be ordained for the Fathers of Mercy. Every young person to be confirmed in the coming year will be sealed with the chrism consecrated this year.

The oil of catechumens and the oil of the sick are blessed as well. The former is used in the preparation of the catechumens for their baptism. The latter is used to bring comfort and support to the sick in their infirmity. It is especially fitting then that candidates for Holy Orders and Confirmation and catechumens participate in this blessing and ritual.

Priests are brought together and concelebrate this Mass as witnesses and cooperators with their bishop in the consecration of the chrism because they share in the sacred office of the bishop in building up, sanctifying and ruling the people of God. This Mass is therefore a clear expression of the unity of the priesthood and sacrifice of Christ, which continue to be present in the Church.

Also during this Mass all the priests present together make a renewal of their priestly promises, reminiscent of their ordination day. They resolve to be "more united with the Lord Jesus and more closely conformed to him." They likewise resolve to be "faithful stewards of the mysteries of God in the Holy Eucharist and the other liturgical rites...and to discharge faithfully the sacred office of teaching."

The Christian assembly is called upon to pray for priests that the Lord will preserve them as "faithful ministers of Christ, the High Priest."

The Chrism Mass is certainly one of the most important gatherings of the diocesan church in the whole year. I invite all of you, especially if you have never experienced this celebration to come this year to the Owensboro Sportscenter on Tuesday, April 15 at 6:30 p.m.

May God Bless You all.

+Most Reverend William F. Medley, Bishop of Owensboro

Bishop Medley's Calendar For April 2014:

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| April 1 | 9:00 a.m. CPC Staff Mass and Meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center |
| April 2 | 9:00 a.m. School Mass, Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson |
| April 3 | 11:00 a.m. Maximilian Montessori Academy School Mass |
| April 5 | 5:00 p.m. Confirmation, St. Rose of Lima, Cloverport |
| April 6 | 11:00 a.m. [EST] Confirmation, Holy Guardian Angels, Irvington
6:00 p.m. Mass, Murray State University |
| April 7 | 6:30 p.m. Prayer Service for Healing, Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro |
| April 9 | 6:15 p.m. Paducah Deanery Faith Formation Gathering, St. Mary Elementary School |
| April 11 | 10:00 a.m. 25th Anniversary Mass, Bishop Emeritus Gettelfinger
St. Benedict Cathedral, Evansville, IN |
| April 13 | 11:00 a.m. Palm Sunday Mass, St. Stephen Cathedral |
| April 15 | 6:30 p.m. Chrism Mass, Sportscenter, Owensboro |
| April 17 | 7:00 p.m. Holy Thursday Mass, St. Stephen Cathedral |
| April 18 | 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Services, St. Stephen Cathedral |
| April 19 | 8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil, St. Stephen Cathedral |
| April 26 | 5:00 p.m. Confirmation, St. Alphonsus, Owensboro |
| April 27 | 10:00 a.m. Confirmation, St. Pius X, Calvert City
3:00 p.m. 175th Anniversary Mass, St. John the Evangelist, Paducah |
| April 29 | 10:00 a.m. School Mass, St. Mary High School, Paducah
Senior Conversations, St. Mary High School, Paducah
6:30 p.m. Confirmation, Blessed Mother, Owensboro |
| April 30 | 6:00 p.m. Confirmation, St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville |

Being a Lector and Eucharistic Minister

By Bob Cinamond

It is a great joy to be a Lector or Eucharistic Minister at Mass. Each time I walk up to the altar I feel God's presence and an inner peace for serving Him in this very special way. It's certainly not that I'm so holy! I am a sinner just like everyone else, but I feel so blessed to be able to do something for Him, the creator of the universe; the lover of all mankind.

Sometimes, when I lector I just want to speak out and tell the parishioners how much God loves them, for I know that many people in the pews need desperately to know how much Jesus loves and cares for them. His love is constantly with us, we just have to know how to experience it.

How often have I received the Eucharist from a stern face! How often have I given the host to a stern face! A few months ago I decided that I would always put on a joyful – smiley face when I served the Host. The first time I even wondered if I was doing the right thing, but after a few weeks it became a part of me. Then I began to notice that people were smiling back and I could see Jesus in their eyes. Some are almost laughing when I give them the host or a blessing if they cannot receive.



Kathy Wright proclaiming a Reading during Ash Wednesday Mass in St. Stephen Cathedral March 5, 2014. Mel Howard Photo

As Catholics we believe that there is nothing greater than receiving the Eucharist. Shouldn't we receive it with Joy? After all JOY stands for Jesus Over You.

By Larena Lawson

Made for Love is the story of the joys and struggles of a Catholic, Mayan Indian named Cipriana Az Cuc Menchú, who lives deep in the country of Guatemala. Beautiful vistas, amazing craftsmanship, contagious joy, deep sorrow, and even deeper faith are the threads in the life of her family, who are weavers.

The challenging, but touching video production is part of a series called the Icon Project by Lolek Productions. From the time it began to its completion, it was a 2 year international project. It was filmed on location in San Ramon, Guatemala, and had to be translated from Cipriana's native language of Quiché, taking many, many hours to complete with English subtitles.

Cipriana is the mother of Owensboro Seminarian, Basilio Az Cuc. Basilio is studying to be a priest for the Diocese of Owensboro. When Father Joshua McCarty, the founder and director/producer of Lolek Productions was still a seminarian studying Spanish in Antigua, Guatemala, Basilio invited him and another fellow seminarian, Daniel Dillard, to meet his family.

“Her life, though filled with hardship and struggle, was placed early on in God’s care.”

The adventure took them traveling on several buses and finally the back of a pickup truck before they ultimately reached the remote village of San Ramon, where Basilio was born and raised. Basilio has a large family. He is one of 12 children. His family lives in a small compound of different little houses, unlike anything Father Josh had ever seen. He remembers their kindness and how the family served them with what little they had.

Made for Love in Guatemala

with Cipriana Cuc in San Ramon Guatemala



**Watch the video at
lolekproductions.com
and click on the image of Cipriana.**

 **LOLEK**
PRODUCTIONS

Being so moved by their strong faith, culture and way of living, Father Josh decided to return there after starting Lolek Productions, this time with a video production crew.

Basilio welcomed them again and arranged everything for the filming of Made for Love. His aging mother, now widowed and sickly, opened her home once again, this time opening her heart as well, to tell about her

life, her faith and her loss. She spoke of the many blessings and gifts of children and grandchildren that God has given her and her late husband. Her life, though filled with hardship and struggle, was placed early on in God's care, and she has seen how He has blessed them even in the hard times. She and her husband built their lives on God's grace and trusted that He would be with them

always. Throughout their lives they have weaved an unbreakable thread that binds them closely to God. Not only does that thread give them their strength, they've also built their livelihood with their weaving skills. It has all bonded together and has formed a life that was Made for Love.

-Thanks to the Cuc family and the Lolek crew.

Catholic Q&A:

Isn't the Catholic Church discriminating against people when it supports laws that ban same-sex marriage?

Question: *Isn't the Catholic Church discriminating against people when it supports laws that ban same-sex marriage?*

Answer: I think there are two errors at the root of this question: 1.) All discrimination is wrong, and 2.) People have the right to enter into a same-sex marriage. I would like to address these errors in turn.

Regarding the first error, people throw around the word "discrimination" a lot in order to gain some leverage based on the baggage attached to the word. When we hear "discrimination," we think "slavery," which was one of the greatest evils we have ever faced. So, when you charge someone with discrimination, that usually works to gain public sentiment in your favor. But, it's not intellectually honest. That's because it is simply not true that all discrimination is wrong. Speed limits discriminate against people who like to drive fast. Laws against stealing discriminate against kleptomaniacs. Should these laws be repealed simply because they discriminate? Of course not. The fact is, sometimes discrimination is just and necessary. So, it is not enough to say that a law is wrong simply because it discriminates. Instead, one has to prove that the discrimination in question is unjust.

The second error, that people have a right to enter into same-sex marriages, really centers around the definition of a "right." What is a "right"? Is it the freedom to do whatever we want? If that were the case, then people could claim the "right" do to anything! How then do we determine whether or not someone has a legitimate claim to something? If it's a legitimate claim, it's a "right." If it's an arbitrary claim, it's a "want." Basic philosophical principles tell us that a claim is legitimate only if it is justified morally, and if it has its basis in some good that should be honored. Under this definition, same-sex marriage cannot qualify as a right.

Now, I realize that this begs the question: how do we determine whether or not something is morally justified? As a Catholic, the Bible and the teachings of the Church are my guide, and while one could argue that these should be the guides for ALL men, I think it is also true that natural law and every man's faculty of reason should also lead him to the conclusion that same-sex marriage is immoral and thus no one has a legitimate claim to it.

Of course, this just scratches the surface of the debate (which is all I really have room here to do), but I hope it helps. For more information, I suggest the following sites:

- The Public Discourse: "Marriage" <http://www.thepublicdiscourse.com/2011/03/2637/>
- Catholic Answers: "Gay Marriage" Special Report (<http://archive.catholic.com/>)

Peace of Christ to you,

Nicholas Hardesty, WIMM Board Member, Director of Religious Education, Blessed Mother Catholic Church, Owensboro, Ky. Feel free to email your questions to nicholashardesty@gmail.com

See related article on page 21, "COURAGE Priest Speaks ..."

Learn About Our Catholic Heritage

Bringing together descendants of Maryland to Kentucky and Beyond Pioneers at the 2014 Reunion of

Maryland to Kentucky and Beyond June 27 - 29, 2014

St. Catharine College, Springfield, Ky

Join Hancock County novelist Eddie Price (Widder's Landing), and

Marion County's James Higdon (The Cornbread Mafia) who will be featured presenters on June 28.

Owensboro's Bishop William Medley will preside at 12:30 EST Sunday Mass in St. Rose Catholic Church, Springfield, Ky.

For information, Go To: <https://sites.google.com/site/mdtoky3/home>.

To keep up with what people are saying about the 2014 Reunion, Go To <https://www.facebook.com/MDtoKYandBeyondInc>



St. Clement's Island Cross

*With joyful praise and thanksgiving to All Mighty God
The Roman Catholic Diocese of Owensboro
announces the ordinations of
Mr. Michael Charles Ajigo Abiero
son of Dorsila Otonde Abiero
and the late James M. Abiero Ajigo
and
Mr. Gary D. Clark
son of Anna and Joseph Clark
called by God and the Church to the
Order of Deacon through the imposition of hands
and the invocation of the Holy Spirit
by the Most Reverend William F. Medley DD
Bishop of Owensboro
on Saturday, the third of May
two thousand and fourteen
at ten o'clock in the morning
at Saint Stephen Cathedral
600 Locust Street
Owensboro, Kentucky*

After the ordination you are cordially invited to the reception.

The Western Kentucky Catholic

600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY. 42301

•Publisher: Most Reverend William F. Medley, Bishop of Owensboro

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• Business Address: Catholic Pastoral Center, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, KY 42301 Phone: 270-683-1545. Fax: 270-683-6883

• See the present edition and back issues of the WKC Online at http://www.rcdok.org/ministries/communications/WKC_online.php

• Story Deadline: 15th of month prior to desired publication.

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 columns and letters to the editor submitted for publication in the Western Kentucky Catholic must be signed and with contact information, may be edited for space, a lack of charity or a lack of clarity, and are not necessarily those of the publisher or editor of The Western Kentucky Catholic. Please let us know politely if you find proofing or factual errors in items of this publication.

Please send all Western Kentucky Catholic address additions, deletions or changes to Cathy Hagan at cathy.hagan@pastoral.org.

Picnic Day Is Coming Soon To a Parish Near You!

Date	Serving Time	Parish
May 9-10	International Barbecue Festival, Downtown, Owensboro	
May 17	11:00 a.m.	Carmel Home, Owensboro
May 25	11:00 a.m.	St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville
June 7	4:00 p.m.	Precious Blood, Owensboro
June 7	3:00 p.m.	Saint Joseph, Leitchfield
June 7	5:00 p.m.	St. Ann, Morganfield
June 7	10:00 a.m.	St. Michael the Archangel, Oak Grove
June 14	4:00 p.m.	St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro
June 21	3:00 p.m.	St. Romuald, Hardinsburg
June 21	3:00 p.m.	Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro
June 28	5:00 p.m.	St. Peter, Waverly
June 28	4:00 p.m.	St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho
July 5	2:00 p.m.	St. Anthony, Peonia
July 5	4:00 p.m.	St. Anthony, Axtel (Rough River)
July 5	11:00-2:00/5:00-:00	St. Denis, Fancy Farm
July 12	12:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Immaculate Conception, Hawesville
July 12	4:00 p.m.	St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph
July 19	11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	St. Charles, Bardwell
July 19	4:00 p.m.	St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley
July 26	4:00 p.m.	St. Mary of the Woods, McQuady
July 26	3:00 p.m.	St. Paul, Leitchfield
July 27	4:00 p.m.	parish family picnic, St. Anthony, Browns Valley
Aug. 2	11:00 a.m.	St. Jerome, Fancy Farm
Aug. 3	Noon	Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro
Aug. 5	5:00 p.m.	St. Martin, Rome
Aug. 9	4:00 p.m.	Blessed Mother, Owensboro
Aug. 16	3:00 p.m. (EST)	Holy Guardian Angels, Irvington
Aug. 17	Noon	St. Pius X, Calvert City
Aug. 23	4:00 p.m.	St. Columba, Lewisport
Aug. 24	1:00 p.m.	parish family picnic, St. Thomas More, Paducah
Aug. 31	11:00 a.m.	Rosary Chapel, Paducah, Ky.
Sept. 6	4:30 p.m.	St. Agnes, Uniontown
Sept. 7	11 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.	St. John the Evangelist, Paducah
Sept. 13	11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.	St. John the Evangelist, Paducah
Sept. 14	11:30 a.m.	Mount St. Joseph, Maple Mount
Sept. 20	2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro
Sept. 20	4:00 p.m.	Christ the King, Madisonville
Sept. 21	11:00 a.m.	St. Lawrence/St. William Parishes
Sept. 21	Noon	St. Leo, Murray
Sept 26-27		Holy Name Fall Festival, Henderson
Sept. 27	10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	St. Elizabeth, Clarkson,
Sept. 27	3:00 p.m.	Immaculate, Owensboro
Sept. 28	10:00 a.m.	St. Joseph, Central City
Sept. 28	11:00 a.m.	St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville
Oct. 5	12:00 Noon	Rosary Chapel Feast Day Picnic, Paducah

Get Moving at the Mount!

5K Run/Walk Saturday, May 31, 2014

Registration:
8:15 a.m.
Race: 9 a.m.

The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph are hosting a 5K "Fun Run!" It is open to walkers, runners, children and adults and will take

place on the grounds of Mount Saint Joseph and the surrounding roads. All proceeds will support the ministries of the Ursuline Sisters.

COST: \$20 per person if you sign up by May 1, 2014
\$25 after May 1st and on race day. (Ages 6 and under free)

Register by May 10th to be guaranteed a free T-shirt!

Run/walk in honor or in memory of a sister for \$10 more. Or if you cannot attend, you can sponsor a sister who plans to race!

Race will be chip-timed • Awards will be given to the winners • Race packet pickup will be available at Brescia University the week before the race • See our website for details



Ursuline Sisters
of Mount Saint Joseph

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999

Located 12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56.

Register online (or print out a form):
ursulinesmsj.org/help-the-sisters/5k

For more information,
contact April Ray
270-229-4103 ext. 448 or
april.ray@maplemount.org



The upcoming **Marian Conference** is Saturday, September 13th, 2014, in downtown Owensboro at the Riverpark Center, 101 Daviess Street.

The theme is "Mary, Queen of Families".

The three speakers are:

- Bishop James Conley, Diocese of Lincoln, NE is a convert to Catholicism and has been a priest for 29 years.
- Chris Stefanick, a Author, Speaker and Syndicated Columnist with Reallife-Catholic,
- Teresa Tomeo, a Motivational Speaker, Talk show Host of EWTN's Catholic Connection and Author.

There will be talks from these wonderful speakers, a panel discussion, Holy Mass with Bishop William Medley and Bishop James Conley and confessions throughout the day. Mark your calendars for this coming September 13th, 2014 and plan to attend!

Catholic School Teaching Position Opening

HOLY NAME OF JESUS CATHOLIC SCHOOL, Henderson, Ky. is currently seeking applications for the position of 2nd Grade Teacher beginning July 2014.

Qualifications: Practicing Catholic due to sacramental year;
Bachelor's or Master's degree preferred; KY teacher certification

Send application and/or resume to the following address: Kamille Stich, Director, Holy Name of Jesus Catholic School, 628 Second St., Henderson, KY 42420

Applications/resumes will be accepted until the position is filled.

Holy Name School is an equal opportunity employer.

Note: The teacher application may be accessed at: www.rcdok.org/schools/.

Click on Handbook for Catholic Schools
and scroll to Appendix I (127th page of the Handbook).

6 April, 2014

To Report Allegations of Sexual Abuse

Any person who wishes to contact the diocese regarding an allegation of sexual abuse should call the Catholic Pastoral Center at 1-270-683-1545 and ask to speak with the Assistance Coordinator or a member of the Review Board. To speak with a particular member of this Board, tell the receptionist. In either case, the receptionist at the Catholic Pastoral Center will give the caller's information to a member of the Diocesan Review Board for follow-up.

Callers may choose to remain anonymous for the initial call to the Catholic Pastoral Center receptionist. The phone numbers of the members of this Board will not be made public. You may also contact the Board via email at reviewboard@pastoral.org. Be sure to include your contact information. No direct response will be given by email because confidentiality is never guaranteed when using email. Follow-up will be made by telephone.

The members of the Board who deal with sexual abuse allegations in the Diocese of Owensboro are as follows: Mr. Ken Bennett (Vice-Chair), Mr. Mike Boone, Ms. Kaye Castlen, Rev. Mike Clark, JCL, Dr. Michael Farina, Mr. Mike Flaherty (Chair), Ms. Rhonda Gillham, Mr. Nicholas Goetz, Mr. Brandon Harley, Ms. Teresa Henry, Ms. Mary Beth Hurley, and Ms. Kelly Roe. Sr. Ethel Marie Biri, SSND, serves as the Bishop's liaison to the Review Board.

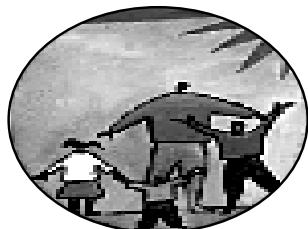
Reportar las Acusaciones de Abuso Sexual

Cualquier persona que desea comunicarse con la Diócesis sobre una alegación de abuso sexual debe llamar al Centro Pastoral Católico a 1-270-683-1545 y pedir hablar con al Coordinador Auxiliar o un miembro de la Junta de Revisión Diocesano. Para hablar con un miembro particular de este junta, dígame a la recepcionista. En cualquier caso la recepcionista en el Centro Pastoral Católico le dará la información de la persona que llama a un miembro de la Junta de Revisión para seguimiento.

Las personas que llaman pueden ser anónimos para la llamada inicial a la recepcionista. Los números de teléfono de los miembros de esta junta no serán divulgados al público. También se puede contactar a la junta por su email a reviewboard@pastoral.org. No se olvide de incluir su información de contacto. No se responderá directamente por email porque no se puede garantizar la confidencialidad por email. Seguimiento será por teléfono.

Los miembros de la junta que responden a las alegaciones de abuso sexual en la Diócesis de Owensboro son los siguientes: Mr. Ken Bennett (Vice-Chair), Mr. Mike Boone, Ms. Kaye Castlen, Rev. Mike Clark, JCL, Dr. Michael Farina, Mr. Mike Flaherty (Chair), Ms. Rhonda Gillham, Mr. Nicholas Goetz, Mr. Brandon Harley, Ms. Teresa Henry, Ms. Mary Beth Hurley, and Ms. Kelly Roe. Sr. Ethel Marie Biri, SSND, sirve como enlace entre al Obispo y la Junta de Revisión Diocesano.

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month



All are invited to join with Bishop Medley for Evening Prayer
Monday, April 7, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. to pray for
PROTECTION and HEALING of all impacted by child abuse.
Our Lady of Lourdes Church
4029 Frederica St., Owensboro, KY



Luis Aju

A cross without Jesus would not be the real Jesus. (My explanation: Being a Catholic Christian, or of another Christian denomination, does not mean to just see the suffering of others; it means to be part of the suffering). We believe in Jesus. He who invites us to succeed at the end of our struggles in this life, rising above the suffering we face every day: those vicissitudes and challenges of life.

We will have a Resurrection.

There is no resurrection without going through the pains of life, which sometimes lead to death. Sometimes we create our own evils towards ourselves and sometimes other evils may come from other people towards us.

The celebration of Holy Week brings to mind, people with illnesses who do not have access to a doctor, or a treatment that gives hope to heal, and to remain with their family. This is carrying a Cross of a special weight.

On March 9, 2013 in the Casa de Santa Marta, Pope Francis said in his homily, and I paraphrase here: "He who hates his brother is a murderer, but many times our communities, even our families have become like a hell in which we criminally kill our brother with words that can destroy by an envy that sows evil in the heart and leads one to speak badly of the other."

Hopefully, after our Lenten sacrifices we will learn to respect God and our neighbor. May this be a Lent full of learning.

Jesus also suffers today, in the silence of solitude and abandonment of the elderly, the homeless, and marginalized. The origins or the causes of their suffering have been trickled down from those who possess power.

No need to make a representation on the streets, dressing up like Jesus or any other character. It is enough to see people suffering day and night, in factories, on farms or in the property of a landowner who pays his workers a pittance. There is also exploiting for people who work in offices, where their work rarely is recognized, as it should be. It's easy to ignore, not to affirm, the efforts that each person makes.

Jesus is not just a story, he lives among us. He also suffers with us, Jesus is the One who encourages us and helps us, because just the weight of indifference, contempt, and humiliation is enough to destroy the spirit. But Jesus is with us; He gives us our daily strength until the day of our particular resurrection.

Dear Reader, you know that every action has its consequence! Wherever you come from. Therefore the effect of our attitudes will fall on our shoulders the day we are judged by our Creator.

"How I would like a church that is poor and for the poor."

"Those words came to me: the poor, the poor," Francis said, pointing at his head. "Then, right away, thinking of the poor, I thought of Francis of Assisi. Then I thought of all the wars, as the votes were still being counted.

"Francis is also the man of peace. That is how the name came into my heart: Francis of Assisi. For me, he is the man of poverty, the man of peace, the man who loves and protects creation; these days we do not have a very good relationship with creation, don't we?" the pope asked.

"Francis of Assisi 'gives us this spirit of peace, the poor man who wanted a poor church,' the pope said. 'How I would love a church that is poor and for the poor.'"

- Pope Francis, March 16, 2013 in Vatican City.

A M GRACE



By Susie Fenwick

He is the stranger beginning in my mind beginning each year at Advent and haunting me through Lent.

He lay there as still as death in a room dimly lit by the unnatural glow emitting from the fluorescent tube encased in a metallic light fixture anchored over the headboard of his bed.

His emaciated time worn body was ever so slightly discernible under the institutional grade sheets topped by a nubby textured blanket. The covers melted onto his body like a film of paraffin normally applied for therapeutic relief to arthritic hands.

He was a mere shadow of a man with cheeks sunken with age and eyes sallow and lids drooping with the weight of years of living. Each blink of the eye was with deliberation and belabored effort.

Everything about him was ancient and the air of loneliness in his nursing home room was oppressive

He listened intently as a repertoire of Christmas carols was performed with the most jovial of holiday spirits and the most sincere of good Christian intentions. His hands were folded across his chest gripping the edge of his blanket as his right index finger tapped gently keeping time with hymns heralding the news of an eagerly anticipated Savior's birth.

It was all well and good but after the final song was completed and the last soaring note dissipated and silence hovered over the room, he whispered a simple request.



"Can you sing 'Amazing Grace' for me?"

"Can you sing 'Amazing Grace' for me? That's all he wanted...someone to sing 'Amazing Grace' to him. 'Amazing Grace... how sweet the sound'... although the hymn is among the most recognizable Christian hymns in the English-speaking world, it certainly did not fit the paradigm of festive music normally chosen for Christmas caroling.

So what if "Amazing Grace" was considered a standard African American Spiritual and

was a staple of Appalachian shape note hymnody; not to mention it was sung by Native Americans traversing the Trail of Tears, and abolitionists and Civil War Soldiers and homesteaders settling the West?

My group had come to repeat the sounding joy and sing of a babe in swaddling clothes and heavenly hosts and peace on earth. We most certainly did not venture out on a cold December afternoon to sing of "wretches" who were "lost" even if they were to be "found" and to sing of the "blind" even if eventually they were to "see". There would be none of that "dangers, toils and snares" business on our watch!

On that cold, dismal December day, we didn't sing "Amazing Grace" for him. We begged off with the excuse of not having the music or knowing the words or some such flimsy excuse.

The great tragedy leading me to a sin of omission was that I knew the beloved old hymn of grace and redemption by a merciful God by heart. Every verse, every word was hard-wired into my psyche.

How could I have not spoken up and given voice to the requested hymn? Was it out of respect and deference to the leader of our merry band of carolers? Was I succumbing to one of the seven deadly sins known as pride? Was I too proud to take a chance I might botch the attempt by being off-key? Was I fearful? I was no soloist and the thought of singing alone or even just leading a group was terrifying.

Just as many years later I wonder what prevented me from honoring the simple request, I also wonder what special meaning, "Amazing Grace" held for the old gentleman.

As a young, strapping man with a booming baritone voice, did he lead a congregation in a rousing rendition of "Amazing Grace"? Did his Mother sing it in a clear sweet soprano while toiling over a hot stove transfiguring meager depression-era rations into a sumptuous feast for a big loving family? Was it sung in bittersweet harmony at the funeral of a cherished wife?

Or perhaps as his days on this old earth waned, he simply found hope and solace in the verse declaring:

"When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun, We've no less days to sing God's praise, Than when we first begun."

AS the answers to all these questions will forever elude me and the old gentleman will continue to haunt me and my inability to step out of my comfort zone to sing "Amazing Grace" will continue to baffle me, even a wretch like me can learn from the experience. Isn't that what grace and growing in faith is all about? Maturing in a ministry of faith might be as simple as knowing when to sing "Joy to the World" or when to sing "Amazing Grace" based on the needs of those to whom we minister, regardless of the season or the occasion or what was planned.

Taking "Time Out!"



By Tina Wheatley

Hello Again Dear Reader!

How are you? It's been awhile, since we last exchanged smiles or kind word. How has the world been treating you? The distracting busyness of life seems to have caused a void in our friendship. How we use to share those special moments? How is your family? Work?

Man! Something happened last night where this person wanted to just "blow", but something stopped her in her tracks... I believe the realization that "I Am! Is in control not me!" consumed me... And, yes, this person needed a "time out!"

What a beautiful concept of taking a "time out" is, especially as an adult. Childhood memories just keep flooding back. Remember when we were kids how our parents or teachers would place us in "time out", because of our "attitude" about a situation. Man! How this person hated "time outs". As an "adult, I realize that it the concept is not all, especially, when you allow yourself "time out" from the busy-ness of life, and allow God to captivate the situation. Remember the dread chair or corner you had to sit in. Wiggling and squirming, while climbing all over it. Let's not forget the "timer" ticking away. Tick! Tick! Tick! How endless eternity seemed of having to watch and listen to it. Did you ever sneak and change the time? And worst of all, having to think about what you did to cause a disturbance. What was really worse, when this person was older, the dreaded "talking about it", especially when "it was not my fault". Oh how wise and noble our parents were then and are now help us to develop a conscience and take responsibility for our actions.

So, Dear Reader, how do you take a "time out" and get back in focus. This person steps back from the situation, and breathes! Slowly taking in and exhaling the breath of Life. Whenever possible, this person also drinks a glass of water. Breath and water are great symbols of our Faith. These simple actions have deeper meaning to this "time out" exercise. Breathing the Breath of Life invites the Holy Spirit into one's body. Anger and frustration chokes the Holy Spirit. The glass of water reminds this person of the purifying waters of her Baptismal Promises! Promises, which leads to the covenant with God... I Am! It is then one realizes that Reconciliation is needed. How bless we are for the gift of Penance! The best "time out" ever! While the concept of a "time out" may seem childish in one's adult mind, it proves very beneficial in the long run.

Another way to take a "time-out" is come join us on the upcoming Cursillo Weekends. We are broken and mended individuals who fully understand the meaning "time-out". Did you know at this very minute there is someone who is praying for you? Many Masses, rosaries, sacrifices and alms giving are being offered just for you. This special "time-out" in your life opens the door to conceptual tools Holy Mother Church has exclaimed for centuries. The question is taking the "Time-Out" of the busy-ness to do it.

True Wisdom is gained when we "do not let the sun set" on a "blowout". How righteous are we who are the first to admit and seek forgiveness in a special gesture like "time-out", especially when we allow I Am! Control. Hope to see you on the Cursillo Weekend! We have so much to catch up! Blessings!

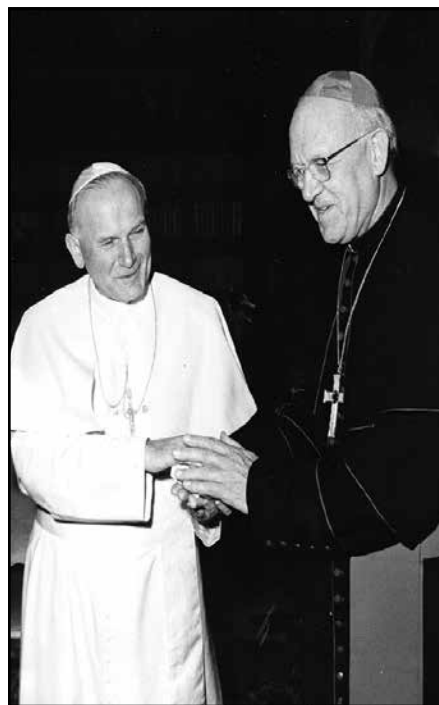
8 April, 2014 **Diocesan Bishops, Clergy Shared Visits With Popes**

Blesseds John XXIII and John Paul II will be canonized together on April 27, Divine Mercy Sunday.

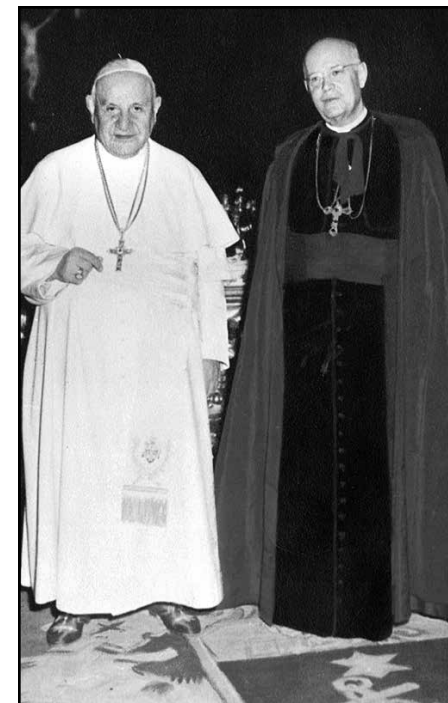
Many of our diocesan clergy and our Bishops have shared visits with Popes, including Pope Benedict XVI. In this issue of *The Western Kentucky Catholic*, we have several pictures and personal reflections of experiences people from this diocese have with some of our Holy Fathers.



Bishop William Medley, at left, gathered with other Bishops from the Ky-Tn Province during an Ad Limina visit on Jan. 26, 2012 in this picture with Pope Benedict XVI. Jan 26, 2012. WKC Archives photo



Bishop Henry J. Soenneker greeting Pope John Paul II during an Ad Limina visit. Diocesan Archives photo



Bishop Francis R. Cotton visiting with Pope John XXIII during an Ad Limina visit. Diocesan Archives photo



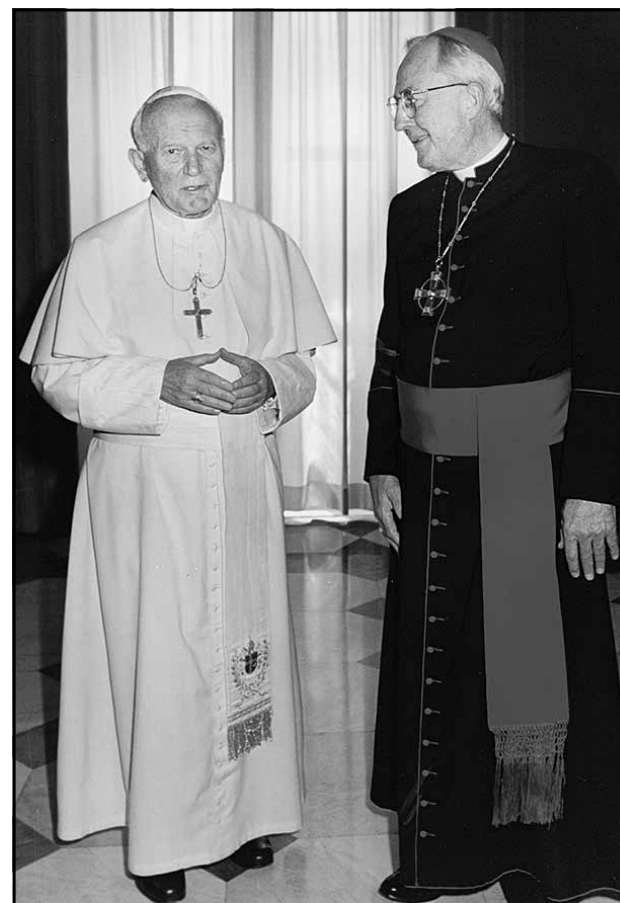
Pope John Paul II audience with Fr. Ed Bradley in March, 2002. Submitted photo



Fr. Richard Cash, left, and Fr Bruce Fogle meeting Pope John Paul II at the Vatican. Submitted Photo



In the picture at left, Fr. John introducing his mother, Ann Vaughan, to Pope John Paul II, April, 1993. Submitted photo



Bishop John J. McRaith visiting with Pope John Paul II during an Ad Limina visit. Diocesan Archives photo

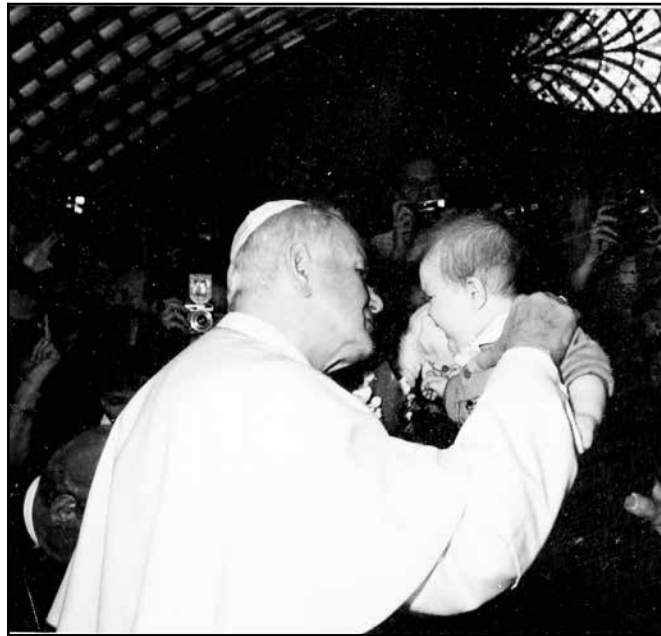
The Ultimate Souvenir, Pictures Proof of Baby's Pope JP II Blessing

April, 2014 9

Submitted by Larena Lawson

KNOTTSTVILLE, Ky. - In March of 1990, while stationed in Naples, Italy with the United States Navy, Chris Johnson, a member of St. Lawrence Parish near here, recalls the excitement of the day that he and his wife Patsy and his parents, Victor and Lois Johnson, were blessed to attend a general audience with then Holy Father, Pope John Paul II. Chris recounts what led up to the crowning moment of their pilgrimage time in Rome:

"My parents (Vic & Lois Johnson) came to visit with us and while there we got tickets for an audience with the pope in Rome. This was Pope John Paul II. During the session, our eight-month-old child, Todd, was getting fussy, so my wife (Patsy) and I took turns going out with him, so as not to disturb the other people in attendance. After the pope was finished



speaking, he started down the center aisle to bless objects of the people in attendance; pictures, rosaries, and even statues. I was just coming back into the auditorium with my son when the pope started his journey down the aisle. I waved to my parents & wife to let them know I was back, but I guess they did not see me, as I was swallowed up by the crowd. Another spectator, trying to get a better picture of the pope, accidentally elbowed my son in the head.

He then started crying pretty loudly. The Italians around us were trying everything to get him to quiet down. They even

threw over some chunks of bread from across the aisle. Suddenly, the crowd started to chant & sing. We did not understand it. I guess it was in Italian. Someone took my son from me and they started handing my son from person to person until he reached the aisle, (I was about 20 feet from the aisle.) The usher then took him and held him for the pope to bless. My son who had been crying this whole time immediately stopped crying once the pope laid his hand on him. The usher then handed my son back to the crowd & he was soon passed back to me. Once I got my son back, I made my way over to

my wife & parents & was asking them if they could believe what had just happened. They heard the singing, but could not see because of the crowd, so they only had my word that it had actually happened.

"We then went out and while touring around Rome for several hours, I kept going over the details with them and how it would have been nice to have photos of the event. There was a photographer following the pope around snapping pictures. I figured it would be near impossible to find out how to get the pictures, even if we knew the photographers. I figured we would have to go through the papal office or something. About this time, we saw a photo shop in an alley we were walking by; I think it was my Mom who suggested that we ask them if they knew who takes the pictures of the Pope and how we could contact them. So we went in and with our limited understanding of the Italian language, finally got our point across. The lady staffing the store told us that they "had taken the pictures that day and were just now finishing printing them out." The sales lady asked if we were looking for certain pictures, so we pointed to my son.

Soon she and another customer started looking through the hundreds of pictures along with us, to see if we could find any of Todd with the pope. We finally found four pictures that they had managed to take of my son with the Pope. We asked how much it would cost for us to get a set of the pictures. They told us they could not sell them, but if we paid now, they would send us the prints as soon as possible. My Mom & I both purchased a set of the 4 pictures, as I figured no one would ever believe me if I told them this story without this proof."

The Johnsons still treasure the proof that they have of their son (grandson) Todd being blessed by Pope John Paul II, who is soon to be a canonized saint. Along with the priceless blessing photos that made the ultimate souvenir, they have their own unforgettable and precious memories of their special visit with the Holy Father.

CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (CLI):

Young people ages 15-19 (who have completed their freshman year of high school or who just graduated), would you like to learn how to be a BETTER LEADER? The Diocesan Youth Ministry Office is sponsoring Christian Leadership Institute, June 22-27, 2014, at the Mount St. Joseph Retreat Center. If you: are, or would like to be, a youth leader; would like to serve on a retreat team; are a class officer or student council member, CLI is for you. You will learn and use skills in leadership, communication, planning and decision-making. For registration information contact your youth ministry leader or campus minister today. Registration deadline is May 23rd.

Registrations after May 23rd will cost \$25 more. For information contact The Office of Youth Ministry (CLI), 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY 42301

Holy Redeemer

Parish To Host Silver Jubilee
Celebration June 22

Holy Redeemer Church in Beaver Dam will turn "50" this year. The parish family invite all to our celebration on Sunday, June 22, 2014. Sunday Mass is 11:00am (CDT) followed by a light lunch and fellowship in the parish hall. Bishop Medley is planning to be in attendance.

Come see how we have grown in the past 50 years.

St. Alphonsus

Annual Fish Fry and Auction!

Friday, April 11th with serving beginning at 5:30 pm and live auction beginning at 6:30. Fish, potatoes, slaw, hushpuppies, and homemade desserts - Adults \$10; Children under 12 \$5. Silent auction baskets as well!

Come join us for great food, fellowship, fun and great auction items!



With Joyful Praise and Thanksgiving to Almighty God,

The Catholic Diocese of Owensboro
announces
the Ordination of
Rev. Mr. William Russell Thompson
Son of Gary and Melinda Thompson
And
Rev. Mr. Emmanuel Cyril Udoh
Son of Cyril and Catherine Udoh
Called by God and the Church
to the
ORDER OF PRESBYTER
through the imposition of Hands
and the
Invocation of the Holy Spirit

By
THE MOST REVEREND WILLIAM F. MEDLEY, DD
Bishop of Owensboro
On Saturday, May 31, 2014
10:00am
At
Saint Stephen's Cathedral,
600 Locust St. Owensboro, KY, 42301

A Miraculous Encounter with Pope John Paul II

By Larena Lawson

Remembering Pope John Paul II brings back extraordinary memories to Father Julio Barrera, Parochial Vicar of Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, Hopkinsville; recollections that he knows he will never forget. His first encounter with the saintly Pope was nothing short of miraculous.

When Father Julio was studying in a seminary in his native Mexico, his beloved mother Sara Martinez Gómez, grew very ill. The doctors discovered a tumor in her brain and a terminal prognosis was given to her. They did not expect her to live longer than six months. Because of the high expense of caring for his mother, Father Julio had to leave the seminary, something he really didn't want to do, but found necessary in order for his family to afford the costly treatment that his mother desperately needed.

While in the seminary, Father Julio learned that it was good to pray to a saint on the day of their canonization and to ask for their intercession for a special intention. Pope John Paul II came to Mexico at the end of July in 2002, to canonize Juan Diego, at the same time that Sara was suffering from her grave illness.

Father Julio firmly believed in the power of intercessory prayer so he fervently prayed to St. Juan Diego for a



Sara Martinez Gomez stands in front of the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City on a visit to the holy place of pilgrimage, in August of 2008, six years after she experienced her miraculous healing when Pope John Paul II came there to canonize St. Juan Diego on July 31, 2002. Photo approved for publication by Fr. Julio Barrera; submitted by Larena Lawson

Continued on page 11

Mount Saint Joseph Academy and Junior College

Alumnae Weekend May 17-18, 2014

8001 Cummings Road,
Maple Mount, Ky.

Get together with your classmates!

- Mass • Alumnae Banquet
(Anniversary Classes recognized)
- Class Photos • Social Activities



Register online at www.ursulinesmsj.org
270-229-2006 • alumnae.msj@maplemount.org



Owensboro Young Adult Group Theology on Tap 2014 Spring Series

Where: Gambrinus
Libation Emporium
(must be 21 to attend)
116A West 2nd Street,
Owensboro, Ky.

Social Half Hour: 7:00PM
Talk: 7:30PM

Babysitting is available.
Contact
youngadult@pastoral.org
or call 270-683-1545 for details

Come join us for this five part
series to deepen our faith
and grow in community.

Putting Our Gifts to Use
April 21, Ben Warrell

Evangelization in Practice
April 28, Carol Hulsey

Mary & the Universal Call to Holiness
May 5, Father Ken Geraci

Saints as Models of Virtue
May 12, Father Larry Hostetter

The Nuptial Meaning of the Body
May 19, Joe Bland

The Owensboro Young Adult Group is open to married couples, singles,
and those in religious life between the ages 21-40.

What's in a Story?

By Michael Theisen, January 17, 2014 by miket3461

Family Memories. Now that the holiday season has passed, think back for a moment on the types of stories that were shared as your family gathered together over a meal. What was “remembered when...”? Did anyone protest or remind others that “we’ve heard this one before!”?

According to author Bruce Feiler (***The Secrets of Happy Families***), telling and retelling these family stories is one of the best things families can do to help develop resiliency and emotional maturity in children. “The more children knew about their family’s history, the stronger their sense of control over their lives, the higher their self-esteem, and the more successfully they believed their families functioned.” (p. 41)

It seems that when children and teens are connected to a broader narrative of life, they come to understand that they belong to something larger than themselves. Their family story gives them a sense of context and connectedness that helps see them through the individual obstacles in life and gives them a sense that despite the bumps encountered through the years, all will be well.

Those who studied this came up with a very simple (and actually, quite fun) measurement called the “Do You Know?” Test (p 40). Some of the questions include:

Do you know where your grandparents grew up?

Do you know where your mom and dad went to high school?

Do you know where you parents met?

Do you know of an illness of something really terrible that happened in your family?

Do you know the story of what was going on the day you were born?

The more accurately the child could answer these and other family related questions, the higher the emotional maturity of the child/teen. It made me wonder how well my own children might do. How often had we told (and retold) these important family stories?

I also can’t help but think how this relates to sharing our faith story as well. What are the stories that are critical for parents to pass down to our children so that they have a sense of the larger faith narrative to which they are connected? Some that come to mind include:

Do you know your parent’s favorite scripture story and why it is meaningful to them?

Do you know what prompted your parents to choose their faith tradition?

Do you know one of your parent’s most memorable faith moments?

Do you know the origin of the family faith rituals you celebrate?

In the end, it comes down to parents taking the time to share our stories with our kids – and not a bad resolution to make in this New Year.

Download a free pdf of the Happy Family Toolkit and list of the “Do You Know?” questions at: <http://brucefeiler.com/pdfs/Happy-Families-Toolkit.pdf>

Also, take a look at these Vibrant Faith

@ Home activities, designed specifically for teen families: Family Heroes, Family Memories, and Family Pause.

Source: <http://vibrantfaithathomeblog.org/2014/01/17/whats-in-a-story/>

“Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God.” - Ronald Reagan



A Miraculous Encounter

(continued from page 10)

miracle that would heal his mother. He also wanted his ailing, and by now, very weak mother to be able to see Pope John Paul II while he was in Mexico. Though she was very sick and didn’t feel capable of making the long drive to Mexico City from their home in Amecameca, Father Julio insisted that she try. He was able to get his mother to the magnificent celebration and amazingly found a place for them among the vast crowd of people, along the edge of the street where the pope mobile was to pass.

“All of a sudden, he (Pope John Paul II) turned his face where my Mom and I were standing,” Father Julio joyfully recalls, as if it just happened yesterday, “and he kind of extended his hand and he gave a blessing...and it was just one second, probably just one second from that time, my Mom got better. Days later, we took

her to the hospital to take more tests, and the tumor had disappeared. One thing that I am sure of is that it was God, performing something, doing something...and then, from that point, I was like... I was so happy!”

Father Julio and his family believe that God hears prayers and that God worked through the intercession of St. Juan Diego and the special blessing of Pope John Paul II to heal Sara.

Our Father in heaven used these holy men as His instruments. It is all remembered as being a holy and miraculous encounter through which the Almighty and ever-living God showed His infinite love and mercy; with God all things being possible.

God our Creator is the giver of all gifts, with everything happening according to His holy will and purpose.

2013-2014 Nomination Form for Diocese of Owensboro Catholic School Educator of the Year

The Catholic Schools Office and Principals Association are again asking for nominations for Outstanding Catholic School Educator of the Year.

The winner will be announced at the dinner following the annual Professional Development Day.

Anyone, with the exception of an immediate family member, may nominate an educator for the award. All information concerning nominees will be kept confidential, including the name of the person submitting the nomination.

The educator must currently be employed in the Diocese of Owensboro and must have taught for a minimum of five years in the Diocesan Schools.

The outstanding Catholic School Educator must be a role model as an outstanding human being; have a major influence in the lives of students; show concern with the faith development as well as the physical, mental and emotional development of students; and encourage students to improve their abilities and talents.

The deadline for nominations is July 1, 2014. A committee will serve as judges. All nomination forms should be mailed to the Catholic Schools Office, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, KY 42301-2130.

Nominee _____ Address _____
School _____ Subjects, Grades Taught _____

On an accompanying sheet of paper, please comment on your nominee's performance in the following categories:

- 1) Why should this person be honored as Outstanding Catholic School Educator of the Year?
- 2) Describe this person's commitment as an educator.
- 3) How has this person helped students become better people?
- 4) How is this person a Christian role model for the students? Give an example.
- 5) Is the educator active in the community and Church, apart from the school-related activities? If so, give details of his or her involvement.
- 6) How well does the nominee relate with professional colleagues and parents of the students?

Nominated by: Name, Address, Phone, and Relation to educator.

12 April, 2014

KCs Honor Religious Vocations

Story and pictures submitted by Gina Sims

PEONIA, Ky. - On January 18, 2014 the Fr. Carroll White Council # 6743 of the Knights of Columbus hosted a dinner to show community appreciation for the priests and sisters of Grayson County. Attending clergy were Fr. Brian Johnson of St. Anthony, St. Augustine, and St. Benedict parishes; Fr. Steve Hohman of St. Elizabeth and St. Paul parishes; Sister Clarence Marie Lockett and Sister Anne Michelle Mudd, both of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount St. Joseph; and Deacon Bill Grant. Unfortunately, Fr. Randy Howard, of St. Joseph and St. John parishes, was unable to attend.

The event began and ended in prayer and thanksgiving to our

Lord and Savior. Joe Reuther, Grand Knight of the Fr. Carroll White Council 6743, served as the Master of Ceremonies. He spoke of the gratefulness and appreciation the Knights and the rest of the community had for these religious leaders that had given their lives to the service of God. Clergy were given tokens of appreciation, and each was given the opportunity to speak to the crowd that had gathered in their honor.

Fr. Brian Johnson was ordained a priest in 1997 and has served as minister for the Tri-Parish for 12 years. Fr. Steve Hohman became a priest in 2010 and has served as the pastor for St. Paul and St. Elizabeth for 1 ½ years. Fr. Randy Howard was ordained in 2001 and has been the pastor for St. Joseph and St. John for the past 10 years. Deacon Bill Grant was ordained a deacon in 2012. Sister Clarence Marie Lockett currently resides at Mount St. Joseph. Sister Anne Michelle Mudd celebrated her 50th year Jubilee in 2011 and still teaches religion at St. Paul Catholic School.

The Fr. Carroll White Council # 6743 serve our community in so many ways. Not only do they host the annual appreciation dinners for our clergy and the annual dinner to honor those who have and are serving in our military, they also provide aid to those in need. They participate in the Shop-With-A-Knight program, a program to help children in the local area. They donate time and funding for St. Paul Catholic School. They host many events that bring people of Grayson County together in fellowship, such as the annual fireworks display and picnic, the weekly Fish Fry on Fridays leading up to and during the Lenten Season, Annual Christmas Auction, and weekly Bingos. The profit from these events helps fund the various charities to which they contribute. The Knights of Columbus are truly servants of God and such a blessing to our community.



Hard Work and Dedication Wins!

Congratulations to the Owensboro Catholic Schools 4th-5th grade Academic Team! The Quick Recall team placed 1st and the Academic Team placed 2nd overall in the Regional Competition at Owensboro Middle School on March 22, 2014. Congratulations also to the following students for placing in written assessment: Caitlyn Bell - 4th place in Math; Max Kurtz - 2nd place in Social Studies; Emma Silvert Regional Champion - 1st place in Social Studies.

Quick Recall team members: Max Kurtz, Anne Marie Wright, Robert Hayden, Caitlyn Bell, John Michael Frey, Ryan Goldbach, Nick O'Bryan, and Aaron Self

Special thanks to the academic team coaches Amanda Kauffeld and Kristin Miller for all their hard work and dedication. OCS Photo



Comfort for Children in Crisis - Buddy Bags

On Thursday, February 27th, Saint Mary of the Woods Catholic School 8th graders posed for a picture with items donated from St. Mary of the Woods Parish and Catholic School. SMWS 8th graders and parish members met to assemble supplies for the bags and to sew blankets. Buddy Bags is an outreach project of comfort bags for children in crisis. Each bag contains a blanket, stuffed animals, coloring book/crayons, and a children's book. These are distributed to the following organizations: Red Cross, Salvation Army, Help Office & Pitino Shelter. From left to right, students in the photo are: Zachary Hardesty, Sarah Small, Lexia Knight, Zeke Roberts, Dalton Crisp, Caleb Goetz, Valerie Wilkerson, and Samantha Roberts. Picture was taken by DeeAnna Wathen.

St. Paul School Students Receive Conservation Awards

April, 2014 13

SAINT PAUL, Ky. - On January 30, St. Paul School students were awarded certificates for their participation in the Annual Jim Claypool Conservation Art Contest and Conservation Writing Contest held earlier in the school year. Students are pictured with Head Teacher, Joan Butterworth. Placing in the Writing portion of the contest were Isaac DePoyster- School Winner and Grayson County Winner, Josh Krom and Savanna Higdon. Placing in the Art portion of the contest were Keegan Sharp-School Winner, Will Higdon, and Mikayla Clemons. Isaac will be representing Grayson County in the judging for the State Award.



Photo at right, Head Teacher Joan Butterworth posed with Siant Paul school winners Isaac DePoyster Keegan Sharp, Josh Krom, Mikayla Clemons, Savanna Higdon, and Will Higdon. Photo at right, The Art

Conservation Contest winners, Keegan Sharp-School winner, Mikayla Clemons



The Writing Conservation Contest winners, Isaac DePoyster-School and County winner, Josh Krom and Savanna Higdon.



and Will Higdon.

Photos submitted by Gina Sims

Now Open! New St. Vincent de Paul Owensboro Thrift Store



The new store is located in the former Roberts Motors showroom at 18th and J.R.. Miller in Owensboro. Last year, your donations and purchases allowed us to help over 12,000 of our neighbors.

Thank You for Helping Us ...Help Others.

Open 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Monday - Saturday

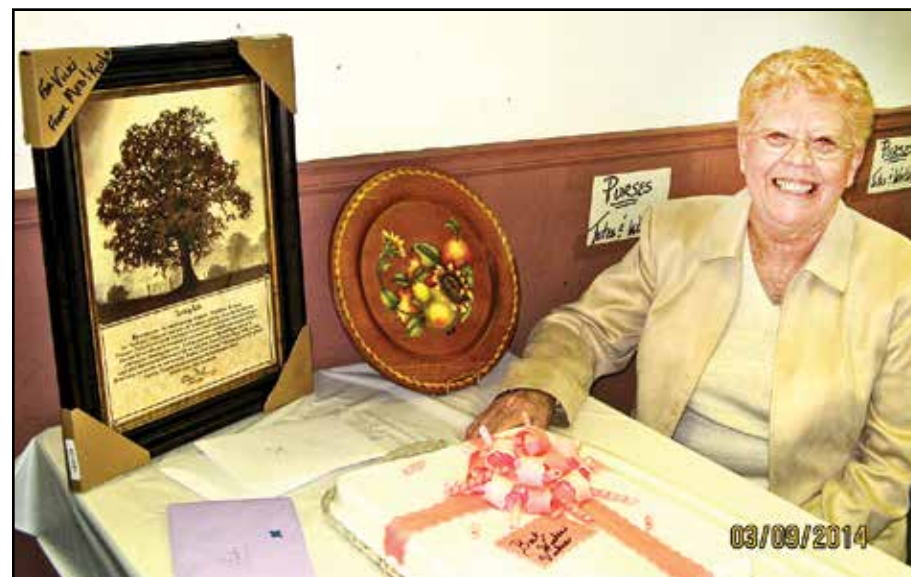
Call 270-683-0062

for larger item pick up or vehicle donations.

Like us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/SVDPOWENSBORO>

Shop. Donate. Volunteer.



Vicky Elliott Retires As Manager Of Paducah St. Vincent De Paul Budget Store

The St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store in Paducah, Ky. has a new manager. Kathy Keeney has accepted the position of Store Manager in March taking over the position from Vicky Elliott. Vicky has a 12 year history with the Store. She was the Assistant Manager for 2 years and was the Manager for the pasts 10 years. Vicky remembered many special moments during those years working with all of the volunteers. She especially remembers all the times when so many of the volunteers gathered together to celebrate the holidays. However, she said that it is time for her to take a break from the responsibility of being the manager but looks forward to returning as a volunteer again. "I wish Kathy all the best of luck in managing all the various things that this job entails," Vicky said. So many volunteers came together at the Store on a recent Sunday afternoon for a potluck dinner to wish Vicky a happy retirement and to thank her for all of her hard work. Photo by Edie Keeney

St Mary of the Woods Catholic School and Bishop Soenneker Home

WHITESVILLE, Ky. - On Wednesday, February 12, 2014, residents from the Bishop Soenneker Home visited Saint Mary of the Woods Catholic School to create Valentine's decorations and other art work with our 8th graders.

In the picture at right, Zachary Hardesty with a Bp. Soenneker Home resident; at far right, Arlene Cecil, Activity Director at the Bishop Soenneker Home (standing) with Caleb Goetz and



Samantha Roberts. Kim Rydecki Photos

Knights of Columbus Celebrate Rose and Rosary Sunday in St. Pius X Church, Calvert City, Ky.



Knights - Dave Speis (Council 11591), Joe Cirrito, Dave Elliot, Grand Knight Danny Shea, Deputy Grand Knight R.J. Witowski, Joel Rivera; back row: Derwood Doyle, Grand Knight Bob Whitlock (Council 1055, Paducah KY), Darrin Adrian, Kurt Schmidt, District Deputy Pat Lipford, Council 1055, Paducah, KY. Not pictured here, Lonnie Carey.

By RJ Witowski

CALVERT CITY, Ky. - On February 23, 2014, St Pius X celebrated Rose and Rosary Sunday. R&R Sunday celebrates baptisms which occurred during the previous year.

The St Pius X Knights of Columbus Honor Guard, celebrates this special Sunday by purchasing and providing a Rose and Rosary to the individuals/families of those baptized during the previous year. Enclosed are pictures of the Honor Guard, with special guests observing and attending the proceedings, from other local Councils.

Summer Retreats for Women Religious

**"AT THE FEET OF JESUS,
OUR REFUGE AND OUR
TRUE AND GOOD MASTER"**

— Saint Angela Merici's Last Legacy



Participants can choose between the conference retreat, led by **Sister Kathryn J. Hermes, FSP**, (left), or a directed retreat.

Directed retreat participants will meet each day with a spiritual guide: Sister Helen O'Brien, OSU, Sister Mary Matthias Ward, OSU, or Sister Marietta Wethington, OSU. The retreats begin at 7 p.m. Sunday and end after a 9:30 a.m. liturgy on Saturday. The cost to attend is \$450 or \$275 for commuters. Please join us.

JULY 13-19, 2014

Sister Kathryn J. Hermes, FSP, has participated in many ministries of her community, the Daughters of St. Paul: publishing, door-to-door outreach, Pauline Books and Media Centers, managing magazines, vocations, public speaking and writing books.

To register, contact **Kathy McCarty**
270-229-0206 • kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org
You can find a brochure at www.ursulinesmsj.org
under Conference and Retreat Center


Ursuline Sisters
of Mount Saint Joseph
8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999
270-229-4103
www.ursulinesmsj.org

Celebrating Women and Men 50 and Better

Join the **Feisty Fifties** of Immaculate Parish Owensboro for a trip to Mackinac Island. This trip is from Sept 14 to 20, 2014. The price per person, double is \$600.00 and has 6 breakfasts and 4 dinners. We will cruise thru the Soo Locks, see Lake Superior, 2 lighthouses and have free time in Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan. We will also have a ferry boat ride to the island and a horse drawn carriage tour of Mackinac Island. We will tour Mackinaw city and also see a 1700's village. Please call Mickey 270-685-3015 if interested.

Catholic Men's Conference Held At Brescia University Feb. 8

April, 2014 15

OWENSBORO, Ky. - The 4th annual Catholic Men's Conference of Western Kentucky was held at Brescia University Taylor Lecture Hall in Owensboro, Kentucky on February 8, 2014 to a SOLD OUT audience of 350 Men.

Men from the Diocese of Owensboro joined the conference in the quest to enrich each other's faith. Speakers included George Weigel, Dr. Ray Guarendi, and Fr. Louis Caporiccio. Dr. Ray Guarendi presented his talk "Catholic Men Aren't Wimps." The Catholic Men's Conference addressed such other issues as:

- How you live your life as a Catholic Man; what is truly in your heart?



Mr. John Kurtz, vice president of the Catholic Mens Conference, welcomed all to the conference and introducing Fr Larry Hostetter, Brescia University President.



At 8:45 am the Conference begins with Dr. Ray Guarendi's talk, "Catholic Men Aren't Wimps."



George Weigel delivered the morning's second talk, and following a break, the morning's third talk.

Rogation Days & A Good Harvest Is Worth Praying For



What if someone were to ask you a very Catholic question: what are Rogation days? What would you answer? Another question you might be asked, and a harder one, would be: what relevance do they have for our lives now?

Feature a time when established authority, the rule of law, and the world as it was known were turning upside down. This was what life was like in the fifth century A.D. at the time of the decline of the Roman Empire. It was a time of great trial for the church. The culture was very

sick and nature was in upheaval. Numerous earthquakes occurred and other disasters in that region, including crop failure, of what is now France. What to do?

There was a church cleric in the town of Vienne, about 260 miles southwest of Paris, named Bishop Mamertus (d. 475), that acknowledged the need of divine assistance. He directed that for three days preceding Ascension Day, (later April 25th was also added and became the major day) that the faithful were to do penance and walk in procession praying appropriate psalms and reciting the litany of the saints. This is the practice that initiated the Rogation Days that became part of the church's liturgy. This observance went on for centuries after that.

After the Second Vatican Council, the celebration of Rogation Days, and their cousin, Ember Days (will have to save that explanation for another article.), were left to the national Bishops Conference to decide how to implement in a way suitable in each country. At least two Popes called for the continued celebration of Rogation Days. Pope Paul VI requested that Rogation Days include prayers for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Benedict XVI called for fasting during these days because the principles of asceticism would be helpful in our times. Fasting and doing penance are invitations to love God and neighbor. Jesus taught us that fasting helps overcome temptations (Mt 4:1-11.) Our culture undermines our reliance on faith, prayer and relationships.

The Rogation Days call us back to what simply matters most in our lives. It is a call to humility and trust in God for all our needs, including protection from harm, and provision for our daily bread. Are we so sophisticated now that we don't need those helps? If we are, then perhaps we need to stop and do some serious soul searching.

Each year the Owensboro Diocesan Rural Life Committee sends out a prayer service for the Rogation Days. (Those who farm or live around those who do, know so much depends on God for the growth and development of crops to feed a hungry world.) Why not ask your Parish community to consider using it this year? You might just be surprised; you might find your life a little more blessed for participating.

The "major" Rogation Day each year on April 25. The three "minor" Rogation Days are May 26-28, 2014, the three days before Ascension Day, May 29.

- What does it mean to be a Catholic Man in a secular world?

- How can we become better sons, brothers, fathers, husbands?
- Do we have an obligation to evangelize, and if so, how do we go about it?

The Sacrament of Reconciliation was available for all conference attendees, from ages high school seniors or older. Families of attendees joined the closing celebration of the Mass in a jam-packed St. Stephan Cathedral.

The next Catholic Men's Conference of Western Kentucky onference is in February 2015. For more information, go to <http://kycatholic.com/>



Participants at the Catholic Men's Conference gathered in Brescia University Taylor Lecture Hall. Rob Abney Photos

JOIN OUR SPINNING DAY! SATURDAY, MAY 10

Whether you are an experienced spinner, weaver, knitter, crocheter or a beginner, you are welcome to attend the Arts at the Mount spinning gatherings at Mount Saint Joseph

(located 12 miles west of Owensboro on Highway 56).

Enjoy the fellowship of those who appreciate this traditional skill.

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

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. • The \$15 fee includes lunch

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

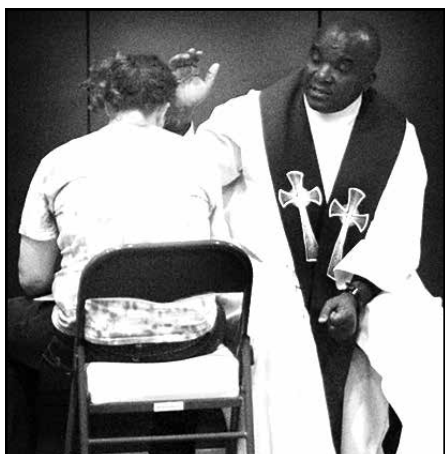
Future Spinning Day: Saturday, Aug. 2



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999

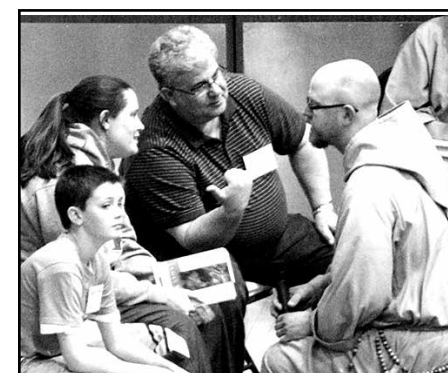




Youth 2000

YOUTH 2000 is an intense spiritual retreat for youth who come to Brescia University to be spiritually fed by talks that touch hearts which then often seek the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The pictures on pages 16-18 were taken by 3 photographers to tell this fantastic story of what graces Jesus offered Catholic youth at this retreat that was held March 14-16. It has been taking place for the past 17 years here in the diocese & is led by the National Office for YOUTH 2000 and is co-sponsored by the Marian Shrine Committee and the Offices for Youth Ministry & Faith Formation. The goal of the retreat is to raise awareness of the "Real Presence" of Christ in the Eucharist.

Photos by Rob Abney



By Larena Lawson

My first experience of ever seeing a Holy Father was in Toronto, Canada, at World Youth Day in 2002. I traveled with St. Mary's, Whitesville, as a pilgrim and Youth Group Chaperone. Our group, along with another bus full of other young people and adults from the Diocese of Owensboro, were very privileged to be able to get close enough to see Pope John Paul II as he came down through the overly crowded street in his Popemobile. I'll never forget the profound excitement that we felt in seeing all of the young people in awe of the Pope. They were waving, screaming, smiling from ear to ear, and even crying. You would have thought that they were cheering for a rock star by the

We were in the presence of a saint!



Comments from Facebook: Larena Lawson: Awesome part of the pilgrimage. The kids were so excited and standing on each other's shoulders to take pictures and tried to get as close as they could. Wow! We saw a SAINT in the making!

• Amy Knott Roach: I will always cherish this trip in my heart and I remember how excited I was seeing JP2 driving by!!

Larena Lawson Photo

way they were erupting. We were all joyfully greeting the Holy Father with our expressions of total love. The kids were standing on each others' shoulders trying to get pictures of this blessed moment. The intimate bond that we felt in seeing our beloved Pope is beyond description. Seeing with my own eyes how happy he was as he drove by with his feeble arm raised up in blessing and waving to the young people he came across the globe to see, was the perfect picture of a proud Papa. He was a Shepherd who truly loved his sheep and you could feel the intensity of that love so strongly in his presence... and now he is to be a saint. We were in the presence of a saint!





Youth 2000

Mel Howard Photos





Ging Smith, Fr. Brandon Williams, Sr. Margaret Ann Seasley

Submitted by Ging Smith, Paducah Faith Formation Director PADUCAH, Ky. - Fr. Brandon Williams and Sr. Margaret Ann Seasley, OSF, came to Faith Formation January 22 to talk about Vocation to our middle school and high school students. Faith Formation invites different speakers each year to help inspire and encourage students to answer God in the religious and consecrated life. The talks were not

only enlightening and inspiring, but also challenging. Fr. Brandon did not fail to repeat to the students to start seriously asking in prayer this question: "Lord, what do you want for me to do with my life? In what state of life do you want for me to serve you best?"



Sr. Margaret Ann Seasley, OSF, a massage and nursing professional from Lourdes Hospital came to Paducah parishes' Faith Formation class on January 22, 2014 to talk about Vocation with middle school and high school students.



Students in Lauren Coomes' 1st grade class got to put on their archeology hats and "dig" for fossils after reading the story, Mr. Bones, Dinosaur Hunter in their reading series. Students had to dig through the sand to find the fossil and then carefully break it open. To their excitement they found a dinosaur inside the fossils they found! Photo composite submitted by Lori Whitehouse, Principal, Owensboro Catholic Schools, K-3 Campus

Join us for Catholic Catechism

We are pleased to offer these opportunities to study the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults. Feel free to attend any or all sessions.

- April 3
- May 8
- June 12
- Aug. 14
- Sept. 11
- Oct. 9
- Nov. 13
- Dec. 11

Study the Catechism with us!

One Thursday each month*

*Except July

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

Each session is \$10 (includes lunch)

A program book is \$5

LED BY: Sister Ann McGrew & Sister Marietta Wethington



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999

To register, call
Kathy McCarty
(270) 229-0206 or email
kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org

Located 12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56

Brown Bag Lunch And The Christian Life

Over 40 people attended Immaculate Parish's Brown Bag Lunch series on March 12. The topic was Conversion. Those attending heard the conversion story of Matthew the tax collector and Jonah (and the whale) from Fr. Robert Barron's series entitled CONVERSION, Following the Call of Christ.

"Six stories of conversion from the Gospels as told by Father Robert Barron. The common theme in each story is the turning of all one's attention and energy toward an ever deeper, personal relationship with Jesus Christ. In his characteristically energetic style, Fr. Barron explains how conversion is not so much a one time event, but a life-long process. 'Jesus Christ calls us in thousands of different ways to follow Him, as we strive on the path for spiritual excellence,' explains Fr. Barron. This talk demonstrates how six ordinary people, just like you, were met by Jesus where they were and called to a better life through Him.

"The struggle of Christian life is the struggle of conversion, directed toward holiness and eternal life to which the Lord never ceases to call us." -- Catechism of the Catholic Church (1426) "Don't miss hearing Father Barron proclaim the call to conversion that is the first word of the Gospel, a word of truth and hope that each of us needs to hear; a message that calls for surrender to Christ." --Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I. (<https://store.wordonfire.org/ProductDetails.asp?ProductCode=WF-03>)

There are two more Brown Bag Lunches scheduled April 2 and April 9 from 12-1. Participants are asked to bring a lunch. Drinks will be provided.



Above and below, Participants in the Brown Bag Series greet each other and get ready to watch Fr. Robert Barron's talk on conversion. Rob Abney Photos



Jeff Cavins Coming To Owensboro



Jeff Cavins, nationally known speaker will be coming to Owensboro, Kentucky September 19-10, 2014. Jeff is the developer of "The Great Adventure: A Journey Through the Bible", a series from Ascension Press that helps people see God's plan for salvation. Jeff is also the author of numerous articles and books, including his autobiography entitled "My Life on the Rock". You can see Jeff on many of the Ascension Press studies, on EWTN, and hear his voice on numerous Lighthouse Media CDs. Jeff currently serves at the director of the Archbishop Harry J. Flynn Catechetical Institute. He is in high demand as a speaker and Owensboro is blessed to have him come here.

Jeff Cavins will be speaking Friday, September 19 from 7-9pm at Immaculate Parish on "Living the Life You Don't Have Time for". This talk is free and open to the public. Jeff will also be presenting a seminar on Saturday, September 20th from 9am-3pm again at Immaculate Parish. The Seminar features Jeff speaking on "Walking Toward Eternity". The fee for that event is \$30 which includes materials, light breakfast, and lunch.

To register for the event, please call any of the Directors of Faith Formation from the following sponsoring churches: Diane Willis 270-683-0689 Immaculate Parish, Elaine Robertson 270-852-8360 Diocese of Owensboro, Donna Murphy 270-683-6526 St. Stephen Cathedral Parish, Sr. Rosanne Spalding 270-684-6888 Precious Blood Parish or Drew Hardesty 270-684-5369 Our Lady of Lourdes.

Meet Our New Diocesan Financial Controller, Mr. Jody Blanford

OWENSBORO, Ky. - On Feb. 19, 2014 Diocesan Chancellor Kevin Kauffeld announced the newest addition to the diocesan staff, Mr. Jody



Mr. Jody Blanford

Blanford and I am an accounting and finance professional with over 29 years of experience. I grew up in the Owensboro area as a member of the Immaculate parish where my parents are still members. I graduated from Owensboro

Blanford. His first day as our new controller was March 3, 2014.

Mr. Blanford commented, "Allow me to introduce myself, My name is Jody

Catholic High as a proud member of the class of 1979. I earned my Bachelors degree in accounting at the University of Kentucky in 1983. While my 5 siblings stayed in the Kentucky area I pursued my professional career and furthered my education through the GE Capital financial management program. I have held positions with GE in Atlanta, GA and Jacksonville, FL. In 1997 I joined Fleet Boston financial in the Wilmington, DE area where I reside today.

When I relocate to Owensboro, I will be joined by my wife Trisha and our three children, Andrew, Emily, and Michael B. Andrew the oldest is currently a senior at the University of Kentucky. Emily is a freshman at the University of Delaware where she plans on attending next year. Our youngest, Michael B., will be a junior in high school when he gets to Owensboro and plans on attending the High School that best dove tails with his passion for track and field (mainly the 110 meter hurdles). I looking forward to serving the Diocese of Owensboro and its many parishes as I move forward in my professional and personal life."

5K Run/Walk at Mount Saint Joseph on May 31

The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph will host their first "Get Moving at the Mount 5K Run/Walk" on Saturday, May 31! This scenic route with the sisters is the perfect family outing. Online registration is now available: ursulinesmsj.org/help-the-sisters/5k. The fee is \$20 until May 1 and then \$25 through race day. Participants will not be guaranteed a T-shirt unless they register by May 10. You can choose to run/walk in honor or memory of a sister by paying an additional \$10. (Participants will receive an armband with that sister's name on it to wear during the race.) Another great way to show your support is to sponsor a sister who participates in the race. The race will begin at 9 a.m. Race packets will be available for pick up at Brescia University the week before the race. All proceeds will support the mission of the Ursuline Sisters. For more information, contact April Ray at 270-229-2009 or april.ray@maplemount.org.

COURAGE Priest Speaks About Church Teachings About Same-Sex Attractions

April, 2014 21

By Melinda Prunty

Fr. Paul Check, the Executive Director of COURAGE, an apostolate of the Catholic Church that ministers to persons with same-sex attractions and their loved ones, spoke to a group of youth ministers as well as folks who serve on the diocesan Chastity/Abstinence Committee on Monday, February 17, 2014, prior to meeting with the Priests' Council.

Fr. Check is a priest of the Diocese of Bridgeport, Conn. who teaches moral theology and ethics to seminarians and men preparing to become deacons. The COURAGE apostolate aims to help those who have same-sex attractions and want to live according to Catholic teaching, which recognizes homosexual acts as grave sins

The group included a licensed Catholic counselor from Bowling Green.

Fr. Paul shared the foundation for why the Catholic Church holds the teachings that it does about same sex attraction



based on the goals of COURAGE that were drafted by the first seven members ministered to by the apostolate. (shortened)

1. Live Chastely

2. Dedicate our entire lives to Christ

3. Foster a spirit of fellowship so as not to face the problems of homosexuality alone.

4. Be mindful of the truth that chaste

Father Paul Check, left, speaking to a group of youth ministers and some members of the diocesan Chastity/Abstinence Committee on Monday, February 17, 2014, in The Catholic Pastoral Center. Mel Howard photo

friendships are possible and necessary

5. Live as good examples to others
http://couragerc.net/Download_Brochures/YA_CourageBrochure.pdf

He based the first goal on the Commandments and correlated the virtues relating to each commandment. He gave relevant Scripture passages to support what he presented. He spoke about the fact that our desires need to be consistent with our nature which was created in the image and likeness of God. He expressed that our nature has the capacity to become more Christlike with the inpouring of grace into our souls.

One specific example he gave was based on the "Woman Caught in Adultery"-- John 8

1) She was caught in "unchastity"
2) Jesus' call to "compassion"--"Does no one condemn you?Then neither do I".

3) Jesus' call to "conversion"--"then go and sin no more."

"You are made for more and I can help you."

He said we can't talk about homosexuality in a silo; it has to be considered in the full context of our culture. A sexual act where contraception is being used is equivalent to the homosexual act---they are both deliberately sterile. We have to believe that chastity is part of the Good News!!

http://couragerc.net/Download_Brochures/GeneralCourageBro.pdf

Those present were allowed to ask questions and resources were shared. If and when Fr. Paul returns to the diocese, those present were anxious to spend more time talking about this issue that is so much a part of our everyday culture. The question for those in pastoral ministry is "how do we handle this situation pastorally, speaking the truth in love?"

Fr. Paul announced a National COURAGE Conference to be held this summer July 17-20, 2014, at Villanova University in Villanova, PA. Watch the COURAGE website for more information. <http://couragerc.net/>



Tin Man Cheers On The Good News

A billboard marketing Owensboro Catholic Schools stands near the Tin Man at the corner of 11th St. and Frederica St. The billboard addresses the opportunity for need-based financial assistance for qualified families. Owensboro Catholic Schools has set aside \$920,000 to be awarded as need-based assistance in the 2014-2015 academic year. Interested families must complete and submit the Student Form with PSAS. For those families interested in applying for tuition assistance, the Student Aid Form is available by calling the OCS Central Office (270-686-8896) or via the OCS website at www.owensborocatholic.org.

Photo by Mel Howard

Dignitaries Visit St Mary Elementary for Presidents' Day



Several "dignitaries" visited St Mary Elementary School, Paducah, this Presidents' Day, 14 to be exact, ranging from George Washington to Barack Obama. Thank you, Saint Mary Elementary School kindergarteners, for putting on a wonderful program! SMSS Photo



St. Patrick's Day - Catching A Leprechaun
Students in Ms. Barna's class set a trap to catch a leprechaun on St. Patrick's Day. They were sure they caught him- until Ms. Barna checked the trap. The leprechaun got away, but not before leaving little green footprints, glitter, and gold coins strewn throughout the classroom. Photo by Lori Whitehouse

Two Named National Merit Finalists



Patrick Osterhaus Named National Merit Finalist

PADUCAH, Ky. – Patrick Osterhaus, a St. Mary senior currently attending Gatton Academy, has been recognized as a finalist in the 2014 National Merit Scholarship Program, an honor which potentially opens the door to a nationally-renowned college scholarship. 8 Gatton Academy Seniors are recognized as 2014 National Merit Finalists

Osterhaus is one of the final 15,000 participants nationwide competing to receive one of 8,000 National Merit Scholarships, which will be announced starting in April 2014.

Over 1.5 million students entered the 2014 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2012 Preliminary SAT/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Students are tested in math, critical reasoning, and writing. From that field of students, 16,000 were selected as semifinalists, with the pool

now narrowed to the finalists.

The National Merit Scholarship Program is an annual academic competition for recognition and college undergraduate scholarships established in 1955. To be considered in the rigorous competition for National Merit Scholarships, semifinalists must advance to the finalist level of the competition by meeting additional standards and fulfilling several requirements. These include having a record of very high academic performance in college preparatory coursework, submitting SAT scores that confirm PSAT performance, and being fully endorsed and recommended by a high school official.

"We are extremely proud of Patrick for advancing as a finalist in the National Merit program," said Ms. Lisa Jo Aly, St. Mary High School Principal. "Patrick is an outstanding student, who is goal-oriented and focused on high achievement. His dedication to academics will translate well into his post-secondary career plans."

Osterhaus, who plans to pursue a career in the medical field, is the son of Monica and Mark Osterhaus of Paducah.



Christopher Spurlock Named National Merit Finalist

OWENSBORO, Ky. – Owensboro Catholic High School is proud to announce that Christopher Spurlock has been named as a 2014 National Merit Finalist by the National Merit Scholarship Program. Christopher is the son of Philip Spurlock and Roberta Dagit. He is an active member of the Emerald Productions Drama club, and a three time Academic Letter winner. He is also an active member of Immaculate Parish. Christopher plans to attend Bellarmine University, but is undecided as to a major at this time.



Principal openings in diocesan schools

There is an opening for a principal in the following elementary schools in the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, in southern Missouri. Requirements include active Catholic, Missouri certification, Master's degree in School Administration (or working toward it), administrative experience preferred, 3-5 years of Catholic school experience.

St. Henry Catholic School, Charleston.....Contact Fr. Patrick Nwokoye.....(573) 683-2114
St. Mary Catholic School, Joplin.....Contact Fr. Justin Monaghan.....(417) 623-8643
St. Lawrence Catholic School, Monett.....Contact Fr. Paul McLoughlin.....(417) 235-3286
Sacred Heart Catholic School, Poplar Bluff...Contact Fr. David Coon.....(573) 785-9636

There is also an opening for a principal at Springfield Catholic High School. Requirements include active Catholic, secondary education certification, Master's degree or higher in school administration, administrative experience preferred, 3-5 years of Catholic school experience a plus.

If you have any questions, would like an application, or want to send a resume, contact diocesan Catholic Schools office at (417) 866-0841, or Email downsby@dioscg.org.

Editor's Note: On February 23, 2014, Trinity High School's Robotics Team, The Iron Raiders, spoke after Mass in St Mary of the Woods Church in Whitesville, Ky. to help spread the word about the FIRST Tech Challenge. Trinity's students excelled in the FIRST competition, even helping another school's team whose robot broke down so that school's team could stay in the competition. This is the Iron Raiders' message:

By Sierra Valdez

First of all, I would like to thank Father Gerald Baker for the opportunity to speak with you today. My name is Sierra Valdez, and I am a freshman at Trinity High School. I am one of five members on Trinity's first Robotics Team.

Earlier in the school year, our five-member team participated in a FIRST Tech Challenge Competition. FIRST is an acronym for, "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology." My teammates, Blake Midkiff, Rueben Morris, Matthew and Nick Johnson, and I competed in KY State Championship on February 1, 2014. We emerged from that portion of the competition as one of only three teams from the state of Kentucky to be invited to the Super Regionals, held in Texas at the end of February. The Super Regionals, a national competition, hap-



Above, from left Trinity High School's Robotics Team, Nicholas Johnson, Matthew Johnson, Sierra Valdez speaking at the ambo, Reuben Morris, and Blake Midkiff. Photos by Mel Howard

pens before World Championship.

As part of our qualifying requirements to go to World, we must spread the word about the FIRST Tech Challenge, enact a fund-raising plan, and arrange for

corporate sponsorships.

Today, we are spreading the word, and if any of you is interested in watching our robot perform ...picking up blocks and hanging or just learning more about



Sierra Valdez putting the robot through its paces in front of St Mary of the Woods Church Feb. 23, 2014.

our plans, please visit with us outside in the front of church after Mass ends. Whether you can come by or not, we would appreciate your prayers for our goals and achievements.

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Catholic Campaign For Human Development Local Grant Information

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) is a national social justice program of the United States Catholic Bishops. Its mission is to address the root causes of poverty in America through promotion and support of community controlled, self-help organizations, and through transformative education of the non-poor.

Each year in November, the Diocese of Owensboro, Kentucky participates in the national Catholic Campaign for Human Development collection. From that collection, a percentage of monies are retained to provide grant funding to local organizations which meet CCHD criteria. Catholic Charities administers and allocates the grant funding.

To apply, please send a brief narrative of your organization, budgeting information, how your organization would meet the CCHD criteria of systemic change, what community organizations your group receives support from, and

whether your organization's policy-making board has one-third low-income members (if your board does not contain one-third of its members who are low-income also include an explanation of why this is not so).

Applications for grant funding must be received by May 20, 2014 so that grants can be awarded on or before June 20, 2014. The grant is a non-renewable and must be applied for each year. Three years is the total number of years any one group can receive this grant. Each year several grants are awarded averaging between \$800-\$1200 each. The grant application is a little shorter and a little more simplified to complete this year.

Criteria: 1. The applicant's project must be within the thirty-two counties which comprise the Roman Catholic Diocese of Owensboro. These counties include: Fulton, Hickman, Graves, Ballard, McCracken, Carlisle, Calloway, Marshall, Trigg, Lyon, Livingston, Caldwell,

Christian, Hopkins, Muhlenburg, Todd, Logan, Simpson, Allen, Warren, Butler, Edmonson, Grayson, Ohio, Breckinridge, Hancock, Daviess, McLean, Henderson, Union, Webster, and Crittenden.

2. The applicant project's policy making board must be at least one-third low-income. If this is not the case, the applicant must explain why the board does not have setting low-income board members. (Low-income board members do not include those considered voluntarily poor such as clergy, religious sisters, students, VISTA volunteers, etc.).

3. The applicant project's efforts must seek to benefit a poverty group.

4. The applicant project must seek to create institutional or systemic change by changing the structures that keep people poor and powerless.

5. CCHD will consider favorably only those projects which demonstrate respect for the dignity of the human person. CCHD will not consider projects or

organizations which promote or support abortion, euthanasia, the death penalty, or any other affront to human life and dignity.

6. The activity for which funding is requested must be consistent with the moral teachings of the Roman Catholic Church.

7. Projects should generate cooperation and solidarity among and within diverse groups in the interest of a more integrated and mutually understanding society.

8. Projects should document that as a result of CCHD funding there are possibilities of generating funds from other sources or of moving towards becoming self-supporting within the time lines established in the proposal.

For information, Contact Mr. Richard Murphy, Director, Office of Social Concerns, Diocese of Owensboro, 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, Ky 42301, 270/683-1545 richard.murphy@pastoral.org

Sister Mary Jude Cecil Repays A Favor By Teaching French

By Dan Heckel, Mount Saint Joseph Staff

During the summer of 1972, Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph Mary Jude Cecil took the opportunity to improve her ability to teach high school French the best way she knew how – by spending the summer in France.

That summer, she lived with the Sisters of the Lamb of God, a religious community based in France that had sent sisters to America in 1958. After 41 years, Sister Mary Jude found a way to return their kindness.

The Sisters of the Lamb of God were founded by Father René de la Chevasserie, S.J., in 1945, open to women who had been unable to enter religious life due to poor health or age. When the founder sought a mission in America, the Most Rev. Francis Cotton, bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro, Ky., asked that a community be established in his diocese. The Sisters of the Lamb of God came to Owensboro in 1958 and have had a presence there ever since.

“We’ve never cut ties with France,” said Sister Debra Ann Bailey. “Not everything our founder wrote has been translated,” said Sister Deborah Lynn Masterman. “The letters we get from the sisters in France are in French.”

One of the sisters who arrived in 1958 was Sister Claire Marie. After ministering in a mission in Cameroon for 19 years as a nurse, she was elected superior general of the congregation for 12 years. When her term ended, she returned to Owensboro, where her mission work started. She had been teaching the Owensboro sisters to speak French, but in 2013 she decided to retire and return to France.

“Sister Audrey (Gold) called me and asked if I’d be willing to teach,” Sister Mary Jude said. “I about came through the



Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph Mary Jude Cecil, second from right, leads French lessons for four members of the Sisters of the Lamb of God. From left are Miriam Kavanagh, a novice, and Sisters Debra Ann Bailey, Deborah Lynn Masterman and Marissa Wicks. The motherhouse for the Sisters of the Lamb of God is in Brest, France.

phone. I’ve missed teaching so much.” Sister Mary Jude was a teacher from 1952 to 2007, with many of those years as a high school French teacher. When her eyesight began weakening, she moved into outreach ministry in Paducah, Ky., for six years. She retired to the Mount in 2013.

Since the fall of 2013, she’s been trying to meet the sisters’ needs once a week with French lessons in the Grand Room of Paul Volk Hall on the Motherhouse campus. Among her teaching methods is to have them sing songs in French. When they gath-

ered on Feb. 14, they sang “Le soleil se leve, je tourne vers toi Seigneur,” or “The sun comes up, I turn toward you Lord.”

The Sisters of the Lamb of God say they find it more difficult to learn a new language as adults compared to their school days, but they can tell they are making progress.

“(Sister Mary Jude) is wonderful,” Sister Debra Ann said, who along with Sister Deborah Lynn are the only two of the four who have been to France. Sister Mary Jude teaches the sisters the same way she taught her high school students, focusing on reading, writing, listening and then speaking.

“You don’t think she’s tough because she comes in such a sweet package,” said Miriam Kavanagh, a novice. “But then you think, ‘I didn’t think this was coming.’”

There’s no end date in mind with the classes. Sister Debra Ann said she would like to continue as long as possible. Sister Mary Jude said the same, she will teach as long as her vision allows her.

“I’m thrilled I can return something to the order that was so good to me,” she said.

Mount Saint Joseph Quilter Friends

Each February, quilters come together to donate their time and talents to make the tops for the quilts that are raffled off each year in the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph Quilt Club, as well as the quilts that are given away during two raffles at the Mount Saint Joseph Picnic. Other items that are made are sold through the craft booth at the picnic. All of the fabric is donated throughout the year. This year 26 quilters attended the quilting retreat Feb. 23-26.



Carolyn Salsman works on a binding for a quilt she completed. She is from Bardstown but came from her winter home in Naples, Fla., to the Quilting Friends retreat. She was taught by Ursuline Sisters from grade school through high school. “I come for the love of quilting and to help out the sisters,” Salsman said. “It’s a fun time and a good thing to do.”



Sister Amelia Stenger, director of development for the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, coordinates the Quilting Friends each February. Members of her family come early to help her. Seated from left are Sister Amelia’s sister, Ursuline Associate Mary Teder, and Mary’s granddaughter Amanda Jacobs. Standing from left are Sister Amelia, her niece Ann Jacobs, her niece Associate Joan Teder and her niece Ellen Marquart.

In center, a table of donated fabric was stacked much higher on Feb. 23, the first day of the Quilting Friends gathering at Mount Saint Joseph. MSJ Photos

Bishop Medley Meets RCIA Candidates

April, 2014 25



Diane Willis, Director of Faith Formation at Immaculate introduces Bishop William Medley, shown speaking at right.



Rob Abney photos

By Diane Willis
OWENSBORO, Ky. - Bishop Medley braved the windy weather February 20 to share his thoughts on Baptism and Confirmation with a group of RCIA Catechumens and Candidates and their sponsors. The event was hosted by the Parish of the Immaculate. Last year, an event like this was hosted by Our Lady of Lourdes,

where the Bishop addressed a similar group and talked about the History of the Diocese (it being the 75th year of the Diocese). Director of Faith Formation, Diane Willis was taken with the event last year as people got to meet the Bishop and saw him in an informal setting, and asked that Immaculate host the Bishop to speak this year. Immaculate Parish invited several parishes in the surrounding area to join them for this year's event. Over 50 people from Holy Name in Henderson, St. Martin in Rome, St. Alphonsus in St. Joseph, St. Pius X in Owensboro and Immaculate Parish in Owensboro attended.

Bishop Medley talked about two of the three sacraments of Initiation: Baptism and Confirmation. RCIA candidates and catechumens and sponsors were invited to ask questions afterwards. Many took the opportunity to ask Bishop questions to better understand the sacraments that they will be celebrating at the Easter Vigil.

RCIA catechumen and candidates celebrated the Rite of Election on March 9th as well as the first and second Scrutiny on March 23 and 30 respectively. The third Scrutiny will take place this Sunday, April 6. The congregations of Catholic parishes are taking the 40 days of Lent to prepare their hearts, but also praying for these people who will be baptized and received into full communion in the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil.



An animated Bishop Medley happily answers questions from the participants.

Seminarian Basilio Az Cuc, a sponsor for a candidate at Holy Name Parish and assisting at Holy Name during his Pastoral Year, takes time for a picture with Bishop Medley.



Catechumen, candidates and sponsors listen attentively to Bishop Medley teaching about the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. Photos this page by Rob Abney



Immaculate Hosts Mardi Gras

Immaculate Parish celebrated Mardi Gras a few days early this year as parishioners were invited to a Mardi Gras Brunch on Sunday, March 2nd put on by the Family Life Committee. Members of the committee kept the stoves going cooking pancakes, sausage, bacon, and potatoes, and made sure the platters of sweet Danish and muffins were stocked. Despite the threatening weather, over 200 people attended the event. In the picture above, the Will & Rose Helwig family from Immaculate are shown enjoying the festivities. Photo submitted by Daine Willis

Yarn Spinners Retreat

A Yarn Spinners retreat took place the weekend of March 7-9 at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center. The activities including yarn spinning and learning how to dye fiber and fabric. The group's next spinning day will be on May 10. All are welcome. To register, contact Kathy McCarty at 270-229-0206.



Above left, Maria Lee of Black Dog Fiber Studio, Madisonville, taught those in attendance how to dye their fiber and other materials; above, center, Jana Shultz of Hartford spins on her new spinning wheel; above right, Melanie Tapp of Clarkson works on dyeing a silk scarf. At top right, some of those who attended the March Yarn Spinners weekend at Mount Saint Joseph were, left to right: Jackie Ballou, Clarkson; Tammie Borjesson, Owensboro; Sister Eva Boone, Maple Mount; Lea Vollmer, Evansville, Ind.; Fran Scott, Dahlgren, Ill.; Melanie Tapp, Clarkson; Cassidy Thompson, Sebree; Callie Begly, Reynolds Station, and Brenda Semar, Leitchfield. MSJ Photos

Mardi Gras Party in Saint Joseph Villa.

The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph got a final day of celebrating in before Ash Wednesday by having a Mardi Gras party March 4 in Saint Joseph Villa



Above, after polishing off their snacks, these sisters were ready to get serious about bingo at the Mardi Gras celebration in Saint Joseph Villa. From left are Sisters Kathy Stein, Mary Eileen Howard, Jane Miriam Hancock and Celine Leeker.

At right, Sister Celine Leeker, who was queen of Mardi Gras last year, wears her green mask during the event. MSJ Photos



Sister Mary Cabrini Foushee found the baby Jesus in her King Cake and was crowned queen of this year's Mardi Gras. She received her tiara from Debbie Dugger, right, coordinator of activities for the sisters in Saint Joseph Villa.



MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL

- 3 Study of the Catechism**
- 5-6 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 7-11 Spiritual Direction Training Program (Week 3)**
- 11 Glory Conference Women's Retreat
- 12 Sts. Joseph & Paul RCIA
- 25-27 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program
- 29-1 North American Ursuline Leadership Conference

MAY

- 1-4 Christian Women's Retreat
- 8 Study of the Catechism**
- 9-11 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program
- 10 Yarn Spinning Day**
- 13 OCS 6th Grade Prayer Day
- 17-18 MSJ Academy Reunion
- 31 5K Run/Walk at MSJ

Center-sponsored programs are in **BOLD** type. Please call to register.

JUNE

- 12 Study of the Catechism**
- 14 Associates & Sisters Day
- 16-21 Buddha Sangha Retreat
- 19-21 Y-DOSA Youth Summit
- 22-27 Christian Leadership Institute
- 27-29 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program

JULY

- 7-12 St. Jude Youth-Michigan Owensboro Habitat
- 9-11 Sisters' Community Days
- 12 Sisters' Jubilee
- 13-19 Summer/Directed Retreats for Women Religious**
- 20-26 St. John's Youth-Michigan Owensboro Habitat
- 21-25 Spiritual Direction Training Program (Week 4)**
- 25-27 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program
- 28-29 K.E.E.C.

To register or schedule an event, call Kathy McCarty: 270-229-0206 • kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



Located 12 miles west of Owensboro, Ky., on Hwy. 56



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

www.ursulinesmsj.org

Building Momentum

Stewardship becomes a driving force for Kentucky parish's ministry

Submitted by Gary Estes

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Sitting on a bus in Brentwood, Tennessee, the leaders of St. Pius X Catholic Church here, made a decision. In many ways, it was a decision that changed the course of the parish and opened new doors for ministry.

At the time, the congregation was wrestling with debt from a capital campaign. The building was beautiful, but the balance of \$139,000 was hindering St. Pius from reaching its full potential. So, after attending the first day of Dave Ramsey's Momentum event, several of the parish's key leaders realized that the debt had to go—and the sooner, the better.

So, with the blessing of the parish's pastor, Father Julian Ibemere, St. Pius began its Momentum adventure.

The first step was identifying a theme. The leadership team landed on "Project Light" because it challenged participants to follow through on the Bible's call for believers to serve as lights to the world (Matthew 5:14-16). They even refurbished a miniature lighthouse and painted it with the church's colors to provide a visual reminder of what the parish could accomplish.

Within six months, the debt was paid off—a year earlier than expected—meaning St. Pius was debt free for the first time in a long time. But the congregation's commitment to a Momentum emphasis didn't end there. Attitudes across the parish have shifted from finding ways to bring in more money to becoming better stewards of the money God had already provided.

"God had a plan for us to get our finances back in order," says Gary Estes, the Momentum coordinator at St. Pius and chair of the Parish Council. "Now, two and a half years later, we are debt free. We have touched 128 St. Pius families and 198 total families with this ministry."

But that's not to say everything came easy. Many of the church's leaders point out that successfully integrating Momentum and Financial Peace University (FPU) into a Catholic context comes with a unique set of challenges.

"One difference between a Catholic parish and some other Christian congregations is that we have a liturgical calendar and certain diocese wide initiatives,"



The graduates from the previous three FPU classes posed together on Celebration Sunday, November 24, 2013. Front row, l to r: Lori Quinn, Lori Cassidy, Ashley Barna, Amanda Storm, Connie Askins, Janet Schwartz, Darlene Hutton, Paula Annin; Back Row, l to r: Michael Quinn, Steve Cassidy, Deron Storm, Dave Ramsey, Paul Digiorgio, Gary Estes, Ryan Payne. Tom Rhodes Photo

said John McCarty, who served on St. Pius' Education Team for Momentum. "It's hard to fit something different into that particular schedule."

"Some things just are not going to be disturbed," agreed David Jones, another Education Team leader. "We are not going to disturb the Lenten season. We are not going to disturb the Advent season. We have some things unique to this parish that can't be disturbed, so scheduling could have been a difficulty."

The first step toward overcoming potential obstacles was securing the invaluable support of Father Julian. And while lay leaders directed the bulk of the program, the Momentum Teams were quick to acknowledge the important role played by their pastor. In addition to promoting the FPU classes during Mass celebrations, he also attended one of the classes. That visibility provided Project Light with additional credibility and underscored the importance of the emphasis to the life of the congregation.

"It makes a big difference when the one wearing the collar is sitting in the room, taking the class," Estes observed.

St. Pius also dealt with possible scheduling conflicts by offering FPU every day of the week—and twice on Sundays. Eight opportunities each week provided flexibility and showed the parish's

commitment to financial discipleship. As extra incentives, the church offered scholarships and anyone who completed

eight of the nine weeks could get a 50% refund of their membership cost.

The church also embraced the work of the Momentum Prayer Team. Integrating Project Light into important Catholic observances such as the Rosary, Eucharistic adoration and Mass celebrations encouraged members to see the emphasis as a spiritual exercise, not just a financial obligation.

"We prayed for particular people who were leading the program," said Prayer Team member Jane Strehl. "But we also prayed for everyone who was involved."

Since accepting the Momentum challenge and paying off its debt, St. Pius has discovered new opportunities to minister within the church and beyond its walls. In addition to working with immigrant populations in Owensboro, the parish has raised money to replace a well for a village in Africa.

"We've always been a giving parish," said Wil Storm, who helps lead St. Pius' Special Ops Team. "But Momentum has gotten us out of debt to where we can do more than we were able to do before."



Some of the Project Light Leadership members gathered in the St. Pius X Parish Hall, Owensboro, on Wednesday, March 12, 2014. Front Row, from left, Carolyn McCarty, Linda Dixon, Beverly Estes, Debbie Lanham, Alicia Wells, Becky Pedley, Betty Rhodes; Back Row, from left, : Jonathon Estes, Renea Estes, David Galloway, Jane Strehl, Gene Strehl, Wil Storm, Steve Dixon, and Gary Estes. Photo by Tom Rhodes

28 April, 2014

January 14, 2014

Pope Francis:

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Excuse me because I speak in Italian.

But, I am not speaking English. But, I will speak no Italian, no English, but heartfully. It is a language; more simple - and more authentic, and this language of the heart as a special [particular] language and grammar. A simple grammar. Two rules: Love God above all, and love of the Other [neighbor] because he is your Brother and Sister. With these two rules we can go ahead.

I am here with my Brother, my Bishop Brother, Tony Palmer. We've been friends for years. He told me about your conference, about your meeting, and it's my pleasure to greet you. A greeting both joyful and nostalgia [yearning]. Joyful because it gives me joy that you have come together to worship Jesus Christ the only Lord. And to pray to the Father and to receive the Spirit. This brings me joy because we can see that God is working all over the world. Nostalgic [yearning] because but ... it happens, as within our suburbs. In the suburbs there are fami-

Pope Francis Delivers Video Message "In The Language of the Heart"

lies that love each other and families that don't love each other.

Families, who come together and families who separate themselves. We are kind of ... permit me to say, separated. Separated because, it's sin that has separated us, all our sins. The misunderstandings throughout history. It has been a long road of sins that we all shared in. Who is to blame?

We all share the blame. We have all sinned. There is only one blameless, the Lord. I am nostalgic [yearning], that this separation comes to an end and gives us communion. I am nostalgic [yearning], of that embrace. That the Holy Scripture speaks of when Joseph's Brothers began to starve from hunger, they went to Egypt, to buy, so that they could eat. They went to buy. They had money. But they could not eat the money. But there they found something more than food, they found their Brother. All of us have currency. The currency of our culture. The currency of our history. We have lot of cultural riches, and religious riches. And we have diverse traditions. But we have to encounter one another as Brothers. We

must cry together like Joseph did. These tears will unite us. The tears of love.

I am speaking to you as a Brother. I speak to you in a simple way. With joy and nostalgia [yearning]. Let us allow our nostalgia [yearning] to grow, because this will propel us to find each other, to embrace one another. And together to worship Jesus Christ as the only Lord of History.

I thank you profoundly for listening to me. I thank you profoundly for allowing me to speak the language of the heart. And I also ask you a favor. Please pray for me, because I need your prayers. And I will pray for you, I will do it, but I need your prayers. And let's pray to the Lord that He unites us all. Come on, we are Brothers. Let's give each other a spiritual hug and let God complete the work that He has begun. And this is a miracle; the miracle of unity has begun.

A famous Italian author named, Manzoni, once wrote in his novel, of a simple man amongst the people, who once said this ... "I've never seen God begin a miracle without Him finishing it well." He will complete this miracle of

unity.

I ask you to bless me, and I bless you. From Brother to Brother, I embrace you. Thank you. Pope Francis

This text of Pope Francis' Message on Christian Unity to Pentecostal Conference is a transcription made and submitted by Deacon

Terry Larbes, Director of the Diocesan Office of Ecumenism. Published on Feb 21, 2014 online at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dHXKTKYun-Yo>, the message was recorded on an iPhone by

Anthony Palmer, a Pentecostal pastor the Pope became friends with in Argentina and whom the pontiff addressed as "my brother, a bishop-brother." According to the Catholic News Service, Pope Francis met with Palmer at the Vatican on January 14th.



A Reflection Upon Pope Francis message of Christian Unity to Evangelicals, Bp. Palmer's Message is found on page 29.

Catholic Campers Separated By Miles, But Still Together In Faith

By Ben Warrell

After a long, hard winter, summer cannot get her soon enough! There have been so many exciting things going on here at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp & Retreat Center. The construction of our new lodge and dining facility are coming along nicely! In addition, the end of March will bring a new challenge activity to camp, The Vertical Playground! It's a new climbing challenge with several different stages surpassing forty feet straight up! Registrations, both through the mail and our new On-Line Registration, are flowing in! God is blessing us in many ways!

Our theme for summer camp is from Pope Francis' letter to the young people of the Church for World Youth Day. It is, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven." Mt. 5:3 So many new things will be in place this summer, but the greatest thing about camp is learning about our beautiful faith and diving deeper into our relationship with Jesus Christ. Come to camp this summer to see what God has planned for you! Each summer, young people (and many older ones too!) have their lives changed by their experience at camp. New friendships, renewing old friendships, trying new things you won't get to do anywhere else, celebrating the Sacraments, being part of a community centered on Jesus Christ and His Church, and just plain having fun are all a part of

the camp experience! Here's an example of how people connect at camp. Two young ladies, one in Larue County and one from Murray, who met at camp, are skipping a Rosary together every day for Lent! How cool is that!!! They are separated by miles, but are still together in faith, brought together by their experience at camp!

Come and see for yourself! Ignite your faith, make new friends and keep finding out who God made you to be! All of that takes place at camp! If you are planning on coming to camp in June, we urge you to get your forms in as quickly as possible. With the severity of our winter, the new lodge may not be completed until the middle or end of June. If that is the case, the spots for camps in June will be limited for the first few weeks of the camp session. Don't miss out! Get your forms in today! If you have any questions, please give us a call at 270-781-2466. Please check out our website, www.gasperriverretreatcenter.org for more info, for forms and for online registration! If you'd like for us to come to your parish or youth group and share about camp and answer any questions you may have, just call us and we'll gladly be there. So many wonderful things are happening here, come and be a part of it this summer!



2014 Summer Camp Schedule

Dates	Camp	Age	Cost
May 26 th to the 30 th	Eucharistic Life Camp	18 and over	\$ 50
June 1 st to June 6 th	Expedition I	5 th & 6 th Grades	\$275
June 8 th to June 13	Quest I	7 th & 8 th Grades	\$275
June 15 th to June 18 th	Explorer I	3 rd & 4 th Grades	\$175
June 22 nd to June 27 th	Camp LIFE I	High School	\$275
June 29 th to July 4 th	Camp LIFE II	High School	\$275
July 6 th to July 11 th	Expedition II	5 th & 6 th Grades	\$275
July 13 th to July 18 th	Quest II	7 th & 8 th Grades	\$275
July 20 th to July 25 th	Camp LIFE III	High School	\$275
July 27 th to July 30 th	Explorer II	3 rd & 4 th Grades	\$175
July 27 th to Aug. 1 st	High Adventure	High School	\$350

Please visit our website, www.gasperriverretreatcenter.org for more information and new for 2014 On-Line Registration!!! Spaces fill up quickly so register online or get your registration forms sent in quickly! Can't wait to see you this summer!!!

A Reflection Upon Pope Francis message of Christian Unity to Evangelicals

In an unusual video message, recorded on an iPhone, published on Feb 18, 2014, Pope Francis sent a private message of Reconciliation and Unity between the Catholic Church and the Evangelical Church by His personal Friend Bishop Tony Palmer. Pope Francis says 'We are Brothers - Let us Come Together like Joseph and His Brothers'! This is absolutely Amazing, Most Beautiful, Most Glorious!

Bp. Palmer's Message is found online at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b5T-wrG8B3ME>

February 20, 2014

By Bishop Tony Palmer

I need you to understand at least a little bit of the history behind this because we are living in an incredibly important generation. I believe that God has brought me here to this ??? conference in the spirit of Elijah.

Let me explain.

If you look carefully the spirit of Elijah was on John the Baptist to turn the hearts of the sons to the fathers and to turn the hearts of the fathers to the sons. To prepare the way for the Lord. And we know that prophecy always has a double fulfillment. And we know that Elijah will come before the second coming as well. And I've understood that the spirit of Elijah is the spirit of reconciliation ... to return hearts to each other. This is very important.

We know that in the first 1000 years there was one church, it was called the catholic church and the word catholic means universal. It does not mean Roman. Catholic means ... if you are born again raise your hand if you are born again ... you are a catholic. Take back, redeem what belongs to you ... we are catholics. And then there was the split at the end of the first millennium, we had the Orthodox - east and west ... Two Churches. Then 500 years later we have Luther and his protest... Three Churches in 1500 years. Three denominations not churches; three denominations. And then from Luther's protest and onward 53,000 new denominations.

I have come to understand that diversity is divine; it is division that is diabolic.



It is true what you were saying about the glory. I agree with you of course it is true. The glory that the Father had he gave to Jesus. The glory was the presence of God. What is the charismatic renewal? It is when we experience the presence of God. And he said, "I give them the glory" for a pragmatic reason ... so that they may be one. It is the glory that glues us together not the doctrines. It is the glory. If you accept that Christ is living in me and the presence of God is in me and the presence of God is in you that is all that we need. Because God will sort out all of our doctrines when we get upstairs.

Therefore Christian Unity is the basis of our credibility because Jesus said, "Until they are one they will not believe." The world will not believe as they should until we are one. Division destroys our credibility. It is fear that keeps us separated because FEAR is false evidence appearing real. It is an acronym. FEAR ... false evidence appearing real. Because most of your evidence is based on propaganda.

Now why is it historic because in 1999 the Roman Catholic Church and the Protestant Lutheran Church signed an agreement that brought an end to the protest. Luther believed that we were saved by grace through faith ... alone. Amen! But that is not it. The Catholic Church believed that we were saved by works. And that was the protest. In 1999 they wrote this together because in the Protestant Church there was a lot of cheap salvations. People were getting born again but no fruit what so ever. And because we did not even look for fruits it was not the issue. Because it was not necessary for salvation ... and no it is not but it is a good judge if you are saved. So what these two churches did was put the two definitions together. Listen to it. I am reading verba-

My Discernment in Deacon Formation

By Brett Mills

I am a candidate for the permanent diaconate in the Diocese of Owensboro simply to discern with the help of the Church. My working definition of discernment in this context is seeking an answer to a question of two good choices presented by God, one being more His will than the other. While knowing that I am a very effective, involved, and spiritual layperson, I'm discerning the possibility that being the person God created me to be specifically calls me to the ordained permanent ministry of a Roman Catholic deacon - or not.

I was led to this particular discernment through spiritual direction in the friendship of Fr. Ray Clark. Seeking spiritual direction was a response to the Cursillo Movement. Both remain foundational resources of interior spiritual growth that prioritize the deacon formation process for me as an approach to God's will and to God's love through the good of all others, in spite of myself.

One of the most important questions Fr. Ray asked me about an impending vocational meeting was - and I quote, "What are you afraid of, big guy?" I could always answer that question with, "change". I constantly have to work past that. What could possibly be new for a cradle Catholic with 16 years of Catholic education and more than a decade's experience as a catechist? More than I imagined. My understanding and acceptance of who I am continues to deepen. My concept of and attachment to the Church grows broader. I know that God is both my compan-



ion and attainable destination, even if formation doesn't lead to ordination. Change of any kind will never be easy for me - I'm just wired that way. However, by making change a cross, I can take it up daily, follow Christ, and do God's will.

I'm the only single man in my formation group, so I don't harmonize my use of time, talent or treasure with another person. The diocese brings us together with our instructors and pays for the courses. We are responsible for the cost of our books and materials. So far, I haven't flinched. The cost in time has been a little more challenging. The very inclination toward the service that is centering my life on the ministry of deacon has a long history in secular volunteering - especially in local theater and local politics. I've had to dial back the frequency, intensity, and type of involvements in both - and appreciate where I put my moral influence in both

My formation group has pegged me as "the academic" of the bunch. True to that reputation, I have run out of space to cover all the proposed topics in a single article here. I'll have to continue later. Let me summarize my main thought on discernment here as: the beginning is only the beginning. When I continue, if tolerated, I'll share about what I believe deacon formation aims at our becoming.

Editor's Note: Brett has promised that he will continue this fascinating look into his interior life of preparation as a Catholic Deacon in our May, 2014 Western Kentucky Catholic.

tim from the Catholic - Vatican websites. Justification means that Christ, himself, is our righteousness in which we share through the Holy Spirit in accord with the will of the Father. Together we, Catholics and Protestants (Lutherans), believe and confess that by grace alone in faith in Christ's saving works and not because of any merit on our part we are accepted by God and receive the Holy Spirit who renews our hearts while equipping us to good works.

This brought an end to the protest of Luther. Brothers and sisters, Luther's pro-

test is over.

Is yours?

In 1999 this was signed by the Lutheran Church, the Federation Worldwide. Later, about 5 years later the Worldwide Methodist signed the same agreement. But as of today we still have no Protestant Evangelicals that will stand up and sign this agreement to agree with our brothers and sisters that we are saved by grace through faith to good works. And I believe that is something that needs to be

Continued on page 30

fixed.

There is a challenge for you.

So the protest has been over for 15 years.

Tonight I am going to get a bit "cheeky" here because I challenge my Protestant friends that if there is no more protest then "How can there be a Protestant Church?"

Maybe, now, we are all Catholics again?

We are reformed. We are Catholic in the universal sense. We are not protesting the Doctrine of Salvation by the Catholic Church anymore. We now preach the same gospel. We now preach that we are saved by grace through faith... alone. The word "alone" was the argument for 500 years. The word alone is there. You can read it yourself. The protest is over. The protest is over.

So let me pray. And then we will start the video. I believe that we will begin to see more and more people called out to go into the world and work among the churches in the spirit of Elijah to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children and to

turn the hearts of the children to the fathers. To make ready a people prepared for the Lord, ministries of reconciliation.

We need to throw as much energy and resources into the ministry of reconciliation as we do into the ministry of evangelization. Or are we building walls without foundation?

I challenge you to find a bridge builder and back him... or her.

And I would like to pray this prayer.

If you agree say, amen.

This is a dying man's prayer. When you know that you are about to die, you certainly pray the most important prayer.

"I do not pray for these alone but for those who will, also, believe in me through their word. That they may all be one as you Father are in Me and I in You that they may, also, be one in us. So that the world may believe that you sent me. And the glory that you have given me I have given them. That they may be one as we are one."

Glory to the Father, Amen.

Father Thomas Remembers Pope John Paul II



Fr. Thomas Petri, O.P., a native of Earlington, Ky., met with Blessed Pope John Paul II on February 11, 2002 in the papal apartments (in the room often referred to as the pope's study).

Father Thomas, shown kneeling before Pope John Paul II in the photo at left, wrote to *The Western Kentucky Catholic*, "That was my first time in the Eternal City. In the picture, Bishop

Stanislaw Dziwisz, who was the pope's secretary, is putting the white zucchetto in the box that Blessed Pope John Paul II had been wearing that day. In the picture, he is wearing a new one that I had brought for him. It is an old tradition that a person can give the pope a new zucchetto in private and he will then give you the one he is wearing in return. Of course, now that John Paul is beatified (and soon to be canonized), the zucchetto is a second-class relic. It is kept at our priory in Washington, D.C., the Dominican House of Studies, and stays on the floor where the Dominican seminarians live.

"Exactly eleven years later, on February 11, 2013, I received a fax from the sacristy of St. Peter's Basilica confirming a request I had faxed them just days before. I would be in Rome again in March of 2013 and had asked to celebrate Mass on the altar in which Blessed John Paul II is entombed. Thus, on March 7, 2013, I had the privilege of celebrating Mass on the altar containing the relics of this great pope and saint that meant so much to me and for my vocation.

Pax., Fr. Thomas Petri, O.P.

2013-2014 Nomination Form for the Diocese of Owensboro Bishop John J. McRaith Catechetical Leader Award

Previous Recipients

1998-1999	Sr. Maggie Cooper, SCN	2005-2006	Franki Durbin
2000-2001	Carol York	2006-2007	Denise Long
1999-2000	Anita Willoughby	2007-2008	Sr. Rosanne Spalding, OSU
2001-2002	Sr. Ann McGrew, OSU	2008-2009	Danny May
2002-2003	Sr. Margret Ann Aull, OSU, and Rosemary Payne	2009-2010	Mary Helen Rhodes
2003-2004	Sr. Julia Head, OSU	2010-2011	Marie Rose
2004-2005	Sr. Marie Michael Hayden, OSU	2011-2012	Debi Hopkins
		2012-2013	Lori Lewis



The Owensboro Diocesan Offices of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry are asking for nominations for the Bishop John J. McRaith Catechetical Leader Award. The recipient of this award will be announced at the Appreciation Dinner for Catechetical and Youth Ministers on May 5, 2014 at the Catholic Pastoral Center in Owensboro, Kentucky.

Anyone from the Diocese of Owensboro may nominate an individual for this award. Nominees should be (or have been) professional ministers working for a minimum of 5 years in the Diocese of Owensboro in the field of catechetics. Some ministerial roles to be considered are Director of Religious Education, Coordinator of Religious Education, Pastoral Associate, Youth Minister, etc. The recipient of the award is a role model as an outstanding human being; committed to Diocesan, Parish and Community service; shows a deep sense of spirituality; is knowledgeable, and committed to continuing their intellectual, spiritual and collaborative growth.

The deadline for nominations is April 18, 2014. The Core Committee for Religious Education, consisting of the Diocesan Directors of Religious Education and Youth Ministry will discern and select the recipient.

All nomination forms should be mailed to the Religious Education Office, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, KY 42301-2130 or e-mailed to elaine.robertson@pastoral.org by April 22, 2014.

Nominee _____ Address _____
 Parish _____
 Nominated by:
 Name _____ Address _____
 Phone _____ Relation to nominee _____

On a separate page, please comment on the nominee's performance as a Catechetical Minister. Please describe the nominee's performance in the following categories:

- Why should this person be honored with the Bishop John J. McRaith Catechetical Award?
- Describe this person's commitment as a Catechetical Leader.
- How has this person aided Catechists and/or Youth Leaders to improve their ministry?
- How is this person a Christian role model for Catechists, Youth Leaders and parishioners? Give an example.
- Does this person volunteer time and talent to the community apart from parish and diocesan duties? If so, give details of her or his involvement.
- How well does this person work with the pastor, professional colleagues and parishioners?

Conference Explores Questions About Educating Catholic Youth on Issues of Religion and Science

April, 2014 31

On February 12-14, 2014. Bishop Medley and Richard Murphy, Director of the Office of Social Concerns for the Diocese, and staff person for the Gospel of Life Committee for the Diocese traveled to the University of Notre Dame to take part in the "Pastoral Issues in Science and Human Dignity Symposium." The Purpose of the Symposium was to help Bishops and their Diocesan educational officials explore some of the fundamental theoretical issues in the relationship between science and religion, and some of the practical issues that flow from the interaction between science and religion. It also included a special presentation in the University Planetarium (Notre Dame's Digital Visualization Theater) and on materials and methods available to diocesan, parish and school educators.

The event featured some of the most remarkable speakers in the field covering Religion and Science. On the first day, His Eminence Marc Cardinal Ouellet, P.S.S., Prefect of the Congregation for Bishops spoke on Bridging Science and Faith: Strengthening the Sense of Human Dignity Today. Cardinal Ouellet offered a scholarly examination of the state of human dignity today, how we came to this point, and thoughts on how to protect humankind from the dangers of self-destruction from an unhinged science from the humanities in the light of God's love. He reminded his audience that "each person is a sacred mystery" as Fr. Jean Vanier, the founder of the L'Arche movement said.

On the second day, Stephen Barr, Ph.D. Professor, Department of Physics



Bishop William Medley on the campus of The University of Notre Dame in February. Richard Murphy Photo

& Astronomy, University of Delaware Director, Bartol Research Institute spoke on Science, Creation, and the Image of God. Dr. Barr pointed to a long history of Catholic men and women that have been believers and have had an enormous influence on science. The main area of conflict between religion and science, he said, is that branch of science that subscribes to a quasi-religious and philosophical belief that teaches that ultimate reality is just matter; that all reality is explained by physics and blind chance. Many scientists do not subscribe to this system of thought and yet serve the community through their work in the scientific fields.

O. Carter Snead, J.D. Professor, Law School, University of Notre Dame Director, Center for Ethics and Culture spoke on The Explanatory Limits of Modern



Bishop William Medley in conversation with Bishop Paul Etienne, a native of Tell City, IN, bishop of Cheyenne, WY. Photo by Richard Murphy

Science for Public Bioethics. Discussed the "maximal deference" model sought by some to science in all matters before a democracy and what limitations this had and dangers to humanity from it. Fr. Robert J. Spitzer, S.J., Ph.D. Magis Center of Reason and Faith, Irvine CA spoke on Responding to the False Conflict Between Faith and Science. Dr. Spitzer shared his thoughts on the four levels of happiness, and help clarify the horizon of the limits of science. He offered many resources to the group for the use in educating young people to prepare them to face a certain group of people that hold and teach scientific materialism in our colleges and universities that contribute to the loss of our children to the faith from their teaching.

In the afternoon, a presentation - All Creation Gives Praise (Digital Visualization Theater, Jordan Hall of Science) was made for the group. Later that evening, Mass was celebrated at the Basilica on Campus by various Bishops, Priests and Deacons at the event.

On the final day, a number of speakers addressed those in attendance on resources to assist in educating the youth on this subject. Christian Smith, Ph.D. The William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Sociology, University of Notre Dame on How American Youth (Mis)Understand Science and Religion. This was a very data driven talk based on a lengthy study over the course of 16 years to examine the changes in attitudes and beliefs of over 3000 young people in the United States from ages 13-17 to now ages 29 to 34. John C. Cavadini, Ph.D., McGrath-Cavadini Director, Institute for Church Life Professor, Department of Theology addressed the audience on Pastoral Antidotes to the New Atheism. The final presentation was a panel discussion that shared further resources on the subject to take back home and share with other persons involved with the education of students.

This was an amazing gathering that challenged peoples thinking and served as a push to bring good quality teaching and understanding on the subject of religion and science to young people and those struggling with these issues.



Bishop Soenneker Home is a non-profit Personal Care Home serving up to 66 residents. We are located at 9545 HWY 144, Knottsville, KY, beside St. Williams Catholic Church. We offer assistance with medication schedule, personal care, prepared meals according to diet, personal hygiene and a loving home. Our motto is Committed to Caring. Please stop by for a tour or call 270-281-4881 and ask for Paula.

Ready For A Trip To Mackinac Island?

Grayson County
RED HOT
CHILI
COOK-OFF

The Catholic Churches of Grayson County are hosting a Chili Cookoff and Jamaican party, as a benefit to help pay for their mission trip to Mandeville, Jamaica in the Spring. The dinner will be on **Saturday, April 12** at 6:00 PM at St. Elizabeth Church in Clarkson, KY. The meal will feature an opportunity to try various entries into our chili cookoff, as well as an assortment of Jamaican and American foods. Cost is by donation. If you would like to enter the chili cookoff, or if you want further information about this, call us at 270-242-7436, or email us

at saintelizabethclarkson@windstream.net. Awards will be given for both the best and the hottest chili

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Marriage Anniversaries for April Anniversaries for 25, 40, 50, and Over 50 Years of Marriage

• Blessed Mother

Thomas & Shirley Coomes, 55
Bobby & Patricia Rafferty, 51
Louis & Mary Aull, 53

Ward & Mildred Pedley, 59
Dennis & Thelma Clark, 62
Carl & Mildred Spurrier, 61
Paul & Joyce Christian, 65

Gary & Dolores Aull, 25
William & Katie Shelton, 40
Kenneth & Elaine Williams, 51
Tony & Carolyn Clark, 45

• Christ the King, Madisonville

Mike & Donna Boarman, 25
Steve & Meryl Clements, 40

• Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson

Paul & Julia Hopper, 40
David & Sharon Sauer, 25
Albert & Nadine Schwallier, 62

• Holy Spirit, Bowling Green

James & Helen Bailey, 58
Cecil & Cacilda Phelps, 54
John & Canstance Barbalas, 59

• Immaculate Conception, Earlington

Bob & Beverly Steckler, 61

• Immaculate Conception, Hawesville

Clayton & Gloria Gray, 52
Kenneth & Jeanie Hanks, 59

• Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

Gordon & Rose Cobb, 52
Brad L. & Beverly Hamilton, 54
Ken & Dorothy Raley, 57

Ralph & Judy Thomas, 55
Charles & Anna Ruth Thompson, 58
Maurice & Shirley Wink, 56

• Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro

Rex D. & Margaret Robinson, 50
Donald E. & Mary J. Weaver, 50

Frank & Barbara Crump, 59
James D. & Rachel L. Mahoney, 53

Joseph B. & Mary Mudd, 61
Thomas & Martha Rhodes, 62
Simon & Patricia Sanders, 57
Edward B. & Agnes Stallings, 51
Robert L. & Mary Vollman, 61

• **Precious Blood, Owensboro**
Eldred & Eulaine Robertson, 57

• Sacred Heart, Waverly

Richard & Nancy Mayes, 56
Thomas & Sue Mary Wedding, 57

• St. Agnes, Uniontown

Randy & Jennifer Greenwell, 25
James & Gladys Austin, 69
Pete & Laura Hagan, 40

Bill & Nadine Hargrove, 65
Benny & Rita French, 60

• St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph

Tony & Debbie Rafferty, 40
J. T. & Angela O'Bryan, 65
Donald & Ginny Peters, 52

• St. Anthony, Axtel

Carl & Loyce Eskridge, 51
Pat & Wilma Lenhart, 50

• St. Anthony, Browns Valley

Tom & Kathy Zaleski, 58

• St. Anthony, Peonia

Paul & Sue Schulte, 40

• St. Anthony of Padua, Grand Rivers

Paul & Jessie Frey, 51
Robert & Lois Tashjian, 58

• St. Augustine, Reed

Tony & Christa Hundley, 40

• St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

James J. & Velda Carbonel, 50
Joe & Carol Anne Mikez, 59
Jim & Clorinda Covert, 55

Leonard & Norma Neihoff, 51

William & Judith Neihoff, 51

James A. & Lila Hayden, 54

• St. Henry, Aurora

Jack & Dodee Sergeant, 63
John & Carol York, 52

• St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

Algene & Mary Vernon Goatley, 55

• St. John the Evangelist, Paducah

Arvil & Ruth McKendree, 40

• St. Joseph, Leitchfield

Harold & Susan Rhodes, 40
Jackie & Murrell Richardson, 55

• St. Joseph, Mayfield

Joe & Evelyn Jolley, 50
Joe & Anne Mikez, 59

• St. Lawrence, Philpot

Victor & Lois Johnson, 59
Anthony & Mary Helen Rhodes, 53

• St. Leo, Murray

Raymond & Lillian Urbanovich, 69
Edward & Marilyn Wolf, 51

Francis & Jammie Poat, 50

Bill & Trish Johnson, 40

• St. Martin, Rome

Richard & Anita Dixon, 51

• St. Mary, LaCenter

Bob & Mary Ann Noe, 50

• St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho

Mike & Sherley Goff, 53
Gerald & Betty Bartley, 51

• St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Darren & Lori Wathen, 25

Justin & Minnie Clark, 50

Edgar & Amelia Evans, 61

• St. Paul, Leitchfield

Robert & Anna Frances Portman, 58

• St. Paul, Princeton

Herman & Berth Berton, 53

• St. Peter, Waverly

Joe & Rose Curry, 56

• St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley

Joe E. & Jean Coomes, 65

• St. Pius Tenth, Calvert City

James & Rose Drury, 55

• St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro

Bernard & Elsie Galloway, 50
Charles & Lois Hoskins, 50

Alan & Shirley Howard, 55
Charles & Ruth Ann Mayfield, 61
James C. & Jeanetta Mayfield, 60
John T. & Wanda Williams, 58

• St. Romuald, Hardinsburg

John & Helen O'Reilly, 55
Carl & Thelma Jarboe, 53

• St. Sebastian, Calhoun

Steven & Lisa Young, 25
Tommy & Brenda England, 51

Ralph & Judy Ward, 52

• St. Stephen, Cadiz

Paul & Dawn Cunningham, 54
Robert & Alyce Chmielewski, 51

• St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

Bryan & Paula Booth, 25

Mark & Martha Sims, 40

Archie & Angela Clark, Jr., 59

Anthony E. & Mary Alice Higdon, 62

Fred & Faye Whelan, 59

• St. Thomas More, Paducah

Jim & Mary Bumpous, 50

Steve & Earline Wurth, 50

• St. William, Knottsville

Jerome & Betty Hamilton, 59

Paul & Theresa Crowe, 52

C. Vincent & Thelma Mattingly, 51

• Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro

David & Connie Boehman, Jr., 25

Brice & Marilyn Howard, 40

Mike & Jan Martin, 40

Russell & Sheila Roby, 40

Paul & Joyce Lambert, 50

Darrell & Lois Hood, 54

John & Clara Patton, 58

• Sts. Mary & James, Guthrie

Ed & Dorothy Kacer, 66

• Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

Jose & Diana Rodriguez, 25

John & Graciela Ronning, 25

Steven & Rebecca Greenwell, 25

Anthony & Sandra Mueller, 66

Billy & Harriette Hancock, 59

Kenneth & Mary Dean, 55

Clifford & Carol Simpson, 53



Retired Glenmary Sister Receives Lovely Honor At Carmel Home

As a resident at Carmel Home, in a landslide nomination, Sr. Catherine Schoenborn (Glenmary Sisters) was named the Queen for 2014 (photo at left). Sr. Catherine moved to Carmel Home in April 2013 and in that short time, she has won her way into the hearts of many. She attends daily Holy Mass and other daily or weekly services in the Chapel. Sr. Catherine loves to play bingo and attends exercise sessions. With her lovely smile and warm personality, Sr. Catherine is always there to help new residents of Carmel Home feel welcome (photo at right).

Submitted by Kim Klueg



Lourdes Youth Group Girls Night Out

Members of the Our Lady of Lourdes Youth Group in Owensboro had a "Girls Night Out" on Feb. 7 at the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center.



Danny May, youth minister at Our Lady of Lourdes, serves the girls in the Center dining room. The Center staff put together a beautiful table and treats for the girls.

The participants gathered for a photo in the Madonna Room at the Retreat Center. From left are Paige Anderson, Hannah Garvin, Leslie Wilson, Abbie Tichenor, Regan Neal and Hannah Baird.



Spiritual Direction Training Program

The 2013-15 class of the Spiritual Direction Training Program came to the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center Jan. 13-17 for its second week of the eight-week course. Sister Marietta Wethington, left, a team member, listens to a question from Theresa Nardi, right, during the Spiritual Direction Training Program on Jan. 15. MSJ Photo.

Mary Carrico School Square Dancers Visit Villa

Ursuline Sister Mary Celine Weidenbenner brought 26 students from Mary Carrico Memorial School in Knottsville to the Motherhouse in Maple Mount on Jan. 28 to square dance for the Ursuline Sisters. The students, from fifth to eighth graders, danced and then visited with the sisters as part of their celebration of Catholic Schools Week.



The students have been working a few weeks on their dance moves, said Sister Mary Celine, who has taught at Mary Carrico since 2007.

At right, Sister Clarence Marie Lockett, left, and Sister Mary Gerald Payne receive a smile from this girl. Sister Clarence Marie just moved back to Maple Mount from Caneyville.



Sister Jane Miriam Hancock got a special visit from this young lady.



Sister Catherine Marie Lauterwasser, a former teacher and principal, has a captive audience of some of the students who came to dance.

Three Confirmed Into Catholic Faith at Rosary Chapel, Paducah



Fr. Uwem Enoh, left, posed with Bishop William Medley and Rosary Chapel Confirmandi and Sponsors, from left, Kellyn Beasley - Shirley Bunch; Karina Romero - Grace Babbs; and Shawn Zachary Dumas - Charles Davis. In the photo above right, showing the laying on of hands, at back right, is altar server, Juanya Moss. Photos Submitted by Rosary Chapel, Paducah.



St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church, Paducah

A group picture of the Confirmation class with Bishop William Medley on March 2. From left to right are, top row: Jared Lamb, Andrew Moore, Bishop Medley, Ethan Mitchell, Drew Hayden; bottom row: Lauren Tashjian, Paige Kortz, Ellen Brown, Shelbe Overby, Grace Ellegood, Julianne Koenig. Submitted by Zach Ault, St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church

Dear Pastor, *ARISE* Parish Team Coordinator, Team Members and Leaders,



"Team Training"

When and Where?

Sun., April 27	Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro	6:00-8:00PM
Mon., April 28	St. Joseph, Leitchfield	10:00-Noon
Mon., April 28	Holy Spirit, Bowling Green	6:30-8:30PM
Tues., April 29	St. Thomas More, Paducah	6:30-8:30PM
Wed., April 30	Christ the King, Madisonville	6:30-8:30PM

Who attends?

Pastors, the *ARISE* Parish Team, Hospitality volunteers, Music Ministry, and Parish Staff in each parish to help plan for and invite the entire parish to participate in a Parish Mission led by a trained *ARISE* Parish Mission Team!

What is a Mission?

The Mission is a parish-wide event which is offered to "inspire in all the faithful a true longing for holiness, a deep desire for conversion and a personal renewal." (Blessed John Paul II) It also provides an opportunity for the *entire* parish to reflect and celebrate and share our faith.

Is there a theme?

Special emphasis is given to the following:

- the celebration of Christ's love in our lives
- the reality that we are the Good News
- the effect that *ARISE Together in Christ* has had in our lives
- the encouragement for all of us to deepen and expand our response to Christ
- the responsibility we have to pass on our faith to the next generation
- the importance of small Christian communities in living out our faith

When do we, as a parish, offer the Mission?

The Mission is best with advance planning and nothing else in the parish calendar. That being said, we suggest January or February 2015 since *ARISE Together in Christ*'s concluding season is Fall 2014. Planning and preparation are essential to a successful and blessed event. Anticipating this as a parish-wide celebration and not only for those who participated in *ARISE* through small communities is our vision. To make all this possible, we offer this training workshop now.

Please call or email: Anne Scanlan, *RENEW International Pastoral Service Team*: annes@renewintl.org or 215-498-5629 (cell) or Sr. Ethel-Marie Biri, SSND, Diocese of Owensboro: 270-852-8367, Sr.Ethel-Marie.Biri@pastoral.org.



Welcoming RCIA Candidates 2014

April, 2014 35

Blessed Mother, Owensboro: Barbara Lee McGarvie, Jamie Lynnea Wright; **Christ the King, Madisonville:** Chris Dudley, Quentin Lomache, Eliana Martinez, Trish Smith; **Holy Name, Henderson:** Michael L. Biggs II, Mary Buckman, Hannah Grace Doerner, Brandy Hudnall, Judy Mayes, Manuel L. Nichols, Elizabeth Peveler, Jessica Whitehouse, Clayton Todd Williams; **Holy Spirit, Bowling Green:** Jacob Dylan Boswell, Betty Gaye Bowling, Amy Michelle Brand, Alice Byrne, Matthew Michael Byrne, Amber Cecil, Felix Michael Gossom, Joseph Ryan Janes, Charles Lester Kay, Jr., Lana Jo Kunkel, Kim Quyen Linda Nguyen, Lanetta Jill Nixon, James Garnet Stout, Whitney Joe Turner, Jakob Mirek Wakabayashi; **Immaculate Conception, Hawesville:** Brenda Matthews; **Our Lady of Lourdes, Owens-**

boro: Aaron Bullington, Amy Millay, Robert Montalvo; **Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro:** Sam Blue, Morgan Hayden, Sean Hayden, Clint Houk, Kristy Johnson, Kyle Martin, Kim Quyen Linda Schmitt; **Rosary Chapel, Paducah:** Michael Menser; **Sacred Heart, Russellville:** John Clayton, Steven Elam, Todd Raymer; **St. Alphonsus, Saint Joseph:** Kiley Ashton Wiles; **St. Francis Borgia, Sturgis:** Nichole Thomas, Joseph Barletto, Michael Lynn Conner, Alexandria Paige Hobbs, Rachel Elizabeth Hobbs, Kevin Michael Hodges, Michael Anthony Mount, Jarrett Ryan Nunley; **St. Henry, Aurora:** David Dean, Jimmy Scholar; **St. Jerome, Fancy Farm:** Alice Ann Carrico, Gary Miller; **St. John, Paducah:** Matthew Gary Barks, Adam David Horbovetz, Scott Andrew Smith; **St. Joseph, Bowling Green:** Barbara Canter, Ryan Fulkerson, Amanda Hinton, Heidi Johnson, Emily Moore, Amber Rojas, Joshua Sanford; **St. Joseph, Mayfield:** Rebecca Stiltner; **St. Leo, Murray:**

Diana Cortazzo, Ana Lilia Flores, Anna McDougal, Sarah Montgomery, Katie Prohm, David Sevilla, Cynthia Spiro; **St. Martin, Rome:** Savanna Buck, Nicole Ebelhar, Jill Hamilton; **St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville:** Joey Frakes, Chachi McBrayer, Olivia Payne; **St. Michael, Oak Grove:** Daniela Caccia, Emma J. Wright; **St. Michael, Sebree:** Melissa Carolyn Gish, Micaela Pascual; **St. Paul, Leitchfield:** Reba Joan Butterworth, Tiffany Lynn Durbin, Patricia Ann LaPuma-Davis; **St. Paul, Princeton:** Samantha June Wurtman; **St. Pius Tenth, Calvert City:** Jeretta Cash, Harold Dacus, Mitzi Shea; **St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro:** Mark McDonald, Phillip Roberts; **St. Romuald, Hardinsburg:** Stephanie Burlison, Faye Ferry, David Himmelhaver, Rita Williams; **St. Sebastian, Calhoun/ St. Charles, Livermore:** Daven Edmonds, Mike Hudson, Kathy Hudson, John Renfrow; **St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro:** Carrie Warren, Taylor West, Jefferson Sorley, Rick Hub-

bard, Bridgette Whittinghill; **St. Susan, Elkton/Sts. Mary and James, Guthrie:** Sonya Case, Floyd Lee Threlkel; **St. Thomas Aquinas, Bowling Green:** Preston Schilke, Devin Sympson, Ryan Oldham, Emily Medley; **St. Thomas More, Paducah:** Lana Edwards, Adriana Fitch, Brent Gaines, Miranda Richeson, John Roach, Leslie Scarpino, Zane White; **St. William, Marion:** Tanner Collins, William Collins, Cassidy Cullen, Robin Johnson, Lisa Loveless, Sharon Young; **St. William/St. Lawrence, Daviess County:** Lauren Bowlds, Aaron Bowlds, Mallery Huff, Joshua Rhodes, Gregory West; **Sts. Joseph and Paul, Owensboro:** Keith Carlock, Jackie Espinoza, Brandon Loyd, Jordan McCarthy, April Morales, Christina Neal, Harry Pedigo, Lillanna Quadarrama; **Sts. Peter and Paul, Hopkinsville:** Jennifer Lee Deidrich, John Bee Jones III, Melissa Martin, Gillian Mae Tilley, Johnny Tilley, Jr., Ricardo Romero Villaseñor, Amanda Vinson, James Michael Vinson

St. Thomas More Celebrates the Rite of Sending

By Missy Eckenberg

PADUCAH, Ky. - On Sunday, March 2, 2014 St. Thomas More Parish celebrated the Rite of Sending. This special day is when our parish formally asks the Church of the Diocese of Owensboro to accept our catechumens as members of the Elect - those chosen by God for baptism, and to pray for our candidates - that they continue to grow in the Spirit as they ready for Confirmation during the Easter Vigil. On March 22 and the following two Sundays, a celebration of the Scrutinies occurred. According to the Church's Rites, "the scrutinies are meant to uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect and to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good." Parish members were asked to please keep all the Elect in their prayers as they made their final journey to the Easter Sacraments.

At right, Fr. Patrick Reynolds sends forth the Catechumens and Candidates during Mass on Sunday, March 2, 2014 to the Rite of Election as they make their final journey to the Easter Sacraments.



Welcoming The Elect, 2014

Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro: Whaylon Coleman; **Holy Name, Henderson:** Kaley Anne Beck, Lea Ariana Beary, Sabrina Lynn Hoyt, Jakiah K. Phillips, Isaac Thatcher, Kendra Thatcher, Nicholas Thatcher, Elizabeth Drew Willett; **Holy Spirit, Bowling Green:** Johnny Paul Nixon; **Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro:** Jeremy Coakley; **Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro:** Kim Corley, Shane Riley, Jessica Wellman; **Sacred Heart, Russellville:** Travis But-

ler, Tim Long; **St. Anthony, Utica:** Tristan Baker, Logan Trembly, Elizabeth Drew Trembly; **St. Francis Borgia, Sturgis:** Jarron Gibson, Katlyn Mendoza, Ryan Miller, Kenneth Odell Armstrong; **St. Francis de Sales, Paducah:** Cindy Faye Barletto, Madison Nicole Barletto, Kaylin Glenn Keeling, Anna-Jill Mount; **St. Jerome, Fancy Farm:** Matthew Pierce, Robert Dale Towery; **St. John, Paducah:** Alexis Marie Elder, Eric Lynn Elder, Jr., Eric Lynn Elder, Sr., Thomas Gage

Neihoff; **St. Joseph, Bowling Green:** Julie Pearson; **St. Jude, Clinton:** Mary Henley; **St. Leo, Murray:** Patrick Kough; **St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville:** Samantha Howard, Jeffrey Smallwood; **St. Michael, Oak Grove:** Carl Johnson; **St. Michael, Sebree:** Jimmy Lane Frederick; **St. Paul, Leitchfield:** Aaron Lee Davis, Olivia Grace Durbin, Joshua Raymond Krom; **St. Pius Tenth, Calvert City:** Cheryl Sexton; **St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro:** Jeremy W. Guinn; **St. Romuald, Hardinsburg:** Dale Lewis, Devin Sebastian; **St. Stephen Cathe-**

dral, Owensboro: Jackie Gentry; **St. Thomas Aquinas, Bowling Green:** Ryan Appel; **St. Thomas More, Paducah:** Travis Drake, Amy Glasgow, Cooper Richeson, Riley Richeson; **St. William, Marion:** Lila Edmonson; **St. William/St. Lawrence, Daviess County:** Kasey Purgerson; **Sts. Joseph and Paul, Owensboro:** Oriana Boone, Madison McKinney, Cody Vasquez, Vicki Wilkerson; **Sts. Peter and Paul, Hopkinsville:** Patricia Lynn Abell, Richard Dennis Abell, Jessica Burnett, Kenneth Odell Kaiser, John William Lewis

Parishes Meeting At Mary Carrico Catholic School Gives Parents More Chances To Choose What's Best For Childrens' Education

By Mel Howard

KNOTTSTVILLE, Ky. - On Feb. 11, 2014, St. William and St. Lawrence pastor Father John Okoro sent a letter to his parishioners to ask their advice and input about inviting more Catholic families in the parishes to enroll their children in the Church-owned-and-operated Catholic School, Mary Carrico Catholic School (MCCS). Fr. Okoro wrote, "...knowing that the majority of the school age children are NOT attending the Parish School, prompts this letter."

Fr. Okoro requested a Parish Community Meeting for the afternoon of March 2 in the school gym to have a question and answer session and to give time for parish leaders to express "ideas on why we need to continue this form of Catholic Education." Fr. Okoro's letter said, "I am also interested to hear why some do not choose to take advantage of the Parish School." The letter concluded, "One of the beautiful things about being in a small community is that everyone is involved and cares deeply what goes on within the Parish. We are one family here in these two Church Communities. This is your opportunity to share with me what this means to you and where you would



Fr. John Okoro, pastor of St. William and St. Lawrence parishes and Mr. Chuck Green, MCCS Principal, led the Parishes Meeting Feb. 11, 2014.

like the Churches and the School to be in the future. May God Bless you!"

The afternoon began with a Mary Carrico Catholic School Progress Report 2014 given by Principal Chuck Green. Right off the bat, Mr. Green opened with a prayer and then pointed to a wall of the gym with a picture display and Reflection Letters created by the MCCS Eighth Graders; every one of the 62 students in the school were photographed with cell phone cameras for this display. Mr. Green proceeded to list the many activities and



A gathering of over 100 MCCS parents, grandparents, friends, and school staff heard Mr. Chuck Green's Progress Report of the school, "... why MCCS is having a great school year..." Mel Howard Photos

successes at MCCS this school year.

While listening to Mr. Green's talk, I was carried back to a time in the middle 1980s when Father Phil Riney, then Priest-Pastor at Trinity High School, one of the Catholic High Schools in the diocese, challenged the school community to make itself known in the geographic area from which families sent their students to Trinity for a Catholic Education.

To paraphrase Father Phil, "If this Catholic School is living up to its mission and purpose, then we and the people in this county will be seeing these students good works and good news in the papers and on TV. Trinity students will be having an impact on the culture of this area."

It took Mr. Green a good 20 minutes to tell the audience of over 100 people

Continued on page 37

A Portrait of a Mary Carrico Catholic School Grad: Stronger



Kameron Lanham. left, crowning a statue of Mary in May, 2013 in St. William Church, with Allanson Rhodes, center, Sami Jo Lanham, who both attend DCHS. Kameron is a freshman at OCHS. Submitted Photo



Kameron Lanham, center, spoke about her experiences as a MCCS student and her choice to continue her Catholic education at Owensboro Catholic High School where she is enrolled in honors classes. Mel Howard Photo



Free-spirited, Strong: words which Kameron Lanham, shown here at Owensboro Catholic High School, feels describe her life as a Young Catholic today.

Mel Howard Photo

why MCCS is having a great school year and an impact on the Catholic culture in Eastern Daviess County. Mr. Green admits he is not a salesman or given to speech-making; his talk was no brag, just facts. He said, "My goal will always be to recognize student work and promote Excellence." He connected that good student work, their excellence, with the dedication of the competent and caring MCCS faculty and staff. For a guy who is not selling anything or a famous orator, MCCS Principal Chuck Green kept his audience riveted.

Mr. Green concluded, "The bottom line for me is this: We are not other schools, actually we can't be other schools. We are Mary Carrico Catholic School, but with more time and more money, our school could eventually get the same resources, training, salaries etc... that others schools benefit from... but no, and let me emphasize the word, no, amount of money or no amount of time will ever, or can ever be made available to other schools to be able to provide what I see every single day here at Mary Carrico and that is prayer during the school day: many special prayer services and Adorations, morning prayer, afternoon prayer, prayer at lunch and prayer at our weekly celebration of Mass. And to me, that makes all the difference. Thank you for your time."

From there, Mr. Green, Fr Okoro, and emcee Barry Bickett facilitated the questions and comments from the people in the audience who brought many ideas to the meeting about why and how Mary Carrico Catholic School is fulfilling its mission to provide Catholic Education in



John Williams, holding his son, Clement, 5 mos., smiled with his wife Jill during Mr. Green's Progress Report



Listening Intently. Emma and Ella McManaway listening to the discussion Feb 11.

conjunction with the schools parents who are their children's first teachers.

One speaker asked for a canvass of the school's geographic area to know more precisely the number of children eligible for MCCS kindergarten. Another asked for more validation of the students' personal skills and their successes in public ways. Many spoke about finding helpful ways to give young parents facing today's tough economy with answers for sending their students to MCCS.

One father spoke of how he moved his family to Knottsville and when it came time to choose a school for them, he researched the schools in the county, not knowing much about MCCS. When he researched MCCS, he said, "I was amazed. Right here in our own small community, we have this jewel of a Catholic School." His children go now to MCCS.

Two employers in the Daviess County area spoke of how Catholic School students outshine other applicants whom they interview, including MCCS alumni.

Many grandparents and senior Catholics in the audience spoke from their experiences with Catholic Schools. To a person, these senior Catholics affirmed that a Catholic School experience was worth the sacrifices they made for their children's Catholic education.

Some parents rose to speak about how their children need remedial work in math and the sciences in high school after leaving MCCS. Both Mr. Green and a teacher from Owensboro High School, as well as two MCCS grads now working in their careers in the area rose to say that



Owensboro High School English teacher Sandy Lanham spoke about trends in today's instructional methods in high schools, advised Catholic families to prepare their children for the challenging modern US workplace which values skilled language and technological abilities to succeed.

the tasks of learning math and science skills is not just something MCCS grads may have trouble with, but every school in the Commonwealth and in the USA finds itself putting more focus on training students in math and science skills and content. Jennifer Cecil, an OHS English teacher, said, "A parent has to understand there are strengths and weaknesses in every teacher. A parent has to weigh the pros and cons of a child's experience and learning, and monitor their child's school activities and successes."

John Williams came to the microphone to speak saying why he and his wife, Jill, chose MCCS for their children. He said, "We've seen that the students at MCCS come from a family and community background which is like a breath of fresh air for us all - these children have so much more common sense and courtesy here. We all have a responsibility here."

Every speaker had the affirmation of being heard and their questions validated, even the challenging ones.

The meeting closed with addresses from Superintendent Jim Mattingly and Assistant Superintendent Ann Flaherty from the Diocesan Catholic Schools office. Both spoke of the church's commitment to Catholic Education as well as shared their own children's experiences in going to Catholic Schools. From among the many statistics brought to light



Lifelong Catholic School supporters Linus Murphy, left, and Bob Brown came to the meeting to support Mary Carrico Catholic School both this school year and in coming school years. "Send me in, Coach!"

Mel Howard Photos

in the meeting by various speakers, Mr. Mattingly offered one more: "The quality, compassion, and the vitality of Catholic School educators has real effects upon a student's learning and achievement. In any given Catholic school year, students are enlightened by 1,100 hours in a Catholic environment, atmosphere, and instruction, not only here at MCCS, but in every Catholic School of our diocese."

The people came to this Parish Community Meeting expecting to brainstorm ideas for improvement and changes to the school to increase enrollment. They left

Continued on page 38

Container Collection for the Mandeville Diocese Set to Begin

By Richard Murphy

The Owensboro Diocese and the Mandeville Diocese are set to begin a collection of goods for a shipping container to provide needed items for education and healthcare for the children and needy adults in Jamaica. The collection will begin in April and run through June 2014. At the request of the Diocese of Owensboro, the Mandeville Jamaica Diocese sent a list of needed items for their Schools, Boys Home and healthcare providers.

Parishes, Schools and other groups are asked to select an item or a collection of items and the number of each they can commit to for this project. They asked to report their selections, including the number of items, to Richard Murphy, the coordinator for the collection, by phone or email. He can be reached by phone at 270-683-1545, and by email at richard.murphy@pastoral.org. Selections made will be logged and tracked to make sure that all items named have a chance to be filled. By May 17, 2014, all participating groups are asked to have the items collected and ready to ship to the collection point at 409 Park Plaza Dr. in Owensboro, Kentucky. The balance of the items not collected by 5-17-14, should be received by the end of May and no later than June 6, 2014. All items collected should be boxed, labeled as to the contents, and have a numerical count on the box of the items enclosed.

Why the container collection is needed, like the Ash Wednesday collec-

tion, is quite simply that the Diocese of Mandeville is a mission diocese in the second poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. It has difficulty gathering all the necessary operating funds and supplies from within its own parishioners. The people of Jamaica are hard-pressed by a lengthy recession on the island since 2008. The Mandeville Diocese has at the same time difficulty meeting the great needs of the people. It is a continuous challenge for the Mandeville diocese to rise to the growing needs that exist in all areas of life there. The Diocese has established educational institutions and healthcare facilities to serve both the immediate needs of their people as well as provide the means and opportunities that will serve their long-term needs. The Diocese faces a continual difficulty in keeping their institutions resourced to meet the growing needs of the people that they are in place to serve.

Take schools for example. The Diocesan Schools were established and exist under the Lord Jesus's directive to "go forth and teach all nations" with the aim of educating youth under the Catholic tradition of caring, service and a commitment to justice. There are 10 Early Childhood Institutions, (ages 3-5) across the three civil parishes in the Diocese. There are six Preparatory Schools, (ages 5-10) and one high school, St. Vincent Strambi High School in Bull Savannah. There are 3 vocational training institutions, and the Catholic College of Mandeville that provides teacher training and is expanding to

-
- **Early Childhood Prep/High School Educational Materials**
- Reading books- 1000 for children ages 3-6 years
- Reading books- 1000 for children ages 7-12 years
- Plastic Aprons- 1000 (for art and craft)
- Cartons of poster paint-1000 set of 6 colors
- Tubes of play dough/modelling clay- 3000 tubes
- Sheets of construction/cartridge paper- 3000 assorted colors
- Hard cover/note books- 4000
- Packages of building blocks- 100
- Educational DVD's- 100
- Packages of pencil crayons- 1000 pk of 12
- Lead pencils- 2000
- Boxes of pens- 100
- Packages of markers- 1000
- Coloring books- 1000 for children ages 3-6 years
-
- **School Supplies**
- Backpacks- 500
- Pairs of brown school shoes (both for boys and girls)- 100 sizes 3-6
- Pairs of black school shoes (both for boys and girls)- 100 sizes 6-11
-
- **School Furniture**
- Desks and chairs for kinders- 405 for children ages 3-6 years
- Desks and chairs for students- 260 for children ages 7-17 years
-
- **Sports And Play Equipment**
- Soccer balls- 100
- Netballs- 50 *Suitable For School Playground* (special game played in Jamaica)
- Swing sets- 10
- Slides- 10
- Merry go Round- 10
- Climbers- 10
-
- **Mustard Seed Home/St. John Bosco Boys Home**
- Pairs of Tennis shoes- 150 sizes 6-12
- Tin foods (tuna, sardines) (Note: we will send these down with Mission Immersion trips)
-
- **Medical**
- Dental chair with delivery unit 1 (We have found 1 dental chair; if there is another, good)
- Suction unit 1
- Compressor 1
- Extraction forceps 1
- Autoclave machine 1
-

provide degrees in other disciplines. The Diocese also operates an orphanage, Mustard Seed Home and boys home, St. John Bosco Boys Home.

Supplemental to these educational

resources, they operate a food program for children that ensures that they receive at least one nutritionally complete meal a day at school. Also a scholarship program serves to subsidize the cost of schooling, transportation and lunch money for needy families.

The container collection will primarily collect supplies for these schools and institutions and some healthcare supplies for a proposed a dental clinic in the Mandeville Diocese. You will find a list below of items requested, the numbers requested and for what age or group. Parishes, Schools, and interested groups are encouraged to pick up to three choices and name the amounts of each they propose to supply. They are then requested to contact Richard Murphy on or before April 25, 2014 and let him know of their selections. If others have already filled an order, then it may be necessary for a group's second or third choices to be targeted.

Parishes Meeting At Mary Carrico Catholic School *(Continued from page 37)*



the building that day with a thought about why Catholic education matters. Principal Chuck Green said why as he spoke of the best part of every school week at MCCS for him and the whole school - praying at Mass, "I don't know exactly what they pray for during Mass, but I'll bet they pray for you, their moms and dads, for their sick grandmom or granddad, for their friend, for their pets. And no matter what they pray for, they leave that Mass a better, more peaceful child than when they entered."

No brag, just fact!

Sister Eula Johnson, SCN, listened to the talks at the MCCS gym about helping families with school age children to enroll their children in Mary Carrico Catholic School.

Mel Howard Photo



Watch the video
lolekproductions.com
and click on the pink button.



 **LOLEK**
PRODUCTIONS

Who is Amy Carrico?

By Teresa Anne Hayden

I clicked to start the Lolek Productions video, "Amy Carrico - Testimony - Stronger." I was curious. Who is this Amy Carrico? And I was introduced to a lovely young Catholic woman with striking blue eyes. She captured my interest before she ever spoke a word. It was her eyes. Something in her eyes made me want to hear her story. So I listened. Intently. And I was moved to tears by one of the most beautiful testimonies I have ever heard.

Sharing my thoughts about Amy Carrico has proven to be one of the most difficult articles I have ever written. I don't usually have this problem. You give me a subject and I can write about it. I wasn't expecting the hurdle.

After several days of making little progress, I realized my words were inadequate to convey Amy's spiritual journey. I was like someone who had experienced a near death experience; I struggled to find the right words that could express what I witnessed.

Amy's thoughts were simple, but profound; her contemplation full of human and spiritual emotion. So I fought for the right words, the right thoughts, the right insights to share. I prayed that God would help me to get it right.

Humbly, I admit there is not anything earth shattering that I can say about Amy Carrico. No one can express who she is better than herself. She tells us with her eyes, her mannerisms, her facial expressions, and her tears. Her soul is ex-

posed to the camera. And it's hard to put to words what her soul has so eloquently revealed.

I understand that my thoughts will never do Amy Carrico's story justice. Her testimony must be experienced. And Lolek Production's video is how you do that.

It is in watching Amy Carrico's testimony that the ministry of Lolek Productions was illuminated for me. It is truly a gift to the rest of us. It does something that I can't do. I'm not sure any writer could. Lolek's use of video embodies a medium that can portray the goodness of God in the lives of his children in a unique and special way. It shows us the beauty within the person. Whole. Unabridged. Honest. Complete.

I think there is no better story than a person's testimony of faith. I believe Amy Carrico's video testimony is a masterpiece. Lolek should be proud of the blessing they have produced.

With that said, I will strive to share what I took away from this courageous young woman's testimony.

Seconds into the the Lolek Productions video, Stronger, I knew Amy Carrico. She tells us who she is: a wife, a young mother, a dentist, a friend, a sister,

a daughter, an aunt, and a child of God. Amy Carrico could be any one of us.

But then Amy adds: "And I have cancer."

She pauses. She's mentally wrestling with her reality. Her crystal blue eyes well up with tears. And before me, I see her inner struggle. At this point in her life, cancer is holding her hostage. But I get the impression from Amy: Cancer is what I have, not who I am. It will not be what defines her.

At 38 years old, Amy is one year older than my daughter. She tells us that her mother was diagnosed with cancer at age 44, and died at age 53. Her thoughts about her mother touched me more than anything she will say throughout her testimony. Personally significant, they seared my heart like a dagger: "I always wanted to be like my mother, but I don't want to be like my mother today. Because I don't want to pass away".

Listening, watching and processing what Amy says, I realize that the tension between the temporal and eternal is a thread woven throughout her story. Every thought she shares reveals her conflicting feelings as she vacillates between heaven and earth. Her heart was devoted to those she loves in this earthly life. "I want to live. I want to be there for my family," she says. At the same time, she is loyal to the will of God. "God has a plan and I'm looking for it - I'm looking for what he has for me." I imagined her on a bridge between the two worlds, crossing back and forth, searching for that plan.



Images from the video Stronger.



The reality is that Christian's live between heaven and earth every day. We struggle through our own trials believing in the afterlife, all the while holding on for dear life to the present. But Amy Carrico's battle is intensified because of cancer. She grapples with the reality of two worlds on a much deeper spiritual level. She is traveling to inner places the rest of us cannot imagine. But she is traveling with humility and courage: "I accept it. I'm accepting the cross. I accept the day to day cross."

Throughout the video, Amy wrestles with these dualities, exhibiting her emotions as she struggles to understand, accept, and reconcile her life after cancer has invaded her world. I hear her saying to me and others: I am fighting this thing, but I surrender to God's will. I have hope that I will live, but I know that God may call me Home. I want to be here for my children, but I am ready to go to heaven. I am afraid, but I am at peace with God.

Cancer is testing Amy Carrico's faith. But after hearing her testimony, I believe it has made her stronger. Lolek Productions got it right.

Lolek Production's Larena Lawson, in speaking of those suffering with cancer and other illnesses, said: "In their trials, we see God's grace working." Amy tells us at the beginning of her testimony: I am



a child of God. I saw that reflected in her eyes, a glimpse into her soul: God's grace working in one of his children. And that is the secret to what made me want to hear Amy Carrico's story.

Regardless of how her life plays out, Amy knows: "On the other side is heaven and that's where my soul is going to be." For a child of God, for Amy Carrico, for all of us - that truth is absolute. And that is what I take away from her story.

Teresa can be reached online in this new social media era at
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or at
[Twitter@tahwriter](https://twitter.com/tahwriter).

TEC To Celebrate Life of Co-Founder Dorothy Gereke



METAIRIE, La.: - Members of TEC communities celebrated the life and faith of Dorothy Gereke April 5, 2014 during a Memorial Mass at St. Christina Catholic Church, Chicago, Il. Rev. Matthew Fedewa, the founder of TEC, presided at the Eucharistic celebration. Immediately following the memorial liturgy there was a reception at the church, then interment of Dorothy's ashes at Oak Hill Cemetery

in Chicago.

Dorothy Gereke, 89 when she died on February 6, 2014, was instrumental in co-founding the Teens Encounter Christ Movement with Rev. Matt Fedewa in 1965, in the Diocese of Lansing, Michigan.

TEC (originally Teens Encounter Christ, now also To Encounter Christ, Together Encounter Christ, Troops Encounter Christ) is a recognized Movement of the Roman Catholic Church, offering to youth and young adults an experience of the Paschal Mystery of Jesus through a three day experience, then facilitating ongoing spiritual growth through an intergenerational faith community and adult mentors. Today TEC is active in 44 dioceses in the United States, as well as 6 international sites.

Dorothy channeled her love for Christ and young people, touching thousands lives over the years and introducing them to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Janet Drey, former executive director of the TEC Conference reflected why the TEC Movement has lasted nearly 50 years and touched the lives of countless older adolescents and young adults, inspiring many vocations. "The answer is quite simple and profound: at the heart of the TEC Movement are two individuals who are the 'real deal'". She compared Fr. Matt Fedewa and Dorothy Gereke

to what author Ron Rolheiser would call "saints" for today:

They are people who "LIVE the way rather than point to the way. They give their whole lives over in such a way that they have the power and the principle in invite others to give their lives over. The call to follow Jesus comes from God. But the call often has to come from those who are so committed in themselves that they can credibly call others."

Every day of her life, Dorothy sought to live what TEC identifies as "paschal mystery spirituality". She was an authentic witness to a life lived in Christ, open to the promptings of the Spirit, and willing to let go of what stood in the way. She did not cling to what was comfortable, familiar or successful, but continued to learn and grow and allow God to work in her and through her to sow seeds and produce much fruit.

Dorothy Anne Neibauer Gereke was born in Emmetsburg, Iowa on February 19, 1924. She entered the Sisters of Mercy in 1943 and completed nursing school in 1948. She was the Administrator of the Sisters of Mercy, Leila Y. Post Montgomery Hospital in Battle Creek, Michigan from August 1957 – June 1966, helping to found TEC in this era. From 1966-69 she served as Diocesan TEC Coordinator in the Diocese of Lansing, Michigan, all the while helping to start TEC in multiple other regions. After leaving religious life in 1969, Dorothy continued to work in health care for many years and in 1973 married Paul Gereke. They lived in Boca Raton, Florida. In 1985 she was surprised to learn that TEC was still in existence, and felt called to become re-engaged as an advisor and leader.

After her husband's death in 1991, she traveled extensively as an "Ambassador for TEC" in U.S., Bahamas, Germany and Czech Republic. She was involved in the development of the National TEC Manual. She helped start Troops Encounter Christ on three Military Bases, as well as Koinonia in Nassau, Bahamas, Boca Raton, Florida, Lansing, Michigan, and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. In 1998, she had the joy of traveling to Rome with TEC's Episcopal Moderator Emeritus Archbishop Roger Schwietz, OMI and others to present the TEC Manual to Pope John Paul II. Into her eighties, Dorothy was engaged with the work of the TEC Conference and her home TEC Community in Florida. She was a valuable contributor and a spirited evangelist. In 2007, she was accepted as an associate member of the Sisters of Mercy, Midwest Region, and was able to reconnect the two ministries that had been at the heart of her life and faith journey. In December 2010, Dorothy's

life spent in the service of the young church was recognized when she and Fr. Matt Fedewa received a Lifetime Achievement Award from The National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry.

In recent years, Dorothy's health had been in decline, however, her constant prayer and presence to TEC continued to her final days. Dorothy Gereke died on February 6, 2014 in Boca Raton, FL where she lived, and a funeral mass was held at her home parish, Joan of Arc Catholic Church. Consistent with her wishes, her cremated remains will be buried in Chicago next to her late husband, Paul Gereke. In lieu of flowers, Dorothy asked that memorial donations be made to the TEC Conference.

The TEC Conference, the central organizing body of the TEC Movement, is a 501(c)3 non-profit. The TEC Conference is committed to provide formation and education of adult leaders, quality resources, and a network of support and communication. The TEC Conference remains committed to the development of TEC as an integral part of the US Catholic Bishops' vision of total youth and young adult ministry.

Please Pray For The Repose of the Soul of Sister of Charity Mary Justin Wheeler



Mary Justin Wheeler, SCN, 102, a native of St. Thomas Parish, Bardstown, died Saturday, March 1, 2014, at Nazareth Home, Louisville. Sister had been a Sister of Charity of Nazareth for 85 years.

Sister Mary Justin served in Community Service and as Cafeteria Supervisor in Kentucky and Ohio for 74 years. Sister became a resident at Nazareth Home and served in the Apostolate of

Prayer since June 2004.

In the Diocese of Owensboro, Sister served as Cafeteria Supervisor at St. Frances Academy from 1940-1951 and at Owensboro Catholic from 1951-1983. Sister Mary Justin was beloved by her family members, her Sisters in community, the students and teachers. Clergy faculty members at Catholic High used to love to pay her their respects and often enjoy a conversation and a special treat in the convent kitchen.

Sister is survived by nieces and nephews, and her religious community. The Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Vincent Church at on Friday, March 7, followed by burial in Nazareth Cemetery.

Holy Redeemer Parish To Host Silver Jubilee Celebration June 22

Holy Redeemer Church in Beaver Dam will turn "50" this year. The parish family invite all to our celebration on Sunday, June 22, 2014. Sunday Mass is 11:00am (CDT) followed by a light lunch and fellowship in the parish hall. Bishop Medley is planning to be in attendance.

Come see how we have grown in the past 50 years.
Submitted by Dee Black, planning committee

In describing her philosophy of Gospel living, Dorothy wrote in 2007:



"My prayer each day is to journey with Christ in his Paschal Mystery of living, suffering, dying, rising, and going forth to serve others and build the Kingdom of God. I pray each day that the Lord will change, transform and transfigure me so

that as others see me, they will see beyond me to Christ. I ask for the grace to live out my days gratefully, gracefully and faithfully." She lived by her favorite scripture from Jeremiah and the central scripture for TEC from the gospel of John:

"For I know well the plans I have for you, says the Lord, Plans for your welfare, not for woe! Plans to give you a life of good and a future filled with hope." (Jer 29:11)

"Amen, Amen, I say to you, unless the grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains a single grain of wheat, but if it dies, it produces much fruit." (Jn 12:24)

Catholic Pastoral Center Planning Day at Mount Saint Joseph

April, 2014 41

Nearly 50 members of the Catholic Pastoral Staff of the Diocese of Owensboro came to the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center on Feb. 10 for a day of retreat. At 11:30, they shared Mass with the Most Rev. William Medley, on the fourth anniversary of his ordination as bishop of Owensboro. Here are pictures from the day.



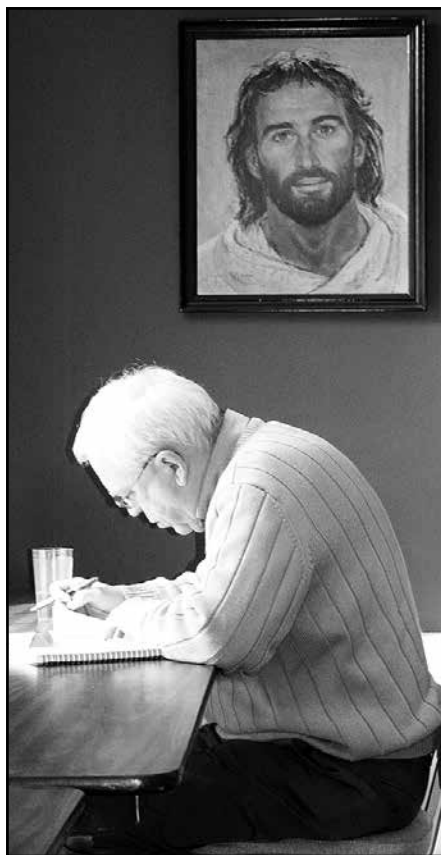
Sister Ethel-Marie Biri, SSND, director of pastoral planning and parish services for the diocese, goes over some paperwork the staff would use for their reflection time.



Melinda Prunty, director of youth ministry, moved to the peacefulness of the Madonna Room for her reflection time.



Charlotte Hedges, left, and Elaine Thomas listening to Kelly Hedges, right, give input about a question in the planning discussion. MSJ Photo



Ernie Taliaferro, chief financial officer, feels the sunlight from the chilly day and the guidance of Jesus over his shoulder. MSJ Photos



From left, Bishop William Medley, Jim Mattingly, Joe Bland, Susie Solorza, Sr. Joseph Angela Boone, OSU, and Richard Murphy enjoying a break in planning day talks on Feb 10, 2014 in the MSJ second floor conference room, figuring out a Magic Loop" ... Mel Howard photo



... another group from the diocese gathered in Conference Room B with facilitator Sr. Geri Hoye, OP.: from left, Mary Ann Kurz, Charlotte Hedges, Brenda Thomson, Kelly Payne, Elaine Thomas, Karen Jarboe, Donna Biggs, Rita Hayden, Robin Tomes, and other CPC Administrative Assistants. MSJ Photo



At right, Bishop William Medley, left, and Bishop Emeritus John McRaith look over the liturgy guide prior to Mass.

At left, Kathy Rasp, administrative assistant to Bishop William Medley, looks over her notes. MSJ photos



St Jerome Parish Sent Youth and Adult Leaders to March For Life 2014

By Jennifer Thomas

FANCY FARM, Ky. - What does it mean to be confirmed? What role do I have as a young adult in the church? Why is abortion wrong? Is your voice really heard when dealing with issues of social justice? These are just a few of the questions we have answered this year while teaching the freshman confirmation class at St Jerome Parish.

We always encourage our youth not only to know their faith but to live it! After Confirmation prep was completed our focus became Christian Morality. The topics were social justice, moral truth, honoring God, and respecting life. This year we decided to attend the March for Life in Washington D.C. This is an event marking the anniversary of Roe vs Wade, the infamous Supreme Court ruling that made abortions legal in 1973. This experience helped link the answers to the questions they had to multiple social issues as a generation. As Christian believers, this showed them there are many ways to take a stand against the "culture of death" in our society today.

We were definitely guided by the Spirit the entire trip. Traveling with 27 people couldn't have been easier. Planes were on time, buses as scheduled, food provided, transportation available, and at times the most unexpected needs met. On Sunday afternoon we attended mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. After mass we walked around in amazement at the ornate beauty of this National Shrine. Several of the confirmation students were able to find their confirmation saint and to pray at their altar. This was followed by walking the National Mall to see the monuments. This was a great way to see a grand display of the sacrifices others had made to protect our religious freedom and the human rights of others. This has been a focus for us this semester.

We once again were amazed by the sacredness of the Arlington National Cemetery. We discussed the faith-filled tone of John F. Kennedy addresses to the nation. The students found a connection to him not only because he was Catholic but because he believed in the capability to make a difference and being the light to the world. Many shared how his words spoke to them and what they meant. They were able to learn about the moral compass of Abraham Lincoln and how he



stood up for the rights of others ending slavery. It was refreshing to see that it was and is okay for leaders to be Christians and to let our faith guide our decision-making regarding right and wrong.

This walk through time where others had been in their fight and victories against social injustice was a great example of the impact our voice can have. We became an active part of the movement to remove the culture of death within our society. We joined hundreds of thousands to march on our nation's capitol in protest of the millions of lives lost to abortion. We learned about the effects of abortion and the current victories being made to shut down abortion clinics across the country. We heard witness and testimony from those who chose life in the most difficult situations. One mother who had taken the abortion pill RU486 and chose to seek

medical attention to reverse the pill now has a beautiful little girl 6 years old. This made an imprint on our hearts forever! We witnessed the negative effects abortion has on a young mother and her baby, not to mention, how abortion changes the course of history as God intends it to be. Throughout the trip we prayed for the unborn. We said the rosary with thousands of youth and adults in attendance. We were captivated by speakers such as Chris Stefanick, MC at the DC Armory Youth Rally and Mass for Life. We left charged by Rev. Adam Park, challenge to be "superheroes with the same power that flows through Pope Francis and our bishops, to change hearts!"

Shown in the two pictures at left are those who attended from St. Jerome Parish: Zachary Barnett, Shelby Dodson, Brooke Ellegood, Dylan Freeman, Ethan Hart, Kelsey Jones, Camryn Kennemore, Rebecca Marlow, Kinsey Mills, Allie Seavers, Claire Thomas, Luke Vaughn, Alexis Watt, Tony Barnett, Melvin Dodson, Staci Ellegood, Bridgid Mills, Sherry Jones, Theresa Kennemore, Bobbye Mills, Tracy Watt, Ellen Carrico, Rylee Carrico, Hogan Mills, Jennifer Thomas, Janet Wilson, and Wanda Wilson.

We would like to thank the community and parish of St. Jerome for their support in making this trip possible.

Submitted by Sherry Jones, Secretary, St. Jerome Church, Fancy Farm.



St. Jerome Parishioners at March for Life 2014, left to right: Theresa & Camryn Kennemore, Rylee Carrico, Kelsey Jones.



St. Ann Parish Youth Choir

This talented group of children provided the beautiful Music for St. Ann Church at our 2013 Childrens' Christmas Eve Mass at 4:00. The Choir members are Rosa Federico, Lillian Goodlow, Lucia Federico, Annie Beaven, Morgan Beaven, Ashley Duckworth, Grace Rigdon, Sally Beaven (Director), Emily Greenwell, Danielle Greenwell (Director), and Holly Greenwell.



St. Ann Alumni Christmas Choir

These talented musicians grew up singing in our Youth Choir at Christmas Eve Mass and now return each year as our Alumni Christmas Midnight Mass Choir. We appreciate their dedication and commitment in sharing their talents. The Choir members are Danielle Greenwell (Director and Organist), Holly Greenwell, Eli Ervin (Pianist), Tonya Wilson, Mallory Ervin, Nathan Patterson, Henry McGuire and Sally Beaven (Director and Organist). Photos submitted by Sally Beaven.



The Daniel Pitino SHELTER

Our Current Needs:

In addition to money and volunteers, the Pitino Shelter always has need of other important items. Here is a partial list of our most-needed items:

- canned goods
- diapers (all sizes)
- towels and washcloths
- blankets
- pillows and pillowcases
- sheets (twin and full)
- soap
- shampoo
- deodorant
- feminine hygiene products
- laundry detergent

For information on donating items, contact Tonya Johnson.

Phone: (270) 688-9000

Email: contactus@pitinoshelter.org

The Daniel Shawn Feinstein Challenge.

Please use MY money to help your neighbors in need!

My name is Alan Shawn Feinstein. For the past 16 years, I have been giving away \$1 million each year to anti-hunger agencies throughout the country.

This year, I am doing it again...

Whatever you donate to the Daniel Pitino Shelter, I will add money to it until April 30, 2014. The more You give, the more of my \$1 million They'll get — Thanks To You! Please give whatever you can - I gladly add my money to yours.

Please put "Feinstein Challenge" in the Memo section of your check made out to The Daniel Pitino Shelter.

Thank you.

Source: <http://www.feinsteinfoundation.org/images/5pageNewPage2014.pdf>

Please call (270) 688-9000 to find out how you can help. Email: contactus@pitinoshelter.org or stop by the Daniel Pitino Shelter, Mon.-Fri. 8am-4pm, at 501 Walnut St., Owensboro, KY 42301.

Our God says,

Give clothes to anyone who needs them and be kind to your own family.

Safety

We have zero tolerance for violence, threats of violence, disrespect, weapons, drug / alcohol possession or use.

This is what the Pitino Shelter means to us:

"The Pitino Shelter offered me a safe place to stay while I work on earning my GED."

-Loretta

"After I lost my job, we lost everything. The Pitino Shelter helped us with dental work, clothing and fixing our car. I was able to obtain a job and begin rebuilding our life."

-Chris & Nichole

"I am working on my bachelor's degree in criminal justice. Thanks to the Pitino Shelter, I did not have to choose between paying my rent or paying my college tuition."

-Mary

"I have lived at the Pitino Shelter for about a year. While there, I have obtained employment, started a savings account, and learned some valuable life skills that will help me when I obtain my own home."

-Holly

"As a single mother of three, I am sometimes overwhelmed with what to do. My Case Manager & the Childcare Coordinator help guide me to available resources in our community."

-Amanda

Source: <http://www.pitinoshelter.org/success.htm>

Annual Chili Cook-off and Parish Potluck Warms St. Thomas More Parishioners

By Missy Eckenberg

PADUCAH, Ky. - Over 100 St. Thomas More parishioners joined together to enjoy the annual parish potluck and chili cook-off hosted by the Pastoral Council, Sunday, January 26, 2014 in the parish hall. Entrants brought their individual "special recipe" chili to the kitchen in crock pots and each was assigned a number to allow for anonymous assessment. Fr. Brandon Williams and Fr. J. Patrick Reynolds anchored the judging team to pick the top three winners including first place - Sharon Brumlow, second place - Corbett Johnson, and third place - Andrew Thompson. The event is held each year the weekend before the big Super Bowl game to allow participants to sport their favorite team jerseys and get their chili recipes ready for the big game.



Chili Cook-off winners for 2014 were L to R - 1st place - Sharon Brumlow, 2nd place - Corbett Johnson, and 3rd place - Andrew Thompson.

All successful parish events have workers in the kitchen including Nancy Burch and Carolyn Murphey.



Eucharistic Adoration

4 p.m. - 5 p.m.

2nd Sunday of the month



The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph invite you to join us for Eucharistic Adoration on the second Sunday of each month to pray for vocations. Our next date is **Sunday, April 13.**


Ursuline Sisters
of Mount Saint Joseph

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

Eucharistic Adoration is from 4 p.m. - 5 p.m. at the **Motherhouse Chapel** (located 12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56) and concludes with evening prayer. If you are unable to be present, please join us in prayer for this special intention.



Fr. Brandon Williams begins the judging of the chili while Pastoral Council member, Katie Rudolph reads the samples.



Deacon Terry Larbes and Matt Evans show their very different team spirit. A house divided?

Saint Mary of the Woods CS Art Contest Winners!



On Wednesday, February 19, 2014, Sr. Suzanne Sims and art teacher, Kathy Henson, presented Mercedes Moore and Will Edge a \$25 prize each for their winning art contest entries from the district. The contest was sponsored by the local Fraternal Order of Eagles, Yellow Banks Area #4168. Submitted by Kim Rydecki

Good Work!

On Monday, March 10, 2014, Jeremiah Millay posed with his mother, Maura Millay. Jeremiah was one of three Students of the Month at Saint Mary of the Woods Catholic School, with Ben Goetz and Xavier Morris.



SMWS Photo

Abortion Hurts Women And Men

By Debbie Ward

The title of this writing was chosen by Sara Jane (not her real name) who wrote the following testimony of her abortion and her experience of God's mercy and healing. She shared with me that she heard the title phrase on EWTN, the Eternal Word Television Network, after making the Rachel's Vineyard Retreat Jan. 31 – Feb. 2, 2014. For her, this time of year is especially difficult, filled with dark memories of unforgettable pain and trauma...



... salt in the wounds ... not just of "the day", but of all that followed. "Yes, abortion does hurt women! That is so true!" she said. "They (abortion clinic) don't tell you about the pain of the procedure and emphatically deny there will be any painful consequences later. And they did not listen to me."

Sara Jane heard about Rachel's Vineyard from her church bulletin and again, EWTN, in which she watched a rerun of a series called, 'The Post-Abortive Woman – Healing and Hope', on Johnette Benkovic's 'Women of Grace'. Featured guests were Fr. Ben Cameron, CPM, site leader for the Kentucky Rachel's Vineyard team and a young woman who shared her story of multiple abortions and her experience of God's mercy and healing. It can be watched at <http://www.womenofgrace.com/> In sharing her story, Sara Jane hopes that it will make a difference for others who may be suffering the pains of abortion.

I have bi-polar illness and would like to say it doesn't have me! I have suffered this illness as a young adolescent. My ability to see things in clarity is a big problem for me at times. All of my life I wanted to be "somebody"; it never clicked that I was / am "God's child"! After many failed attempts to be recognized as my parents' child, love, kindness and compassion never seemed to come my way. So I sought it elsewhere.

I joined the military and in 1977 found myself joyfully pregnant. I was somebody! I was a mother who could love her child unconditionally! But still seeking the approval of my parents, which was totally put to shame, my baby and my well-being was being threatened. I found myself in a doctor's office just getting info on abortion. The doctor started questioning my morality toward the Catholic Church and said the Catholic

Church would shun an unwed mother; I would be excommunicated, etc. I, not realizing this, signed the paperwork to have the abortion. But while being wheeled to the room, I changed my mind, telling the staff and doctors I had changed my mind that I wanted to keep my baby! The nurse was very sympathetic saying that's ok, patting

my hand. I tried to get off the table; the orderlies tied both of my hands to the table. I was screaming and kicking, no one came to help me. I can still remember the suction and the doctor telling me to be still (as I was still trying to break free) he had to make sure he got all of the pieces. I was 13 weeks pregnant in November 1977.

Until I attended Rachel's Vineyard I was never able to live. The retreat was in January 2014. I was apprehensive to go, actually scared of what would happen. But once I told my story there was a calm. I felt God's presence and healing surrounding me. This burden I had been carrying for so many years was starting to get lighter; I felt I was on my way to recovery. Many thanks to the team that helped and supported me, especially during the ordeal of telling my story. I experienced a peace that I had never experienced before.

The weeks following the retreat I have been able to forgive the doctors and staff for the pain inflicted and for not listening to me. Unforgiveness is a great obstacle to healing. So it was a great sigh of relief to surrender all the anger and unforgiveness. There is grace that comes with forgiveness of others and I have found that to be true for myself, as well. It has helped me to regain my identity and get on with my life. I have put it to rest.

I highly recommend that other women and men who suffer from

abortion make a great effort to attend a Rachel's Vineyard retreat. Don't wait. I wished I had known sooner about Rachel's Vineyard. Repent, forgive and experience the mercy and healing of God!

- Sara Jane - Owensboro, KY

Are you worn out by one-on-one therapy, or by group therapy? Have you been to confession, but just can't seem to "let go" of the feelings of guilt from your abortion, even though you know that God has forgiven you? Or are you just beginning to realize how much you are hurting, and you want to get right with God again?

Rachel's Vineyard offers a unique approach to healing the wounds of abortion. We do not focus primarily on the emotional hurts, and therapeutic techniques to work through feelings (though a licensed professional therapist is part of every retreat team). Nor do we look at abortion as a purely spiritual wound, which can only be approached through prayer and confession (though a Catholic priest is an important part of every retreat team). Rachel's Vineyard sees the human person as both body and soul - with body, emotions, and a spiritual soul that longs for union with our Creator. There is ultimately only one Healer, only one Divine Physician who can heal each and every wound suffered. Rachel's Vineyard is a retreat process: over the course of a weekend (Friday evening until Sunday afternoon), our experienced team will accompany you on a spiritual journey, a journey back to God, a journey in which we reflect on the Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior and Healer, and allow Him to do what only He, our God, can do - to heal

us and restore us to emotional and spiritual health. April, 2014 45

Many have never been allowed to grieve the loss of their children, never been permitted by well-meaning family and friends, to acknowledge the humanity of their children and the loss of the relationships they might have had if things had been different. Rachel's Vineyard provides a safe, confidential place to do this with the loving support of one another and of the retreat team - all of whom have been through the same retreat experience themselves. Rachel's Vineyard helps all of us to once again believe in, and to experience, the power of God's Infinite Mercy, which can heal all wounds, both the emotional and the spiritual wounds suffered during a lifetime - whether they came before, after, or during the abortion experience(s).

We invite you to contact us, and to join us on one of these unique, but powerful retreats. May God bless you until that time!

Retreat dates:

Tennessee site - August 15 – 17, 2014

Kentucky site - April 10 – 12, 2015

Info: <http://hopeafterabortionky.com/>

Contact: Debbie: 270-205-

4388 (Kentucky) [debbie@](mailto:debbie@hopeafterabortionky.com)

hopeafterabortionky.com; or Mary:

901-277-5114 (Tennessee) [mary@](mailto:mary@hopeafterabortionky.com)

hopeafterabortionky.com

For more information about the Rachel's Vineyard healing ministry, post-abortion syndrome, and weekend retreat sites and dates, please visit the official Rachel's Vineyard website <http://rachelvineyard.org>, or call 1-877-HOPE-4-ME (1-877-467-3463).



The Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand were founded in 1867 by four sisters who came from Covington, Kentucky.

Now numbering 157, our sisters minister in schools, parishes, diocesan offices, retreat centers, health care facilities, and social service agencies.

Currently two Ferdinand Benedictine sisters serve in the Diocese of Owensboro.

SISTERS
OF ST. BENEDICT
FERDINAND, INDIANA
.....
Seek. Pray. Share.

802 E. 10th Street
Ferdinand, IN 47532
812-367-1411
thedome.org • info@thedoms.org



Busca en la pagina de web para:
lolekproductions.com

Haga un Clic para ver el video.



 **LOLEK**
PRODUCTIONS

¿Quién es Amy Carrico?

Por Teresa Ana Hayden

Hice clic para iniciar el vídeo de Producciones Lolek . Tenía curiosidad. ¿Quién es este Amy Carrico? Y me presentaron a una mujer católica joven encantadora con ojos azules. Ella capturó mi interés antes de que ella hubiese dicho una palabra. Eran sus ojos. Algo en sus ojos me dio ganas de escuchar su historia. Así que escuché. Atentamente. Y me conmovió hasta llorar por uno de los más bellos testimonios que he escuchado.

Compartir mis pensamientos sobre Amy Carrico ha sido uno de los artículos más difíciles que he escrito. Normalmente no tengo este problema. Usted me da un tema y puedo escribir sobre tal tema. No me esperaba este desafío.

Después de varios días de hacer poco progreso, me di cuenta de que mis palabras eran inadecuadas para expresar la jornada espiritual de Amy. Yo era como alguien que hubiese vivido una experiencia cercana a la muerte; me costó encontrar las palabras adecuadas que puedan expresar lo que he visto.

Los pensamientos de Amy eran sencillos, pero profundos, su contemplación es llena de emoción humana y espiritual. Así que luché por las palabras adecuadas, los pensamientos correctos, las ideas correctas para compartir. Yo le pedí a Dios que me ayudara hacer las cosas correctamente.

Humildemente, admito que no será lo mejor del mundo cualquier cosa que yo pueda decir sobre Amy Carrico. Nadie puede expresar lo que ella es mejor que ella misma. Ella nos dice con sus

ojos, sus gestos, sus expresiones faciales y sus lágrimas. Su alma está expuesta a la cámara. Y es difícil de poner en palabras lo que su alma manifiesta de manera tan elocuente.

Entiendo que mis pensamientos nunca van a hacerle justicia a la historia de Amy Carrico. Su testimonio debe ser experimentado. Y el video producido por Lolek es como uno puede experimentarlo.

Es en ver el testimonio de Amy Carrico que el ministerio de Producciones Lolek fue iluminado para mí. Es realmente un regalo para el resto de nosotros. Hace algo que yo no puedo hacer. No estoy segura que cualquier escritor pudiese también. El uso de los videos de Lolek incorpora un medio que puede representar la bondad de Dios en la vida de sus hijos de una manera única y especial. Nos muestra la belleza dentro de la persona. Todo. Honesto. Completo.

Creo que no hay mejor historia que el testimonio de la fe de una persona. Creo que el testimonio de vídeo de Amy Carrico es una obra maestra. Lolek deberían estar orgullosos de la bendición que han producido.

Dicho esto, voy a tratar de compartir lo que me llevé del testimonio de esta joven valiente.

Segundos de ver el vídeo la Lolek, "Stronger", yo conocí a Amy Carrico. Ella nos dice que ella es: una esposa, una madre joven, un dentista, una amiga, una hermana, una hija, una tía, e hija de Dios. Amy Carrico podría ser cualquiera de nosotros.

Pero entonces Amy agrega: "Y tengo cáncer."

Hace una pausa. Ella está mentalmente luchando con su realidad. Sus ojos azules se llenan de lágrimas. Y delante de mí, veo su lucha interior. En este punto de su vida, el cáncer la a echo su rehén. Pero Amy me da la impresión que: Cáncer es lo que tengo, no lo que soy. No va a ser lo que la define.

A los 38 años, Amy es un año mayor que mi hija. Ella nos dice que su madre murió de cáncer a los 44 años. Sus pensamientos sobre su madre me tocaron más de lo que ella va a decir a través de su testimonio. Personalmente significativa, que hirió mi corazón como una daga: "Siempre quise ser como mi madre, pero yo no quiero ser como mi madre hoy. Porque yo no quiero fallecer".

Al escuchar, ver y procesar lo que dice Amy, me doy cuenta de que la tensión entre lo temporal y lo eterno es un hilo tejido a lo largo de su historia. Cada pensamiento que comparte revela sus sentimientos conflictivos como ella oscila entre el cielo y la tierra. Su corazón es dedicado a los que ella ama en esta vida terrenal. "Quiero vivir. Quiero estar ahí para mi familia ", dice. Al mismo tiempo, ella es fiel a la voluntad de Dios. "Dios tiene un plan y estoy en busca de el - Estoy buscando lo que él tiene para mí." Me la imaginé en un puente entre los dos mundos, cruzando un lado a otro, en busca de ese plan.

La realidad es que los cristianos viven entre el cielo y la tierra cada día. Luchamos por nuestras propias pruebas de creer en el más allá, a la vez que nos aferramos a nuestra propia vida actual. Pero la batalla de Amy Carrico se intensifica

debido al cáncer. Ella se enfrenta con la realidad de dos mundos en un nivel espiritual más profundo. Ella viaja a lugares interiores que el resto de nosotros no puede imaginar. Pero ella está viajando con humildad y valentía: "Lo acepto. Estoy aceptando la cruz. Acepto el día a día de la cruz".

A lo largo del video, Amy lucha con estas dualidades, exhibiendo sus emociones como ella lucha para comprender, aceptar y reconciliar su vida después de que el cáncer ha invadido su mundo. La oigo decir a mí y a otros: Estoy luchando con esto, pero me entrego a la voluntad de Dios. Tengo esperanza de que voy a vivir, pero sé que Dios me puede llamar a casa. Quiero estar aquí por mis hijos, pero yo estoy dispuesta a ir al cielo. Tengo miedo, pero yo estoy en paz con Dios.

El cáncer es la prueba de fe de Amy Carrico. Pero después de escuchar su testimonio, creo que se ha hecho más fuerte. Producciones Lolek lo hizo bien.

Larena Lawson de Producciones Lolek , habla de las personas que sufren de cáncer y otras enfermedades, dijo: "En sus pruebas, vemos la gracia y la obra de Dios." Amy nos dice al principio de su testimonio: Soy una hija de Dios. Vi que se refleja en sus ojos, una mirada a su alma: la gracia de Dios trabajando en uno de sus hijos. Y ese es el secreto del cual me dieron ganas de escuchar la historia de Amy Carrico.

Independientemente de cómo su vida se desarrolla, Amy sabe: "En el otro lado esta el cielo y ahí es donde mi alma va a estar." Para un hijo de Dios, para Amy Carrico, para todos nosotros - la verdad es absoluta. Y eso es lo que me llevo de su historia.



Catholic Relief Services es la agencia oficial de la comunidad católica de los Estados Unidos para ayuda humanitaria internacional. Estamos llamados a salvar vidas, combatir las causas y efectos de la pobreza, promover la dignidad humana y ayudar a la edificación de sociedades más justas y pacíficas, fuera de los Estados Unidos. CRS alivia el sufrimiento y ofrece asistencia a personas necesitadas en cerca de 100 países, sin importar raza, religión o nacionalidad. -

See more at: <http://www.crsespanol.org/#sthash.ZGCLM375.dpuf>. CRS Cartel por Jim Stipe.



Mons. William F. Medley, Obispo de Owensboro

Queridos hermanos y hermanas,

En los próximos días, la Iglesia entra en la más solemne de las fiestas. Semana Santa comenzará e iglesias en todo el mundo recrearan ritualmente el Domingo de Ramos la entrada triunfal de Jesucristo en Jerusalén. Jueves Santo, Viernes Santo y la Vigilia Pascual, que es el sábado se celebran como el Triduo Sacro. Conmemoramos la Cena del Señor, la Pasión y muerte de Jesús, la espera en la tumba, y el misterio de la Resurrección.

Todas estas fiestas se celebran en las iglesias parroquiales, en todas las iglesias parroquiales a menos que el pastor tenga la responsabilidad de varias iglesias. La mejor forma de disfrutar esta temporada es la de participar en cada uno de estos días santos plenamente.

Ubicado en estas celebraciones conocidas es una celebración diocesana importante que la mayoría de los católicos nunca han experimentado. Cada año, el obispo preside la Misa Crismal. Lo ideal sería que este ritual se celebrara el Jueves Santo por la mañana. Sin embargo, como el corazón de la celebración es involucrar a todos los sacerdotes de la diócesis en la concelebración con su obispo, el cumplimiento puede ser transferido a otro día porque los sacerdotes deben viajar grandes distancias, ya que también deben estar en sus parroquias individuales durante la tarde del Jueves Santo. En la Diócesis de Owensboro la Misa Crismal se celebra la noche del martes de la Semana Santa.

La Misa, que el obispo concelebra con el colegio de sacerdotes y en la que se consagra el santo crisma y se bendice a los otros aceites, se manifiesta la comunión de los presbíteros con su Obispo.

El santo crisma consagrado por el obispo se utiliza para ungir a los nuevos bautizados, sellar los candidatos a la confirmación, y para ungir las manos de los sacerdotes y los jefes de los obispos en la ordenación, así como en los ritos de unción perteneciente a la dedicación de iglesias y altares. Este año, al menos, tres de los hombres se consagran en las órdenes sagradas; Diáconos Will Thompson y Emmanuel Udoh serán ordenados por la diócesis y el Deacon John Brossard será ordenado por los Padres de la Misericordia. Todos los jóvenes que se están preparando para la confirmación el próximo año serán sellados con el crisma consagrado este año.

El óleo de los catecúmenos y el óleo de los enfermos se bendicen también. El primero se utiliza en la preparación de los catecúmenos para el bautismo. El segundo se utiliza para llevar consuelo y apoyo a los enfermos en su enfermedad. En concreto, conviene entonces que los candidatos a las órdenes sagradas y de la Confirmación y catecúmenos participan en esta bendición y el ritual.

Los sacerdotes se juntan y concelebrar la Misa como testigos y cooperadores de su obispo en la consagración del crisma, ya que comparten en el sagrado oficio del obispo en la construcción, santificación y a gobernar al pueblo de Dios. Por lo tanto, esta misa es una clara expresión de la unidad del sacerdocio y del sacrificio de Cristo, que seguirá presente en la Iglesia.

También durante esta misa todos los sacerdotes presentes hacen una renovación de sus promesas sacerdotales, y recuerdan el día de su ordenación. Resuelven ser "más unidos con el Señor Jesús y más cerca conforme a él. "Ellos resuelven del mismo modo que ser "fieles administradores de los misterios de Dios en la Sagrada Eucaristía y los otros ritos litúrgicos ... y desempeñar fielmente el cargo sagrado de la enseñanza."

La asamblea cristiana está llamada a rezar por los sacerdotes que el Señor preserva como "fieles ministros de Cristo, el Sumo Sacerdote".

La Misa Crismal es sin duda una de las reuniones más importantes de la iglesia diocesana en todo el año. Invito a todos ustedes, y en especial si usted nunca ha experimentado esta celebración a venir este año a la Sportscenter de Owensboro el martes 15 de abril a las 6:30 P.M.

Que Dios los bendiga a todos.

William F. Medley

+ Mons. William F. Medley, Obispo de Owensboro

Invito a todos USTeDES,



y en ESPECIAL Si
USTeD NUNCA HA
EXPERIMENTADO
ESTA CELE-
BRACIÓN A VENIR
ESTE AÑO A LA
SPORTSCENTER DE
OWENSBORO EL MARTES 15 DE
ABRIL A LAS 6:30 P.M.



Calendario del Obispo Medley para Abril 2014:

Abril 1	9:00 a.m.	CPC Reunión de personal y misa, Centro Pastoral
Abril 2	9:00 a.m.	Misa Estudiantil, Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson
Abril 3	11:00 a.m.	Misa Estudiantil Maximilian Montessori Academy
Abril 5	5:00 p.m.	Confirmación, St. Rose of Lima, Cloverport
Abril 6	11:00 a.m. [EST]	Confirmación, Holy Guardian Angels, Irvington
	6:00 p.m.	Misa, Murray State University
Abril 7	6:30 p.m.	Servicio de sanación y oración, Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro
Abril 9	6:15 p.m.	Diaconato de Paducah Encuentro de Formación de Fe, St. Mary Elementary School, Paducah
Abril 11	10:00 a.m.	Misa del 25o Aniversario, Obispo Emeritus Gettelfinger St. Benedict Cathedral, Evansville, IN
Abril 13	11:00 a.m.	Misa Domingo de Ramos, St. Stephen Cathedral
Abril 15	6:30 p.m.	Misa Crismal, Sportscenter, Owensboro
Abril 17	7:00 p.m.	Misa de Jueves Santo, St. Stephen Cathedral
Abril 18	7:00 p.m.	Servicio de Viernes Santo, St. Stephen Cathedral
Abril 19	8:00 p.m.	Vigilia Pascual, St. Stephen Cathedral
Abril 26	5:00 p.m.	Confirmación, St. Alphonsus, Owensboro
Abril 27	10:00 a.m.	Confirmación, St. Pius X, Calvert City
	3:00 p.m.	Misa del 175o Aniversario, St. John the Evangelist, Paducah
Abril 29	10:00 a.m.	Misa Estudiantil, St. Mary High School, Paducah
	6:30 p.m.	Conversaciones con estudiantes del 12o grado, St. Mary High School, Paducah
	6:30 p.m.	Confirmación, Blessed Mother, Owensboro
Abril 30	6:00 p.m.	Confirmación, St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Nuestro Traductor Oficial



Luis Aju, Jr.

Luis Aju, Jr. es nuestro traductor oficial del Católico Occidental que cubre la carta mensual del Obispo Medley al pueblo y el calendario mensual, además de otros artículos publicados en Inglés, que creemos que son de interés y útiles para los Católicos de habla Hispana en el Occidente de Kentucky.

Luis Aju, Jr. is our official Western Kentucky Catholic Spanish translator which covers Bishop Medley's monthly letter to the people and monthly Calendar, as well as other published articles in English which we think are of interest and use for Western Kentucky Catholics who read Spanish.



En nombre de Dios



Luis Aju

Semana Santa, Semana Mayor

Por Luis Aju

Por ser días de reflexión y oración. Para los católicos es de máxima importancia, puesto que son días que es-

tamos invitados a pensar sobre el Plan de Dios para nosotros. Dios, envió a su Hijo Jesus, para enseñarnos a vivir, en medio de los grandes desafíos y problemas que tenemos para vivir. Creemos en un Jesus en su Cruz. Se nos olvida la dimensión del dolor, al verlo clavado en una cruz. Nos quedamos pensando, "Que duro es seguir a Jesus"

Una Cruz sin Jesus no sería el verdadero Jesus. (Me explico; Ser un cristiano católico, o de otra nominación, no significa solo ver el sufrimiento del prójimo; sino ser parte del sufrimiento de él). Nosotros creemos en Jesus, pues es El, quien nos invita a triunfar al final de nuestras luchas de esta vida; después de los padecimiento que enfrentamos día a día, los cuales serían las vicisitudes y retos de la vida.

Tendremos una Resurrección. No hay resurrección sin pasar por las penas de la vida, que a veces nos lleva hasta la muerte. Muchos males los creamos nosotros mismos, otros males vienen de otras personas hacia nosotros.

La celebración de la Semana Santa, trae a nuestra mente, a las personas que padecen alguna enfermedad, y no tienen acceso a un doctor, o a un tratamiento, que le ayude a tener esperanza de curarse, y seguir viviendo con su familia. Esto es llevar la Cruz a costas, con un peso especial.

El día 9 de matzo 2013, en la Casa de

Santa Marta, El Papa, Francisco dijo en su Homilía "He who hates his brother is a murderer" but many times our communities, even our families have become a hell in which we criminality kill our brother with words" Continued-can be destroyed by envy that sows evil in the heart and courses one to speak badly of the other"

Ojala que después de nuestros sacrificios hayamos aprendido a respetar a Dios, como al prójimo. Una cuaresma de aprendizaje.

Jesus, también sufre hoy día, en el silencio de la soledad y el abandono de las personas ancianas, indigentes y marginadas. Por su origen o por la causa que le hayan dictaminado los que tienen el poder.

No hace falta hacer una representación en las calles, vestirse de Jesus o de cualquier otro personaje, solo basta con ver a la gente que sufre día y noche, en las fábricas, en las granjas o en la propiedad de un terrateniente, que paga a sus trabajadores una miseria. Existe también la explotación a la gente, que trabaja en las oficinas, donde pocas veces su trabajo es reconocido como debería de ser. Es fácil ignorar los esfuerzos que cada persona hace.

Jesus no es solo una historia, vive en medio de nosotros, El, también sufre con nosotros, Jesus es el que nos anima y ayuda, porque solo el peso de la indiferencia, el desprecio y la humillación, son suficientes para destruir el espíritu. Pero Jesus está con nosotros, El, nos da la fortaleza diariamente hasta el día de nuestra resurrección.

Querido Lector usted sabe que, toda acción tiene su efecto! Venga de donde venga. Por lo tanto el efecto de Nuestras actitudes caerán sobre nuestros hombros el día en que seamos juzgados por nuestro Creador.

Un Encuentro Milagroso con Juan Pablo II

Por Larena Lawson

Recordando a Juan Pablo II trae recuerdos extraordinarios para el Padre Julio Barrera, Vicario Parroquial de los Santos Pedro y Pablo; recuerdos que él sabe que nunca olvidará. Su primer encuentro con el santo Papa era nada menos que un milagro.

Cuando el Padre Julio estudiaba en un seminario en su México natal, su querida madre Sara Martínez Gómez, se puso muy enferma. Los médicos descubrieron un tumor en el cerebro y se le dio un diagnóstico terminal. Ellos no esperaban que viviera más de seis meses. Debido al alto costo de cuidar a su madre, el padre Julio tuvo que dejar el seminario, algo que realmente no quería hacer, pero lo encontró necesario para que su familia pudiera con el costoso tratamiento que necesita desesperadamente a su madre.

Mientras que él estaba en el seminario, el Padre Julio se enteró de que era bueno rezar a un santo en el día de su canonización y pedir su intercesión por una intención especial. El Papa Juan Pablo II llegó a México a finales de julio del 2002, para canonizar a Juan Diego, al mismo tiempo que Sara estaba sufriendo de su grave enfermedad. Padre Julio creía firmemente en el poder de la oración de intercesión y él oró fervientemente a San Juan Diego por un milagro que sanara a su madre. También quería que su enferma, madre ya muy débil fuera capaz de ver al Papa Juan Pablo II durante su estancia en México. A pesar de que estaba muy enferma y no se sentía capaz de hacer el largo viaje a la Ciudad de México desde su casa en Amecameca, el Padre Julio insistió en que hiciera un esfuerzo. Él fue capaz de hacer llegar a su madre a la magnífica celebración y sorprendentemente encontraron un lugar para ellos, entre la gran multitud de personas, a lo largo del borde de la calle donde el papamóvil iba a pasar. "De repente, él (el Papa Juan Pablo II) voltio su rostro donde mi mamá y yo estábamos de pie." El Padre Julio recuerda con alegría, como si sólo sucedió ayer ", y el Papa extendió la mano y le dio una bendición ... y fue sólo un segundo, probablemente sólo un segundo después, que mi mamá se puso mejor. Días después la llevamos al hospital para más pruebas, y el tumor había desapareció. De una cosa que estoy seguro es de que era Dios, haciéndolo ... y luego,



Sara Martínez Gómez en frente de la Basílica de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe en la Ciudad de México en una visita al lugar sagrado de peregrinaje, en agosto del 2008, seis años después de que ella experimentó su curación milagrosa, cuando el Papa Juan Pablo II fue allí para canonizar a San Juan Diego el 31 de julio del 2002. Foto aprobada para publicación por el padre Julio Barrera; presentado por Larena Lawson.

a partir de ese momento, yo ... era tan feliz! "

El Padre Julio y su familia creen que Dios escucha las oraciones y que Dios obró a través de la intercesión de San Juan Diego y la bendición especial del Papa Juan Pablo II para sanar a Sara. Nuestro padre que estás en los cielos utiliza a estos hombres santos como sus instrumentos. Todo es recordado como un encuentro santo y milagroso a través del cual el Todopoderoso y eterno Dios mostró su amor infinito y la misericordia; con Dios todo es posible. Dios nuestro Creador es el proveedor de todos los dones, con todo lo que ocurre de acuerdo a su santa voluntad y propósito.