

Rejoice in the Lord always!
Philippians 4:4



HOLY SPIRIT
CATHOLIC CHURCH

*All are invited to attend the
Mass of Dedication of our new
Church Building located at
4754 Smallhouse Road,
Bowling Green, Kentucky on*

*December 12, 2010
11:00 am*



Western Kentucky Catholic Graphic by Jennifer Farley Hunt

**Western Kentucky Catholic, 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, Kentucky 42301
Volume 37, Number 10 December, 2010**

Diocese of Owensboro

St. Thomas Aquinas
Catholic Campus Center

World Youth Day

Pilgrimage

Madrid, Spain Travel Dates -

August 13-23, 2011

Estimated Cost- \$2,500 per person,

Open to young adults, ages 18-30.

Registration Deadline and
\$500 deposit.

For questions and registration,
contact Mary Reding, 270-872-7818
reding.mary@yahoo.com

In Making A Difference We Glimpse Anew The Real Christmas Story

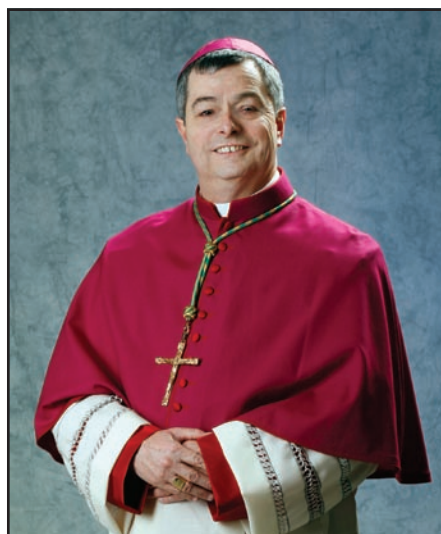
My dear friends,

As Catholic Christians, we are often called to coexist in two worlds simultaneously. We live in a world "charged with the grandeur of God," in the words of the poet Gerard Manley Hopkins, and a world weary and distrusting of anything that hints of God and God's place.

The holiday season accentuates such coexistence. In our churches and at liturgies we observe these first 24 days of December as a time of waiting and watching. We remember the first coming of Christ into the world as recorded in the gospels while all around us that focal moment in human history is observed as a commercial extravaganza.

One thing seems certain: we will not radically alter the American way of Christmas. But always the Church and particularly the church of the family can bring the grace of God to what may otherwise seem a barren landscape. It is a cliché to speak of keeping Christ in Christmas, but indeed that is what our liturgical season Advent is about. In our churches and in our families, we remind ourselves to slow down and wait for God to act in our lives.

One important development, Christmas tradition that seems to be growing, is a very positive one. Families, office groups, classes and groups and organizations have come to realize that our obsession to exchange gifts often leads to a lot of people having a lot of possessions that they neither need nor want. So groups today adopt individuals or families with genuine needs and try to brighten their day and season. Time and again I hear stories of genuine Christmas joy coming to us who have so much be-



**Most Reverend William F. Medley
Bishop of Owensboro**

cause we can make a real difference. And in making a difference we glimpse anew the real Christmas story of God's finest gift to us: the birth of Jesus Christ.

In many ways I kind of lost Christmas last year. It was on December 15 that I was introduced as the newly appointed fourth bishop of Owensboro. Circumstances just picked me up and my life was not entirely my own. Where has the year gone? Well, perhaps I will reflect more on that in the February, 2011 edition of the Western Kentucky Catholic when the anniversary of my ordination comes around.

For now, let me say that Advent of 2009 will be memorable as I will always recall that God still has the capacity to surprise his people with unexpected calls. The Advent gospels will relate stories of Mary and Joseph, Elizabeth and Zachariah all surprised by turns in their lives.

Holy Name Student's Art to Be Featured on HCA 2010 Christmas E-Card

By Anna Mayo, 8th grade student at Holy Name School HENDERSON, Ky. - As the weather becomes chillier and winter comes around, Christmas enters our mind. Christmas, a holiday spent giving gifts and decorating Christmas trees, is a time where we reunite with old friends and spend more time with family. There are so many traditions that come along with this holiday including certain types of treats, like candy canes, setting up nativity scenes, and Christmas cards or sometimes... e-cards.

Kennedy Nash, an eighth grader at Holy Name School, has won The Holy Child Association's (HCA), a Pontifical Mission Society, Christmas Artwork Contest this year. The association has chosen Kennedy's original artwork, depicting the birth of Christ, from thousands of students across the nation, to be featured on HCS' official Christmas e-card. "I was thrilled," says Nash when she talks about how she felt when she found out she had won the contest.

The design for the e-card shows the birth of Jesus. "It's just a basic nativity scene," Nash stated, describing her card. "It's a great accomplishment for me." What inspired her to draw the design she did? "I just saw that scene in my head," Kennedy explained.

After she finished the artwork for

Continued on page 2



**Kennedy Nash, an eighth
grader at Holy Name School.
Submitted by Connie McFarland**

The Christmas gospels will tell again the stories of shepherds and wise men caught up in a divine drama.

My prayer for you is that this Advent and Christmas find you discovering your place in this still unfolding divine drama.

God bless you,
+ Most Reverend William F. Medley
Bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro

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2 Diocese Begins Revising Diocese Of Owensboro Strategic Plan

By Kevin Kauffeld

Bishop William F. Medley recently announced that we will begin the process of revising the Diocese of Owensboro strategic plan. The revised plan will identify the priorities to be addressed by the diocesan agencies over the next five years. The planning process will provide data and set direction not only for diocesan work but also serve as a resource for parishes in developing their own local plans.

The initial listening session was held on October 23, 2010, at the Catholic Pastoral Center. In attendance were representatives of 61 parishes, consisting mostly of Parish Pastoral Council Chairpersons or designees. In January, the priests of the diocese will participate in a listening session during their annual convocation. There will be additional listening sessions scheduled throughout the diocese after the first of the year. All session formats will be identical.

Catholics in the Diocese of Owensboro are urged to attend the sessions or participate via the diocesan website in order to involve the greatest number of people. More information will be available in the upcoming months.



Sr. Justina Heneghan is from the Office of Personnel and Planning for the Archdiocese of Louisville.



Bishop Medley's Calendar for December

December 1	8-12 p.m.	Priests' Council Provincial Meeting, Owensboro
December 2-4		Visit to St. John Vianney College Seminary
December 4	5:30 p.m.	Mass, Sts. Peter and Paul, Hopkinsville
December 5	10:00 a.m.	Mass, St. Agnes, Uniontown
December 7	9:00 a.m.	Staff Mass and Meeting, CPC
December 8	9:00 a.m.	School Mass – OCES 4-6 Campus
December 8	6:00 p.m.	Mass, Immaculate Conception, Earlington
December 9	10:00 a.m.	CCK Board Meeting, Louisville
December 12	11:00 a.m.	Mass, Dedication of new church, Holy Spirit, Bowling Green
December 15	8:30 a.m.	Admin./Finance Committee Meeting, CPC
December 16	9:00 a.m.	School Mass – OCES K-3 Campus
December 18	5:30 p.m.	Mass, Holy Cross, Providence
December 19	9:00 a.m.	Mass, St. Mary, Franklin
December 21	9:00 a.m.	Staff Mass and Meeting, CPC
December 25	12:00 a.m.	Christmas Mass, St. Stephen Cathedral
December 28	10:00 – 3:00	Paducah Office, Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Paducah
December 30		Eddyville Penitentiary
December 30	5:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer with Seminarians, Passionist Monastery

Holy Name Student's Art *(Continued from page 1)*

the contest, Nash stated she felt unsure about it at first, "But after I was picked I had a lot more confidence in my art. Art is something I've always done and enjoyed." Kennedy Nash will be traveling to Washington D.C. for a Mass and reception honoring the contest winners on December 10. The twenty-three other students across the country have had their artwork selected to be available as e-cards, too.

When the snow starts to fall, Christmas carols are sung, and presents are put under the tree Christmas cards will also be sent. Some of them will sport Kennedy Nash's design of a nativity scene.

Entries are now being accepted at the Holy Childhood Association national office for the 2010-2011 contest. The deadline: January 31, 2011. Entry forms and contest rules are available at <http://www.onefamilyinmission.org/hca.html> <<http://www.onefamilyinmission.org/hca.html>> .

Catholics in the Diocese of Owensboro will have the opportunity to "Share in the Care" of senior religious by participating in the annual collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious (RFR), to be held **December 11-12, 2010**. The collection is coordinated by the National Religious Retirement Office in Washington and provides financial support for the day-to-day care of thousands of elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

Last year, the Diocese of Owensboro contributed **\$39,575.26** to this collection. In 2010, the Sisters of the Lamb of God and the Passionist Nuns received financial assistance made possible by the RFR. Additionally, women and men religious who serve or have served in the diocese but whose institutes are headquartered elsewhere may benefit from this fund.

Since 1988, Catholics in the United States have donated \$617 million to this initiative. Nearly 95 cents of every dollar is used to aid senior religious.

Despite the overwhelming generosity to this fund, many religious communities continue to lack resources sufficient to support retirement and elder care. Of 573 communities submitting data to the NRRO in 2009, fewer than seven percent

were fully funded for retirement.

Traditionally, religious served for small stipends that did not include retirement benefits. Their sacrifices now leave their religious communities without adequate savings for retirement. Compounding the funding shortage are the rising cost of care and the substantial loss of income that has resulted from the declining number of religious able to serve in compensated ministry.

"As the number of wage-earning religious drops, so does income," explains NRRO Executive Director Sister Janice Bader, a member of the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood of O'Fallon, Missouri. "Census projections indicate that by 2019, religious past age 70 will outnumber those under 70 by nearly four to one. We want to do everything possible to help religious communities prepare for the dramatic income reduction that will accompany this demographic shift."

As a result of the 2009 collection, which garnered over \$28.1 million, the National Religious Retirement Office was able to distribute more than \$23 million in financial assistance to 477 communities, representing more than 45,000 women and men religious. By underwriting necessities, such as prescription medication and nursing support, these funds



Sister Betsy Moyer, O.S.U., left, hands a thank you note to Sister Frances Miriam Spalding, O.S.U. Sister Frances Miriam, 92, celebrated her 70th jubilee of religious life in 2010. She served as a teacher and principal for 39 years and then ministered in parishes and the local hospital before retiring in 2007. She is still active at the Ursuline Motherhouse, delivering mail to the sisters. MSJ Photo

help religious communities provide for the ongoing care of elder members. Additional funding was allocated to initiatives targeted for religious institutes with the greatest needs.

For more information on the Retirement Fund for Religious Collection, visit www.retiredreligious.org.

St. Francis Borgia Parish Celebrates With Newly Confirmed Members



St. Francis Borgia Parish in Sturgis, Ky. celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop William Medley on August 29, 2010. Bishop Medley is pictured here with the newly confirmed. Shown in picture from left to right — Taylor Fritts from St. William in Marion, Ky., Loran Russelburg, Bishop Medley, Emily James and Bradley James from Sturgis, Ky. Photo furnished by Marcy James

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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.



Western Kentucky Catholic Graphic by Jennifer Farley Hunt

Diocesan Officials Visit Bishop Soenneker Personal Care Home

By Arlene Cecil

KNOTTSTVILLE, Ky. - At Bishop Soenneker Home, we were very blessed to play host for Bishop William F. Medley at our facility and be with him at Mass on Nov. 4, 2010. Our pastor Father Pat Bittel concelebrated. Present for the service were our residents, staff and the Home's Board members, Jackie Cecil, Loretta Bailey, John Lanham, Warren Lanham and Tim Johnson. Also present were Diocesan Chancellor Sister Joseph Angela Boone, O.S.U., and Kevin Kauffeld from the Catholic Pastoral Center.

After the service, we gave our visitors a tour of our facility, and then a wonderful meal. Thanks go to our excellent cooks, Patti Duncan, Janey Gilmore, and Laura Lanham.

Bishop Medley we look forward to your next visit and will leave the front porch light on and the home fires burning.

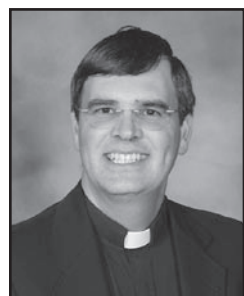
God Bless You !

Bishop Soenneker Home is located at 9545 Hwy. 144, in Knottsville, Ky. For information, call 270-281-4881

Owensboro Diocesan officials, Bishop William Medley and Chancellor Sr. Joseph Angela Boone, OSU, visited Bishop Soenneker Home and took a tour of the facility. In the picture at right, Bishop Soenneker Home cooks, Patti Duncan, Janey Gilmore, and Laura Lanham, stand behind Bishop William Medley and Father Pat Bittel as they are served lunch Nov 4. following Mass at the Home in Knottsville. Arlene Cecil Photo



Kentucky Baptists Join Council of Churches



By Fr. Tony Bickett, Ecumenical Officer

The Kentucky Council of Churches, meeting in Bowling Green, received into full membership the Kentucky Fellowship of Baptists. The

Fellowship, one of 19 autonomous state and regional organizations connected to the national Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, joins 11 other Protestant and Catholic bodies in the state group dedicated to promoting Christian unity through common witness and service. John Lepper, the coordinator for the KFB, was elected 2nd vice-president of the KCC immediately afterward. "We want to do our part in fulfilling the prayers and hopes of Jesus, as reflected in His prayer in John 17, to live in harmony with each other and thus become a testimony to the world," Lepper said.

Also attending the annual Assembly were numerous Catholics from the Diocese of Owensboro. We were blessed to have ten delegates to the Assembly. Since the meeting was held in Bowling Green it was a lot more convenient for our ecumenists to be present and participate.

Three of Kentucky's newest bishops were present and led the Assembly in prayer. The Episcopal bishop, the Rt. Rev. Terry Allen White was consecrated as the 8th Bishop of the Diocese of Kentucky Saturday, September 25. The Rev.

William O. "Bill" Gafkjen (GUFF-ee-ehn) was elected June 5 to a six-year term as bishop of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) at the synod assembly in Covington, Ky. Bishop Sylvester Williams was elected the 58th bishop of the CME Church and Presiding Prelate of the 2nd Episcopal District.

Dana Robert, author of "Joy to the World: Mission in the Age of Global Christianity" addressed the Assembly as did Daryl Balia on trends and dynamics as the local church connects globally. "The priority in Christian mission is to witness to the love of Jesus Christ for the entire world...The mystery of salvation is not ours to know," she added, yet Christians feel compelled to bear witness to the gospel with urgency "as inevitable as breathing". This proclamation happens whenever believers "inhale the gospel"... and then "exhale mission..." Roberts said. Robert indicated that mission is from "everywhere to everywhere," not as much a colonial enterprise as in former centuries but Christians sharing in a global network. Hospitality is the key to understanding the emerging models of Christian mission. Robert reported on "container Christians," immigrants who are smuggled into the Northwest of the United States in freight containers on ships, providing local Christians the opportunity to be in mission without ever leaving the USA.

Daryl Balia pointed out that in mission the scandalous divisions within the Church are brought into focus. "Is it fair to export our internal divisions to the unchurched?" he asked. He wonders how

Christian missionaries can preach reconciliation, "one Lord, one faith, one Baptism," amid their own division. Balia said there have been three major dividing lines in the Church, authority of scripture, meaning of the sacraments and koinonia. The focus today is more on koinonia, relationships. "We need new relationships, dynamic relationships, embodying our life together."

Workshops on Immigration issues and Anti-racism and parish nursing were held on Thursday afternoon and Friday morning.

At the Assembly's Ecumenical Worship service a diversity of clergy led the worship. The preacher for the service was the dynamic Rev Eliseo A. Mejia-Leiva, pastor of the Mosaic United Methodist Church in Louisville. Rev. Mejia-Leiva enthused the Assembly worship with his excellent sermon on including everyone into God's assembly. The assembly adjourned until October 27-28, 2011 when it will reconvene in Georgetown, KY.

Reduced Price to Go to March for Life in January 2011

The Diocesan Gospel of Life Committee is sponsoring a bus trip to Washington D.C. to take part in the March for Life on January 24, 2011. You are invited to join them to speak up for the rights of the unborn. You now have the opportunity to go at a reduced amount from the previously advertised rate. Also you have until December 20, 2010 to decide to go.

Travel will be by charter bus to the Washington area and the group will be staying in Alexandria, Va. at the Best Western Hotel. Here are the rates: \$350 for one person in the room; \$260 for two people in a room; \$230 for three people in a room; and \$215 for four people in a room.

The group will depart from the Catholic Pastoral Center in Owensboro on Saturday night January 22, 2011, and arrive in Washington on Sunday afternoon on the 23rd. On Sunday night the group will go to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception for the Mass for Life, and then return to the hotel that night. The March for Life takes place in the early afternoon. It will be necessary to travel there by late morning. The group will stay the night of January 24 at the hotel. Departure for home will take place on the morning of 1-25-11, and the group will arrive back in Owensboro later that night.

If you believe that you would like to be part of this pilgrimage of faith, fellowship and exercise of citizenship, then please send a check payable to the Diocese of Owensboro for the full amount due and mail it to: Diocese of Owensboro, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, Ky 42301, Attention: Richard Murphy.

Bishop Appoints Tami Schneider as New Family Life Director

By Mel Howard

OWENSBORO, Ky. - In last month's *Western Kentucky Catholic*, we ran a photo of Tami Schneider with the caption underneath, "After The Diocesan Marriage Celebration Mass, Bishop William Medley introduced Tami Schneider, ... as the new Diocesan Family Life Director.

Ms. Schneider was formerly an Administrative Assistant for three diocesan offices in the Catholic Pastoral Center - Vocations, Communications, and Hispanic Ministries. Charlotte Hedges will continue to serve as the Administrative Assistant for the Family Life Office and Catholic Charities.

Since she used to write for this paper, we asked Tami to write a few words about her new appointment to introduce herself as the new Family Life Office Director. Here is what she wrote for us:

"Right off the bat I usually warn people that I'm a Yankee. 'I'm a northerner,' I tell them, 'a born and bred Michigander.' I come from a family of eight children, where I was destined to be the sandwich child at number five. I am the only one in my family though with older brothers and an older sister, younger



Tami Schneider

brothers and a younger sister, which allowed for an array of sibling experiences. Growing up in this atmosphere allowed me to form a love and appreciation for family from an early age. My family continues to be close to this day.

"I attended Catholic schools from

Kindergarten through 12th grade. At age 17, I became a missionary and spent 3 1/2 years studying and serving in Mexico. There I picked up both a mastery of the Spanish language and a strong hold of Catholic Theology. The experience also helped me to become more open-minded and sensitive to the needs of others, especially the less fortunate.

"Within a year of returning home from missionary work, my father was ordained a permanent deacon, and he and my mother began ministering to engaged couples, married couples in crisis and those in need of assistance through the Retrouvaille program. Through their stories and their wisdom, as well as by witnessing the marriage preparation of several siblings, I became very familiar with this ministry and developed a love for it. Marriage is a life-long commitment and adequate preparation is vital.

"During the early part of 2006, I began contemplating going back to college to complete a Bachelor's degree. After an Internet search, a job search and an apartment search, I found myself attending the weekend college program at Brescia University. I graduated in May of 2009 with a Bachelor of Science in Inte-

grated Studies, complete with 3 years of Theology and Philosophy from my "former life."

"When I heard that the Director of Family Life was changing jobs, I immediately considered applying for the position. Prior personal experience and study made it appear to be a perfect fit. Upon further consideration and prayer, and after receiving a letter of appointment, I began my new position on September 13, 2010.

"At present, I am working hard to keep the status quo in regards to marriage preparation programs and am training to work with Catholic Charities in adoptions. Since I am bilingual, I am also keeping busy translating resources and offering programs in Spanish for our Hispanic brothers and sisters. In the near future I hope to either bring in or develop a Catholic marriage enrichment program. The office also offers a wealth of resources on almost any topic related to relationships, marriage, parenting, grieving, etc. I hope always to be attentive to the voice of the Holy Spirit in working toward what is best for the families of Western Kentucky."

Gaspar River Catholic Youth Camp & Retreat Center Wish List

By Ben Warrell, Director

It has been a wonderful year for Gaspar River Catholic Youth Camp & Retreat Center! Our enrollment for summer camp was up by almost one hundred campers and every weekend has been booked for the fall retreat season with the spring dates filling up quickly as well. Our rates will not increase for summer camp and will remain at \$250 for a week long camp session. Because we understand how difficult it is in these financial times, we strive to keep our costs as affordable as possible. After all, what is the point of having an incredible facility and summer camp program if no one can afford to use it? Our cost is less than half the national average for a week long camp experience and our retreat rates are some of the most affordable in the area. We are able to keep our costs down because of the generous support of so many people who give of their time, treasure and talent to make Gaspar River Catholic Youth Camp & Retreat Center an amazing place to get in touch with God. We ask that you please read over our Wish List to see if you can help out in any way. And, if you have any questions about this list or how you could be involved in this ministry, just contact our office at 270-781-2466. Many, many thanks go out to all those who have already given so generously to help make this facility such an amazing instrument for our Church. So many campers and retreat guests have felt the loving power of God while here and your gifts have helped to make that happen. Thanks again for all you have done, all you continue to do and all you will do for Gaspar River in the future. God bless.

• **PRAYERS:** please pray that God will continue to bless us and guide us and that all who come to camp will encounter God in new and amazing ways; that our hearts will be open to

the Holy Spirit and that we will take what is learned here and make a difference for God.

- Lumber-all kinds needed for bunk beds and other construction and maintenance before summer camp.
- A tractor with front end loader for hayrides and maintenance at the facility.
- Camp Angels-sponsors who will help cover the cost of camp for deserving youth.
- Volunteer counselors for camp: must be safe environment certified, please contact our office for more information.
- Work teams-many projects need to be completed here at camp and we need people to be involved and help out.
- Adirondack chairs, hammocks, picnic tables to help guests enjoy the outdoor beauty of camp.
- Haywagon-large enough to hold 40 young adults.
- Sound system-speakers, 2 microphones, wireless microphone, speaker stands, etc.
- Electric, plumbing and carpentry supplies are always in need.
- Tools of all kinds for maintenance-power tools, hammers, rakes, nails, screw drivers, wrenches, etc.
- Major financial donors or sponsors for large projects at camp.
- Batteries-D, 9-volt, AAA and AA.
- Office supplies-copier paper, stamps, pens, envelopes, etc.
- Sports equipment-basketballs, soccer balls, footballs, frisbees, volleyballs, etc.
- Ping Pong table (1)
- Pool Basketball Goal or volleyball set up
- Light bulbs-60-100 Watt standard bulbs
- Furniture (sofas, chairs, tables, lamps, etc.) in good condition

A Scout is Reverent

This year's Religious Emblems mass will take place at Pope Pius X parish in Owensboro on March 20, 2011 at 2:30PM. Bishop Medley will preside at the mass. Religious Emblems typically awarded at this mass for Boy Scouts include: Light of Christ, Parvuli Dei, Ad Altare Dei, Pope Pius XII. Religious Emblems for Girl Scouts include: Family of God; I Live My Faith; Mary, the First Disciple; and The Spirit Alive. Adult Religious Emblems include: Bronze Pelican, St. George for Adults in Boy Scouts and for Adults in Girl Scouts the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and St. Ann. Board of Review dates for Boy Scouts working toward Pope Pius X and Ad Altare Dei will be on Saturday January 22, at 10:00AM with a make-up day of February 5 in case of inclement weather at the following locations: St. Pius X in Owensboro, St. Joseph in Bowling Green, and St. Thomas More in Paducah. Youth Religious emblems applications should be sent to Mr. Jeff Hedges at 821 Canterbury Rd Owensboro, KY 42303-6412. Adult Religious Emblems Applications should be sent to Mr. Dave Ashley at 350 A.G. Daniel Rd Hartford, KY 42347-9535. The applications that do not involve Boards are due by January 1, 2011. If you have any questions you may contact Fr. Ken at 247-2843 or fr.ken@newwavecomm.net

6 Saint Michael the Archangel Catholic Church in Oak Grove, Ky. parish picnic, September 26



In the picture at left top, Devon Baynham plays in an inflatable bouncy house at the St. Michael's parish picnic. At middle left, members of St Michael's enjoyed inflatable bouncy houses at the St. Michael's parish picnic.

At top right, parishioners at St. Michael's enjoyed time together and fellowship at the annual parish picnic held on September 26th. At lower right, Lita, Maria and Glace take a break from volunteering during St. Michael's annual parish picnic. At center right, Emily and Rachel, two young parishioners at St. Michael's, participate in the three legged race during the church's annual picnic. At center left, Father David Kennedy spends time with parishioners during the parish picnic. Submitted by Eric Martin



The Color Purple/Violet

By Debi Hopkins, DRE for Saint Mary Magdalene, Sorgho, Ky

Advent is confusing.

The world turns red and green, gold and silver, bright lights and bells ringing. Yet, in our Catholic churches, the four weeks preceding December 25th are notably restrained. The colors are muted shades of violet and purple. The music is not jingling and ring-a-linging, but again, is restrained. The world is screaming at us, "Hurry Up...Buy Stuff, Eat Stuff, Look at Stuff... Buy More Stuff"! The Christmas clock is ticking. There is a countdown, like for the space shuttle. For the world has a schedule to keep, a ticking off of time, a launch sequence, until lift-off.

It is blessed relief indeed, to enter the calm enclave of our Church. There is no "ticking" there, for time spent in worship, in liturgy, is said to be on God's clock, not ours. No jingling or commercials, not too much mention, even, of Christmas, in our Church, during Advent. Humble or fancy, promi-

nently set on the side of the sanctuary, or suspended in the nave, the main reminder of the season is the Advent wreath. It marks the 4 weeks that pass "in joyful hope." In simple ways like the wreath, the Church reminds us, that Christmas is NOT HERE YET. We need to hear that. Christmas is, after all, not only a day, but a season in the Church, just as Advent is. It begins with the late Mass on Christmas Eve, and lasts until the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus, right after Epiphany in January. So, for all the rushing and stress to get to December 25th, in fact, we have about 2 weeks to really celebrate Christmas...every day.

Although to a lesser degree than Lent, Advent is considered a penitential season, in the purple/violet colors, with the scheduling of Penance services, and the emphasis on prayer and preparation. We are Catholics, and we get it. We understand penance, and waiting. The Church even gives us a reprieve of sorts in the waiting, with the 3rd Sunday of Advent, Gaudete

("Rejoice") Sunday. Penitence is like pregnancy: beleaguered, fraught with stress and stretch, and most appropriate at Advent. We are to wait in joyful hope. The third candle, the pink candle, symbolizes the joyful hope which is our legacy.

Are we waiting with young Mary, the teenage bride of the quiet carpenter, Joseph? Waiting with the expectant couple, as they make their way to Bethlehem? Or, are we waiting for Christ, triumphant, astride a white stallion, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords? We are awaiting both, of course. As was said, Advent is confusing, but we get a fresh chance every December to figure it out. The Church calendar, which begins anew with every Advent, charts a path for everyone of us, an orbital cycle of Sundays, Feasts, and Seasons, repeated throughout the years we live. If we are conscious, cooperative, and awake to this rhythmic process, we can be drawn in closer, tighter, and more intimately connected to the great mystery of our Living God.

Our memories of these seasons often play a big part, as long as we bring

them with us into the present. There are no distinct memories for me of the Advents of decades long past, save one: prepubescent Catholic school children, singing with all the enthusiasm befitting a funeral dirge, "O Come, O Come Em-ma-a-nu-el, and ransom captive I-I-Is-ra-el, that mourn in lonely e-ex-ile here, until the Son of G-o-d appear." Then, our flat altos rising... "Re-Joice, Re-Joice, O I-I-Is-ra-el, to thee shall come Im-ma-a-nu-el."

There must have been a dearth of Advent hymns in the 1960's, because I believe that it is the only one we ever sang, and, by using all the verses, it served both the entrance and dismissal, at what seemed like every Mass during every Advent. That is a lot of mourning, and in lonely exile, too.

We are not "slouching toward Bethlehem," like the beast of Yeats' dark poem, *The Second Coming*.

We are Catholics, lighting pink candles of joyful hope.

Merry Christmas!

Reflections About Christian Conversations: We Belong to the Same Family

7



By Terry Larbes

It was 6 am on a Saturday morning and I was leaving Paducah headed to Brescia; I was wondering if this was the way that I really wanted to spend a Saturday. (The weather forecast made the lure of the golf course pretty strong.) I had registered to participate in the *Christian Conversations: A Bridge to Unity* which was to be an ecumenical meeting in which representatives of various Christian faiths were going to discuss aspects of their beliefs and practices. When I had registered, my enthusiasm for this ecumenical experience was considerably higher than what I was feeling at 6am. My background in anything ecumenical has been limited to work, social situations and a few community prayer gatherings. To participate in an organized meeting such as Christian Conversations was going to be a new experience.

The moderator(s) stressed the hope that the presentations would engender conversations. The initiation of conversations about our faith communities was desired, these conversations should continue after the meeting was over. The basic format was: a Protestant minister would make a 30 minute presentation, a Catholic priest would respond to the minister's presentation; then there would be Questions & Answers. The focus was to listen to better understand as contrasted to a debate or discussing to effect a change in belief. If there was to be a change, then the change was to better accept the other. There were going to be three conversations. Each of the Conversations followed the same topical outline: a brief history or background of that faith community then an explanation of how baptism, Eucharist, and ministry are understood in that faith community. The faith communities represented were United Methodist, Southern Baptist and Presbyterian. We were privileged to have not only qualified speakers (multiple degrees and Ph. D's) but, also, speakers that had very good public speaking skills.

Rather than going into detail about who said what, I'll give you some general impressions. My first impression was to do with the history and background. The ministers presented the positives and negatives of how their faith tradition

started and evolved to its present form. The straight forward almost frank discussion of their history and background helped me to lay down my defenses and just listen. The other impression that I need to state is ... they love Jesus Christ and seek to follow him as LORD. Their concern about bringing about the Father's Kingdom is sincere.

The drive home provided time for me to reflect on the Christian Conversations in which I had just participated. Some of the Protestant churches were structured similarly to the Catholic Church, and their worship had a liturgical basis. Other churches had minimal structure, and the focus was on the local church as contrasted to having a strong national or international organizational structure. The understanding of Baptism and Eucharist spanned a broad spectrum. It was apparent that there was a diversity of approaches in both worship and ministry. The commonality was Jesus Christ; the strong desire and conviction that their church - community was serving Christ by proclaiming the gospel. Despite all the differences, our unifying or perhaps rallying point is Jesus Christ who is LORD. Through him we have salvation.

This reminded me of a recent conversation with my wife, Barb. We discussed how our families, especially our siblings, have changed through the years as we became married ... then parents and ... then grandparents. Some of our siblings have stayed close to the Catholic Church, others have become involved in other churches or other ways. We feel more closely aligned to the siblings that have followed the Catholic way; there seems to be more common ground and shared values. However, we are still involved/connected with the other siblings. There is a lot of love that goes around. We are family.

Jesus said, "Whoever does the will of God the Father is my brother, sister and mother." By that definition, our Protestant neighbors are more than neighbors they are our brothers and sisters. What I had witnessed in the Christian Conversations is the rallying point of Jesus Christ: to proclaim the gospel, to promote the Father's Kingdom. I have more of an affinity for some Christian churches than others but, collectively, we belong to the same family.

Editor's Note: Terry Larbes is one of our diocese's Permanent Deacon candidates and is from St. Thomas More Parish, Paducah, Ky.



Nine members of the Knights of Columbus in Hopkinsville, plus another one who now lives in Louisville, gathered together as a choir on Monday, November 9, to honor their friend and fellow Knight during his funeral. Peter Milbauer, member of Sts. Peter and Paul, died early on Friday, November 5. Photo taken by Dawn C. Ligibel.

Parish Loses Beloved Member

By Dawn C. Ligibel

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. - Three years ago, Peter Milbauer, a member of Sts. Peter and Paul parish in Hopkinsville, insisted they create a Knights of Columbus choir. With assistance from the music director of the parish at that time, the choir was formed much to the delight of the congregation. Soon after, the music director left the parish.

Once again, due to Milbauer's persistence, the choir was brought back to life under the direction of parishioner Missy Craft and accompanist Becky Rideout. Unfortunately, the choir's life was once again short lived because Rideout moved out of state last year just after Christmas.

On Monday, November 8, the Knights of Columbus choir was once again reunited to honor the man who had first brought them together in song. Unfortunately, the choir was missing their founding member, because it was for his funeral that they had all once again lifted their voices to heaven.

Rideout, who now lives in Ottawa, Kansas, heard of Milbauer's death the morning after his passing. "When Missy said, 'I wish you were still here so we could pull the choir together to honor Peter,' I just knew what I had to do," Rideout said. She promptly approached her husband with her idea, and just hours after receiving his blessing, Rideout had her suitcase packed and was driving to Hopkinsville. "I just felt the Holy Spirit was moving me to return for Peter's funeral," Rideout claimed.

Once Pastoral Associate Libby Downs heard what Rideout and Craft had planned, she put the word out to

gather the Knights together. In an e-mail to Grand Knight David Allard, Downs wrote, "Becky Rideout and Missy Craft loved Peter. Becky is driving 9 1/2 hours to be here for Peter's funeral. They are wanting to gather the Knights of Columbus who wish to sing with them. If you are a Knight and want to be a part of this special gift to Peter, please join Missy and Becky." Ten Knights formed the choir that day to honor their fallen comrade. Many of the Knights had to take off work to be there, including one who also drove three hours from where he now lives.

"Pete was the guy who was shot-gunning the whole project," Rocker Spader, close friend of Milbauer said three years ago regarding the initial formation of the choir. At that time, Milbauer responded by saying, "More like ram-rodding the project," he had said with a chuckle.

Jim Creighton, another fellow Knight and choir member, referred to the choir when speaking about Milbauer during the funeral. "For those of you not from Hopkinsville, you should know that this group of gentlemen sitting over there are all members of the Knights of Columbus choir. We are Peter's gift, or curse, to you all," he said spurring laughter from the gathering. "He badgered us relentlessly to come together. Whenever we have come together, it was at his insistence. He deeply believed we should have a choir made up with members of the Knights of Columbus," Creighton concluded.

While insistent and badgering were

Continued on page 13

8 Habitat for Humanity Experience: Life is Filled With Good Second Chances

By Mel Howard

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Find any Habitat For Humanity house under construction in Owensboro, and you'll find people of all faiths and ages driving nails with hammers, carrying boards, lifting newly built stud walls, shoveling dirt, carrying building materials onto the work site, on the move, working to put up a new home, and most often, smiling about it all.

And you'll find several familiar people around an Owensboro Habitat job site - Virginia Braswell, George Pettigrew, and Jim Constant, to name only a few. Others are Verne Bethel, construction supervisor, and Dennis Rennie, working to be a construction supervisor.

Virginia Braswell, executive officer of Habitat for Humanity of Owensboro-Daviess County is the recipient of the 2010 ATHENA Award. The ATHENA AWARD honors a person in the community who has "attained and personifies the highest level of professional excellence in their profession, has devoted time and energy to the community in a meaningful way and most especially has opened doors of opportunity for women." The award is presented jointly by Girls Incorporated and the Greater Owensboro Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Braswell, who receives no pay as executive director, has headed the Habitat organization since 1993, during which time Habitat has built 90 homes for low-income persons. This year, the organization hopes to build another 5 to 7 homes.

Habitat has an open-door policy: All who desire to be a part of this work are welcome, regardless of religious preference or background. Habitat for Humanity has always had a policy of building with people in need regardless of race or religion, and welcomes volunteers and supporters from all backgrounds.

Jim Constant was born in Annetta, Ky. in 1939, and after attending a one room school for 8 years, went to Clarkson High School, graduating in 1958. He got his first college degree from Western in 1962.

Jim's wife, Faye Sims, is from Peonia, Ky., a small community near Annetta. They were married in 1964, and have three sons: Mark, Matthew and Jonathan.

The Constants moved to Owensboro and joined Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in 1967 where Jim has been active in scouting and the choir for many years. He retired from full time teaching in 1995, and started investigating Habitat For Humanity that summer. He started volunteering during the summer months

for the next two year, and worked as a substitute teacher from the fall of 1995 to the fall of 1997.

In the fall of 1997, he was hired and worked as a VISTA Volunteer for the next four years. Volunteers In Service to America is a federal agency that assists a charity with helpers by granting a small stipend for the volunteer. Jim worked to increase the volunteer numbers and to help raise the awareness of Habitat For Humanity in the Owensboro area. He also worked on all fund raising activities and assisted the workers on the construction sites by being a delivery person with the old faithful Habitat Truck.

During his four year tenure for the Owensboro affiliate, he helped start an affiliate chapter of Habitat for Humanity at Apollo High School and at Brescia.



Pictures: top left, Jim Constant in front of the Bishop William Medley House on West 9th Street, Owensboro; top right, George Pettigrew, at left, with HFH applicant, Mr. Cassidy; at center, Bishop William Medley posing with OCHS Habitat for Humanity members Christopher Hayden, Counselor Bev Howard, Stephanie Solorza, and Stephanie Dooper; lower left, Virginia Braswell watches Dennis Rennie sewing grass seed in front of the Bishop Medley Habitat House in Owensboro. Mel Howard Photos

onstrate this love by actions and not by our words.

"I believe," he continued, "that I should believe and act upon the social justice teaching of my Catholic faith. I work for the joy received when a key is given to a new homeowner and I have a very special bond with the senior volunteers that help build the homes. The prophet Micah asked us to always act justly, love tenderly, and to walk humbly with our God. I believe that my work with Habitat helps me to be a Christian witness to the community."

Being that witness to the community is also a prime motivator for George Pettigrew, another of the familiar faces at an Owensboro Habitat for Humanity job site. George, as the young workers from area schools who come to volunteer call him, never meets a stranger, and most often takes the first step to greet a visitor or a new volunteer, making them feel welcome and affirming whatever it is the person can give to the effort at hand - building someone who really needs a home a safe and affordable house for them and their family. George first came to Habitat For Humanity as an applicant himself, needing a place to live. He helped



During the 2002 and 2003 school year, he taught part time at OCHS and at OCTC. He returned to Habitat during the 2004-2005 school year, and was an AmeriCorp volunteer, doing a lot of site work and assisting the volunteers and applicants on the work sites. Jim continued to work in the recycling program and be the delivery person /truck driver. He became a minimum wage part time worker for the affiliate in 2006. Jim has to work a partial day so that I can be at home with my sick wife. She is suffering from cancer.

The Western Kentucky Catholic asked Jim why he does this work for Habitat For Humanity. He said, "the greatest force in the universe is love, and our Lord demonstrated this to all the world by dying on the cross. I believe that we must love our neighbor and that we must dem-

Continued on page 9

Habitat For Humanity Experience: Life is Filled With Good Second Chances

9

(Continued from page 8)

build that house, giving the asked-for 300 hours of his own "sweat equity" toward its construction. He found the Habitat For Humanity experience so personally rewarding that he has stayed with them and started Sept. 1, 2010 working as an Americorps Volunteer.

Both Jim and George said that they feel their work for Habitat for Humanity is a return to their Creator for the gifts He has given them in life. Each has heard the words of Jesus, "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me. (Matthew 25:35-36)" And to this prescription for the Christian life as a disciple of Jesus, each would add as a part of what it takes to help build the Kingdom, "For I was homeless, and you helped build my house."

George said that it "is a humbling experience on a high level for me to meet a lot of these people who want to be a volunteer, a contractor, or an applicant with Habitat for Humanity, young and old. The Lord has put me in a position of service, and I have to give of myself; each of us

here in this Christian-based organization has to. People come to this volunteering with different skills and backgrounds, and I find that a lot of the time I can help work out differences among us, helping each volunteer find the part of the building plan to which he or she can lend their particular skill and interest. We set aside any differences, whether they be age, religion, politics, physical strength, whatever, we let the differences be so that this Habitat For Humanity process can succeed for the applicant, for the one who needs a new home."

George said that a volunteer has to be open-minded. For example, a career carpenter or a college professor who comes to help may be needed to pick up scrap paper from the ground, be in a service position whereas they may be used to being a group leader in their career. "Here on the job site," he said, "you do what is right in front of you and needs doing."

George said that in his life since coming to Habitat for Humanity he has done a "complete surrender to a relationship with God as I go through life. The negative things that used to make me sick and tired? I let them go. I'm sick and tired of being sick and tired from things like prejudice. Not any more do I go there," he said.



Steve Holman, at left front, a Saint Pius X parishioner, Owensboro, posed proudly with his Carpentry students from OCTC on Oct. 8-- in front of a house they're building for Habitat For Humanity on West Ninth Street, Owensboro. Mel Howard Photo

George had worked as a computer operator doing data entry in manufacturing and in the insurance industry since his college years back in 1972. He likes to play the steel guitar and keyboard form church services, and has since he was young.

George said that being a Habitat For Humanity volunteer or an Americorps Volunteer teaches a life lesson: "Don't count anybody out. Don't put anybody down. Life is filled with good second chance choices."

Habitat has an ongoing application process. Potential applicants can call the Owensboro office at (270) 926-6110 for information on the process and what steps to take to become a homeowner. The Application Review Committee will meet at the end of February. If you are interested, or if you know of someone interested, in applying for a Habitat home, please contact the Habitat office as soon as possible.

Why OCHS Students Like Working With Habitat for Humanity

By Stephanie Dooper

OWENSBORO CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL - Everyone wants to feel like their life has had a positive impact on this world. We like going to bed knowing that our day was put to good use, and we are each looking for opportunities to share both our time and talents. By working with Habitat for Humanity you achieve these wants. You find that after working just one day with this non-profit organization you not only don't want to leave, but you will also definitely be coming back. For, with Habitat you gain a sweet satisfaction; a satisfaction that can only be achieved by helping others. That is one reason why I decided to start a Habitat for Humanity Campus Chapter at Catholic High. I wanted others to experience this sweet satisfaction and make my peers realize that both their time and talents can be put to good use.

About a year ago my sister, Jennifer Dooper --currently an English and Humanities teacher at Catholic High-- was the President of the Western Kentucky University Habitat for Humanity Campus Chapter. From her I heard about all the amazing things this group did,



Catholic High Habitat members working on a shed behind the Bishop Medley House in Owensboro; from left, Elizabeth Searcey, Megan Mattingly, Stephanie Dooper, Ann-Claude Rakotoniaina, Audrey Castlen, Becca Boom (on ladder), Jose Solorza and Stephanie Solorza, Haley Poole in wheelbarrow. The house was built for the Crystal Dykes family. Bev Howard Photo

and it soon sparked my interest. I knew I wanted to get involved, but I wasn't exactly sure how. That was when I came up

with the idea of starting a club at Catholic High, therefore getting myself involved along with many of my peers. I worked

with Mrs. Virginia Braswell at our local affiliate and asked Mrs. Beverly Howard to be the club sponsor, and after no time, this project was under way.

Our club started out by participating in various landscaping projects and by helping with the affiliates fundraisers such as Banjos and Brunch and the annual Garage Sale. We have also built and painted sheds for various houses and have recently helped landscape the Bishop Medley House. Our club, consisting of about thirty dedicated members, enjoys giving time to a cause bigger than us as a group. Each has expressed how much he/she likes being part of this group and many have begun to realize the importance they have in this community. By working on the Bishop Medley House many realized what amazing feats can be conquered by partnering with other people and were inspired to follow Habitat's mission of ridding the world of poverty and providing affordable housing.

Indeed, many of the students at Catholic High who have joined our Habitat Club have felt the sweet satisfaction. Through Habitat for Humanity they have learned the beauty of helping others and because of this, they keep coming back.

10 Dedication Ceremony for St. Charles Borromeo Parish Hall

Submitted by Ann Renfrow

LIVERMORE, Ky. - The Parish Family of St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church celebrated the commemoration and dedication of a beautiful new parish hall, Thursday, November 4, the feast day of their patron, St. Charles Borromeo. Most Reverend William Medley presided at the dedication with concelebrating priests, Fr. John Okoro, Fr. Joe Mills, Fr. Phil Riney, Fr. Fideles Lenori, and Deacon Nick Nichols.

A contingent of Knights of Columbus led the entrance procession at the beginning of the Mass. The 6:00 p.m. dedication Mass began with the welcoming of all parishioners and attendees by Bishop Medley. The Lector, Tonya Logsdon, read from Philippians 3:3-9 with Patricia Martinez, Director of Music, singing Psalm 105:2-7. Deacon Nick Nichols read the Gospel, Luke 15:1-10. Bishop Medley's uplifting homily focused on the Parable of the Lost Sheep and the resulting celebration. He further illustrated what a small parish can accomplish when all are joined in a common purpose. During the Offertory, parishioners joined the gift bearers John & Marsha Logsdon by bringing gifts of donated items to the altar. The servers at the Mass were Cooper Bishop and Brittney Neal. Deacon Nick Nichols and Jackie Lee served as eucharistic ministers. Musical accompaniment was provided by organist Daven Edmonds.

At the conclusion of the dedication ceremony of the new parish hall by Bishop Medley, parishioner George Rhodes



Stain glass window depicting John 2: 1-12

provided a short history on the culmination of the dreams of those who started the parish, built the church and maintained it over the years. After the final prayer and the recessional, "Sing a New Song," was joyfully voiced by all. A sumptuous meal was then shared by everyone after the dedication Mass in the new parish hall.

The parishioners of St. Charles Church are blessed and feel a sense of gratitude towards Fr. John Okoro, pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Church, for his vision, guidance and support. When Fr.



Bishop William Medley and Madylyn Ward, 2nd grade, OCS K-3 Elementary School, Owensboro.

In picture at right, John (Sonny) Renfrow, Jackie Lee, Ann Renfrow enjoy cleaning up after the meal.



Bishop William Medley blessing St. Charles Parish Hall Nov. 4, 2010, with Deacon Nick Nichols assisting.

John attended his first St. Charles parish council meeting, the council mentioned making our church accessible to those who could not climb steps. Fr. John showed us that the question was not "how can we do this?", but "how can we not do this?" He challenged the parishioners to not only make our church accessible but to build a parish hall that would be accessible as well. "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." Matthew: 17-5. That's what St. Charles parishioners heard...and that is what has been accomplished.

George Rhodes' comments reflected on the history of St. Charles Borromeo Church Parish and its beginnings. The current Church's foundation was poured in 1943 with work being led by Father Victor Boarman working with the parishioners. Although WW II halted the work for a time, the Church was ultimately

completed after the war ended and dedicated by Bishop Cotton on October 20, 1947.

Rhodes stated "Those original families to whom our parish owes a debt of gratitude are the Barr, Charlet, Conrad, Logsdon, Meyer, Bell, Shultz and Rhodes families. Eighty-five years later from the first church being established in Livermore, we again have a forward-looking pastor, Father John Okoro, and a parish council and parishioners that look to the future and see growth in our parish community. Over the years we have added new names to our parish roster: Bishop, Cecil, Dotson, Edward, Fee, Neal, Hack, Hatfield, Cantrell, Hudson, Humphrey, Lee, Martinez, Miller, Nichols, Payne, Renfrow, Roberts and Reids. To all of these we owe a debt of gratitude in help-



St. Charles Borromeo Church & New Parrish Hall addition completed & dedicated November 4, 2010 on St. Charles Borromeo Feast Day.

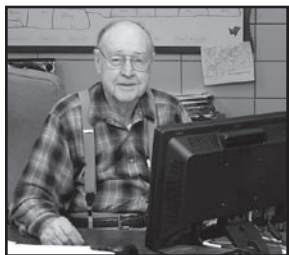
Continued on page 18



The first presenter of the day on October 21, 2010 at Saint Francis de Sales Church in Paducah was Diocesan Director of Stewardship and Development Kevin Kauffeld who talked about the 100-year-old fiddle his grandfather left him. Here he is demonstrating how far his violin lessons have taken him. Kevin did a respectable job playing the fiddle, and enjoys practice!

The Day of Wisdom is for the senior citizens of the diocese. It's a day that brings our senior Catholics together for sharing some social activities, fun, and spiritual enrichment. This day included Mass at noon, lunch, door prizes, talks and entertainment. A Wisdom Day is also a time when the people of the Diocese of Owensboro affirm and recognize the life experience and the holiness of our senior Catholics, our models in Faith.

In Your Kindness, Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of Jack R. Wilson, 84



Jack R. Wilson, 84, of Owensboro died Monday, Oct. 25, 2010, at Owensboro Medical Health System. Born in Daviess County, Mr. Wilson was a member of Blessed Mother Catholic Church and retired owner of Jack Wilson Insurance, which he operated for 33 years. He was also retired from the Catholic Pastoral Center and was a Eucharistic minister and member of the Owensboro Serra Club, a Catholic group for supporting vocations to priestly and religious life. He enjoyed music and over the years was a soloist for weddings and funerals throughout the community and appeared on film as an extra in the movie "Showboat." An Army Air Force veteran of World War II, he served in the European Theater. He was a member of the American Legion and a Kentucky Colonel. Mr. Wilson was

preceded in death by his wife of 62 years, Lilly Englert Wilson, on July 27, 2010; his parents, Roy C. Wilson and Mary Lee Riley Wilson; his brother, William C. "Check" Wilson; his half sister, Toby Lou Dukes; and his half brothers, Jimmy Wilson, Ronnie Wilson and Billy Wilson.

Survivors include his daughters, Mary Elizabeth Gardner (Rick) of Clarksville, Ind., Colleen Lewis (Richard) of Traverse City, Mich., and Sally A. Sanders (Steve) of Owensboro; his sons, Jack R. Wilson Jr. of Milton, Fla., Michael J. Wilson (Teresa) of Utica, and Blaise Wilson of Owensboro; 19 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; his sister, Colleen Rouse; and his sister-in-law, Lucille Wilson, both of Owensboro.

The funeral Mass for Mr. Wilson was Oct. 30 at Blessed Mother Catholic Church. Burial was in Resurrection Cemetery, Philpot, Ky. Expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to the St. Joseph Peace Mission for Children, 1328 W. Third St., Owensboro, KY 42301.



The ladies of St. Jerome enjoyed break time together after Ginny Knight-Simon's session: "Holy Cow! I'm How Old?"



Ann Vaughn of St. Francis de Sales parish and friends join in singing "Amazing Grace", at the Seniors Fall Day of Wisdom.



Donna Bessett, Margaret Dumbacher, Joyce Frey, Helen Krivan, and Marlene Romero from Saint Anthony of Padua in Grand Rivers enjoyed the Fall Wisdom Day October 21, 2010, at Saint Francis de Sales Parish Hall in Paducah. Photo by Ginny Knight-Simon



Gertrude Flood and Julia Borders, of Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Hopkinsville, said, "We are glad we could come today. As usual, it was so enjoyable."

In the picture at right, James Carbonel of St. Francis de Sales Parish, listens as Fr. Brian Roby welcomes the crowd of seniors to the day especially for them.



New Paducah Girls' Service Group Want To Be Solution When Others Need Help

Submitted by Sherri Babbs

PADUCAH, Ky. - The Daughters of Isabella, St. Francis de Sales, Circle 258 is sponsoring a new service organization that is designed for Catholic girls 10 to 18 years old. These girls began meeting in June to organize and plan. They have chosen the name of Sisters of Service and have developed a long list of people and projects that they want to help. The Sisters of Service shorten their name to SOS which is a call for help. They want to be the solution to when others need help. Fifteen to twenty girls are in the process of selecting officers and deciding how their government body will be ran. They are patterning the organization after the Daughters of Isabella with the main officers being the Regent, Vice-Regent, Recording Secretary, and Chancellor. Each office will have two representatives, a little sister (grades 4-8) and a big sister (grades 9-12) who will work with the corresponding DoFI officer as a mentor as they learn to perform their duties.

There is not currently a cost associated with joining SOS. The SOS does no fundraising on their own, even though



Front row: Jaclyn Meredith, Hannah Speis, Shannon Wilkins; **second row:** Sheri Babbs, Ashley Rich, Kayla Speis, Hannah West, Alexis Friesner, Katy Crouch, Katie Clark, Makenzie Galand, Emily Osterhaus, Emily Meredith; **back row:** Sherri

they are invited to help in any DoFI fundraising that they wish. They have helped at the DoFI bake sales held at St. John's Picnic by cleaning tables and acting as greeters and at the DoFI bake sale for the



Speis, Lori Meredith, Silvia Goring, Theresa Wilkins, Olivia Romero, Maddie West, Grace Babbs, Karina Romero, Alexandra Goreing, Monica Osterhaus, Marianna Romero. S.Babbs Photo

KC Council 1055 barbecue by helping with carry out orders. The SOS helped out at the 9th Annual Buddy Walk for the Down Syndrome Association of Western Kentucky, also known as Ups-N-Downs. At the Buddy Walk, SOS taught everybody how to dance the Cupid Shuffle, manned one of the large blow-ups for safety, and made lots of new friends dancing and playing with their new Down Syndrome Buddies.

Each month the SOS has one meeting and one project. Over the next couple of months, the SOS plans to help DoFI organize food baskets for Christmas, ring bells for Salvation Army, and help out at a local Animal Shelter. With the guidance of DoFI, these girls have energy and zeal to help others and be the hands of Christ. For more information about the Sisters of Service or Daughters of Isabella you may call Sherri Speis, DoFI Regent 270-519-9762, or Sheri Babbs, DoFI vice-Regent 270-832-0958.

YOU can help her AND her baby

By Brenda Thomson

A girl facing a difficult decision regarding the life of her unborn baby needs YOU.
A baby whose mom is thinking about abortion needs YOU.
YOU can help her AND her baby.

Opportunities for Life, (OFL), a ministry of the Catholic Bishops of Kentucky, offers encouragement and pregnancy referrals to persons experiencing unplanned pregnancies. The OFL help-line is answered 24 hours a day 7 days a week by volunteers with a compassionate heart and a passion for pro-life ministry. Help-line volunteers answer the help-line from their homes at times that are convenient for them. Volunteers are both men and women and come from a variety of backgrounds. Bi-lingual volunteers can be trained to answer the Spanish-speaking help-line. OFL will offer training workshops in the Owensboro Diocese in Spring, 2011, to prepare volunteers for service in the life affirming ministry.

January 15-16, 2011 is the weekend designated for the annual parish collection that supports the work of Opportunities for Life. With your generous donations OFL is able to provide support, encouragement and resource referral to those experiencing

an unplanned pregnancy. This Annual Collection enables OFL to continue to make a difference in the lives of those who have the courage to call the help-line.



Brenda Thomson

To learn more about Opportunities for Life, contact Brenda Thomson, Regional Coordinator, at 1-888-496-3638, or email brenda.thomson@pastoral.org. Donations can be made through the annual collection or mailed directly to Opportunities for Life, 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY 42301.

ANNUAL COLLECTION

January 15-16, 2011



A Ministry under the direction of the Catholic Bishops of Kentucky



Life Affirming Pregnancy Ministry • Financial Support Needed • Volunteers Needed

Those in Need Depend on You!

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Donations can be made through your parish's Opportunities For Life Collection or mail to
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By Lavidia Mischel

OWENSBORO, Ky. - For the past 8 years, Sts. Joseph and Paul parish, located downtown, has invited and welcomed local neighbors to a "Block Party" in their honor.

On Oct. 2nd, 2010, the parish served over 1,000 local friends, with lunch, free bags of groceries, free games and raffles, and a large number of bicycles, as well as several free medical screenings.

When entering the function through the welcome booth, many families advised the volunteers they have attended the event all 8 years and anxiously look forward to it every fall.

The purpose of the event is to make the presence of the church known to the neighboring families and to spread the Good News.



Leonardo "Leo" Mazariegos offers his time and talent to the Welcome Booth, assisting the Spanish and English speaking neighbors.



A winner of one of the many bicycles that were given away at the Block Party.



Keith Hudson displays raffle tickets for the Free Raffle. Everyone was a winner that day!



Fr. Carl McCarthy and Cheryl Judd hand out free bags of groceries to local neighbors at the 8th annual Sts. Joseph and Paul Block Party. Over 450 bags were given away.



A neighbor enjoys the fun by having her face painted.



Dixie Weafer cuts hair during the Block Party.

Parish Loses Beloved Member

(Continued from page 7)

some of the words used to describe Milbauer at his funeral, so were words such as bravery, strength, courage, wisdom and sacrifice. "Pete was proud of his service and he was proud of his church," said Fr. John Thomas, pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul, during his homily at the funeral. "He didn't do it perfectly, but he did it with love."

Friends and family members referred to Milbauer's service and generous spirit. "He was gifted in his gifts, and he shared them with us all," said fellow parishioner Rafael Perez. "Peter was never changing; always generous," agreed another parishioner and close friend, Lana Bastin.

One young friend, who now lives in Roanoke, Virginia, also traveled back to Hopkinsville with his parents to honor Milbauer. Joseph Frank, who moved from Hopkinsville more than two years ago, remembers sitting with Milbauer in church every Sunday. "Mr. Milbauer was a great friend of mine," he said. "I used to sit with him on Sunday morning. He was almost like a grandfather to me. He was shot down three times (while in the military), and he gave that medal to me. It was the greatest

thing in the world. He was my best friend," Frank simply stated.

Milbauer was a decorated Army veteran who served for 24 years before retiring. He served four tours in Vietnam and two tours in Germany and was the recipient of two Bronze Stars, a Purple Heart, and the Silver Star for Valor.

Another parishioner attending the funeral referred to Milbauer's long illness and battle with cancer. "Most importantly, I remember how he handled adversity and deep infirmity," said Levi Peterson. "Yet, he maintained a beautiful sense of endurance. When faced with adversity, he would offer it up to the Lord. We've been blessed by his presence on this earth," Peterson reflected.

"Sunday after Sunday, I don't know how he had the strength to do it, but he would get in his car, drive here and he would walk down that aisle to be with his community and to receive the Eucharist," Fr. Thomas shared. "He grew thinner and thinner, and literally greener and greener, but he was determined to be here as long as he could. We remember what he taught us, not with his words, but with his actions," Fr. Thomas concluded.

14 St. Mary High School Players Named to All District Team

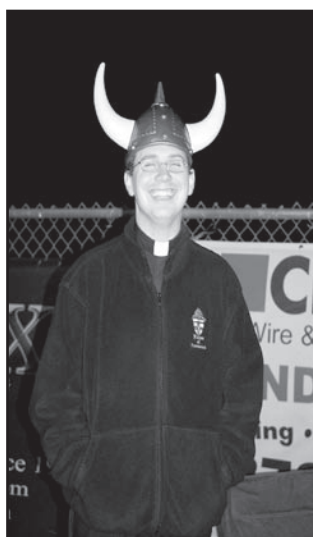
PADUCAH, Ky. - St. Mary High School hosted the 1st District Soccer tournament held October 18 – 21, 2010. Both Viking soccer teams advanced to the semi-finals with the boys pulling off an upset win 2 – 0 over state-ranked Heath High School to make it to the finals that automatically sent them on to the Regional Tournament at Marshall County.

In the picture at top left, Fr. Daniel Dillard shows his Viking Pride and enjoys the funnel cakes available during the District Soccer Tournament.

In the picture at topright, St. Mary Vikings players named to the 1st District Team – Junior, Tyler Neihoff; Senior, Jon Ogden; Senior, Sam Whittaker; Junior, Jimmy Harris. Tyler Neihoff also received 2nd Team All 1st Region Soccer Team.

In the picture at bottom right, L to R – St. Mary Lady Viking players named to the 1st District Team – Senior, Sarah Hendley; Junior – Rachel Guess; Senior – Alana Miller. Sarah Hendley and Alana Miller also received Honorable Mention on All 1st Region Soccer Team.

In the picture at lower left, St. Mary High School acting Director, Sr. Vivian Bowles enjoys a funnel



cake as she talks with Booster Club president, Holly Shockley at the District Soccer Tournament



Planning For The Holidays When You Are Grieving?

by Betty Medley



People who are grieving often dread the period of time from Thanksgiving to the New Year holiday. Coping with the loss of a loved one is difficult enough on a day-to-day basis, but the times of holiday and family celebrations are even more difficult. For individuals and families who have lost a loved one through death, times of family gatherings during the holidays can cause feelings of sadness and longing for the absent family member. The common question raised becomes, "Should we?...How can we celebrate?" "How do I get through this terrible time?"

Planning is an important task for persons who face the holidays following the loss of a loved one. The anticipations of the holiday as a time of sadness is often worse than the actual living of the experience. Planning can give concrete details to the question of "How can I do it?" When

looking ahead to the holidays, the person who is grieving often sees only the pain of being away from the person who has died. At times the only option appears to be trying to ignore the entire season and hoping that January 2 arrives very quickly. This option is rarely helpful because it usually is not a sufficient coping mechanism. There are too many reminders, to many occasions when one cannot ignore what is happening in the rest of the world. As the constant reminders of the Christmas season become more and more powerful, the person who attempts to use avoidance as a coping mechanism finds it unsuccessful. He/she is eventually forced to deal with the pain of their situation whether they choose it or not.

Planning is a way to survive the holidays and try to understand the experience as an opportunity for potential healing. Time spent in planning to cope can be more profitable than time utilized in anxiety and worry. Though it is impossible to completely avoid all of the pain associated with the loss of a loved one, it is possible to plan ways and utilize methods of coping. Planning is best done before the season begins in order to channel energy into positive methods of coping and preventing useless anxiety.

To be effective, planning needs to be concrete, specific, as well as reasonable for the person who is grieving. A very simple but important suggestion..."Do what you feel is best for you!"

Balance the time you spend alone with time spent with others. Spend time and energy to discover something that would be creatively different to do during a most painful holiday time.

Do nice things for yourself but most important give yourself the gift of peace.

In Your Kindness, Please Pray For The Repose of the Soul of Sister Ann Marie Scherman, OSU

Maple Mount — Sister Ann Marie Scherman, 69, an Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph, died Nov. 8, 2010, at Mount Saint Joseph, in her 49th year of religious life. She was a native of Ottawa, Kan.

Sister Ann Marie was an Ursuline Sister of Paola, Kan., until the merger of that community with Mount Saint Joseph in 2008. She ministered in Kansas and Missouri as a teacher for 26 years, then as a chaplain and health care worker for 18 more years before moving to Maple Mount in 2010.

Sister Ann Marie was an eternal optimist, known for her great kindnesses to the elderly who she loved to serve. She loved her family, and enjoyed opera, classical music, and her friend's Chocolate Labrador Chloe.

Survivors include her sister, Mary E. Bradshaw, of Leander, Texas; two brothers, Ernie Scherman of Paola, Kan., and Jim Scherman of Bartlesville, Okla.; nieces and nephews, and the members of her religious community.

The funeral Mass was Nov. 12 at Mount Saint Joseph, with burial in the convent cemetery. Glenn Funeral Home and Crematorium, Owensboro, was in charge of arrangements.

Memorial gifts for Sister Ann Marie may take the form of donations to the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, 8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, KY 42356.



St. Paul Catholic School has a Hair-Raising Event

15

GRAYSON COUNTY, Ky. - On October 24, 2010, St. Paul Catholic School hosted their annual Octoberfest. There were all the "normal" activities one might find at a school function in the fall of the year. There was a cake walk, games for children, face painting, sno-cones, corn hole, an auction, vendor booths, great food, hair coloring, & head shaving. HAIR COLORING & HEAD SHAVING-wait a minute; that is definitely NOT a normal activity at a school function. St. Paul parish priest, Father Martin Hayes, had a shorter than usual haircut before the day was over. The St. Paul faculty also colored their hair their favorite color. This was all part of a month long fundraiser to raise money for the school. If \$3,000 was raised by the day of Octoberfest, Father Marty and the staff of the school agreed to the new hairstyles. When Sister Anne Michelle Mudd announced that well over \$4,000 had been raised, the roar of applause (and laughter) arose. Sister Anne Michelle was red; Gina Sims was orange; Joan Butterworth was purple; Michelle Robinson was pink; Janice Darst was



Father Marty Hayes with his "New Hair Cut!"

blue; Deanna Kipper was green. With cameras flashing, video cameras rolling, and a lot of laughter, the hair of the staff turned into a rainbow. Then when it was time for Father Marty, as the parishioners



The St. Paul Elementary teachers and faculty in their new hairstyles!

call him, he did not hesitate. He said, "It was worth wearing my hat for a few weeks for the good of the school."

If you would like more information about St. Paul Catholic School (Grades K-8) located in Grayson County, call (270) 242-7483.

Bishop Medley Visits St. Anthony Of Padua Parish

The parishioners of St. Anthony of Padua Parish had the honor of Mass celebrated by Bishop William Medley with pastor Father Anthoni Ottagan on October 20, 2010. The evening Mass was followed by a parish dinner. After the dinner, Bishop Medley provided a summary of important issues within the Diocese of Owensboro and took questions afterwards. The parishioners were grateful for the Bishop's visit to their small missionary church that serves the many vacationers, visitors, and boaters that come to the Kentucky/Barkley Lakes area of Grand Rivers, in addition to, the small community of Catholics within Livingston County.



Bishop William F. Medley with Saint Anthony of Padua Parish Council president Paul Frey and his wife, Joyce. Photo by Helen Krivan



Bishop William F. Medley proudly posed here with Saint Anthony of Padua pastor Father Anthoni Ottagan Oct 20. Helen Krivan Photo

In the picture at right, Bishop William F. Medley spoke during a question and answers session in the Saint Anthony of Padua Parish center on October 20, 2010. Helen Krivan photo



Happy Thanksgiving!

Father Brandon Williams, Parochial Vicar at St. Stephen Cathedral parish, greeted Mrs. Robert Hagan in the parish center of Blessed Sacrament Chapel in Owensboro on Nov 21. The Blessed Sacrament Catholic community was hosting its dinner provided for their neighbors and friends who live in the surrounding streets. Several parish members who provided the food and served the meal for the people are descendants of some of the founding families who helped organize the Catholic community with Father Robert Connor back in the 1950s.

Next month, look for more pictures and article about Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Mel Howard photo

16 Twenty Questions with Fr. Tony Shonis: His Answers Are "The Real Deal"

Editor's Note: Though Priesthood Sunday was in October, this kind of priest appreciation story never goes out of style in our diocesan paper. Western Kentucky Catholic Readers are always invited to send in pictures and articles (email: mel.howard@pastoral.org) about the good works and their giving honor to God of any of our priests.

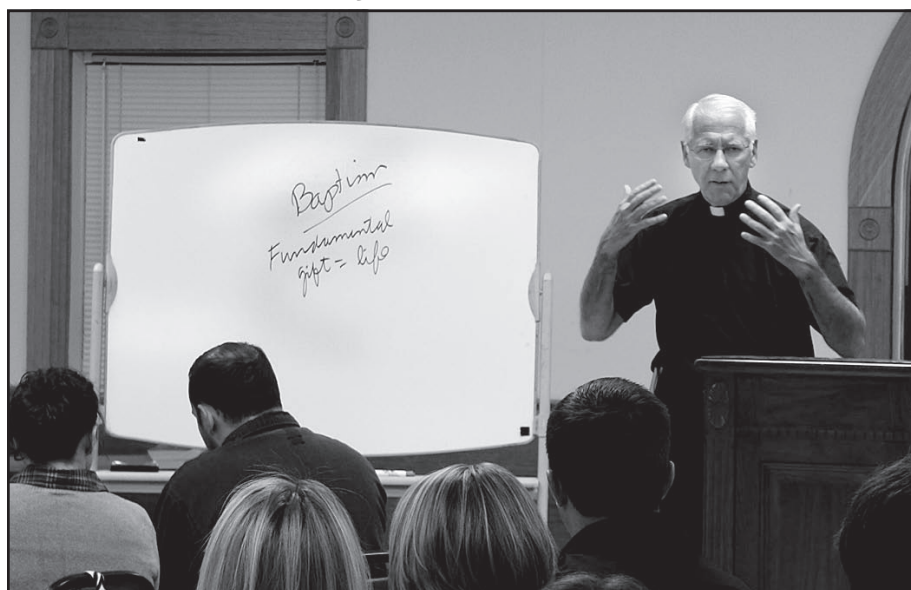


By Kamille Stich
HENDERSON, Ky. - In the early 80's, the phrase "WYSIWYG" (pronounced "wizzywig") became popular in the computing world to describe a particular software that could display the text on the computer screen the same way you would see it if you printed the document.

It is an acronym for "what you see is what you get." Software programs used to display complex commands and other distracting jargon on the screen along with your text, preventing the user from really seeing the document the way it was intended. WYSIWYG software was much more straightforward and user-friendly. After spending a little time with Father Anthony Shonis, Associate Pastor at Holy Name Church in Henderson, this is the term that came to my mind. The Father Shonis that I spent a couple of hours with over a Chinese lunch playing a game of "Twenty Questions" was no different from the Father Shonis who has faithfully served the Diocese of Owensboro for so long.

After thinking about his 30 years of teaching and four years of work as a parish priest, seeing Father's almost child-like interest in whatever is happening around him amazes me. He is a keenly attentive listener, always present and thoughtful in conversation, much the same way as when he is delivering a homily. While always prepared, one gets the sense that he is fully engaged and still carefully considering his choice of words for the most impact. His brows knit as he brings his hand to his forehead and pauses, tilting his head to one side or the other. He has become famous for leading parishioners down a beautiful mental path with a winding and twisting homily and then ending abruptly, leaving you wanting more. Father Shonis, the good teacher, wisely challenges us to participate in the communication process by making us finish the thought. He leaves us to write the ending and become authors and owners of our own faith.

Father talks pensively about his



The Heart Of A Teacher

Father Anthony Shonis addresses the RCIA class at Holy Name Church, Henderson, Ky. on October 28 (above, at right, and next page). Photos for this article by Kamille Stich

transition from teacher to parish priest. He had been accustomed to 30 years of being in control of a classroom. He made the assignments; he set the pace; he controlled the room. After 30 years of teaching, year 31 was the most difficult, the "dark night of the soul" as he calls it. Nothing had prepared him for his new role, for now there was no control and he was pulled in every direction. He discovered that setting priorities and sticking to them was critical to his success. Having quickly overcome the learning curve, he now describes his pastoral duties at Holy Name as the "beautiful side of the Church." He is never bored and enjoys helping people on a more personal level. Father rises at 4:30 a.m. and starts his day with coffee, prayer, exercise, and reading. When the 7:00 a.m. daily Mass is over, Father's days are non-stop until 9:00 p.m. when he retires for the evening.

While there were many ways to approach our conversation that Tuesday afternoon, I self-servingly chose the "Twenty Questions" route since that would allow me to cover a variety of topics and satisfy my curiosity on a number of issues. Father generously cooperated with our disjointed conversation, but noted that he was "worn out" at the end.

Question #1: Which part of the priesthood has given you the most satisfaction?

Father S.: Meeting my former students from Owensboro Catholic High School and observing their love for the Church and their faith.

Question #2: What aspect of the

priesthood has presented the greatest challenge to you?

Father S.: Missed opportunities are always frustrating. Recognizing a need and not having the resources or the means to address it.

Question #3: What kind of music do you like?

Father S.: Every Tuesday, I listen to opera. It is an acquired taste and I like to keep it up. In November, I will attend Puccini's "Madame Butterfly" at the Kentucky Opera in Louisville. I also like to listen to the Escape Channel on Sirius Satellite Radio. Is that Freudian?

Question #4: How should Catholics understand the abuse crisis and other negatives about our faith that seem to get unending media attention?

Father S.: A great adjustment in the Church needed to be made. More lay people must become and have become involved in decision-making on all levels. Better decisions regarding questionable priests and a variety of other issues can be made through participation by lay people, like parish council members, on issues like these.

Question #5: St. Augustine said, "Pray as though everything depended on God. Work as though everything depended on you." How do we find this balance?

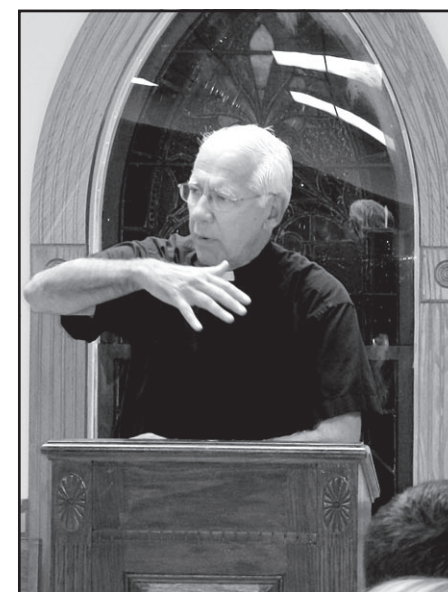
Father S.: Finding balance in anything is hard. We are always searching for balance. To me St. Augustine means that we must commit wholeheartedly to something and yet, at the same time, be disinterested in the outcome. Be able to move on at a moment's notice. This

is a skill that must be cultivated, and it doesn't come easily. Work and pray toward a worthy goal, but be ready for any result. Sometimes, I realize something that I've been praying and working for has been resolved one way or another, and then I can move on to the next thing.

Question #6: With which saint do you most identify and why?

Father S.: St. Catherine of Sienna. She lived an unusual life during a very corrupt time in the Church. The clergy of her time were not reliable. The normal channels of the Church were corrupted, yet she was a great mystic with deep personal relationships and her faith flourished in spite of these disadvantages.

Question #7: How can we better appreciate the Mass versus the entertainment-based services that are offered in



many Protestant churches today?

Father S.: Attend Mass every week. Make it a habit of your faith. Attend Mass without emphasis on what you can get. Bring an "I believe" attitude versus an "I get" attitude and your faith will grow. To seek entertainment in Church is a self-based way to worship.

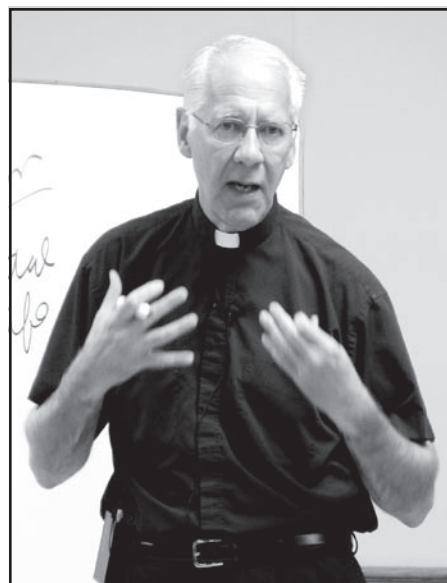
Question #8: How has God directed you in your life or answered your prayers?

Father S.: He has directed me harshly at times. Some of the turning points in my life have been painful, but He has been a good parent. He hasn't done for me what he knew I could do for myself.

Question #9: You've recently taken on additional responsibility during Father Bradley's absence. Tell us about the ups and downs of this experience.

Continued on page 17

(Continued from page 16)



Father Tony Shonis is the “real deal,” says Kamille Stich, and this is her photo of the good padre.

Father S: If you had asked me this question 30 years ago when I was a young priest, I would have answered differently. We have outsourced responsibilities to other people. We cut back to one daily Mass. I never tried to do more than the ordinary duties, such as funerals, and have just attended to the needs of the Parish to the best of my ability.

Author’s note: On October 16 shortly after this interview, Holy Name Parish welcomed Father Bradley back home, and we continue to rejoice in his return.

Question #10: Talk about your relationship with the Hispanic community in Henderson. How did it begin and where did you learn Spanish?

Father S: First, let me say that the Hispanics are a wonderful group of people. They have no agenda or expectations, and they love and support the priesthood. Back in the ‘80’s, I started going to Mexico. In 1988, I was inspired by Sr. Fran Willhelm and her work with the Hispanic community. We began reaching out to them by celebrating Mass in tobacco barns since most of them were migrant laborers. I began listening to cassette tapes to learn Spanish. Again, I visited Mexico and then Spain. Then the Diocese sent me to Texas for six months to finish my education.

Question #11: If you could leave right now for any destination in the world for a week of vacation, where would you go?

Father S: I visited Las Vegas with my sister last May to receive an award and we really enjoyed it. I would like to go back there. There is a lot to do there.

Author’s note: Father Shonis received an award for his work on the “Sunday/Monday Connection,” a column in Holy Name Church’s Sunday Bulletin highlighting the work of various parishioners.

Question #12: What is your favorite food?

Father S: My mom made a dish called “Missouri.” She probably made up the name. I’ve never heard of it since. It had ground beef, potatoes, and tomato sauce.

Question #13: As we approach Election Day, is voting important to Catholics?

Father S: Voting is critical. We recently offered voter registration after Mass at Holy Name. If you live in a democracy and you don’t vote, you don’t exist.

Question #14: What role does Mary play in your faith? Is she relevant to us in today’s world?

Father S: While I was not raised with a strong focus on Mary, she completes the maternal aspect of our faith. The divine order of the family includes a father and a mother. She represents the feminine side of the divine order. A strong Marian devotion can really build up our faith. Our Catholic faith is rich with devotions such as these that are uplifting.

Question #15: Tell us about your ecumenical activities here in Henderson.

Father S: Many years ago, a Catholic priest friend of mine aspired to help me practice ecumenism. I grew up as a Catholic in Northeast Pennsylvania and we were a world unto ourselves. We had no relationships with Protestants. I went to a public school, but we did not integrate. Here in Henderson, I do the “Common Word” radio program with three Protestant ministers. We have a roundtable discussion on the Sunday readings. We visit one another in our homes on a social level as well.

Question #16: What would you like to change?

Father S: I would probably like a chance to relive my high school days. I think about those kids a lot.

Question #17: How have the Holy Name School children impacted you?

Father S: They have had a tremendous positive impact on me. I am



Here’s Father Shonis enjoying our Holy Name School Fall Festival with Bryant Tighe, who won a chicken hat, and Ann Galbraith, one of our wonderful parent volunteers. Kamille Stich Photo

with them quite a bit at the school Masses and in the classroom. I take children seriously. They have a wonderful spiritual life that belongs only to them. For me the school children have helped to heal the priesthood. They have given priests the self-confidence they needed to connect with children after the dishonor of the abuse and they have accepted us.

Question #18: What is the most recent book you’ve read?

Father S: I am currently reading the several books in C.S. Lewis’ Chronicles of Narnia series, and I am reading Prince Caspian now. These books are much better than I had thought. I’m really enjoying them.

Question #19: What is your favorite movie?

Father S: I have three right off the top of my head. The number one Catholic movie that I like is *Black Robe* about a group of Jesuit Missionaries in the 1600s in North America (Canada). Two others movies I really enjoy are *Tender Mercies* and *Best in Show*. My brother is a vet and *Best in Show* is very funny.

Question #20: What frank advice would you give Catholics today?

Father S: Keep your sense of humor and find your joy. I began reading the funny papers every morning to give myself a lift.

Bonus Question #21: Jesus said “My peace is my gift to you.” How can we take that gift?

Father S: Anxiety undermines your relationship with God. Don’t let

anyone or anything steal your peace. Focus on calming your anxieties and trusting in your Heavenly Father.

And, as every good teacher leaves his students with a few extra thoughts to make the material more understandable, Father Shonis expressed a few thoughts on prayer as we ended our conversation. With brows knit, hands gesturing and words chosen carefully though speaking on the fly, he explained that prayer harmonizes and integrates all the experiences that make up life, especially those experiences that fall outside of our understanding of the way life should work. It does not happen all at once, but eventually with prayer we jump out of bed one morning and discover that the experience, which was so traumatic at first and threatened to unravel us, is now understood as part of God’s plan for us. And with that, class was dismissed and I was free to contemplate the lecture.

We are very fortunate that God’s plan for Fr. Tony Shonis includes Holy Name Parish and the Diocese of Owensboro. For in these times of uncertainty and anxiety, it’s difficult to know if what you are seeing is what you are getting.

Rest assured that Father Tony Shonis is the real deal. My prayer is that God continues to bless and strengthen Father Shonis and all of our parish priests.

OUR PRIEST HEROES. Editor’s Note: Members of parishes or schools in the Diocese of Owensboro are invited to send in articles and pictures of “Priest Heroes”. Email Mel.Howard@pastoral.org

18 Owensboro Catholic High School Excellence Rally

OWENSBORO, Ky. - OCHS held its Excellence Rally on October 29, 2010 to recognize students for various accomplishments. In addition, one student from each parish is recognized for their involvement within their parish. Below is a list of those students:

Precious Blood-Kali Paul; Blessed Mother-Jacob Linn; St. Mary Magdalene-Kelsi Woodall; Immaculate-Zach Swift; St. Peter of Alcantara-Alexandra Mitchell; St. Augustine-Nolan Miller; Holy Name-Rachel Wheatley; SS Joseph & Paul-Hunter Steele; St. Stephen-Logan Cecil; St. Pius X-Maddie Zoglmann; Our Lady of Lourdes-Molly Tichenor; St. Alphonsus-Sidney Riney; St. Martin-Eric Thomas; St. Elizabeth-Jordan Thomas. The OCHS Faculty Honoree was Josie Hagan.



Owensboro Catholic High School faculty members rallied the school community for the Excellence Rally Oct 29, 2010. In the picture at left are Jennifer Dooper, Penny Melton and Cynda Hardesty as Diana Ross and The Supremes. The righthand picture shows Lisa Higdon and George Randolph as Sonny and Cher. The picture below shows the fabulous OCHS "Beatles," as performed by Tony Kraus, Scott Lowe, Jeff Fritz, Durand Engineer as The Beatles. Photos by Cynda Hardesty



Dedication Ceremony for St. Charles Borremeo Parish Hall *(Continued from page 10)*



Some Saint Charles parishioners and friends who attended the dedication service.



The Bishops: Bishop William Medley, Cooper Bishop, & Braydon Bishop.

these we owe a debt of gratitude in helping bring this dream to fruition. With Father John's encouragement, the leadership of our current parish council president, Tonya Logsdon, the work of members of the parish, especially Mr. Bruce Lee, and by the grace of God, we have done a nearly impossible task.twenty-four families making a world of difference in our community."

Rhodes' comments continued "We would like to thank the architect Brian Clements for an outstanding design and Larry Higdon, head of Higdon Construction Company, for their patience and willingness to work with us as we worked through difficult decisions."

Special thanks were offered to site Manager, Marshall Canary, who worked with us daily. Rhodes con-

cluded "We thank Bishop William Medley for being with us today and sharing with us this accomplishment. We understand we are his first building to be dedicated since his episcopal ordination. Bishop Medley will be part of our history and we hope of our future. To all our friends, past members, priests and dignitaries, please feel free to come and visit us anytime in the future. You are never a stranger at St Charles Borremeo Church."

The new parish hall's most prominent feature is a remarkable custom-made stained glass window depicting the Miracle of the Wedding Feast at Cana, (John 2:1-12). Additionally, the new hall features complete handicap accessibility to the hall and to the church, complete kitchen, rest room facilities and can accommodate gatherings up to 100.

St. Charles parishioners especially want to thank Bishop William Medley for his dedication of our new parish hall and for celebrating with us. We thank the Diocese of Owensboro for the support to move forward with our plans. And many thanks to all the priests and participants who came to join this most joyful celebration. To reiterate Rhodes' comments, "...please feel free to come and visit us "again" anytime in the future. You are never a stranger at St. Charles Borremeo Church."

TEC Co-Founders to Receive National Award

The Co-Founders of TEC (Teens Encounter Christ), Fr. Matt Fedewa and Dorothy Gereke, will be receiving the National Youth Ministry Recognition Award in the Lifetime Achievement category for their lasting accomplishments through the TEC Movement. This award is given to those who exhibit behaviors and practices that serve as a model to others involved in youth ministry. The National Federation For Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM) will present these awards during the National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry, December 9-11 in New Orleans, LA.

The first TEC weekend was held in Battle Creek, MI in October 9-11, 1965. Forty five years later, this movement of spirituality for older ado-

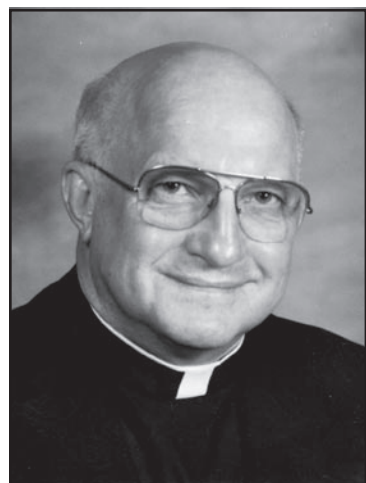


Dorothy Gereke

lescents and young adults has grown to a world wide movement with centers in 52 dioceses here in the US, and centers in Canada, the Czech Republic, Lithuania, Nicaragua and Bolivia.

Western KY TEC held its first weekend in Paducah, October 1976. Since then, 163 weekends have touched the lives of approximately 3,500 youth in the Owensboro Diocese and the hundreds of adults who have served on the teams. We send our congratulations to Fr. Matt and Dorothy and commend them for their perseverance in ministering to youth for these many years.

Fr. Matt Fedewa



St. Thomas More EnVision the Future Campaign

A Message from the Capital Campaign Co-Chairmen

This is an exciting time in the life of the St. Thomas More Parish! We have seen our church evolve over the years through the work of extraordinary members to become a vibrant Catholic community that welcomes all and reaches out to our neighbors to do God's work.

The enthusiastic commitment of our parishioners has led to the formation of dozens of ministries over the past few years allowing the gospel message to be put into action. Those involved in ministries meet, plan, pray, celebrate, and do their work within our beautiful campus that is the result of those with vision before us.

We invite you now to EnVision the Future of St. Thomas More. We are proud to be a part of continuing the tradition of building a community that will serve our children and grandchildren for years to come.



Lay witness talks were provided by parishioners for several weeks leading up to Commitment Weekend. Freshman Grace Babbs provided reasons to support the campaign during the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses of September 25 and 26. Parishioners have generously pledged nearly \$1.6 of the \$1.8 million as of November 1, 2010.



Capital Campaign Co-Chairmen, left, Bill Jones and right, Jim O'Rourke

Submitted
by Missy
Eckenberg



Come let us adore Him

Dear Friend of the Shrine, Mary, Mother of the Church/Model of All Christians,

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ the Lord, we at the Diocesan Marian Shrine: Mary, Mother of the Church/Model of All Christians at the historic church of St. Joseph in Bowling Green, Kentucky, wish to extend to you and your family all the blessings of Christmas and the New Year. You have been a part of the prayers and work of the Shrine this past year. We thank you for your kindness and generosity.

This year from December 24th - January 1st we invite you to send to us your prayer intentions and names of loved ones that you would like for us to remember in a Novena of Masses that will be offered during this time. The names of loved ones and petitions will be placed before the beautiful statue of our Blessed Mother in the shrine during this time of the Novena of Masses. This would be a wonderful spiritual bouquet that you could give to someone this Christmas.

- ☐ Increased Devotion to Mary ☐ A Happy Death
☐ World Peace ☐ Souls in Purgatory
☐ Holy Father ☐ Employment
☐ Priests and Religious ☐ Motherhood
☐ Increase in Religious Vocations ☐ The Aged
☐ Negligent Catholics ☐ Conversions
☐ Overcoming Drug Problems ☐ Reconciliation
☐ Family Happiness ☐ A Safe Trip
☐ A Happy Marriage ☐ Success in Studies
☐ Better Health ☐ Thanksgiving
☐ Sick and Dying ☐ Special Intentions

Dear Members of the Shrine Committee,

Please include the following names of people to be remembered in the Novena of Masses offered by the Diocesan Marian Shrine from December 24, 2010-January 1, 2011.

Donor's Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Please be sure to send your intentions and names of people you would like to be remembered in the Novena of Masses to: Marian Shrine Committee, c/o Leigh Blair, 740 Covington Grove, Bowling Green, KY 42104.

Our Mission at Saint Thomas More Parish in Paducah

We are St. Thomas More Parish, members of the living Body of Christ, born again in Baptism and strengthened through the Eucharist to promote the gospel values of our Catholic faith.

Our Challenge at Saint Thomas More Parish in Paducah

It is our obligation to those who worked diligently in the past to provide St. Thomas More with the current worship campus and financial stability to prudently look at the identified needs of St. Thomas More and EnVision the Future. The plan must take into account fiscal responsibility balanced with continual growth of ministries and opportunities for our parish families to grow in faith.

For more information about Saint Thomas More Parish in Paducah, look online at <http://www.stmore.org/>

Sisters of St. Benedict

*Come & See Event Sisters of St. Benedict,
Ferdinand, Indiana - January 7-9, 2011*

For single, Catholic woman between the ages of 18 to 40. Get to know our Benedictine sisters, share in our community life and prayer, and meet other women who are considering religious life - no pressure, no commitment!

For more information or to register online, visit www.thedome.org, or call Sister Michelle Sinkhorn at 800-734-9999, or email vocation@the-dome.org.



Catholic Conference Of Kentucky Seeks An Executive Director

Full-time position

The Catholic Conference of Kentucky (CCK), located in Frankfort, is the official public policy agency of Kentucky's four Roman Catholic dioceses. Its mission is to represent the Church and the state's Catholic bishops to elected officials and government agencies at the local, state and national levels.

The executive director provides overall administration and leadership for the agency; represents the Bishops of Kentucky before all branches of government; organizes and coordinates the work of the Conference; and develops and maintains relationships with government agencies.

Applicant must be an active and committed Catholic, possess a working knowledge of Church doctrine, familiarity with the legislative process and government; ability to work with diverse groups and have excellent speaking and writing skills. A Masters level degree in relevant areas or Juris Doctorate degree is preferred.

Send resumes to Most Rev. Ronald Gainer, Diocese of Lexington, 1310 West Main Street, Lexington, KY 40508-2048.

DIOCESE OF OWENSBORO		2010	2010	2010	2009	DIFFERENCE
ANNUAL MASS	COUNT -- 2010	POPULATION	ANNUAL MASS COUNT	% MASS COUNT	% MASS COUNT	2009 TO 2010
Blessed Mother	Owensboro	2223	1408	63.34%	64.29%	-0.95%
Blessed Sacrament	Owensboro	108	77	71.30%	86.61%	-15.31%
Christ the King	Madisonville	622	351	56.43%	53.85%	2.58%
Christ the King	Scottsville	123	98	79.67%	66.92%	12.75%
Holy Cross	Providence	48	23	47.92%	50.00%	-2.08%
Holy G. Angels	Irvington	191	158	82.72%	61.70%	21.02%
Holy Name	Henderson	4305	1708	39.67%	49.04%	-9.36%
Holy Redeemer	Beaver Dam	157	220	140.13%	108.53%	31.60%
Holy Spirit	Bowling Green	2587	1436	55.51%	51.85%	3.66%
Holy Trinity	Morgantown	68	85	125.00%	104.92%	20.08%
Immaculate	Owensboro	2092	1089	52.06%	54.52%	-2.47%
Immaculate Conception	Earlington	152	54	35.53%	52.73%	-17.20%
Immaculate Conception	Hawesville	325	122	37.54%	28.57%	8.97%
Our Lady of Lourdes	Owensboro	1901	1155	60.76%	56.39%	4.36%
Precious Blood	Owensboro	947	484	51.11%	55.90%	-4.79%
Resurrection	Dawson Springs	99	65	65.66%	67.68%	-2.02%
Rosary Chapel	Paducah	139	82	58.99%	66.91%	-7.91%
Sacred Heart	Hickman	74	40	54.05%	44.57%	9.49%
Sacred Heart	Russellville	393	150	38.17%	42.75%	-4.58%
Sacred Heart	Waverly	196	113	57.65%	59.24%	-1.59%
St. Agnes	Uniontown	836	475	56.82%	70.86%	-14.05%
St. Alphonsus	St. Joseph	518	310	59.85%	61.49%	-1.65%
St. Ambrose	Henshaw	98	64	65.31%	62.64%	2.67%
St. Ann	Morganfield	1046	517	49.43%	48.31%	1.12%
St. Anthony	Axtel	564	402	71.28%	66.83%	4.44%
St. Anthony	Browns Valley	401	244	60.85%	59.59%	1.26%
St. Anthony	Peonia	195	159	81.54%	78.84%	2.70%
St. Anthony of Padua	Grand Rivers	74	78	105.41%	90.48%	14.93%
St. Augustine	Grayson Springs	99	81	81.82%	75.76%	6.06%
St. Augustine 1	Reed	153	74	48.37%	49.29%	-0.92%
St. Benedict	Wax	129	94	72.87%	67.44%	5.43%
St. Charles	Bardwell	186	117	62.90%	72.06%	-9.16%
St. Charles	Livermore	54	56	103.70%	103.70%	0.00%
St. Columba	Lewisport	232	96	41.38%	33.56%	7.82%
St. Denis	Fancy Farm	173	91	52.60%	54.86%	-2.26%
St. Edward	Fulton	126	92	73.02%	51.33%	21.68%
St. Elizabeth	Clarkson	167	127	76.05%	66.85%	9.20%
St. Elizabeth	Curdsville	165	86	52.12%	46.67%	5.45%
St. Francis Borgia	Sturgis	136	97	71.32%	58.75%	12.57%
St. Francis de Sales	Paducah	1300	1112	85.54%	84.50%	1.04%
St. Henry	Auora	221	208	94.12%	74.22%	19.90%
St. Jerome	Fancy Farm	1154	806	69.84%	64.34%	5.50%
Sts. Joseph & Paul	Owensboro	1300	1025	78.85%	83.53%	-4.68%
St. John Baptist	Fordsville	85	72	84.71%	93.75%	-9.04%
St. John Evangelist	Paducah	865	415	47.98%	54.33%	-6.35%
St. John Evangelist	Sunfish	62	52	83.87%	85.00%	-1.13%
St. Joseph	Bowling Green	1812	954	52.65%	59.61%	-6.96%
St. Joseph	Central City	245	173	70.61%	73.02%	-2.40%
St. Joseph	Leitchfield	495	351	70.91%	71.75%	-0.84%
St. Joseph	Mayfield	1080	585	54.17%	48.57%	5.60%
St. Jude	Clinton	106	51	48.11%	48.91%	-0.80%
St. Lawrence	St. Lawrence	338	211	62.43%	50.78%	11.64%
St. Leo	Murray	1045	659	63.06%	63.19%	-0.13%
St. Mark	Eddyville	116	116	100.00%	112.71%	-12.71%
St. Martin	Rome	303	251	82.84%	77.27%	5.57%
St. Mary	LaCenter	175	105	60.00%	54.29%	5.71%
St. Mary Magdalene	Sorgho	749	523	69.83%	71.05%	-1.22%
St. Mary	Franklin	260	236	90.77%	85.81%	4.96%
St. Mary of Woods 2	McQuady	152	117	76.97%	76.97%	0.00%
St. Mary of Woods	Whitesville	2232	1108	49.64%	44.10%	5.55%
St. Mary & St. James 2	Guthrie	107	84	78.50%	78.50%	0.00%
St. Michael Archangel	Oak Grove	769	546	71.00%	57.26%	13.74%
St. Michael	Sebree	301	120	39.87%	39.46%	0.40%
St. Paul	Leitchfield	321	255	79.44%	82.39%	-2.95%
St. Paul	Princeton	148	80	54.05%	70.80%	-16.75%
St. Peter 1	Stanley	341	251	73.61%	65.96%	7.65%
St. Peter	Waverly	549	314	57.19%	53.61%	3.58%
Sts. Peter & Paul	Hopkinsville	1647	789	47.91%	52.14%	-4.23%
St. Pius Tenth	Calvert City	345	217	62.90%	137.91%	-75.01%
St. Pius Tenth	Owensboro	1779	828	46.54%	46.97%	-0.43%
St. Romuald	Hardinsburg	1500	660	44.00%	44.73%	-0.73%
St. Rose	Cloverport	400	178	44.50%	42.09%	2.41%
St. Sebastian	Calhoun	200	126	63.00%	57.97%	5.03%
St. Stephen	Cadiz	323	207	64.09%	77.36%	-13.27%
St. Stephen Cathedral	Owensboro	1530	770	50.33%	48.27%	2.06%
St. Susan	Elkton	147	133	90.48%	71.43%	19.05%
St. Thomas More	Paducah	1872	984	52.56%	45.26%	7.30%
St. William	Knottsville	1018	859	84.38%	75.73%	8.65%
St. William	Marion	129	92	71.32%	50.60%	20.72%
DIOCESAN TOTALS		49623	28801	58.04%	57.72%	0.32%
1. Saturday PM Mass shared			2. 2009			

Forty-seven Youth of St. Thomas More Receive the Sacrament of Confirmation 21

PADUCAH, Ky. - The Sacrament of Confirmation was celebrated at St. Thomas More Parish, Sunday, November 7, 2010 with Bishop William F. Medley presiding. Nicole Strasser, youth minister, read the name of each person presented to the Bishop. Forty-seven youth from the parish were surrounded by family, sponsors, friends, and fellow parishioners as they professed their readiness to be confirmed.



Bishop William Medley during the laying on of hands with candidate Ross Whittaker.

Above left, Bishop William Medley preaches the Homily.

In the picture at top right, from left to right, Saint Thomas More pastor Fr. J. Patrick Reynolds and Fr. Daniel Dillard assist Bishop Medley with the Confirmation of Alexandra Goreing.

Photos by Missy Eckenberg



On Sunday, November 7, 2010, Bishop William F. Medley bestowed the Sacrament of Confirmation on the following 47 candidates: Melissa Alcantara, Cassie Arboleda, Wesley Averill, Grace Babbs, Mayra Bartolo, Matthew Brown, Madison Bruce, Dylan Clark, Katherine Culbertson, Alyssa de la Rosa, Harrison Dickens, Stephanie Dominguez, Nick Eggemeyer, Alexandra Goreing, Jacob Holtgrewe, Patrick Hubert, Austin Hunt, Michaela Jones, Casey Kupper, Ian LaBarge, Justin Lang, Jorge Machaen, Hayley Mudd, Josh Nelson, Nicole Nelson, Aubree Nettles, James O'Rourke, Pat Osterhaus, Olivia Petter, Seth Powell, Brett Quigley, Jorge Reyes, Jose Reyes, Jaclyn Roof, Mack Shannon, Ben Smith, Kayla Speis, Mitchell Stegman, Chris Teitloff, Emily Teitloff, Meredith Underwood, Margaret Underwood, Mason Vaughan, Clayton Walker, Ross Whittaker, Miguelina Young, Andrew Zaninovich.



Break The Cycle of Addiction

When addiction exists, the drug use controls the individual rather than the individual controlling the drug use.

Today's drugs are extremely addictive; far more addictive than drugs of the past. A person may think they can experiment with these drugs just a few times and then find, to their surprise they can't easily quit when they want to.

When addiction sets in a problem occurs; they need a steady supply of drugs to prevent withdrawal symptoms. As a result an addicted person feels they must maintain their drug habit just to feel normal or to function in their daily life. This is called the 'cycle of addiction.'

However, the 'cycle of addiction' can be broken with treatment that gets results.

If you or someone you know is struggling with a drug or alcohol addiction contact Daviess County Treatment Providers at 270/689-6539. Another place to begin a search online is the website for RiverValley Behavioral Health, www.RVBH.com, a good starting point for services available in 14 locations in the Green River Area Development District.

22 Changes In The Roman Missal Coming in 2011



On October 19, 2010 Martha Hagan, Co-Director of the Office of Worship, addressed Diocesan DREs and Youth Ministers meeting in the Catholic Pastoral Center, Owensboro. She shared a part of a one-hour talk on the Roman Missal upon request. The talk covers some history of the Roman Missal, the translation process from Latin to English, and some of the changes in the new Missal on the First Sunday of Advent 2011. Mel Howard Photo

Sometimes people in the diocese may wonder what our Diocesan Staff persons who work under the auspices of the diocese from the Catholic Pastoral Center in Owensboro actually do. A lot of the diocesan staff travel in the diocese frequently, offering information and services for parishes and schools.

The Western Kentucky Catholic editor, Mel Howard, who works from the Communications Office located on the first floor of the Catholic Pastoral Center on 600 Locust Street in Owensboro, caught up with one of these Owensboro Diocesan Staff persons, Martha Hagan, Co-Director of the Office of Worship, and webmaster for www.rcdok.org, the Owensboro Diocesan website, and asked her what keeps her so busy these days. Martha wrote in an e-mail:

"Right now, I'm traveling the diocese doing a one-hour talk on the Roman Missal upon request. The talk covers some history of the Roman Missal, the translation process from Latin to English, and looks at what will be changing with the new Missal on the First Sunday of Advent 2011.

"One of the most important things we learned after the Second Vatican Council was the importance of educating people -- letting them know what's coming and why. The changes we're preparing to implement next year are nothing like those that happened after Vatican II, but it's still important to explain to people why they're happening.

"Something that has impressed me the most in presenting these workshops is the intense interest people have in our history as Catholics. We all want to know where we come from, and in the midst of everyday living, it's easy to forget that our celebration of the Eucharist has ancient roots. We've been praying some of the same prayers for centuries. This is an exciting time to be a Catholic. The Eucharist is at the heart of who we are, and we're being given the opportunity to slow down and take a good look at what it is we pray and do when we celebrate the Eucharist.

"In January and February, 2011, we have six workshops scheduled around the diocese. These workshops will be presented by Sr. Georgia Acker and Sr. Geri Hoyer. The content will be similar to what I'm doing now: history of the missal, looking at what's changing. Here are the dates and locations for the workshops that Sr. Georgia and Sr. Geri will be doing:

All workshops are from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
 Saturday, January 15, St. Thomas More, Paducah
 Saturday, January 29, Holy Spirit, Bowling Green
 Saturday, February 5, Christ the King, Madisonville
 Saturday, February 12, St. Joseph, Leitchfield
 Saturday, February 19, St. Pius X, Owensboro
 Saturday, February 26, Holy Name School Hall, Henderson

Welcoming the Roman Missal third edition

Liturgy will be more formal; theologically deeper

On Sunday, November 27, 2011, all Catholic parishes across the United States will begin using a new translation of the Roman Missal.

By Jerry Filteau

When a new English translation of the Mass is introduced in the United States – at the start of Advent in late 2011 – the style of worship will be more formal. But it will also be deeper theologically and more evocative emotionally and intellectually.

The Vatican's intention was not so much to make the liturgy more formal as to make the English version conform more closely to the original Latin, says Fr. Paul Turner, a Missouri priest who is former head of the North American Academy of Liturgy and frequently writes and lectures on liturgy.

"I think what's intentional is getting to a closer interpretation of the Latin" from which all modern liturgy translations in the Roman Catholic Church emanate, Father Turner says.

He said the result may sound more formal than in the past 40 years because the new translation rules lead in that direction.

The original translation of the Roman Missal into English was carried out under 1969 Vatican rules that stressed simplicity and other factors that would make the language of the liturgy more comprehensible.

Newer rules, set out by the Vatican in 2002, emphasize greater fidelity to the original Latin.

Msr. John H. Burton, vicar general of the Diocese of Camden, N.J., and board chairman of the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions, says there was concern "that the language has been too laid back" and failed to convey the rich liturgical heritage of the Roman rite.

Father Andrew R. Wadsworth, executive director of the International Commission on English in the Liturgy, says a more formal language in the new translation "is clearly identifiable as one of its characteristics."

He says the vocabulary of the Mass prayers "is necessarily rich as it reflects the various mysteries of salvation, conveying concepts which do not always occur in everyday conversation. To radically simplify the language

is often to dilute the concept."

An excerpt from Eucharistic Prayer I illustrates the difference in style.

The version currently in use reads: "Look with favor on these offerings. Accept them as once you accepted the gifts of your servant Abel, the sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith, and the bread and wine offered by your priest Melchizedek.

"Almighty God, we pray that your Angel may take this sacrifice to your altar in heaven. As we receive from this altar the sacred Body and Blood of your Son, let us be filled with every grace and blessing."

The new translation says: "Be pleased to look upon these offerings with serene and kindly countenance, and to accept them, as you were pleased to accept the gifts of your servant Abel the just, the sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith, and the offering of your high priest Melchizedek, a holy sacrifice, a spotless victim.

"In humble prayer we ask you, almighty God: command that these gifts be borne by the hands of your holy Angel to your altar on high in the sight of your divine majesty, so that all of us who through this participation at the altar receive the most holy Body and Blood of your Son may be filled with every grace and heavenly blessing."

Father Turner acknowledges criticisms of some of the long, complex sentences in the new translation, especially in the collects, the prayers at the beginning of Mass.

"It's a logical fear that people will raise, but I think they'll be pleasantly surprised at how easy it is to understand." He says the collects follow a pattern, with many of the same components repeated from one day to the next. If you look at just one collect in the new translation, "it sounds complicated," he says. "But when you hear that style Sunday after Sunday, I think your ears open up to the style," and it becomes familiar.

Questions or comments may be directed to: Fr. Larry McBride (fatherlarry@bellsouth.net) or Martha Hagan (martha.hagan@pastoral.org) in the Office of Worship.

BRESCIA SOCIAL WORK SOUP DAY

OWENSBORO, Ky. - The Brescia University Student Social Work Association (BSSWA) and the Social Work Department hosted their annual Soup Day fundraiser on November 4, 2010. The event took place at the Brescia University Ramold Center, located at 718 Allen Street. A variety of homemade soups, breads, and desserts were served. Donations were accepted in support of Saint Paul's Mission in Crownpoint, New Mexico, which serves Navajo families and children.

2010 is the seventh year that Brescia's Social Work Department has organized the event, which has raised more than \$9,000 for the mission. For more than 12 years, seniors in the Social Work Department have taken a trip to the mission for their field *practicum*. Saint Paul's Mission provides housing. The students work as interns in social service agencies that serve the Navajo families and children. Donations raised by Soup Day are used the day after Thanksgiving. The Sisters of the Order of the Adorer's of the Blood of Christ set up a toy shop for the Navajo families to come and pick out toys for their children's Christmas.

This Soup Day fundraiser is just one of the many service projects that the social work students willingly complete to help others, including those outside Owensboro.

Brescia University Social Work senior Cheryl Hosmann of Owensboro, left, handed David Bartholomy, faculty adviser for the Brescia Broadcast, and Associate Professor of English, a bowl of white bean chicken chili. Known as "Bart" among Brescia alumni, Mr. Bartholomy kindly gave his OK to use his picture here. Mel Howard Photo



Brescia Makes A Difference At Boulware

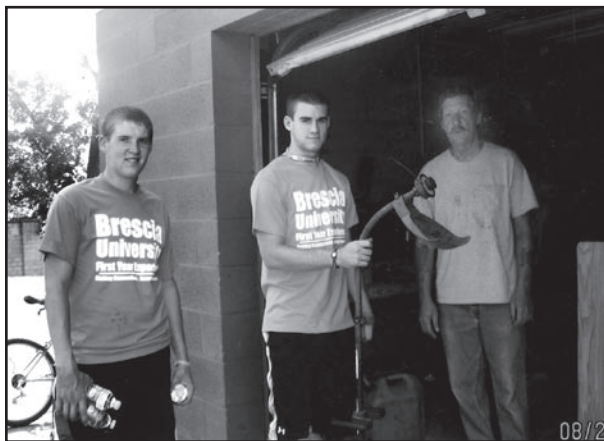
OWENSBORO, Ky. - Brescia University contacted Boulware Mission in August looking for a charitable, non-profit organization where their freshman students could complete a community service project as part of their orientation. Boulware was preparing for its first Annual Corn Hole Tournament at the Wing Avenue Campus and the timing was perfect. Five students and one staff member toured the Wing Avenue facility and heard about Boulware's mission. Then they went to work providing much needed trimming and weeding for the 3-acre campus. They found their three hours of hard

work so fulfilling that they asked to come back. Boulware was blessed by the great work they did and by the opportunities of interacting with such a great group of volunteers.

Volunteers provide a wide variety of skills and services to Boulware Mission: furnishing much needed help, saving Boulware money and helping our community volunteers understand what BMI does. Boulware's clients are also able to see a wonderful example of stewardship and faith through action.

Anyone wanting to volunteer may contact Monique Craig, our new Volunteer Service Coordinator, at the Hall Street campus. Monique's e-mail address is mcraig@boulwaremission.org.

Brescians at work for Boulware August 24: photo at left, in Brescia shirts, Drew Shoulders & Jordan Robison; above right, Drew Shoulders, Julie Johnson, Evelyn Turne, Paradise Baize, Eva Rock; at right, Drew Shoulders, Paradise Baize, Eva Rock, and Julie Johnson. Monique Craig Photos



Divine Worship Committee Affirms Timeline For Implementation Of Roman Missal

WASHINGTON—After meeting in Baltimore for the annual Fall General Assembly of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), the Committee on Divine Worship issued a statement affirming the timeline of the implementation of the Roman Missal, Third Edition.

In the statement, Bishop Arthur Serratelli of Paterson, New Jersey, outgoing chairman of the committee, said "there is assurance that the published text will be available in more than ample time for implementation in Advent 2011. It is good to note also that the catechetical preparation for implementation is already underway and has proceeded with much enthusiasm and wide acceptance by both clergy and laity. It is clear at this point in time that there is an attitude of openness and readiness to receive the new text." The full statement is available on the USCCB's Divine Worship homepage: www.usccb.org/liturgy.

24 Mid-South Catholic Leadership Conference: Catholic Leaders Sharing Love In Action

By Mel Howard

LAKE BARKLEY RESORT, Ky. - Nothing good happens online after 2:00 a.m., and from cases cited during talks at the Mid-South Catholic Leadership Conference held here Nov. 7-10, it seems that a principal could conclude that nothing good happens often enough online. A church lawyer suggested that school policy handbooks delivered to students and their families specifically state the dangers and consequences with online activity by anyone during a school day and outside of school. Teachers were warned to keep their principal in the loop about any online activity the teacher may be doing, especially with students or with any online shopping during the school work hours.

It was that kind of frank talk that characterized many parts of the addresses and workshop talks delivered this year at the Mid-South Catholic Leadership Conference Nov 7-10 held at Lake Barkley Convention Center. The theme of the



Bishop William Medley shared a conversation with Lake Barkley Conference participants Nov. 9 in the Convention Center at Lake Barkley State Resort Park.

conference was “A Catholic Leadership: Love in Action,” and there was a lot of tough love talk going on. Frank, honest looks at the way things are in today’s schools and Catholic parish religious education rooms effected the lingo du jour: “Let’s be honest ...” “Let’s just keep looking at the reality ...” in the twenty-first century classroom of a Catholic school or parish.

However, from the gospel readings at Mass during the conference came messages “Be on your guard ...forgive your brother,” “Increase our faith ...even if the



Elaine Robertson, Director of Faith Formation for the Diocese of Owensboro, introduces Ginny Knight-Simon and Patty Blair before their presentation of a mini-retreat entitled “Oh, What a Life.” The retreat was part of the annual Mid-South Leadership Conference at Lake Barkley in Cadiz, KY. Ginny Knight-Simon is the Coordinator of the Diocesan Office of Wisdom, and Patty Blair is the Director of the Office of Lay Ministry and Formation for the diocese. Ginny and Patty frequently offer day retreats for senior citizens throughout the diocese.

size of a mustard seed.” One reading even gave a prescription for the requisite qualities for a church leader, especially a bishop: “For a bishop, as God’s steward, must be blameless ... a lover of goodness ... prudent, upright, devout, and self-controlled ...” Titus, 1:1-9. The conference was a time to reflect, for introspection, conversation, a sharing of plans, taking notes, speaking of best practices, and as Bishop Terry Steib of Memphis said in his homily for Monday’s Mass, the conference was a time for the assembled Catholic educators from eight neighboring dioceses to affirm one another as “we do the best we can to be hospitable, we pray for the Lord to increase our faith by even as much as the size of a mustard seed.” Clearly, the Catholic educators deeply appreciated the bishop’s presence among them, and it had holy effects in prayer time, in hallway talking, in conference presentations, and at Mass.

The presence of Bishop Steib of Memphis, and later of Bishop William Medley of Owensboro at the conference seemed to enliven the spirits of the 99 Catholic educators assembled at the 2010 Lake Barkley Conference as they shared their feelings, ideas, experiences, hopes, questions, case studies, prayers, and insights into helping their young students rise to a level of excellence in an average school day. While the educators displayed a clear respect and honor for their role as a bishop of the church, these bishops

neither sought special place nor sycophantic adulation. The bishops and the educators alike were there to learn, to affirm, to pray, to listen, to share what works and what doesn’t in educating young people today, and to enjoy the beauty of the Lake Barkley area, and just have fun, kick back a little from the weekly routine of Catholic education.

Elaine Robertson, Director of Religious Education for the Diocese of Owensboro, said, “This conference assembles some of the best writers in religious education in this country today right here in our own region of the country. We’re listening to the people who are writing the literature published today and delivering the workshops about best practices in religious education. We have opportunity to see and buy their books here. Our parish and school Catholic educators and leaders can come to this conference and learn and be affirmed in their work less expensively since it is right here at home. One DRE shared with me that she can attend this four-day conference for a little less than \$250. A marvelous opportunity.”

Several conference workshops were presented by Catholic



In photo left to right: HNS Technology Coordinator Julie Eadens, Resource Teacher Malissa Crafton, Guidance Counselor Connie McFarland, and Principal Sandy Fleming. Presenters from Holy Name School prepare for their presentation at the annual Mid-South Catholic Leadership Conference held at Lake Barkley Lodge in November. The presentation, titled “Meeting the Needs of our Students”, led the audience through Holy Name’s process of forming programs to reach the needs of students who struggle and students who excel academically.



Sister Therese Francis Walker, M.S.B.T., Director of Faith Formation for St. Stephen Cathedral Parish, Owensboro, left, and Rosemary Payne, Coordinator of Religious Education for St. Peter of Antioch Parish, Waverly, shared how pleased they were the morning of Tuesday, Nov. 9, to have made it back safely from a five-mile hike around one of the Lake Barkley walking trails Monday afternoon. Mel Howard photo

Lake Barkley Conference

(Continued from page 24)

educators from the Owensboro diocesan area. Fr. Denis Robinson from St. Meinrad School of Theology gave the opening keynote address "Inspiring Catholic Education: The Legacy of Blessed John Henry Newman," which many conferences speakers referred to in their own messages. Ginny Knight-Simon and Patti Blair gave a workshop on "Oh, What A Life." Musician Matt Gray led a Prayer in the Style of Taizé; with Immaculate Parish DRE Diane Willis playing her flute, Matt Gray led the music for the conference's prayer and Masses. The Holy Name Catholic School team gave their nationally presented workshop on "Meeting the Needs of Our Students." Bishop



William Medley hosted an hour and a half "Conversation" during which he spoke about the New Roman Missal and of his time as the fourth Bishop of Owensboro.

The Directors of Religious Education from the Dio-



Above Bishop Terry Steib, Diocese of Memphis, explains a point about the translating of the New Roman Missal; at left, Sr. M. Angela Shaughnessy, SCN, third from left, drew a crowd of listeners even during free time; at right Mike Clark, principal of Mary Carrico Catholic Elementary instructs walkers before a hike through LBL.

Mel Howard Photos



cese of Memphis with a combined service in catechetical ministry of 74 years, shared a panel to describe the "Best Practices in Parish Religious Education," a look at topics from uses of technology to Sacramental Preparation, from the many hats a DRE wears to Teen Catechesis. Sr. Mary Angela Shaughnessy, S.C.N., always a good bet to draw a crowd of Catholic educators interested in the "Legal Aspects of Social Communication," urged teachers and principals alike to be accountable to one another in the uses of social networking, to use common sense when handling problems that arise from the uses of such media as Facebook, e-mail, Twitter, YouTube, and cell phone text messaging both inside and outside of school hours.

Other speakers gave useful, bring-it-back-home-to-use-the-next-day ideas about Teacher Observation and Evaluation (Bro. William Campbell), How To Cultivate Christian Discipleship in Teens (Angie Fleck), The Value of Belonging (Leisa Anslinger), Gen-X, Gen-Y: Be Not Afraid, God Loves Them, Too! (Anthony Marchica), Living Your Strengths (Leisa

Anslinger), and Finding Balance in Ministry (Fr. Charles Latour, O.P. of the Province of Saint Martin de Porres (Southern United States).

A central image at this year's Lake Barkley Conference was the person of Jesus Christ as model teacher, and His technique of calling people to learn, unlearn, and re-learn life's lessons for doing the will of the Father led more than one conference speaker and participant to observe something Sr. Angie Shaughnessy said in her Monday evening workshop, to paraphrase: In the twenty-first century classroom, never give up on anyone. That kid who never gets a good grade: how do you know which kids in your class are going to be the great ones? Don't always judge a teacher by the grade book. Have sympathy for kids who struggle, and look for this in a teacher.

Now, doesn't this sound like something Jesus would do? In fact, that was the title of a workshop Tuesday morning by Anthony Marchica, "What Would Jesus Do/Just Do It." Jesus is not only the focus of our faith, but the one true teacher and catechist.

ADVENT PRAYER RETREAT DAY

Thursday, Dec. 9

9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Led by Msgr. Bernard Powers

Cost: \$15 (Includes lunch)

Join us as we celebrate
this holiest of seasons.



You are also invited to Midday Advent Prayer Services
Monday, Dec. 6 • Monday, Dec. 13
1 p.m. • Mount Saint Joseph Center Chapel
Led by Sister Ann McGrew, OSU (Note: There is no charge.)

To register for these events, contact Kathy McCarty
270-229-4103 ext. 802 • kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

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

MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

"GIVE PEACE, QUIET, AND PRAYER A CHANCE"

December

- 4 Private Christmas party
- 6 Advent Midday Prayer-1 p.m.
- 9 Advent Day of Prayer with
Msgr. Bernard Powers
- 13 Advent Midday Prayer-1 p.m.

January 2011

- 8 Yarn Spinners Day
- 14-16 Retrouvaille
- 17-21 Spiritual Direction-Week 2

February 2011

- 4-6 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 5 Yarn Spinners Day
- 21-24 MSJ Center Quilter Friends

March 2011

- 5 Connect, Awake & Share
- "Everything You Wanted to
Know About the Catholic
Church But Were Afraid to Ask"
(Day Sessions 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
on 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th)
(Evening Sessions 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
on 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st)

- 11-13 Yarn Spinners Weekend
- 15-18 Paducah Quilt Guild
- 20 Precious Blood RCIA
- 25-27 Women's Retreat



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



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999
270-229-4103
www.mscenter.org
msj.center@maplemount.org

To register or to schedule your event,
call Kathy McCarty:
270-229-4103 ext. 802
kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org
The Center is located 12 miles west of
Owensboro on Hwy. 56.
www.mscenter.org

The next Spinning Day is Saturday, Jan. 8, 2011

Whether you are an experienced spinner, knitter, crocheter, or a beginner, you are welcome to attend the "Arts at the Mount" spinning gatherings at Mount Saint Joseph (12 miles west of Owensboro on Highway 56). Enjoy the fellowship of those who appreciate this traditional skill. **Sessions begin at 10 a.m.** Lunch is \$10. The group plans to "spin, knit, and talk until we're done!"

Next date: Feb. 5, 2011.

Contact Kathy McCarty to register:
270-229-4103 ext. 802
kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



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OCHS Counselor, Bev Howard, Receives Owensboro's Beacon Award



OWENSBORO, Ky. - Mrs. Bev Howard, the recipient of the Beacon Award, has served for over 25 years in our community as a mentor, motivator and most importantly a role model for thousands of young people. She has made a difference, not only in the lives of young people, but also has made a great impact on our community through her involvement in many initiatives and efforts to address substance abuse.

Mrs. Howard was instrumental in guiding and directing area high school students to spearhead the movement for the passage of the Second Hand Smoke Ordinance for Daviess County in 2005 that has benefited the entire community by making public places and work areas free of secondhand smoke

for those under 18 years of age.

Mrs. Howard was also instrumental pursuing the passage of the Social Host Ordinance in 2009 that now holds adults in Daviess County accountable if they provide a place for those underage to drink alcohol. If that is not enough that she is now in pursuant for the passage of a Keg Registration Ordinance to hold adults in our community accountable if they provide alcohol to those underage and an expanded Alcohol Beverage Server Training Ordinance to cover all venues in Daviess County that sell alcohol.

Mrs. Howard has given, and continues to give, a vast amount of time, effort and energy to help young people see their full potential and to motivate them to become good and productive citizens while at the same time helping them to understand the risks involved in using alcohol and other drugs. She is truly a treasure to our community.

Mrs. Howard serves as underclassmen counselor at OCHS. The Beacon Award is a community based award presented by Lighthouse Recovery Services.

Source: Owensboro Catholic Schools online newsletter, "In The Loop," Tuesday, November 9, 2010.

Join us for a Women's Retreat

March 25-27, 2011

Retreat Director: Sister Cheryl Clemons, OSU

Take time to "get away" and gather with a group of women wishing to deepen their faith, and return home spiritually enriched.

Fee: \$175 for residents (Includes retreat, materials, meals, and accommodations)

Commuters can attend for \$120 (Includes retreat, materials, meals).

Deduct 10% if paid in full by Feb. 25, 2011

To register, contact Kathy McCarty at kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org
(270) 229-4103 ext. 802



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

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

✚ Have you considered deepening your spirituality as a woman religious?
For information, contact Sister Martha Keller, OSU: 270-229-4103 ext. 212

“Everything You Wanted to Know About the Catholic Church But Were Afraid to Ask”

Join us as we gather to pray with Scripture, study the Bible, and discuss whatever is on the minds of our participants.

Begins Ash Wednesday

March 9, 2011

(Prayer Service with ashes will be at 10:30 a.m.)

- **Morning Sessions -10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**
Wednesdays, March 9, 16, 23, 30 and April 6, 13
- **Evening Sessions - 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.**
Thursdays, March 10, 17, 24, 31 and April 7, 14

Led by Sister Ann McGrew, OSU

Lunch at noon.
Dinner at 5:30 p.m.
Cost: \$10

To register, contact
Kathy McCarty
270-229-4103 ext. 802
kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



Come to one session, or come to all! Suit your own schedule.

The Undefeated: On Top Of Our Game 27



Trinity's freshman volleyball team. They had an undefeated season this year. They are from left to right...Katie Wathen, Madi Perez, Liza Howard, Hannah Armes, Kirsten Beatty and Tori Lanham. Photo submitted by Lisa Armes



ACES Wearing Pink: For Fighting Cancer



At a recent OCHS football game, the OCHS cheerleaders wore pink attire and took up a collection in the fight against breast cancer. The squad is pictured: front row (left to right) Joelle Boarman, Caylene Newton, Assistant Coach Allison Johnson, Kelly Schweisthal, Rachel Hamilton, Sarah McCarthy, Brittany Nash; back row (left to right) Emily Pate, Evan Todd, Coach Bethe Lowe, Jordan Delano, Chelsea Hagan, Caitlin Coomes. OCS Photo

The Line Up: A Guided Tour

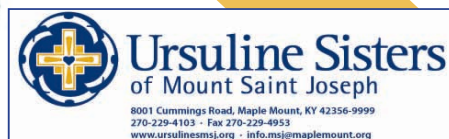
Trinity's Criminal Law class toured the detention center October 7th. The tour included a chance to hear a story from an inmate as well as a guided tour. This year's class consisted of Jesse Rhinerson, Jamie Sloan, Tyler Isbill, Tom Evans, Alesha Corley, Sophie Henderson, Hannah Payne, Jill Graham, Beth Millay and Kalie Winkler.

“Seeking spiritual depth?”

Are you seeking “more” in your spiritual journey? ...Do you need help discerning what God might be calling you to do? ...Have you ever thought about becoming a Sister?



Please contact our Director of Vocations, Sister Martha Keller, OSU. She will be happy to answer your questions and provide you with more information. E-mail martha.keller@maplemount.org. Call Sister Martha at 270-229-4103 ext. 212. Read her blog: <http://ursulinesmsjvocations.blogspot.com/>. Visit our website: ursulinesmsj.org. Follow us on Facebook: [facebook.com/ursulinesmsj](https://www.facebook.com/ursulinesmsj)



Would you like to receive The Pilgrimage,
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the latest news about the Ursuline
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Just send your e-mail address
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info.ms@maplemount.org



Ursuline Sisters
of Mount Saint Joseph

8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, KY 42356-9999
270-229-4103 - Fax 270-229-4953
www.ursulinesmsj.org - info.ms@maplemount.org

Please help families in your community.

Another marriage saving weekend is coming soon. Most couples across the nation who have attended Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) tell us they learned about this program from their weekly Bulletin. Many are afraid to ask their pastor or friends for help with their marriages. Others are just hoping time will make things better.

They tell us that seeing the program announced repeatedly in their Bulletin gave them the courage to pick up the phone and make the call. Most say that Retrouvaille was the lifeline that helped their marriage and their family. You are our lifeline to them!

By running the announcement below of the upcoming Retrouvaille weekend right now and continuing to run an announcement every week (if possible) you give troubled marriages and their hurting families a chance to heal. We thank you in advance!

**Thank you for supporting families,
Daniel & Terri Sestina
Retrouvaille of Owensboro Publicity
Couples ministering together
to maintain the Value of marriage.**

Marriage Help —

Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi) has helped thousands of couples who are disillusioned or even experiencing misery in their marriage. This program can help you too. For confidential information about or to register for the January program beginning with a weekend on Jan. 14-16, call 270-683-1545 ext 346, or email: dpretrowens@aol.com or visit the web site at www.retrouvaille.org



Retrouvaille
rediscovery
... A LIFELINE

SCHEDULE OF 2011 NET RETREATS DIOCESE OF OWENSBORO

DATE	TIME	PARISH/CITY	GRADES	CONTACT
Jan. 12, 2011		ARRIVAL DATE		
Jan. 13, 2011	6:00 – 9:00 PM	St. Jerome, Fancy Farm	9 th -12 th	Sherry Jones 270-623-8181
Jan. 14, 2011	5:00 – 10:00 PM	St. John, Paducah	Middle School The Adventure	Gwen Taylor 270-554-3810
Jan. 15, 2011	1:00 – 5:00 PM	St. Pius X, Owensboro	8th Why Faith?	Danny May 270-684-5369
Jan. 16, 2011	1:00 – 5:00 PM	Blessed Mother, Owensboro	8th Why Faith?	Danny May 270-684-5369
Jan. 17, 2011		DAY OFF		
Jan. 18, 2011	6:00 – 9:00 PM	St. John, Fancy Farm	Middle School	Sherry Jones 270-623-8181
Jan. 19, 2011		OPEN DATE		
Jan. 20, 2011	8:00 AM – 2:00 PM	St. Romuald School, Hardinsburg	5-8th Why Faith?	Cathy Kennedy/Rob Cox 270-756-5504
Jan. 21, 2011	5:00 – 10:00 PM	St. Anthony, Clarkson	5-8th Soul Satisfaction	Rose Armstrong 270-259-6416
Jan. 22, 2011		OPEN DATE		
Jan. 23, 2011		Holy Spirit, Bowling Green		Carol Kunkel/Matthew Keyser 270-842-7777
Jan. 24, 2011		DAY OFF		
Jan. 25, 2011		DEPARTURE DAY		

If you are interested in having the NET Team on any of the open dates, please call Donna Mills 270-683-1545 or e-mail: donna.mills@pastoral.org

St. Pius X Parish to Take Part in National Night of Prayer for Life

By Richard Murphy

OWENSBORO, Ky. - St. Pius X Parish in Owensboro will take part in the National Night of Prayer for Life on Wednesday December 8, beginning with Mass at 6:00 pm and continuing till 12:00 midnight on Thursday December 9 with Eucharistic Adoration. All interested people of faith are invited to attend and pray for the establishment of a culture of life in our nation and throughout the world and ask Our Lord to revive our own land.

December 8th is the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, the patroness of the United States. December 9th is the feast day of St. Juan Diego. It was on this date in 1531 that the Blessed Mother appeared to Juan Diego near present day Mexico City and identified herself as Our Lady of Guadalupe, or “she who crushes the serpent’s head”. Under this title, Mary is also the patroness of all the Americas and the unborn.

At 11:00 pm to midnight in our time zone, every participating church across the country will be united in prayer to end abortion and offer reparation for sins against the Gospel of Life.

The National Night of Prayer for Life held on December 8/9 has been celebrated in hundreds of parishes across the nation and this year marks its 21st anniversary praying to convert America’s heart to cherish Life. This program began over 20 years ago on Long Island in the Diocese of Rockville Centre as a grass-roots endeavor spearheaded by founder Anne Murphy to expand the “Adoration for Life” devotion taking place in several local parishes at the time. The National Night of Prayer for Life is now operating within St. Francis of Assisi parish in Greenlawn New York where the All Night Vigil for Life takes place monthly.

In 1989, Anne and a core group of pro-life Catholics developed a four hour adoration service dedicated to the Immaculate Conception and Our Lady of Guadalupe. The founders are convinced that it was through Our Lady’s intercession that a national mailing list was developed to launch the NATIONAL NIGHT OF PRAYER FOR LIFE as it currently exists. The activity extended far beyond Long Island and eventually reached from the East to the West coast covering most of the continental United States and all four time zones. Hawaii, Alaska, and various foreign nations also participate. Today, over 700 parishes and organizations have formally reported their participation to pray that our nation renew its commitment to live the Gospel of Life.

Please join in at St. Pius X, your Parish or in your home on December 8/9 to pray for the establishment of a culture of life in our nation and throughout the world, and ask Our Lord to revive our own land. It will be a blessing to you, your family, and your country.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Marriage Celebrations for December Anniversaries of 25, 40, 50 and over 50 years of marriage

Blessed Mother, Owensboro

Rick & Leesa Morman, 25
Ron & Greta Beals, 55

Vincent & Lynda Reynolds, 51

Christ the King, Owensboro

Sherrell & Jeannie Calhoun, 52

Christ the King, Scottsville

John & Dell Hall, 55

Holy Name, Henderson

Spencer & Ruby Chappell, 54

David & Juanita Cheaney, 51

Robert & Betty Pritchett, 55

Thomas & Julia Speaks, 56

Daniel & Lynn Dekemper, 40

Timothy & Donna Barron, 25

William & Jane Hendrick, 25

Holy Spirit, Bowling Green

Donald & Maura Gerard, 25

Immaculate Conception, Hawesville

Leonard & Delma McManaway, 40

Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

Ralph & Martha 63

Robert & Doty Clark, 52

Odie & Martine Warren, 64

Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro

Patrick & Ann Doyle, 59

Precious Blood, Owensboro

Jerry & Ellen Blandford, 53

Ted & Sheila Williams, 40

Resurrection, Dawson Springs

Joe & Mazie Mastromarino, 58

Gene & Barbara Cranor, 40

Sacred Heart, Waverly

Mike & Linda Williamson, 40

St. Agnes, Uniontown

Alvin & Betty Borup, 52

Brown & Willia Mae Foster, 51

Jerry & Carol Gough, 50

James & Norma Bickett, 61

St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph

F. G. & Winnie Riney, 71

Frank & Bernice Thomas, 60

St. Ann, Morganfield

John & Madonna Wyatt, 51

St. Anthony, Axtel

Denvir & Carolyn Henning, 40

St. Anthony Padua, Grand Rivers

Keith & Dorothy Dunker, 58

St. Columba, Lewisport

George & Betty Allard, 61

St. Edward, Fulton

Don & Rachel Cox, 57

St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

David & Edith Keeney, 51

John & Patricia English, 58

St. Henry, Aurora

Jerry & Edna Jones, 55

St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

Edward D. & Mary Ruth Elder, 53

Sam & Ella Dean Hayden, 56

Joseph W. & Ruth Ann Higdon, 55

James & Agnes Robb, 58

St. John the Baptist, Fordsville

Peggy & Ray Montgomery, 40

St. John the Evangelist, Paducah

Donald & Karol Richards, 40

St. Joseph, Bowling Green

Alan & Jeanne Baker, 58

Don & Imogene Poston, 60

William & Joanne Powell, 51

St. Joseph, Central City

Don & Marlene Monaghan, 54

Don & Bonnie Adams, 40

St. Joseph, Leitchfield

Norris & Mona Higdon, 25

St. Joseph, Mayfield

John & Christie Scarbrough, 25

Leroyt & Betty Dowdy, 55

Joe & Wanda Mike, 62

Sanford & Ernestine Sumner, 64

St. Leo, Murray

Daniel & Madonna Adams, 25

St. Mary, Franklin

Merile B. & Dorothy O'Bryan, 64

St. Mary, LaCenter

King & Cecilia Moss, 40

David & Gladys Fraser, 51

St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho

Vincent & Mary Pheobe Ebelhar, 69

St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Brian & Janice Roby, 25

Martin & Deborah Rhodes, 25

Jerome & Patti Merritt, 25

Bruce & Tracy Millay, 25

Emmett & Ella Mae Barnett, 61

Bud & Mildred Boarman, 66

Raymond & Emma Whistle, 58

St. Michael, Oak Grove

Lionel & Sue McElroy, 58

St. Paul, Leitchfield

James Bonnie Collard, 52

William L. & Edna Drake, 64

St. Pius X, Calvert City

Hank & Bert Mercier, 52

St. Rose, Cloverport

David & Elizabeth Sterett, 69

St. Sebastian, Calhoun

David & Betty Abrams, 51

St. Stephen, Cadiz

Sal & Irene Jaso, 59

Raymond & Roberta Ward, 52

St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

Wendell & Mary Bryan Booth, 52

Mark & Bianca Osborne, 25

Edward & Grace Pickett, 66

Sonny & Doris Schwartz, 51

St. Thomas More, Paducah

Michael & Kathy Smith, 25

Floyd & Bernadine Watkins, 56

Robert & Carol Crane, 57

Cliff & Ann Thomasson, 69

St. William, Knottsville

Joseph & Effie Edge, 56

Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro

Jim & Jenny Wilson, 40

William & Faye Boehman, 53

Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

William & Pamela Sweet, 25

Bill & Linda Harkins, 52

Edwin & Kathleen Roeder, 59

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Owensboro, Offers Catholic Caring Presence Along With Area Catholic Parishes

Submitted by Drew Hardesty, DRE, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

OWENSBORO - At the First Friday anointing for Our Lady of Lourdes Church here on Nov.5, about 50 people came to Mass to be anointed. Fr. Brad explained the sacrament very well before hand, and administered it.

Those who wished to receive the sacrament lined up around the communion rail in church and Fr. Brad went from person to person anointing them. It was a very beautiful experience. Afterwards, there was a potluck meal; about 35-40 people attended. Those in attendance were asked to bring a side dish and the parish provided the meat and drinks. A wonderful meal and a fun time were had by all. After the meal several people stuck around for an impromptu game of bunco.

The Adult Series "Explaining the Catholic Faith to Protestants" was very successful on its first night. We met on Sunday, Nov. 7 at 6 pm in the Parish Hall. There were about 65 in attendance including several Protestants (It was publicized in the Messenger-Inquirer).

The Education and Formation Committee is sponsoring this event and the series is centered on the video "Common Ground: What Protestants and Catholics Can Learn from Each Other." Along with the video there is a study guide. The video is an interview between a Protestant pastor and a Catholic priest. The interview is very candid and not a "Catholic-bash" or a "Protestant-bash." The purpose of the video is to find that Common Ground that all Christians share. Our series began with prayer and a short introduction/welcome to everyone. We would watch a chapter from the DVD then discuss a couple of questions related to the chapter. Our goal is to finish the DVD over four sessions (including the first one). On the day of the last session we will have

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Looking for some time away with your spouse?
Want to delve deeper into your marriage and your relationship?
Need a break from the daily grind?
Desiring prayerful intimacy?

Then come away for some time apart by attending a Marriage Encounter weekend. It is very affordable! Only a \$75 registration fee for food and lodging! (Donations will be accepted)

Go online to www.wme.org to find an upcoming weekend at a location that works for you.

Contact the Diocesan Family Life Office for more information at tami.schneider@pastoral.org or (270) 683-1545 ext 377.

a dinner for all of those in attendance. The sessions continued on November 21 at 6 pm in the Parish Hall and again on every other Sunday after that until the last session on December 19.

Some other events at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish that happened during the month of November were:

- Confirmation Service Day on November 13 from 9 am until the 4:30 pm Mass.
- Continuing the Adult Series "Explaining the Catholic Faith to Protestants"
- Switch-A-Seat Sunday (weekend of November 13 & 14) All in attendance at Mass are invited to sit in a different section of the church in order to meet "new" parishioners; fellowship gathering (hot chocolate and donuts) following Mass in the Circle Drive
- Thanksgiving Mass on Thanksgiving Day Morning



Henderson Holy Name Knight of Columbus Paul Metzger is shown with Holy Name School Student Y Club members Alyssa Hurm and Abby Gager outside of Henderson's K Mart on a recent weekend. Knights and Y Club members worked the annual Tootsie Roll Drive at sites all over the city and received over \$3,000. Most of the funds will be used locally at the Riverview School. HNS Photo

Bishops' Spokeswoman Urges Institute Of Medicine Committee To Focus On Life-saving Preventive Health Services For Women, Exclude Contraception, Sterilization

WASHINGTON—Deirdre McQuade, spokeswoman for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, addressed the Institute of Medicine's Committee on Preventive Services for Women as they convened for the first time on November 16th. She urged them not to recommend contraception or sterilization among mandated "preventive services" to be announced next August by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as the Department implements the new health care act.

"As you study the vital question of preventive services for women under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), I urge you to focus on services that will offer authentic care and save lives," she said. McQuade serves as assistant director for policy and communications at the bishops' Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities.

Echoing the letter sent by the Office of the General Counsel (www.usccb.org/ogc/preventive.pdf) to HHS on September 17, McQuade said, "The Conference has a particular concern that contraceptives and sterilization not be mandated as 'preventive' services. To prevent pregnancy is not to prevent a disease—indeed, contraception and sterilization pose their own unique and serious health risks to women and adolescents. In addition, contraceptives and sterilization are morally problematic for many stakeholders, including religiously-affiliated health care providers and insurers."

According to McQuade, the preventive services recommended under the Interim Final Rules share a basic medical profile. "They pose little or no medical risk themselves, and they help prevent or ameliorate identifiable conditions that would pose known risks to life and health in the future," McQuade said, but contraception "presents the opposite profile."

She continued, "Use of prescription contraception actually increases a woman's risk of

Bishops Urge Use of Social Media To Effectively Evangelize 'Digital Continent'

BALTIMORE—The Catholic Church faces an urgent call to evangelize the new "digital continent" of social media, according to a presentation to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) at their annual Fall General Assembly. Bishop Ronald Herzog of Alexandria, Louisiana, a member of the USCCB Communications Committee, delivered the presentation November 15.

"Although social media has been around for less than 10 years, it doesn't have the makings of a fad," said Bishop Herzog. "We're being told that it is causing as fundamental a shift in communication patterns and behavior as the printing press did 500 years ago. And I don't think I have to remind you of what happened when the Catholic Church was slow to adapt to that new technology," he said, referencing the Protestant Reformation.

Bishop Herzog described the communication habits of young people today, which he noted have moved beyond email to the world of social media.

"If the Church is not on their mobile device, it doesn't exist," he said. "The Church does not have to change its teachings to reach young people, but we must deliver it to them in a new way." He compared this outreach to evangelizing a new digital continent, and said the Church has serious challenges to overcome, noting, "Most of us don't understand the culture."

Bishop Herzog said the egalitarian nature of the Internet makes it particularly challenging to the Church.

"Anyone can create a blog," he noted. "Everyone's opinion is valid. And if a question or contradiction is posted, the digital natives expect a response and something resembling a conversation. We can choose not to enter into that cultural mindset, but we do so at great peril to the Church's credibility and approachability in the minds of the natives, those who are growing up in this new culture. This is a new form of pastoral ministry."

Bishop Herzog cited a survey of diocesan communications personnel conducted by the USCCB that saw great variation in the use of new media, with respondents expressing a desire to learn more about it and requesting training and additional resources. The most frequently requested resources were not additional dollars but staff who are trained in its use.

• Contraception is not authentic preventive health care because pregnancy is not a disease

• Birth control poses serious health risks to women and adolescents

• Mandating coverage would pose unprecedented threat to conscience rights

developing some of the very conditions that the 'preventive services' listed in the Interim Final Rules are designed to prevent, such as stroke, heart attacks and blood clots (especially for women who also smoke), so a policy mandating contraceptive services as 'preventive services' would be in contradiction with itself."

McQuade added, "At various times women may have serious personal reasons for wanting to avoid or delay a pregnancy. However, these personal reasons do not transform a temporary or permanent condition of infertility into a prerequisite for health, or turn a healthy pregnancy into a disease condition."

She also highlighted the potential impact on conscience rights. "Currently, such employers and insurance issuers [who object to contraception and sterilization] are completely free under federal law to purchase and offer health coverage that excludes these procedures. They would lose this freedom of conscience under a mandate for all plans to offer contraception and sterilization coverage," McQuade said. "Thus the Administration's promise that Americans who like their current coverage will be able to keep it under health care reform would become a hollow pledge."

She concluded, "The Administration rightly does not include contraceptives or sterilization as preventive services in its Interim Final Rules, and future rulemaking or other guidance should also refrain from doing so. We hope these considerations will be taken into account as the Institute of Medicine prepares to make its recommendations on a final list of required preventive services for women."

20th ANNUAL MARIAN CONGRESS

31

By Joann Pais Bradford

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. - "I have a dream!"

We all are familiar with these famous words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.. Well, in the early 1970s, there was another man who had a dream. A young priest, ordained in 1964, dreamed of establishing an Owensboro Diocesan Shrine, a MARIAN shrine.

While he was pastor of St. Joseph Church from 1982 until 1989, and relying on a deep faith in the power of the Blessed Mother, that priest, Fr. Ben Luther, led the way to the establishment of our (only) Diocesan Shrine, "Mary, Mother of the Church and Model of All Christians," located at historic St. Joseph Church. After the idea was approved by then-Bishop John J. McRaith, donations were acquired, the shrine was built (attached to the rear of the rectory), and canonically established and blessed on May 7, 1989 by Bishop John McRaith. Thus, a dream became a beautiful reality!

The details of this amazing story were told by Fr. Luther to the pilgrims who attended the 20th annual Marian Congress held at St. Joseph Parish Center on October 10, 2010. He also explained the Marian apparitions and other events depicted in the thirteen stained glass windows. Prominent is the large "Miracle of the Sun" window which is a smaller, exact replica of the window in the shrine at Fatima.

A recently compiled booklet tells about the event or person depicted in each Shrine window. A copy may be obtained by contacting Fr. Ben Luther, 113 South Third Street, Central City, KY 42330, 270-754-1164.

Congress events in the parish hall also included hymns, crowning of the statue of Our Lady of Fatima, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, refreshments and display of religious articles. Pilgrims then prayed the rosary during an outdoor procession with the statue into the church, followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, scripture, homily, blessing of the sick with the Eucharistic Jesus - "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by!" Luke 18-37, and confessions throughout. Benediction concluded the event.

The Blessed Sacrament is reserved in the shrine chapel at all times and visitors-pilgrims are encouraged to pray there. Additionally, many Bowling Green area Catholics sign up for an hour of adoration before the exposed Blessed Sacrament. Under the leadership of Fr. Luther, Committee Chair and Director of Programs, the Diocesan Marian Shrine Committee promotes devotion to Mary in western Kentucky in accordance with the principles of Chapter 8 of the Vatican II Council document on the Church, "The Light of Nations," which teaches us about Mary's role in the plan of salvation in the life of the Catholic Church of our time and into the future.

In addition to the Congress, the Diocesan Marian Shrine Committee each year sponsors several other popular events throughout the diocese: Youth 2000, Marian Conferences and Marian Observances. For more information, check out <http://www.marianshrineky.org>. Bishop William F. Medley will be the main speaker at the 21st Marian Congress on October 23, 2011. Pilgrims, Lovers of Jesus and Mary, plan now to attend!!

Pictures: Top right, The outdoor procession and rosary, from left, Peter Palumbo, Auburn, Ky., and at right, Peter Galipeau, Russellville, Ky, carried the statue of Our Lady of Fatima; at middle right, Fr. Andy Garner led the pilgrims into the church, At left is Cindy Vincent, and at right, Carol Darrow and grand-daughter Maranda Creemeens, from Franklin, Ky.; at lower right, Shrine Committee member Joann Bradford introducing the speaker, Father Ben Luther, shown at the podium at lower left; in the center photo, twins Molly and Mallory Smith from Bowling Green, crowned the statue of Our Lady of Fatima while Juan Smith and Webb Zannauker of Alvaton, Ky. looked on. Photos submitted by Joann Bradford





Falyn Stokes, Kary Booty, Emily Woodward



Mike Mattingly calling out bingo. Pictures submitted by Donna Reine



Angie Curry and Amy Lyday work the cake booth at the Immaculate Conception, Hawesville Picnic on Sept. 24, 2010.

How Meshea Became a Catholic

By Edie Keeney

PADUCAH, Ky. - Two years ago, Meshea Crysap received the sacrament of Confirmation and became a Catholic. It was then that she realized she had reached the end of her search that had started many years ago. Meshea's father was an atheist and her mother a Baptist. She grew up searching for a faith that she could wholeheartedly believe in. She investigated many churches and was baptized in an evangelical church but after a while she continued to study other faiths; Baptist, Mormon, Jehovah Witness, Pentecostal, and Lutheran. She joined the Missouri Synod St. Paul Lutheran Church in Paducah. "When I experienced the liturgy in the Lutheran Church I kind of quit searching. It followed the Bible and not what the minister thought or his opinions," she explained.

"When I met and married Darren I knew he was a cradle Catholic but he wasn't practicing his faith and for several years we attended together the Lutheran Church. After a while Darren started going to Mass and then he decided he wanted to learn more about his faith. He wanted to go to RCIA but because of work he wouldn't be able to attend every session. So I went when he couldn't go and then it wasn't too long before I was going for myself," Meshea explained.

She went on to say, "I began studying the book, *'A Catholic Guide to the Bible'*," it is basic Catholicism, simple and real, not pretentious. I love Catholicism and this is such a good book to study and to learn what it really is. If you read this book, there is no way that you cannot be touched. I really believe if you go to



Meshea Crysap

RCIA with an open mind and heart you can't not believe and then you want to become a Catholic."

"All the years that I was fumbling and searching in all those churches I felt alone and confused. It was during that time that I was diagnosed with fibromyalgia and also finally found Catholicism. I now realize that I have had fibromyalgia for my whole life. I just accepted feeling so tired and having all of my muscles being so painful that I couldn't do anything. I stayed at home and withdrew from almost everybody. I just thought everyone hurt and felt as bad as I did," Meshea remembered, "I spent so much time questioning God, why was this happening to me? As a Catholic I don't do that anymore. I know that He is there, and I give it all to Him. I will always believe that God takes

Continued on page 33

Pat Menaugh's Journey

By Edie Keeney

PADUCAH, Ky. - At the Easter Vigil 2008 Pat Menaugh came to the end of her journey. She was received into full communion in the Catholic Church. Pat was raised in the Baptist faith but after she married Ed Menaugh, she attended the First Christian Disciples of Christ and for many years was very active there. She was a member of different committees and was a deacon in the church for 5½ years. Pat recalled, "I was happy there, had lots of friends and enjoyed the work that I did there. But gradually over a period of a year began to realize that I was not happy, I felt like I was drifting, I didn't even want to go to church. Ed encouraged me but finally I just quit going."

Pat explained, "I grew up in Owensboro which has many Catholics and many of my friends were Catholic. I had attended Mass with some of my friends and I became kind of familiar with the Catholic religion but really didn't know much about it. I saw an ad in the Paducah paper inviting people who wanted to learn about the faith to call the St. Francis phone number to learn more. I laid the ad aside and really kind of forgot about it. At that time I was still going to our church."

She continued, "Later, I remembered the ad and I called the church to find out about learning about the Catholic faith. I talked to the secretary and she introduced me to Sr. Martha (Keller) and she told me about the RCIA program and encouraged me to come. She also invited me to attend the noon Masses with her and I did several times. I met Fr. Brian (Roby) and felt real comfortable talking



Pat Menaugh

with him. I started attending RCIA and by Thanksgiving I knew that I was going to come into the Church. I told Sr. Martha and she told me if this was what I really wanted to do, I needed to talk to our minister and tell him that I wouldn't be a member of his church anymore. I told him about what I was learning: that Communion was very important to me and that I really believed that it is the Body and Blood of Christ. I think that was when Ed realized how serious I was when I went and talked to our minister. Ed and I have been married 31 years but he had been married before. I told Ed he would need to get an annulment so we could be married in the Catholic Church. He went to see Fr. Brian to find out what he needed to do. Ed's family and everyone who needed to fill out the papers did it right away

Continued on page 33



Trip To Indianapolis

33

Submitted by Cecelia Hamilton

On a beautiful fall October weekend, 8 of us traveled to Indianapolis for an encounter with God and our faith-filled friends. This wasn't a trip just for fun; it was also to nourish our faith life and to live our baptismal vows. Here are comments from some of those who attended from the Owensboro Diocese.

What a week-end!! Is there anything better than the Body of Christ being together? We enjoyed each other as we shared ways to become closer to Christ. As we hear the Cursillo message and are encouraged to live fully our tripod of piety, study, action. It is ever new because it is presented in a new light of lived commitment. - **Sister Mary Thomas**

It was a time shared with my BESTEST friends... A time to commute and communion with fellow Catholics, who are striving to become saints... And it was a time, to reflect and just be with our Creator, Friend, and Lover... This past Regional Encounter was very dear to me, as I had the opportunity to travel with some very special people, who have befriended me over the years in my Fourth Day journey. It was amazing watching these ladies laugh, cry, and fuss as they rekindled and shared their faith. They allowed me to develop and plan their skit consisting of two simple songs, 'Amen' and 'This Little Light of Mine'. We even had costumes, very colorful ones in fact! We, also, had stage names and called ourselves the DeColores Sisters. I feel, however, the highlight of this weekend was the comradery of traveling, sharing experiences with the greater Church, and allowing them to stoke the embers of faith in me... Watch Western Kentucky, we are on the move... Come see! Come Join us! So, my DeColores sisters, thank you for adding another puzzle piece to my life's puzzle. May Christ continue to guide and direct you in your faith journey. Peace and JOY! - **Tina Powers**

The weekend was great. The music, thanks to Tony Avellano, was something else. You just should have been there. Saturday night we were so blessed to have the bishop and three priests there to say Mass. When I went to Communion, I felt like I was taking the Precious Body and Blood from Jesus Himself. I want to thank the group from the Owensboro Diocese--Lay Director- Cecelia Hamilton, Sr. Mary Thomas, Sr. Elaine Burke, Cami Frey, Barbara Hertel, Tina Powers, and Mary Hagan, for the power they gave me. I just can't explain it. My feet still

haven't hit the ground. - **Teresa Westerfield**

The Fall Encounter was a real treat, shall I say a mixed bag! The music was so powerful and kept one moving in the Spirit. The talks were beneficial as they were informative. The evening entertainment was hilarious. What else can we say, except when Christians get together they are inspired, informed, relaxed and spiritually uplifted! God leads us in ways we don't expect! **DeColores,**

- **Sister Elaine Burke, OSU**

Our God is an awesome God!!! I had an awesome time at Region IV Encounter. We had Bishop Higgi and three priests to celebrate Mass on Saturday night. What a joy to receive the Body and Blood of Christ 3 days in a row. The music of Tony Avellana was so joyful and uplifting. The skits were funny with the audience participating. Victor Lugo's lecture led us through Group Reunion. Morning and Night prayers began and ended our days. The Living Rosary with lighted candles was a powerful tribute to Our Blessed Mother with the Joyful Mysteries. What an awesome weekend we had! - **Mary Hagan**

The music was awesome and opened my heart to God and why He wanted me here. Through the mystery of grace, I truly experienced being a child of God, letting his presence settle in me and allowing my soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. All of the talks, based on Fr. David Knight's book Reaching Jesus - Five Steps to a Fuller Life, were exceptional and spoke to me. Victor Lugo's talk particularly resonated with me, including his reminder in such a poignant way that we don't have to fill our calendars or do things but merely BE Christians in our own metric square block. Spending care-free timelessness with our Lord in front of the Blessed Sacrament strengthened me and filled me. I encountered Christ in community, in dialogue, in laughter, in prayer, in play. He spoke to me through others and during the Mass and Eucharist I was filled with the fire of His Holy Spirit! Praise be to God! - **Cami Frey**

I will ditto what everyone else has said above and add a little. One of the speakers reminded us that our relationship with God is not a private affair. The Cursillo community has helped me witness my faith to those I come into contact with ev-



The group from the Owensboro Diocese: from left, Sr. Mary Thomas, A.D., Barbara Hertel, Lay Director- Cecelia Hamilton, Cami Frey, Teresa Westerfield, Mary Hagan, Tina Powers, and Sr. Elaine Burke, O.S.U. Submitted photo

ery day. We can't wait for someone else to do it. These 7 wonderful ladies, who shared this trip with me, provided many laughs and caring moments and I truly appreciate them. - **Cecelia Hamilton**

How Meshea Became a Catholic

(Continued from page 32)

that God takes bad things that happen and makes something good from them. I feel it is all in God's hands. Now I have found friends at St. Francis. For 12 years I have been working on a way to help me live my life and not let the fibromyalgia control me. With the support and help of Darren and my friends we have developed a support group that shows it is possible to take control of the fibromyalgia so that it does not control you. It is called fibroLIFE and it, 'Will enable you to discover attainable, fulfilling life opportunities and experiences to help you LIVE YOUR OPTIMAL LIFE.' FibroLIFE offers free seminars, events and coaching. When I can't follow through with my commitments because of the muscle pain my friends take over for me. I truly believe that God has his hand in all of this."

Pat Menaugh's Journey (Continued from page 32)

were not sure everything would be accomplished so I could become Catholic with my RCIA group. Monday afternoon before Easter we got word that the papers were in Owensboro. Fr. Brian needed to go there for a meeting and he would pick up the papers for me. My whole group had been praying for me and everything just fell into place. I believe it was just meant to be and I was able to be with my group. I really feel God was leading me to St. Francis and the Catholic faith. Ed was there that night and comes to Mass with me sometimes. He told me that he is too old to learn a whole new faith, says he is comfortable where he is, and he is very supportive of my decision. My oldest granddaughter asked to go to church with me. She loves going to Mass and when she learned about baptism she told her parents that she wanted to be baptized and she was, at St. Francis in May of this year. When her younger sister starts kindergarten I believe they will all attend Mass together. I have had a lot of happy and great things that have happened to me but I consider that this is the really greatest experience. Ed has been so supportive and has been a great source of strength for me. He worked hard to help get the annulment so we could be married in the Church. I am really happy."

Brescia University Homecoming 2010

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Brescia University's Homecoming was a huge success this year, with more than 450 people in attendance at the weekend's various events. Friday, October 29, consisted of former and current faculty coming back to campus to meet with past students and to swap stories of the "old" days. Brescia's Society of the Arch members, those who give \$1,000 or more during the year, gathered for a reception at the Campbell Club. Brescia also encouraged all graduates of the last decade (GOLD) to meet in the basement of The Miller House that evening.

Saturday morning started bright and early with alumni and students showing up around 8 am to bring their chariots to the staging area for the chariot race. Brescia University has not held a chariot race since the mid 1980s. Seven chariot teams, which included teams of Brescia faculty, staff, students and alumni, showed up to race. More than 120 people were on hand to cheer Team ELLM (student team consisting of Emily Whelan, Lea Anderson, Lauren Varble, and Melissa Crawford) on to victory after four heats and a couple of crashes resulting in scraped knees, hands and elbows.

Following the chariot race, lunch was served in the dining hall and many made their way to the Kamuf Park Outdoor Sports Complex for the Brescia alumni baseball game. In between in-

nings, Doris Schadler and her late husband, Frank, were honored for their generosity in making the Sports Complex a reality. After Board of Trustee and alumnus, Charles, and his wife Linda Kamuf donated the land for the complex, the Schadlers made a large gift of \$100,000 towards the construction. To honor the Schadlers, the baseball field has been dedicated and named Schadler Field. Many members of Doris Schadler's family were on hand for the event.

Following the alumni baseball game, the Lady Bearcats played a soccer game against Oakland City University. During half-time the student Homecoming Court was introduced with seniors Gilbert Comacho and Audrey Popham being named King and Queen; juniors Steve Vasquez and Julie Reynolds named Prince and Princess; sophomores Matt Cissell, Elvis Lane, and Mercedes Howard named Duke and Duchess; and freshmen Chase Carrico and Carla Crespo as Lord and Lady. The men's soccer team played later that afternoon.

An Italian dinner was served Saturday evening in the Quad under a big tent with a D.J. and dancing following.

Homecoming 2010 ended on Sunday, October 31 with Mass in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel and a movie matinee with students in Taylor Lecture Hall.

Plans are well underway for next year's Homecoming, though a date has not been set.



Sexy 70's chariot team included Tina Wolken '78, Dolores Kiesler '77, and Keith Hudson '77 as "love children" passing out flowers while they raced. Brescia Photos



Brescia students majoring in Social Work served up various soups at their annual fundraiser to benefit Navajo children in New Mexico.



Alumni gathered at the Campus Center Friday night to meet former faculty and staff members. Left to right: Dette Wilson '82, Alumni Director Jason Cox '97, and Don Cinnamond '85.

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"Let Us Go Rejoicing!"

By Dana Gensler

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. - The Dedication of a Church and Altar is a major sacred event in the life of the Diocese and the parish community. Nearly every ministry group at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Bowling Green, is working together toward our Mass of Dedication on Sunday, December 12th at 11.00 a.m., including the Presider, Bishop William Medley.

The Pastoral Staff is working to assure the entire experience is sacred and memorable. Prayer Teams have organized a 40-hour Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament leading up to the Dedication Mass, and the youth have prepared Evening Prayer, which will follow. The Communications Team and other volunteers have hand-addressed over 1,300 invitations. The Liturgy Core group is fine-tuning the Liturgy script, training ministers and teams are busy sewing a new Altar cloth, new corporals and purificators. Matching white vestments have been secured, while parking and hospitality teams are reviewing strategies to accommodate the large crowd. The ECHO Leadership Team (Whole Community Catechesis) has made final preparations in the menu and décor for a reception that will follow Mass.

Holy Spirit's Music Ministry is also busy preparing music for the Dedication, as well as Christ the King and Christmas Liturgies. Yet in the midst of rehearsals, time was set for the "St. Cecilia Sing for the Strings" Prism Concert. "St. Cecilia Sing" is a nationwide celebration of Liturgical



Melissa Gensler performs classic, "Kokopeli". (Photo: Clinton Lewis)



Holy Spirit's Festival Choir sings for the "St. Cecilia Sing for the Strings" concert. (Photo: Clinton Lewis)

In the picture at right, "Fire By Night" teen ensemble sing "Love Has Come". (Photo: Clinton Lewis)

song under the auspices of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians.

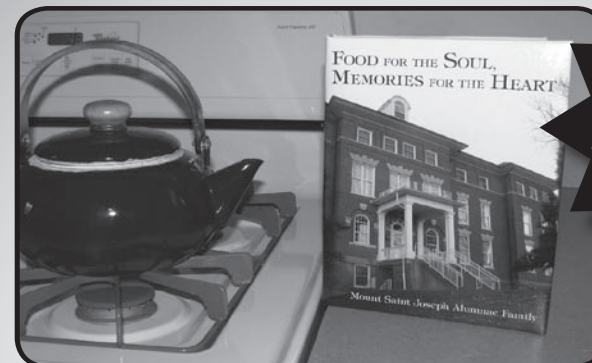
The Prism Concert, coordinated by Sarah Steen, is named for the many facets of musical experience in as pure a form as possible, without gaps between performances or visual distraction. The concert began in darkness with a vocal group spotlighted on stage. As the last chord of their piece sings out, the stage lights fade and the opening notes of a guitar ring out; a change in lighting now reveals a soloist standing at the front left of Spirit Hall.

The program continues until the audience has heard several musical groups and soloists alternating their location from center stage, to the front left of the room, to the right side, a flute from the back, and two piano soloists - all in immediate succession and lighted appropriately. Such a complicated format could not be successful without our dedicated musicians; in

Continued on page 40



"The Brothers Holy" sing "Be Glorified." (Photo: Clinton Lewis)



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36 Saints Joseph And Paul Parish Affirms Three With Annual Stewardship Awards

OWENSBORO, Ky. - On Saturday, Nov. 13th, the 4th annual 'Night Under the Stars' took place in the parish hall of Sts. Joseph and Paul Parish. The celebration is one of thanksgiving to God for all the gifts and talents utilized in the service of others.

The evening consisted of a wonderful steak dinner served by the parish ChrisTeens Youth Group, followed by the folk music of Keith Eric and Molly G.

After being introduced by emcee Peggy Wilson, pastor Fr. Carl McCarthy presented a few of his own witty acknowledgements to parishioners, known as "The Steeple People Awards," making reference to the church steeple which is currently under restoration.

Belinda Abel and Fran Bartley then prepared for the awards presentation. The annual stewardship awards, which are given to only 3 individuals each year, are named for Sr. Agnes Catherine Williams, Monsignor Peter Braun, and Fr. Howard Tucker.

The Sr. Agnes Catherine Williams, OSU, Stewardship Award is in

recognition of a parishioner's service/ministry to youth and education in the Catholic Schools and Parish.

This year's recipient of the **Sr. Agnes Catherine Williams, OSU, Stewardship Award** is dedicated to teaching our children about God and how we all need to reach out to Him, especially through prayer. As a teacher in the Catholic schools she goes above and beyond what is required of a teacher.

While others speak of curriculum, goals, and procedures, she talks about the children, about their hearts and souls, about their growth as children of God. When you tour her classroom you find the children's drawings, their personal prayers to God.

She stands out because of the reverent and respectful way she speaks of her students; and the ability she has to truly see the spark of the Divine in each and everyone.

It was with great pride and humility that the **Sr. Agnes Catherine Williams, OSU, Stewardship Award** for outstanding ministry to our youth and



Saints Joseph and Paul Parish affirmed three parishioners during annual 'Night UnderThe Stars' award ceremony Nov 13. From left are Davena Cecil, Emilee Ward, and Lavida Mischel. SSJ&P photo

Holy Name School Celebrates Red Ribbon Week



Left to right: Abigail Arnold, Liv Thomas, and Katelin Maggard. Holy Name School students recognized Red Ribbon Week beginning October 25 by wearing red shirts to school. HNS joined schools across the nation in celebrating a drug-free life during Red Ribbon Week. Holy Name School's principal, Sandy Fleming, and guidance counselor, Connie McFarland, visited classrooms and talked with the younger students about taking care of their bodies by eating well, exercising, drinking water, practicing good hygiene, and getting enough rest. The older students were visited by the school nurse, Kelly Steinwachs, who talked with them about over use of over-the-counter medicines. Students continued the week-long celebration by wearing hats in support of "Hip Hats for Good Health". HNS Photo

their Catholic formation was presented to Davena Cecil.

The Father Howard Tucker Stewardship Award is in recognition of a parishioner's service/ministry to the elderly and homebound.

This year's recipient of the **Father Howard Tucker Stewardship** award has lived a life of quietly giving to others. She has served the sick and dying of Sts. Joseph and Paul Parish while remaining active in many other parish ministries.

She has reached out to many families during times of sickness and death; checking to see if they needed anything, whether it is Holy Communion, a hot meal or just someone to sit with them, to talk and pray.

She has visited many terminally ill parishioners and their families daily during their final weeks on earth before entering God's heavenly kingdom. If she could not visit she called. She has been very active in the home bound rosary, organizing many for our parishioners who were, or are ill. It was with great humility that the Fr. Howard Tucker Stewardship Award for outstanding ministry to our sick and elderly was presented to Lavida Mischel.

The **Monsignor Braun Stewardship Award** is in recognition of a parishioner's service/ministry in outreach

to the un-churched, the fallen away, and those whose country of origin was not the United States.

This year's recipient of the Monsignor Braun Stewardship Award is rich in God-given talents - from working with the un-churched and fallen away Catholics to contributing to many parish ministries.

She is always available to answer questions to those seeking answers especially at our Annual Block Party. Her service and dedication to the St. Joseph Benedict Shelter is just one example of her love for all God's people.

In her service to parish ministry she has been described as the heart and soul of the committee she serves on offering suggestions and guidance in enhancing our liturgies, especially during the Easter and Christmas seasons. Through this use of her God given talents, seeds are planted and visitor's return saying many times that our parish feels like home; her contribution to the liturgy adds to this feeling.

It was with great honor and humility that the Monsignor Braun Stewardship Award for Parish Unity was presented to Emilee Ward.

It was a beautiful evening. An evening of prayerful reflection of the desire to serve God's people, and one that confirmed that the gifts and talents of His servants are as numerous as the stars in the sky.



God's People Praying At School

The 2nd Graders in Sister Mary Timothy Bland's Class at the Owensboro Catholic Elementary K-3 Campus, from left, Joseph Dixon, Molly Ballard, Caleb Daugherty, Camille Luttrell, and Emma Silvert, recited the rosary using a life size rosary that Sister's brother received from his father in-law. The Rosary was brought to America in the 1970's from Austria. OCS Photo



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Locks of Love



Chloe before her haircut. Chloe after her hair cut.

Chloe Cox, a 2nd grade student at the OCS Elementary K-3 Campus in Sr. Mary Timothy Bland's class, had her hair cut and donated to Locks of Love. Locks of Love program provides hair pieces to financially disadvantaged children under 18 with long-term medical hairloss. Lora Mitchell at Swank Salon was the stylist. Chloe is the daughter of Jason and Julie Cox. OCS Photo



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38 Many Parishes Offer the Gift of Food

By Dawn C. Ligibel

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. - Invariably when someone dies, friends and neighbors will bring food to the family. Likewise, many churches in Western Kentucky provide meals after funerals, most often in the parish hall. Almost without fail during one of these occasions, it's usually a child who asks, "Why does everyone bring us food when someone dies?" Throughout many parishes in the Owensboro diocese, the answer to that question is very similar regardless of which parish is asked.

"We can share that this church does love them and that God does love them," stated Tisha Cambron, secretary of St. Agnes Parish in Uniontown, who is also involved with providing bereavement meals.

"When you suffer a loss, sometimes you just need people to take care of you," explained Jan Taylor, secretary at St. Edward Parish in Fulton. "We are a small parish. When someone in our parish suffers a loss, we all grieve with them. This is one way we can support them," Taylor added. "It's just nice to know that your church family is there for you and wants to help."

"This is something I can do," explained Dot Carrico from St. Jerome Parish in Fancy Farm. "I can't sing and I can't do other things, but I can do this. It's one thing I think God has asked me to do," she said.

"I really want to help those who are going through that," emphasized Janet Doyle from St. Michael the Archangel in Oak Grove. "I feel deeply for the families that are going through that hard time. It's a very stressful time and we want to make it a little less stressful," she added.

On a more personal note, some members of bereavement committees get involved because they have been the recipients of this outpouring of love. "This is my home parish," explained Patty Day from St. Joseph in Bowling Green. "My husband, my mother and father and three brothers are all buried here. I know personally what it's like to go through a funeral," she explained.

"Once you've been a recipient of it, you see the necessity of it," agreed Helen Brown from Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville. "When Bob died, I thought 'What a relief that was,'" Brown explained recalling the meal her parish provided for her family.

"I've been there," echoed Cambron. "I lost my first husband. I know how important it is to know your church family is there. This is one small thing as a church family we can do. Food can be



A grateful parishioner, Kiesha Quinonez, pauses a moment to thank the ladies who provided the bereavement meal following her mother's funeral. Pictured from left to right are: Helen Brown, Beverly Todd, Quinonez, Fr. John Thomas, Pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul, Kathy Buehrle and Mary Ann Keel.

In the picture at right, Helen Brown (far right), organizer of bereavement meals at Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville, gives direction to two volunteers just before a bereavement meal in their parish hall. Also pictured from left to right are Franki Durbin and Joan Brockman. Photos taken by Dawn C. Ligibel.



comforting," she elaborated.

Doyle has witnessed several people join her committee's efforts after receiving the benefits of a bereavement meal. "One woman came to me and said 'You did so much when my son died, I want to help when other people need help,'" Doyle recalled. "Many times if they haven't helped before, they will come and help after they've experienced a bereavement meal," Doyle added.

In addition to realizing how helpful providing meals after a funeral can be for the families who are suffering, some feel it actually benefits them as well. "I think we do this more for us than them," admitted Cambron. "When someone dies, everyone says 'What can I do?' Well, this is something we can do," she said. "People don't like to show up empty handed," she added. "They like to do something and it's one small way they can."

"It helps the families," Carrico explained, "but I think it helps the people that do it too. You get a feeling of helping, that maybe you've eased their pain a little bit."

While many parishes in the diocese offer some type of bereavement meal, not all parishes operate the same way. Some parishes have committees to organize

bereavement meals, while other parishes simply pull the meals together when needed. In some cases, the parish pays for the meat while parishioners provide the rest of the meal. In other parishes, the parishioners provide all the food. In one parish, one gentleman purchases all the food with church funds and cooks everything himself, although he will solicit help to make desserts.

Likewise, some parishes refuse to accept monetary donations from families while others will accept their gratitude in the form of money. In Fancy Farm, the parish uses the Knights of Columbus hall for all their bereavement meals, so if someone donates any money it is given to the Knights. "They provide the coffee, the tea, the hall and the paper products, so if anyone donates something, it goes back to them," explained Carrico.

"We've had people offer money, but we don't accept it," explained Doyle. "If they insist, we offer Masses for their loved ones."

While Brown didn't mention anything about family members making donations, she will gladly accept donations from parishioners to help with the meals. "If they aren't able to cook, they can donate money to help," she explained.

In addition to all having slightly different traditions and unspoken policies, some bereavement committees like to regulate the food that's donated, while others don't. "When I call the ladies, I tell them what is needed and then I leave it up to them," said Shirley Haynie from Christ the King Parish in Madisonville. "But the food always appears," she added.

"We don't ask anyone to bring anything in particular," agreed Carrico. "They make something from whatever they have on hand, but we always have a good balance of dishes," she added.

To the contrary, some like to know what's coming. "I ask what they will bring, so we know what we will have," explained Doyle.

Knowing what dishes some parishioners will donate is seemingly automatic in some parishes. At St. Agnes, you can almost be assured that each bereavement meal will include a chicken casserole, a deep dish apple cobbler and a chocolate pie, according to Cambron.

"I have a friend who makes a salad every time and she calls it her funeral salad," claimed Day with a laugh.

Likewise, one parishioner at St. Michael's "makes the most beautiful cream puffs," according to Doyle. "So we ask her to bring them. Also, Father David Kennedy loves mashed potatoes, so Marsha (the co-chair on the bereavement committee) will always make mashed potatoes. And I always make a chicken salad," Doyle elaborated.

"Kathryn Whittinghill makes her strawberry salad every time and Thelma (Budias) always makes her bread," said Brown. "Many people make the same thing every time," Brown added.

Regardless of whether a parish in the diocese has a formal committee, keeps track of who's bringing what, pays for some of the food or not, or just has one person do all the cooking, the end result is fairly consistent: their efforts are very much appreciated. "They are usually very grateful," said Taylor. "Sometimes they are so overwhelmed with emotion they can't even speak, but they are always grateful," she added.

"I can tell you, we've had more parishioners come to us and tell us how much they appreciate the meal," explained Doyle.

"Families really do appreciate it," agreed Day. "It's a very good service for the families."

"They all come to the kitchen to thank us all," said Brown. "I've also gotten thank you notes in the mail," she added.

Many involved with providing be-

Continued on page 40

I GIVE YOU A FUTURE AND HOPE

By Debbie Ward

It is a woman's choice to have an abortion, right? There are no harmful effects from abortion. There is no need for mercy.

If this is true, then why do so many women who have had abortions suffer from these effects: fear, anxiety, sorrow, anger, emptiness, sadness, despair? The wounds of abortion can be devastating, leaving scars so deep that the individual feels out of control of their life with no hope for the future. Unspeakable shame leaves them feeling totally undeserving of forgiveness and mercy.



The image at left is called the Hope Sculpture which can be seen at the Garden of Hope at Brescia University in Owensboro. It represents hope for life and mercy. There is much to reflect upon when in the presence of this sculpture, a truly inspired piece of art. At present I'm thinking of a past Rachel's Vineyard retreatant. She is the woman gazing into the tender loving face of Jesus. I imagine him saying something like this to her, "My child, do you fear the God of mercy? My holiness does not prevent Me from being merciful. Behold, for you I have established a throne of mercy on earth – the tabernacle – and from this throne I desire to enter into your

heart. I am not surrounded by a retinue or guards. You can come to me at any moment, at any time; I want to speak to you and desire to grant you grace." (Diary of Divine Mercy, #1485) From the look on her face, she believes and is consoled by those tender words while clutching a heart shaped pendant, a gift; a sign of His love for her and her child.

Her story:

"It was my birthday, but I wasn't celebrating. 44 years old. Never married. No children. And no denying that my biological clock had finally run out. I'm never going to have children, never going to be a mom. Sad and depressed I talked to my therapist. I had been in counseling for years, fighting clinical depression, struggling with drinking, battling weight, trying to quit smoking, managing relationships with men who couldn't commit. But never once in all those years had I been asked nor had I volunteered that I had an abortion when I was 16 years old. Wasn't the abortion supposed to solve all my problems? But I couldn't forget it and couldn't numb the pain and guilt any more. Face it, I had my chance, I don't deserve a child, it is my punishment for the wrong I did: God won't forgive me and I'll never be able to forgive myself. Although I hadn't been to church in years the pain made me desperate for help. Without a plan except to be in the presence of the Lord I went to church that Sunday and the next. And on that day I read the bulletin which announced, "If you are suffering from an abortion experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a Rachel's Vineyard retreat. The weekend offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness and compassion." In an instant God answered a prayer I couldn't even formulate because I had lost all hope.

"Although fearful, I signed up for the weekend and participated in the discussions, spiritual exercises and memorial service with 9 other women who were also in pain and struggling. It was one of the hardest things I've ever done, but with expert help my life started to change for the good and I began to experience peace. Although what I did was and remains wrong I could finally trust in God's forgiveness. Who could know that my child would bring me back to the Lord? Now I truly believe these words from the Bible 'For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and hope.'"

Jesus captivated her heart! I am truly in awe of the power of Divine Mercy!

Do you know someone who is hurting from abortion?

The next Rachel's Vineyard retreat is scheduled for the weekend of February 18-20, 2011. For information go to: www.hopeafterabortionky.com, e-mail: info@hopeafterabortionky.com or phone: Debbie at 270-683-6933. For more weekend retreat dates and locations go to: www.rachelsvineyard.org

Hurting from abortion? Know someone who is?

Rachel's Vineyard of Bowling Green / Owensboro offers post-abortion healing weekend retreats for women and men who are suffering from the effects of abortion.

Next Retreat: February 18-20, 2011

Contact:

info@hopeafterabortionky.com

www.hopeafterabortionky.com

Debbie 270-683-6933



Marching Aces Finish 8th in State

The Owensboro Catholic High School Marching Aces in an outstanding performance at State, earned an eighth place out of 16! This is the 2nd highest finish in school history. The show was titled "Outbreak." The Marching Aces are led by Mr. Ed Hauser (in lower photo marching at right) and Mrs. Katie Hauser. Members of the Marching Aces are (in no particular order) Samuel Johnson, Evan Christodoulou, Andrew Riccio, Sam Booth, Eric McBride, Nicholas Gray, Zach Hendrix, Logan Buckman, Rex Berry, Michael Decker, Kyle Alvey, Jake Hayden, Cory Burdette, Juliana Aud, Emily Rose, Reid Wassmer, Jacob Payne, Wren Osborne, Morgam Oller, Mason Jackson, Jackson Bittel, Hunter Steele, Kevin Thompson, Sarah Murphy, Shelby Bennett, Marissa Wilson, Courtney Phillips, Allison Schepers, Emily Lorenzen, Mary Catherine Carter, Jennifer Phillips, Megan Alvey, Erin Ballard, Dylan McKay, Emily Wills. Photos taken in Owensboro Veterans Day Parade by Luis Aju.



Celebrating St. Michael's Feast Day in Sebree



On Sunday, September 26th, St. Michael's Parish in Sebree, KY celebrated their patron saint's feast day with Bishop Medley. The day started with a procession from the elementary school featuring parishioners dressed as St. Michael the Archangel and the devil and the choir from Centro Latino in Owensboro leading the singing. Bishop William Medley presided at a bilingual mass, with Fr. Al Bremer concelebrating and beautiful music provided by Gracia Alvey, the Hispanic choir and the Centro Latino choir. Following mass, the community shared in a wonderful potluck. This celebration followed a 9-day novena in which a different speaker joined parishioners each night to pray for St. Michael's intercession and share on a topic related to the theme: "Everyday Holiness."



"Let Us Go Rejoicing!"

(Continued from page 35)

and Steve Anderson; and the very demanding lighting skills of Cameron and Kelly Lewis.

Lois Schwitzgebel, who attended the concert, stated, "We loved every minute of it ... very inspirational and uplifting. What wonderful talent we have a Holy Spirit! You are ready for the Dedication!"

The concert ended with nearly fifty musicians joining together with the assembly to sing (what we refer to as ...) our theme song, "Come, Holy Spirit, Come", which will also be our song for Sending Forth at the Mass of Dedication. Proceeds helped with the purchase of a new concert-quality C7 Yamaha Grand Piano to meet the needs of the larger worship space.

Director of Choirs, Trish Beresford, commented, "I continue to be impressed with how invested the musicians of Holy Spirit are. They are a wonderful, loving and dedicated group!"

On Sunday, December 12th, the entire Diocese of Owensboro is invited to the Mass of Dedication at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 4754 Smallhouse Road, Bowling Green, KY, at 11.00 a.m., where we will join together in procession, singing, "Let Us Go Rejoicing to the House of the Lord!"

Many Parishes Offer the Gift of Food

(Continued from page 38)

reavement meals also noted how people not from this area always comment about how they've never seen such an outpouring of love. "People from out of town are surprised," commented Doyle. "They just don't do this in other cities," she added.

"People from out of town always come by before they leave," explained Day. "Many have never heard of providing meals like this."

"Not many people do this anymore," claimed Deana Holdman, who recently lost a dear friend who was a parishioner of Sts. Peter and Paul. "It really means a lot for the people from out of town," she added.

"It means a lot," said James King, who recently lost his sister in Hopkinsville, but lives elsewhere. "It means a great deal to have a gathering place where you can talk and laugh a little bit before driving home. You've been hurting, so this is good."

"You know that people care," agreed Bobby King, James's brother. "To do this, they care a lot," he added.

"It's just awesome that people step up and do this," agreed Holdman. "These people give out of their heart and time. When they do something like this meal, it's just wonderful. It's just precious," she concluded.



Come join us in our mission
to proclaim Jesus through
education and Christian
formation in the spirit of our
founder, Saint Angela Merici.



Sister Rosanne

The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph minister in churches; in social outreach and justice advocacy; in education, and in the healing of body, mind, and spirit. Learn how our ministries help change lives throughout the Diocese of Owensboro and in eight states, Washington D.C., and in Chile.

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Seven New Members Inducted into Beta

41

By Dawn C. Ligibel

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. - On October 28, seven new members were inducted into the National Junior Beta Club at Sts. Peter and Paul School in Hopkinsville. The club, which was formed during the 2009-2010 school year, now boasts 41 members.

"This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it," said keynote speaker Levi Peterson. Peterson, a member of Sts. Peter and Paul parish, enjoyed a 41-year career in education; 34 as a full-time teacher or principal and seven as a part-time employee.

"After 41 years in education, my education continues," he explained to the members of the club. "My teachers are now good books, constantly refreshing my knowledge."

"Please remember when learning seems difficult, it is important to persevere," he admonished. "If you can do better, than good is not good enough. If you can do best, than better is not good

enough. Keep your foot on the academic pedal," he encouraged.

Peterson went on to say that members of the National Junior Beta Club should always demonstrate four key characteristics: intelligence, character, leadership and service.

"Any success is from the fruit of intelligence, which is a gift from God," he explained. "Endurance produces character. If you take care of your character, your reputation will take care of itself. Make sure your private life is married with your public life," he encouraged.

When referring to demonstrating the qualities of leadership, Peterson reminded the children that "God put a brain on top of that tongue of yours to help you keep control of it." He admitted to the club members that he habitually reminded all of his students of that fact when teaching for more than 40 years.

Finally with regards to service, Peterson explained, "Whatever gifts you



Seven new members were inducted into the National Junior Beta Club at Sts. Peter and Paul School in Hopkinsville on October 28. The seven new members from left to right in the front row are: Wally Romano, Madelyn Craft and Emma Sunderhaus. In the back row from left to right are: Jonah Zdrodowski, Andrew King, Alexander Allard and Olivia Folz. All seven new inductees are in the fifth grade. Photo taken by Dawn C. Ligibel.



Your Contributions To Minister To The Poor In Our Sister Diocese Of Mandeville, Jamaica

The United Way campaign is now underway at many places of business. During this campaign, employees commit to charitable contributions that are made through payroll deductions. You may designate Pilgrims of Hope, a 501 (c) (3) lay association of the faithful of the diocese of Owensboro (EIN # 37-1570016), as the recipient of your United Way charitable contributions. Pilgrims of Hope will use your contributions to minister to the poor in our sister diocese of Mandeville, Jamaica. If you participate in the United Way campaign, please consider designating Pilgrims of Hope for your charitable contributions. God bless. Submitted by Jim Scott for Pilgrims of Hope

receive from God are not yours to hoard, but to share. It has been loaned to you. Stewardship is what true service is all about," he concluded.

The officers for the Sts. Peter and Paul National Junior Beta Club this year are: Daniel Sweet, President; Mary Kranz, Vice President; Allison Watson, Secretary; George Boyd, Treasurer; Anna Garnett, Reporter; Abby Craft, Historian; Bridget Innessimone, Recreation; and Elenora Cincotti, Parliamentarian. Their sponsor is sixth grade teacher, Emily Humphries.



A Changing Of The Guard:

at Paducah St. Vincent De Paul Budget Store

Everett Davis was commissioned as the new president of the St. Thomas More/St. Francis de Sales Conference of Paducah of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul at the Thanksgiving potluck dinner for the many Budget Store volunteers. From left to right: Everett Davis, Vicky Elliott, manager of the St. Vincent de Paul Budget Store, Brenda and Richard Hayden retiring president. Edie Keeney Photo

42 Pilgrims of Hope: “Project Chicken”

By Suzanne Rose

Pilgrims of Hope, was erected as a Roman Catholic lay association of the faithful in January 2009. On September 11, 2010, ten people committed themselves as Pilgrims of Hope at Christ the King Parish in Madisonville, Ky. Fr. Ray Clark, spiritual director for the group, commissioned the Pilgrims to lives of missionary service to the missions and people of Jamaica.

On September 19, 2010, the newly commissioned Pilgrims traveled to Mandeville to create a pilot project of entrepreneurship and self-support for the Jamaican people. Fr. Peter Gitumbu, a Kenyan priest serving in the parish of Dunsinane, identified five families in the Diocese of Mandeville to receive an 8' x 8' chicken coop, elevated 3 feet above the ground to protect the fledgling chicks from flood and predators. The 24 broiler chicks, 2 bags of fine chick starter feed, 4 bags of coarse chicken feed, water and grain feeders, and 2 doses of antibiotics and vitamins to protect the chicks from developing the most common poultry diseases formed a “starter package” to raise 2 dozen chicks to the age of six weeks, at which time the chickens will be ready for sale and butchering. The families live in five locations around the Mandeville Diocese – Greenvale, Dunsinane, Goshen, Mt. Pleasant, and Santa Cruz. By distributing Project Chicken in several areas, each family will be able to develop a local clientele for the chickens; the families will not incur the costs of traveling to market in Mandeville, nor will they be competing with one another for the same customer base.

Embarking upon Project Chicken brought the Pilgrims into a different type of engagement with the Jamaican people than they had encountered in the Global Mission Immersion trips. Pilgrims did business with local merchants, learned about local agricultural markets, and considered obstacles to success within a foreign culture. Tropical Storm Matthew caused rain and flooding, which sometimes

delayed construction and delivery of the chicken coops; workaholic Americans learned patterns of work that respected a tropical environment. In addition, the Pilgrims had to negotiate transport needs for the Project in a mission diocese with a limited number of available vehicles. The Pilgrims of Hope depended upon Fr. Peter Gitumbu and Ronnie Simpson throughout the endeavor to navigate these new waters. These experiences yielded valuable information for future projects.

Over the next few months, I will share with you the stories of these five families. I hope that in becoming acquainted with them through the pages of *The Western Kentucky Catholic*, you will come to care for them and pray for God's blessings upon their efforts to support their families.

The Hanes Family

Newscasters issued flashflood warnings throughout the day on Wednesday, Sept. 22, as Tropical Storm Matthew covered the island of Jamaica. As pouring rain continued throughout the afternoon, hopes of delivering a coop to the first family waned. But at 3:00 pm the rain cleared, so the Pilgrims of Hope carpenters – with the assistance of Ronnie Simpson and diocesan staff – loaded the first of the 8' x 8' chicken coops onto a flatbed truck for delivery to the family of Michelle Hanes.

Fr. Peter Gitumbu, Pastor of Our Lady of Dunsinane Parish, drove a van full of Pilgrims to the home of his parishioner in Dunsinane. Michelle Hanes and her mother are one of the 4% of Catholics on the island. Another member of the family, Parlene, visits at Mass with Michelle and her mother. Fr. Peter is trying to convert Parlene to the faith.

The Hanes house sits back from the street down an overgrown alley. The house is constructed from a dreadful patchwork of housing materials pieced together to protect the family from the elements. De-



spite its poverty, the home is easily identified as that of a Catholic family – someone has painted a large cross, nearly the height of the house, beside the entrance door.

Neighbors gather in the street to watch as the chicken coop is unloaded from the flatbed and angled through the bush. One man finds a branch with which to lift a low-hanging electrical wire so that the men carrying the coop can pass beneath it. The makeshift homes in this neighborhood are crowded upon one another, so the Pilgrims shift the coop into the only available space in front of the Hanes home.

From this small home, Michelle Hanes tries to support 10 family members. Her grandmother, who is sickly, also lives with Michelle. Neither Michelle nor her mother has been able to find employment; there are no fathers who contribute to the financial support of the family. Michelle wants to earn money from the chickens so that she can afford to pay the tuition to send her children to school. Currently, she cannot afford to feed her family and send the children to school.

A frightened dog, an obvious target of abuse in a rough neighborhood, shivers behind her mistress. Michelle and her family face both financial and spiritual odds in a neighborhood where Rastafarian men pass cigarettes to young boys and the smell of ganja wafts through the air. But the oversize cross on the front of her house attests to Michelle's commitment to her Catholic faith.

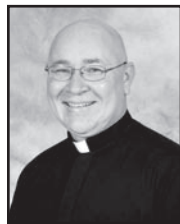
We chat with Michelle about her family and wish her luck with her business endeavor. As we bid Michelle goodbye, I am overwhelmed by this woman's responsibilities, caring for several generations of family members and struggling to raise Christian children amidst dangerous influences. I pray the words of St. Paul for her, “I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me.” May God's blessings lighten her burdens.



Pictures on this page are from a September, 2010, trip of diocesan Pilgrims who traveled to Mandeville to create a pilot project of entrepreneurship and self-support for the Jamaican people. Photos submitted by Suzanne Rose

Greetings from Bani.

By Father Stan Puryear



In the past month, I had an opportunity to return to Kentucky for a brief visit, enjoying an early Thanksgiving dinner with my family and stocking up on only-from-home supplies. First on my

list was a rechargeable LED work light, for celebrating Mass after sundown when the electricity is out. The original plan had me bringing one of my dogs back to the Dominican Republic to keep me company. Unfortunately, American Airlines isn't very helpful when transporting a Labrador Retriever. I'm beginning to think I'm the first person to ever ask a question of the airline. Hopefully, the situation will get resolved before long.

Disappointed and dogless, I arrived in Bani just in time to experience the passing of Hurricane Tomas. The eye of the storm passed far enough south and west of us that the only effect felt here was rain... and rain and rain and rain. In Kentucky, rain comes in different forms, but two of those are the sudden spring rains which unleash an incredible torrent of water in a short time before moving on, or a steady light rain that lasts all day. Hurricane rain is the incredible torrent lasting all day and all night. For the Dominican Republic, the result of the cyclone was slight by tropical standards. Some 13,000 persons were displaced by flooding and are now repairing or rebuilding homes. Still, not one fatality was attributed to the rains and flooding.

Haiti, the nation occupying the western third of the Island of Hispaniola, was not nearly so fortunate. Approximately half of the more than one million persons living in tent cities sought refuge from the wind and rain in other locations, including in wreckage of buildings destroyed by the January earthquake. At least 6 persons were killed directly by the hurricane, most by drowning in floodwaters. Persons returning from the shelter of earthquake-damaged structures are going to be arriving in nightmarish conditions. The tent cities are now best described as collections of tents sitting amidst streets and fields of mud, untreated sewage, and other substances about which I would not even hazard to guess. The cholera outbreak that began before Hurricane Tomas has grown to the point that medical personnel in the country no longer have the capacity to test all patients for the disease. At the time I am writing this article, the death toll has surpassed 800, with little possibility of easing. Aid agencies are

scrambling as best they can to keep these numbers from skyrocketing, but we are all aware that there will be more loss of life.

Not all the news here is bad, although I am discovering that situations in the U.S. that I once considered bad are only minor inconveniences here in the developing world. For example, the national government this week has promised to have all traffic lights in the capital, Santo Domingo, in working order by the end of the year. We're talking about a city with nearly 4 million people, and at an hour when all sectors of the city enjoy electricity, at best only half of the traffic lights are functioning. Imagine trying to drive through Owensboro, Bowling Green, or Paducah in such a scenario, and those three cities together would still be less than 10% the size of Santo Domingo. Yet here, we all take it in stride, honk the horn at each other, and ease into an intersection an inch at a time until someone has to stop or risk a major automobile cosmetic issue. One day, I'd like to videotape such an intersection from a helicopter, add music with a Caribbean flair, and create a YouTube sensation entitled "Traffic Mergue".

Such minor inconveniences are components of the daily routine here, and just like the learning the unwritten rules of the light-less intersection, I am slowly adjusting and adapting. In many ways, we all have to adjust and adapt to new routines in our lives for various reasons: moving to a new school or a new parish or a new city or a new country, discovering limited abilities with increasing age; or starting a new job due to changing economic realities, to name a few. And it seems that some unexpected mundane detail will shock us into an acceptance of the new reality. I have to admit, I experienced an existential paradigm shift upon coming to full acceptance of the reality that I could not make popcorn in a microwave during the hours there is no electricity.

As my time progresses here, I'm coming to realize how much establishing a routine allows me to function in this strange new world. And I'm also discovering that there is a routine to the life of the Church here just as there is in the Church any place in the world. Just as many of our Kentucky parishes go into "summer mode" as school lets out and families travel on vacations or enjoy leisurely "staycations", so too does the Diocese of Bani have its own rhythm of life. As it turns out, arriving in mid-August, I encountered the hottest weeks of the year to be followed by the most meteorologically active. By November, the

atmospheric drama has diminished and it is time to celebrate the diocesan patronal feast of Our Lady of Regla. As the novena is celebrated with nightly Masses and very loud weekend festivities, people also bring out lights, trees, and other decorations in anticipation of Christmas.

All of us have a need for routine in our lives, assured that our crazy world does have predictable patterns. But routine also holds within it the danger that we become unable to renew ourselves. A recent report that I read on CNN.com said that one of the reason churches in the United States remain segregated is because we want to feel comfortable in our religious practices. But then, segregation isn't the only manifestation of too closely holding on. I'm sure many of us have been guilty of being a bit taken aback to arrive at Mass only to discover that a visitor has usurped the seat that we sit in every week. (People do that here, too.) During Advent, when we are called to renew ourselves, in confession I like to assign the penance of sitting on the opposite side of the church for one Mass. Some reported afterwards that they were

exceptionally challenged by the penance, and I suspect a few needed to go to confession again for not accepting their penance graciously.

As my first Advent as a foreign missionary arrives, I am acutely aware of new beginnings, renewed zeal, and uncomfortable challenges. At the same time, I am finding familiar comfort in the routines of celebrating the sacraments and praying the Liturgy of the Hours. And I'm learning in a special way that, no matter where we go in the world, people are still people, they laugh, they love, they get impatient with others, they respond to adversity, and they search for God in the midst of their lives. May you all have a blessed Advent and Happy Christmas, finding new joy in your daily routines.

Now, if you will excuse me for making this short, the sound of the honking horns and people yelling tells me it's my turn to proceed through the intersection. It appears I have yet to master the unwritten rules of the road here...



Youth from all the communities in the parish gathered at Saint James Church for a day in honor of Mary. Many had to stand outside the windows and doors to participate because there was no more room inside.

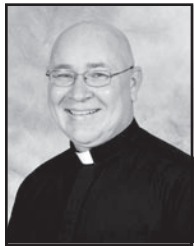


The chapel in the Sabana Larga community has no electricity and the "windows" are openings with barbed wire to prevent animals from entering.

Photos by Father Stan Puryear

Saludos de Baní.

Por Padre Stan Puryear



Este mes pasado, tuve la oportunidad de volver a Kentucky para una visita breve, disfrutando de una comida en anticipación del Día de Gracias con mi familia y comprando las cosas que no puedo encontrar en mi nueva tierra. Primero en la lista de compras era un foco LED, para celebrar la Misa en las ocasiones que no hay luz. El plan original era traer mis perros conmigo en la vuelta a la República Dominicana, pero la línea de aviones American Airlines no es útil cuando uno quiere transportar un perro. Espero que se resuelva la situación antes de la Navidad.

Decepcionado y deprimido por la falta de la perra querida, llegué a Baní a tiempo para experimentar el paso del Huracán Tomas. El ojo de la tormenta paso bastante al sur y al oeste así que el único efecto que sentí era lluvia... y lluvia y lluvia y lluvia. En Kentucky, la lluvia llega en diferentes formas, pero dos de quienes son las lluvias de primavera que de repente sale con un increíble torrente de agua en poco tiempo antes de pasar, o una lluvia constante y ligera que dura todo el día. La lluvia de huracán es el torrente increíble que dura todo el día y toda la noche. En la República Dominicana, el resultado del ciclón fue leve por normas tropicales. Unas 13,000 personas fueron desplazadas por las inundaciones y ahora están reparando y reconstruyendo sus casas. Aún así, ni un muerto fue atribuido a las lluvias e inundaciones.

Haití, la nación que ocupa el tercio occidental de la isla Española, no fue tan afortunado. Aproximadamente la mitad de las más de un millón de personas que viven en las ciudades de carpas buscaron refugio del viento y la lluvia en otros lugares, incluyendo en los escombros de los edificios destruidos por el terremoto de enero. Por lo menos 6 personas murieron más directamente por el huracán, ahogándose en las aguas de inundaciones. Las personas que regresan de las estructuras dañadas por el terremoto llegaron a condiciones horribles. Las ciudades de carpas ahora se describen como colecciones de tiendas de campaña situadas en medio de calles lodo, aguas negras, y otras sustancias peligrosas. El brote de cólera que comenzó antes del Huracán Tomas ha crecido hasta que el personal médico ya no tiene la capacidad de probar a todos los pacientes por la enfermedad. En el momento que escribo este artículo,

el número de muertos ha superado a 900. Los organismos de ayuda están luchando lo mejor que pueden, pero todos sabemos que habrá más pérdida de vida humana.

Todas las noticias de aquí no son malas, aun estoy descubriendo de que las situaciones que se consideran inconvenientes mayores en los Estados Unidos son detalles regulares de la vida en el tercer mundo. Por ejemplo, el gobierno nacional esta semana ha prometido que todos los semáforos del tráfico en la capital, Santo Domingo, estarán funcionando a finales del año. La capital es una ciudad con una población de 4 millones de personas, y no todos los sectores disfrutan de electricidad en la misma hora, y en las horas de que tienen luz, solo la mitad de los semáforos funcionan. Si eso fuera el escenario en Owensboro, Bowling Green o Paducah en ese escenario, sería un desastre completo, y esas tres ciudades añadidas son menos del 10% del tamaño de Santo Domingo. Pero aquí, nosotros solo tocamos la bocina y nos metemos poco a poco en la intersección hasta que alguien nos permite pasar porque no quiere manchar su automóvil. Un día, voy a rentar un helicóptero y grabar un video de una de esas intersecciones, añadir música con ritmo caribeño, y darle a la película el título “Merengue traficante”.

Los detalles inconvenientes son componentes de la rutina diaria de aquí y al igual que el aprendizaje las reglas no escritas de la intersección sin semáforo, estoy ajustándome – o sea, como se dice en la República Dominicana, “toy aplatánandome”. En muchos sentidos, todos tenemos que ajustarnos y adaptarnos a nuevas rutinas en nuestras vidas por diversas razones: cambiar a una nueva escuela o a una nueva parroquia, a una nueva ciudad o a un país nuevo; descubrir habilidades limitadas con la edad; o iniciar un nuevo trabajo debido a las realidades económicas; por nombrar algunos. Y parece que algún detalle mundano inesperado nos asusta a la aceptación de la nueva realidad. Tengo que admitir, experimenté un cambio existencial a llegar a la plena aceptación de la realidad que no puedo hacer palomitas de maíz en un microondas durante las horas que no hay electricidad.

Con el progreso de mi tiempo aquí, estoy dando cuenta de la importancia de establecer una rutina para que pueda funcionar bien en este mundo nuevo. Y también estoy descubriendo que hay una rutina en la vida de la Iglesia aquí igual que hay en la Iglesia de cualquier lugar del mundo. Igual a que las parroquias de Kentucky se ponen en el “modo de verano” mientras no hay clases escolares y las familias viajan en vacaciones o disfrutan “casaciones” tranquilas, también tiene su propio ritmo de vida la Diócesis de Baní. Descubro



Jóvenes de todas las comunidades de la parroquia se reunieron en la Iglesia Santiago Apóstol por un día en honor de María. Muchos tenían que participar de afuera porque con cupieron todos adentro.

ahora que llegar a mediados de agosto, me encontré con las semanas más calurosos del año seguidas por la temporada con la mayoría de huracanes. En noviembre, el drama atmosférico ha disminuido y llega el momento de celebrar la fiesta patronal diocesana de Nuestra Señora de Regla. Mientras se celebra la novena con misas cada noche y fiestas ruidosísimas de fin de semana, muchas personas también sacan luces, árboles y otras decoraciones de la Navidad.

Todos nosotros tenemos una necesidad de rutina en nuestras vidas, asegurados que nuestro mundo loco tiene esquemas predecibles. Pero la rutina también tiene en su seno el peligro que nos convirtamos en personas que no podemos renovarnos. Un reciente informe que leí en CNN.com dijo que una razón de que las iglesias en los Estados Unidos siguen siendo segregadas es porque queremos sentir cómodos en nuestras prácticas religiosas. Pero, la segregación no es la única manifestación de la falta de cambiar. Estoy seguro de que muchos de nosotros han sido culpables de ser un poco molesto en llegar a la Misa

sólo para descubrir que un visitante ha usurpado el asiento en que nos sentamos cada semana. (Se hace aquí, también.) Durante el Adviento, cuando estamos llamados a renovar a nosotros mismos, en el Sacramento de la Confesión me gusta asignar la penitencia de sentarse en el lado opuesto de la iglesia para una misa. Algunos después informan que ellos fueron excepcionalmente desafiados por la penitencia, y sospecho que unos pocos necesitaban volver a la Confesión.

Con la llegada de mi primer Adviento como misionero extranjero, soy muy consciente de nuevos comienzos, cielo renovado, y desafíos incómodos. Al mismo tiempo, estoy encontrando comodidad familiar en las rutinas de celebrar los Sacramentos y rezar la Liturgia de las Horas. Y estoy aprendiendo de una manera especial que, no importa dónde vamos en el mundo, seres humanos son seres humanos: se rien, aman, se ponen impacientes con otros, responden a la adversidad, y buscan a Dios en medio de sus vidas. Que todos ustedes tengan un bendito Adviento y feliz Navidad, encontrando nueva alegría en su rutina diaria.

Ahora, si me disculpen por escribir una columna tan breve, el sonido de los buzones quiere decir que me toca proceder a través de la intersección...



La capilla en la comunidad de Sabana Larga no tiene acceso a electricidad y las “ventanas” son aperturas con hilo con barbas para que no entren animales.

¿Que pasa en su parroquia para incluir los catolicos hispanos?

(What's Happening In Your Parish For Including Hispanic Catholics?)



En esta fotografia podemos apreciar un altar dedicado a un miembro de la familia que falleció y que en el día de los Difuntos, conmemoran su vida y su historia en el seno de la familia.



Leticia rezando al lado del altarcito en su casa. Fotos por Sr. Patricia Sullivan



En este foto, salieron Miguel Ángel, Lupe (mas joven) Daniel (atras) y un poco de Antonina Lauriano (madre de familia) rezando juntos.

Los lideres de la Comunidad de San José de Bowling Greene, recibiendo el entrenamiento para ser lideres en su propia comunidad. El día 12 de Noviembre, Cristóbal G. y Luis A. compartieron un taller de formación, donde estuvieron presentes los participantes: Roxana, Ezequiel, Jesús, Oscar, Gabino, Miguel, Guillermina, Nora, Manuel, Santos, R. Rene, Reyna, Edel, Rocelina y Marvin, todos con un buen espíritu de servir a Dios en comunidad. Les animamos a todos seguir adelante con su misión en la Iglesia. Dios los bendiga. Fotos por Luis Ajú



En la Parroquia de San Miguel de Sebree, KY. se realizaran estas actividades, en el mes de Diciembre

- Día 11 de Diciembre: La celebración de nuestra Señora de Guadalupe va a empezar a las 11pm con la procesión de la virgen, con el rezo del rosario.
- Día 12 de Diciembre: 12am las mañanitas y seguidamente la Celebración de la Misa
- Día 24 de Diciembre: Para la Navidad habrá misa a las 12am (medianoche).
- Día 25 de Diciembre: 9am habrá Misa, los dos serán bilingües.
- Día 15 de Diciembre: 6:00 PM. Habrá un Servicio de Reconciliación con el Padre Al y el Padre Tony Shonis.

•• Luis Ajú, Director of Hispanic Ministry, Diocese of Owensboro, (270) 852-8342

El Calendario del Monseñor Medley para Diciembre del 2010:



Bishop William F. Medley

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 1 de Diciembre | 8-12 p.m. Reunión del Concejo Presbiteral Provincial, O'boro |
| 2-4 de Diciembre | Visita al Seminario Menor de San Juan Vianney |
| 4 de Diciembre | 5:30 p.m. Misa, San Pedro y San Pablo, Hopkinsville |
| 5 de Diciembre | 10:00 a.m. Misa, Santa Inés, Uniontown |
| 7 de Diciembre | 9:00 a.m. Misa y Reunión con el Personal Diocesano, |
| CPC | |
| 8 de Diciembre | 9:00 a.m. Misa Escolar – Campus de OCES 4-6, O'boro |
| 8 de Diciembre | 6:00 p.m. Misa, Inmaculada Concepción, Earlington |
| 9 de Diciembre | 10:00 a.m. Reunión de la Junta Directiva del CCK, Louisville |
| 12 de Diciembre | 11:00 a.m. Misa, Dedicación de la iglesia, Espíritu Santo, Bowling Green |
| 15 de Diciembre | 8:30 a.m. Reunión del Comité de Administración/Finanzas, |
| CPC | |
| 16 de Diciembre | 9:00 a.m. Misa Escolar – Campus de OCES K-3, O'boro |
| 18 de Diciembre | 5:30 p.m. Misa, Santa Cruz, Providence |
| 19 de Diciembre | 9:00 a.m. Misa, Santa María, Franklin |
| 21 de Diciembre | 9:00 a.m. Misa y Reunión con el Personal Diocesano, CPC |
| 25 de Diciembre | 12:00 a.m. Misa Navideña, Catedral de San Esteban, O'boro |
| 28 de Diciembre | 10:00 – 3:00 Oficina de Paducah, Hospital de Nuestra Señora de Lourdes |
| | 30 de Diciembre Prisión de Eddyville |
| | 30 de Diciembre 5:00 p.m. Vísperas con los Seminaristas, Monasterio de las Pasionistas, Whitesville, Ky. |



La comunidad de Santos José y Pablo en oración para las misiones, estaban presentes personas de muchas nacionalidades de origen fue organizado por Cristobal Gutierrez, Ministro Hispano y el Padre Carl McCarthy Cura Párroco de la comunidad



Padre. Andres Garner juntamente con el Padre Josh McCarty como Pastor Asociado, dando la Comunión a la Comunidad Hispana durante la Misa del domingo 17 de Octubre. Les deseamos mucha alegría a los dos por su Nuevo Ministerio. Fotos por Luis Aju.

Los Miembros del Comité de Revisión Diocesano Están Listos para Contestar Llamadas

Los miembros del Comité quienes tratan las alegaciones de abuso sexual abuse en la Diócesis de Owensboro son los siguientes: Mr. Ken Bennett, Dr. Charles Bohle, Mr. Mike Boone, Ms. Kay Castlen, Rev. Pat Connell, Mr. Jeff Ebelhar, Mr. Mike Flaherty, Mr. Nicholas Goetz, Mr. Brandon Harley, Ms. Teresa Henry, (Chairperson), Mr. Dan Howard, Sr. Eula Johnson, SCN, y Rev. Pat Reynolds. Ms. Louanne Payne sirve como enlace del obispo al Comité de Revisión.

A cualquier persona que quiera comunicar con el Comité de Revisión Diocesano se le pide que llame al Centro Pastoral Católico al 1-270-683-1545 y pregunte por un miembro del Comité de Revisión. Si quiere hablar con un miembro particular del Comité, lo puede mencionar a la recepcionista. En cualquier caso, la recepcionista en el Centro Pastoral Católico entregará la información de la persona que llamó al Comité de Revisión para seguimiento. Los que llaman pueden escoger mantenerse anónimos para la primera llamada a la recepcionista del Centro Pastoral Católico. No se harán públicos los números telefónicos de los miembros del Comité.

También pueden comunicarse con el Comité por email al: reviewboard@pastoral.org. Asegúrense de incluir su información personal. No les contestaremos directamente por email porque nunca se puede garantizar la confidencialidad al usar email. Nos comunicaremos con ustedes por teléfono.



El Padre Andrés Garner esta inciendo su Ministerio como Parroco, con el Bautismo de uno de los feligreses en la Parroquia de San José de Bowling Greene.

TÚ le Puedes Ayudar a Ella Y a su Bebé

Por Brenda Thomson

Una muchacha que está enfrentando una decisión difícil sobre la vida de su bebé aún no nacido te necesita a TI.

Un bebé de una madre que está considerando un aborto te necesita a TI.

TÚ le puedes ayudar a ella Y a su bebé.

Oportunidades para la Vida (OFL por sus siglas en inglés), un ministerio de los Obispos Católicos de Kentucky, ofrece apoyo y dirección a recursos sobre el embarazo para las personas que están experimentando un embarazo no planeado. La línea de ayuda de OFL se contesta los 24 horas del día, los 7 días de la semana por voluntarios que tienen un corazón compasivo y una pasión por el ministerio pro-vida. Los voluntarios de la línea de ayuda contestan la línea desde sus casas en las horas que son convenientes para ellos. Estos voluntarios son hombres y mujeres de experiencias variadas de la vida. Voluntarios bilingües pueden ser entrenados en contestar la línea de ayuda en Español. OFL ofrecerá talleres de entrenamiento en la Diócesis de Owensboro en la Primavera de 2011 para preparar voluntarios por el servicio en este ministerio de afirmación de la vida.

El 15 y 16 de Enero del 2011 es el fin de semana designado para la colecta anual en las parroquia que apoya el trabajo de Oportunidades para la Vida. Con sus donaciones generosas OFL puede proveer apoyo, ánimo y dirección a recursos a los que están pasando por un embarazo no planeado. Esta Colecta Anual hace posible que OFL sigue haciendo una diferencia en las vidas de los

que tienen el valor de llamar la línea de ayuda.

Para aprender más sobre las Oportunidades para la Vida, llame a Brenda Thomson, Coordinadora Regional a 1-888-496-3638 o mándele un e-mail a brenda.thomson@pastoral.org. Se puede hacer donaciones a través de la colecta anual o mandarlas directamente a Oportunidades para la Vida, 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY 42301.



Brenda Thomson

El motivo de escribir las formas de expresión de Fe, que son parte de los valores culturales de la Comunidad Hispana es para compartir con las demás personas de otras culturas, que a lo largo y ancho de la Nación siguen preguntándose qué significado tiene cada una de nuestras celebraciones que forman parte de las tradiciones con que crecimos y que las celebramos en la Iglesia Católica y que año tras año conmemoramos.

En el artículo del pasado Noviembre escribí acerca del día de los Santos y de los difuntos, dando una descripción de los diferentes actos piadosos en torno a la Celebración Litúrgica de los dos días. Es bien claro que nuestros difuntos están vivos en la presencia de Dios. Este próximo mes de Diciembre, pronto se iniciará el rezo de las novenas y las tradicionales posadas en todas las parroquias donde esta presente la Comunidad Latina. Algo interesante es que el 8 de Diciembre, muchos países celebran la Solemnidad de la Virgen de la Inmaculada Concepción al igual que celebran los Católicos de los Estados Unidos. En las vísperas de esta celebración muchos países tienen la tradición de hacer una limpieza de la casa. Seguidamente se quema la basura en el patio, porque representa el diablo que se ha metido de múltiples maneras en el hogar, afectando la vida de los miembros de la familia. Se relaciona mucho con el tiempo del adviento, preparación y arrepentimiento.

No dejo de mencionar que al final de una novena, se celebra la Fiesta de toda la America Latina, festejando el día 12 de Diciembre la Fiesta de la Virgen de Guadalupe. Muchas familias visten a sus hijos e hijas con traje indígena, imitando así al Santo Juan Diego, que como Nativo con su traje, su idioma natal, su porte, se le aparece la Reina del Cielo. Ojalá que las familias que visten a sus niños y niñas del traje nativo, comprendan que no es solo el vestido, sino tenemos que aprender las grandes virtudes de ese Santo Varón para merecer ser el mensajero directo de la Reina del Cielo. Por lo tanto no solo los niños son llamados a imitar al Sto. Juan Diego con la ropa, sino los grandes y quizás no solamente en la ropa sino en nuestras actitudes del tiempo presente.

El día 16 de Diciembre, se iniciarán las celebraciones de las Posadas, cada noche en diferente hogar, simbólicamente se recibe a José y María próximo a tener un bebé, pero que “no tienen casa”. Necesitados en pedir posada, porque fueron Inmigrantes, desconocidos, extraños de ese lugar, la posada que pide Jesús, María y José se hace realidad hoy día. Pregunto, ¿estaremos abiertos a dar posada a quienes la necesitan? ¿Vemos a nuestros semejantes con compasión y amor? ¿O somos indiferentes a los más necesitados?. Reflexión que todos y cada uno está invitado hacer.

Para la Celebración de la Navidad, tenemos que ser muy cuidadosos, en no ver el gran acontecimiento de los acontecimientos, el Nacimiento del Salvador, como motivo de acumular y quizás pedir cosas. Porque hay millones de personas iguales a nosotros que no tienen comida, no tienen ropa, no tienen agua, tienen como casa covachas de plástico, en atención a ellos, estamos llamados a controlar nuestro deseo de acumular y caer en el materialismo para destruirnos.

No quiero escribir para desanimar el Espíritu Navideño de cada familia, pero también estoy llamado a mencionar la otra parte que traemos todos en la conciencia pero que no tenemos la oportunidad de anunciarla y denunciarla si fuera posible.

Para nosotros los Católicos (de todas las culturas) hay un llamado, en estos tiempos difíciles: Respetar a Dios, respetar a cada persona, y respetar a la creación, dejar el egoísmo, y parar el materialismo que corrompe la humanidad.

Feliz Navidad y Año Nuevo 2011.



Luis Ajú

The motive for writing about the expressions of faith that are part of the cultural values of the Hispanic community, is to share with people from other cultures, who throughout the nation continue to ask themselves the meaning of each of our celebrations that form part of our traditions that we grew up with and that we celebrate in the Catholic Church year after year. In the article from November, I wrote about All Saints Day and All Souls Day, giving a description of the different pious acts around the Liturgical Celebration of the two days. It is very clear that our deceased loved ones are alive in the presence of God.

During this month of December, soon the praying of the novenas and the traditional posadas will begin in all of the parishes where there is a Latino community present. Something interesting is that on December 8th, many countries celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception as do the Catholics in the United States. On the vigil of the celebration in many countries, they have the tradition of cleaning the house. Afterward they burn the trash on the patio, because it represents the devil that has gotten into the home in many ways, affecting the life of the family members. It is related closely to the time of Advent, preparation and repentance.

I can't forget to mention that at the end of a novena, we celebrate the Feast of all the Americas, celebrating on the 12th of December the Feast of the Virgin of Guadalupe. Many families dress up their sons and daughters with indigenous outfits, imitating Saint Juan Diego, to whom, with his native dress, language, and demeanor, appeared the Queen of Heaven. Hopefully, the families who dress up their children in native dress, understand that it is not just about the outfit, rather we need to learn from the great virtues that this Holy Man had in order to deserve being the direct messenger for the Queen of Heaven. So, not only the children are called to imitate Saint Juan Diego with their outfits, but we adults as well, and maybe not only with the clothes but with our attitude in the present times.

On December 16th, the celebration of the Posadas will begin. Each night in a different home, they will symbolically receive Mary and Joseph, soon to have a baby, but that “don't have a home.” They are in need of refuge, because they were immigrants, strangers, outsiders in this place. The refuge that Jesus, Mary and Joseph were looking for continues to be a reality today. I ask: Are we open to give refuge to those who need it? Do we see our fellow men with compassion and love? Or are we indifferent to the neediest people? It is a reflection that each of us is invited to make.

For the Celebration of Christmas, we have to be very careful to not see the greatest of the greatest events, the Birth of the Savior, as a motive to accumulate and maybe even ask for things. Because there are millions of people just like us who don't have food, don't have clothes, don't have water, and have plastic hovels as a home. In attention to them, we are called to control our desire to accumulate things and falling into the materialism that will destroy us.

I don't want to write to discourage the Spirit of Christmas in each family, but I'm also called, when it is possible, to mention the other part that we hold in our conscience but that we do not have the opportunity to bring up and denounce.

For us Catholics (of all cultures) there is a call, in these difficult times: to respect God, to respect each person, to respect creation, to leave behind selfishness and to stop the materialism that corrupts humanity.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Years 2011.

Horarios Decembrinos 2010 en Santos Jose y Pablo, Owensboro, Ky.

- Novena Guadalupana Dic 4-11 / 7:30pm / Rosarios en distintos hogares.
Rosario del 12 en la Parroquia.
- 12 de Diciembre. Mañanitas 5:00am / Misa Solemne del 2do. Dom. de Adviento y Guadalupe 12:00pm.
- Posadas Dic 16-23 / 7:30pm/ Distintos hogares. Posada del 24 en la Parroquia.
- 25 de Diciembre. Misa de Gallo 12:00am (Salon Parroquial) - Misa de Navidad 12:00pm.(Parroquia)
- 26 de Diciembre. Misa de la Sagrada Familia a las 12:00pm y 10:30pm.
- 1 de Enero. Misa de Maria Madre de Dios. Año Nuevo 12:00pm.
- 8 de Enero. 8am-10am Desayuno de Epifania - Toda la Comunidad Hispano-Anglo

Haciendo la Diferencia Entendemos el Verdadero Mensaje de la Navidad

Mis queridos amigos,
Como Católicos Cristianos, muchas veces estamos llamados a coexistir en dos mundos simultáneamente. Vivimos en un mundo “encargado a la grandeza de Dios,” en las palabras del poeta Gerard Manley Hopkins, y en un mundo cansado que desconfía todo lo que insinúa sobre Dios y el lugar que Dios tiene.

Esta temporada festiva resalta tal coexistencia. En nuestras iglesias y en las liturgias en los primeros 24 días de diciembre celebramos un tiempo de espera y observación. Recordamos la primera llegada de Cristo al mundo como fue documentado en los evangelios mientras todo lo que nos rodea observa este momento central en la historia de la humanidad como un gran espectáculo comercial.

Una cosa que parece ser segura: es que no podremos cambiar radicalmente la manera de celebrar la Navidad en los Estados Unidos. Pero la Iglesia, particularmente la iglesia doméstica, siempre puede traer la gracia de Dios a lo que aparte de eso parece ser un panorama sin vida. Es un dicho común decir en inglés mantener a Cristo en el Nacimiento de Cristo, pero es realmente lo que nuestra temporada de Adviento pretende hacer. En nuestras iglesias y en nuestras familias, nos recordamos ir más lento a la espera de las acciones de Dios en nuestras vidas.

Una novedad importante es una tradición de navidad que parece ser más



+ Monseñor William F. Medley
Obispo de la Diócesis de Owensboro

común y es muy positiva. Familias, personal de las oficinas, clases, grupos y organizaciones se han dado cuenta que nuestra obsesión de intercambiar regalos muchas veces nos lleva a que muchas personas tienen muchas posesiones que ni quieren ni necesitan. Entonces hoy en día grupos adoptan a individuos o familias con necesidades verdaderas y hacen algo para animarlos. Una y otra vez escucho historias de la verdadera alegría de la Navidad llegando a nosotros que tenemos tanto porque hemos podido hacer una diferencia verdadera. Y en hacer una



Reunidos los Señores Ministros Hispanos de la Diócesis, siendo ellos: Gutierrez Cristobal de Stos Jose y Pablo, Owensboro, Patricia Gutierrez, de la Parroquia de San Michael, Sebre, KY, Hna. Patricia Sullivan de la Parroquia de Sagrado Corazon, Russellville, KY.

Hna. Esperanza, de la Parroquia de San Jose, Mayfield, KY. P. Juan Rene K de la parroquia de Stos. Jose y Pablo Owensboro KY. P. Jose Carmelo, de la Parroquia de Santos Pedro y Pablo, Hopkinsville, KY. Hna. Eloisa San Jose de Mayfield, KY Hna. Imelda de Sto. Thomas More, Paducah, KY. Ausentes Abraham B. de Henderson, Carl Schmith, Sts. Pedro y Pablo Hopkinsville, Hna. Panchita por atender una emergencia y Hna. Luisa B. Bearver Dam y Horse Branch, por atender emergencia.



diferencia para los demás entendemos de nuevo el mensaje verdadero de la Navidad: el nacimiento de Jesucristo, el regalo más grande de Dios hacia nosotros.

En muchas maneras siento que me perdí la Navidad el año pasado. Fue el 15 de diciembre que fui presentado como el recién nombrado cuarto Obispo de la Diócesis de Owensboro. Las circunstancias como que me llevaron y mi vida no era totalmente mía. ¿A dónde se ha ido este año? Bueno, tal vez me pongo a reflexionar sobre esto más en la edición del periódico de febrero 2011 cuando llegue el aniversario de mi ordenación. Por ahora, déjeme decirles que el Adviento del 2009 fue memorable y siempre recordaré que Dios todavía tiene la capacidad de sorprender a su pueblo con llamadas inesperadas. Los evangelios del Adviento relatan las historias de María y José, Isabel y Zacarías, todos sorprendidos por las vueltas que dieron sus vidas. Los evangelios de la Navidad nos contarán de nuevo, las historias de los pastores y los magos que fueron llevados por el drama divino.

Mi plegaria por ti es que este Adviento y Navidad te encuentren descubriendo tu lugar en este drama divino todavía por desarrollarse.

Que Dios los bendiga.

+ Monseñor William F. Medley
Obispo de la Diócesis de Owensboro



El día 5 de Nov. Hna. Imelda y Luis Aju, dieron un taller, sobre Liderazgo Latino en la Parroquia de San Jose de Bowling Greene, KY. Tendremos otra vez el día 12 de Nov. para iniciar una labor de los Lideres de la comunidad. Fotos por Luis Aju.