

Five Tips for Welcoming Hispanic and Latino Catholics Into Parish Life



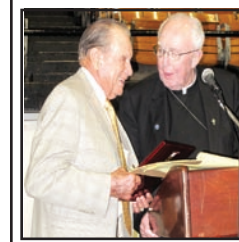
Martha Fernández-Sardina

"Immigrants need to feel that even if they're living in a foreign country, they're in their homeland when it comes to church."

Turn to *página cinco*



Bill Kuegel Sr. Honored



With Lifetime Achievement Award from Diocesan Rural Life Committee
Turn to Page 14.

• Help Needed!

St. Benedict Joseph's Homeless Shelter in Owensboro is in serious need of volunteers for shifts from 8 PM - 1 AM & 1- 6 AM. Please Consider Volunteering for one shift per month. Call 302-7507 to answer our call.

News

In and Around Our Diocese

• A Scout is Reverent

This year's Boy Scout retreat will take place at the Land between the Lakes on the weekend of October 9th and 10th. We will arrive Friday, October 8th in the evening and depart Sunday Morning around 10:00AM. Activities include: camping, canoeing, hiking, recreation, prayer, introduction to religious emblems and patches, and cracker barrell. Our religious emblems mass is tentatively scheduled for March 20, 2011 at 2:30, location to be announced. More information is available on the diocesan website. A basic review of the various religious emblems is below:

- Light of Christ, designed for 6-7 years old Cub Scouts
- Parvuli Dei, designed for 8-10 years old Cub Scouts
- Ad Altare Dei, designed for 13-14 years old Boy Scouts

- Pope Pius XII, designed for Venturing Crew Members and Boy Scouts 15+ years

Other patches include the Rosary Patch Series, Footsteps of American Saints and the International Awareness Award. You can find more information on emblems at: nccs-bsa.org. More specific information regarding the retreat will be made available soon.

Girl Scouts also have the following religious emblems:

- Family of God, designed for grades 2-3
- I Live My Faith, designed for grades 4-6
- Mary, the First Disciple, designed for grades 7-10
- The Spirit Alive, designed for grades 9-12

More information can be found at: nccgscf.org If you have questions you may contact Fr. Ken Mikulcik at 247-2843 or at fr.ken@newwavcomm.net.

• St. Alphonsus Church Dedication & Memorial Walk

St. Alphonsus Parish in St. Joseph, Kentucky is creating a Dedication & Memorial Walkway in front of the Church and adjacent to the St. Alphonsus Cemetery. You can remember your family or a loved one by purchasing an engraved brick for the walkway for \$100.00. Each brick can include up to 3 lines of text with 18 characters per line and can include your choice of specific clip art symbols. Order forms are available at the Church or you can call Susan O'Bryan at 270-229-4164 for more information or to have a form mailed to you. Plans are to have the walkway in place by Thanksgiving! All proceeds will go to the St. Alphonsus Building Fund.

• Wanted – Parish Ecumenical Advocates:

Do you have an interest in promoting greater unity among Christians? You can help by serving as an ecumenical advocate for our parish. Training will be provided by the diocese in each deanery. Advocates agree to (1) pray for the visible unity of the Church, (2) increase awareness of the need for ecumenism in their parish and (3) reach out to other Christian churches in their geographic area. If you or someone you know would be interested please contact Fr. Tony Bickett at ftonyb@yahoo.com or call 270/756-2356 for more information. "Father, may they all be one" - John 17:20

Fr. Tony Bickett, St. Romuald Church, 394 N Hwy 259, Hardinsburg, KY 40143 270/756-2356.

• A Gathering With Bishop emeritus John McRaith

An invitation to all our Special Friends from SPACE / Special Apostolic Catholic Evangelizers, Faith and Light and Fish (Friends in Service to Him) Annual Gathering with Bishop emeritus John McRaith and Bishop William Medley at St. Raphael's will be on Friday, October 1, 2010.

Please bring vegetables or salad. Meat and drink provided. Come anytime after 5:30 p.m. We'll eat around 6:30 p.m. Bring your lawn chairs and come to have a great time. Please RSVP by Sept. 25, so we can plan on how many people to prepare for. You may call Donna Biggs at (270) 852-8324, or e-mail donna.biggs@pastoral.org or fill out the registration form below and mail to Donna Biggs, Catholic Pastoral Center, 600 Locust St. Owensboro KY

Registration Form

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Number attending _____

• St. Stephen Cathedral Parish Picnic

Saturday, September 18th from 11AM-4PM. Pork, Chicken and Burgoo dinner available in our air-conditioned undercroft. Drive-thru is available rain or shine (Enter from Cedar Street, between 5th & 7th Streets. Bingo, cake wheel, children's games & inflatables provide fun for the entire family. Silent Auction featuring a dinner with Bishop Medley, UK and UL tickets & much more. Country store opens at 8AM.)

610 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY 42301, (270) 683-6525 www.ststephencathedral.org. Find us on Facebook at "St. Stephen Cathedral Parish Picnic".

• November Marian Conference & Retreat Theme:

Mary, Our Spiritual Mother

Friday evening and all day Saturday, November 5th and 6th, at Sts. Joseph and Paul Catholic Church, 514 East 4th St., Owensboro.

Registration begins 6 PM Friday, 8 AM Saturday. Time set aside for Mass, Adoration, Confession, Rosary, Healing Service, Holy Hour, and Saturday evening concert by Croatian singer Tatiana Cameron. Guest and national speaker Rich May will focus on Mary's spiritual motherhood and how to integrate Mary in to our spiritual life. He has appeared on EWTN radio and TV, and now hosts a weekly live radio show on Radio Maria. Registration fee is \$20, and the cost of lunch is \$TBA. To register, or for more information, please contact Heather Clemens: (270) 683-1570 or email at hdclemens@oolwireless.net.

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2 Bishop William Medley To Attend New Bishops Institute In Rome Sept. 8 - 19



Most Rev. William F. Medley, D.D.

My Dear People,
Around this time of year I always discover a mischievous inclination in me. About the end of July I begin to ask any children or young people that I meet, "Are you glad the summer is almost over and that you get to go

around the world appointed within the past year. I had an opportunity to meet a handful of these men when I attended my first meeting of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in June in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Children and young people will likely not allow me to compare my nine-day institute with their nine month school year. That's fair. Let me add that I have seen our schedule and they will be keeping us very busy. But there are some extraordinary moments to look forward to. On the Sunday within our nine days, we will go to St. Peter's Basilica to concelebrate Mass and also to visit the tomb of St. Peter over which the basilica is built. If his schedule permits, there is set an audience with Pope Benedict XVI at his summer residence, Castel Gandolfo.

As I look over the curriculum for our institute, I see that the emphasis is on the pastoral role of the bishop in relation to priests, religious and all the faithful. I know that I certainly have much to learn, but as with any such experience, I am most

looking forward to meeting the other new bishops of the world and learning from their experiences and their people.

In my six months as bishop here, by far the most asked question presented to me has been, "What is your vision for the Diocese of Owensboro? My response has always been that my vision is to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ. But I have been quick to note that the specifics of how this may be accomplished will entail listening to our priests and religious and all of our people. This is important because I believe that the Holy Spirit acts and brings wisdom to the church from many sources. So I have listened as I have visited parishes

and schools, and as I interact with our Pastoral Center staff. I have listened through the correspondence I have received, especially from the young people who write to me and ask to be confirmed.

Within weeks of the beginning of my ministry, I came to realize that at some point there will probably be required some system or process required to organize all that I am hearing if this is to truly impact my vision and the vision of our diocese. To this end, I have begun a dialogue with the Priests' Council and the Diocesan Pastoral Council about how to translate listening into a formal plan with goals and action steps that can be evaluated and measured.

In the coming weeks, the details of this listening will emerge. I hope that we can create a forum that invites every single Catholic to voice concerns and visions of how together we live our gospel mandate. It is the 21st century, and so, if we are to hear from young people, we must listen where they talk, on the internet, and websites and blogs.

This is the first invitation of many invitations you might receive in the coming months to engage in a very broad dialogue. Come to the table, come to the computer, ready to speak and dialogue and listen.

+ *William Francis Medley*

back to school?" Though my questioning is greeted with rolled eyes and groans, some few will admit to real excitement. The first day of school usually finds children and youth very satisfied to be back in a routine that includes their friends.

This year, my inquiry presented a different spin as I could tell the students that I too have to go back to school. On September 8, I leave for Rome where I will participate for nine days in classes and discussions with all the new bishops from

Bishop Medley's Calendar for September 2010:

September 5	8:00 a.m.	Mass – St. Mark, Eddyville
September 5	10:00 a.m.	Mass – St. Paul, Princeton
September 6	6:00 p.m.	Anniversary of Dedication of St. Stephen Cathedral
September 7	9:00 a.m.	Catholic Pastoral Staff Mass and Meeting
September 8-19		Conference in Rome for newly ordained bishops
September 20	9:30 a.m.	Personnel Board Meeting
	1:30 p.m.	Priests Council Meeting
September 21	9:00 a.m.	Catholic Pastoral Staff Mass and Meeting
September 22	8:30 a.m.	Administration/Finance Committee Meeting
September 25	4:30 p.m.	Confirmation – Holy Spirit Parish, Bowling Green
September 26	11:00 a.m.	Mass – St. Michael, Sebree
September 26	2:30 p.m.	Sophia Awards, Holy Name, Henderson
September 28	10:00 a.m.	School Mass, St. Mary Elementary, Paducah
September 28	12 – 3:00 p.m.	Paducah Office
September 28	7:00 p.m.	Day of Prayer for Seminarians, St. Meinrad, IN
September 29	All Day	Day of Prayer for Seminarians, St. Meinrad, IN
September 30	All Day	Catholic Pastoral Center Staff Day

2010 Parish Picnic Schedule

Date	Serving Time	Parish
Sept. 11	4:30 p.m.	St. Agnes, Uniontown
Sept. 11	11:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.	St. John the Evangelist, Paducah
Sept. 12	11:30 a.m.	40th Picnic, Mount St. Joseph, Maple Mount
Sept 18	11:00 am	St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro
Sept. 18	4:00 p.m.	Immaculate Conception, Hawesville
Sept. 18	4:00 p.m.	Christ the King, Madisonville
Sept. 19	Noon	St. Thomas More, Paducah
September 19	11:00 a.m.	St. Lawrence/St. William Parishes Picnic
Sept 24-25	Holy Name Fall Festival,	Henderson, Ky.
Sept 25	3:00 p.m.	Immaculate, Owensboro
Sept. 26		St. Leo, Murray
Sept. 26	11:00 a.m.	St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville



Register For

"Christians Conversations: Bridges to Visible Unity"

8 Local Pastors-Theologians will:
Discuss their beliefs and practices
Share ideas on Making Christ more visible

WHEN: Saturday, October 16

WHERE: Brescia University
Campus Center Study Pavilion
(second floor)

Beginning at 8:00 AM and
Concluding at 3:30 PM

- 9:00 Rev. Rick Grover, Pastor
Owensboro Christian
- 10:30 Rev. James Byrd, Pastor
Third Baptist
- 12:30 Rev. Jonathan Carroll, Pastor
First Presbyterian
- 2:00 Rev. Timo Karvonen, Pastor
Wesleyan Heights United
Methodist

REGISTER before October 8

(space limited to 100)

No Registration Fee

Two ways to register:

E-mail: ftongb@yahoo.com or

Phone: 771-4438 (Debi)

Box lunches available for \$5.00
payable at the event



Heaven knows that our good Bishops are under fire for standing up for our Catholic Faith nowadays. What can we do about it?

Everyone is invited to join Rosary for the Bishop, a program organizing Catholics to pray the rosary for their bishops. The official website, www.rosaryforthebishop.org, lets you choose which days you wish to pray, then sends an optional reminder email so you don't forget. Plus, you can view statistics about how many other people are praying, including a world map of participating dioceses at www.rosaryforthebishop.org/maps.

Catholics all over the world are praying for their shepherds through Rosary for the Bishop: visit www.rosaryforthebishop.org/join to sign up today!

**The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph
in Maple Mount, Ky.**



invite you to our 40th annual

PICNIC

Sunday, Sept. 12

For the benefit of the retired
Ursuline Sisters

Serving barbecue pork, mutton, chicken 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Burgoo! Ice Cream! Booths! Crafts! Games! Yard Sale! Silent Auction!

Raffle tickets only \$2 each

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of Mount Saint Joseph

8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, KY 42356-9999
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www.ursulinesmsj.org • info.ms@maplemount.org

License #0290

You are invited to pray the rosary at the annual

Rosary Walk at Maple Mount

Sunday, Oct. 10, 2010



Please join us at 2 p.m. Everyone is welcome!

Help us celebrate the Month of the
Rosary with a community gathering
at the Memorial Rosary Walk on
the grounds of Mount Saint Joseph
in Maple Mount (12 miles west
of Owensboro on Highway 56 at
Cummings Road.)

For more information, call
270-229-0200



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999
270-229-0200
www.mscenter.org
msj.center@maplemount.org
A Ministry of the Ursuline Sisters
of Mount Saint Joseph



**Vatican International Exhibit
EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES
OF THE WORLD**

Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church
902 East Ninth Street, Hopkinsville, KY 42240

Saturday, January 8, 2011 2:00PM – 7:00PM
Sunday, January 9, 2011 8:00AM – 2:00PM

This exhibit includes photos, art and stories of 126 Vatican au-
thenticated miracles associated with faith in and worship of the Most Blessed
Sacrament. Eucharistic miracles inspire in us a deeper awareness and more
ardent love of our Lord's Real Presence.

For more information on the exhibit:

<http://www.bodyofchristoutreach.org/exhibit2.htm>

New Mount Saint Joseph Cookbook Available

Fans of cooking who may also have a connection to Mount Saint Joseph can blend
both interests with the new Mount Saint Joseph cookbook. The "Food for the Soul,
Memories for the Heart" cookbook contains over 400 recipes submitted by Ursuline
Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, Ursuline Associates, and faculty and alumnae of the
former Mount Saint Joseph Academy and Junior College.

"Food for the Soul, Memories for the Heart" cookbook proceeds benefit the alumnae
association. This group helps defray the costs of alumnae weekend. It also pays half of
the printing costs of the alumnae newsletter, The New Mount. The association has also
donated to Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center (in the former Academy,
which closed in 1983); Dorothy Day House of Hospitality in Memphis, Tenn., where
Ursuline Sisters minister, and to other worthwhile causes.

The cookbook is available for a suggested donation of \$15. To reserve a cookbook
for yourself or a friend, contact Marian Bennett at the Office of Ursuline Partnerships
at 270-229-2006 or e-mail associates.ms@maplemount.org. If the cookbook needs to
be mailed, please send an extra \$5 per book for postage and handling.

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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
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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

4 Finding Peace On Death Row

“In prison and you came to visit me. As often as you do this for one of the least of my brothers, you do it for me.”
Mt. 25:35-40



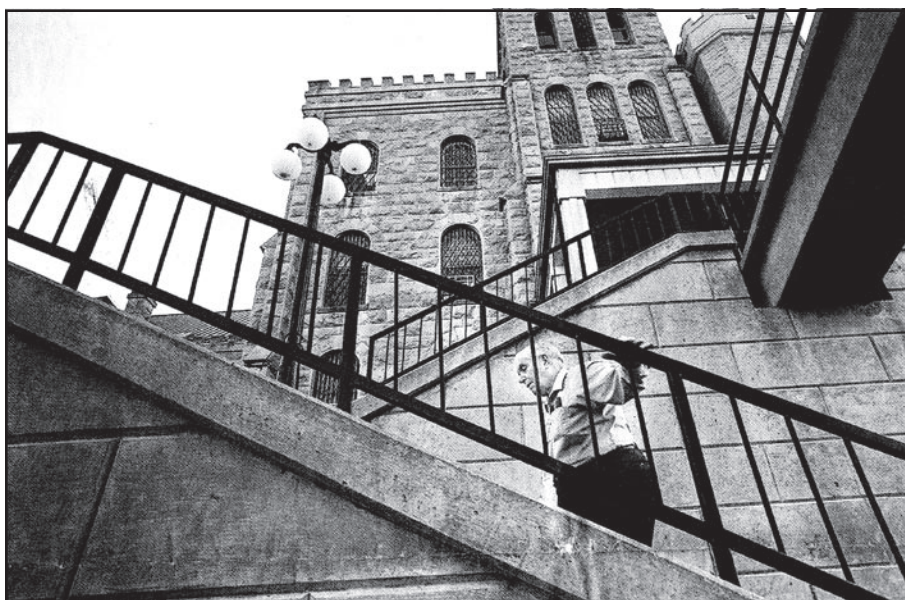
By Patricia (Stevens) Solomon

“Strengthened by adversity” was my Dad’s favorite phrase. He figured what didn’t break you, only made you stronger. It worked for him; eventually it worked for me.

My Dad, Paul Stevens, began his prison ministry at Kentucky State Penitentiary in 1986. He went there to help others; he ended up helping himself. Prison ministry is not uncommon in our diocese, but prison ministry for the father of a murdered daughter is unique in any diocese. Paul and Ruth Stevens lost their daughter, Cindy, in July of 1969. I lost a sister and best friend that night. She was 20 years old. Her killer served only seven years.

When Dad first began his prison ministry, I was surprised, and I was angry. I felt like he was “abandoning” Cindy’s memory. But sometimes, when we are very lucky, God leaves us here on earth long enough to get our hearts and minds and souls right.

My first trip into prison was an open-house tour – an eye-opener! Prison wasn’t exactly what I thought it would look like. I decided after that day that however Dad found his peace with Cin-



Climbing The Steep Steps of “The Castle on Lake Barkley”
In May, 2001, Paul Stevens of Dawson Springs, Ky., made his way slowly but steadily up the steep steps at the Kentucky State Penitentiary in Eddyville, Ky. Although he had to stop for a breather about halfway to the top, Stevens still made the climb once a week in 2001 to visit with the faculty’s inmates. Denny Simmons photo courtesy of Evansville Courier & Press.

dy’s death, I would no longer fight him – but I didn’t necessarily have to like it. But God wasn’t finished with me yet – and neither was my Dad. Shortly after the tour, he asked if I would join him and Mom at a Death Row Banquet. I said, “no thanks.” He asked again. I said, “no thanks.” He asked again, and I said, “all right!” I figured – one time and he’ll leave me alone! I remember sitting in that room at the prison and looking at all those guys in the bright red jumpsuits and

thinking, “what the heck have I gotten myself into?”

I sat back and watched the men, and watched my Dad, and watched the men with my Dad. I watched the men with their families – wives, Moms, Dads, brothers, sisters, children – and for the first time in all the years since Cindy died, I realized that two families were destroyed by the crimes of which these men were convicted – their own and their victim’s. It hit me that in spite of what they had done, they were still someone’s son, husband, father, brother. And they were still God’s child. My Dad spoke softly that day about his pride in their faith growth and his hopes for their future and when he finished speaking, they erupted in cheers! I turned to my Mom and said, “It took me almost 20 years to figure out why she (Cindy) died. She died so he could stand here today.” And the last bit of hate that had consumed me for so many years just fell away. I knew then that Dad’s ministry at the prison would become something we shared.

I gave my Dad Cindy’s graduation rosary to take to the guys on Death Row. Inmates say it has a “healing touch.” Harold McQueen carried it with him to the electric chair in 1997. The night before he died, Harold told my Dad, “isn’t God good? If I had been executed years ago, before I changed, tomorrow would be different. But tomorrow I will see the face of God, and isn’t that great!”

Dad’s message was always so simple: God gives life; only God takes it away. We are put here on earth to save souls and to lead people to the Lord through His gift of redemption and salvation. He figured he’d do it one man at a time.

Sr. Chris Beckett and I did a video of the men at prison to take to my Dad in I.C.U. in 2002. Each man would ask to sit in front of the camera and give my Dad a message. I can’t remember such an emotional day! Their messages were in turn funny, sad, and deeply personal. They talked openly of their love for him and their wish for his return to health. I stood outside his I.C.U. room and watched him as he watched “his guys.” They called from the hospital the next morning to say he was off the ventilator and talking! We took him back to the prison in a wheelchair soon after his hospital release.

A month after Dad died, they had a beautiful memorial service for him at the prison. Each inmate spoke. I remember one inmate who said, “I prayed all night last night that God would help me get through these words without crying, and it didn’t work.” And then he stood there and talked of Dad and cried.

I gave a talk before the Kentucky State Legislature the month after Dad died. It was a talk opposing the death penalty. The legislature was as rude to me that day as they are to any others who oppose the death penalty. Sad to say, even many in our faith are not opposed to it. It’s hard to argue the death penalty with advocates of it. I was one before. My parents were also. We only wanted “closure” with Cindy’s death. We wanted peace. Closure never comes. There is never a birthday, holiday, birth or any occasion that you don’t miss them. But peace does come. It came to my parents, and it came to me. It came through forgiveness - and that is a gift of God.

I promised my Dad before he died that I would check on an inmate named Larry Hansen who had been moved to a prison in Ely, Nevada. Dad had ministered to Larry for many years and grown close to him. It was a worry on his mind. I made the trip to that prison in September, 2003. Many tears at that reunion – tears for a lost friend and mentor, and tears for a love he will never know again until he shares it in heaven with Our Lord. Some were not happy about my trip, but a promise is a promise - and a deathbed promise is sacred.

The first Christmas Dad was gone I knew would be very hard on Mom, so my husband, Jim, and I took her to the prison on Christmas Eve morning to see

Continued on page 5



“You Show More Love To Us Than Anybody.”

In 2001, the men on Kentucky’s death row sang “Happy birthday, dear Paul, happy birthday to you,” to their friend and confidant, Paul Stevens of Resurrection Parish in Dawson Springs, Ky. for his 80th birthday. Denny Simmons photo courtesy of Evansville Courier & Press.

Paul Stevens Worked to Abolish the Death Penalty in Kentucky 5



Submitted by Rev. Patrick Delahanty, Chair, Kentucky Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, staff@kcadp.org

I first heard about Paul Stevens more than 20 years ago when the Kentucky Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty incorporated and began working with the General Assembly to repeal the state law that allows the killing of fellow human beings. The Coalition had found a friendly legislator in the Rep. Danny Seum, now a State Senator from Jefferson County. Rep. Dotty Priddy, chair of the House Judiciary Committee agreed to give Rep. Seum's bill to abolish the death penalty for juveniles a hearing. We needed an "unusual suspect" to provide testimony and a lawyer friend told me about Paul Stevens.

This man had an amazing story. A former death penalty supporter, he was already working as a volunteer chaplain in Eddyville. I contacted him and he came to Louisville the night before the Com-

mittee meeting and stayed with Deacon Peter Houck and his wife, Mary Lou, both members of the Coalition. As he told us what he planned to tell the Committee members, I sat in amazement and goose bumps covered my arms as I pondered his journey from seeing his daughter's dead body, his years of anger and suffering, and his conversion experience that led to his working with those we planned to kill. The next day he testified about his journey and how he now considered those condemned to die his friends and how his faith and belief in God as the giver and guardian of life convinced him that the state should not be in the business of killing anyone, even those who have killed. He encouraged Committee members to support abolishing the death penalty for juveniles.

There were present that day others who had lost loved ones to murder and who, in other Judiciary Committee meetings, had come forward to urge its members to keep the death penalty in place. But when Mrs. Priddy offered them the opportunity to speak, they remained silent. Paul's witness to life had silenced everyone in that room and reached their hearts, at least for awhile. The Committee voted to send the bill to the

Finding Peace on 'The Row' (Continued from page 4)

the guys. We took my Mom and 125 bags of peanut brittle! Many we visited in the chapel, but we also traveled over to Death Row to see "his guys." Death Row is behind glass and when we entered the building housing the Row, you could hear the guys calling for "Mom." As she walked from cell to cell, each guy reached through the bars and hugged her and told her how much they missed her and missed Dad. I hadn't seen that smile on her face in a very long time! She was where she knew she was closest to him.

I remember thinking years ago, when Dad would talk of the prison, that it was an odd place to "find his peace." I certainly never expected to find mine there! But when I step inside those walls, it's like every huge stone holds a piece of my Dad. Everything he became in life in the end is in those stones. The "essence" of my Dad is in those walls. It's in the men – the ones in Protective Custody, in the General Population, and in those on Death Row. My Dad was the "father" many of them never had. Mom was "Mom" to all there who needed her. Eventually they even "adopted" me!

We have three men whose appeals have run out. They are Ralph Baze, Jr., Robert Foley, and Gregory Wilson. Gregory is my Dad's godchild. I got another letter from him about a month ago. He said he'd better write now as he would be busy later. I guess he meant "busy" preparing to die. I pray that Governor Beshear will have a change of heart and stay their executions. I figure it's all really simple – if we take an inmate's life before God has a chance to heal his soul, then we have robbed God and gifted the devil.

(Dedicated to the memory of my parents, Paul & Ruth Stevens, who gave me, Patricia (Stevens) Solomon, the greatest gift a parent can give their child – the gift of faith.)

Editor's Note: On Monday, July 19, 2010, an Associated Press article reported that the Kentucky Department of Corrections restricted pastoral visits at the Kentucky State Penitentiary in Eddyville. The policy limits access to inmates by pastors. Under the policy change, instead of notifying the prison ahead of time of plans to visit multiple inmates, pastors must now have one of three slots on an inmate's visitation list to meet with them one-on-one.

It is still not clear what this enforcement of an old Dept. of Corrections policy will mean for visits from church prison ministers of Kentucky Bishops.

Don't Kill For Me!



"I oppose the Death Penalty."

Paul and Ruth Stevens

"I had the opportunity to kill my daughter's killer, but chose not to. I hope we can do away with this horrible legal way of killing people."

Testimony first printed in the March, 2000, Western Kentucky Catholic, page 35.

floor of the House and urged support of its passage. The House did pass it, though it later failed to get a vote in the Senate.

Now some twenty years later, Paul's seemingly lonely stance is not so unusual. The Coalition has been recording statements of Kentuckians opposed to the death penalty for just over a year and placing them on YouTube (www.youtube.com/kcadp). There are more than 50 statements there now, and many of them are statements of people like Paul who have lost loved ones to murder. In addition, there are statements there by people like those Patty described at the banquet she attended, the others who are punished by the death penalty, the innocent family members of the condemned.

I hope articles like the one Patty has written and statements like those found at www.youtube.com/kcadp and study of the pastoral letters our Kentucky bishops have written about Respect for Life - see www.ccky.org - will lead readers to pick up the phone and call 1-800-372-7181 and ask their State Representative and State Senator to abolish the death penalty in

Kentucky, as has recently occurred in New Jersey and New Mexico.

The Coalition is always looking for new and active members. So, I also invite readers of good will to visit www.kcadp.org and become a member today. Please do that right after calling 1-800-372-7181 and leaving that important message for your State Representative and State Senator. And if any readers are willing, KCADP is always ready to set up a convenient time and place to record a statement of opposition to add to our growing number of YouTube videos.

Just email us at staff@kcadp.org and we will get back to you.

Here is a link to [kcadp newsletter](http://kcadp.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/05/Abolition_Now_201005.pdf) with more detail about victims family members who have made statements. maybe a link to that would be good also: http://kcadp.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/05/Abolition_Now_201005.pdf

Ed. Note: Father Pat Delahanty is Associate Director of the Catholic Conference of Kentucky and has been a priest of the Archdiocese of Louisville, Ky. for 41 years.

Paul Stevens shook hands with Harold McQueen on death row at KSP in July, 1996.

A year later, on July 1, 1997, McQueen, 44, was executed by electric chair, the first man executed in Kentucky since 1976. Paul Stevens said that "Harold is a source of strength to his fellow prisoners; he counsels them to live in a way God would approve of." Paul Stevens did not believe Harold deserved to be electrocuted.

Madisonville Messenger photo by Lowell Mendyk



6 Owensboro Catholic High School Ties Record ACT Composite Score

August 19, 2010 - The Owensboro Catholic High School Class of 2010 tied the highest composite ACT score in school history with a 22.6. The National average composite score was a 21.0; the State composite was a 19.4.

Kurt Osborne, interim Principal at OCHS had this to say about the scores, "Today, I am proud to announce that the class of 2010 has equaled last year's record setting numbers. With an average composite of 22.6, this ties our best ever score set the previous year. And, even more impressive, every single member of the graduating class of 2010 took the ACT."

Osborne continued by saying "Scores can and will fluctuate from year to year so ACT recommends looking at 5 year trends, instead of focusing on year to year scores. Looking at those trends, even with the occasional dip in scores the overall trend for ACT scores is up. But even more important than getting caught up in numbers is exactly what these numbers tell us. They tell us that our students are more prepared for freshman college classes and that across the system our teachers are preparing students for the academic challenges they will face in the future. They tell us that our students continue to work hard in the classroom, and with test preparation and that our parents emphasize the importance of rigorous coursework and adequate test preparation.



Owensboro Catholic High School teacher Ms. Joan Perry is shown at right on August 19 reviewing with her Honors Chemistry class the characteristics and interactions among the elements of the periodic table.

Above, Ms. Perry's wall of student portraits from past classes becomes a "Wall of Memories" every time she sees one of her students' pictures. Mel Howard Photos

"While we are proud of the accomplishments that we as a school have made in this area, we are far from resting on our laurels. There is always room for improvement, and we as a faculty continue to assess our curriculum to make those improvements in all areas. This assessment will further prepare our students for college, and as a result, raise ACT scores."



Owensboro Catholic High School ACT Composite Scores

	OCHS	State	Nation
Composite	22.6	19.4	21.0
English	23.9	18.9	20.5
Math	20.3	19.1	21.0
Reading	23.8	19.7	21.3
Science	21.6	19.5	20.9

In Your Charity, Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of Sister Vickie Cravens, OSU, 59, Who Died Aug.5, 2010

MAPLE MOUNT, Ky. - Sister Vickie Cravens, 59, an Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph, died Aug. 5 in Owensboro, in her 13th year of religious life. She was a native of Lebanon, Mo.

Sister Vickie ministered in the Ursuline archives from the time she entered the community in 1997, serving as director of the archives since 2001. She was also curator of the community museum, and an integral part of the yearly Mount Saint Joseph Picnic.

Sister Vickie was a great student of Ursuline history, and loved to tell the story of the sisters. She did research for relatives of deceased sisters, provided transcripts for graduates of Mount Saint Joseph Academy, and gave tours of Maple Mount to the public, all in an effort to "keep the stories alive."

Survivors include her sister, Beth Shields, of Lebanon, Mo., nephews and the members of her religious community.

The funeral Mass was Aug. 7, at Mount Saint Joseph, with burial in the convent cemetery. Glenn Funeral Home, Owensboro, was in charge of ar-



Sister Vickie Cravens, OSU

rangements.

Gifts in memory of Sister Vickie may take the form of donations to the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, 8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, KY 42356.

Farewell, and Good Luck to Betty Medley

By Tami Schneider

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Betty Medley has served the Diocese of Owensboro for over 22 years. Beginning in January of 1988 as a single mother of two children and a college student at Brescia University, Betty was hired as an Administrative Assistant for the Superintendent of the Owensboro Catholic School system, first under Sr. Amelia Stenger, O.S.U., and then under Mr. H. Joseph O'Bryan.

In 1993, Betty became the Administrative Assistant in the Family Life Office with Director Theresa Hayden. After two years, Edwina Hyland became the Director and Betty was elevated to co-director. In 2002, she was able to finish her studies and graduated from Brescia University with a Bachelor's degree in Social Work. In 2004, Betty became the Director of the Family Life Office and has held the position ever since.

Recently, Betty felt a stirring within her that God was leading her toward change. Owensboro's Glenn Funeral Home offered her a position as Outreach Coordinator/Family Counselor. Since Bereavement Counseling is truly her passion and what she went to school for, after prayerful consideration, she decided to accept the position. She began employment there August 2.

It would be impossible to count the number of lives Betty has touched during her years of ministry. Beginning with adoptions with Catholic Charities her position continued to expand to include: Marriage preparation, grief counseling, Retrouvaille, Project Rachel, Natural Family Planning, Parenting classes, Once More With Love, and support groups for those grieving a loss, those who are separated and divorced, and birth mothers who have given their babies up for adoption. She is also an advocate for marriage invalidity cases in the Tribunal, organizes the annual Diocesan Marriage Celebration and has organized a large gift giving operation for needy families at Christmas time for several years.



Betty Medley

Continued on page 16

St. Leo Catholic Church Begins Expansion and Renovation

By Allie Loomis

MURRAY, Ky. - St. Leo Catholic Church here formally began a major expansion and renovation of the current church on Tuesday, July 27, with a groundbreaking ceremony. The event was well attended by the parish and local community leaders. Bishop Medley also attended and offered a prayer and blessing of the construction site.

About six years in the making, the current plan grew out of strategic planning that began in early 2004 where capacity and facility needs were identified. Parishioners were then surveyed to select the changes that would be pursued. They placed a high priority on staying on the current site given its central location and proximity to Murray State University.

St. Leo Parish began in 1933 with the establishment of a Civilian Conservation Corps camp. With the camp came more Catholics, so a priest began traveling to Murray each weekend to say Mass under a pavilion. With the help of a grant from the Catholic Church Extension Society and the hard work of the pastor and 150 parishioners, the first Catholic Church building was completed in the fall of 1943. By 1963, the parish had outgrown the building and proceeded to construct the current, 300 seat church with a connected rectory. Shortly after that, a Newman campus ministry was started at nearby Murray State University, so the old church was renovated and used for Newman House activities. Since then, the Newman House ministry has moved to a property across the street from St. Leo, the old church was converted



Pictured in this ground breaking scene are, from left, John Mitchell, Chair of the Building Committee; Fr. Jason McClure, Pastor; Claire Resig, Parishioner; John Resig, Parishioner; Bishop William Medley; and John Clark, President of Clark Construction. Submitted photos



An artist's drawing of the new St. Leo Church building, looking northwest.

to parish offices, and a Parish Hall was constructed. Today, St. Leo is a vital, growing faith community with well over 400 registered families and is the only Catholic Church in Murray and Calloway County.

The construction that has begun will:

- Expand the Worship Space seating capacity from 300 to 530.
- Add a Gathering Space, restrooms, and a Blessed Sacrament Chapel.
- Make all spaces fully handicapped accessible.
- Modify the exterior to better communicate that the building is a place of worship.
- Transform the worship experience for all our parishioners and guests.

The projected cost of the project is \$1.8 million, over \$800,000 of which has already been raised. The project

is expected to take about one year to complete.

Allie Loomis is Newman House Catholic Campus Minister at Murray State University.



The current St. Leo Church building, looking southwest.



Egypt: Joseph's Journey From Prison to Palace

St. Joseph Church in Mayfield held Vacation Bible School on the Nile this year. Our them was "Egypt: Joseph's Journey From Prison to Palace." Our Great Pyramid was built by Kelley Carrico. Submitted by Melissa G. Armstrong, Coordinator of Religious Education, St. Joseph Church, Mayfield

8 Educator of the Year Deflects Praise

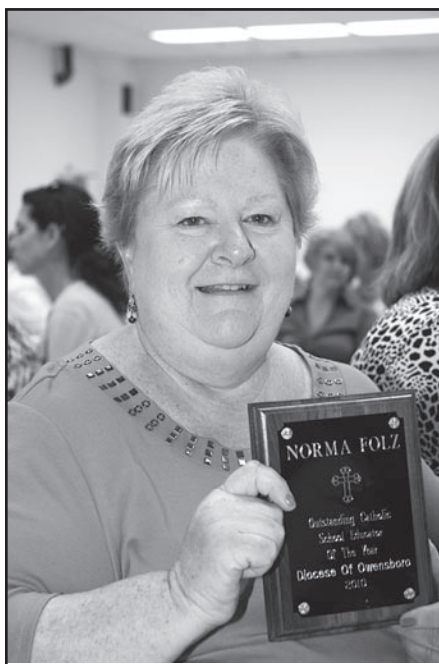
By Dawn C. Ligibel

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. - Norma Folz, fourth grade teacher at Sts. Peter and Paul School in Hopkinsville, was named Educator of the Year for the Diocese of Owensboro during a professional development day held in Henderson on July 30. As a naturally humble person, Folz is quick to deflect the spotlight even when others argue the praise is richly deserved.

"Mrs. Folz is an exceptional, all-embracing mentor and messenger to her students," explained Sarah Kranz, Principal of Sts. Peter and Paul School. "She sees teaching as more than a profession; it is a vocation to shape our students. There are many competent and dedicated teachers in education, but there are also teachers, because of their commitment to God, education and students, must be considered outstanding. Mrs. Folz is one of those teachers," Kranz elaborated.

During his remarks just prior to recognizing Folz as the recipient of the award, School Superintendent for the Diocese Jim Mattingly echoed Kranz's praise. "She has an enviable reputation as an excellent teacher who cares about other teachers and parents."

Folz, who was completely shocked to



Norma Folz, fourth grade teacher at Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville, was named Educator of the Year for the Diocese of Owensboro. Folz has begun her 28th year of teaching at Sts. Peter and Paul, where she has spent her entire career. Mel Howard Photo

be named Educator of the Year, didn't have even the slightest inkling of her selection, until Mattingly mentioned the teacher had taught more than 27 years. "When he said this person has taught over 27 years, I thought 'Oh surely not,'" Folz explained. "It was a complete surprise," she added.

As the praise for Folz continues while members of Sts. Peter and Paul parish learn of her distinction, Folz continues to feel uncomfortable in the spotlight. One example of this continued recognition occurred on Friday morning, August 6, at the conclusion of the morning all-school Mass. Fr. John Thomas, Pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul, asked Folz and her entire fourth grade class to stand as he told the congregation about the honor she had received. "I was so glad he had my class stand with me," Folz explained. "I need to remember to thank him for that," she added.

In that same vein, Folz once again deflected praise when asked how it felt to receive such an honor. "It's not an individual award," she emphasized. "It's individual in its title, but that title encompasses so much more than me. It encompasses the students, the families, the administrators, the priests and the other teachers. I would have felt more comfortable if our school was recognized rather than me. I'd rather

everyone be recognized. I'm just one link in the chain," she concluded.

Indeed it is her humility and Christ-like behavior which have most likely been her most endearing qualities throughout her teaching career. "Mrs. Folz's work resembles her demeanor," said Kranz. "It is gentle and spiritual. Without being vocal about what she is doing, she presents Christ-like characteristics daily," Kranz explained.

"Mrs. Folz has given students the opportunities to open their minds and their hearts, enabling each to reach his or her fullest potential while fostering a lasting relationship with our Lord," Kranz continued. "Because she works with students as individuals and is consistently fair in dealing with them, they learn that being kind is a good thing, being fair is a good thing, being patient is a good thing, and service to others is a must," Kranz elaborated.

Once again, in her usual fashion, when asked about her Christ-like demeanor and strong faith, Folz avoids credit. "Through a lot of my students and their families, my faith has been enriched," Folz said. "I have learned so much about my Catholic faith by teaching here."

Folz recalled several challenges she has faced over the years, such as losing

Continued on page 9

Faith in God and Love For His Church Brings Catholics To Parish Life For Celebrations



These two pictures from St. Thomas More Parish in Paducah show, in the group picture at right, people gathered for a celebration of the Crowning our Lady in May, 2010. In



the photo above, Father Tom Buckman and Fr. Jose de Jesus from Guadalajara Mexico posed with a wedding party during a celebration in St. Thomas More for a Phelps couple's marriage in July. Submitted by Sr. Imelda Quechol, M.A.G. Hispanic Ministry, St Thomas More Parish, Paducah.

St. Mary High School Senior Attends the National Student Leadership Conference



PADUCAH, Ky. - Taylor Mudd participated in the National Student Leadership Conference (NSLC) focusing on Sports and Entertainment Management this summer at Fordham University. Professionals and professors from top colleges facilitated the program and he participated in work-

shops and classes designed to develop the skills and traits that define a leader.

The students were immersed in a learning environment with other high-achieving students who shared the same drive to succeed. They developed increased potential and new abilities that will assist them in making a positive difference in their communities.

The NSLC is entering its 21st year, continuing with its mission to identify and recognize outstanding young leaders from around the world, and provide them with a unique learning environment that encourages academic achievement along with diversity, cooperation, and social responsibility.

Catholic Schools Office Introduces Six New Catholic Schools Administrators

HENDERSON, Ky. July 30, 2010- Mr. Jim Mattingly, Superintendent of Schools for the Diocese of Owensboro, Ky., introduced five new Catholic School administrators at the Diocesan Professional Development Day at Holy Name School

Beth Herrmann, principal, Christ the King School, Madisonville, has been a member of Christ the King Parish for 12 years. Beth has Undergraduate degrees in Middle Grades Ed. from Western Kentucky University and Health Administration from Western Illinois University. She has a Masters degree in School Administration from Murray State University. Beth Hermann has been a teacher at James Madison Middle School from 2002-2010.

Sr. Vivian Bowles, OSU, is the new Director of the St. Mary School System, Paducah. She earned her Undergraduate degree in education from Brescia University. Sister has a Master of Arts degree in education from Murray State University, an EdS. degree from Western Kentucky University, a EdD degree from University of Arkansas in education and counseling/psychology. Sister Vivian has served for 50 years in education, as an Elementary teacher and counselor from 1960-1973, as a Teacher at Brescia University from 1973-1994, and as President of Brescia University 1995-2007

Stephen Kurt Osborne is the interim principal for Owensboro Catholic High School, Owensboro. Mr Osborne graduated from Brescia with a Bachelor of Arts degree, received a Master's degree at Western Kentucky University. He has over 15 years' experience at Owensboro Catholic High School as teacher of Social Studies, Religion, Science; Counselor; and as Assistant Principal 2 years.

Gina L. Sims is the principal at St. Paul School, in St. Paul, Ky., near Leitchfield. Ms. Sims attended Western Kentucky University, and received a Bachelor of Arts degree from University of South Carolina. She was Program Director of the Child Development Center in Germany, has worked as a Paraprofessional in Florida from 1998-2002, a Special Area P-K teacher in Florida from 2004-2005, and as a Substitute teacher at St. Paul from 2009-2010.

Sandy Fleming is the principal for Holy Name School in Henderson, Ky. Ms. Fleming received a BA degree at Murray



The six new Catholic School administrators introduced during the Diocesan Professional Development Day July 30 in Henderson are from left, Kurt Osborne, interim principal for Owensboro Catholic High School; Sr. Vivian Bowles, OSU, Director of Saint Mary School System, Paducah; Gina L. Sims, principal of St. Paul School, St. Paul, Ky.; Sr Suzanne Sims, OSU, principal of St. Mary of the Woods Elementary, Whitesville; Sandy Fleming, principal of Holy Name School, Henderson; and Beth Herrmann, principal of Christ the King School, Madisonville. Mel Howard Photo

State University, and received a Master's Degree in Elementary Education from Western Kentucky University. She has had 24 years' experience in the Diocese of Owensboro, including teacher at

Catherine Spalding Elementary (10 years), principal of Catherine Spalding School (2 years) and Henry Soenneker School (3 years), and has been teacher at Holy Name School for 9 years.

Educator of The Year ...

By Dawn Ligibel

(Continued from page 8)

both of her parents at different times and when her husband underwent open heart surgery during the past school year. "I know they (her students and families) lift us up in prayer. They support us through good times and when prayer is the only answer," she said.

Building lasting relationships with her students is definitely one of the benefits of teaching at Sts. Peter and Paul all these years. "I look around church at these people (past students) who've grown up. I am proud of them. I am proud of what goes on at Sts. Peter and Paul School," Folz emphasized.

To Folz, teaching at a Catholic school offers many other rewards than just earning a paycheck. "There's more here than just making money," she offered. "Money is definitely not what it's about. The Church is the foundation of the school. We empower our students with traditions of the Church," she explained. "We have the Eucharist," she continued. "Everything we do is centered around the Eucharist. That's what makes us different."

When remembering the many students she has taught over the years, Folz especially enjoys the memories of children who would finally grasp concepts after a struggle. "There's nothing like that feeling as a teacher," she admitted. "I've had that experience many times, especially in reading. You're excited for them. You're thrilled for them because you know they've been trying so hard."

While not all students are necessarily hard working and cooperative, to which any teacher can attest, Folz even remembers the challenging ones with fondness. "You pray a lot," she said with a laugh. "You ask for Christ's help that you will continue to be patient and persevere. You never, never give up," she said with emphasis.

In all of her years of teaching, it actually hasn't been the children who have caused her the greatest challenge. "I'm a student of technology," Folz admitted with a chuckle. To meet the needs of her current students, however, Folz is working to better understand today's technology.

"Mrs. Folz realizes the importance of utilizing instructional technologies into today's classroom and had decided to be 'tutored' this summer to become more

aware of the potential this could bring to her students," explained Kranz. "Mrs. Folz is truly committed to excellence and never loses sight of her students and their needs."

Although Folz earned her teaching education directly after high school, she waited several years before beginning her career. With two young children at home, she waited until they were in second and fifth grade. Her first and only teaching job has been at Sts. Peter and Paul. "I've never considered teaching elsewhere," Folz admitted.

While many teachers strive to move

into administration after several years of teaching, Folz has not. "That does not interest me in the slightest," she said. "God has never called me to be an administrator. God called me to be a teacher. My vocation, my calling has been to teach," she explained with conviction.

Although Folz has no plans to retire any time soon, she admitted that it has crossed her mind "a couple of times." When talking to other teachers, Folz has been told that she will know when it is time to retire. However, "that has not been revealed to me yet," she acknowledged.

Are you a baptized Catholic who has never been confirmed? Are you someone baptized in another faith, but interested in becoming a Catholic? Are you someone who was never baptized? If any of these apply to you, consider our Catholic parish RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) process.

For information, please join us on Wednesday, September 22, 2010 at 6:16 p.m. in the Parish Hall or contact Karen Mayer through email

at dkmayer@brtc.net

1-(270) 488-3886.

Saint Mary Catholic Church, 624 Broadway, LaCenter, KY

1 (270) 665-5551

10 Inaugural Retreat for the The Confraternity of Our Lady of Mercy

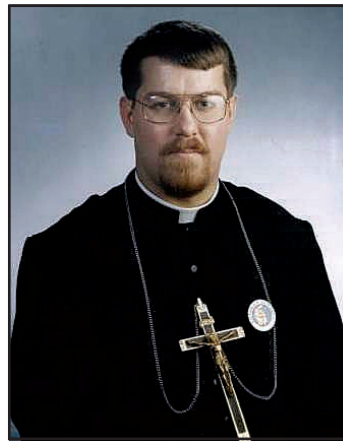
The Confraternity of Our Lady of Mercy is a new organization that is a spiritual union for Catholic women and men who are post-abortive and have turned to the Lord Jesus for forgiveness and healing. It is an excellent way to follow-up spiritually on what we have received through Rachel's Vineyard retreats.

We invite all veterans of Rachel's Vineyard retreats to join us for the very first retreat offered by the Confraternity of Our Lady of Mercy! Let's take the next step together in seeking spiritual healing and holiness!

Our retreat master will be Fr. Ben Cameron of the Fathers of Mercy, who is the founding Spiritual Director for the Confraternity. Fr. Ben is the Mission Director of the Fathers of Mercy, an experienced retreat master, and he also serves as Site Leader

for Rachel's Vineyard in western Kentucky. He will be introducing us to the spirituality of the Confraternity, and leading us in our journey to holiness. The retreat will be a "mostly silent" retreat, with some periods in which retreatants will be encouraged to talk about what they are learning. We will have daily Mass, opportunities for the Sacrament of Confession, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, silent time for prayer and reflection, and several conferences on our spiritual life as post-abortive women and men who are now called to holiness.

This retreat and membership in the Confraternity of Our Lady of Mercy is also open to men and women who, though not personally post-abortive, desire to join themselves in spiritual solidarity with those who are post-abortive.



Fr. Ben Cameron, C.P.M.

When: September 17-19, 2010
Where: Passionist Monastery and Retreat Center, Whitesville, KY
Cost: \$150 per person (double occupancy rooms) [Capacity for 24 persons]

For more information or for a registration form, email Fr. Ben Cameron at: olmercy@fathersofmercy.com

St. Augustine, Reed, Prayer Garden Growing, Brick by Brick

By Tracy Miller
 REED, Ky. - St. Augustine Catholic Church here is embarking on a project to place engraved bricks in the prayer garden behind the church at the entrance to the cemetery. The first order of bricks was installed last fall and another order is being formed, if you or someone you know would like to order more. Individuals have the opportunity to purchase an engraved brick, in memory of a loved one, living or deceased, to be placed in the prayer garden. These standard-sized bricks will



Picture of prayer garden with engraved bricks.

be sold for \$75.00 each. Bricks may be engraved with up to three lines of text, with 12 characters per line (a space counts as a character). More information about this project and order forms may be obtained by calling Martha Miller at (270) 764-1003.

31st Annual Walk for Life



Collect money for this 3 mile event to help support vital work for the Dignity of Human Life!

Individuals raising more than \$50.00 receive a free T-shirt. Youth are invited to create a pro-life t-shirt and wear it to the event. Prizes will be given for the best t-shirt design as well as oldest walker, youngest walker and most \$ raised by an individual and group.

Saturday, September 11, 2010

beginning at

Our Lady of Lourdes Parking Lot

(On Placid Place off South Frederica St.)



The City of Owensboro



Sign-in, muffins, & juice will begin at 9:00 am. Walk begins at 10:00 sharp (break at midpoint).

For more information or for sponsorship forms call the office at 685-4922 or Amanda at 689-9101.



License No. 0290

Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph
2010-11 Quilt Club
tickets are now available!



Sister Mary Cabrini Foushee

You get 12 chances to win a handmade quilt with our Quilt Club annual memberships, available for only \$20 each.

Buy one for yourself and one for a friend!

A new quilt is raffled each month. For details, visit www.ursulinesmsj.org. Click on "How You Can Help" and "Quilt Club Membership"

New Quilt Club drawings begin Oct. 1, 2010.
Order your tickets today!

270-229-4103 ext. 278
tiffany.orth@maplemount.org

MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER

CALENDAR OF EVENTS THROUGH 2010

"GIVE PEACE, QUIET, AND PRAYER A CHANCE"

September

- 12 **40th annual Mount Saint Joseph Barbecue Picnic**
 13-17 Glenmary Retreat
 17-18 Leadership McLean County
 18 First Baptist Church Choir
 21-24 Runaway Quilters

October

- 1-3 **Marian Retreat**
 1-3 Yoga Retreat
 2 Private Wedding Reception
 8-9 United Methodist, Madisonville, Women's Retreat
 10 **Pray at the Rosary Walk**
 (No registration needed)
 15-17 Mount Hope Weekend
 18-22 **New Spiritual Direction Class Starts**
 22-24 Catholic Engaged Encounter
 25-29 Priests Retreat Week

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

To register or to schedule your event, call
Kathy McCarty: 270-229-0200, ext. 413
kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org

The Center is located 12 miles west of
 Owensboro on Hwy. 56

November

- 6-7 Academy for Young Leaders
 12-14 **Thomas Merton Retreat with Fr. Anthony Shonis**
 13 **Yarn Spinners Day**
 19-21 Pax Christi/Women's Retreat
 Lexington

December

- 9 **Advent Day of Prayer**



Mount Saint Joseph
 Conference and Retreat Center

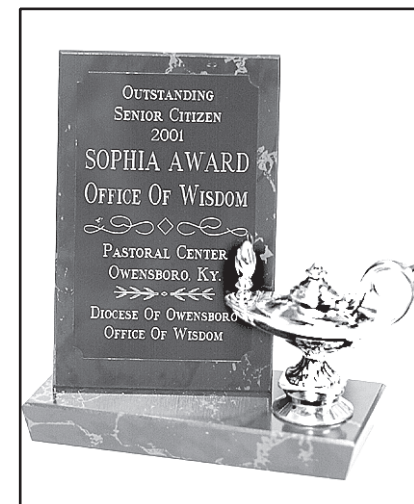
8001 Cummings Road
 Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999
 270-229-0200
 www.msjcenter.org
 msj.center@maplemount.org

Sophia Awards Mass Celebration

The Sophia Awards Mass celebration for senior citizens will be held on Sunday, September 26th at Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Henderson, Kentucky. The celebration begins with Mass at 2:30 in the afternoon and concludes with a reception in the parish hall. All are welcome to come and celebrate God's gift of age at this special annual event.

The Sophia Award is presented to the outstanding senior citizen in a parish who is age 65 or over, and an outstanding Catholic role model.

The deadline for nomination is July 15th, 2010. To nominate a person please send information to Ginny Knight-Simon, Catholic Pastoral Center, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, KY 42301



ATTENTION

St. Joseph/St. Frances Academy Graduates and those that attended the two schools.

Sixth Year Reunion Party – September 11, 2010
 If you have not been contacted by mail and you are

Interested in attending and reminiscing with old Classmates—call one of the following for information.

We do not want anyone left out.

Bill Froelich	685-0215	Gene Higdon	683-1677
Donald Hayden	683-4271	Dolores Wathen	764-1193
Barbara Hurm	683-7689	Charlene Pruden	686-3733



Teacher Returns to Community after 55 Years

By Erv Moore

The Peonia Kentucky School Classes of the mid 1950's graduates, classmates, family, and friends attended a Reunion on Sunday August 1st at St. Anthony Church, Peonia, Ky. The event began with church service, officiated by Fr. Brian Johnson, and a reception afterwards.

The special guest for this reunion was Sister Alfreda Malone, Mt. St. Joseph, KY, their teacher 55 years ago. Sixty odd attendees had fellowship and fun. Sisters George Mary Hagan & Mary Louise Knott accompanied Sister Alfreda. Sister Alfreda's parting comment was that this event was the most enjoyable day in recent memory."

Students of the 1955 and 1956 classes: back row left to right: Sister Alfreda, Carlyon Harp, John Mudd, Joe Pierce, Brenda Pierce, Judy McGrew, Tommy Clemons, Pete Hill, Carol Hill, Burnetta Higdon, Milbrun Higdon, Fred White; front row left to right: Rita Grant, Ralph Pierce, Louis Pierce, Coreen Moore, Linda Pierce, Alfred Grant, Danny Grant. Submitted by Erv Moore

12 A Time Of Witness At Abortion Clinic Changes Hearts

By Kelly Hedges

It's midnight and I can't sleep. My mind keeps returning to the abortion mill, known as the EMW Women's Surgical Center, located at 138 West Market Street, Louisville, Ky.

I feel as if it's imbedded in my head, and I can't stop thinking of it throughout the day, and obviously, the night. I was there on Mother's Day; the one day of the year that we celebrate motherhood and the life-giving love she has for her family; the one day we give tribute to our mothers here on earth and our Holy Mother in Heaven; the one day of the year more clinic escorts, known as "deathscorts," come to the abortion mill to escort the women into the mill to end the life of their child.

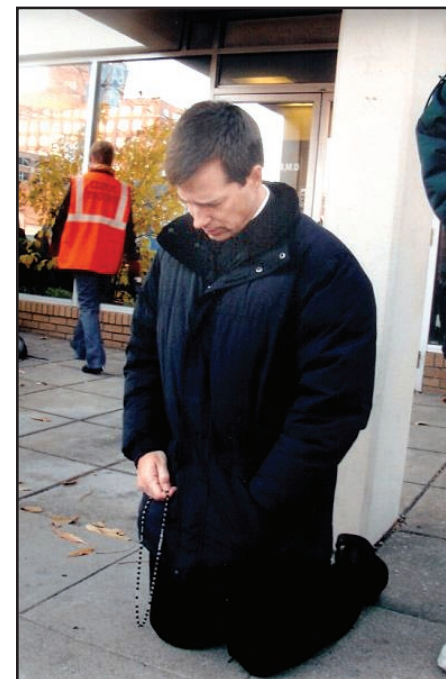
When you go to the mill, it changes everything. It changes your whole thought process about motherhood and fatherhood. A witness visit there gives you a deeper understanding of marriage. It makes you more aware of what is going on around you in your daily life. Somehow those things we think were so important suddenly are not. It changes the way you look at a woman who is carrying

One of the first public appearances in 2007 that Archbishop Joseph Kurtz made was this praying of the Rosary at the EMW Women's Surgical Center, in Louisville. The photos for this article were submitted by Kelly Hedges



At left, Raymond Wethington, Hardinsburg. Phillip Calvert from near Fordsville, and Ed Tate, Hardinsburg make frequent Saturday morning trips to the Louisville EMC clinic on Market Street to pray rosaries and witness for life.

Father Dan Whalen of the Louisville Archdiocese, knelt on the concrete sidewalk outside the Louisville abortion clinic praying Mary's Rosary while he witnesses for life. Any discomfort he may feel he offers up; it is a small moment of pain compared to what goes on inside the clinic.



Editor's Note: The Louisville Helpers of God's Precious Infants is the group that Archbishop Kurtz joins & prays with every few months at the Louisville abortion clinic. They start & end at the Cathedral of the Assumption on the second Sat. of each month. The Louisville Helpers of God's Precious Infants now have a website where you can check upcoming events, print out copies of prayer cards or song sheets, even contact the helpers to sign up to be a prayer soldier, sidewalk counselor or a spiritual supporter during the week. Check it out and let us know what you think. www.helpersloouisville.org



a child, whether that child is in the womb or on her hip. It also changes your relationship with Christ.

When a man and a woman love each other, they want to be with each other always. They love each other so much that they want to create this beautiful human being that is a part of them, that is their own. Their love unites, and a child is created out of that love.

We know that God's love is greater than ours. He loves us so much He allows us to procreate with Him. Imagine the Giver of Life allows us to create life! Yet, we must understand that He allows us this gift for our own good, for our salvation. Children can bring us closer to Christ; they bring us to a deeper relationship with Him. We can accept this gift

People from different faith expressions across Kentucky come to Louisville's abortion clinic on a Saturday morning, rain or shine, wind or snow, to witness for life. Many pray, read scriptures, or simply kneel or stand in silent witness.

or we can reject it. If we chose to reject Jesus' gift of life then we have said no to Christ.

I think of this when I see a woman enter the mill. How she is saying no to Christ! I think of how her whole life will be altered when she allows that Doctor to touch her. I pray for her as she will feel sorrow and sadness, if not on that day of her abortion, then in the days to come. It could take years but it will happen. She will feel remorse, a void. I also imagine what God must be thinking. What must he be thinking of me? What part do I play in this? Am I somehow responsible?

Continued on page 13

A Witness At An Abortion Clinic

(Continued from page 12)

Have I done everything I can to prevent this? What does He want me to do?

Sometimes when I am there at the mill and the women are being escorted in and the sidewalk counselors are trying to get to them to change their minds. People are praying the rosary, and a lady is walking up and down the sidewalk with her bible proclaiming the Word. The “deathscorts” are laughing, and a man is standing on a wooden crate talking about the horrors of abortion. I just want to scream “STOP!”

“Everyone just stop!”
“This is insane!”

But I don’t, it would stop nothing. So I keep praying my rosary, praying for the mothers and fathers and the babies, and the escorts who think they are empowering the women.

Tonight, I think of the Son of God coming as a baby, a baby whose mother said yes, and Mary as a young girl who wasn’t married, who was with child. Yet she said yes. He could have come another way, not through his mother’s womb. Why didn’t he come as a teenager or young adult? No, God sent his son through a family, a mother who carried Him in her womb with care and love with a father who protected them with anticipation. No wonder the womb is under attack. No wonder the evil one hovers at the abortion mill. He is offended that the Savior of all was allowed to be born. He is still offended that each child born to a mother and father plays a role in their salvation. He wants to stop that grace from flowing.

So, I ask myself again what am I doing to stop this evil? What more can I do? What more can we all do? Am I active in some way? Do I pray to end abortion? Do I offer up my sufferings of the day to end abortion? Do I fast? Do I go to the

“It changes the way you look at a woman who is carrying a child, whether that child is in the womb or on her hip.” - Kelly Hedges



Christian parents bring their children to the Louisville abortion clinic at 138 West Market St. to stand side by side with other witnesses who may hold crucifixes, signs, rosary beads, bibles, other prayer aids or public statement signs. People typically arrive shortly after daybreak and witness for several hours. Scott Radke held a crucifix in this photo.

abortion mill to pray? What about offering your Mass to end abortion? Do I vote pro-life or my pocketbook? Do I participate in pro-life activities? Is there a pro-life committee at my church? Do I donate money and time to pro-life activities? There is an abundance of things we can do to end this nightmare. I encourage you to be active. Be responsible for the babies. Don’t just be pro-life when it’s convenient. Be pro-life even if it hurts and it is uncomfortable. If you’re not sure what role you would like to take, call the Right to Life Office at 270.685.4922, or the Diocesan Office of Social Concerns at 270.683.1545, or call your local church.

Kelly Hedges, a member of Immaculate parish with husband Bryan owns and operates Saint Maximillian Kolbe Bookstore in Owensboro.

From the Office of Ecumenism

Special Ecumenical Events Coming in October

By Fr. Tony Bickett, Ecumenical Officer

October will be a special month in the diocese in regards to ecumenism. Two special events will be taking place from grassroots ecumenism. On October 14-15, the Kentucky Council of Churches will be holding its Annual Assembly in Bowling Green. Then on October 16, Brescia University will be hosting “Christian Conversations: Bridges to Visible Unity”. Both of these events will be exciting in our efforts to promote greater visible unity in the body of Christ.

Eight local pastor-theologians will converse about their faith traditions in an historic face-to-face on October 16. Brescia University is the site of this ecumenical conversation. We are pleased to have this level of grassroots cooperation among a diversity of the Christian communities in Owensboro and Daviess County. The eight pastor-theologians include four from Catholic parishes and four from Protestant congregations. Each pastor was eager to participate in this conversation—especially when learning that the goal is a

greater visible unity of all Christians at the grassroots level. The ecumenical movement is shifting from the international and national arenas to the grassroots. This is something we realized in Owensboro, as long as ten years ago with this historic jubilee celebration at the sports center in 2000. These conversations are the next step in helping Christian neighbors and co-workers to know more about one another and to share in a more common expressions of our mutual faith in Jesus Christ.

Each pastor-theologian will address that community’s faith and expression of baptism, Eucharist and ministry. These are the basic elements of every Christian body, so these experts will succinctly and authoritatively set forth their beliefs

Register For



Kentucky Council of Churches

Annual Assembly

October 14-15

First Christian Church
Bowling Green

Registration is \$50

Lodging at University Plaza

Call 270-745-0088

◇HIGHLIGHTS◇

◇ Address by Edinburg 2010

Keynoter Speaker

Dana Robert

◇ Immigration workshops
with Julia Thorne

◇ discernment on statement
on racism

◇ worship led by

Rev Eliseo Mejia

For more information or

to register go to

www.kycouncilofchurches.org

or contact Jeanie Hartman at

859-269-7715

and experiences. Additionally each pastor-theologian “Conversationalist” will give a brief history of the church’s history. They come from a broad field of diversity in the Christian family in Owensboro. Representing Owensboro Christian Church is the Rev Dr. Rick Grover. The Rev. Dr. James Byrd, pastor of Third Baptist Church, will speak from that tradition. The Rev. Dr. Jonathan Eric Carroll, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, will speak from his tradition and the Rev. Dr. Timo Karvonen, pastor of Wesleyan Heights United

Continued on page 14

14 Bill Kuegel Sr. Honored With Lifetime Achievement Award from Diocesan Rural Life Committee

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Bill Kuegel Sr., 86, was honored at the 8th Annual Rural Life Celebration with its Lifetime Achievement Award on August 8, 2010 night at the Sportscenter.

About 500 people attended the event for the 86-year-old west Daviess County farmer who made innovations in getting tobacco ready for market (the Kelly box for stripping tobacco), grew many acres of corn and soybeans, and raised cattle with his brothers on their farms.

"Our soil in this county is some of the best in the nation," Kuegel told the crowd. He and his brothers rented a lot of farm acres through the years. Kuegel said, "we took care of their farm land just the way we took care of ours."

Charlie Kamuf told the audience that Kuegel, his longtime friend, is at his best when working and being involved in farming and the agribusiness community. Kuegel's names appears on several buildings dedicated to agribusiness throughout the commonwealth. "Bill always told me, 'I want to die with my boots on,'" Charlie Kamuf said.

Kamuf quipped that Bill Kuegel was "always for the underdog, but he liked to snuggle up to the big dog! He is a good listener, loved to make land deals. Bill never saw a good farm that he didn't like, even in France"

Kamuf described Kuegel as always the last one to get his plate at dinners, "He would say that he 'didn't get to see these people very often, and I don't want to miss speaking to any.'"

Master of ceremonies Rick Kamuf, also a Daviess County farmer, described Kuegel as disciplined but "ornery," too, at times. His by-line when he heard of an idea or a new project was "How can we get this done?"

"I never heard Bill use the word 'I.' He always used the word, 'We,'" Charlie Kamuf said. "He was always positive. I never heard him use the word 'can't. It was always, 'How can we get this done?'"

Several people spoke about Bill Kuegel; Bishop emeritus John J. McRaith spoke of his many years' friendship working with him on the Brescia University Board of Directors. Kuegel also served on the Kentucky State Fair Board, advisory boards for the University of Kentucky, Western Kentucky University and Georgetown.

Some of the most moving speeches of the evening came from Kuegel's daughter, Marsha, who delivered her poem for her father about all the times he taught her life values. "When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw the joy in your face when a calf was born from a crippled cow that only you would save. I learned that all life was to be treated with respect and dignity."

Two young farmers with families spoke of how Kuegel helped them buy their first farms



"Can't Do Without Them!" (- Joe Elliott)

Making the Rural Life Celebration such a success as it is requires work from a lot of people to prepare the foods and the room, as well as serve the people at dinner. Above are some of the ladies from the farming community who prepared the room, supplied and worked the dessert table, and served the barbecue chicken dinner. At left are Joyce Yeiser, Sharon Beyke, Hope Brey, Mary Sue Elliott, and Sissy Ethington. Joe Elliott Photo



Bill Kuegel's daughter, Marsha Carenter, left, and his son, Rod Kuegel, at right, listen to a speaker honoring their father August 8 in the Sportscenter. Mel Howard Photos

because he knew them to be good farmers and family men. Clint Hardy and Brad Stephen each spoke of how Kuegel had helped them, and with their families present, they thanked him.

Charlie Kamuf may have summed it up for the hundreds of farmers present this day to see Bill Kuegel receive his award when he said about knowing and working with him, "How lucky can I be? He has been my partner and friend for more than 40 years, has been a major influence on my life. His gift of an unflinching friendship has made a big difference in my life."



Bill Kuegel thanked his many friends August 8 for working together with him and for honoring him with an award.



Bishop emeritus John McRaith conferred The Diocese of Owensboro Rural Life Committee's Lifetime Achievement Award to Bill Kuegel on August 8, 2010, in Owensboro

From the Office of Ecumenism

(Continued from page 13)

United Methodist Church, will present from the Methodist perspective.

Each Protestant pastor-theologian will speak for 45 minutes to be followed by a Catholic response of about 15 minutes. Following the two conversations, questions from those assembled will be part of the conversation. The event is being sponsored by the diocesan office of Ecumenism and is being co-sponsored by Brescia University, Kentucky Wesleyan College and the Kentucky Council of Churches—the first such event in history, itself a sign of the greater visible unity of the Christian family. We have four major Christian institutions working together, in Owensboro, for a greater visible witness. We need to be talking and listening to one another; this is a structured way to have informed conversations face-to-face and first-hand. The event, to be held in Brescia's Campus Center Study Pavilion (second floor), begins at 8:00 AM and ends at 3:30PM. A box lunch will be available for \$5 encouraging participants to converse informally around lunch tables about how all of us can make Christ more visible. We have room for only 100 people so people need to register as soon as possible. People can register by calling Debi at (270) 771-4438 or by emailing me at ftonyb@yahoo.com. For more information, call me at (270) 756-2356.

Eight Golden Jubilarians Celebrate Service as Sisters of Charity of Nazareth



Servant Leaders in Ministry

SLIM Award Winners for Saint Michael the Archangel, Oak Grove, posed with pastor Father Dave Kennedy after a weekend liturgy. Above, posing with Father Dave is SLIM Award winner Victor Mallari with his sister, Juvii, and his parents Angel and Victoria Mallari.



Amanda Viendl posing with Father Dave in Saint Michael Church, Oak Grove. Submitted Photos



The Eight Golden Jubilarians for 2010, Sisters of Charity of Nazareth: Top left to right – Molly Thompson, SCN, Elizabeth MacDougall, SCN, Louise Smith, SCN, Mary Susann Gobber, SCN; Bottom left to right – Ignatius Maria Barbour, SCN, Mary Margaret Cooper, SCN, Julie Driscoll SCN, Patricia Huitt, SCN

Submitted By Mary Johnson

Eight Golden Jubilarians gathered at Nazareth, Ky. the weekend of July 16-18 to celebrate 50 years of service as Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, SCNS: Betty Mcdougal, Ignatius Maria Barbour, Julie Driscoll, Louise Smith, Mary Margaret Cooper, Mary Susan Gobber, Molly Thompson and Patricia Huitt. Molly Thompson served at St Mary, Whitesville, St. Ann, Morganfield, and Holy Name Henderson. Sr. Maggie Cooper, native of the Diocese served at Brescia (College) University as Director of the Ministry Formation Program.

The group met Saturday afternoon for a mini-retreat with Emily Nabholz, SCN. The Julilarians were invited to share on the theme "Gratitude," a very appropriate theme for this occasion. Each one offered many examples of people, ministries, personal experiences, changes, and challenges in her life and gave thanks.

On Sunday, July 18, eleven former members joined them for Liturgy and dinner. It was a joyous occasion for the entire, SCN Community. The readings and music for the Liturgy expressed their commitment to the SCN Mission throughout their 50 years:

a call to service and trust, teaching the Gospel, listening to God, and responding in word and action.

Sr. Maggie Cooper continued her Jubilee celebration on July 24 at The Church of the Immaculate in Owensboro with family, special friends, and former mentors and co workers. The liturgy was followed by a lunch served by the women of Immaculate Parish, another joyous event for Sr. Maggie before she returns to Belize and her ministry of teaching at St. John Catholic College in Belize City.

Mary Johnson [johnson-scn@yahoo.com]

Blessing of the Pets 2010

Bring your pets of all sizes, shapes, and breeds to the annual Blessing of the Pets. The blessing takes place in Brescia's Quad on Monday, October 4 at 5:30 pm, the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi. Last year we had 76 humans in attendance and over 40 pets!



Animals Rejoice and Be Blessed!
Pets get unconditional love at church blessing.
A Holy Pause for Paws.

Louisville Marian Center Conference

Catching the Vision:
For Such A Time As This

October 29, 30 & 31, 2010

Fern Valley Hotel & Conference Center
2715 Fern Valley Road Louisville, KY 40213

Speakers: Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC
Fr. Mark Baron, MIC
Fr. Scott LeMaster
Jerry Morin, Speaker & MC

For more information or to register contact:
The Marian Center

165 Sears Avenue Louisville, KY 40207 (502) 899-5125
Email: themariancenter@insightbb.com
www.thelouisvillemariancenter.org



16 Spiritual Direction Institute 2008-2010 Graduates Anointed

MAPLE MOUNT, Ky. - On July 9, the seven members of the 2008-2010 class of the Spiritual Direction Institute completed the requirements of their two-year program and were certified as spiritual directors. The participants took part in an anointing ceremony at the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center Chapel to bless them and send them on their way.

Registration is still open for the 2010-2012 Spiritual Direction Institute which starts in October. For more information, contact Sheila Blandford at Mount Saint Joseph at 229-0200, ext. 427.



Sister Elaine Burke anoints Bonnie Trachsel, of Danville, Ky. Sister Elaine is a member of the coordinating team for the Spiritual Direction Program.

Ursulines say farewell to Glenmary priests, seminarians

MAPLE MOUNT, Ky. - A five-year chapter in the history of Mount Saint Joseph came to a close in May. Since 2005, the novitiate program of the Glenmary Home Missioners was located at Maple Mount. Led by Father Dave Glockner and assisted by Father Tom Kirkendoll, both Glenmary priests, the program brought new seminarians to the Motherhouse each summer.

The Glenmary novices spent their time at the Mount focusing on God and growing in life in God through prayer and the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience. According to the Glenmary website, first-year novices also study the Glenmary oath, charism, history, constitution, and directory. Following their year at Mount Saint Joseph, the novices spent a second year in a supervised ministry in a Glenmary mission before taking their first oath.

Glenmary priests and brothers serve in counties where less than three percent of the population is Catholic and where the poverty levels are twice the national

average. Their novice program is being moved to Cincinnati.

Besides leading the novitiate program, Fathers Dave and Tom also celebrated most of the daily Masses at the Motherhouse Chapel during their time at Maple Mount.

A farewell dinner for the Glenmary priests and current novices took place May 13 in the Motherhouse dining room. The Glenmary novices in attendance were Clive Otieno and Eric Okeyo, both from Kenya, who had been staying at Maple Mount since July 15, 2009. They are the fifth group of Glenmary novices to stay in the Bethany house at the Mount.

The farewell reception included prayer, the Ursuline Sisters recalling memories of the Glenmarys, cake, gifts, and a personalized song written by Sister Mary Louise Knott featuring the men's names that the sisters sang to the tune of "Edelweiss" from "The Sound of Music."

Several sisters said they would miss having the international presence that the novices brought to the Mount.



The Glenmary priests and novices gathered for a farewell reception at Mount Saint Joseph. Pictured, left to right: Father Tom Kirkendoll, Clive Otieno, Father Dave Glockner, and Eric Okeyo. MSJ Photo



Pictured, first row, from left, Sue Provost, Brother Benedict L. Robert, and Sister Martha Keller; second row, Kim Kaberle, Sister Sandy Sherman, Kathy Sarver, and Bonnie Trachsel; top row, the coordinating team of Sister Elaine Burke, Sister Marietta Wethington, and Sister Ann McGrew.

Betty Medley Leaves Diocesan Staff

(Continued from page 6)

Although Betty is very close to Bishop-emeritus John McRaith, she says that her career change has nothing to do with his retirement. "I just love Bishop McRaith!" she exclaimed. "I remember when he hired me. He is the most compassionate, humble man. His door was always open... it was an honor to work with him." She went on to share how McRaith had been a part of her children's First Communions, Confirmations, graduations, and weddings, and how he showed great compassion when her mother passed away, making the effort to call her and say a Mass for her mother, even though he was out of town.

Betty would like to see all of the programs she ran continue after she leaves, but hopes her successor will put special emphasis on marriage preparation, since there is such a great need for it in today's society.

Betty considers both Project Rachel and Once More With Love her greatest accomplishments. Although Project Rachel was already up and running in the

diocese when she came into the Family Life Office, she put a lot of energy into it. At one time, there were up to 23 women participating; at present there are 13. She and Father Ed Bradley worked together to create Once More With Love for divorced couples waiting for a declaration of marital invalidity and who wished to remarry in the Church. The first conference drew 40 couples and it is now offered three times a year.

The diocesan staff held a goodbye Mass and brunch for Betty on July 29. As they gave her a card and a token of gratitude, she thanked all of them for their friendship and support throughout the years. "Thanks to each and every one of you for making this transition easier for me. Your words of encouragement and guidance mean so much."

Patty Blair has agreed to serve as interim director to allow for more time to research and to further plan for the Office of Family Life. Charlotte Hedges will continue to maintain the day to day office activities.

Catholic Engaged Encounter

For those who are serious about their marriage preparation

Weekend dates, 2010

October 22-24, 2010, 2011; February 4-6, 2011;

April 1-3, 2011; October 14-16, 2011

Contact your parish or the Diocesan Family Life Office for more information.

Being a Teen Volunteer at Vacation Bible School



Charlotte Morris
Photo by Cecilia Morris

By Charlotte Morris
WHITESVILLE, Ky. - Summer is a busy time of year, isn't it? One thing that has always made my summer busy is Vacation Bible School.

Up until two years ago, I was one of the students. Now I am a volunteer. I prefer working a station instead of a class, especially music! It takes a lot of work to learn the themed songs and dances, but it all pays off when I get to teach the kids. This year I was working music with my aunt and uncle, Kristi and Jeff Kellogg, my friends, Katrina and Ethan Rhodes, and their aunt, Dottie Pogue.

This year the theme was "Boabab Blast: God's Great Get together." We started with an Opening Celebration, in which we talked about the work, saint, animal, and Bible passage of the day. Monday's word was Trust, with Faye the Zebra, Saint Clare, and the story of Abraham traveling to Canaan. Each day also had specific songs which reminded us of the word or story of the day.

After that, the classes went to their stations. First, everyone had music together. There, my friends and I adorned each other with face paint (to look like native African warriors) and taught the classes the songs and dances for the day. After music, they all got in their groups and went to their stations, such as Snacks, Small Group (where they learned about the Bible passage), Crafts, Games, and

their classrooms. Sister Karla Marie Kaelin, O.S.U. had carefully planned a neat schedule so that there was no confusion.

We were visited on two of the days by our parish priest, Father Dave Johnson, who led us in the morning prayer. Sister Suzanne Sims, O.S.U., (the principle of St. Mary's Grade school) visited us also.

On Thursday, we ended the week with a picnic of hot dogs, chips, cookies, and Kool-Aid. We ate outside, sitting on blankets, in front of the parish hall.



Xavier Morris dancing.



VBS Youth volunteers Jennifer Haynes, Charlotte Morris, and Katrina Rhodes. Monica Morris' Photos

After that, we gathered together with parents and grandparents to watch a slide

show of the whole week. Robin Beatty took the pictures and put together the slide show for all to enjoy. We ended with the dismissal, and the helpers and teachers stayed afterwards for clean up.

It was a very fun week for the volunteers and students. What some people don't realize is how many people it takes to put together a vacation bible school. We had people who could only stay for a few hours each day, or only a few days,

but just their presence for that amount of time helped everything run smoothly. Being a volunteer at your parish's vacation bible school is a way to get involved. As a teenager, I realize that many kids my age think that they don't have the time, or talent to work. Some just think that it is embarrassing, especially working in music! Yet, its not embarrassing. Your working in bible school could touch a child forever.

I would like to thank those who worked at the St. Mary of the Woods bible school. Thank You.

Monica Morris photos this page.



St Mary's pastor Father Dave Johnson joined the dance.



Above, Charlotte Morris led dancing with her sister, Gianna, and at right, painted Cecelia Morris' face at Saint Mary of the Woods parish Vacation Bible School in the Parish Center.



Matthew Mills and Blaise Morris make friends at Bible School.



18 Whitesville Trinity Lady Raiders Varsity Places Third in Lexington's Bluegrass Games



Whitesville Trinity Lady Raiders recently competed in the Bluegrass Games in Lexington and finished third in their tourney. The Varsity team pictured consists of (from front left) Kelsey Armes, Amanda Roby, Chelsea Howard, Liza Howard, Brett Roberts, and Tori Lanham. Back Row... Coach Adam Huff, Sophie Henderson, Cadie Williams, Tara Medcalf, Katelyn Howard, Jamie Mattingly, Kalie Winkler, Coach Richard Armes and Coach Shannon Payne. Photo submitted by Lisa Armes

Saint Mary Students Work with School Officials to Feed Those in Need

PADUCAH, Ky. As a Junior at St. Mary High School here, Sarah Hendley, worked with school officials and students during the last week of school to raise \$336 to feed those in need at the local Community Kitchen. Both middle and high school students were allowed to wear orange, the color of world hunger in exchange for donating \$2.00 to the cause. The remainder of money was raised through outside donations and she was able to provide a check for \$400 to the Community Kitchen where she worked to prepare and serve food with other members of St. Thomas More parish on Thursday, May 27, 2010. Sarah noted that those that are hungry may live just down the block, rather than in another country. She also witnessed that many children were in need because school was out for the summer.



In photo above, Sarah Hendley providing a \$400 check to the Community Kitchen Thursday supervisor, Emma Dixon, to feed 200 in need. In photo at right, from left, St. Thomas More parishioner volunteers Ernie Mitchell, Bill Halicks, Sheree Halicks, Diane Hesley and Sarah Hendley prepared and served the food. Submitted by Missy Eckenberg.



Journey into Faith with Thomas Merton

Weekend of November 12-14, 2010

Retreat Director: Fr. Anthony Shonis

Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center

To register, contact Kathy McCarty, 270-229-0200 ext. 413

Retreat begins at 6:30 p.m. Friday. First meal is Saturday breakfast.

Retreat ends after breakfast on Sunday.

Cerulean, Ky., Resident to be Bright Light in Times Square 19



HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. - A young member of the Sts. Peter and Paul parish here, Gabriel Lukas Elijah Thomas Hale of Cerulean, KY, will appear in lights on Broadway on Saturday, September 25, as part of the National Down Syndrome Society's video production to demonstrate that people with Down syndrome can be successfully included in community activities, education and employment.

The photo of Elijah Hale, who has Down syndrome, was selected from over 1,000 entries in the NDSS worldwide call for photos. Approximately 225 photographs will appear in a video production to be shown on the larger-than-life MTV plasma screen, located in the heart of Times Square.

Elijah is pictured with his sister, Grace-E, giving "monkey sugars" to everyone. He is the 2 1/2 year-old son of Scott Hale and Lela Rose Hale of Cerulean, Ky. Elijah is the youngest of eight siblings, which includes five older brothers

Elijah is pictured with his sister, Grace-E, giving "monkey sugars" to everyone. Submitted Photo

and two older sisters.

The video presentation, produced by NDSS, illustrates children, teens and adults with Down syndrome working, playing and learning with friends and family.

The Times Square video production kicks off National Down Syndrome Awareness Month, which includes the 2010 Buddy Walk®. The Buddy Walk® was established in 1995 by the National Down Syndrome Society to promote acceptance and inclusion of people with Down syndrome and to celebrate Down Syndrome Awareness Month in October. This year, walks will be held in more than 275 cities across the country, as well as many international walks. For information about National Down Syndrome Awareness Month or the NDSS Buddy Walk®, visit www.ndss.org or call 800-221-4602.

About NDSS

The National Down Syndrome Society is a nonprofit organization with more than 350 affiliates nationwide representing the 400,000 Americans who have Down syndrome. The mission of the National Down Syndrome Society is to be the national advocate for the value, acceptance and inclusion of people with Down syndrome. The National Down Syndrome Society envisions a world in which all people with Down syndrome have the opportunity to enhance their quality of life, realize their life aspirations, and become valued members of welcoming communities.

St. Anthony Of Padua Parish Celebrates Year Of The Priest in Grand Rivers, Ky.

By Helen Krivan, Parish Historian

GRAND RIVERS, Ky. - The Parishioners at St. Anthony of Padua Church here had the pleasure of honoring three priests at the 6:00 pm Mass on June 5, 2010 followed by a pot luck dinner.

The parishioners had the distinct honor of honoring, from left to right in accompanying photo, Father Frank Roof, Chaplain at Lourdes Hospital in Paducah; Father Tony Stevenson, Pastor; and Rev. Msgr. George H. Hancock, Parish Founder and Retired Pastor

Each of the priests received gifts from the Parish as an expression of appreciation for their many years of dedicated service to the Diocese of Owensboro and for the joy they bring with their vocation to those that they serve.



St. Thomas More Youth Attend Lifeteen Leadership Conference

PADUCAH, Ky. - St. Thomas More youth including Rachael Guess, Emily Ebelhar, Michael Langston, Mary Farrell, and Adam Holtgrewe attended the Lifeteen Leadership Conference at Benedictine College in Atchison Kansas with Fr. Daniel Dillard and Nicole Strasser as chaperones. It was an awesome week full of inspiring talks, sports, food, and moments of intense prayer. Through this experience, the youth who attended were strengthened in their knowledge of leadership and passion for following Christ.

In the photo, from left are Nicole Strasser, Director of Youth Ministry, Emily Ebelhar, Mary Farrell, Rachael Guess, Michael Langston, Adam Holtgrewe, and Fr. Daniel Dillard ready to load the bus for the Lifeteen Leadership Conference in Kansas. Submitted by Missy Eckenberg



20 Father Ray Goetz is new Motherhouse chaplain

MAPLE MOUNT, Ky. - When Father Ray Goetz was being taught by Ursuline Sisters at St. Martin Parish in Rome, Ky., he never dreamed he'd someday be the chaplain at the Motherhouse.

"The Ursuline tradition was such a part of our family," he said. "I've known them all my life."

His mother attended Mount Saint Joseph Academy in the 1930s, and two of his sisters did as well. His great aunt was an Ursuline, Sister Mary Eulalia Blandford, who died in 1950.

He had many Ursuline teachers at St. Martin, and his two favorite are still with the community - Sister Clarence Marie Luckett, a religious presence in Caneyville, Ky., and Sister Rose Marie Craycroft, who is retired to the Motherhouse.

Father Ray, who started his new assignment on June 15, will serve as pastor at St. Alphonsus Parish across the highway from the Mount, and he will also teach theology half-time at Brescia University.

He is saying daily Mass at 7:15 a.m. at the Motherhouse Chapel instead of at St. Alphonsus, because it would be difficult for some of the sisters to make it to Mass across the highway and up the hill, he said. He is living in the St. Alphonsus rectory on Cummings Road.

Father Ray considers preaching to be his strongest gift as a priest. "It's the most important job a priest has," he said. He just celebrated his 29th year as a priest.

His service to the diocese has included stops in Whitesville, Morganfield, Grayson County, Western Kentucky University, Fancy Farm, LaCenter, Murray, Stanley, and Reed, and three times to Bowling Green, most recently Holy Spirit Parish, where he spent the past year.



Father Ray Goetz

Wisdom

By Ginny Knight Simon

Robert & Simone Taylor
St. Leo Parish
Murray, Kentucky

I recently met with Robert and Simone Taylor, on a very hot afternoon, at their beautiful home in New Concord, Kentucky.

Simone Delosier met Robert Taylor in Paris during World War II. "I was working in a little restaurant in Paris," said Simone. "One of the other soldiers bet him (Robert) \$50 that he couldn't get a date with me." Robert smiled and said, "Yes it's true." He was having a meal with some fellow soldiers when the bet was made. Well, Robert got the date, the fifty dollars, and he and Simone have been married some 61 years.

"Those were very difficult, fearful times, during the War and Hitler's rule," said Simone. "In 1939, we had very little or no food during the German occupation. The soldiers would march in and take everything and almost all the food. They had to supply their posts with what they took. They were just trying to stay alive too. I remember the terrifying air raids. Most of the time people think of England when you talk about air raids, but Paris had them too. During this time we packed up and walked all the way across France to the countryside. It was safer and the food was better...more healthy," Simone explained with a beautiful accent. "My father was taken to a P.O.W camp when I was young. While he was gone my mother died. When I was small my father was a chef and worked for a cruise boat. He was the chef in the kitchen where I worked when I met Robert."

Robert was an officer in the CID (Criminal Investigation Division) for the Army. "We usually ate our meals separate from the big mess hall. You didn't want to have lunch with someone and have to arrest them later," said Robert.

Robert who is originally from Cincinnati, Ohio tried to enlist in the Army but was told he was too young. When he reached age 18, he was drafted. He was in the Army for 23 years all over Europe and also was in Korea. "We moved here in 1960. I was with R.O.T.C at Murray (State University).

"We dated about 2 years when we married. We had our marriage blessed twice, once in France and once here," said Simone.

Simone has one sister who still lives near Paris, France. "We were Catholic but we weren't taught by the nuns. We didn't go to school on Thursdays back in those days so we went to the nuns' house and they taught us our Religion lessons. On Saturday mornings we would go and they would teach us things for homemaking. I really loved it," said Simone. "I was always envious of Robert because he got to go to Catholic schools."

The Taylors had five sons. "We lost two of our sons to cancer in 2009...5 days apart," said Simone. "It is still so hard..." They have 9 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

When the weather isn't so hot, Robert likes to fish and they have a boat docked just out back. Simone likes to crochet, knit and is in a Mahjong club. "We love St. Leo's parish. We have been members here since 1960. The members are just good honest people and they are good friends and always ready to help. We are very thankful to God for our health and our family," said Simone.

I asked Robert if there was anything he still did that was carried over from his time spent in Europe. "I don't drink tea. Simone gave it to me all the time when we lived in Europe...no coffee. I won't drink it now," Robert said smiling, as we drank our tea and he his ice water.



Sister Margaret Ann in Memphis

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Ursuline Sisters
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Young Catholics Performing One of the Fourteen Works of Mercy ²¹



Members Of the Saint William, Marion, Parish Youth Group: from left, first row: Zac Paris, Lilly Watson, Ben Paris, Austin Lane, Kollin Graham; second row: Taylor Fritts, Ava Henry, KenLee McDaniel, Noah Watson, Rene Fritts, Kaylee Graham; third row: Brenden Phillips, Emeline Ojeda, Dylan Fox, Darren Fox, Jeanette Phillips, Kim Rieke, Kara Phillips. Submitted by Jeanette Phillips

Submitted by Jeanette Phillips MARION, Ky. - The Saint William Youth Group here spent a spring afternoon cleaning, polishing, replacing flowers, and picking up fallen tree limbs in the church's cemetery. This care-taking is an annual service for the group, and it reinforces the importance of sharing of time, talent, and treasure within their home parish, and puts big smiles on their faces.

Editor's Note: Catholic Christians believe in performing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy which promote spiritual welfare.

The corporal works of mercy :

- To feed the hungry;
- To give drink to the thirsty;

- To clothe the naked;
- To harbour the homeless;
- To visit the sick;
- To ransom the captive;
- To bury the dead.

The spiritual works of mercy:

- To instruct the ignorant;
- To counsel the doubtful;
- To admonish sinners;

- To bear wrongs patiently;
- To forgive offences willingly;
- To comfort the afflicted;
- To pray for the living and the dead.

Burying the dead and caring for their graves out of Christian faith comes under the corporal works of mercy. This can also be done prayerfully on behalf of their redemption. The physical deed is a corporal work of mercy, the prayer a spiritual work of mercy.



Kara Phillips, left, got a hand in cleaning this tombstone from Noah Watson and KenLee McDaniel.



Therese Watson helped clean a grave marker in St. William Church cemetery in Marion.

In Your Charity, Pray for the Repose of the Soul of Angela Wethington, SCN.

Angela Wethington, SCN, formerly Sister Marie de Paul Wethington, 89, daughter of the late Paul Volk and Anne Murphy Wethington, members of St. Anthony Parish, Brown's Valley, Ky., died at Nazareth Home, Louisville, Ky., on August 11, 2010. She had been a Sister of Charity of Nazareth for 62 years.

Sister Angela served in the apostolate of elementary and secondary education in Kentucky, Ohio and Tennessee. In the Diocese of Owensboro, Sister Angela taught at St. Joseph School, Bowling Green, and St. Mary High School, Paducah. Sister also served as Administrator of Hillcrest Nursing Home, as Pastoral Associate in Immaculate Parish, and in Health Care Ministry in Mercy Hospital, Owensboro. At Nazareth Home Sister served in the apostolate of prayer.

Survivors include one sister, Rita Husted of Denver, Colo.; many nieces and nephews, and her religious community.

The Funeral Mass was celebrated August 17, 2010 in St. Vincent Church, Nazareth, Ky., followed by burial in Nazareth Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to SCN Missions, P.O. Box 9, Nazareth, KY 40048.



Who Is My Neighbor?

By Mel Howard

WHITESVILLE, Ky. - One of the stories which Jesus told was about a man who asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?" Jesus told him a parable about a good Samaritan who helped a man on the road and went out of his way to find comfort and healing for the man, and did not expect any reward for it. A sign of the identity of early Christians was to see how the followers of Jesus took care of neighbors. This past spring and summer there have been several signs for all of Daviess County to see how Christians love one another.

As reported in this paper in April, 2010, the Catholic communities of eastern Daviess County led a drive to build a new home for the Scott and Charlotte Johnson family in Whitesville. The group gained the name of "Angels for Ashley" as they organized to help the Johnson family care for their 10-year-old daughter Ashley, who is severely disabled and confined to a wheelchair. According to organizers, Ashley was diagnosed with a seizure disorder and infantile spasms at 3-months-old. Recently she was diagnosed with Lennox-Gastaut Syndrome and severe epileptic encephalopathy. The family says it's harder to care for her without the proper tools.

Jerry Morris, owner of Morris Construction Company and Whitesville's Mayor, Mike Nugent, came together and asked several people to help with a project. These people organized under the name, Angels for Ashley, and have held BBQ cook-off festivals, pie baking contests, a Corn Hole tournament, always with live music and other events at the home of Jerry and Vickie Morris.

Jerry Morris described the process by which these acts of Christian caring and compassion keeps happening. "The circle of



Mark Perez, left, and his brother-in-law Dwayne Hagan teamed up for a game of bean bags at the June 12 fund raiser in Whitesville. Mel Howard Photo

giving," he said, "keeps coming around." Morris explained how he saw a circle of giving in his own life begin as helped his Dad, the late John Aloysius (Tom) Morris, a plumber by trade, donate many hours and days of time and materials to help people, poor no not, who needed work done in their homes. "John Tom has been my inspiration," Morris said. "On the night that Dad died, I was running a backhoe digging the foundation for the Johnson family. It's what Dad would have been doing in my place. Dad was always right there to help out, didn't matter if the family could pay him back or not. I grew up seeing him do these things, and I worked alongside him, as did my brothers. The Man upstairs was leading him and us. And in the work for the Johnson family, the Man was leading us, looking out for me. After the first newspaper story about the first BBQ Cookoff for Ashley, I stayed on the phone for three days talking to people who called asking how they could help the 'Angels for Ashley' effort. The circle of giving kept coming

Members of the Msgr. Hugh O'Sullivan Knights of Columbus Council of St. Mary of the Woods Parish, Whitesville, Jerry Morris, left, and Kenny Nash, center, made sure that David Nash got the barbecue dip right for the June 12 barbecue fundraiser for the Mark Perez Family. Mel Howard Photo



Vicki Morris was the personification of Jesus' friend, Martha, as she was busy working to provide for her guests in her home on June 12, 2010, who came to support the Mark Perez family fund raiser barbecue and music festival. Mel Howard Photo

Now, Scott and Charlotte Johnson live in a new home designed for taking care of Ashley. Morris said that after the many little miracles of the circle of giving he saw coming from business owners and people who contributed money, materials, and services for building the Johnson home, enough money was left over to start the Angels for Ashley Foundation, led by Jerry and Vickie Morris, and Ashley's aunt, Michelle Payne, who has acted as the public relations person for Ashley's Angels. Morris said, "The need has to be there," for the foundation to get involved. As a group, they observe needs in the community, pray for what to do, and then they act, a method of Christian caring Morris learned when he made his Cursillo in the 1980s.

Cursillo, described as a short course in Christianity, started in the Diocese of Owensboro in 1969 with priestly leadership from the first Western Kentucky Cursillo spiritual director, the late Father Charlie Fischer. Cursillo guides men and women to observe, judge, and act during a three-day retreat experience. Since then, hundreds of Western Kentucky Catholics have gained the spiritual graces to make a return to God a portion of what He has given for the benefit of all. Cursillo's Fourth Day Community stay in touch with this spirit through reunions. Cursillo's gifts get in one's blood whether or not one is active in



Dwayne Knott of Saint Lawrence parish keeps busy making burgoo for fund raisers to help families in need. Here he stirred burgoo June 12 at the Jerry Morris barbecue for the Mark Perez family. Knott is also a member of the Trinity High School Board. Mel Howard Photo

the Fourth Day gatherings; the observe-judge-act process of Christian caring becomes a method of stewarding God's gifts. Anyone who has been through Cursillo is considered a Cursillista. After making a Cursillo and living in the Fourth Day, cursillistas, as Cursillo retreatants call themselves, can't help it; they must make

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Women Who Sew

Francine Wright of Saint Lawrence Parish, makes a lot of quilts for the Parish picnic raffles. Here Francine was working on a quilt square, part of a quilt she would donate for a raffle to benefit the Carly Roby family. Francine also has a Rosary prayer ministry for many petitions. Mel Howard Photo

Who Is My Neighbor? *(Continued from page 22)*

a return to God, give back something to the church, and be a friend by bringing a friend to Jesus. Often, a cursillista can be found quietly leading a small group of Christians who help their neighbors in need.

This is how Angels for Ashley started a second family benefit effort on June 12, 2010 which they call "Pass The Buck," a fund raiser for the Mark and Janet Perez family, also of Whitesville. After suffering a knee injury in a motorcycle accident years ago, Mark Perez, 46, a team leader for Owensboro Grain Co., has undergone two knee surgeries, the most recent one leaving him in a cast with no knee, and in January, he was terminated from his job. The Perez family have met increasing difficulties making ends meet, and the Angels for Ashley Foundation got involved through the efforts of a friend, Chuck Hagan, an Owensboro fire fighter, who was with Mark Perez at a recent fund raiser for an injured firefighter. Hagan saw the same need in the Perez family, and asked Mark if he could help.

It is not an easy thing for a man and family used to making their own way come to accepting help; it has to be a graced moment, a humble acceptance of how life is, and a decision to be a cheerful receiver of God's gifts from the hands of friends and neighbors. Mark and Janet thought it over and accepted Hagan's offer to join with Angels for Ashley in fund raising efforts for them.

Mark Perez said that he was glad to help out the firefighter who needed some help, and when Chuck Hagan asked if he'd let people help his family, it was a little hard at first to say yes. "But I realized that just as we had this firefighter's back when he needed help, these guys knew I would have their back if it was them. So, we agreed. When I can, I will be there for these guys, too; they know that I will have their back just as they're doing for us."

And that is how the "Pass the Buck" idea began. The foundation had some dollars left over from the Johnson family fund raising, and agreed to sponsor a barbecue at Jerry and Vickie Morris place on June 12 to benefit the Perez family. They had to cancel the barbecue twice because of rain, and June 12 was a challenging day because of a church picnic and other family gatherings in the community, but the Angels for Ashley Foundation held a successful fund raiser with six cooking teams and one burgoon team joining local musicians to provide food and entertainment for about 100 people at the Morris home. Jerry Morris said, "Peo-

ple got good music, and good food, and all we asked was for them to consider making some donation to the Perez family. Everybody has to eat today, so why not help somebody else while doing it?" The support came from the Catholic community, mostly living in eastern Daviess County,

That same Catholic community got involved with a third fundraising effort toward the end of June and July as they responded to appeals from family and friends of the Dustin and Carla Roby family to help the Robys pay bills for medical expenses to care for their infant daughter Carly who was born with Anophthlamia, a rare disorder with no cure where both eyes are absent. Carly has been under treatment of doctors at Kosairs Childrens Hospital in Louisville. The eastern Daviess County Catholic parishes of Saint Lawrence, Saint William, and Saint Mary of the Woods hosted a bake sale called Cookies for Carly with proceeds to benefit the Roby family. By the weekend of July 12 the three parishes had collected almost \$5,200. A "Caring For Baby Carly Benefit" was held on July 31 near Saint William Church. The benefit day featured a raffle of donated items along with good food. Is is a safe bet that many of the same cursillistas and Catholic families who joined hands to help the Johnson and Perez families were right there on July 31 helping the Roby family.

Some unheralded heroes need mentioning in this story about Catholics answering the question, "Who is my neighbor," as Jesus taught in the parable of the Good Samaritan. In the background of all these fund raisers, guiding and inspiring, has been the example of Catholic fathers and mothers who have gone before us; Ashley's, Mark's, and Carly's angels have all been following their Catholic parents example of faithful stewardship learned from a lifetime of religious education, mainly from good Catholic priests who have pastored the Catholic parishes of eastern Daviess County. By their continuing ministry among us as men of prayer and service to God's people, Catholic pastors have been centrally involved in helping these fund raisers happen as they teach that we Catholics are asked to recognize neighbors that we may have never seen before. One of the pastors, Father Dave Johnson of St. Mary's, Whitesville, wrote in his July 11 parish bulletin, "... we are asked to see our neighbors and reach out in mercy. Mercy doesn't ask 20 questions ... The Lord calls us to live with mercy not judgment, with compassion, not self-righteousness. This is how to 'inherit eternal life.'"

Memorial Day Tribute Mass in St. Lawrence Cemetery Recalls 'Great Sadness' of Soldiers' Sacrifice and Loss of Life of Unborn Babies



Father Pat Bittel celebrated Mass Cemetery at the veterans memorial and the Memorial for the Unborn in the Saint Lawrence Cemetery on May 31, 2010. He asked participants to "be people who work for peace." Mel Howard Photo

By Mel Howard

Pastor Father Pat Bittel directed about 100 St. William and St Lawrence parishioners gathered at the veterans memorial and the Memorial for the Unborn in the Saint Lawrence Cemetery on May 31, 2010 to "be people who work for peace" as the Catholic community gathered to honor those who have died in defense of our country in wars.

Fr. Pat said, "In today's gospel, we are guided to live our lives according to the plan of God, not Man, to proclaim the Truth of the Gospel to the world."

He spoke of why the community gathered in the cemetery on Memorial Day: " We're here to honor the dead who've gone before us, to honor the great sacrifices they made. Also, in the culture of death in which we live today in this country, we are in another great war against the unborn children, a war in which the number of victims grows every day. We remember today the 4,000 lives lost in this war every day. We don't see their names (on these grave markers) because this culture of death destroys them before they are ever born because of a lack of responsibility.

"May God forgive us for our lack of appreciation for life," Fr. Pat prayed. "May we continue to fight for the lives of the unborn. Remember our dead here today. And remember that here in this place of burial for the dead that we celebrate their lives and pray for them as they are with God today."

Lori Dant, 23, played Taps on her trumpet after the final blessing and sending forth rite of the Mass. As the musical notes of Taps rang out loudly and echoed back from the surrounding trees of the cemetery, the people bowed their heads. Some military veterans saluted the US flag flying over the monuments in St. Lawrence Cemetery. Some wiped away tears as the traditional dirge ended.

One St. Lawrence parishioner, Francine Wright, said, "When that trumpet sounds out Taps across the cemetery, it really gets to me. I feel a shudder go up and down my back. And I remember why soldiers died for us, and I just pray that very soon we will see an end to the great sadness of abortion in our country."

Editor's Note: Due to space limitations, we could not bring you pictures about the Caring For Carly Benefit in this issue. We are working on an article for the October, 2010 issue about this effort to support the Dustin and Carla Roby family.

24 Sister Martha Keller helps build a home in Mandeville, Jamaica

Special to the Western Kentucky Catholic

Ursuline Sister Martha Keller spent May 25 to June 1 in Mandeville, Jamaica, on a mission trip with members of the social justice committee from St. Francis de Sales Parish in Paducah, Ky. Their mission was to build a house for a woman named Marian and her two sons. Below is her account of the trip.

Note: Sister Martha serves as the pastoral associate for St. Francis de Sales Parish in Paducah. She is also the new director of vocations for the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph.

"I stated as I was leaving that I wanted to be a part of the mission trip to be immersed into the life of the poor. I was eager to return to the country where I had been in March 2008 and felt totally embraced by those who in the world's view possess very little materially, but who are so richly blessed. They possess a spirit of gratitude, deep faith and dependence on God, and pure goodness.

"I knew from the previous experience that the most challenging part of the week would be not to allow the intensity and depth of poverty overwhelm me and keep me from enjoying the beauty of each person I encountered. My hope was to get to know the group from the parish who were my missionary/companions and to experience whatever God placed in my path with a deep reverence. I knew that I was called to be a part of the group, not to make a difference for the people of Mandeville, but to make a difference within me personally.

"Immediately upon seeing Rannie, Meeckus, Ivy, Navedette, Rosie, and the pastoral staff that the people of Mandeville are more alike than different from me. We are all children of God, but I knew that I needed to remain open to experience not what I could do for them, but to accept with gratitude what they offered and showered upon me. As I began the mission trip, my prayer was that the Spirit of God would move among us and touch each of us in the areas we needed. I prayed that we would meet Christ specifically in the people and the service we offered. I was not disappointed. I ask God to remove the obstacles within me. Open my eyes that I might truly see God's plan and purpose. I asked that God might light up the darkness of my heart, and use me.

"I have to admit that this second trip was very different from my first introduction to Mandeville. Both were life altering and I don't think after such an encounter with 'goodness' and 'holiness' which I experienced in the people of Mandeville that you can ever be the same. The first



Sister Martha visits with Ms. Ivy, one of Mandeville's most senior residents. Sister Martha brought her a rosary, and blessed it at Ms. Ivy's request. MSJ Photo

trip was a powerful enculturation with poverty. Mandeville has a type of poverty that I have never encountered, but I was accompanied by my own sisters in community and with those who shared a common desire to discern possible ministry sites in the future. This second time, I was excited about the opportunity to have the chance to serve the people. It was so rewarding to be a part of St. Francis de Sales Parish mission experience of building a home for Marian and her family. I never knew I was capable of driving a nail, much less climbing on a tall ladder to paint the side of the home or sharing in the final result of erecting a house. What a tremendous experience of community that was created in such a short time of working side by side, playing and praying with the other nine parishioners and the gentlemen who supervised our work.

"The first day was a wonderful introduction into the history of the diocese. Deacon Hendriks was very gracious and interesting and as several in the group mentioned we could have listened to him all day. I think this is an invaluable part of the mission experience, for you get a sense of the culture and other important data that put the experience into perspective.

"However, the group was very excited about getting to the housing ministry in Manchester. The family greeted us warmly and we immediately began carrying our supplies down the hill to the building site. You would have thought we knew what we were doing, but we were tenderly guided and supervised well by the gentlemen in charge. They definitely had a mission and did it very efficiently. The day was full, there was much enthusiasm and hard work. I was very impressed by the way everyone pulled together and accomplished so much.

"The next day we were very disappointed about the rain storm, but because it was God's plan to gift Jamaica with the blessing of rain, something that the people needed and longed for, we tried to view the rain as the people of Mandeville do, and recognize it as a blessing. The rain water was caught and used for their livelihood. Rannie immediately rearranged our schedule and we headed to another new experience, to work on the prefabricated lumber. We were able to prepare enough walls for three more homes. Even though we knew we would not be able to erect them, it was wonderful knowing we had contributed to three more families having a new home.

"The tour of St. John Bosco Home for boys was quite an experience. I found it difficult as well as comforting to realize that about 160 boys, ages 6-18, were living there to be educated and learn a trade. The Mercy Sisters are doing a tremendous ministry with the young boys who obviously have need for structure and discipline and most of all love. All three elements were evident. The gentleman who served as our tour guide, Jamar, was delightful.



Sister Martha holds one of Mandeville's youngest residents. MSJ Photo

He was very intelligent, articulate, and grateful. My eyes filled up with tears as he spoke so sincerely and honestly about the Mercy Sisters. He said, 'The sisters do this 24/7 and they get no money for it. They do it out of the goodness of their heart. But God blesses Sister Susan every day.' What a tribute to the ministry that happens there at St. John Bosco Home from one who knows first hand.

"On the third day, we visited Our Lady of Hope Children Home. I was overwhelmed and concerned by the children and the lack of stimulation and guidance there. There is such potential there and my heart was burdened by what they did not have. I am sure that people are doing the best they can with limited funds and resources, but there are great needs there being unmet from an outsider's view.

"The next place we visited was Mary Help of Christians Nursing Facility run by the Missionary Sisters of Charity. There were 69 residents and the care and love showered on each of them was evident. The sisters are much more than caregivers for the residents. They are truly an inspiration as they are obviously instruments of God's healing, peace, and love for those who are abandoned by family. It was a grace being among the residents and sisters!

"On Sunday, we worshiped at St. Margaret Mary Lionel Town and the sisters were very warm, loving, and hospitable. The worship time was very prayerful and moving. The hearts of the people were faith-filled and joyous as experienced in their music and prayer. The sisters invited us to their home and shared their story. They have accomplished a lot since my last visit and I was excited along with them that they are able to start Grade 3 in September. It is obvious that they are sacrificing a lot and being blessed by the acceptance of the people because of their marvelous ministry.

"As an added blessing, the group was able to work in a short visit with Ms. Ivy, Navedette, and Rosie. We had some specific items for Ms. Ivy and one was a new rosary. As soon as I told her she asked me to bless it. This was a new experience for me. But I was honored to place the rosary in her hands knowing that this "saintly" woman of faith would pray many prayers for others with the new rosary. What a grace to be with

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PRECIOUS BLOOD PARISH 50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Looking Back
With Gratitude...



Looking forward
With Hope...

Sunday, September 19, 2010

1:00 p.m. Mass

2:00 p.m. Acknowledgements and Recognition

2:30 Meet and Greet the Former Priests, Religious and Teachers

3:30 p.m. Outside Activities

5:00 p.m. Cookout

RSVP: Debbie Sapp

Call 170-495-3473 or E-mail dasapp99@yahoo.com

Sister Martha Keller *(Continued from page 24)*

both Rosie and Ivy! God uses so many avenues to reveal his love and grace!

"On Monday, we went back to the housing ministry to complete the house. It was once again a marvelous display of teamwork and determination. At the end of our work day, Marian and her son Andrew, along with her sister, received the keys to their new home. It was very moving. There were many tears shed of joy and a dream fulfilled. Rannie took me by surprise and asked me to say a prayer of blessing and present the keys to the families. I barely got through it -- it was such an honor to be part of making Marian's dream a reality. I will never forget her face, she was glowing like a bride on the day of her wedding, and the missionaries from Kentucky had a special glow of gratitude as well!

"The closing ritual was very powerful as we were presented a rock with a word and were invited to use the word in describing our experience. My word was 'happiness.' It was very appropriate for I was more than happy to have the opportunity to return to Mandeville -- 'come soon' which is the unique saying of



Sister Martha Keller, OSU (foreground), an Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph, paints the tin house that she and the members of St. Francis de Sales social justice committee in Paducah built for Mandeville, Jamaica resident Marian and her two sons.

the people of Jamaica. I did! And come soon I hope again in the future. The experience was more than I could ever imagine. I received so much more than I

New Ursuline Leadership Team Installed 25



The members of the new Leadership Team for the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph were installed on July 18. Pictured, from left, Sisters Sharon Sullivan, Julia Head, Kathleen Dueber,

Rita Scott, and Nancy Murphy. Each sister carried in a flower signifying their special gifts, and each put their flower in a vase in front of a picture of Saint Angela Merici.

MAPLE MOUNT, Ky. - The five new members of the Ursuline Sisters Leadership Team were officially received into office on July 18, before a packed Motherhouse Chapel.

Sister Sharon Sullivan was installed as congregational leader, with Sister Julia Head installed as assistant congregational leader. Sisters Kathleen Dueber, Rita Scott, and Nancy Murphy were installed as councilors.

Standing before the congregation with flowers in their hands, each signifying their unique strengths, the new team heard these words from the outgoing leadership: "On behalf of the community, we accept with gratitude the gifts you bring to your six years in community leadership." The rest of the Ursuline community then said, "We, the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, welcome and affirm you as our leaders for 2010-2016. May God be with you and Saint Angela guide you."

The new team each put their flowers

in a vase before a picture of Saint Angela Merici, the Ursuline founder, and received hugs from the outgoing team. The outgoing team then took their seats among the congregation and the new team sat in the first row to the left of the altar, the official leadership seats during all community Masses.

Bishop Emeritus John McRaith gave a brief homily, thanking both leadership teams on behalf of Bishop William Medley, who could not attend, and thanking the entire Ursuline community for "making such an incredible difference in western Kentucky and so many other places in sharing the good news with others."

Sister Sharon offered her reflection on the day's readings and related them to the coming years for the Ursuline Sisters. She called on the sisters to immerse themselves in God's love and step beyond what they know about life, much the way Martha was instructed by Jesus to be more like her sister Mary in Luke 10:38-42.

gave. My prayer has been richer as I continue to unpack the experience and discern God's plan for me. I know that our sister Diocese of Mandeville is doing tremendous ministry for the people of God and I am grateful that our paths crossed and perhaps God willing I pray, we will meet again."

Sister Sharon Sullivan, O.S.U., surprised by endowed scholarship at Brescia

Sister Sharon Sullivan was expecting to reunite with some of her former students at a small reception May 13 at the Brescia University School of Education.

Instead, a steady stream of well-wishers joined her for an announcement of an endowed scholarship in her honor, "In recognition of her dedication and service in the field of education on a local, state, and national level."

"I just thought it was going to be a little reception," Sister Sharon said.

Sister Sharon left Brescia this summer to become the congregational leader for the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph. Plans for this scholarship began when she was promoted from chairwoman of the School of Education to interim academic dean and vice president of academic affairs in August 2007, a position that became permanent in January 2009.

"The School of Education got it rolling," said Tina Wolken, coordinator of early grades education and special education at Brescia. "We've been working on it for two years. It wasn't just because she was leaving Brescia."

Brescia requires at least \$10,000 to be raised before a scholarship can be endowed, but Wolken said the goal is to raise \$50,000. Interest off the endowment will be used to help Brescia students.

The reception was held in the Curriculum Resource Center in the School of Education, a place where students gather to study or relax, said Mary Alice Wethington, the office manager for the School of Education. When Brescia students return in the fall, the CRC will be renamed for Sister Sharon, Wethington said.

Sister Sharon was working for the Girl Scouts in 1972 when she met Ursuline Sister George Ann Cecil, then head of the



Sister Sharon Sullivan, right, receives well wishes from one of her former students, Brescia graduate Stacey Freels, during a reception May 13 at the Curriculum Resource Center at Brescia University. (Seated in the back is Amy Payne, a longtime special education teacher). An announcement was made that an endowed scholarship had been set up in Sister Sharon's name. MSJ Photo

special education department at Brescia. Sister George Ann inspired her, and Sister Sharon attended Brescia to get her teacher certification in special education, graduating in 1975.

She taught special education in a public school for several years before joining the Ursuline Sisters in 1981. She began working at Brescia in 1984 as director of residential life, but soon was teaching special education courses. Other than the three years she spent working on her doctorate in special education at Purdue University, she has ministered at Brescia ever since. She became chair of the School of Education in 2004.

Sister Sharon began serving her six-year term as congregational leader on July 18.

Franciscan Federation Honors Sister from Owensboro

The Franciscan Federation Annual Conference was held July 28-31 in Buffalo, New York. During this event individuals were recognized as "Passionately Embracing Gospel Living." Nominated by the Holy Cross Sisters USA Province headquartered in Merrill, WI, and receiving the award was Sister Mary Angela Sackmann, SCSC, from Owensboro, Kentucky.

Sister Mary Angela entered Holy Cross Convent in Merrill, WI, on September 14, 1946, and made her First Profession on July 17, 1948. She is a native of Deer Creek, WI. For the past two years she has ministered in Calvert City, and most recently ministers to those in need in Owensboro, Kentucky, along with Sister Joelle Mauer, SCSC.

According to the Holy Cross Sisters, Sister Mary Angela has been alive with passion all sixty-two years of her religious life. Most recently, in her retirement years, she left comfort and started a new ministry to the poor in a rural part of Kentucky. She has been living Gospel values all her life. This could be seen by her compassion and understanding of youth, evident while teaching grade school children; her untiring care and compassion show in her ministry to the elderly sisters as their coordinator; her dedication to her ministry in pastoral care; and her mentoring and guiding of a Third Order Regular Group of Lay People. Angie well deserves this recognition of a lifetime for being a beacon of hope, trusting in her God to help her live



Sister Celine Goessl, provincial of the USA Province (L.) with Sister Mary Angela Sackmann at the Franciscan Federation Annual Conference, Buffalo, New York. Submitted by Russ Mancl, Director of Communications, Holy Cross Sisters USA Province

fully the Gospel values.

The criteria for selecting honorees included, Sisters and Brothers who:

- are alive with passion,
- allow the light to shine through them with radiance, transparency, clarity, and optimism,
- are a beacon of light for others, especially the marginalized,
- witness to the challenge and power of gospel values in daily living,
- live in a way that speaks of the importance of "being and presence," not solely on "doing."

URSULINE SISTERS & ASSOCIATES DAY



In the picture at left, Owensboro Bishop Emeritus John McRaith, left, talks with Ursuline Associate John Wood of Barlow during Associates and Sisters Day July 10 at Mount Saint Joseph.

At right, Charlotte Paez and her husband Gustavo Paez, of Beaver Dam, Ky., smile during Associates and Sisters Day at Mount Saint Joseph. The gathering of all Ursuline Associates takes place once a year. Many associates also hold group meetings in their own cities or counties. MSJ Photos



Sailing the High Seas Was a Worthwhile Trip: Thanks to All the Hands on Deck 27

By Drew Hardesty, DRE
Our Lady of Lourdes
OWENSBORO, Ky. -

It seems that in my short term of ministry at Our Lady of Lourdes that there are quite a few unsung heroes. They don't get the attention they deserve, nor do they seek it. There is just a strong sense of humility in this parish that definitely keeps me grounded. So for one small aspect of my ministry I'm going to shout their names to the mountain tops! I'm going to brag on every one of them! Will they like me spreading their good deeds? Probably not, but how can I keep silent about such a wonderful community? They deserve it and without them our Vacation Bible School would not have been a success.

Our theme this year was Group's High Seas Expedition. I must begin with the beautiful backdrop that looked exactly like a ship at sea. Stephanie Higdon has been my "go-to painter" for projects like VBS and she has never ceased to amaze me. Our backdrop looked so wonderful that Masonville Baptist Church asked if they could use it for their VBS. Then the lady from their church called me wanting to know if they could lend it to another church in Ohio County! Way to go Stephanie! This thing was so awesome its probably still floating around some church somewhere on the west coast by now (surely).

Next I would be remiss if I didn't mention the many volunteers it took to put on this VBS. People like Aaron Aud, Emily Oberst, Grace Gerald, and Joe Ceballos who put in a lot of sweat to build, paint, and construct this VBS. Then you have the group and station leaders that directly ministered to the kids: Freda O'Bryan, Martha Horton, Elaine Robertson, Pat Mehlinger, Brandi Oberst, Bailey Davis, David Gehring, Sr. Mary Thomas Simon, Trenton Ackerman, Jenny Hudson, Jane Lanham, Audra Foster, Amanda Johnston, Cassie Stelmach, and Nancy Neal. Even the youth showed up in numbers to offer their support: Dillon Schueler, Leslie Wilson, Caroline & Chandler

Head, Matthew & Abby Tichenor, Nathan & Patrick Lasley, Rachel, Trey, & Isaac Hamilton, Regan Neal, and Olivia & Alexa Foster. And where would our focus be without the wonderful snacks filling our bellies? Thanks to Angie McCarty, Rosalyn Carter, and Chelsea Bland we were all able to focus on God's word that week. Finally, instead of CD music, we used a live band this year. The kids loved it! Heather Hayden, Logan Haire, Trenton Ackerman, Alex Priar, Molly Tichenor, Mason & Logan Reynolds, and Alex Lawless put on quite the concert.

So was it worth it? Was it necessary to mention all those names? Yes! That's just it! If it were not for all those



Ahoy Matries, Sailing the High Seas! What a great trip! Decked out in sailing hats, the VBS group got into the varied group activities; above: Sr. Mary Thomas Simon (left) and Jane Lanham (right) sing and dance with their crews in the front row; and below, girls playing under a parachute.

Photos by Drew Hardesty



First Mate and chief swabbie Fr. Brad Whistle keeps the parish ship on a level keel while at sea and in the barbor.



The live band who played music for Our Lady of Lourdes' Vacation Bible School was something new this year, and went over really well. Heather Hayden, our music minister, helped out along with Logan Haire, Trenton Ackerman, Alex Priar, and Molly Tichenor.



awesome parishioners the VBS would not have been worth it. What about the kids? You could tell it was worth it in the little girl who whispers excitedly to her grandmother during the second reading that Sunday, "We learned about Paul at VBS!" It was worth it in seeing their faces light up while hearing the Bible stories. It was worth it in the hugs and handmade cards that were given out on the last day. It was worth it in the many thanks that were said by parents to me (which should have been directed towards the volunteers). Most importantly though, you could tell it was worth it in the fellowship that was shared while sailing the beautiful pages of God's word. What a great trip.

Brescia's Alumni Best of New Orleans Trip

There's still time to register for the 5-day trip to New Orleans this fall, October 21-25. The cost per person is \$998 and includes round trip Amtrak train tickets in sleeper cars, four nights accommodations in the heart of the Arts & Warehouse District, minutes from the French Quarter (prices based on double-occupancy), breakfast daily, three lunches, and two dinners. You'll tour a plantation, attend Mass at St. Augustine Church, a guided tour through the city, and experience a narrated swamp tour. Call Faith in Travel at 270-389-1002 or e-mail info@faithintravel.com today - Space is Limited!

St Francis De Sales Parish's Mandeville trip was our chance to serve the people

By Edie Keeney

St. Francis de Sales Parish of Paducah was planning an immersion trip to Mandeville, Jamaica. I was one of the fortunate people who was asked to make the trip. I had never been to Jamaica and didn't know much about it so I went to the Internet.

Mandeville is located in the Blue Mountains with a cool climate (70-75 degrees during the day and 65-70 by night) and incredibly beautiful scenery. The island of Jamaica achieved its independence from England in 1962. It is a parliamentary democracy, modeled after that in England. Jamaica is the 3rd largest island in the Caribbean, 51 miles wide and 146 miles long with a population of about 2 million with Catholics between 2% and 3%. In Mandeville, there might be as many as 10 to 13 small churches in a single mile and most are non-traditional and Old Testament churches. 90% of the population of Jamaica consists of descendants of native Africans plus several small East Indian, Chinese and European minorities. The official language is English but "patois" is the common language of the people

Historically, the economy has been agriculture; the major crops are sugarcane, fruits, coffee, bananas, and rum. In the 1950's Jamaica became one of the top producers of bauxite and alumina that is mined from the red earth of the Mandeville countryside and used to produce aluminum. That and tourism fueled economic growth. However, in 2009, 3 out of 4 of the bauxite mines suspended operation causing a downturn in the economy. Jamaica now has the second lowest economic growth in Latin America and there is large-scale unemployment and underemployment, especially in Mandeville.

Our group left on May 26 to return on June 1. I was privileged to have spent that week working with and meeting some truly incredible people. We visited a nursing home for men and women who had been abandoned, spent a day with children at an orphanage, toured a boys home, attended Mass at a local church and met two very special people, Ivy and Rosie. The devotion of the missionary sisters at the places we visited was so very evident; they were totally committed to the people they were helping.

There was such a loving spirit within our group and an eagerness to offer the work and ourselves to improve the life of the family for whom we were building the house. Lest you think all we did was work, we also went on a Safari Tour on



A group photo of those who made the mission immersion trip to Mandeville, Jamaica from Paducah: back row from left, Jamie Mills, Dan and Karen Kelly, Marcia Harbison, Allyson Humphrey, Edie Keeney, Sr. Martha Keller, O.S.U., Marian and her sons; front row, Susan Myrick, Stephanie Elder, Darlene Dreyer. Submitted Photo

the Black River, and got close but quite safe to some crocodiles, ate at a seafood restaurant, swam and relaxed at the beach and did a little shopping in Mandeville.

The experiences we had will always be with us and change us in many ways. It would have been impossible not to have been aware of the disparity between all of us and the people we met. They have so little, and yet are blessed with the gifts of gratitude and joy for what they do have. They thanked us for everything we did for them but the truth of the matter is they gave greater gifts to all of us.

In Their Own Words ...

"If I could find one word to describe the experience, I would choose "perspective." The trip was not just a visit to a cultural site or a few places on the island. We were truly immersed in the culture of the Jamaican people of Mandeville. The journey transformed each of us in different ways ... changing our perspective on the world at large and on our own private worlds." - **Darlene Dreyer.**

"This had to be the most rewarding experience in our lives. We were so touched by the people we met and this was an experience we will never forget. The Jamaican people kept thanking us for what we were doing for them; we felt that we should thank them for what they

"Every day of the trip the Lord spoke to me. I was filled with apprehension and anticipation because I had never been on a Mission trip before and did not know what to expect. I am still flooded with feelings and a longing to go back. I don't want to forget how fortunate I am and what a nice life I have. I want to always share with others what I can, not just my money but mostly my time and sincerity. We finished the house for Miriam and her boys. We worked so hard, or hard for an office worker, but to see that little house we built and the smile on her face was worth every minute." - **Susan Myrick.**

"The visits to St. John Bosco Boy's Home, the orphanage and the nursing home constantly reminded me of the huge sacrifices that the people were making to keep them up and going. I have such a deep respect for all of them. After seeing how the children and the elderly in those facilities live I have learned not to let small annoying things in my life bother me. I know that the people there are fortunate to have someone to love and care for them but I left wishing we could do so much more. What wonderful people the Jamaicans are." - **Allyson Humphry.**

"I found the experience to be one of the most meaningful of my life. I met interesting people in both heartbreaking and uplifting situations. What I witnessed there changed my perception of poverty, and it changed my perception of my ob-

Continued on page 29



A picture of the finished house. Submitted Photo

Paducah Parish's Mandeville Trip *(Continued from page 28)*

ligation to my fellow man; but most of all, it changed my view of the Catholic Church. I left Mandeville with a greater appreciation for the role the Catholic Church plays throughout the world in meeting the needs of the less fortunate. I tend to localize my faith. In other words, I thought of my "church" as the big building on Broadway in Paducah that I go to once a week. The Catholic Church is so much more than that. When I was in Mandeville, I saw how integral the Catholic Church is in caring for people who have no one else to care for them. I came back with a great desire to do the kind of good work that I saw being done in the diocese of Mandeville." - **Jamie Mills.**

"My favorite part of the trip was building the house for Marian and her 3 boys. The first day we pulled up and saw the concrete slab down a hill, we were taken aback. By the end of the week we were sad to leave. It was hard work but the most rewarding experience of my life. Since I was the leader of the group, I had

the great pleasure to present Marian with the keys to her new home. She cried, gave me a hug and whispered in my ear that she would never forget us. For the first time in my life, I felt like I was in the right place at the right time. That was truly where God wanted me to be. The trip helped me realize the needs in other parts of the world as well as the needs here at home. We have already planned to collect as much as we can for the container that will be sent in the fall. I am not the same person I was before. I am stronger, wiser and even closer in my relationship with God." - **Stephanie Elder.**

"I knew from a previous trip to Mandeville that the most challenging part of the week would be not to allow the intensity and the depth of poverty to overwhelm me and keep me from enjoying the beauty of each person I encountered. My hope was to get to know the group from the parish who were my missionary/companions and to experience whatever God placed in my path with a deep reverence. My first trip was powerful enculturation, but I was accompanied by my own sisters in community and those who shared a common desire to discern possible ministry sites in the future. This second time, I was excited about the opportunity to have the chance to serve the people. It was so rewarding to be a part of building a home for Marian and her family. I never knew I was capable of driving a nail much less climbing on a tall ladder to paint the walls or sharing in the final result of erecting a house. The whole experience was more than I could ever imagine. I received so much more than I gave." - **Sr. Martha Keller.**

"I was most impressed that Jamaica's population is less than 3%.



St Michael Archangel Parish VBS

Almost fifty parish youth along with twenty volunteers attended Vacation Bible School at St. Michael The Archangel Catholic Church the week of July 26th. The five day program focused on Bringing the Mass Alive, and culminated with the attendees performing the song "Jesus I Adore You" at Sunday Mass for the rest of the parish.

I am so proud that we as Catholics are there to serve. The sole purpose of being there is to help others. It does not matter that they are not Catholic, but that they are people in need. I am so proud that we offer that kind of support. That is true Christianity." - **Marcia Harbison.**

You, Too, Can Go On A Mission Immersion Trip To Our Sister Diocese of Mandeville in Jamaica. *Here's How:*

By Richard Murphy

The Diocese of Owensboro has enjoyed a Sister Diocese relationship with the Mandeville Jamaica Diocese since 2002. We can see from reading about the experience of the team from St. Francis de Sales Parish in Paducah when they went to Jamaica that this relationship is still changing people and making a difference.

How about you? Would you also like to be involved in some way in this relationship? You can, you know. Here is how:

First, the Diocese has a team planning to go on a Mission Immersion trip from October 12 to 18, 2010 and there happen to be some more slots available. Information about the trip appeared in the August issue of the WKC. Please make reference to that material or call Richard Murphy at the Catholic Pastoral Center at 270/ 683-1545 for more information no later than 9-9-10.

Second, a collection of goods is underway for our Sister Diocese through the month of September and early October. Parishes or groups can partner for meeting the needs of a Parish or Institution in the Mandeville Diocese. Please email Richard Murphy at richard.murphy@pastoral.org for options available to choose from to sponsor. Also there are dates when the goods received will be prepared for shipment via a Food for the Poor container. Volunteers are needed to help at 1001 West 7th St in Owensboro. Here are the dates you can choose to volunteer:

- Tuesday, September 28 from 1:30 PM to 4:00 PM
- Wednesday, September 29 from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM
- Friday, October 1 from 1:30 PM to 4:00 PM
- Saturday, October 2 from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM
- Monday October 4 from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM
- Wednesday, October 6 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM
- Thursday, October 7 from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM
- Friday, October 8 from 8:00 AM to 12:00 AM (Note: the tentative Loading Day)

Finally, Bishop Tiedemann from the Mandeville Diocese is scheduled to visit the Owensboro Diocese from 10-4 to 10-8-10. He will be in several locations in the Diocese visiting. (Note: more information will be shared as known.) If you get a chance to meet and greet Bishop Tiedemann, then please do so.

The power that your choices hold

Editor's Note:

Near the end of June, I received a letter for Father's Day; with it, a note:

"Enclosed is a letter written by my daughter who is going through kidney failure. She was unable to drive to get her father a Father's Day Gift. Instead, she printed a page from her journal and gave it to him as gift.

"As you read it, I hope you will find it as moving and inspirational as we did. It was the best gift any father could every get from his daughter.

"I am asking if you could publish this in the Western Kentucky Catholic with hopes to inspire others with the faith that our 26 year daughter has. We are so proud of her."

Thank you and may God bless you.
Kathy and Mike Shaver, Owensboro, Ky.

By Amy Shaver

Life isn't fair. Whether you want to blame your circumstances, your parents, or even God himself, the fact that we are not promised or given fairness in life really is not debatable.

It seems that so often we spend time lamenting this fact instead of accepting the reality. The truth is that sometimes good people are dealt blows that they in no way deserve while others who make horrible choices seem to live life in carefree abundance. It isn't fair and something deep within us wants to cry out at the injustice of it all. We desire to rage and rant and somehow, through sheer force of will, make life "fair" for ourselves and those we love.

There is value in being honest about how we feel. There is value in recognizing that we do not live in a world where justice prevails. However, the truly important things in life are dependent upon what we do at this point of recognition.

I am 26 years old and have believed

in God with my whole heart for as long as I can remember. I have never willfully hurt anyone else. I've never done drugs, smoked cigarettes, or even drunk a glass of wine. I have spent my life trying to love other people and trying to help them understand how much God loves them. I am not perfect or saintly, I'm not even really to be commended, but I think most people would consider me one of the "good" guys. I'm 26 years old, but I was only 12 when I was diagnosed with chronic kidney disease.

Words like kidney failure and transplant did not

led to other countries, loved deeply, laughed with precious friends, felt the love and support of family, seen people set free from the pain of their past hurts, watched as miracles happen in my life and in those around me.

Yes, I was robbed at gunpoint. When I left the store, perfectly safe and sound, I looked in the sky and saw the most beautiful rainbow. It was a gentle reminder to me that God has promised to keep me safe.

Yes, I had a bad car accident. I was rear-ended by another car traveling at 70 mph and almost every window was busted out in my totaled car. Yet, I walked away without a scratch. It was a reminder that only God holds life and death in His hands and that He watches over my every move.

Yes, I may have spent a lot of time

in hospitals but I have never spent a night alone. This reminds me that God will send people into our lives to bring comfort to us during our times of greatest need.

And yes, right now I am waiting for a kidney transplant, and it isn't very much fun but I know that I can do it because of someone else that I have been blessed to have in my life, my dad.

24 years ago, when I was only 2 years old, my dad was diagnosed with cancer. He was 23 at the time he was diagnosed, and he fought the battle for his life with bravery and courage. He had not traveled the world or seen much beyond his small hometown but he chose to fight... for himself and for me. God blessed us all by bringing healing to Dad and I will never forget the day he came to my high school and spoke to my biology class about his experiences with surviving cancer. I remember thinking how proud I was to have my dad come to school and I will always hold onto the sweet memory of him standing healthy and happy in front of my class and telling us all that "attitude is 95% of the medicine."

Although this is the mantra that helped my dad beat cancer all those years ago, he has continued to live his life from that perspective and it is from those very words that Dad taught me life's most important lesson: no matter

what happens, you always have a choice about how you respond.

You can choose to see the robbery, or you can meditate upon the rainbow. You can choose to fear the danger, or you can believe that God can do miracles. You can choose to live under the label of a diagnosis or you can embrace living your life to it's fullest each day. You can think of it all as incredibly unfair or you can embrace the blessings in the midst of your pain. You can become bitter or you can grow stronger.

My Dad has set the example for me my entire life. He has made choices to take the higher road even when it was the most challenging route. Today, he has seen the world and lived so much more life than he had 24 years ago. He has spent his days helping people whom God has placed in his path and loving those around him.

But, today, he also saw his oncologist because last week the doctors found more cancer. It isn't fair, and I want to rage and cry and tell the world that surely something like this isn't happening to him again. He's not just one of the good guys, he's the best guy- he's my hero. And so, I've cried some tears and asked some questions, but I've also made some choices.

I choose to believe in miracles. I choose to hold on to the truth that God holds my Dad in the palm of his hand and that even though the coming months won't be fun, they will be fruitful. It has been dark today, it's been a dark week, a dark month and even a dark year but I choose to see that even on the darkest days, there is light. It should not surprise anyone that my dad, once again, has made the choice to fight. Dad is who God created him to - a fighter. He is someone who meets the battle head on and full force. He faces his fears, and lives his life with courage. I have no doubt that there is a battle ahead but I also have full confidence in who will come out on top at the end of the day.

Never underestimate the power that your choices hold. I know my dad never imagined the struggles I would face with my health. He never imagined that his choices 24 years ago would inspire me today. He never thought that his choice to live his life would empower me to live mine. My dad has inspired me, he has inspired others and I'm sure that he will continue to teach the people he encounters along the way the importance of attitude because, after all, it is 95% of the medicine.



Amy And Mike Shaver. Submitted Photo

mean much to me then but today my world revolves around these words. My disease is genetic, it's not my fault, but today I spent most of my time attached to a dialysis machine. To put it bluntly: it isn't fair. Through no fault of my own I have very limited options when it comes to everyday life: dialysis, transplant, or death. None of these are choices that anyone would ever want to face and, at times when it all seems so very unfair, I find myself wondering if there is anyone who would really deserve this?

That person is hard for me to imagine. In 26 years so much has happened in my life: I've been robbed at gunpoint, I've had a major car accident. I've lost loved ones, and I've spent more time in hospitals than I've ever spent in fancy hotels. If my story ended there, it would certainly be depressing at best. But, you see, the thing is this - in 26 years have also seen more beauty and wonder than most people see in a lifetime. I've trav-

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

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

Blessed Mother, Owensboro

Keith & Ramona Osborne, 25
Gary & Alleda Dukate, 50
Ben & Thelma Crump, 61
Vincent & Jeanette Dick, 56

Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson

Ronald & Joan Hockey, 51
Carl & Dorothy Snider, 63
Dean & Janice Arnold, 40
Terry & Judy Berrong, 40
Marvin & Loretta Eyre, 40
Bill & Carol Gibson, 25
Mac & Tammy Neel, 25

Holy Spirit, Bowling Green

Kenneth & Rachel Jones, 25
Gabe & Claudine Cabral, 25
Anthony & Cathy Pendino, 25
Stephen & Wanda Baka, 40
Steve & Sandy Stahl, 40
Robert & Frances Fiore, 53
Kenneth & Barbara Burch, 54
Robert & Mary Graham, 51

Immaculate Conception, Hawesville

Orville & Jane DeWitt, 40

Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

Harvey & Cathy Bowlds, 25
Benjamin & Rebecca Marks, 25
Michael & Suzanne Wurth, 40

Barney & Pat Dickens, 52
James & Marilyn Kurz, 54
Bill & Jeanne O'Bryan, 60
John & Margaret Reisz, 70
Charles & Ruby Wayne, 62
Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro

Joe & Mollie Bissmeyer, 54
Joseph & Dorothy Bowlds, 55
Joe Bill & Sherma Clark, 55
Alfred & Genevieve Galloway, 55
Joseph C. & Sue Riney, 66
Christopher & Susie Mattingly, 25

Resurrection, Dawson Springs

Carl & Rosa Lee Coffey, 54

Sacred Heart, Hickman

John B. & Mary Jo Lattus, 58

Sacred Heart, Waverly

John & Ruby Hancock, 59

St. Agnes, Uniontown

Dorris & Joyce Collins, 50

St. Ann Morganfield

Mark & Sonny Danhauer, 25
Paul & Jennie Smock, 25
William & Janet Robertson, 50
Paul & Bernice Chandler, 58
Leon & Eva Hendrickson, 54
Charles & Catherine Dyer, 58

St. Anthony, Axtel

Narvin & Laverne Whitworth, 50

St. Anthony, Peonia

Lynn & Bob Gambrell, 56

St. Augustine, Grayson Springs

Charles H. & Lillian White, 57

St. Columba, Lewisport

James & Pattie Toler, 61

St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

Thomas & Rose Marie Weitlauf, 62
Louis & Madge Klein, 25

St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

Howard & Jackie Elliott, 51
Martin & Wanda Painter, 52

St. John the Evangelist, Paducah

Joe & Paula Weitlauf, 25
Cecil & Margaret Futrell, 50
William C. & Barbara Hayden, 54
Vernon & Dot Neihoff, 55
Paul & Jerri Durbin, 58

St. Joseph, Leitchfield

Frank & Marie Cwaik, 40

St. Joseph, Mayfield

Ed & Hilda Bazzell, 58

St. Leo, Murray

John & Claire Resig, 62
Elwyn & Ellen Fracier, 61
Byron & Mary Cates, 59
Tomas & Sara Royal, 57

Edward & Joan Shinnars, 56

St. Mark, Eddyville

Richard & Bonnie Wiening, 52

St. Martin, Owensboro

Charles & Juareta Dockemeyer, 53

St. Mary, Franklin

Juan Jose & Evangelina Bueno, 25

St. Mary, LaCenter

Sylvio & Rita Mayolo, 51

Gernard & Helen Anselm, 65

St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho

Bobby & Terry Knott, 56

St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Brian & Anita Johnson, 25

Bernard & Dorothy Crisp, 53

St. Peter, Waverly

Leslie & Martha Gibson, 40

St. Piux X, Calvert City

Chuck & Diane Fischer, 55

St. Pius X, Owensboro

Stan & Beth McKay, 25

Melvin G. & Brenda Thomas, 25
L. K. & Gloria Burcham, 60
James E. & Barbara Coomes, 56
Gilbert & Mary Ann Lindsey, 52

St. Romuald, Hardinsburg

Todd & Janet Board, 25
Pat & Ruby Wheatley, 60

St. Rose, Cloverport

Thomas & Leigh Flood, 63

St. Stephen, Cadiz

James & Betty McVey, 54
Richard & Sally Gust, 51

St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

John & Patsy Berry, 61
John & Patsy Clayton, 53
Charles B. & Margaret Payne, 67

St. Thomas More, Paducah

Craig & Stacy Jones, 25
Richard & Cheri Paxton, 25
Leo & Marilyn Wurth, 56

St. William, Knottsville

Stanley & Doris Fulkerson, 60
Lawrence & Dortha Mae Johnson, 59
James & Cecelia L. Mattingly, 53

Charles O. & Joyce Mills, 53

Joseph & Mary Sue Elliott, 50

Ken & Stacy Carmon, 25

Ricky & Suzanne Fulkerson, 25

Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro

Gerald & Brenda Payne, 40

James L. & Theresa Clouse, 53

John & Nancy Grimes, 53

Jack & Rose King, 57

James & Imogene Loyd, 57

Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

Thomas & Melissa Craft, 25

Greg & Dawn Ligibel, 25

Curtis & Libby Easley, 25

Stephen & Lisa Bond, 25

William & Ann Farrell, 40

Andrew & Annette Mongeon, 58

Robert & Joann Spader, 51

Men's Day of Recollection:

Saint Joseph, Model of Fatherhood

Presented by:

Fr. Tom Sullivan C.P.M.

Fr. George McInnis C.P.M.

At the Chapel of Divine Mercy

806 Shaker Museum Road, Auburn, KY

Open to all faiths ages 16 and over

(Minors require accompaniment by Male adult)

Saturday, November 20th

9:15 a.m.	Rosary and Confession
10:00 a.m.	1 st Conference
11:15 a.m.	Holy Mass
12:00 a.m.	* Lunch (Bring your own Brown Bag)*
12:45 p.m.	Talk & Enrollment into Brown Scapular
1:15 p.m.	Private Prayer and Confession
2:00 p.m.	2 nd Conference
3:00 p.m.	Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament
	Chaplet of Divine Mercy/ Litany of Saint Joseph
4:00 p.m.	Benediction

There is no cost for the conference, but free-will

Donations will be gratefully accepted

For further information, please contact The Fathers of Mercy 270-542-

4146, x304

Boulware Mission Names Its New CEO and Board Chairman

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Boulware Mission proudly introduces our new Chief Executive Officer, Donna Mason, RN. Donna replaces Becky Hagan who recently retired. She brings to us 18 years of management experience and a passion to make a difference at Boulware and for the people we serve. In sharing her enthusiasm Donna reveals, "My goal at Boulware is to help the organization look at the strengths of what is done well and concentrate resources where you get the best results."

After graduating from Murray State University with a Bachelor's degree in Nursing, Donna worked as an RN at both Union County Methodist and Henderson Methodist Hospitals. She served as the Director of the Methodist Hospital Rehabilitation Center for ten years.

Donna is married to Robert Mason, has two children and three grandsons and enjoys "hanging out" with family and friends.

Boulware also introduces its new Board Chairman, Alan Englehart. Alan replaces Jim Hendrix who recently stepped down to avoid a conflict of interest with his position with the county.

Alan is a native of Washington, Indiana and a graduate of Rose Polytechnic Institute with a degree in mechanical engineering. He retired from Texas Gas in 2007 as Vice President of Operations and Engineering following 37 years of service. He and his wife, Becky, have two children, Andy and Kelly. He has served as a member of the Boulware Board of Directors from 1996 until 2002 and since 2007.

"I feel blessed to be able to contribute to the continued success of the Boulware Mission. It has been a beacon of hope for those in need in our community since 1922."

Please join us in welcoming Donna and Alan to the Mission!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**Day of Recollection in Honor of the Knights of Columbus
Fr. McGivney and the Virtues of Manhood**

Presented by:
Fr. Wade Menezes, C.P.M.
Fr. Louis Caporiccio C.P.M.

**at the Chapel of Divine Mercy
806 Shaker Museum Road, Auburn, KY
Open to All Men ages 18 and over**

Saturday, October 30th

9:15 a.m.	Rosary and Confession
10:00 a.m.	1 st Conference
11:15 a.m.	Holy Mass
12:00 a.m.	* Lunch (Bring your own Brown Bag)*
12:45 p.m.	Talk given by Knights in Father Rauzan Hall
1:15 p.m.	Private Prayer and Confession
2:00 p.m.	2 nd Conference
3:00 p.m.	Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament Chaplet of Divine Mercy/ Prayer for the Canonization of Father Michael J. McGivney
4:00 p.m.	Benediction

There is no cost for the conference, but free-will
Donations will be gratefully accepted

For further information, please contact The Fathers of Mercy
270-542-4146, x304

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION TRAINING PROGRAM

2010-2012

*Registration is now open
for the next program, which
begins in October 2010.*

The mission of this program
is to prepare people for the
ministry of spiritual direction
and to enhance the skills
of experienced spiritual
directors, in the spirit of Saint
Angela Merici. Participants
will meet for eight weekly
sessions over a two-year
period.



TOPICS AND DATES

Spirituality	Oct. 18-22, 2010
Spiritual Direction	Jan. 17-21, 2011
The Inner Journey	May 2-6, 2011
Prayer and Scripture	July 25-29, 2011
Theology.....	Oct. 3-7, 2011
Ethics of Spiritual Direction	Jan. 23-27, 2012
Supervision	April 23-27, 2012
Case Studies and Retreat	July 23-27, 2012

Each weekly session will be led by a team of trained
spiritual directors. Presence at all sessions is required
to receive a certificate.

To register or for more information, contact
Sheila Blainford
270-229-0200 ext. 427
sheila.blainford@maplemount.org

A brochure can be found at www.msjcenter.org



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

4401 Cummins Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 40130-0100

**Deadline
to register:
Aug. 31,
2010**

The Saint Michael the Archangel Organization is pleased to announce a multinational ...

PRO-LIFE NOVENA FOR UNBORN BABIES

10,000 MASSES FOR
UNBORN BABIES



10,000 ROSARY NOVENAS
FOR UNBORN BABIES



September 29th - October 7th, 2010

The **PRO-LIFE NOVENA FOR UNBORN BABIES** is a special 9 days for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass to be offered and the Rosary to be prayed for the following intention:
For the protection of unborn human persons.

You may be a part of the September 29th - October 7th **PRO-LIFE NOVENA FOR UNBORN BABIES** by doing one or both of the following:

- 1) Have the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass offered* at least one time on any of the following days:
(September 29th, 30th; October 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, or 7th)
- 2) Pray one Rosary on each one of the following days:
(September 29th, 30th; October 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, or 7th)

(THE INTENTION FOR ALL MASSES AND ROSARIES IS: **For the protection of unborn human persons.**)

Registration for Masses and Rosaries may be done by sending the form below to: **Saint Michael the Archangel Organization; P. O. Box 41257; Memphis, Tennessee 38174; U.S.A.** Or, you may register at www.SaintMichaelTheArchangelOrganization.org

Name: _____ Diocese: _____ Nation: _____

1) I have scheduled to have _____ Mass/Masses offered as part of the Novena as stated above.

2) I am registering _____ person/persons to pray a Novena of Rosaries as stated above.

*Any priest offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass needs to be in good standing with the Catholic Church which has Pope Benedict XVI, the 264th successor of Saint Peter, as pope.

Woman's Day of Recollection & 1st Saturday Devotions

The Motherhood of Immaculate Heart of Mary

Presented by Rev. Fr. David Wilton, CPM
and Fr. Tony Stephens, CPM at the
Chapel of Divine Mercy
806 Shaker Museum Road, Auburn KY

Open to women of all faiths ages 16 and over
(minors require accompaniment by female adult)

Saturday, November 6, 2010

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 9:15 a.m. | 1 st Conference |
| 10:00 a.m. | Rosary and Confession |
| 11:00 a.m. | Holy Sacrifice of the Mass |
| 12:00 p.m. | *Lunch (Bring your own Brown-Bag Lunch)* |
| 12:45 p.m. | Talk and Enrollment in Brown Scapular |
| 1:15 p.m. | Private Prayer and Confession |
| 2:00 p.m. | 2 nd Conference |
| 3:00 p.m. | Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament
Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary |
| 4:00 p.m. | Benediction |

There is no cost for the conference, but free-will
Donations will be gratefully accepted

For further information, please contact The Fathers of Mercy
270-542-4146, x304

Office of Wisdom Bus trip
to Washington D.C
Jane Stephens (left) and
Shirley Renaud (right)
St. Thomas More Parish,
Paducah, Kentucky



Shirley Renaud and Jane Stephens met while they were on a trip to Rome, Italy with St. Mary's High School about three years ago. "We travel together whenever it's possible," said Shirley.

Through their friendship the women learned that they have a lot in common with each other. "My husband, Jim, died four years ago from pancreatic cancer," said Jane.

Shirley's husband Vincent, died in 2000. "Vince had lung cancer and he was at home during most of his illness."

Both women know what it's like to suffer the loss of a husband. They know each other's feelings.

"Since I'm alone now, I really miss being able to bounce things off him (Jim)," said Jane. We lived in Baton Rouge for a long time where Jim worked at a water treatment facility. We moved back here when he retired. We found out shortly after our move that he had cancer. One Sunday after Mass Jim waited and talked to our priest. 'I need you to teach me how to die,' Jim said.

"I feel like God put us back here so that Jim could die here. Nothing ever prepares us for death but there could never have been a greater parish group and community to take care of us during such a difficult and sad time," said Jane.

Jane and Jim were married 42 and a half years and had two children and 6 grand children.

Shirley and Vincent were married 47 years when he died in 2000 and they have 6 children and 15 grandchildren.

"During the time Vincent was sick and we were all around him taking care of him, our daughter told me that she felt she was able to get to know her dad better being with him during his sickness and death," Shirley said. "I remember telling Vince to go ahead and let go, that I would be okay," said Shirley. It was hard, but he needed to hear it. He died shortly after that."

Both women are very active in their Catholic Faith life, and are members of prayer groups and volunteer where they are needed when they can. Both usually go to daily Mass.

Jane is a member of the First Friday Group that goes to Mass at 7 a.m., and then to breakfast on First Fridays.

Shirley meets with class mates from St. Mary's Academy for lunch every couple of months.

Both agree that their Catholic Faith is the center of their live. Most activities are faith involved.

As for getting older, Shirley said, "I have time now to think more about God and Heaven. When I was younger I had a house full of children, that I thank God for everyday, but I was so busy I couldn't really think about it all."

Jane said she is very passionate about kids and Catholic education. "I think its just a basic part of the family."

"I am very thankful for my family. I am very thankful for the Sisters of Mercy," said Jane.

Shirley is also passionate about education and those who live in poverty. "I support a child who live in Guatemala. I say, 'Friends are a good thing.'"



Annual Marian Retreat

Oct. 1-3, 2010

With Retreat Director Msgr. Bernard Powers

The annual Marian Retreat includes opportunities for solitude as well as communal prayer, recitation of the rosary, the sacrament of Reconciliation, and Eucharistic Liturgy.

The \$175 fee includes retreat, meals, and accommodations.
Commuters can attend for \$120.

Contact Kathy McCarty
270-229-0200 ext. 413
kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org

Visit the Center online!

www.mscenter.org
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Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999
270-229-0200

Role models for Christ

By Judy Willett

ST. CHARLES CATHOLIC CHURCH, BARDWELL, KY.

- Throughout our lives, we watch carefully the people with whom we live - our parents, grandparents, our children, our church family, teachers at school, friends at school, people at work, and neighbors. That is how it is, especially with children. THEY are WATCHING us; we are their role models. All the little ones, and our youth see us participating in the sacraments, guiding their actions, and responding to events that affect our daily lives.

And so they see us receiving the sacraments. In April, a little one at St. Charles was baptized as a child of God, little 3-year-old Serenity Marie Stigall, the daughter of Brian D. Stigall and Michelle Beeler. Then, on May 30, Jeff and Erin Russelburg's son Aiden James was blessed to receive the supernatural virtues of faith, hope and charity at baptism. On July 11, the baby of Jay and Holly Thompson, Owen Wilson was baptized and received sanctifying grace.

In June, five youth received a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the sacrament of Confirmation, administered by Bishop William Medley for Hannah Glass, Ryan Hobbs, Leslie McIntyre, Jenna Willett, and Jonathan Wilson.

On May 2, two young children, Virginia Glass and Zackery Toon, received the third sacrament of initiation when they received the Body and Blood of Christ in the sacrament of Holy Eucharist. Virginia Glass and Zach Toon received the sacrament



Confirmation was administered by Bishop William Medley in June for Hannah Glass, Ryan Hobbs, Leslie McIntyre, Jenna Willett, and Jonathan Wilson.



of Reconciliation before they received the Holy Eucharist. Earlier in the spring one of our parishioners Gerald Hayden, received the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick before he died. These two sacraments give us spiritual and physical healing..

On July 10, a young couple exchanged wedding vows in the sacrament of Holy Matrimony - Leanna and Toby Thomason. This is a sacrament of service along with the sacrament of Holy Orders.

I had forgotten why the sacraments were grouped as they are. Six of the seven **Father Masilamani Suvakkin, HGN, held Serenity Marie Stigall after her Baptism in April. Photos submitted by Judy Willett**

sacraments have been celebrated here at St. Charles with special graces and blessings conferred with each in only a few months' time.

Throughout our lives, we Catholic Christians have opportunities to model our lives after Christ, lives centered on deeds of good will, stewardship, and service to God and our fellow man. We have multiple chances to receive the sacraments weekly, even daily. Daily prayer is a gift that has been given to us.

Lots of EYES are WATCHING us. Let us not disappoint our little ones and those we hold dear.



Above, Aiden James' Baptism on May 30, 2010



**BRESCIA UNIVERSITY
HOMECOMING 2010**

October 29-30

SAVE THE DATE!

**BRESCIA
CHARIOT RACES
MAKE A**

**TRIUMPHANT
RETURN!**

At Right, Father Masi with Virginia Glass and Zackery Toon at the altar during their First Eucharist May 2.



By Mel Howard

LOUISVILLE,Ky. - Every year for the past 26 years, the Saint Pius X Cooking Team of Owensboro, Ky. packs up its traveling burgoo kettles, its cooking mops and gloves, and barbecue dip ingredients, and heads up I-65 North to the Pitt Academy on the grounds of Guardian Angels Catholic Church, 6010 Preston Highway. The Parish cooking team comes into this fund raiser usually fresh from winning awards at Owensboro's prestigious International Bar-B-Q Festival. This year, the St Pius team were crowned Grand Champions, and took first place in both mutton and burgoo categories. The Louisville Courier-Journal's May 14 edition ran a big story on the Pitt Festival as an annual Family Fun event not to be missed, calling it "exciting news." CJ Writer Ken Neuhauser wrote about the St Pius Cooking Team's "intensely aromatic barbecue magic" available for carryout at the Pitt Bar-B-Q Festival. The hickory smoke was rolling across Preston Highway on May 15 this year as the St. Pius X parish cooks did their Western Kentucky style pit cooking. They even sold their "heavenly barbecue sauce for \$5 a bottle."

Proceeds benefit Pitt Academy, Louisville's only K-12 school with an adapted curriculum for students with learning challenges.

St Pius X Cooking Team leader, Tom Fogle, explained why the parish sent its cooking team to the Pitt Academy every year for the last 26 years. "I worked at Kentucky Bearing and at meetings I got to know Dick Timel of the Louisville office. Dick has a son, Greg, who was a student at Pitt, and when I learned that the school needed some help making their annual budget, I suggested that they have a Bar-B-Q to raise money. Dick liked the idea and so we started coming here 26 years ago to cook 'authentic Owensboro-style' barbecue mutton, chicken, pork, and burgoo for their fund raiser just like we do for our parish picnic. I told Dick all it would cost them would be to provide coolers of our beverage of choice!"

"We get our burgoo trailer loaded up," Fogle continued, "and our supplies trailer and pick-ups loaded and bring it all here to the Pitt Academy Festival on a Wednesday or Thursday and get set up to cook all Friday night to be ready to serve the people at about 4:00 PM on Saturday, rain or shine."

The St. Pius X team has been donating its time, equipment and talent since the Pitt Festival's start in 1985. Dick Timel figures that the St. Pius X cooking team has contributed over \$500,000 to the school's

operating budget since 1985.

Fogle said that all the guys enjoy the trip and doing their thing, cooking barbecue to raise money for the school. They used to bring everything in trailers and trucks, cooking pits and kettles and everything needed to cook for the Pitt Festival. But a few years back the school found a local welders union who built the cooking pits used now; and the school also furnishes motel rooms for the team. In the beginning, Fogle said, the team stayed in Dick Timel's basement and slept on the floors of his house; some still do.

"What really makes this whole trip special," Tom Fogle said, "is the 7:00 PM Mass on Saturday night after the dinner is finished. That's a special feeling for all of us to be able to be at Mass with this parish and the community of this school at the end of a day's work. We leave for home at about 8:00 am Sunday."



Dick Timel driving gallons of burgoo to the drive-in sales.



St Pius X Cooking Team pork cooks watch over the pits, tending the fire, dipping and turning the meat, and watching the skies as wood smoke and barbecued meat smells waft toward Preston Highway. Mel Howard photos



Tom Fogle showing the SPX Cooking team's trophies.



Stan McKay dips chickens May 15 at the Pitt School barbecue.



Staff at the Pitt Academy met with St. Pius Tenth Cooking Team Members May 15, 2010 on the grounds of Guardian Angels Catholic Church to thank them, to pray, and then go to their stations to work the booths.

36 Jamie's Dream Is Anything But a Blind Ambition

An inspiring story of acceptance, courage, determination, and seeking God's will

By Larena Lawson

Who is someone in your life who made a lasting and positive impression by virtue of who they are and how they live, and made you feel blessed to have met this person? Most people enjoy reading a true story about good people in "real life." Stories from our youth often began, "Once upon a time....", and we knew that the tale would capture our attention all the way to "and they lived happily ever after" at the end. When I met Jamie Dennis and heard about his life and ambition, it was like reading a very good story and feeling good when I got to the end because it had made quite an impression.

Once upon a time there was a little two-year-old boy who loved trains. His name was Jamie Dennis and he lived with his parents on a farm in Caneyville, Kentucky. He had an older sister and brother, but they both lived in their own homes most of his life. So Jamie, his parents, and his many pets lived at the farmhouse situated near an old country road, surrounded by rolling hills and dense woods. "A hundred acres of paradise," is how an older Jamie now describes his home.

Jamie grew up like any other normal little farm boy, playing with trains, swords and his castle, with his border collies, pigmy goats, cows and horses and tromping around on the farm exploring and learning the lay of the land. Little did



Above, Jamie Dennis, a seminarian and student at St. Meinrad Seminary, sits reading at his desk in his room. Although he is blind, his computer reads books to him which enables him to complete his required studies. Will Thompson Photo

At right, Jamie sits with his dog Bernadette near the Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine Station he has built along his railroad at his home in



Caneyville. His faithful dog Bernadette was dropped at his house when she was just a pup, after Jamie said a prayer asking God for a new dog. He chose to name her Bernadette, "a nice lady's name," because of his devotion to Our Lady of Lourdes. Larena Lawson Photo

he know then that the things that he saw and felt and did in his early years would be so vitally important to him in the years to come.

When Jamie was seven years old and in second grade, his parents, James "Snake" and Mary Ain Dennis, learned that he was losing his sight. He had developed an abnormal eye disorder called Retinitis pigmentosa that would lead to progressive vision loss. This heartbreaking news forced Jamie's parents to begin to plan how they would continue to care for their son. They began to prepare themselves and him for the time when he could no longer see. They took him on a cross-country trip so he could see and experience things that he might not be able to see later on- the blue waves of the ocean, the glowing, brilliant colors of sunrises and sunsets, the sands, valleys, mountains and plains - the majestic beauty of God's creation. Jamie was even taken on a long picturesque train ride out west that excited him more than his little heart could have imagined for he had a dream to be an engineer someday and drive his own train engine. Would that bold and adventurous dream be stilled by the loss of the little boy's eyesight, when his life took the inevitable huge and drastic change?

Jamie's parents met with the principal and school board of Jamie's elementary school to find out what was available in terms of teaching handicapped children. They

found out that there was nothing in place that would help with Jamie's future needs. His parents were then told that they would have to send their son away to the Kentucky School for the Blind in Louisville and that they would have to sign their rights away to the state. That was unfathomable to them and there was just no question about it, they were not going to send him there. Ain's loving mother's heart would not allow her to be separated from her son. They were required to take Jamie to the blind school and

check it out to appease the school board. The visit only affirmed their decision; it was not a place they wanted Jamie to be in. Eventually, because Jamie's parents were so adamant to care for their son, Ain would attend school with Jamie so that she could see that his needs were

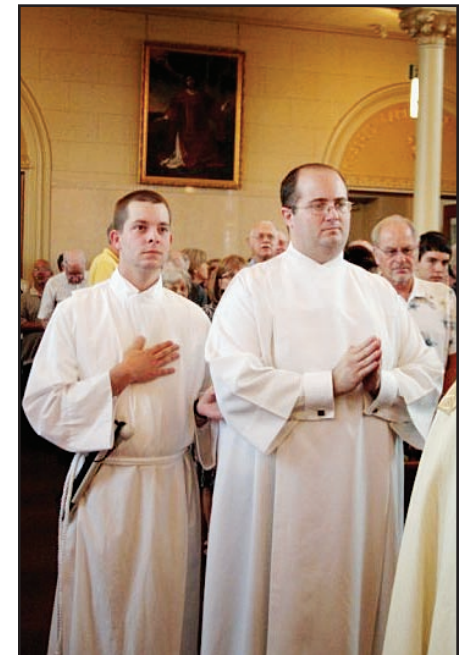
Continued on page 37



Vanessa Rhodes, left, and Ain Dennis, center, pray the Angelus at noon on a day in May, 2010 with Jamie Dennis in front of a cross on a hill on the family farm near Caneyville. Larena Lawson Photo



Jamie Dennis, left, serves at the altar during the morning Mass at St. Joseph Parish in Leitchfield on June 25, 2010, his 24th birthday. He serves alongside his pastor, Father Randy Howard. Larena Lawson Photo



Owensboro Seminarian, Jamie Dennis, walks with brother seminarian Will Thompson into St. Stephen Cathedral during the entrance procession of the Priesthood Ordination Mass on May 29, 2010. Larena Lawson Photo

Anything But a Blind Ambition *(Continued from page 36)*

37



Jamie proudly shows off his working electronic train collection in the upstairs of his home in Caneyville. He has collected trains since he was a little boy and in spite of his blindness is able to identify each one, knowing what each one looks like and where it is located on the tracks he runs them on. Larena Lawson Photos this page

met. They would be able to keep Jamie at home and not have to send him away to the blind school. Ain went to school with him. Jamie was in a regular classroom. She volunteered there until Jamie was in the 7th grade. The school kept trying to get her to take a job so that she could get paid, since she was already there anyway, but she didn't until later on.

From 4th grade until he finished 8th grade, Jamie had a visual aids teacher who came in from Elizabethtown one afternoon a week to teach him Braille. People began to hear about his love of trains, too, and he was given different trains of all shapes and sizes, starting a collection that grew and grew. He even planned to build his own big train someday and got a bell that he planned to put on his train. Jamie was active in school, joining the band in middle school and playing the snare drum by ear, memorizing the music since he could not read notation. He was also involved with the Kentucky Railway Museum in New Haven, becoming a member with his parents. There, he really enjoyed riding the trains. He was even allowed to sometimes ride in the engine and help drive the train, which was exhilarating for him, the boy who dreamed of being an engineer. The first one he drove was an old steam engine, one of his favorites.

In Jamie's middle school, there was another student there named Faith who was also visually impaired and later lost her sight. Jamie insisted when it came time for him to leave there that his mother stay and take care of Faith and help her to



Jamie Dennis paused for prayer before a plain wooden cross which adorns a hillside of the Dennis family farm near Caneyville. The cross is one of the many prayer aids along the train tracks on the farm. Larena Lawson photo

adjust instead of going on to high school with him. And so, Ain decided to stay and do what she could to help Faith, just like she had helped Jamie.

In high school, Jamie continued to adapt to the changes that his eyes were making. While he was at Grayson County High, Ms. Trish Johnson came to help Jamie, mostly with math, one on one, and with Braille. He also had a peer tutor who read to him or took notes for him. At that time, Jamie could still see well enough to read if things were in very large print. Most things though, he couldn't read by the end of the 8th grade. He had to start using a cane to help him walk when he was in the middle of high school. Jamie was pretty much a loner. Some of the students didn't like all of the attention that he got from his teachers. He had one close friend, Anna Singleton, whom he met in 4th grade. Her parents eventually home-schooled her, but Jamie has remained good friends with her. Jamie

wasn't involved in any extracurricular school activities at GCHS, but continued to stay involved with the train museum. He did very well academically though, graduating in 2004 with a 4.0 GPA.

Jamie's blindness came progressively. After high school, he lost a full degree of sight in a month. His parents took him to Connecticut where they got special eye drops that have kept him stable ever since. His eyes have about 3 millimeters of focal width left. The eye drops have kept him from losing his sight totally. On a good day, he is able to see some light. What vision he has left is as little as looking through a straw.

Because Jamie was such a good student and was told by the railroad that they would have an office job waiting for him if he got a college education, he wanted to go to college and continue his



Jamie is pictured with his 1800's style train engine that he and his father, James Dennis designed. They also built a passenger car and a one mile track around their farm for the train to run on. Jamie enjoys driving the train and taking folks on scenic train rides.

education. He chose Brescia University in Owensboro. It was a smaller college closer to home. He had to readapt then, to orient himself to new surroundings. The campus, faculty and student body he had to learn all anew. But Jamie was determined to face the challenge with courage and determination, and to work toward his goal - to earn a business degree so he could work for the railroad. What Jamie didn't know however, was that his time at the Catholic university would be one that would lead him in a whole other direction.

From day one, Jamie started going to Mass at Brescia's chapel. He and his parents went there the first night that he came though they hadn't been a regular church-going family. Jamie had made his first Holy Communion in the 2nd grade, but because he went to public schools and lived rather far from St. Joseph Church in Leitchfield, his home parish, he wasn't exposed to very much religious education growing up. Jamie admits that when he was going to daily Mass at Brescia, he didn't know why. Eventually, he ended up in front of the tabernacle every night and he didn't know the reason for that either. He just knew that he had a wonderful feeling when he walked in there. He came to better understand the Eucharist in reading the Bible, John chapter 6.

Continued on page 38

38 Anything But a Blind Ambition *(Continued from page 37)*

By the end of his freshman year, Jamie was confirmed. He enjoyed going to daily Mass, and one semester, because of his schedule, he even had to decide to either eat lunch or go to Mass and he chose to go to Mass. Little by little, he was growing closer and closer to Christ.

Jamie discovered that college life can be kind of crazy, with all the things going on in the dorms and with the students. So the quietest place that he could find was the chapel. When he first started going just for visits, he sat in the back row. A few nights later, he was up in front of the altar. Then he ended up in the part of the chapel where the tabernacle was, sitting close, but not really knowing why. The chapel closes at 10:00 each evening, but in the last two years that Jamie was at Brescia he decided, with encouragement from his pastor, Father Randy Howard, that late at night, before going to bed, was a good time to devote to prayer. He had an unspoken understanding with the guards, that they would wait for him to enter the chapel before they locked it and he could exit whenever he was finished with his prayer.

One day, when Jamie was attending Mass at Brescia's chapel, he was approached by Father Joe Merkt, the Director of the Ministry Formation Program, who suggested to Jamie that he should be a priest. Well, it never occurred to Jamie to think about a vocation to the priesthood. Was it even possible for a man who was blind? He was given some names of a couple of priests who actually were blind. He called the two blind priests and found out that one was even blind from birth. The other one, Father David Coon, had about the same vision, or maybe a little more, than Jamie. He told him that back when he was in seminary they didn't have anything on audio or in Braille. He brailled his own breviary. He would send his devoted grandmother all of his assignments and books and she would read them onto cassettes and then send them back to him. That's how he got through.

Jamie talked to his mother about what Father Joe had suggested. Ain was stunned. They both didn't know it could even be possible until Jamie had talked to the blind priests. Ain recalled how Jamie had always been motivated by the trains since he was a little boy and how he had hoped to get a job with the railroad when he got his degree. But now he was thinking of another path.

When Jamie was in his sophomore year, he changed his major to Ministry Formation. His time at Brescia, when he



Blind seminarian, Jamie Dennis, at left, aided by fellow seminarian Will Thompson, second left, prepares to give Bishop William F. Medley, center, his mitre, during the Mass of Priesthood Ordination on May 29, 2010 at St. Stephen Cathedral.

attended Mass and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, being in the presence of God, had helped him to grow stronger in his faith. He felt God calling him closer to Him. Jamie decided to change the direction of his studies and desired to serve God and His people. He also wanted to be married and have children. Nonetheless, he knew that he needed to make a decision between ministry and having a family. He knew he had to give it his all, no matter what he chose. Jamie chose the ministry, feeling that it was God's will for him.

His maternal grandmother, Pauletta Grant, "Mammaw Grant" to Jamie, has been fully supportive of Jamie's choice. In fact, she intuitively knew about Jamie's vocation before any of the other family did because she just had the feeling. She had suffered mini strokes and could barely talk anymore, but always tried to talk with Jamie. One of the last full sentences Jamie heard her say was, "I'm so glad that we are going to have a priest in the family." She just knew. She faithfully prays a rosary every night for all of her grandkids and all of her family.

Pauletta Grant will receive the Diocese's Sophia Award for Saint Augustine Parish in Grayson Springs, Ky. on Sunday, September 26th at Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Henderson, Kentucky. The celebration begins with Mass at 2:30 p.m., and concludes with a reception in the parish hall.

When Jamie was finishing his ministry degree in his last year of study at Brescia, his required studies tested his abilities to minister. He was serving an internship year at St. Joseph Parish and his classes challenged him to lead worship and Communion services in parishes around Owensboro. Jamie worked very hard to plan and carry out what was asked of him. What may have seemed impossible to some, Jamie was able to complete. Before the services would begin Jamie prayed to Jesus. He would say that if He wanted him to do this, then He would have to help him out and they would do it together. Jamie put all of his faith and trust in God, that He would help him through, and He did. The assignments were done very well.

While still a student at Brescia, Jamie contacted the Owensboro Diocesan Vocations Office. He spoke with the Vocations Director, Father Andy Garner, about his discernment of the priesthood. It wasn't known at first if it was possible, but with further consideration Jamie was accepted as a seminarian for the Diocese of Owensboro after his Brescia graduation. He is now studying philosophy at St. Meinrad Sem-

inary in Indiana and has successfully completed his first year. Initially, St. Meinrad officials were hesitant and not sure they could meet the needs of a blind student, but it has worked out positively for all concerned. At Brescia, Jamie was provided with an aide who helped him, and a tutoring program was in place, but at St. Meinrad, he was able to get a scanner that works through his computer and reads to him, which has enabled him to be more independent in his study. He says it's a real blessing and makes a tremendous difference in his life. He is also helped by his diocesan brother seminarians, who have graciously offered to each take a day to check on Jamie and make sure he has everything he needs. He takes his exams orally.

Jamie's life at the seminary is not exactly a realization of his little boy's dream of being a train engineer. God has placed on his heart another possibility. As challenges didn't stop the little engine in one of Jamie's favorite train stories, "The Little Engine that Could," Jamie never wavered when he felt God calling him to special ministry as a priest. He thinks he can, just like the little engine who repeated the mantra "I think I can. I think I can." The little blue engine overcame the difficult terrain to its destination and was willing to try, and throughout Jamie's life he has worked through all the difficulties and obstacles that he has encountered, facing each challenge with the same fighting spirit of the little train engine. Now he has new hopes and new dreams of doing God's will by serving others. That doesn't mean though, that Jamie has given up his love for trains. He has incorporated them into his ministry.

Through the years on the farm where Jamie grew up, his parents have helped him live out some of his dreams. In 1998, they got a 1966 train caboose that ran on the Illinois Central line. They've made it into a room for Jamie and it sets near their house. They also built him the train that he has always wanted, complete with the bell that Jamie got in the 4th grade. Jamie and his father laid a one-mile railroad track that stretches around their property, laying each wooden tie and nailing each steel spike themselves. This labor of love took about a year from start to finish. Jamie wanted his 89-year-old grandmother, Mammaw Grant, to drive the final spike. James also crafted his son a passenger car for his train engine that he can use to take the people who come to visit him on scenic train rides.

Jamie is able to be the engineer that he has always wanted to be. He drives the train calling the people "all aboard," and ringing the bell at each station that he has made all along the track. His train is built like the ones back in the 1800's and that is the time period that Jamie likes to portray. The tracks meander down the hill past Main Street, the cow and horse crossing, with a genuine railroad crossing sign. Then it passes the lake and waterfall and goes on into the woods. There's a stop at the bottom of the hill where you can hop off and walk up the gravel road to the Caneyville Gardens country store. As the train loops around the bend and heads back toward the house, it passes a big, wooden cross that solemnly sets up on the hill. Further down the way, the tracks come into the Our Lady of Guadalupe Station that has been built with a statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe looking out over the track. Jamie asked Father Brian Johnson, from Clarkson, to bless the statue after it was placed there on the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Continued on page 40



Vocation

Commit yourselves with every spiritual energy, to realize the heavenly Father's plan of salvation, cultivating in your heart the ability to be astonished and to adore Him.

Bishop William Medley Ordains Ryan Harpole to the Transitional Diaconate

By Tami Schneider

Just as Saint Lawrence, deacon and martyr, preached the Gospel by his love for the poor, his courage and his unswerving love for Christ, so is Rev. Mr. Ryan Harpole now called to do as an ordained transitional deacon.

Ryan officially became a clergyman during an August 14th liturgy at St. Peter of Antioch Parish in Waverly, at the hands of Bishop William Medley. He is the first of the Owensboro seminarians in recent years to be ordained at this time, following a restructuring at St. Meinrad Seminary. The new timeline allows the seminarians to be ordained a transitional deacon for a full year before priestly ordination.

A native of the Sebree/Henderson area, Ryan will begin his last year of Theology this fall. God-willing, his priestly ordination will take place next May. He is the only seminarian for the Diocese of Owensboro in his class.

Lord, You call deacons to be servants of your word and your table, inspire in them a deep love for prayer, for preaching, and for the poor. You took your place among those caught by sorrow and distress; fill all deacons with compassion for the sick and the suffering.



Bishop Medley extends the Book of Gospels to Rev. Mr. Ryan Harpole during the Mass of his ordination to the permanent diaconate on Saturday, August 14th at St. Peter Parish in Waverly. As a deacon, Ryan is called to be a minister of the Word.



Ryan Harpole kneels as Bishop Medley lays his hands upon his head and invokes the intercession of the Holy Spirit. Deacon Dustin Boehm of the Diocese of Indianapolis (left) and Fr. Freddie Byrd (right), pastor of St. Peter Parish are also pictured.



Rev. Mr. Ryan Harpole kneels as Bishop Medley and priests from throughout the diocese invoke the Holy Spirit to come upon the gifts of bread and wine during the ordination liturgy on August 14.



After he prepared the altar, Deacon Ryan Harpole fills the chalices with wine right before the Eucharistic Prayer. Fellow Seminarian, Julio Barrera, is pictured at right.

Photos by Tami Schneider

Prayer for Vocations

Lord, through Your Holy Spirit, we ask for Your blessing as we pray for vocations. Inspire many men and women to hear Your call to serve God and the Church as priests, deacons, vowed religious and lay ministers. Give them courage, renew their faith and inspire them with confidence to answer Your call. We ask this through Jesus' name. Amen.

40 Paducah Couple Right At Home in Church and Community

By Edie Keeney

PADUCAH, Ky. - Bill and Cathy Ray are two people who are very active in their community and in their church. They are long time members of St. Francis de Sales in Paducah where they are Eucharistic Ministers. Cathy also serves as a lector while Bill sings in the choir and also plays the clarinet and saxophone at the Easter and Christmas Masses. They were a Marriage Preparation couple.

"We feel that in our working with engaged couples we helped them to understand that a marriage is supporting each other, respecting each other, and realizing that they were raised differently and respecting that. That experience reinforced for us that marriage is a partnership that you have to work at. In the 41 years that we have been married, we still work at it and everything that is important we do



Bill & Cathy Ray standing in front of a crucifix that had been her grandmother's. Photo by Edie Keeney

together," Cathy commented.

She continued, "We also made a Marriage Encounter and

at that time we were talking about adopting a child. Bill told me he would be happy in our marriage without children but he knew that I wouldn't be, so he said that was what we would do. We contacted Catholic Charities and began the process. Bill's decision was confirmation for me that he loved me so much he would do anything for me. Bill is a really good father; we have three children, the two older children were adopted and the youngest one was a wonderful surprise."

Bill commented, "Watching our children grow up was a very enjoyable experience. We helped them with their studies, Cathy with reading and language and I helped them with math and science."

Cathy is a teacher at St. Mary Elementary School where she has taught for 25 years, the last 20 of those years she taught first grade students. She was named Teacher of the Year for the Owensboro Diocese and was also the Paducah Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year a few years ago. Cathy made Cursillo in 1996 and still meets with her prayer group, usually weekly and has attended some Bible studies with her group. Bill also made a Cursillo and has been a team member on several Koinonias at St. Francis and also functioned as the music director for the weekends. Music is very much a part of Bill's life; he enjoys being in the The Dixie Land Band, the Douglas P Band, The Paducah Concert Band and The Legends group. He is retired now and enjoys being out on the golf course. Cathy says after 2 more years at St. Mary she will join him in retirement.

Anything But a Blind Ambition

(Continued from page 38)

(Dec. 12.) Jamie and his father recently built a wooden platform at Our Lady's station. When Jamie brings in groups of people they can get out and spend some time there. Jamie always prays the Angelus if he is there at noon, and sings a Latin hymn. Jamie often drives his train to different stops to pray the Liturgy of the Hours, the Church's daily prayer.

When the train leaves the Our Lady of Guadalupe Station, Jamie drives on down the track to the lake and the natural looking waterfall that his father has built from rocks gathered from around the farm. It is a peaceful setting. Jamie has had a wooden altar built nearby for Mass. Once, Father Randy Howard offered Mass at this altar with the St. Joseph youth group. There is a dock and paddle boat on the lake that can also be used by guests. This area of the farm is being dedicated to the Divine Mercy.

When the train pulls out of that station it climbs the hill and makes its way back around to Union Station yard limit where it began. Jamie has hosted youth groups and school groups, his classmates and brother seminarians, and many friends and family. He has given motivational talks for young handicapped and special education students, wanting to encourage them to never give up. He tells them that God has given them a gift and they can accomplish many things just like he has. He hopes to continue to minister to people with special needs.

Today, Jamie is thankful to be in seminary at St. Meinrad. Everyone has been wonderful to him there, being mind-



Jamie stands in front of his authentic 1966 train caboose that ran on the Illinois Central rail line. He has made it into a room that he stays in when he is home and hopes to completely restore it someday.

ful of his needs, yet at the same time, welcoming him just like all of the other seminarians. His acceptance of his blindness, his courage and determination to make the most of the gifts that God has given to him, and his desire to do whatever God wants him to do has led him there.

Jamie's desire to be a priest is not a blind ambition. He sees the beauty and importance of God's call in his life. His faith has taught him to believe that with God all things are possible and he knows and trusts in God's promise that he can live with Him happily ever after.

ONCE MORE WITH LOVE...

is a marriage preparation program for couples preparing for marriage after one or both persons have experienced a divorce or death of a former spouse. This program is designed to address the critical issues of a second marriage and to offer an opportunity to establish a solid foundation for a new intimate relationship.

A Once More With Love program will be held Saturday, September 25, 2010 at the Catholic Pastoral Center starting at 8:30 AM - and will conclude with liturgy at 5:00 PM at St. Stephen Cathedral and a romantic dinner around 6:00 PM. It is essential that a couple plan to attend the entire day. The cost for the day is \$100.00 and includes lunch, dinner and materials.

To register you can go on line at www.rcdok.org or contact the Family Life Office at (270) 683-1545. Registration deadline is September 17, 2010

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By Sister Mary Ann Walsh

The beatification of John Henry Cardinal Newman on September 19 in Birmingham, England, may not draw much media attention, but it is still noteworthy.

Newman’s beatification will be the first one Pope Benedict XVI has presided over. One senses that the theologian/scholar/Pope Benedict might feel a kinship with Cardinal Newman, a great intellect of the Victorian Age, and a figure of renown in both Anglican and Catholic traditions.

Newman was born in 1801 and died in 1890. He converted to Catholicism in 1845 after study and struggle to understand God. His efforts with the Oxford Movement to bring Anglicanism back to its Catholic roots led him instead to join the Catholic Church. Conversion brought no end of grief for him. Anglican scholars

felt betrayed; Catholic scholars were suspicious. He must have felt quite bleak when he wrote in his journal in 1863. “O how forlorn and dreary has been my course since I have been a Catholic!” he wrote. “Since I have been a Catholic, I seem to myself to have had nothing but failure, personally.”

He was a prodigious writer who promoted the need for the church to engage the world, a position that did not always make him friends. As a Catholic he fiercely defended the faith, to the point where he nearly went to jail for intemperate words while sparring with an anti-Catholic zealot.

He was a man of intellectual rigor, but writings reveal a humanness too. He expressed it in his motto as a cardinal:

“heart speaks to heart.”

A favorite poem, written in 1833, when he was 32, is “The Pillar of Cloud.” It reveals both the intellectual quest for God for which he was known, and the deep reach of a soul, to which most can relate at some point in their lives.

LEAD, Kindly Light, amid the encircling gloom,
Lead Thou me on!

The night is dark, and I am far from home –

Lead Thou me on!

Keep Thou my feet; I do not ask to see

The distant scene, -- one step enough for me,

I was not ever thus, nor pray’d that Thou Shouldst lead me on.

I loved to choose and see my path; but now

Lead Thou me on!

I loved the garish day, and, spite of fears,

Pride ruled my will; remember not past years.

So long Thy power hath blest me, sure it still

Will lead me on,

O’er moon and fen, o’er crag and torrent, till

The night is gone;

And with the morn those angel faces smile

Which I have loved long since, and lost awhile.

A Parent’s Precious Prayers

*All your children will be taught by the Lord,
and they will have much peace.*

ISAIAH 54:13

Never underestimate the ponderings of a Christian parent. Never underestimate the power that comes when a parent pleads with God on behalf of a child. Who knows how many prayers are being answered right now because of the faithful ponderings of a parent ten or twenty years ago? God listens to thoughtful parents.

Praying for our children is a noble task. If what we are doing, in this fast-paced society, is taking us away from prayer time for our children, we’re doing too much. There is nothing more special, more precious than time that a parent spends struggling and pondering with God on behalf of a child.

Max Lucado, *Grace For The Moment*, August 10 Morning, page 468, 2007.



Julie Murphy with Ben.
Submitted Photo

“Sometimes I Wonder Who You’d Be Today”

By Julie Murphy

I rolled over in my bed this morning and I called out to my son Ben. Ben took his life at the tender age of 16, on Nov. 6, 2008. This morning was no different than any other morning for me. I wake up calling out his name sometimes loudly and sometimes silently and the same routine when I go to bed and I have to say his name or I know I will have a difficult night trying to sleep.

I talk to myself every day, but it really isn’t talking when I really think about it. We as Christians know that when we lose someone we love from death

that they are still alive in Spirit. I know that Ben may not be with me anymore in the physical sense but he is most definitely with me spiritually. One day recently, as soon as I woke up, I looked at my family picture of my three kids on the wall and smiled just a little, went downstairs made my coffee, ate some breakfast, watched a little FOX news. After I ate, I waited about thirty minutes to grab my Ipod to go for my morning walk, which I have been a little slacking as of late. As I was walking, a beautiful song by Kenny Chesney started to play. I realized that my words for my feelings are not adequate to describe the death of my child, but my feelings were in some way simply said into this song. I could not have tried to listen to that song six months ago, or even maybe a month ago, but this day I wanted to hear it over and over again. So I did. I played it about three times in a row. It really spoke to my heart; it is

truly the only song that describes my most intimate personal thoughts every day and sometimes minute by minute of my sorrow. It describes how much I think about Ben. Here are some of the lyrics that have touched my heart.

“I feel you everywhere I go, I see your smile, I see your face, and I hear you laughing ... I still can’t believe you’re gone ... It ain’t fair that you died too young, like a story that had just begun ... God knows how I miss you, all the hell that I’ve been through ... Just knowing no one could take your place ... Sometimes I wonder who you’d be today.”

Towards the end of the song, he says what I know to be true. “The only thing that gives me hope is I know I’ll see you again someday.”

It gives my daughters that same hope and all those who loved Ben and cared deeply for him. There is no time table for grief. What I do know and would like to share is that I can only express my journey to you and say that with the help of Jesus Christ and my heavenly mother my pain has eased some. Some days are better than others. It is truly day by day. It literally is for me a day by day ocean of waves that can hit me.

I just don’t even know how I could have survived something like this without my faith. It has been my stronghold. It has been what helps me get out of bed, it has given me hope. But because of my deep trust in the Lord, I know I will see Ben, Steve, my dad, and all my relatives one day.

I just can’t help after experiencing death the way I have but feel sorry for those who don’t believe in God. I have prayed for their conversion. I also know that there are souls out in this world who

don’t know that there is a loving God who can give them comfort and hold them tight if only they ask. I myself believe that He is already holding them but because of their lack of knowledge of Jesus they can’t wrap their arms around him to complete the hug. He is holding on tight, waiting for all of us to reach out with our arms to complete the circle of love. You can’t feel a good hug unless you hug back!

If we could just grasp the potential of our journey with a loving Father who is always there to ease our pain, we would never let go of that hug from our daddy...who is God the Father. He has helped me so much when I fall down and hurt. And the Lord has helped Ben, even though Ben unknowingly didn’t understand the magnitude of how closely God was with him. I believe now that God has shown Ben the full panoramic view, so to speak, of His presence in Ben’s earthly life. And I envision Ben saying to the Lord, “Wow, you were with me all that time. I am sorry I didn’t have stronger faith!”

We’ve all been there; we all have moments of despair. So I pray that we all try to touch and reach for a deeper trust and faith that God knows what He is doing and that He is ever present in our midst.

As so many times I have been told by family and friends, Ben now doesn’t have earthly thoughts, he has heavenly thoughts of the purest love that I will never comprehend until one day prayerfully I will get to experience when God calls me to my true home.

+JM+ Julie Murphy

42 Soccer Camp a Success Despite Heat

By Dawn C. Ligibel

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. - The soccer coaches for the Sts. Peter and Paul middle school soccer team hosted their first ever soccer camp from July 12th to the 16th in spite of high temperatures. With 15 willing participants, the coaches integrated foot skill drills and scrimmages with fun and sometimes wet activities.

"We knew scheduling a soccer camp in the middle of July would be risky with the heat, but we were prepared to use caution and keep the players well hydrated," said Coach Greg Ligibel who has been coaching at Sts. Peter and Paul with his wife, Dawn, for six years.

One precaution was scheduling the camp in the evenings from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. "The first hour was a little warm, but after the sun went behind the trees, it cooled off dramatically," explained Ligibel.

Another precaution was to have plenty of water on hand. On the first evening of camp, the coaches distributed water bottles to all the players. In addition to the water bottles, each camp participant received a prize for attending. "To make it fair, we put a number on each prize and drew four names out of a hat each night," explained Ligibel. "When a player's name was drawn, he or she would then draw a number from the hat to determine which prize he or she won."

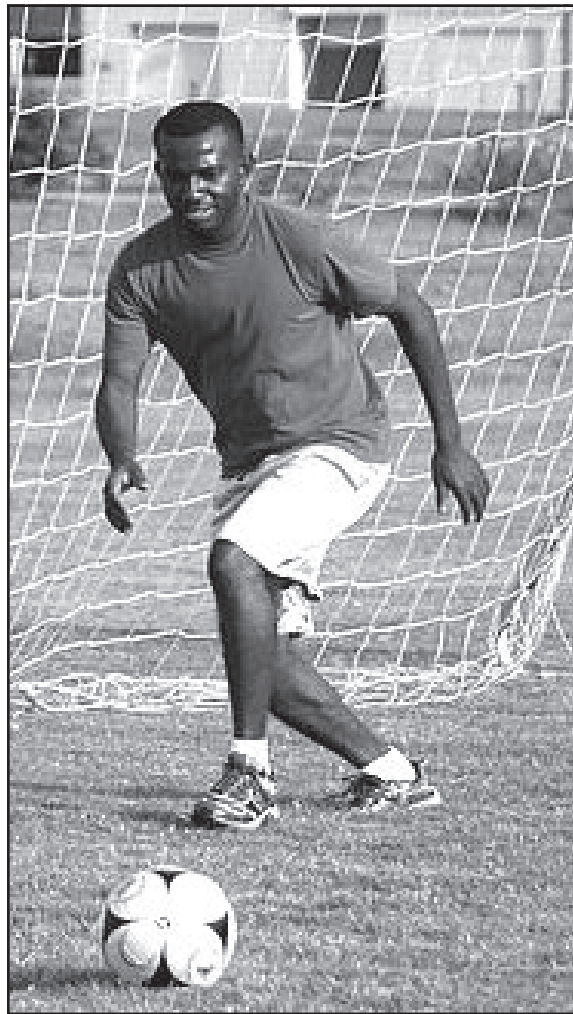
Nature also lent a hand to help cool things off the first two nights. "We hadn't had rain in more than a month, but rain showers blew through on both Monday and Tuesday evenings," said Ligibel. "The kids loved that!"

In addition to the rain, the other highlights of the camp were most likely the water balloon toss, which was used to demonstrate the skill of trapping, and the appearance of a special guest on Thursday evening. Fr. Uwem Enoh, the Associate Pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul, was invited by Ligibel once he learned the new priest was a soccer player.

"The kids really enjoyed having Fr. Enoh come out to join them at camp," said Ligibel. "He played keeper while they took shots on him, he helped with several drills, including a couple he suggested, and he even participated in the balloon toss," Ligibel elaborated.

Other coaches who also volunteered their time to help with the camp included Melissa Mollohan, Katie Holmes and Emily Holmes. Each assistant was an alumnus of Sts. Peter and Paul, played soccer throughout high school, and had at least one sister participating in the camp.

Just two short weeks after camp, most



Above: Fr. Uwem Enoh, Associate Pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville, attended one night of a soccer camp held from July 12 to 16 for the Sts. Peter and Paul middle school soccer team. The camp participants especially enjoyed taking shots at Fr. Enoh as he played goalkeeper. Photo taken by Dawn C. Ligibel.



Above right: Wally Romano, a fifth grade student at Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville, and Abby Craft, from the eighth grade, race for the ball during soccer camp which was held from July 12 through 16 this summer. Photo taken by Dawn C. Ligibel.



Lower right: Rachel Holmes and Allison Watson, both in the eighth grade, participated in a passing drill during a soccer camp that was held for the Sts. Peter and Paul middle school soccer players from July 12 through 16. Photo taken by Dawn C. Ligibel.

of the same players were back on the soccer field beginning their practices for the upcoming season. With nine games scheduled this year, the team will play from August 14 until September 28.



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Catholic Charities of Owensboro provides assistance to women experiencing an unplanned pregnancy and to couples who are seeking to adopt.

For more information about **domestic adoption**, call Rita at **270-852-8328**.

For more information about **international adoption**, call Martha at **270-852-8366**.

If you or someone you know is experiencing a crisis pregnancy, call us to find out how we can help. **270-852-8328**

Youth Camp Season Opens Campers to God's Love

By Ben Warrell

Wow, what an amazing summer at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp!

We had almost 300 campers this summer, up from 214 last summer. Our theme for the summer came from Pope Benedict's letter to the young people of the world for World Youth Day. The story was the Rich Servant, Mark 10:17-22. This man knelt before Jesus and asked, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus answered him but challenged him further to give away all his possessions, give the money to the poor and come follow Him. The man had a choice, he could take the journey or not, it was up to him to follow. This story gave the theme of "Journey" for our camp season.

On Sunday, we introduced the theme to the campers. On Monday, we discussed love. "Jesus looked at him and loved him." Even though Jesus knew that there was something the man loved more than him, he still loved him despite his faults. On Tuesday we talked about our gifts and talents and our vocations. Obviously, the rich man has skills that he used to accumulate many possessions. On Wednesday, we discussed our baggage. Like the rich man, there is something that stands between us and God. What is it? How do we get rid of it? Thursday's topic was social justice. We have these gifts; we know we are loved; now how do we put our faith into action? How do we love others? How are we connected to God and the Church and how do we stay on the right path? On Friday we recapped the week and sent the campers back into the world



Wednesday, Expedition Camp 1. <http://www.gasperriverretreatcenter.org/Wednesday.htm>

to go make a difference and put what they learned to use.

We did not want the campers to go home and feel like they had to sell all they had and give that money to the poor. We wanted them to be aware of what gets between us and God; to be conscious of when that happens and to go to reconciliation to get back on the right path on our faith journey.

We mix all of the teaching time with mass, reconciliation, varying forms of prayer experiences (Stations of the Cross, Rosary Walk, St. Ignatius Prayer) and adoration. In addition, campers partake of activities such as rappelling, low elements, team building games, zip line, arts & crafts, canoeing, kayaking,



Bishop William Medley listens to a young lady during a time for receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation in a youth camp this past summer at Gasper River Retreat Center. Photo submitted by Ben Warrell

swimming, river exploration, archery and hiking.

All of the camp activities are tied back into their faith so they get the understanding that God is a part of their lives no matter what they are doing, not just on Sunday or at youth group. There is large group time, small group time and time for campers to privately reflect on their experience with God at camp.

The reaction from the campers was overwhelming. "Last night at adoration was the greatest night of my life. I've never felt closer to God." "At first, I didn't want to come but by Friday, I didn't want to leave." "I never knew my faith could be so much fun." "I can't wait for next summer." "I am going to be different for God." "I've made friends that will last forever and I've grown so close to God." "For the first time in my life, I know that God loves me, I felt it."

Thank you so much for all the prayers and support that we receive to make this camp season happen. So many people gave of themselves volunteering in so many ways, donated items to camp, gave money to help others attend and most importantly, so many prayed for the Holy Spirit to work in these campers lives. God changes lives at camp, kids are unplugged (no TV, internet, cell phones, etc.) and they form a beautiful community centered on Jesus Christ. The results are amazing.

Glenmary Sisters' 2010 Mediterranean Pilgrimage Cruise



The Glenmary Sisters would like to thank everyone for their prayers and financial support of the 2010 Mediterranean Pilgrimage Cruise (June 20 - July 2, 2010). The Sisters wish to also extend a special thank you to Father John Vaughan, Spiritual Director & Mike Connelly, Director of Liturgy and Music.

William and Anne Swinford presented Father John Vaughan with his appointment as a Kentucky Colonel. The certificate was presented during the Glenmary Sisters' Pilgrimage Mediterranean Cruise with Royal Caribbean aboard the ship Brilliance of the Seas. Harriett Oexman Anne Lauzon Swinford came up with the idea to present the KY Colonel certificate to Father Vaughan on his birthday somewhere in the Mediterranean. The



whole group of pilgrims were present.

Llamado De Los Obispos Católicos A Una Exhaustiva Reforma Migratoria

Documento del USCCB, Sometido por Patti Gutiérrez

En la ya conocida carta pastoral publicada por los obispos católicos de México y de Los Estados Unidos, Juntos en el Camino de la Esperanza: Ya no Somos Extranjeros, los obispos reconocen que el sistema actual de migración está gravemente necesitado de una reforma y que se requiere de una propuesta exhaustiva para corregirlo. Los obispos ofrecen una serie de recomendaciones para cambiar las leyes y políticas de Los Estados Unidos con el objetivo de reflejar los principios contenidos en Las Escrituras y la Doctrina Social Católica para lograr un sistema migratorio más humano y más justo en Los Estados Unidos.

El llamado de los obispos para las reformas incluye los siguientes elementos:
Esfuerzos Globales contra la pobreza

Muchos inmigrantes se ven obligados a dejar sus hogares por la necesidad económica - con el propósito de adquirir incluso las más básicas de las necesidades, para ellos mismos y para sus familias. Los obispos hacen un llamado para que se diseñen esfuerzos internacionales para crear condiciones en las cuales la gente no tenga que dejar sus hogares por necesidad. Habrá que buscar varios tipos de políticas económicas, tales como comerciales, de asistencia económica internacional, reducción de deudas, entre otros, para lograr que la gente no tenga que dejar sus hogares en la desesperación por sobrevivir.

Oportunidades para reunificar familias:

Los ciudadanos americanos y residentes legales tienen que soportar muchos años de separación de sus familiares más cercanos con los que desean reunirse en Los Estados Unidos. Los rezagos en las visas para los miembros de la familia van desde cinco, diez, quince, y hasta más años de espera para que una visa esté disponible para ellos. Los obispos claman una reducción de este rezago, así como más visas disponibles con el propósito de la reunificación familiar.

Programa para los trabajadores temporales:

La economía de Los Estados Unidos depende del trabajo realizado por los inmigrantes. Por lo tanto, muchos inmigrantes vienen a Estados Unidos a cubrir estos trabajos. Los obispos reconocen esta realidad y solicitan un sistema más racional y humano por medio del cual, trabajadores de otros países puedan entrar al país de manera legal para cubrir puestos de la fuerza laboral, incluyendo aquellos temporales. Debido a que la experiencia de Los Estados Unidos con programas de trabajadores temporales en el pasado ha estado llena de abusos, los obispos claman un programa para el trabajador temporal que incluya:

- Un camino a la residencia permanente alcanzable y veraz
- Unidad familiar que permita a los familiares inmediatos del trabajador reunirse con él[1]
- Flexibilidad que permita a los trabajadores cambiar de patrón[2]
- Protecciones laborales que aplica a trabajadores estadounidenses
- Aplicación de mecanismos y recursos para hacer cumplir los derechos de los trabajadores[3]
- Salarios y prestaciones que no abaraten la mano de obra de trabajadores nacionales
- Movilidad entre Los Estados Unidos y su patria, así como dentro de Los Estados Unidos
- Sondeo del mercado laboral para asegurar que los trabajadores americanos no se vean perjudicados

Legalización exhaustiva:

Se deben proporcionar oportunidades a todos aquellos que se encuentran en este país sin documentación apropiada de migración, oportunidades que les permitan legalizarse siempre y cuando puedan demostrar una buena conducta moral, así como el que han acumulado intereses en este país. Dicha legalización "obtenida" debe ser alcanzable e independientemente comprobable.

Restauración del debido proceso legal justo:

Recientemente, los inmigrantes han estado sujetos a leyes y políticas que degradan el compromiso fundamental de nuestro país a las libertades individuales y al debido proceso legal justo. Estas leyes y políticas, incluyendo la detención por meses sin cargos, audiencias secretas y perfiles étnicos, señalan un mar de cambio en nuestra política gubernamental, así como la actitud hacia los inmigrantes. Somos una nación con una larga y amplia tradición de recibir a los recién llegados. Las políticas gubernamentales que injusta e inoportunamente confunden migración con terrorismo no nos hace más seguros, empaña nuestro patrimonio y daña nuestra imagen en el extranjero. Los obispos exhortan a nuestro gobierno a revisar estas leyes y a hacer cambios apropiados consistentes con los derechos al debido proceso legal justo.

Asimismo, en este contexto los obispos claman una reforma a nuestro sistema para responder a los buscadores de asilo y considerar sus necesidades. Hoy en día, los buscadores de asilo tienen que enfrentarse con un obstáculo enorme para demostrar su petición de asilo y mientras tanto, son encarcelados. Los obispos creen que nuestra nación puede, tanto proteger a sus ciudadanos de terroristas, como continuar siendo un refugio seguro para buscadores de asilo legítimos que huyen de la persecución.

Five Tips for Welcoming Hispanic and Latino Catholics Into Parish Life



Martha Fernández-Sardina

Put out into the deep! Jesus instructed Peter and the first disciples to let down their nets for a catch. They obeyed despite their misgivings. An amazing catch followed that brought their fishing nets to the point of breaking!(Luke 5:4-6) Christ instructed, the disciples trusted - and they saw the miraculous. Are you ready for some fishing?!

STEUBENVILLE, OH - August 3, 2010 - With almost half the Catholic population in the United States now made up of Hispanic or Latino Catholics, religious educators are seeking better ways to minister to this growing demographic. At the July, 2010 St. John Bosco Conference for Religious Educators held at Franciscan University of Steubenville, two workshops given by Martha Fernández-Sardina addressed the challenges of helping Hispanic Catholics embrace their faith heritage—while helping non-Hispanics understand and appreciate their Latino brothers and sisters. In an interview following her workshops, Fernández-Sardina, director of the Office for Evangelization of the Archdiocese of San Antonio, offered five tips for making parishes more welcoming to Hispanic or Latino Catholics.

First, she said, parishes must acknowledge and appreciate the fact of the Hispanic presence even if they only see a few Hispanic people in their pews. "Normally if there's one individual, there's at least one family. If there's one family, there may soon be two and ten and twenty and two hundred, because Hispanics tend to congregate with one another, especially if the Latino or Hispanic family has migrated to the U.S. So first of all, acknowledge their presence and find out how many more of these dear brothers and sisters are in the geographical boundaries of the parish."

Second, Fernández-Sardina urged parishes to remember the Church teaching that we are all one in Jesus Christ. "As St. Paul says, there's no longer Jew nor Gentile, slave nor free man, male nor female: we are all one in Christ, and so we are all equal. We are all brothers and sisters in the Lord. We must have this profoundly Catholic belief and conviction if we are going to be able to accept, welcome, embrace, be enriched by, and fully include our Hispanic brothers and sisters into our parish communities. We can't see Latinos or any other ethnic group as 'they and we' but as 'we and we.' It's us, all together."

Her third tip is to address the language challenges inherent in ministering to any immigrant population. "Some may speak English, may read English, may write English, but many may not. So be considerate of that, and know that many times they will need to receive opportunities for worship, especially the Mass, and sacramental and catechetical preparation and instruction in their native language—in their vernacular language."

Fourth, Fernández-Sardina said, parishes should ensure that people feel safe in the Church of their birth. "We need to make our churches as safe and as welcoming as possible, regardless of a person's legal status, immigration status, or background, the same way any of us would feel safe in an American embassy if we were traveling overseas. When we set foot inside the embassy, we feel safe, protected, because we are in our homeland. Immigrants need to feel that even if they're living in a foreign country, they're in their homeland when it comes to church."

She concluded by encouraging Catholics to follow the U.S. bishops in welcoming "any immigrant population, including Latino immigrants, as a gift. Their presence is a gift. There's a lot that the Latino community brings to the Church that's a gift to us—the gift of recognizing the beauty and value of the family, especially the extended family; openness to life; and a strong faith. Many Latinos bring with them pastoral experience, many are professionals, and almost all are hard working. Hispanics from the various countries of America—as Pope John Paul II insisted we call this one multicultural continent (cf. *Ecclesia in America*, The Church In America, 1999)—bring with them many qualities that can be a blessing to us all, especially the gift of an incarnated and lively faith, which we are to preserve from the onslaughts of militant secularism, aggressive atheism, and intentional proselytism."

Hablar y Dialogar y Escuchar Junto con Nuestro Obispo



Bishop William F. Medley

**Por el Más Reverendo William Medley
Traducido por Tami Schneider**

En esta temporada del año, siempre descubro dentro de mí la inclinación de ser un poco travieso. Alrededor de finales de julio, empiezo a preguntar a cualquier niño o joven que encuentro, “¿Estás contento que ya casi se termina el verano y puedes regresar al colegio?” Aunque la respuesta más común es poner los ojos en blanco o gruñir un poco, algunos confiesan que están realmente emocionados. El primer día de clases normalmente encuentra a los niños y jóvenes muy satisfechos de regresar a una rutina que incluye a sus amigos.

Este año, mi pregunta presentó un efecto diferente porque pude decirles a los estudiantes que yo también tengo que regresar a la escuela. Salgo para Roma el 8 de septiembre donde voy a participar en clases y discusiones por nueve días para todos los nuevos obispos por todo el mundo que han sido nombrados dentro del último año. Tuve la oportunidad de conocer a algunos de estos hombres cuando asistí mi primera reunión de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos en St. Petersburg, Florida en junio.

Los niños y jóvenes probablemente no me permitirán comparar este curso de nueve días con su año escolar de nueve meses. De acuerdo. Pero permítame agregar que he visto nuestro horario y nos van a mantener muy ocupados. Por cierto hay algunos momentos extraordinarios que miramos con anticipación. El domingo que estamos en Roma, vamos a visitar la Basílica de San Pedro para concelebrar la Misa y visitar la tumba de San Pedro, arriba de la cual, se construyó la basílica. Si lo permite su horario, tenemos programado una audiencia con el Papa Benedicto XVI en su residencia de verano en Castel Gandolfo.

Mientras reviso el currículum de nuestro curso, noto que el énfasis es sobre el papel pastoral del Obispo en relación a sus sacerdotes, religiosos y todos los fieles. Sé que ciertamente tengo mucho que aprender, pero igual a otras experiencias semejantes, lo que más miro con anticipación es conocer a otros obispos nuevos por el mundo y aprender de sus experiencias y de sus feligreses.

Durante los últimos seis meses como Obispo, la pregunta más común me ha sido, “¿Cuál es tu visión para la Diócesis de Owensboro?” Mi respuesta siempre ha sido que mi visión es difundir el Evangelio de Jesucristo. Pero rápidamente sigo diciendo que la manera específica de llevar eso a cabo implica escuchar, escuchar a nuestros sacerdotes y religiosos y a todos los feligreses. Eso es importante porque creo que el Espíritu Santo actúa y trae sabiduría a la Iglesia a través de varias fuentes. Así que, he escuchado durante visitas a parroquias y escuelas y durante interacciones con el personal del Centro Pastoral. He escuchado a través de la correspondencia que he recibido, especialmente de los jóvenes que me escriben para pedir la Confirmación.

Dentro de pocas semanas de haber empezado el ministerio Episcopal, me di cuenta que en algún momento probablemente íbamos a necesitar algún sistema o proceso para organizar todo lo que estoy escuchando si verdaderamente va a afectar mi visión y la visión de nuestra diócesis. Por eso, he empezado a dialogar con el Concilio Sacerdotal y con el Concilio Pastoral Diocesano sobre como traducir el escuchar en un plan formal con metas y pasos de acción que puedan ser evaluados y medidos.

Dentro de las próximas semanas surgirán los detalles de ese proceso de escuchar. Espero que podamos crear un foro que invite a cada católico a expresar sus inquietudes y visiones sobre como vivimos juntos nuestro mandato evangelical. Estamos en el siglo 21, así que si vamos a oír de los jóvenes, tenemos que escucharlos donde hablan, en el Internet y paginas del Web y los blogs.

Esta es la primera invitación de muchas invitaciones que quizá reciban dentro de los próximos meses a participar en un diálogo muy amplio. Vengan a la mesa, vengan a la computadora, listos para hablar y dialogar y escuchar.

La Reforma Migratoria Integral Debe Incluir:

Sometido por Rachel Newton, Russell Immigration Law Firm, LLC

1. **LEGALIZACIÓN** para los 12 millones de indocumentados en este país. Necesita incluir elegibilidad eventual para la ciudadanía. Por muchos años, trabajadores indocumentados han laborado en trabajos difíciles y mal pagados que los demás trabajadores en los EEUU no querían. La legalización reconocería este hecho y sus contribuciones a nuestra sociedad.
2. **DREAM Act.** Los que fueron traídos a los EEUU cuando eran niños y quienes obtienen su diploma de la secundaria o su GED deben poder lograr sus sueños en vez de enfrentar la deportación a un país que muchas veces ni recuerdan. (En la forma presente de la propuesta, los estudiantes indocumentados serían elegibles para la residencia permanente al cumplir 2 años en la universidad o en las fuerzas armadas de los EEUU).
3. **AgJobs Act.** Los trabajadores de agricultura han sembrado y cosechado nuestra comida bajo condiciones muy difíciles y muchas veces abusadoras. Esta ley los haría elegibles para la residencia permanente al comprobar que trabajaron en agricultura por un tiempo definido y razonable.
4. **Protecciones plenas bajo nuestras leyes laborales.** Los trabajadores legalizados deben tener los mismos derechos que los demás trabajadores para que no sean un medio para rebajar los sueldos de los trabajadores ciudadanos o poner en peligro las condiciones de su trabajo.
5. **Aumento del número de visas inmigrantes.** Porque hay visas insuficientes para ciertas categorías de familiares, muchos esperan entre 5 a 20 años para reunirse. Si aumentan el número de visas familiares y de empleo a niveles más realísticos, nadie arriesgaría su vida para venir aquí ilegalmente. Un aumento de visas disponibles en esas categorías permitiría a los inmigrantes venir de forma segura, ordenada, y legal.
6. **Proteger los derechos fundamentales de todos.** La Constitución de los EEUU garantiza los derechos civiles y las protecciones básicas para toda la gente en este país. Con frecuencia, los indocumentados son arrestados sin evidencia legal de haber violado las leyes criminales o migratorias. Después del arresto, muchas veces sus derechos se violan aún más. ¡El Congreso debe restaurar las libertades básicas para toda la gente y renovar el compromiso de esta nación a la justicia!

La Reforma Migratoria puede incluir otros cambios en las leyes migratorias, por ejemplo:

1. **Más seguridad en la frontera para prevenir la inmigración ilegal en el futuro.** (Pero NO aceptamos la militarización de la frontera, la cual pone vidas en peligro, destruye la estructura de la comunidad, y sujetar a los que viven en la frontera al abuso y a la intimidación;
 2. **Aumento de castigos para los empleadores que ocupan a trabajadores indocumentados.** (La aplicación intensificada de estas leyes en los sitios de trabajo debe incluir protecciones fuertes contra la discriminación por raza, grupo étnico o nacional, o aptitud para el inglés);
 3. **Un programa para una visa temporal de trabajo basado en las necesidades de la economía.** (Los trabajadores en este programa deben ser elegibles para la residencia permanente después de un tiempo definido y razonable Y tener la protección PLENA y garantizada de nuestras leyes laborales).
 4. **Pago de multas y tarifas.** Pero los costos de aplicar para la legalización DEBEN SER RAZONABLES para permitir que los trabajadores que ganan el sueldo mínimo y sus familias puedan aplicar.
- Sin embargo, la Reforma Migratoria NO PUEDE incluir restricciones irrazonables que dejarían a millones inelegibles, por ejemplo personas quienes:
1. Tienen órden de deportación o que han sido deportadas en el pasado;
 2. Ya salieron del país (para visitar a su familia o a seres queridos muy enfermos, etc.) y regresaron a los EEUU; o
 3. Han sido arrestados por delitos de tránsito o por otros delitos menores (manejar sin licencia porque la mayoría de los indocumentados no pueden sacar una, etc.).

La Reforma Migratoria se hará realidad solamente si todos hacemos nuestra parte. Por favor provean su información a los que organizaron este evento para que podamos comunicarnos con Uds. acerca de otras actividades y para lograr que una reforma migratoria justa sea una realidad!

RETIRO JUVENIL
Campamento de Gasper River
Cerca de Bowling Green, KY
8-9 de octubre
Empezando a las 5:00pm



Llamando a todos los JOVENES
de 15-30 años! Los Invitamos!!
Para mayor información,
hablen con su ministro hispano o
con Luis o Tami al 270-683-1545.

3

Oficina Episcopal Para Protección de Menores Detalla Qué Escuchan Los Niños en el Programa de Ambientes Seguros

WASHINGTON—Al tiempo que las escuelas se preparan para el lanzamiento de un nuevo año académico, millones de niños se disponen también a aprender conceptos básicos para su propia protección. En las escuelas y parroquias católicas de todo el país, los programas educativos para ambientes seguros proporcionan a los niños las habilidades necesarias para protegerse a sí mismos de posibles abusadores. Mary Jane Doerr, directora asociada del Secretariado para la Protección de Niños y Jóvenes de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de Estados Unidos (USCCB por sus siglas en inglés), ofrece en una lista a continuación algunos de los mensajes que los niños escuchan en los programas para promover ambientes seguros.

1. **El abuso nunca es culpa del niño,** es un punto que los niños deben escuchar una y otra vez. Los abusadores tratan por todos los medios de hacer que los niños se sientan cómplices en el abuso o de culparlos a ellos del abuso. Los niños aprenden que esto no es cierto en ningún caso. La culpa siempre es del adulto que se aprovecha de la confianza y vulnerabilidad de un niño.

2. **Dios ama siempre a los niños y desea que vivan vidas felices y santas.** Si un niño ha sido abusado, ese niño aprende que de cualquier manera él o ella son inocentes y que Dios y sus familias todavía los aman. La vergüenza del abuso sexual de menores debe caer sobre aquel a quien pertenece: el abusador.

3. **Un abuso cometido debe ser reportado.** Los niños aprenden a decirle a su papá o mamá, o a otro adulto en quien confían, si alguien les está haciendo daño y a continuar hablando de ello hasta que les crean. Un estudio muestra que los niños hablan sobre un abuso que les ha sucedido un promedio de nueve veces antes de que alguien les crea. Los padres pueden ayudar a sus hijos a que aprendan en

quién pueden confiar señalándoles a adultos que consideran dignos de confianza. Los padres también pueden enseñar a sus hijos los nombres correctos de sus partes privadas. Este sencillo paso dota a los niños del vocabulario para contar a otros lo que les ha pasado.

4. **Usted puede reconocer un abuso cuando sucede.** Los niños aprenden a confiar en ese sentimiento que les dice que algo no está bien y a decirselo a sus padres o a un adulto en quien confían cuando sucede algo que les hace sentir incómodos. Los niños aprenden a cuestionar si alguien que les está diciendo que hagan algo que no les gusta les dice que lo hace porque los ama. Los niños aprenden a decir a sus padres o a un adulto de confianza si otra persona les hace ponerse tristes o sentirse confundidos, o trata de conseguir que rompan las reglas. Esto puede detener el proceso de acercamiento mediante el cual un abusador atrae a un niño hacia el peligro. Un niño que cuestiona el comportamiento inapropiado de

otra persona puede enviar un mensaje al posible abusador de que este niño/a no es una presa fácil sino que contará lo que se le está haciendo.

5. **Hay formas de detectar un proceso de acercamiento indebido.** Los posibles abusadores están dispuestos a pasar una gran cantidad de tiempo haciéndose amigos de la familia e incluso de la comunidad para hacerse ver como amigo de confianza de esta familia. Los niños aprenden que cualquier persona que les permite romper las reglas, les da alcohol o les muestra pornografía debe ser reportada a los padres o a otros adultos de confianza. Los niños aprenden que no es bueno ocultar secretos a sus padres. Aprenden que deben decirles a sus padres cuando alguien les da obsequios especiales o siempre les está tocando o haciendo cosquillas y les dice que no lo digan.

6. **Los padres y otros adultos de confianza hablarán sobre este asunto.** Los niños a menudo tratan de proteger a

sus padres de las malas noticias, así que necesitan aprender que pueden contar a sus padres cualquier cosa. Esta lección se transmite cuando los padres se involucran en las actividades de sus hijos y hablan con ellos de lo que sucede en su vida. Esta es la forma en que los niños aprenden lo que pueden compartir con sus padres. Los más efectivos programas de ambientes seguros incluyen a los padres en el proceso de aprendizaje. Esto envía a los niños una clara señal de que este tema no es tabú sino que, por el contrario es algo que debe hablarse con miembros de la familia.

7. **Existen las barreras personales.** Aprender a establecer barreras personales puede proteger a un niño y saber que dichas barreras existen refuerza la enseñanza de escuchar a los propios instintos. Los niños que escuchan a esa voz que les dice “presiento que esto no está bien” pueden protegerse a sí mismos.

8. **Los niños pueden defenderse a sí mismos.** Los niños deben ser respetuosos y obedecer, pero al mismo tiempo necesitan saber que hay ocasiones cuando está bien decir “no” a un adulto. Los niños aprenden cuando es apropiado que digan: “No, deje de hacer eso”. Por ejemplo, escuchan que pueden decir no a alguien que los hace sentir incómodos, les muestra pornografía o les ofrece alcohol.

9. **Hay formas de explicar un comportamiento inapropiado.** Los niños aprenden a describir qué está sucediendo cuando alguien está haciendo algo que parece “algo extraño” aunque pueda no parecer incorrecto. La capacidad de articular lo que le ha sucedido, le permite al niño confiárselo más fácilmente sus padres o a un adulto de confianza. Esto puede alertar al adulto de una situación potencialmente peligrosa para que ésta pueda ser evitada. Ultimadamente, este es el objetivo de la educación para ambientes seguros.



“En Nombre de Dios”

Saying Goodbye to Summer

By Luis Ajú

Translated by Tami Schneider

Vacation time has come to a close for students, teachers, those who dedicate themselves to taking care of various communities and parents. No matter what category of work we fall in, we have had the opportunity to visit with friends and relatives, far and near. It has been a time of enrichment, with moments of reflection to better ourselves for the mission, both as people and as Christians.

Each of us has charged our batteries in order to move forward with a positive disposition to better serve in whatever God has called us to do. Thanks be to God we have the opportunity to serve our neighbor during this time when our society needs a message of hope and a gesture of compassion that makes them feel useful and owners of the great value God himself has granted them.

To the students of the different levels of scholarly learning, I exhort you to continue moving forward, come what may. Follow the indications of your parents, your older brothers and sisters, and others that you may find along the way to help you to successfully reach your goals.

We, as parents, should always remember the great responsibility we have to guide our children. In their formation process, they should understand that their first school is the home, because that is where they learn respect toward others, good manners, good human relations and above all, respect for God. In that way, the integral formation of the person is grounded in the student, the teacher and the parent.

Mentors and those who dedicate themselves to guiding others, men and women, young people and adults, should keep in mind the profound responsibility they have to form others today in preparation for their tomorrow. We should do it all in God's sight, so that nothing perturbs our service to each other. In prayer, we ask God to grant us the wisdom and the strength to fulfill the mission he has placed in our hands. Until next time, dear reader.



Luis Ajú

exhortamos a seguir adelante a pesar de los pesares, siguen las direcciones de sus padres, hermanos(as) mayores y demás personas que se encuentran en su camino ayudándoles para alcanzar sus metas con mucho éxito.

Nosotros los padres de familia debemos de recordar siempre nuestra suma responsabilidad de orientar a nuestros hijos(as), que en su proceso de formación deben de saber que la primera escuela es el hogar, porque allí es donde aprendemos a respetar, buenos modales, buenas relaciones humanas y sobre todo el respeto a Dios...en tal sentido la formación integral de la personas están fundamentados en el estudiante, los maestros y los padres de familia.

Los mentores y las personas que se dedican a orientar personas, hombres y mujeres, jóvenes y adultos, debemos de tener en mente la profunda responsabilidad que tenemos en formar personas hoy para el día de mañana, lo debemos de hacer bajo la mirada de Dios para que nada perturbe nuestro servicio a nuestros semejantes. En oración pedimos a Dios que nos dé la sabiduría y la fuerza para llevar a cabo la misión que se nos ha encomendado. Hasta pronto querido lector.

Despidiendo al Verano

Por Luis Ajú

Después de la temporada de las vacaciones para los estudiantes, maestros, personas que se dedican al cuidado de varias comunidades y padres de familia en los diferentes ramas de labor que realizamos, hemos tenido la oportunidad de visitar amigos, nuestros padres que viven cerca de nosotros o muy lejos de nosotros, ha sido un tiempo de enriquecimiento como también han sido momentos de reflexión para mejorar nuestra misión como personas y como cristianos.

Hemos cargado bien nuestras energías para seguir adelante cada quien con la buena disponibilidad de servir mejor en el llamado que Dios nos ha hecho. A Dios gracias tenemos la oportunidad de servir al prójimo en este tiempo en que la sociedad necesita de un mensaje de esperanza, un gesto de compasión que les haga sentir útiles y poseedores de grandes valores que Dios mismo les ha concedido.

A los estudiantes de los diferentes niveles de escolaridad, les

Nosotros los padres de familia debemos de recordar siempre nuestra suma responsabilidad de orientar a nuestros hijos(as), que en su proceso de formación deben de saber que la primera escuela es el hogar, porque allí es donde aprendemos a respetar, buenos modales, buenas relaciones humanas y sobre todo el respeto a Dios...en tal sentido la formación integral de la personas están fundamentados en el estudiante, los maestros y los padres de familia.

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Faltó Poco Para Que Fondos Federales Financiaran Abortos En Algunos Estados

Por Hna. Mary Ann Walsh, RSM

Los grupos pro vida andan secándose el sudor de la frente en estos días, después de que Estados Unidos estuviera cerca de ver el dinero de sus impuestos federales destinado a pagar abortos.

A mediados del mes de julio, niños aún por nacer en varios estados de la Unión Americana —Pennsylvania, Nuevo México y Maryland—escaparon al bisturí solamente cuando el Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos (HHS, por sus siglas en inglés) recordó a los estados en la tarde del 14 de julio que éstos no podían usar nuevos fondos disponibles para el cuidado de la salud para pagar por abortos.

La clarificación hecha por HHS reiteró lo que el presidente Obama dijo anteriormente en su orden ejecutiva declarando que los fondos destinados a la reforma del sistema de salud no serían usados para financiar abortos electivos.

Sin embargo, el hecho de que se estuviera tan cerca hace que nos hagamos preguntas importantes. ¿Es posible que aquellos que se opusieron a la ley de reforma del sistema de salud (Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act o “PPACA” por sus siglas en inglés) porque temían que se canalizaran fondos públicos para financiar abortos tuvieran algo de razón?

Hasta que HHS tomó cartas en el asunto, Nuevo México, por ejemplo, estaba presumiendo despreocupadamente en su sitio Web que los abortos electivos (es decir, de embarazos que no son resultado de una violación, de incesto o que pongan en serio peligro la salud de la madre) serían financiados mediante cinco mil millones de dólares federales que la PPACA ha destinado a “seguros médicos para grupos de alto riesgo”. Si la PPACA prohíbe tan claramente dicha financiación, según afirmaban los proponentes de la legislación durante los debates que llevaron a su aprobación, ¿cómo pudieron estos estados (y sus abogados) no darse cuenta?

Al parecer, Planned Parenthood tampoco piensa que la PPACA prohíbe la financiación del aborto en estos nuevos programas, como lo demuestra su reciente

campaña para que la gente escriba cartas. En un perturbador e-mail masivo, apelan a la gente a que digan que están “indignados” y a Obama que levante la prohibición de dicha financiación, explicando que: “Nada en la nueva legislación de reforma del sistema de salud requiere una prohibición de ofrecer cobertura de procedimientos de aborto a grupos de alto riesgo. La ley aprobada por el Congreso no forzó a tomar esta decisión.”

Quizá también ellos tengan un argumento válido.

Afortunadamente, existe una manera muy directa de resolver estas dudas: aprobar el proyecto de ley bipartidista denominado Protect Life Act (Acta para la Protección de la Vida). Ésta alinearía la PPACA con la Enmienda Hyde, una ley federal que ha estado en vigor desde 1976, al prohibir sin lugar a dudas el uso de fondos federales para la financiación de abortos electivos o planes de seguro médico que cubren el aborto. Ya basta de regulaciones confusas, esperando que la comunidad pro vida detecte todos y cada uno de los intentos de redirigir fondos de PPACA para el aborto. Ya basta de debates divisivos e innecesarios sobre si PPACA (o las regulaciones de HHS, o la orden ejecutiva del Presidente) realmente prohíben la financiación del aborto en nuestro recién reformado sistema de salud.

Este país necesita la reforma de salud. Ningún programa cuyos fondos hayan sido destinados a mantener el bienestar de las personas y a salvar vidas puede tratar un embarazo inconveniente como si fuera una enfermedad a erradicar. Necesitamos el Protect Life Act para dejar establecido, de una vez por todas, que los fondos para el cuidado de la salud realmente financian eso, el cuidado de la salud —y no la ya bien financiada industria del aborto.

La hermana Mary Ann Walsh, RSM, es directora de relaciones públicas con los medios de comunicación en la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos



Arriba, La Hermana Patricia Sullivan, O.P., dirige unas palabras a la congregación durante su Misa de bienvenida el 1 de julio en Russellville. Abajo, unos miembros de la parroquia del Sagrado Corazón se paran con la Hna. Patricia durante una recepción después de la Misa de bienvenida. Ella empezó como Ministro Hispano a tiempo parcial. Fotos por Luis Ajú.



¡¡Bienvenida, Hermana Patricia!!

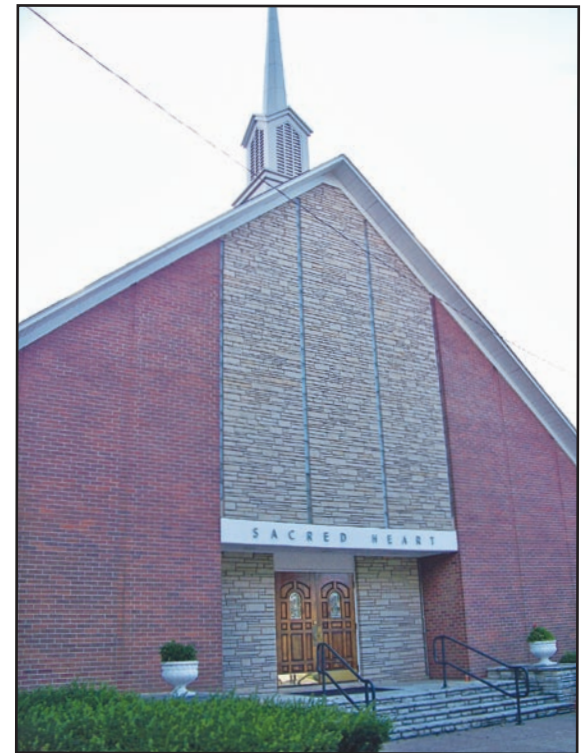
Por Luis Ajú

En las fotografías, aparecen varias personas, mostrando una alegría en sus rostros, ya que el día 1 de julio de este año, la Diócesis de Owensboro, a través de la Oficina del Ministerio Hispano, abrió el Ministerio Hispano en la Parroquia del Sagrado Corazón, en Russellville. La Comunidad dio la bienvenida a la Hna. Patricia Sullivan, O.P., quien ocupa la dirección de la Comunidad Hispana de la localidad.

Después de revisar y considerar que la Hna. Patricia ha tenido una larga historia y experiencia con la comunidad hispana en otras diócesis, sirviendo en la pastoral, es la persona indicada para la Parroquia del Sagrado Corazón, por lo que se le dio la oportunidad de seguir brindando a los necesitados la asistencia necesaria. La Hna. Patricia Sullivan pertenece a la orden Sinsinawa Dominicana con residencia en Wisconsin, que después de un año sabático en su comunidad decidió venir y servir en la comunidad a Medio Tiempo laboral, en nuestra Diócesis.

Hna. Patricia, gracias por venir, esperamos que se sienta bien en su nueva parroquia, cuente con nuestra ayuda si le fuera necesario y pronto tendrá los horarios y actividades del Ministerio Hispano de la Diócesis para involucrarse más en la misión. ¡Bienvenida!

Abajo, la Hermana Patricia disfruta un momento de risa con un niño de la Parroquia del Sagrado Corazón en Russellville. La comunidad le preparó una comida para darle la bienvenida como Ministro Hispano en la parroquia. Ahora ella también trabajará con los otros ministros a nivel diocesano.



La Iglesia del Sagrado Corazon en Russellville

