

Rejoice in the Lord always!  
Philippians 4:4

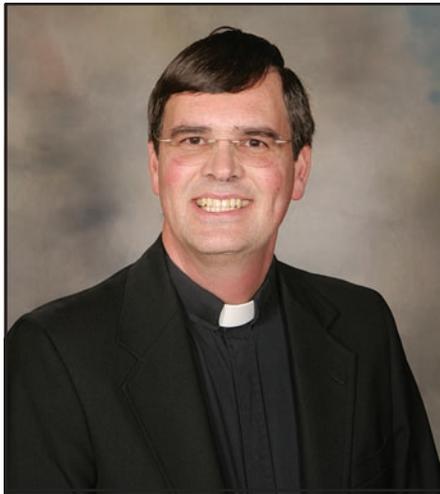


**HOLY SPIRIT**  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

December 12, 2010  
11:00 am

## Praying For Christian Unity



Father. Tony Bickett

By Fr. Tony Bickett,  
Ecumenical Officer

The Second Vatican Council's Decree on Ecumenism states that prayer is the soul of the whole ecumenical movement, a theme repeated by Pope John Paul II in his 1995 encyclical *Ut Unum Sint*. Many communities host ecumenical community Thanksgiving prayer services each year. This is a wonderful time for Catholics to join in public prayer with their Protestant Christian neighbors. Another opportunity will take place from January 18-25.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity began in 1908, as the Octave of Christian Unity, and focused on prayer for church unity. The dates of the week

were proposed by Father Paul Wattson, cofounder of the Graymoor Franciscan Friars. He conceived of the week beginning on the Feast of the Confession of Peter, the Protestant variant of the ancient Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter, on January 18, and concluding with the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul on January 25.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is an international Christian ecumenical observance kept annually between 18 January and 25 January. It is actually an octave, that is, an observance lasting eight days. Pope Pius X officially blessed the concept, and Pope Benedict XV has encouraged its observance throughout the entire Roman Catholic Church.

It is significant that it was at the end of the Week of Prayer, precisely on January 25, 1959, that John XXIII announced the Second Vatican Council which would officially open the Catholic Church to the ecumenical movement. In its Decree on Ecumenism, the Council declared: "This change of heart and holiness of life, along with public and private prayer for the unity of Christians, should be regarded as the soul of the whole ecumenical movement".

The annual week of prayer for Christian unity is a great time to renew our commitment as individuals and as a Church to work for ecumenism. Each experience of prayer and gathering provides the Christian faith community with opportunities to grow in our understanding of one another as we celebrate our unity and common mission.

If churches in your area have not observed the Week of Prayer for Chris-



Western Kentucky Catholic Graphic by Jennifer Farley Hunt  
**Western Kentucky Catholic, 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, Kentucky 42301**  
**Volume 37, Number 9 November, 2010**

## A Vigil for all Nascent Human Life

On Saturday, November 27, 2011, Pope Benedict will preside at a Vigil for all Nascent Human Life. He has asked all bishops around the world to preside at similar celebrations in their own dioceses.

You're invited to celebrate vespers with Bishop William F. Medley at Saint Stephen Cathedral at 6:30 p.m. on November 27 following the 5:00 p.m. Mass.

Come and join your prayers with those of the Holy Father and of the Church all around the world as we ask for God's protection over every human being called into existence.

## Week Of Prayer For Christian Unity

January 18-25, 2011 is the annual observance of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The theme chosen for 2011 is "One in the apostles' teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread and prayer" (Acts 2:42). The annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is a great time to renew our commitment as individuals and as a Church to work for ecumenism. Begun in 1908, these days have been set aside each year so that Christians the world over may share the prayer of Jesus: "that all may be one... that the world may believe" (John 17:21). If churches in your area have not observed the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity before, or for a long time, ask your parish and two or three congregations in your immediate area to plan a unity prayer service. For material and for more information go to: [www.geii.org](http://www.geii.org).



**One in the apostles' teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread and prayer (cf. Acts 2:42)**

tian Unity before, or for a long time, consider gathering together a group of Christians who would be willing to work together on ways to pray together in your community. Ask your parish and two or three congregations in your immediate area to plan a unity prayer service. Share the plans in your community for the celebration on or near the Sunday within the Week of Prayer. Publicize your plans in church media (parish bulletins, congregational newsletters, or bulletin boards) and in local newspapers, and radio. At the conclusion of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity try to get a commitment to pray together for the next year. You could also consider promoting other prayer services throughout the year as well as bible study, lectures, social justice projects, etc. Many resources can be found at [www.geii.org](http://www.geii.org).

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## A Thankful Heart



**Papal Audience with New Bishops From Around The World, September 13, 2010 at Castel Gandolfo. Pope Benedict XVI and Bishop William Francis Medley. Canadian Cardinal Marc Ouellet, a Sulpician, is in the background. Photo from Servizio Fotografico de "L'O.R." 00120 CITTA DEL VATICANO.**

My dear People of God,

As promised, I attended school from September 9 – 17, 2010. All those priests called within the previous twelve months to serve as bishops throughout the world were gathered in Rome, Italy, for a conference. The title of the conference was "Pilgrimage to the Tomb of St. Peter," and thus our study and reflection was set as a religious journey.

St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City is built over the tomb of St. Peter according to tradition. For centuries many speculated that this may have been a pious legend, but archeological studies of the late 20th century suggest this is most likely historically accurate. On Sunday, September 12 at the conclusion of a celebrated Mass in St. Peter's, all the new bishops processed to the tomb of St. Peter and prayed there.

The introduction for the *Directory for the Pastoral Ministry of Bishops* states in part, "Successors of the Apostles by divine institution, Bishops are constituted as Pastors of the church when the Holy Spirit is conferred upon them at their episcopal ordination, and they receive the task of teaching, sanctifying and governing in hierarchical communion with the Successor of Peter and with other members of the episcopal College."

Since last December when I was informed that Pope Benedict XVI had chosen me to be a bishop, I have studied and prayed about the role of bishop in the

church. This pilgrimage to pray at the tomb of St. Peter focused my prayer and reflection of these last several months. It is an awesome reflection that in my role as bishop I am to witness to the direct connection between our 21st century Catholic Church of western Kentucky and the ancient ministry of the Apostles, a ministry inaugurated by Jesus Christ.

Our priests join me in sharing this ministry of teaching, sanctifying and governing the Church. In turn, all of us are joined by hundreds who make up diocesan and parish staffs and the thousands who further extend the church's good works as catechists, liturgical ministers, and servants of the poor.

As heirs of this sacred tradition that has come to down to us from the Apostles, we recall in a powerful way the communion of saints, all those who "have gone before us marked with the sign of faith." November is traditionally a month in which we pray in a special way for those who have died. Let us then remember our beloved dead and ask that God's mercy has brought them to everlasting life. In our country, this month also brings us Thanksgiving Day and reminds us that our faith has been a gift made possible by God through parents, grandparents, teachers, and friends who have modeled faith for us.

My prayer for you is that you have a thankful heart and that this wonderful season finds you with others with whom you can share your gratitude.

Yours in Christ,  
+ Most Reverend William F. Medley  
Bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro

## Bishop William F. Medley's Calendar for November 2010

November 1	10:00 a.m.	School Mass, St. Joseph Elementary, Bowling Green
November 2	9:00 a.m.	CPC Staff Mass and Meeting
November 4	10:00 a.m.	Mass, Bishop Soenneker Home
November 4	6:00 p.m.	Mass and Dedication, St. Charles Borromeo, Livermore
November 6	11:00 a.m.	Mass, Marian Conference, Carmel Home, Owensboro
November 6	4:00 p.m.	Permanent Deacons, Installation - Ministry of Lector, Holy Name, Henderson
November 7	11:00 a.m.	Confirmation - St. Thomas More, Paducah
November 8	9:00 a.m.	School Mass, St. Paul, Leitchfield
November 8	1:30 p.m.	Priests' Council Meeting, CPC
November 9		Mid South Leadership Conference, Lake Barkley
November 10	8:30 a.m.	School Mass, St. Mary Carrico, Knottsville
November 10	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation, St. Jerome, Fancy Farm
November 11		CCK Health Care Summit, Louisville
November 13	5:00 p.m.	Permanent Deacons, Installation - Ministry of Lector, St. Joseph, Bowling Green
November 14-18		USCCB Conference/Meeting, Baltimore
November 20	5:30 p.m.	Mass, ODYC, Sloan Convention Center, Bowling Green
November 21	8:00 a.m.	Mass, St. Sebastian, Calhoun
November 23		Presbyteral Day, Catholic Pastoral Center, Owensboro
November 25	8:00 a.m.	Mass, St. Stephen Cathedral, Thanksgiving Day
November 27	6:30 p.m.	Vigil for Nascent Human Life, St. Stephen Cathedral
November 28	8:00 a.m.	Mass, Sacred Heart, Waverly
November 29-30		Priests' Council Provincial Meeting, Owensboro

## Fight Poverty in America. Defend Human Dignity.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

The Collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) will be November 20 and 21 in our diocese. This Collection supports works of charity and justice by funding community groups whose goals are to solve problems and change policies that keep low-income residents in poverty.

One Florida group receiving funding from CCHD, composed of 20 churches, is called Hillsborough Organization for Progress and Equality (HOPE). HOPE stepped in to support children at risk of school failure. The group worked with the school district to develop a program through which suspended students attend a supervised site during their suspension. There, they do schoolwork, receive academic help from a teacher, and spend time with a counselor to deal with the underlying problems that led to suspension. Students who may have become stuck in a cycle of misbehavior and punishment are now improving their conflict management and academic skills, setting the stage for a more secure future.

Groups who receive funding from CCHD find problems that affect them and then work to find just solutions. Through CCHD, the Catholic Church is working to seek justice and reflect Catholic social teaching. Please help the efforts of CCHD to break the cycle of poverty. Fight poverty in America. Defend human dignity. Support CCHD in the upcoming Collection. Please remember: 25% of our local Collection's proceeds stays here in our diocese to fight poverty in our communities and defend the dignity of our neighbors.

For more information about the Collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development and the groups it funds, please visit [www.usccb.org/nationalcollections](http://www.usccb.org/nationalcollections).

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

# Picnic At St. Henry Catholic Church a fun time for adults and children alike

By Rich Logsdon

AURORA, Ky. - Approximately 80 parishioners and friends took part in the annual St. Henry parish picnic here recently on a beautiful fall Sunday. Picnic chairwoman Myra Fassett orchestrated a fun time for adults and children alike.

Adults took part in a free bingo where they earned cash prizes if they were lucky enough to have the right numbers called. There was also a silent auction that they could participate in with a painted window frame, a print made out of dollar bills and other unique items for the winning bidders.

The children and younger adults had plenty to keep them busy with vol-



Fr. Babu, standing at center right, and Rich Logsdon handing out attendance prizes at St. Henry picnic. Submitted Photo

leyball, a cake walk, horseshoes, a marshmallow roast, bobbing for apples, and a helium balloon rosary decade.

All this activity made for good appetites, and the hungry folks weren't disappointed. Besides all the popcorn anyone could eat, hamburgers, brats, and hot dogs with many side dishes and desserts were available to satisfy everyone. If anyone left hungry, it was his or her own fault. As if all this weren't enough, there were attendance prizes for almost everyone who showed up. Parishioners are already looking forward to next year when Myra says the picnic will be bigger and better.



## A Bishop's Blessing for Ashley

On August 11, 2010, Bishop William Medley came to Ashley Johnson's house in Whitesville, Ky. to visit with her. Bishop Medley was in her hometown that day visiting the Catholic schools, Trinity High School and Saint Mary of the Woods Elementary. Here, Bishop Medley offered the diocese's prayers for health and blessed Ashley and her family this day. Photos by Sister Pam Mueller, O.S.U., principal of Saint Mary of the Woods Elementary.

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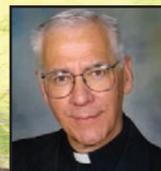
Opinions expressed in columns and letters to the editor submitted for publication in the Western Kentucky Catholic must be signed and with contact information, may be edited for space, a lack of charity or a lack of clarity, and are not necessarily those of the publisher or editor of The Western Kentucky 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

## Journey into Faith with Thomas Merton Weekend of Nov. 12-14, 2010

*Our real journey in life is interior: it is a matter of growth, deepening, and an ever-greater surrender to the creative action of love and grace in our hearts.*



### Retreat Director Father Anthony Shonis

Father Shonis is associate pastor of Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Henderson and is an Ursuline Associate. He has presented numerous retreats and workshops.

**Retreat begins 6:30 p.m. Friday. First meal is Saturday breakfast. Retreat ends after breakfast on Sunday.**

To register, contact Kathy McCarty  
270-229-0200 ext. 413  
kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



Thomas Merton



## 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

Fee is \$175 for residents or \$120 for commuters.

## 4 Letter of Appreciation and Gratitude to the People of the Owensboro Diocese

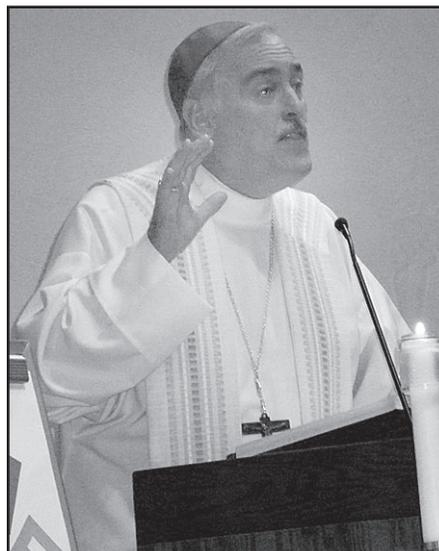
My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I have just returned to your sister diocese in Mandeville, Jamaica. I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to Bishop Medley. His hospitality and kindness were extraordinary. I am so happy to have met him and to have spent the past week with him. You are truly blessed to have him as your new pastor and bishop.

This was my first visit to your diocese and I was very impressed with your spirit of joy and faith. While the days went by so fast, I was deeply touched by all those whom I met.

On Tuesday evening, we had a wonderful dinner and meeting with all those who have visited the Mandeville Diocese. It was inspiring to see the joy and excitement that was expressed. To listen to all the stories that were told and to hear the names of the people of the Mandeville Diocese mentioned in those stories was so beautiful. Behind each story was a heart filled with love, compassion and faith. I was deeply moved by the sacrifices that were made so that these trips could be made. I am so grateful for all that was shared that evening. The dinner was from the Moonlite Bar-B-Q Inn. As you can imagine, it was delicious.

On Wednesday, Bishop Medley and I went to St. Mary of the Woods Parish in Whitesville. There, we celebrated Mass with the school. After Mass, we visited all the classes and had lunch with Sr. Suzanne Sims in the school cafeteria. Later that afternoon Mr. Richard Murphy gave me a tour of location where the work that was being done to prepare the container of supplies that is to be sent to Mandeville. I



**Bishop Neil Tiedemann concelebrated Mass on October 6, 2010 with Bishop William Medley and St. Mary's pastor, Fr. Dave Johnson. At the end of Mass, the Bishop of our sister Diocese of Mandeville, Jamaica shared some stories about his diocese with the student body. Photo by Sister Suzanne Sims, O.S.U., principal of St. Mary Elementary, Home of the Angels.**

was overwhelmed both by the generosity and hard work. We are very grateful. I must congratulate and thank Mr. Murphy for his dedication and service.

On behalf of all the faithful of Mandeville Diocese, I wish to thank you and assure you of our prayers. I am personally appreciative of all those who made my visit so wonderful.

Yours in Christ's Passion,  
Bishop Neil Tiedemann, CP,  
Bishop of Mandeville

## Container Loaded and Sent to the Mandeville, Jamaica Diocese

By Richard Murphy

On 10-8-10, the Diocese of Owensboro completed a six months process leading to the loading of 709 items bound for our Sister Diocese of Mandeville Jamaica on a container supplied by Food for the Poor, a charitable organization serving the poor and needy throughout the Caribbean. The many items came from all over the area in response to the needs of various Parishes and Institutions within the Mandeville Diocese.

The process started with authorization from the Mandeville Sister Diocese Committee in April 2010 to begin preparations for the collection of goods. There were 22 organizations that requested assistance. Among the requests were for essentials needed to prepare for the opening of a new chapel in Treasure Beach, Jamaica, a 12 foot by 24 foot building. Items were collected from over 25 parishes, businesses, organizations in the diocese, and the Little Sisters of the Poor in Evansville.

Bishop Neil Tiedemann, the Bishop of the Diocese of Mandeville, was visiting in the Diocese while the project was underway and he got to see it. He was very impressed by the generosity of so many people and was amazed that so much could be loaded on one container. Items were delivered as collected by the different groups to the St. Benedict Joseph Homeless Shelter Annex in Owensboro. Many volunteers helped with the process of sorting and inventorying items through 7 days of work, many of these working on more than one day. Those that assisted this process were: Cindy Bornander, Mary Danhauer, Tommy Coomes, Dick Murphy, Laura Mattingly, Joanne Johnson, Ann Petrocelli, Ruth and Richard Dale, Sr. Ann Patrice Cecil, Darrell Howard, Jim and Phyllis Scott, Barbara Hurm, Sr. Barbara Jean Head, Sheila Howard, Margie Ashworth, Tom Calhoun, Sr. Sharon Sullivan, Gary Estes, Leon Aud, Joe Wathen, Melinda Prunty, and Gary Jarboe.

Loading day, October 8, 2010, was very busy with the crew working to beat a deadline of two hours, or as close to it as possible. Danny Slack, from the St. Vincent de Paul organization, was of great assistance operating the forklift to speed up the loading operation. Also assisting with loading were load master Gary Jarboe, Jim Scott, Bill Butler, Richard Dale, Mary Danhauer, Mike Bogdan, Dick Murphy, Tami Schneider, and Martha House.

The container left after loading, bound for a freighter leaving from a port on the east coast bound eventually for Kingston Jamaica and Customs. Assuming all goes well, it is hoped that the container will arrive at the Bishop Boyle distribution Center in Mandeville in one month.

A hearty thanks in Christ is due all that were so faithful in making this container possible to fill and ship.

principles at the heart of the then-new Christophers, emphasizing the importance of good people getting involved in their communities and government. He relates tales of everyday people who have made a difference in the world, and talks about the link between faith, the Founding Fathers and the Declaration of Independence. Bing Crosby performs an original song written by Johnny Burke and Jimmy van Heusen.

The film, also available on DVD, can be viewed in three parts on The Christophers' website at <http://www.christophers.org/youcanchangetheworld> or at <http://www.youtube.com/TheChristophers>.

*Three Minutes a Day*, currently in its 45th volume as a print publication, features brief, inspirational reflections for each day of the year. The perennial favorite, which is also available as a daily e-mail message, is now available as an eBook for the first time and can be read on any PDF-enabled device or e-reader.

*Three Minutes a Day*, Volume 45 can be purchased in a softcover print edition or as an eBook at <http://www.christophershop.org>.

The Christophers, a non-profit organization founded in 1945 by Maryknoll Father James Keller, uses the mass media to encourage individuals to use their God-given abilities to change the world for the better. The Christopher motto, adopted from the ancient Chinese proverb, is: **"It's better to light one candle than to curse the darkness."**

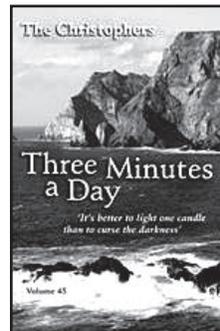
## The Christophers Updates Two Longtime Favorites For The Digital Age



NEW YORK, October 20, 2010 – The Christophers announced this week that two longtime Christopher favorites are now available in new digital formats, as the organization has uploaded its classic film *You Can Change the World* to YouTube and made the latest volume in its *Three Minutes a Day* series available as an eBook.

"Our founder, Father James Keller, was always very much aware of the importance new media can play in spreading our message of hope and responsibility," said Mary Ellen Robinson, vice-president of The Christophers. "He was one of the pioneers in bringing faith-based content to television, and would have certainly embraced the new opportunities technology has created to spread the idea that each of us can change the world."

*You Can Change the World*, originally produced in 1952, features Father Keller, as well as Hollywood legends including Jack Benny, Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, William Holden, Irene Dunne and Loretta Young. In the film, Father Keller lays out the



# The Bereavement Committee – A Comfort to Those Who Mourn 5

By Teresa Hayden

Seven years ago, I buried my father two days before All Saints Day. I will never forget that morning. It was a beautiful day -- if there can be such a day for a funeral -- to bid my father farewell. The air was crisp, the sun was shining, and the autumn leaves were swirling at my feet. The American flag, blowing in the breeze a few feet from the grave site, seemed to be waving goodbye to my father, a Vietnam Veteran. The rope and metal that raised the flag to its heights, clanged softly against the flagpole at slow, but steady intervals: tap...tap...tap...tap. The repetition calmed me like a lullaby. To this day, when I hear the sounds of a flag whipping against a flagpole, I am transported to that sad, but peaceful place where I stood at the threshold of heaven and earth with my father.

After leaving the cemetery, I headed back to the church where I enjoyed a wonderful meal. I couldn't help but envision my father sitting at the heavenly banquet, feasting with the Lord, while I feasted at an earthly banquet that was lovingly planned, prepared, and shared by my church's bereavement committee. What a gift these caring people are to all of us who have buried loved ones. What a witness they are to the Eucharist in action. What a blessing they are to those of us who mourn. What a comfort in our time of grief.

Often overlooked, the bereavement committee has a special place in the scheme of eternal things. At my small church, the entire parish becomes the bereavement committee when a loved one goes home to Jesus. For a day, we all become Saint Martha. In scripture, Martha seems to always be serving while everyone else is being the center of holy attention. In John 12:2, Lazarus, newly raised from the dead, is at the table getting ready to eat, Mary is dousing Jesus' feet with aromatic oils, and Judas Iscariot is complaining about wasting money. But Martha? What is Martha doing? This scripture simply says, "...Martha served..." I haven't looked it up, but I don't think Martha is officially called the patron saint of bereavement committees. But she is the patron saint of servants -- and that says it all.

Those who serve on bereavement committees know they cannot take away the pain of a family's loss. But, Pat, who has helped serve many bereavement meals, says, "I feel like I am doing what I can to show the family that I am supporting them during a difficult time." Mary, famous to some for her homemade dried apple cakes, agrees: "It's my way of being there for the family. It's the way I show them that I care."

A few days ago, my grandson and I were talking about the bereavement meals served to our family after my father's funeral and my mother's three years later. He said, "I thought about all of the people who fixed all of that food just for our family. It was comfort food for all of us."

When I listened to others who had been served a bereavement meal after their loved one's funeral, I heard time and again, "I was so grateful for what they did for us." The word "grateful" was almost an involuntary response when asked how they felt about their bereavement meal and those who prepared it for them.

Peggy, whose middle-aged daughter died earlier this year after suffering from cancer, struggled with her emotions as she told me, "I was very grateful. I felt like Betty was being honored. They were honoring her life."

I will never forget what Father Mike Williams said to the congregation at my father's funeral: "We may very well be burying a saint here today." I knew my father was no saint, but I learned after his death that he did many selfless things for others that went unnoticed by me and my family. He didn't flash his

deeds in front of the rest of us and make a big deal. He simply served others and then went about his daily life without fanfare. That is the personality of a bereavement committee. Like Saint Martha, they simply serve Jesus in the rest of us, living out the beatitude, giving us comfort during the saddest days of our lives.

*Editor's Note:*  
Teresa Anne Hayden writes from Cayce, Ky, and is a member of Sacred Heart Parish in Hickman, Ky.



Members of the Saint William, Knottsville, Parish Bereavement Committee, at right, served a dinner in the St. Lawrence Parish Hall on October 5, 2010. Mel Howard photo



## Light One Candle American Saints Bear Blessings for Time and Eternity

"Don't call me a saint. I don't want to be dismissed so easily."

Dorothy Day said that. She was never one to mince words. Over the course of her 83 years, she labored for peace and fought for justice as the co-founder of the Catholic Worker movement. She took a hands-on approach to alleviating the suffering of the poor and all people shunted off to the margins of society. She helped start "houses of hospitality" and Catholic Worker communities to serve the needy and promote social justice. These now total 185 in the United States and eleven other countries. From the 1920's until her death in 1980, Day spoke up on behalf of workers' rights, civil rights, and human rights. A world-renowned pacifist, she was jailed for her participation in marches and sit-ins, and they even called her a Communist.

These days, Dorothy Day is called a "Servant of God." And despite her own request, one day she may be known as a saint. Far more than a courageous and compassionate activist on behalf of those with the least power and the least opportunity, she was a woman who did all that she did for the love of God.

And that's what distinguishes those people we revere as saints. They act heroically not out of altruistic personal convictions or concern for others; rather, they allow God to act in them and through them. Their relationship with their Lord inspires all they do with a divine light for time and eternity. Throughout history, people

whose deep spirituality has guided their thoughts, words and deeds have dedicated their lives to fulfilling God's will. In the process, they have touched those around them as well as many others with God's own mercy.

Here in the United States, we have been blessed by many holy men and women who have walked among us. Those officially recognized by the Catholic Church as saints include the early North American martyrs, St. Isaac Jogues and companions who came to here to share the Good News with the native people. Later, many nuns and priests devoted themselves to the educational, social and religious welfare of both adults and children from the early days of this nation. These include Saints Frances Xavier Cabrini, Elizabeth Seton, John Neumann, Rose Philippine Duchesne, Katherine Drexel, Mother Theodore Guerin, and Damien de Veuster of Molokai who was canonized just last year.

You probably know something of Father Damien's amazing story. Born in Belgium in 1840, he entered the seminary, hoping to become a missionary. He was sent to Hawaii where he served for several years until the bishop asked for volunteers to serve at the leper settlement of Molokai. There Damien went and there he stayed, caring for his suffering people's physical needs, building a church, a school and an orphanage and helping them farm the land. He buried the dead with dignity and offered faith and hope to those abandoned by the rest of the world. When he discovered that he had caught the disease, he simply used the phrase "we lepers" in his sermons and continued his heroic efforts until his death in 1889.

God's heroes are extraordinary in their zeal for serving the Lord through His children in the face of hardship, sacrifice and even death. What makes these saints truly remarkable is the way they open themselves to God's love, grace and will. How we answer the Lord's invitation to entrust our life to Him -- day by day without reservation -- is what ultimately determines who is a saint.

For a free copy of the Christopher News Note, FAITH – THE POWER AND THE GLORY, write: The Christophers, 5 Hanover Square, New York, NY 10004; or e-mail: mail@christophers.org

## 6 “The Lessons I’ve Learned in the School of Suffering”

By Fr. J. Edward Bradley

God has called all of us to become saints. And who are the saints except those who have allowed God to form them and love them into holiness? Usually this forming and loving is a direct result of suffering. And in “the school of suffering” some of us are placed into a classroom for accelerated learning. This school requires that we take courses no one willingly signs up for. The tests are hard. The assignments seem impossible. It was a team of three physicians who interpreted my x-rays and other medical tests for me and then told me the dreaded news. “You have cancer.” Since it was already in stage three, plans were made immediately for my treatment. I can’t remember very much of the conversation with the doctors; I was trying to convince myself that it was true. I went into the Church and tried to pray. After a time of fitful prayer, an old prayer from St. Ignatius came to me: “Take, Lord, receive, all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my entire will. Give me only your love and your grace, that’s enough for me. Your love and your grace are enough for me.” With these words echoing in my head, I said “Yes” to the Lord. Because I had cancer, my life was truly the Lord’s to do with as he will. From that moment on, I knew only one thing for certain; I do not know what my future holds, but I know who holds my future. Humility is a prerequisite of learning and growing. It is the ability to recognize that we all need help in life to deal with problems and difficult situations.

Humility was the first of several lessons I learned in the school of suffering. Very soon it occurred to me that I was being given a personal and private glimpse of what life is like for the sick and suffering. I began to develop a greater empathy for those people who suffer with their physical sickness and the hardship of not being able to do what they once did almost effortlessly. Very early on, despite the suffering through chemotherapy as well as the anxiety and uncertainty of my illness, I learned that this is a time of feeling so alone and yet, so loved. One day while I was praying in Church, a parishioner came up to me, put her arm around my shoulder and prayed, “Dear God, please heal Fr. Bradley and give me his cancer.” I was incredulous. I looked at her, and with tears in my eyes, was able to pray: “Lord, rather than give my cancer to her, give her heart of love to me.”

Many sincere people have prayed



Fr. J. Edward Bradley

for me and for that I am very grateful. Some have voiced their prayers and concerns to me and I have tried to help them with a better perspective on suffering and pain. One man, with great concern about my physical condition said, “Don’t worry, Father. God will hear your prayers because we need you here. And I just know God will not let you die.”

I took out the rosary with a crucifix on it that was in my pocket and said, “Have you looked at a crucifix lately?” If anybody was needed in the world, it was Jesus. If anybody was good, it was Jesus. If anybody didn’t deserve to suffer, it was Jesus. And yet God allowed him to suffer and die in the most hideous way, in the prime of his life and ministry. I tried to share with all the people I could that the only guarantee I have is that God will always be with me and will take care of me. This is how I also explain it when people ask why God gave me cancer. I have to admit that I have never felt that God gave me this cancer. It is true, though, that God allowed this cancer to happen. I believe God allows suffering to happen to bring about a greater good. In Face, what we first perceive as not good, upon later enlightenment, we realize is often a gift, a blessing in disguise.

The crucifix is the perfect sign of the paradox where God allows something so bad in order to bring about a much greater good – namely, salvation. The more I prayed with my feelings, questions and doubts, the more I could see an image of Jesus on the cross. With one arm nailed to the cross, Jesus lovingly reaches out with his other arm, embracing me and drawing me closer to him.

There is absolutely nothing good about suffering in and of itself. As a matter of fact, Jesus spent much of his ministry healing people and alleviating suffering. Nevertheless, there is much good that suffering can bring about if it brings us closer to Christ. Therefore, the most helpful thing I have learned in my suffering is to unite myself with Christ on the cross, which unites Him with me on my cross. At the time of my most intense suffering, when the hurt is so deep I cannot even find the words to pray, all I can manage to do is to hold onto a crucifix or cross, thereby holding onto Christ who is holding me.

One of the harshest realities about suffering is that it can close us off from people – even people we are close to. It can close us off from our family and friends. It can even close us off to ourselves. Sometimes we are embarrassed. We feel so bad and know we don’t look our best either. We find it a struggle to want to be with other people when we don’t feel well. Sometimes we don’t want to be a burden to others. We don’t like asking other people to help us when we know our requests and needs make extra work for someone else. Sometimes we simply lack stamina. We don’t feel like being with anyone because we just don’t have the strength. We find it hard, and sad, to tell someone not to visit because we just do not have the energy to talk for even a few minutes.

Sickness and suffering combine dangerously to isolate us from the very people who love and care for us the most. We suffering folks understand this need to be alone at times, but we must take care not to cut off the love of family and friends whom we need to get through difficult times. On the other hand, for some people suffering can be the one thing that finally opens us. Our hearts are broken open. In these cases, suffering opens us to new depth within ourselves, depths never before realized. Suffering leads us to deeper levels of our inner lives. Pain and suffering also have potential to open us up to other people who have similar problems and pain. Sometimes, our suffering connects us in odd circumstances, like many different pieces of a puzzle that by themselves do not make sense, but when connected enable us a better look at the bigger picture. This is what happened among fellow patients during chemotherapy treatments each week.

Sitting together with our intravenous tubes dripping chemo into our bodies, we began to share our similar

stories. It soon became obvious that we were connected by much more than IV tubing. We shared our common concerns, questions and frustrations. I began to listen and learn so much from my fellow patients. They became my classmates in this school of suffering. We were in this thing together, and together, we could offer each other the hope and help that few other people could.

Even more than that, we often promised to pray for each other every day. In fact, this is truly one of the best ways we could help each other. This is how I have learned that compassion is one of the deepest gifts of the heart. The word compassion means literally “to feel deeply with.”

Feeling deeply with each other is what we did in our chemotherapy classroom with our IV poles attached to us, incredibly representing the cross of cancer we had all been asked to carry. I indeed looked at my chemo-companions to be like classmates. Regardless of our age, circumstances in life, or even the type or degree of our exact piece of the puzzle, we were all in the same class. We were all asking similar questions while dealing with similar struggles. All of us were just trying our best to get through this difficult course, hoping someday to graduate and move on in good health.

Another major lesson I have learned from my fellow classmates is how to look and listen to the subtle signs of suffering. Few people will wear their disease or disability like a badge or name tag. But you can’t miss its identification written in the painful eyes of those who are hurting.

My suffering opened me up to recognize how many, many people are hurting, quietly aching and pained, or secretly suffering. This hurt, this pain, can be physical, emotional, relational or even spiritual. I feel genuine empathy for my fellow classmates, more than I ever could have if I had not suffered along with them. And for this I shall be eternally grateful.

*Editor’s Note: In The October 11, 2010, e-mail Prayer Requests to Sisters, Associates, Alumnae and Friends, from the Mount Saint Joseph Ursulines, was this note from Dan Heckel: “Prayer really does work. Father Ed Bradley has been cleared by his doctor to go back to work, and he’ll be heading back to Holy Name on Thursday (Oct. 14, 2010). Thank you.”*

## Award Recipient Simply Responds to the Need

By Dawn C. Ligibel

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. - Beverly Todd, Sophia Award recipient from Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville, doesn't believe she's done anything special to deserve the attention she has received. "We have so many shut-ins and many of them have no one," explained Todd. "Visiting the sick and shut-in is something I've been able to do. I was once told that it's my gift from the Holy Spirit, so I do it," she added.

While visiting sick and homebound parishioners is a critical ministry within the church, it is certainly not the only ministry with which Todd is involved. In addition, she is also a co-leader of the Rosary Makers ministry; she's an Extraordinary Eucharistic Minister taking the Eucharist to homebound parishioners; she assists with providing and serving bereavement meals; she helps clean the church; she helps recruit and coordinate the "praise and glory" ministry, where shut-in parishioners are asked to pray one hour daily; she mails cards to sick and shut-in parishioners from time to time or when there is a change of status; she recruits and coordinates the Living Rosary ministry, where pa-

rishioners say one decade of the rosary each day; and she volunteered for and assisted with a recent committee which was formed to complete a new pictorial directory for the church.

Outside of church, Todd is also heavily involved with the Pennyrite Right to Life organization where she is currently serving as vice-president. With the Pennyrite Right to Life, she helps organize and participates in events such as hosting a booth annually at the Western Kentucky State Fair, the life chain, publishing ads in the local newspaper, and hosting a booth at a recent women's fair.

In addition to her own activities, Todd's husband, Ron, is a fourth degree in the Knights of Columbus. As a fourth degree, her husband participates in many activities with the Knights and she is generally by his side when appropriate.

"When you're retired you can do a lot of these things," Todd explained. "But I did a lot before I was retired too," she corrected herself.



**Bishop William Medley poses for a moment with one of the 57 recipients of the Sophia Award on September 26. Beverly Todd was nominated by several fellow parishioners at Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville and was selected by the Diocesan Office of Wisdom to receive the recognition. Photo taken by Barbara Isenberg.**

## Students Receive a Hands-On Education

By Dawn C. Ligibel

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. - As the smoke from the most recent cannon blast dissipated, battles cries could be heard across the field. "I'm fighting for the Union, because they won!" "The South is going to win today!" "Let's fight for the Union!"

Although the battle they were preparing to fight was a re-enactment of the Battle of New Market, and it took place on Friday, September 24, 2010, at Sts. Peter and Paul School in Hopkinsville, one may have never known to hear the school children as they scampered across the field to choose their sides.

Dubbed "Civil War Day" by Principal Sarah Kranz, it was a day when history came to life for the students, teachers and parents. The event, which was planned by Kranz and several Civil War historians from the area, was a huge success. In addition to the entire student body, the teaching staff and many parents, fifteen historians gathered for the day to teach a subject about which they are very knowledgeable

The day began, as any Friday at the school, with an all-school Mass. The difference, however, is that many of the students and teachers were garbed in clothing indicative of the Civil War era. At the beginning of Mass, Pastor Fr. John Thomas welcomed all in attendance and



**Daniel Sweet and Sarah Foltz, both eighth grade students at Sts. Peter and Paul, enjoyed dancing the Pity-Pat Polka during the "grand ball" portion of their "Civil War Day" held at the school on September 24. Many students gathered for weeks before the event with one of the living historians to learn several dances from the era. Photo taken by Dawn C. Ligibel.**

reveled in the excitement of the day. "A day like today is what makes our school special," he explained. "We're able to

Continued on page 8

Yet, with all her involvement and time she gives to the Church, Todd did not expect to receive a letter in the mail from Ginny Knight-Simon congratulating her on being selected as a recipient of the Sophia Award. "I was kind of surprised," Todd admitted. "I thought, 'why me.' There's a lot of other people who do as much as me or more," she claimed.

The letter also invited Todd and her husband to attend Mass and a reception in Henderson on Sunday, September 26, which they attended. During the Mass, Bishop Medley presented Todd and the 56 other recipients each with a plaque. "He thanked us and hugged us," said Todd.

While never seeking the recognition, Todd nonetheless has appreciated the response of fellow parishioners. In addition to many congratulating her personally, "I've even gotten a couple of cards from people," Todd said with a grateful smile.

## Prayer Before Running



**The Owensboro Catholic Schools Elementary Cross Country team ran in two meets this year. They also trained for several weeks, learning how to stretch and train. The team was coached by Owensboro Catholic High School counselor and track coach Scott Lowe, shown here bending in prayer with the runners. Photos by Stephanie Frey**

## 8 Students Receive a Hands-On Education *(Continued from page 7)*

learn and have fun at the same time. We can also pray and worship. It all goes together," he added.

Immediately following Mass, the children enjoyed their "morning rations." "Since hard tack was common during the Civil War, we decided to provide all the students with cinnamon Pop Tarts® for their morning snack," explained Vicki Kinnard, school secretary and member of the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO).

Once the morning rations were devoured, the students began rotating through the various stations set up around the main field. The stations included camp life, flags of the war, military uniforms, cannon drills, women's clothing, music from the period, storytelling, Harriet Tubman and General Robert E. Lee.

"This war cost our country a whole generation of men," said Robert W. Brooks, the living historian who taught at the camp life station. "We lost 600,000 American men. When a Union soldier died, we lost an American. When a Confederate soldier died, we lost an American," he explained to the school children.

When the second grade class visited General Lee, he asked the children if they knew who he was. One second grader said, "General Lee, because you look like the south." General Lee then asked what they had learned so far that morning. "Brothers fought against brothers," another second grader stated.

Although the event was scheduled for late September, unseasonably warm temperatures caused the principal to call a mid-morning break so the children could return to their classrooms to escape the heat. After their break, they continued with the stations until everyone had an opportunity to visit each one.

Most likely one of the biggest highlights of the day was when the cannons were loaded and discharged. While each group of students had an opportunity to learn how to load and shoot a cannon, using a firecracker to demonstrate the firing, the historians also loaded and discharged the cannons several times throughout the morning. While their load was also considered a "blank," it was much louder and as realistic as can be without a cannonball flying through the air.

At long last, after everyone had an opportunity to visit each station, troops were then recruited by the historians. Any student from third through eighth grade could participate in the upcoming battle. Ron Sydnor, a living historian and one of the coordinators of the event, explained why they chose to re-enact the battle of New Market. "The Battle of New Market



Students from the fourth grade class at Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville were taught how to load and fire a Civil War era cannon during their special "Civil War Day" which took place on school grounds on Friday, September 24. Fifteen Civil War living historians gathered at the school that day to teach the students many things about the Civil War and to have a great deal of fun. The students, pictured from left to right are: Dalton Folz, Shane Etheridge, Alma Valdez, Myles Milligan and Landry Thomas. Photo taken by Dawn C. Ligibel.



The long awaited "Battle of New Market," which was held during a "Civil War Day" at Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville on September 24, only lasted about one minute after the troops were enlisted, sworn in, paid wages and issued uniforms. Photo taken by Dawn C. Ligibel.

was fought primarily by young boys," he explained. "By that time of the war, there weren't many men left to fight."

Once the students chose sides, they were officially enlisted, sworn in, given their first week's pay and issued their "uniforms." The students were then given their "weapons" (rifles cut from planks of wood).

Before beginning their drills, however, an unplanned event occurred.

While the children were waiting for the officers to begin their drills, a funeral procession passed by the field along a neighborhood street. Without prompting from any adults, the students all set down their guns, folded their hands in prayer and stood quietly and respectfully until the procession completely passed. "This did not go unnoticed by the living historians," Kranz noted. "It's so wonderful being with students and parents who truly



Fr. John Thomas, Pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul, and Sarah Kranz, Principal, got into the spirit of their "Civil War Day," which was held at the school on Friday, September 24. With 15 Civil War living historians present with gear, weapons, flags, cannons and clothing from the period, many students and teachers participated by dressing in costume. Photo taken by Dawn C. Ligibel.

love their Catholic education. It's those little things that bring such great joy. I am blessed!" she exclaimed.

After resuming their festive demeanors, the "troops" were then marched through several drills until they could follow the commands of their officers. Finally, Fr. Uwem Enoh, Associate Pastor, was called upon to bless the troops prior to battle.

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# Lift High the Cross

By Kristina Harvey

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. - As Holy Spirit Catholic Church of Bowling Green prepares to enter their new Church, the outside cross of the building was raised on September 23, 2010. Perhaps the most significant part of this endeavor was the ECHO faith formation assemblies held on September 12 and 15 around the Feast of the Exultation of the Cross.

In conjunction with the feast day, Holy Spirit provided parishioners of all ages the opportunity to meditate on the cross in a variety of ways during the ECHO assembly gatherings. Youth of the Church presented "The Tale of Three Trees" and a lecture with video and meditation was given with an explanation of the feast.

At the close of these experiences, each parishioner was asked to write a prayer, blessing or intention. The prayers were collected and sealed inside the cross. The large cross was blessed, as well as

small crucifixes that were distributed as mementoes of the occasion. Parishioners had the opportunity to venerate the cross with actions such as touching or kissing it before leaving for the evening.

Lori Lewis, pastoral associate for Holy Spirit, said about the ECHO assemblies, "People were genuinely touched by the evening and the prayers gathered and placed in the cross were absolutely beautiful, heartfelt, insightful and visionary."

Bernice Jakub, a long time member of Holy Spirit, attended both events. Jakub says, "Thursday afternoon, as the sun was setting, I watched the giant crane lift this magnificent piece of aluminum, in the shape of a cross, from the Earth below to the sky above, gently placing it on top of our new church home. As I looked at the cross being placed in its permanent location, I thought to myself, this is like God himself coming down from the sky above and blessing our new Church home. It was truly inspiring to watch it



**Parishioners watched as workers lifted the cross to the roof top of Holy Spirit Parish in Bowling Green which is currently holding Mass in their new Parish Hall. The Parish will celebrate the Mass of Dedication of the new church on Sunday, December 12, 2010 at 11 a.m. and extends a warm welcome to all Western Kentucky Catholic readers. Photo by Matthew Keyser**

gleam in the sunset, as though the rays were coming down from Heaven."

Lori Lewis also said, "The cross, a symbol of life, death and resurrection of Jesus, was raised as a symbol to the community of Bowling Green of the spirit-filled Catholic Community that is Holy Spirit Parish!"

Holy Spirit is currently holding Mass in their new Parish Hall. The Parish will celebrate the Mass of Dedication of the new church on Sunday, December 12, 2010 at 11 a.m. and extends a warm welcome to all Western Kentucky Catholic readers.

## Hispanic Priest is Granted Extension

By Dawn C. Ligibel

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. - In the October issue of the Western Kentucky Catholic, it was reported that Bishop Jose Luis Mendoza Orzo, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Mexico, visited one of his priests, Fr. Carmelo Jimenez, who is on mission to the Diocese of Owensboro as an associate pastor at Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville.

What was unknown at the time the article was written, was the fact that Bishop Mendoza had planned to inform Fr. Jimenez of his imminent

return to Mexico. Bishop Mendoza was prepared to tell Fr. Jimenez that he would be expected to return to Mexico by November of this year.

During his six-day visit to the United States, however, Bishop Mendoza encountered many things that he had not anticipated. First and foremost was the love and appreciation all of the parishioners at Sts. Peter and Paul have for Fr. Jimenez. While Bishop Mendoza may have expected the Hispanic population to feel kindly toward the Mexican priest, all parish-



**When visiting Hopkinsville, Bishop Jose Luis Mendoza Orzo, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Mexico, (center) visited one of his priests, Fr. Carmelo Jimenez (right), who is on mission to the Diocese of Owensboro as an associate pastor at Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville. During his visit, Fr. John Thomas, Pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul (left), hosted a dinner at the parish rectory to welcome Bishop Mendoza. Photo taken by Dawn C. Ligibel.**

ioners of the parish expressed love for their associate pastor.

"It was amazing to him to see how much they love him," said Ana Etheridge, parishioner of Sts. Peter and Paul. "He saw a lot of different stuff while he was here. It's different here than in Mexico," explained Etheridge, a native of Mexico. "Here we say 'Hi Fr. John or Hi Fr. Carmelo,' but in Mexico it is different. It is not as informal there as we are with our priests here."

In addition to the warm recep-

## Diocesan Review Board Members Ready To Respond To Calls

The members of the Board who deal with sexual abuse allegations in the Diocese of Owensboro are as follows: Mr. Ken Bennett, Dr. Charles Bohle, Mr. Mike Boone, Ms. Kay Castlen, Rev. Pat Connell, Mr. Jeff Ebelhar, Mr. Mike Flaherty, Mr. Nicholas Goetz, Mr. Brandon Harley, Ms. Teresa Henry, (Chairperson), Mr. Dan Howard, Sr. Eula Johnson, SCN, and Rev. Pat Reynolds. Ms. Louanne Payne serves as the Bishop's liaison to the Review Board.

Any person who wishes to communicate with the Diocesan Review Board is asked to call the Catholic Pastoral Center at 1-270-683-1545 and ask to speak with a member of the Review Board. To speak with a particular member of this Board, tell the receptionist. In either case, the receptionist at the Catholic Pastoral Center will give the caller's information to the member of the Review Board for follow-up. Callers may choose to remain anonymous for the initial call to the Catholic Pastoral Center receptionist. The phone numbers of the members of this Board will not be made public.

You may also contact the Board via email at [reviewboard@pastoral.org](mailto:reviewboard@pastoral.org). Be sure to include your contact information. No direct response will be given by email because confidentiality is never guaranteed when using email. Follow-up will be made by telephone.

tion from parishioners, Bishop Mendoza was greeted warmly by Bishop William Medley, who also expressed a great deal of gratitude for Fr. Jimenez and his work in western Kentucky.

By the end of his visit, Bishop Mendoza had changed his mind. Before leaving to return to Mexico, the bishop explained to Fr. Jimenez that he had planned to have him return home by November. After seeing

the good work he is doing in western Kentucky, however, Bishop Mendoza granted Fr. Jimenez a two-year extension.

"I am very happy," admitted Fr. Jimenez.

"I would like to say thank you to all the people who showed their love (for Fr. Jimenez) while the Bishop was here," extolled Etheridge.

# Calling All Faithful Citizens!

My dear People of God,

I join my fellow Bishops from around the country in calling each Catholic in the Diocese of Owensboro to consider their role in the public square as Faithful Citizens. Remembering the words said in the 2007 USCCB document, *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, "Every person and association has a right and a duty to participate actively in shaping society and to promote the well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable." (47)

On behalf of myself and the Catholic Conference of Kentucky, I would like to encourage you to take advantage of upcoming opportunities to do just that. Our Diocese will be hosting four **Catholics @ the Capitol: Western Kentucky Gatherings**, the first of which will be held on Saturday, November 6, 2010, at Sts. Peter and Paul Parish in Hopkinsville, KY. The subsequent events will be held at Holy Spirit Parish in Bowling Green on January 8th, St. Pius X Parish in Owensboro on January 15th and Lourdes Hospital in Paducah on January 22nd.

This is a unique opportunity only offered every two years to learn about critical issues that are likely to be considered in the next legislative session in Kentucky, reflect on them in light of Catholic Social Teaching, and engage with your own legislators close to home.

Please make every effort to participate in these gatherings and encourage other Catholics from your area to do the same.

I know that together we can work toward the common good and a more just society here in our Commonwealth of Kentucky. For as Pope Benedict XVI said in his encyclical *Caritas in Veritate*: "As we contemplate the vast amount of work to be done, we are sustained

# Catholics @ the Capitol: Hopkinsville Region



Saturday,

**November 6th**

9:00am - 12:00pm

**Sts. Peter and Paul**

Catholic Church  
in the gymnasium  
Hopkinsville, KY

Issues to be discussed:

- ◆ The Sanctity of Life
- ◆ Economic Justice
- ◆ Criminal Justice
- ◆ Education Issues
- ◆ Immigration

*Light refreshments will be served  
and childcare can be provided  
with advanced notice.*

The day will focus on Catholic social teaching as it relates to critical issues likely to be discussed in the upcoming Kentucky General Assembly. Catholic laity, students, and clergy are invited to participate in a constructive dialogue with their legislators. The legislators representing the following counties have been invited to attend this Hopkinsville Regional Gathering: Caldwell, Christian, Hopkins, Logan, Lyon, Muhlenberg, Todd and Trigg. If you live in one of these counties please make an effort to attend.

*For more information please contact Patti Gutiérrez at (270) 302-2782 or [Patricia.Gutierrez@pastoral.org](mailto:Patricia.Gutierrez@pastoral.org)*



Organized by:



by our faith that God is present alongside those who come together in his name to work for justice."

May we always be conscious of this presence as we do our part.

Yours in Christ!

+ Most Reverend William F. Medley, D.D., Bishop of Owensboro, Ky.

## Students Receive a Hands-On Education (Continued from page 8)

Their first attack was a joint effort by both troops. Forming a long line side by side, they marched forward with their weapons ready and attacked the squad of historians manning the cannon! To the



Prior to beginning the "Battle of New Market," which was held during a "Civil War Day" at Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville on September 24, several "nurses" volunteered for duty during the battle. Pictured left to right are: Bridget Intessimone, Allison Watson, Rachel Holmes, Abby Craft and Shelby Creek. All five girls are in the eighth grade at the school. Photo taken by Dawn C. Ligibel.

delight of those gathered, the men fell about as they were "shot" by the students. Once the troops were marched facing one another, the actual battle commenced. "The battle lasted less than one minute, but the build-up was cool to watch," exclaimed Kranz.

After the battle, lunch rations were served by volunteer parents. Several parents attended portions of the day to help cook and serve lunch as well as to enjoy the activities. "I wouldn't have missed this day for anything," claimed Jamie Morgan, father of both a seventh grade student and a second grade student.

After lunch, students, several teachers and a few historians began the "great ball" where the students showed off the dances they had recently learned. Several weeks prior to the event, George Lany, another organizer of the day, came to the school each Wednesday afternoon to teach students interested in learning dances for the grand ball. Among the dances were the Virginia Reel, the Grand



Many students at Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville dressed in Civil War era clothing during their "Civil War Day" on September 24. Many costumes were purchased, but several were handmade prior to the event. Young ladies from the seventh grade gladly showed off their outfits. Pictured from left to right are: Caroline Morgan, Julianna Intessimone, Isabella Mauldin, Jacquise Smith and Christina Ligibel. Photo taken by Dawn C. Ligibel.

March and the Pity-Pat Polka.

By time the dancing was through, the students, teachers, parents and historians were completely exhausted from the hot, fun-filled, yet highly educational day. "I think it was a wonderful opportunity for the students and the teachers," said Vicki Luckey, the fifth grade teacher at the school. "This was definitely a hands-on experience. It was a great way to learn about the Civil War," she added.

"It was a beautiful experience," stated Kranz. "Now, do I see Paul Revere and Old North Church in the future?" she pondered.



## What Cursillo meant to me

By Gail Ashburn

I had always wondered what the cursillo was all about. I would hear them talk about it once or twice a year at church but I never heard it explained. I wanted to go but never had the nerve to sign up. My church, St. Francis de Sales started having Koinonia retreats. They were just 1 weekend and you got to go home every nite. When I first signed up for a Koinonia retreat, I was nervous, not knowing what was going to happen. I had a great time at the retreat - so much

that I signed up to work the next few retreats. I did not want to give a talk - just wanted to help in the kitchen or help clean up. I didn't think I could be a speaker as I was afraid to get up and talk in front of people. After a few years of working the Koinonia retreats, I really wanted to attend the Cursillo. I was sitting next to my friend Susan one Sunday and asked her about Cursillo. I told her I wanted to go but didn't know if I could make it. Susan signed me up and sponsored me.

She was the leader of that Cursillo. I was very skeptical about the weekend as you had to stay for 3 days. IT WAS AMAZING! I cannot tell you how much I learned that weekend and felt so close to Jesus. It changed my life forever. I learned to take Jesus into my heart and let him live there all the time. I also learned that I was a witness and was called to do His work. At the next Koinonia retreat at church, I was asked to be a speaker. Although I was really nervous, I accepted.

I learned at Cursillo that Jesus wants us to step out in faith even when we are not comfortable. Jesus does not call the qualified, he qualifies the called. I did okay at the retreat because I could feel that Jesus was with me at all times. I later led a Koinonia retreat which I could have never accomplished if I had not been to Cursillo.

Please do yourself a big favor and sign up for the next Cursillo retreat. It will be a glorious weekend for your soul. I still meet with my Cursillo team just to keep grounded in the Lord.

## Knights Thank You for Your Support



The Knights of Columbus were handing out Tootsie Rolls in Hancock County, Ky. during the weekend of October 2 as part of their annual statewide drive to raise funds for the Kentucky Association for the Mentally Disabled. This is one of the most important charities supported by the Knights of Columbus in the state of Kentucky. Due to the efforts of the Knights there is very little overhead and thus, nearly 100% of all donations go to those in need. The KCs thank you for your support.

In the picture above, Knight Frank Mason greeted customers going into a Lewisport grocery Oct 2 and handed out Tootsie Rolls. In the picture at right, Knight Vic Hagman gave Johnny Stephens a Tootsie Roll in front of Bill's on the Hill in Hawesville. There was a lot of foot traffic in Hancock County this day thanks to the Highway US 60 Yard Sale going on. Frank and Vic handed out a lot of Tootsie Rolls this day. Mel Howard Photos



## 12 2010 Diocesan Marriage Celebration, ...

OWENSBORO, Ky. - 134 couples received certificates recognizing their anniversary of 25, 40, 50, or 60+ years here in St. Stephen Cathedral, October 3, 2010. Approximately 350 people attended the Mass and reception honoring married couples in the diocese. Those receiving certificates were:

Jerry & Earlene Abney – St Sebastian, Calhoun  
 Robert & Theresa Absher – St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro  
 Charles & Lucy Adams – Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Charles & Ruth Adams – Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Don & Bonnie Adams – St. Joseph, Central City  
 Luis & Victorina Aju – St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro  
 Domenick & Arleen Amato – St. Thomas More, Paducah  
 Wayne & Charlotte Arnett – Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro  
 Ricky & Teresa Aull – Blessed Mother, Owensboro  
 Stephen & Wanda Baka – Holy Spirit, Bowling Green  
 Billy & Carolyn Belt – St. William of Vercelli, Marion  
 Jerry & Margaret Birge – Precious Blood, Owensboro  
 Joe & Mollie Bismeyer – Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Don & Mary Jane Blandford – Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro  
 John & Esther Blandford – Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro  
 James L. & Martine Boarman – St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville  
 Dick & Faye Booth – St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro  
 Harvey & Cathy Bowlds – Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro  
 Les & Nancy Bumm – Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Owensboro  
 Frank & Nancy Burch – St. Thomas More, Paducah  
 Todd & Cathy Burden – St. Sebastian, Calhoun  
 Phillip & Ruby Carsone – Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville  
 Charlie & Lisa Castlen – Blessed Mother, Owensboro  
 Gerald & Bonnie Castlen – St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro  
 Thomas E. & Joann Castlen – Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro  
 John & Eleanor Cavanaugh – St. Leo, Murray  
 John & Lois Chandler – St. Martin, Rome  
 Joseph & Mary Cilia – Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Larry & Sharon Cissell – St. Ann, Morganfield  
 Dennis & Thelma Clark – Blessed Mother, Owensboro  
 Wm. Sid & AnnaLee Clark – Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro  
 John & Patsy Clayton – St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro  
 Carl & Rosa Coffey – Resurrection, Dawson Springs  
 Charles & Joan Collins – Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro  
 Melvin & Lois Connor – Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Fred & Rose Conti – Immaculate Conception, Earlington  
 Ronnie & Bernadine Cooper – Holy Name, Henderson  
 Mark & Katrina Danhauer – St. Ann, Morganfield  
 Richard & Lori Darst – St. Paul, Leitchfield  
 Ernie & Loueva Davis, Jr. – Blessed Mother, Owensboro  
 Tom & Ginnie Dobrek – Holy Spirit, Bowling Green  
 Charles & Juaretta Dockemeyer – St. Martin, Rome  
 Bernie & Lisa Dotsey – Blessed Mother, Owensboro  
 Samuel & Kathleen DunLany – St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro  
 Charles David & Joan Elder – St. Anthony, Axtel  
 Joe T. & Mary Sue Elliott – St. William, Knottsville  
 Donald & Vivian Fischer – St. Martin, Rome  
 Melvin & Maxine Fleischmann, Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro  
 Tom & Betsy Fusco – St. Anthony, Axtel  
 Alfred E. & Genevieve Galloway – Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Michael & Rita Gerteisen – St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro  
 Lee & Janet Goff – Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Richard & Joyce Gruenewald – St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro  
 Wilfred L. & Mary Lois Hagan – Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro  
 Daniel & Shirley Hagman – Immaculate Conception, Hawesville  
 Robert & Shirley Hamilton – Holy Trinity, Morgantown  
 Omer & Lucy Harpe, Jr. – Blessed Mother, Owensboro  
 Anthony & Mary Alice Higdon – St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro  
 Ed & Ellen Higdon – Blessed Mother, Owensboro



In the pictures above and below, Bishop William Medley addressed the couples and families gathered to celebrate wedding anniversaries Oct. 3 in the Cathedral. 134 married couples received certificates, and about 350 people attended the Mass and celebration.

Mel Howard photo



After The Diocesan Marriage Celebration Mass, Bishop William Medley introduced Tami Schneider, shown at left, handing a mass program to Charles and Margaret Smith from The Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro, as the new Diocesan Family Life Director. Ms. Schneider was formerly an Administrative Assistant for three diocesan offices in the Catholic Pastoral Center. With her at right is Charlotte Hedges, Administrative Assistant for the Family Life Office and Catholic Charities.

Mel Howard Photo



In the picture at left, Bishop William Medley greeted Gregory and Dawn Ligibel with their two children in the foyer of St. Stephen Cathedral October 3 just before the Diocesan Marriage Celebration. The Ligibels were one of two couples from Saints Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville celebrating silver anniversaries this day. Bishop Medley greeted every couple who came to the Cathedral to celebrate their sacrament and their anniversaries.

Mel Howard Photo

## ... A Celebration of Family



**Joe T. & Mary Sue Elliott – St. William, Knottsville, posed with their certificate in the Cathedral undercroft after the Diocesan Marriage Celebration October 3, 2010. Mel Howard photo**

Charley & Angie Hill – St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville  
 Wayne & Joan Hille – St. Francis de Sales, Paducah  
 John & Dorothy (Porter) Himes – Immaculate Conception, Hawesville  
 Tom & Lucy Hines – St. Martin, Rome  
 Henry & Mary Jean Hodskins – Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Steve & Diane Hoffman – Blessed Mother, Owensboro  
 James & Penny Howard – St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro  
 Mark & Donna Howard – St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro  
 James & Joan Johnson – St. Martin, Rome  
 Chester & Deanna Kaminski – Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro  
 James & Mary Keller – St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley  
 Bill & Mary Ann Knott – St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho  
 Joe & Marianne Knott – St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro  
 Stephen & Helen Krivan – St. Anthony of Padua, Grand Rivers  
 John & Wanda Lanham – St. Lawrence, Philpot  
 Thomas & Julie Lewis – St. Martin, Rome  
 Gregory & Dawn Ligibel – Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville  
 Rex & Sarah Marsh – Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro  
 Robert & Ann Mattingly – St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph  
 Mike & Theresa Rose McCarty – St. Anthony, Browns Valley  
 Alex & Deidre McGehee – St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro  
 Neil & Joan McGillivray – Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

Stanley Wayne & Elizabeth Howard McKay – St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro  
 Terry & Melinda McKinney – St. William of Vercelli, Marion  
 Carl & Brenda Millay – St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley  
 Donald & Rita Moorman – Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Owensboro  
 John & Pat Mountain – Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Malcolm & Tammy Neel III, Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson  
 Wade & Elizabeth Northington – Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville  
 Jim & Monica Payne – Blessed Mother, Owensboro  
 Ward & Mildred Pedley – Blessed Mother, Owensboro  
 Earl & Lynda Peters – St. Agnes, Uniontown  
 Bill & Joanne Powell – (Newman Center) St. Joseph, Bowling Green  
 Ken & Kathy Rasp – Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 John & Margaret Reisz – Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro  
 Joe & Sue Riney – Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Tom & Mary Riney – Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro  
 Fred & Joan Roberts – Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro  
 Thomas & Rose Rogers – St. Rose, Cloverport  
 Gerald & Patricia Roof – St. John the Evangelist, Paducah  
 James & Annette Rubsam – Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Maurice & Roberta Schaefer – St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro  
 David & Sandra Schweisthal – Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro  
 James L. & Patricia Settles – St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley  
 Charles W. & Margaret L. Smith – Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Norbert & Helen Rose Smith – St. Anthony, Browns Valley  
 Robert & JoAnn Spader – Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville  
 James & Donna Stuerzenberger – Precious Blood, Owensboro  
 Stuart & Lois Stephany, St. Francis de Sales, Paducah  
 Ron & Cissy Sullivan, St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro  
 William & Pamela Sweet – Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville  
 Bob & Barbaranelle Tackett – St. John the Evangelist, Paducah  
 Ernest & Shirley Taliaferro – Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Richard & Dorothy Thomas – St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro  
 Ross & Jane Thomas – St. Agnes, Uniontown  
 William & Katherine Thomas – Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro  
 Al & Molly Thompson – Blessed Mother, Owensboro  
 Mike & Cloe Thompson – Precious Blood, Owensboro  
 Frank & Flo Thomsic – St. Pius Tenth, Calvert City  
 Bruce & Colleen Tincher – St. John the Evangelist, Paducah  
 Bob & Jo Ann Vessels – Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro  
 Robert & Mary Vollman, Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Joseph & Dolores Wathen – St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley  
 Louis & Bertha Wedding – Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro



**“Every Year’s a blessing,” Father Joe Mills said to Richard and Lori Darst with their daughter, Judith, all from St. Paul, Leitchfield, Ky., as the family shared a moment of celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary with Father Joe. Mel Howard Photo**



Thomas & Rose Marie Weitlauf – St. Francis de Sales, Paducah  
 George & Louise Weldon – Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Earl & Elizabeth Wells – Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Donny & Jannette Wethington – St. Romuald, Hardinsburg  
 Richard & Terri Whitaker – St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph  
 Thomas & Julie Whitten – Blessed Mother, Owensboro  
 David & Mary Wimsatt – St. Lawrence, Philpot  
 Mel & Margaret Windle, St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro  
 Jim & Annette Woodson – Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Michael & Suzanne Wurth, Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro  
 James H. & Dragica Carol Yates – Holy Spirit, Bowling Green  
 Fred & Gloria Zinobile – Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro

**Emily Sweet arranged her parents, William and Pam Sweet, in front of the crucifix in the Saint Stephen Cathedral undercroft for a keepsake photo of her family’s participation in the Diocesan Marriage Celebration Oct 3. Emily’s idea caught on among the families as many posed in front of this crucifix that afternoon. This annual event has been a celebration of family and of marital commitment for many years in the diocese.**

**Mel Howard Photo**

## 14 Class “prayer days” each year at Gasper River Catholic Retreat Center

Submitted by Rita Larimore, St. Joseph School

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. - Students from St. Joseph School here enjoy class “prayer days” each year at Gasper River Catholic Retreat Center. Each grade level plans their own day to grow closer to God and to each other. Mrs. Larimore and Mrs. Anthony’s 5th grade classes centered their day around the theme “We Are All Living Saints”. They spent the day exploring how saints lived their lives and did activities to find the saints in each other. Fr. Josh McCarty, from St. Joseph Church, joined them to celebrate mass, share lunch, and sing with the kids while playing his guitar.

Ms. Watt and Mrs. Thornton’s 4th grade classes used the theme of “Forgiveness”. Students enjoyed making and eating pretzels, after learning that Monks made pretzels after fasting for forgiveness during Lent. They also participated in discussions, celebrated mass with Fr. Steve Hohman, and played games based on their theme.

Mrs. Overmohle and Miss Quinlan’s 3rd grade classes used the theme of “Peace”. Students went to centers set up around the room to learn about how peace begins with us and how we can bring peace throughout the world. They also celebrated mass with



Fr. Joshua McCarty, from St. Joseph Church, joined the 5th grade class to celebrate mass, share lunch, and sing with the kids while playing his guitar.



### Ursuline Associates Spellers

Team nickname: Ursuline Associates. Team members: (l. to r. on pic with Kirk Kirkpatrick, who was the m.c. for the bee.) John Little, Sr. Cheryl Clemons, OSU, Marian Bennett (director of Ursuline Associates), Joan Little and Mag Birge. Team Manager: Jerry Birge



Sharing a lesson during Prayer Days for Saint Joseph School students at Gasper River Catholic Retreat Center. Submitted photos

Fr. Josh and later shared in his musical talents.

Mrs. Kaunisto and Miss Cecil’s 2nd grade classes had their prayer day centered around the theme “The Lord is My Shepherd”. They walked the Stations of the Cross, had a “teaching” mass with Fr. Steve Hohman, and worked on crafts that taught about good character traits.

We are so thankful to have the Gasper River Retreat Center in our Diocese. I would encourage other schools to take advantage of this great facility. We are truly blessed!



### Dueling Cameras

The Owensboro Catholic Middle School 8th Grade Volleyball Team captured a tournament title on September 18. OCMS hosted “Volley Jam,” a combined 7th and 8th grade tournament at Owensboro Catholic High School including 12 teams from the Owensboro area. After three games in the tournament, the OCMS 8th grade defeated Burns Middle School for the tournament championship. Team members include: front row - Madeleine Rafferty, Emily Hoesli, Leslie Wilson, Leslie Kuntz; back row - Molly Thompson, Audrey Wright, Hannah Hagan, Meredith Bickett, Coach Melody Clark, Gabrielle Hoffman, Lesley Harney, Mary Keaton Clemens. OCS Photo

# Chiarian Calls People To A Charism of Caring

By Mel Howard

and Stephanie Mattingly

In Saint Peter's Square on Sept. 29, 2010, Pope Benedict XVI said, "Today I would like to speak to you about St. Matilda of Hackeborn, "God's Nightingale," one of the great figures of the monastery of Helfta, who lived in the 13th century.

"Her religious sister, St. Gertrude the Great, in Book VI of the work *'Liber specialis gratiae'* (Book of Special Grace), in which are narrated the special graces that God granted St. Matilda, says thus: 'What we have written is very little compared with what we have omitted. Only for the glory of God and usefulness of our neighbor do we publish these things, because it would seem unjust to us to maintain silence about the many graces that Matilda received from God not so much for herself, it seems to us, but for us and for those who will come after us' (Matilda von Hackeborn, *Liber specialis gratiae*, VI, 1)."

"Only for the glory of God and usefulness of our neighbor do we publish these things," our church's head spiritual teacher reminds us, and then asks us to do likewise, utilizing the Liturgy as our school of spirituality.

Pope Benedict XVI said, "Dear friends, personal and liturgical prayer, especially the liturgy of the hours and holy Mass, are the



Stephanie Mattingly's sisters and cousins gathered just before the start of walk held in Evansville, Indiana on September 28, 2010 to raise the awareness of the public about this serious neurological disorder, and the need for the US government to fund more research to find a cure. Submitted photo

root of the spiritual experience of St. Matilda of Hackeborn. Allowing herself to be guided by sacred Scripture and to be nourished by the Eucharistic Bread, she followed a path of intimate union with the Lord, always in full fidelity to the Church. This is for us also a strong invitation to intensify our friendship with the Lord, above all through daily prayer and attentive, faithful and active participation in the holy Mass. The liturgy is a great school of spirituality."

It is in the spirit of our Pope's prompting that we publish this story about a chiarian who calls people who will listen to practice a charism of caring.

As a reporter for *The Western Kentucky Catholic*, I was taking pictures at a family benefit barbecue one day in August, and a lady called to me from across a field, "Mister, are you with the paper?" I waited, wondering, but she had a purple shirt on with the word Chiari on it. I just had to see what she wanted.

She started right in telling me about her diagnosis with Chiari, a malformation, an abnormality in the lower part of the brain called the cerebellum. I had never heard of Chiari, but I knew her, Stephanie Wright Mattingly, 37, from the Knottsville Catholic community, many of whom were gathered to contribute to the benefit.

Stephanie asked me to do some research on Chiari, and then help her raise awareness among people about the disease and the need for research for a cure.

As we talked this day, and several days to come, I learned how people react to a Chiarian, someone who lives with Chiari - with disbelief, even distrust, much like the way we Americans react to immigrants from another culture who may approach us and ask for help.

This is how many people who know Stephanie reacted at first when she told them something was really wrong, and she could not find a way to get rid of the pain she felt as headaches. Doctors said she needed to see a counselor, or prescribed pain killers that did no good.

Some of her friends listened to Stephanie tell about her pain and how she was gradually beginning to lose her balance and the use of her left leg. Some said it was probably stress,

and slowly she and they became distant: "I didn't want to dwell on my pain with them," said Stephanie.

Even family members thought it could be stress, but still loved her, and hoped the best for her.

So what was she to do? Just suffer? Deal with it? Stay away from people? Sit at home, not go to work?

Stephanie has trouble working on a keyboard, and so when *The Western Kentucky Catholic* asked her to put into words a little of her story, she wrote them out in cursive. Because concentrating and using a pen is harder now for her to do, it took Stephanie a few days to write this account:

"I started feeling bad in 2002. I had headaches off and on. I thought it was stress. Then I hurt my back and found from the doctor that I had a leaking disc in my back.

"I worked three days a week at St. Mary's Elementary as an aide, and two days caring for a loved one. I could still cook, but my legs were very weak. I'm still a mom and clean the house, and coach some volleyball; I'm very active in our children's lives, always busy.

"But the headaches, the migraines, the vomiting - the doctor gave me some meds and a few pain relievers. He kept switching migraine meds, and then went to migraine shots; nothing worked. I went (to the doctor's) because of the migraines, and one day I was cleaning, and my back went out. The doctors in Owensboro wanted to do surgery; I was not going to ...went to see a Louisville doctor who said my spine just didn't look all that great, that I had a degenerative disc disease, and at an early age (compared to the population). He said that if I had back surgery, I would soon have a full rod. He knew the disc was leaking, but felt that with epidural shots with physical therapy, the disc would move back into its place. The headaches got worse, the vomiting, the dizziness kept up; I knew something wasn't right!

After five years of on and off taking meds for migraine headaches and also for depression, my doctor thought I should see a therapist.

"I said to him that I wanted him to do an MRI first.

"I literally thought I was going crazy. I had symptoms of walking toward the left, my muscles hurting with spasms, and eyes twitching uncontrollably. I dropped things from my hands, and my speech - I couldn't find words. Sometimes it was hard to swallow.

"My nurse called and said that the MRI



## Conquer Chiari

A Coat of Arms is a representation of a family's heritage and contain symbols which define them; that is why we chose a Coat of Arms to represent the Conquer Chiari effort.:

The Conquer Chiari Coat of Arms contains four symbols on its shield representative of our mission:

- 1) A ribbon representing Awareness
- 2) A book with magnifying glasses representing both Education and the search for answers
- 3) A microscope representing Research
- 4) The Rx symbol representing a Cure

Behind the shield lie a Caduceus and rising sun. The Caduceus - a well known symbol for medicine - represents our partnership the medical community, while its sword like shape represents both the surgical aspect of the disease and invites to take the fight to our enemy. The sun, rising behind the shield, represents the promise of a day when Chiari and syringomyelia are conquered.

Finally, beneath the shield lies a banner with our call to action, "Join The Battle"; for this is not a fight that can be won alone. It will take the combined efforts of each and every one of us to put an end to this fight once and for all.

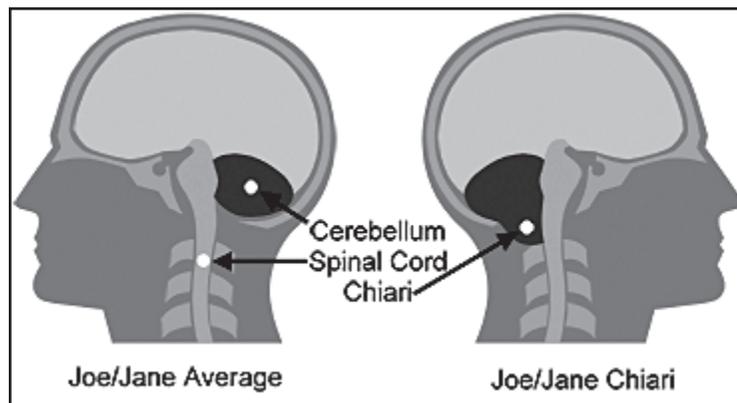
Source: <http://www.conquerchiari.org>

# 16 How Living With Chiari Changed My Way of Life

By Bobbie Leistner

HOLLAND, IN - Being raised in the Midwest, I have always had a strong work ethic. I started my first job on my 14th birthday and have worked through that time up until 2007. I have held a passion for care-giving at an early age and worked hard, as a non-traditional student (divorced and raising a two year old daughter), to obtain an RN degree. I have been viewed as an excellent nurse from patients, families, co-workers, administration, and physicians. I loved my career! The last seven years of my nursing career I was assigned to case-manage patients who suffered from chronic pain. I honestly, genuinely thought I had a fairly good understanding of the dynamics involved with living with chronic pain. In retrospect I was closer to ignorant than educated.

Living with Chiari has challenged me in every single manner, in all types of spheres and at levels I never knew existed. Some of these: my self esteem and self worth: losing my ability to work affected me so deeply, for I had come to identify myself as a nurse. Now, living on disability, not only derailed our financial plans but has been incredibly hard



**Chiari Malformation (Arnold-Chiari) is a serious neurological disorder where the bottom part of the brain, the cerebellum, descends out of the skull and crowds the spinal cord, putting pressure on both the brain and spine and causing many symptoms.**

Source: <http://www.conquerchiari.org/index.htm>

for me to feel I have much self worth in this scenario. Yet I am grateful for the help...it's just not what I ever, ever dreamed could have happened. I had to learn to accept that my measuring stick in regards to accomplishments and productivity had to be reduced... dramatically. It felt almost child-like compared to what a usual day of productivity and accomplish-

ments had been. These are really, really difficult issues to content with. Additionally I struggled to find joy in my life. Prior to 2007 people categorized me as a happy-go-lucky kind of person; a person of true zest and love of life. But unmanaged pain is like a drain to every ounce of energy, joy, peace, and contentment. My sleep, energy, endurance and interest in

things that would normally bring joy are now challenged almost daily. Some days I feel better than other days but I have not had one single, solitary day where Chiari has not dominated my life since 2007. The only variable is how much? and how bad?

My marriage has endured but not easily; relationships suffer because I don't feel well and therefore am not interested in socializing...it is just too costly, physically speaking. The wonderful harmony between myself and my adult children also suffered. They wanted their 'Mom back' they could not accept that I was not getting better. My cognitive ability has been significantly impaired. In some ways this is one of the hardest parts for me to adjust to. Things that came naturally and easily now do not. My ability to retain things is approximately 10% of what it used to be. Others issues include balance, swallowing difficulty, peculiar spasms, hand tremors. Even with a solid spiritual faith I came closer to death by suicide than I even like to acknowledge. Living with Chiari, or any physical challenge that causes relentless and protracted pain, has to be one of the most miserable ways to live that I can imagine.

And now, through experience, I am closer to educated, even expert, than I was three years ago. Now I truly know that there are some situations where pain cannot be controlled well. Between prescribed and OTC medications, I take more than 30 pills a day to achieve even the most meager quality of life. But I gladly accept what I can and continue to pray & support research in hopes of gaining better options in the future.

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## Chiarian Calls Church To A Charism of Caring

Continued from page 15

looked OK, but that I had Chiari malformation, and the doctor wouldn't be in until the next Monday. I was at home alone when the call came.

"My heart just sank. Chiari. I knew of one case of this: a three-year-old girl, and she was having brain surgery. I knew the family, and I made a call. The Mom said, "Oh, Stephanie, I'm so sorry."

"Today, I can't sleep very well. I have muscle spasms, keeping my husband awake from the jerking. A sleep apnea test found that my brain never shuts down at all. In the morning, I'm not myself. I mumble and slur my words, walk into walls, fall down, and I can't think clearly sometimes. Writing this account for me has been slow, with starts and stops finding words.

"After the morning meds have worked about an hour in my system, I am able to function some, but not like I used to. I'm not able to lift more than five pounds. I finally agreed to get a walking cane to help out, to end the bruises which my pain management specialist found. Every morning, my sister calls to check on me and to remind me to take the meds. We sometimes talk for hours. On the worst days, I lay in bed, and sometimes, I have to crawl to the bathroom. I just sit and cry: Why me? I can drive a car on some days, but I know when I'm not able; then I don't drive. My family helps me the most.

"Every day is a struggle. My disease isn't seen, so it is hard for people to believe me. I wake up with a migraine and my body hurting so badly, and go to bed feeling the same. I have occipital neuralgia, fibromyalgia, degenerative disc disease, and arthritis.

"I wanted more answers, so with my husband and my parents, we flew to Colorado to visit Dr. Oro, a Chiari specialist. I knew in my heart that this is it; I'm going to get help. After three days of testing and talking to him, I felt things were going in the right direction. On the last day there, I hoped that we were going to find out what I hoped for - a plate in the back of my head to keep my skull from caving in. But I knew when I looked into Dr. Oro's eyes, he was not going to be able to help me. He explained to all of us that there were no muscles or tendons or even a patch over my brain. My nerves were not positioned in the right place, and I must have had a spinal leak because a muscle was glued down. So, everything in the back of my head, muscles, etc. was laying in my

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### Symptoms Related To Chiari Malformation

1. Headache, particularly precipitated by coughing, straining, sneezing, etc. (Valsalva maneuvers)
2. Balance problems, which may impair walking
3. Dizziness
4. Eye symptoms, most commonly to-and-fro movements of the eyes, called nystagmus
5. Change in quality of the voice
6. Swallowing problems
7. Sleep disturbances

- From *Chiari Malformation And Syringomyelia A Handbook For Patients And Their Families*, ©2008 Ulrich Batzdorf, M.D.

### IS Chiari GENETIC?

"Common questions adults ask when diagnosed with any type of condition are: "Is this genetic?" "Can I pass it on to my children?" When a couple has a child who is diagnosed with CM I, one of the first questions typically asked is "Can this happen in my future children, too?" Studying the genetic component of a condition like CM I (with or without syringomyelia) can help answer these questions. Genetic studies can also help identify causes for the condition by learning what genes are involved, how they work, and why changes in these genes lead to CM I/SM.

"Except in unusual circumstances, we are still unable to answer the question of whether or not any person affected with CM I/SM will pass it on to a child. We can confidently say that at least some cases have a genetic basis, and if relatives of an affected individual start to have symptoms of CM I/SM, diagnostic testing may be indicated."

Source: "How Common Are Chiari Malformation And Syringomyelia? Are There Genetic Causes?" by Marcy C. Speer, Ph.d., found online at <http://www.asap.org/handbook.pdf>

# Called To A Charism of Caring

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neck, and they don't work any more. He told me to never have surgery again. One hit in the back of my head would kill me.

"Deaths are not likely among people who have Chiari. I know that there have been a few cases in which people have died from a head trauma, and an autopsy on them revealed that they had Chiari, which of itself doesn't kill you. Usually, something else happens.

"My days consist of really not being able to do a lot. I don't leave the house as much as I just lie around, or go to my sister's or Mom's house. I sleep a lot, and, no, that is not due to the pain meds or other medication I take. It's due to my brain needing to just rest for a time. As the sleep apnea test showed, my brain never goes into dream mode. I never get that REM sleep due to my brain being active 24/7.

"My pain is all over me; my head aches and my knees, muscles, feet, and hands hurt the worst. My pain intensity runs

around an 8 or 9 on a scale of 10. I try to look my best so that people don't have to ask if I'm having a bad day.

"One thing I have learned from other Chiarians is that we may look normal, and so everyone doubts our pain; we usually lose friends. I guess that they never really were true friends.

"In my family, I am the first to have this that I know of. After that, my brother's son has a variant of Dandy Walker Syndrome which is in the family of Chiari. They had to put a shunt in to drain fluids from his brain.

"I have talked to many people in the Daviess County area who either have Chiari or their child may have it. We talk and keep in touch with each other. About a month ago, in August, I found out that my first cousin on my Dad's side has a grandchild who was definitely diagnosed with Chiari. She has another grandchild

who will be going through testing.

"There are fund raisers for Chiari sufferers and for research. They have helped many people. In our situation, the money would go for funding research to find a cure, and to educate surgeons about doing the surgery the correct way.

"We are having our third walk for Chiari in Evansville, In. It's awesome: lots of food and a silent auction, and the money goes directly for helping find a cure.

"If I could go back, would I still have the surgery? I would have to say yes, but I wish I knew then what I now know about Chiari. I have researched it, and found that many people suffer as I do. I can't say it enough: our disorder is not visible, so it is very hard for people to believe in us. That puts emotional, financial, and physical strain on families of people living with Chiari."

Stephanie wants to make her own way,

and solve her own problems. She's used to working for a living, raising a family, and contributing to the community around her. But as with many people facing an uphill battle with an illness or disorder, there comes a time when one has to let people know that something is too much to bear, and that help is needed. That can be a very hard move to make for a person used to working hard and finding ways to solve problems as they come. Sometimes, a person has to let someone else "get your back."

To learn more about the Chiari disorder, go online to [conquerchiari.org](http://conquerchiari.org). You would be amazed!

Interested persons may contact Stephanie Mattingly by email at [chiaristeph@yahoo.com](mailto:chiaristeph@yahoo.com)

Bryan Cole <[ellisparkhorse@yahoo.com](mailto:ellisparkhorse@yahoo.com)>

## how Chiari has affected me

To: [mel.howard@pastoral.org](mailto:mel.howard@pastoral.org)

Date: Tuesday, September 21, 2010, 5:55 PM

"I am 53 years old. Chiari began affecting me at age 17; I spent the next 4 years going back and forth to Drs. who told me at the end that my condition was Psychological. I was finally diagnosed by a NSG who found my Chiari with a test called Pneumoencephalogram. I was 17 when I had my first surgery; he told me he fixed things as good as he could and said my condition was quite complex.

"This surgery helped me for many years but things began to change for the worse when I reached my 40's. I've had 2 surgeries done in 2009. I have Chiari along with Syringomyelia (Cervical Syrx) which has expanded my spinal cord in the C2 area, I have Basilar Invagination; my C2 (Dens) is flattening the Medulla of the Brain Stem. I have teathered spinal cord; my Brain Stem has elongated.

"I need 2 more surgeries; they are to stop the progression of my Chiari. I just don't understand why Chiari is taken so lightly; it has effected my life very much, and I have met many others whom it has also effected.

"Bryan (Indiana) - Surgery for Chiari in 1974 at age 17 which I've always considered a success even though I've always had problems. I new little to nothing about Chiari until May, 2006. Revision done at TCI in Jan.2009."

*(Editor's Note: Mostly, we like to "pretty up" other people's language so that the words look antiseptically clean to read. Chiarians can think clearly through their chronic pain, but do have a lot of trouble at times getting the right words to come out straight, or holding a pen, or hitting keys on a keyboard. Some parts of a day are better for a Chiarian to do things than other parts of a day. I put in a few commas and semi-colons in this email message, but to authenticate a reader's experience of a Chiarian's writing, with his permission, we left Bryan's message pretty much as he sent it.)*

## WISDOM

BY GINNY KNIGHT-SIMON

Ginny Knight-Simon, at right, with Betty Ann Lynn, a member of Holy Angels Catholic Church in Mt. Airy, NC

Most of you know Betty Lynn, but by another name - Thelma Lou. Just Thelma Lou, no last name. Of course, she was the girlfriend of Deputy Barney Fife on the still-running TV and cable channel program, the Andy Griffith Show!

On a recent trip to Mt. Airy, North Carolina, I met Thelma Lou - ah - Betty Lynn. She is 83 years old and still has the cute twinkle in her eyes. She seems genuinely interested in the people that stop her to chat.

Betty Lynn's major claim to fame was the part of Thelma Lou, but she also played in a few movies, TV shows, a dance touring company and the U.S.O. Born in Kansas City, Mo., she began her career as a teen in a local theater and dance. She later moved to California and started acting in the Andy Griffith Show in 1960. Being on the Andy Griffith Show was some of the best times in her life. She moved to Mt. Airy in 2006, because the crime was so bad. Her home had been broken into twice in one year and she didn't want to go back in after the second robbery.

Mt. Airy is Andy Griffith's hometown, and the home town on which Mayberry is based. Lynn had visited Mt. Airy a few times, and felt she would like to come back and live.

She is active in the community and quite a draw for tourist for the popular Mayberry Days held each September. She can be seen at Mass on Sunday at Holy Angels church, the only Catholic Church in town. She lives in a retirement community where she feel safe and her privacy is respected.

"Thel," as Barney called her, was going into the Andy Griffith Museum when I met her. "Don't let the wheelchair fool you. I don't want to walk down the steps. I like to conserve my energy." I learned she really doesn't need the wheelchair. Betty Lynn, was very cordial asking me where I was from and how long it took us to drive there and "Don't you just love the mountains and our town?"

Yes to it all, Thelma Lou. I loved it all.

"There's no place like home, unless it's it heaven," said Lynn of her mountains.



# 18 Kentucky Natives Help Kick Off Annual Buddy Walk in New York

By Dawn C. Ligibel

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. - If anyone had told Lela Hale several months ago that she would be standing in the middle of Times Square on September 25th of this year, much less seeing a photo of two of her children beaming from the jumbotron, surely she would have thought that person had lost his or her mind!

Standing in the middle of Times Square in New York, New York, however, is precisely what Hale was doing with her nearly 3-year-old son, Elijah, on September 25, which was the national kick-off day for the National Down Syndrome Society's (NDSS) annual Buddy Walk.

Although Hale had submitted photos each year since Elijah was born for the annual NDSS video used to kick off the Buddy Walk and to promote awareness about Down Syndrome, this year his photo was selected. "When they sent me the e-mail that said he won, I think everyone in the free world could hear me scream," exclaimed Hale. "I've been worthless at work since the day I found out we won," she admitted with a laugh.

Immediately, she set her sights on traveling to New York for the unveiling of the video. Unfortunately, she knew it would be a challenge to raise enough money to pay for the trip. "Everyone at work and all the vendor's at work knew I really wanted to go," she explained. She had several friends send her money as well as putting jars in the cafeteria at work for donations. "GRADSA also donated some money," Hale said. GRADSA stands for the Green River Down Syndrome Association which is located in Owensboro.

Another big thrill, however, came when Hale's boss told her someone had donated enough money to pay for her airfare and hotel so both she and Elijah could travel to New York. "The person who read 'My Great Story' felt moved by God to send us to New York," explained Hale. That person, however, did not want



**Lela and Scott Hale pulled most of their busy family together for a photo just days after Lela and their youngest son, Elijah, returned to Hopkinsville after visiting New York City for the annual NDSS Buddy Walk kick-off. From left to right in the back are Lela, Elijah, Scott and Alex. In the front row are Gracie and Zach.**

Photo taken by Dawn C. Ligibel

her to know who donated the money. "My boss knows, but she won't tell me," Hale said. The story which motivated the anonymous donor to give the money was written by Hale at the request of the NDSS after Elijah's photo was selected. (See sidebar for "My Great Story.") The end result of all the generous donations was that Hale had no out-of-pocket expenses for the trip of her lifetime.

To make the most of her experience, Hale arrived in New York two days before the Buddy Walk so she and Elijah could see some of the sights. "When we stepped off that plane, there were people

everywhere. You immediately realize you are in New York City and you're nowhere close to Hoptown!" Hale said with a chuckle. "It was exciting and scary at the same time."

Hale's first stop was at The Church of the Holy Innocents. When Hale had miscarried a daughter several years ago, she had sent Samantha Payton Rose's name to the church to be included in their book. "I wanted to see her name in the book," Hale explained. "If I didn't do anything else, that would have been okay," said the mother of seven. "I didn't think I'd ever get to see it. I never cry, but I cried when I went into that church," she admitted.

In fact, for someone who never cries, Hale said she had one good cry each day while visiting New York. "I cried at the church. I cried just when I got there and I knew her name was in there. That was my Thursday cry," she said with a smile.

The big cry, of course, came on Saturday morning when the NDSS video was unveiled in Times Square. "I knew when I saw his picture I would cry, and I did," Hale said. While watching the video, Hale recalled, "I'm all cocked and ready. I knew it was coming, but when I

saw it, the emotion just took over," she admitted. "You're happy, you're proud, you're excited," she added.

The NDSS video runs just under 20 minutes and includes more than 200 pictures. According to Hale the video will be on the NDSS website all year. Visit [www.ndss.org](http://www.ndss.org) to view the video.

The photo of Elijah selected for the video is of he and his six-year-old sister Gracie giving "monkey sugars." According to Hale, "monkey sugars" is some-

Continued on page 19

## My Great Story -- Elijah Hale

By Lela Hale

"I need to speak to the parents, alone. Your baby's lungs sound good, blood pressure is fine, he appears to have Down Syndrome, I hear a slight heart murmur, but heart rate is good, you can see him soon." All those words were said with barely a breath between. I wondered if the doctor thought if he said them fast and buried the main diagnosis in the middle that somehow it wouldn't be so painful to hear. But, now it was out there... "appears to have Down Syndrome" was suspended in air. My husband, Scott, was sobbing, but I couldn't comfort him. We had known there was some sort of issue with Elijah, but we weren't prepared for the truth. As I look back now, I wish I could say I handled it better and those were the only tears shed over Elijah's diagnosis.

Elijah was always content and happy. Sometimes I would sit and hold him, staring at his tiny face... searching for signs of Down's. I didn't think that he looked "downsy" enough and I needed to "see" the Down's in his face, so I could accept it. I felt very inadequate and unsure of my ability to take care of Elijah.

One of my friends, Angie Pace, also had a son with Down Syndrome. I believe God sent Ben first to lead the way for us. Without Angie and Ben I would not have made it through the first weeks of Elijah's life.

But I was still searching for something I couldn't find in Elijah's face. This is where God's true grace kicks in. One night, Elijah was watching me as I watched him. Then I realized something that changed the way I looked at him forever. He was searching for something in MY face. I didn't know what it was, whether it was for a smile to comfort him or for reassurance that I would always be

Continued on page 19

## Living With Chiari *(Continued from page 16)*

Thank you, Western Kentucky Catholics, for taking the time and effort to help make others aware of this neurological disorder that most people have never even heard of. Only by way of grass-roots efforts are we going to bring this disorder to the forefront, thereby bringing support and financial donations, thus pushing us ever closer to answers!! God Bless you.

Warmly,

Bobbie Leistner, Holland, IN

FYI: age 46 at diagnosis with decompression surgery two weeks later (11/07).

My recovery has been hindered by nerve damage and post surgical complications. Please feel free to contact me for any questions or clarifications.

## Kentucky Natives *(Continued from page 18)*

thing her mother started with Elijah. It's his way of giving her kisses. "It's a running joke now," Hale said. "He hears her voice and those lips come out!" she said with a laugh.

Before the video was shown, Hale and Elijah started early on Saturday by attending the "Early Show." The special guest on the show that morning was Kevin Pearce, a professional snowboarder who has a brother with Down Syndrome. "He had requested that NDSS get a bunch of people there for the walk to stand outside the barricades when they interviewed him," Hale explained. Not wanting to miss a thing, Hale and Elijah arrived on location at 6:30 a.m.

At the conclusion of the video, everyone was loaded onto buses and taken to Central Park for the Buddy Walk. "It was on the great lawn in Central Park," Hale explained. "Chris Burke from Life Goes On was there. Rachel Coleman, who does the Signing Time! videos to teach sign language was there. He just loves Rachel. He was star struck," Hale said, explaining that Elijah already knows how to sign the alphabet and count to 20.

Overall, Hale's trip to New York was a huge success and the opportunity of her life time. "I never met a single unkind person. Everyone went out of the way to make us comfortable."

## My Great Story -- Elijah Hale

*(Continued from page 18)*



Two-year-old Elijah Hale and his six-year-old sister Gracie appeared on the jumbotron in Times Square in New York City on September 25. The children's photo was included in the National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS) video for this year and was unveiled to kick-off the NDSS annual Buddy Walk.

Photo taken by Lela Hale

there, but I think he was searching for acceptance from me for the person he was inside, not for some physical characteristic that said he was blonde, blue-eyed...or "downsy". I could now see the gift he is and realized that Elijah's diagnosis is not his guiding force.

My favorite quote is "God doesn't give you the people you want in your life, he gives you the people you NEED...to help you, to hurt you, to leave you, to love you and TO MAKE YOU INTO

THE PERSON YOU WERE MEANT TO BE...". I don't know why God saw fit to give Elijah to me, but I know, like so many times in my life, God saw a need and filled it. Elijah is making ME the person I was meant to be. All I have to do is look into his deep blue eyes and I feel refreshed and renewed. All he has to do is look straight into my soul with those eyes and I know everything is right with God.

## Lourdes Foundation Funds Scholarships for Nursing Students

19

PADUCAH, Ky- Three students are pursuing a career in nursing thanks to a grant from Lourdes Foundation's Kathryn Sanders Nursing Scholarship Fund. Laken Graves, Misi Morrison and Lee Ann Yamada were awarded funding to help defray costs of tuition and books for their respective nursing programs.

"Mrs. Sanders wanted a special way to honor Lourdes nurses for the care she received," said Tara Miller, Lourdes Foundation executive director. "These scholarship recipients embody the compassion, excellence and 'caring spirit' for which Lourdes is known."

The scholarship fund, established by Jim Sanders in his late wife's honor, assists those who wish to enter the field of nursing or obtain advanced training through higher education. The program has awarded over \$20,000 in scholarships since its start in 2006.



These are the 2010 McLean County Graduates which attend at St. Sebastian Catholic Church in Calhoun, Ky. Posing with their pastor Father John Okoro, are from left, Kevin Clouse, Joseph Hayden, Abi Durbin, Fr. John Okoro, Logan DeGraef, & Sid Hayden.  
Submitted Photo

## Sugarplum Christmas Bazaar

*St. Sebastian Church, 180 Hwy 136 West, Calhoun, KY*

**Saturday, December 4, 2010, 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

10' x 8' Booths Available

Contact Betty Abrams (270) 273-3262, email babrams142@aol.com; Elaine

Fulkerson (270) 273-5441, email efulker325@bellsouth.net

Handmade items, famous baked goods, homemade candy, Christmas decorations and other great gift items!

Please fill out form and mail along with booth rental fee of \$25 by November 15th. Booth rental **must** accompany form to reserve booth space.

Mail to: Betty Abrams, P O Box 189, Calhoun, KY 42327

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## 20 Bishop Soenneker Home in Knottsville, A Happy Home To Believe In

KNOTTSVILLE, Ky. - Bishop Soenneker Home is a Personal Care Home providing 24 hour nursing supervision. We are unique in that we offer on site religious services. We believe in a God loving approach to both care and everyday living. We strive to work with the family of a resident to help the resident remain close to his/her family here at the Bishop Soenneker Home and cherish each person's individuality. We believe it is by such love and acceptance, along with good care that each resident will find their happiness here.

For more information please feel free to contact The Bishop Soenneker Home at 270-281-4881 or 270-281-5804.

If you would like to learn more about the Bishop Soenneker Home in Knottsville, look online in the Owensboro Diocesan website at [http://www.rcdok.org/ministries/bishop\\_soenneker\\_home/index.php](http://www.rcdok.org/ministries/bishop_soenneker_home/index.php)



Bishop Soenneker Home is located at: 9545 KY 144; Knottsville, KY 42366 next to St. Williams Catholic Church 10 miles East of Owensboro, KY. Administrator: Paula Hazel; Phone # 270-281-4881; fax #270-281-5804.

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Marriage Celebrations for November  
Anniversaries of 25, 40, 50 and Over  
50 Years of Marriage

#### Blessed Mother, Owensboro

James & Monica Payne, 40  
Eldridge & Lois Owens, 54  
Harry & Charlene Baumgarten, 54  
Kenneth & Alice Cole, 51

#### Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro

Phillip & Joyce Moorman, 53  
Donald & Rita Moorman, 40

#### Christ the King, Madisonville

Eddie & Rae Ballard, 57  
Emilio & Virginia Suarez, 56

#### Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson

Larry & Jane Denton, 51  
Billy & Betty Gatten, 61  
Bobby & Della May Marlin, 53  
Boynton & Marian Merrill, 58  
Ralph & Jeannine O'Nan, 52  
Charles & Faye Pippin, 53  
Andre' & Louise Trawick, 55  
David & Kathleen Brauer, 40  
Richard & Lynda Wathen, 25

#### Holy Spirit, Bowling Green

Michael & Brenda Miciotto, 25  
Richard & Marie Owen, 53  
Gernard & Lois Schwitzgebel, 51

#### Immaculate Conception, Hawesville

Harold & Sherry Hagman, 25  
Cleo & Myrl Bickett, 69

#### Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

Arch & Ramonda Bamberger, 70  
Frank & Jackie Bowlds, 60  
Robert & Mary Hagan, 52  
James & Clara Simon, 59

#### Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro

Donald & Mary Blandford, 57  
Charles R. & Mary Jane Bowlds, 58  
Joseph & Mary Ruth Cilia, 67  
Stewart & Barbara Coomes, 56  
Pat & John Mountain, 54  
William J. & Carolyn Mulligan, 65  
Robert W. & Marjorie Slack, 51  
Larry & Becky Hagan, 40  
Joe Bill & Nancy Smith, 50  
Thomas & Mary Louise Cecil, 60  
Tom & Rosella C. Whitsett, 60

#### Precious Blood, Owensboro

Louis & Liz Cecil, 66  
Fred & Martha Cook, 50  
Charles & Shirley Merimee, 54  
James & Doris Schrecker, 56

#### Sacred Heart, Hickman

Morrison & Paula McClure, 53

#### Sacred Heart, Russellville

William & Jean Danhauer, 60

#### St. Agnes Uniontown

Ross & Jane Thomas, 51  
Pat & Peggy Thomas, 58  
Fred & Mary Evelyn Eckmans, 51

#### St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph

William A. & Elizabeth Mattingly, 64  
Joe Paul & Joyce Warren, 62

#### St. Joseph, Leitchfield

Bill & Daisy Gibson, 54  
Maurice & Dot Drury, 63  
Robert & Mary Ann Mattingly, 53  
Murray & Jean Murphy, 59

#### St. Ann, Morganfield

Larry & Sharon Cissell, 55  
Harold & Kathy Thomas, 51  
James & Betty Hancock, 65



Bishop Soenneker Home's Tina Lantz and Terri Reburn, crossing guard volunteers for Mary Carrico Memorial Catholic School stopped traffic on KY 144 as students crossed the road heading to Saint William Church for First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Sept 3, 2010.  
Arlene Cecil Photos

#### St. Anthony, Axtel

Diane & Keith Moris, 40

#### St. Edward, Fulton

Doug & Connie Lorton, 54  
Bill & Jean Fenwick, 58  
Steve & Ann Lindsey, 56

#### St. Elizabeth, Clarkson

Jerry & Wanda Kersey, 40

#### St. Francis Borgia, Sturgis

Paul & Bernadette Farr, 56  
Fred & Rita Williamson, 62

#### St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

Hayvert & Catherine Sutton, 51  
Larry & Joyce Hooks, 51

#### St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

Leo & Mae Carter, 75  
Charles & Betty Cash, 60  
Bernard & Wilma Hobbs, 61  
Charles & Mary Ann Thomas, 52  
Joseph & Magy Wilson, 62

#### St. John the Baptist, Fordsville

Leo & JoAnn Kauffeld, 40

#### St. John the Evangelist, Paducah

Kenny & Phyllis Walter, 25  
Bruce & Colleen Tinchler, 25  
Paul & Velma Thompson, 40  
Francis & Dorothy Scheer, 56  
Johnny & Louise Kaufman, 57  
Leroy & June Kaufman, 58  
Bennie & Doris Durbin, 60  
Ambrose & Mary Denise Willett, 64

#### St. Joseph, Central City

Jim & Mary Beyke, 51

#### St. Joseph, Leitchfield

Wendell & Mary Lou Beeler, 55

#### St. Joseph, Mayfield

John & Helen Riley, 54  
Douglas & Hilda Webb, 62

#### St. Leo, Murray

Mark & Jackie Kennedy, 40  
Kenneth & Carolyn Ramsey, 54

Leonard & Elenore Lankford, 51

#### St. Martin, Rome

Larry & Sharon Gillim, 51  
George & Patti Osborne, 55  
Paul & Mary Schrecker, 64

#### St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Scott & Vickie Crisp, 25  
Keith & Valerie Roby, 25  
Lou & Martine Boarman, 62  
J. W. & Mary Morris, 58  
William & Mary Brey, 64  
Gordon & Evelyn Millay, 56

#### St. Peter, Waverly

George & Regina Vogel, 62  
St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley  
Baron & Jeannie Vanover, 25  
Hugh & Betty Cecil, 58  
Delbert & Shirley Fulkerson, 58

#### St. Pius X, Calvert City

Jerry & Gayle Seay, 57

#### St. Pius X, Owensboro

Paul & Judy Brown, 40  
Gary & Beverly Estes, 40  
Dennis & Charlotte Gatton, 51

#### St. Romuald, Hardinsburg

Donny & Jannette Wethington, 25  
Jim & Gail Polloce, 40  
Harold & Dorothy Burnette, 58  
Joe Paul & Phyllis Flood, 53  
Victor & Lillian Henning, 53

#### St. Stephen, Cadiz

Delbert & Ronella Stagner, 64  
St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro  
Charles & Mary Ruth Danhauer, 61  
Bill & Jean Danhauer, 60  
John & Marybelle Darnell, 64  
Jim & Jolene Hudson, 54  
Gilt & Joann Moore, 53  
Kyle & Martha Wenner, 25

Continued on page 21

## MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER

### CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

"GIVE PEACE, QUIET, AND PRAYER A CHANCE"

#### November

- 6-7 Academy for Young Leaders  
12-14 Thomas Merton Retreat with Fr. Anthony Shonis  
13 Yarn Spinners Day  
19-20 Owensboro Christian Elders Retreat  
19-21 Pax Christi/Women's Retreat Lexington

#### December

- 9 Advent Day of Prayer with Msgr. Bernard Powers

#### January 2011

- 14-16 Retrouvaille  
17-21 Spiritual Direction-Week 2

#### February 2011

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

#### March 2011

- 5 Connect, Awake & Share  
"Everything You Wanted to Know About the Catholic Church But Was Afraid to Ask"  
(Day Sessions 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th)  
(Evening Sessions 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. on 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st)  
15-18 Paducah Quilt Guild  
21-24 Yarn Spinners Weekend  
25-27 Women's Retreat



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



Mount Saint Joseph  
Conference and Retreat Center

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

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.  
www.msjcenter.org

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

(Continued from page 20)

Glenn & Ruth Helen Wright, 55  
**St. Thomas More, Paducah**  
Domenick & Arleen Amato, 40  
Wayne & Margaret Hagan, 52  
Ron & Mary Cecilia Chappell, 53  
Louis & Emma Bourgois, 56  
George & Joanna McMin, 56  
**St. William, Knottsville**  
Leon & Patricia Lanham, 53  
John & Edna Mae Lanham, 64

Frankie & Elsie Lindsey, 54  
**Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro**  
Marvin & Emma Blincoe, 64  
Sid & Anna Clark, 52  
Donald & Martha Hare, 55  
Charles & Florence Howard, 55  
Richard & Rita Stiff, 55  
**Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville**  
Henry & Hannelore Kumpfmuller, 53  
Arnold & Julia Borders, 55  
Thomas & Winnie Wilson, 58

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Would you like to receive The Pilgrimage, a free monthly e-zine featuring the latest news about the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph? Just send your e-mail address



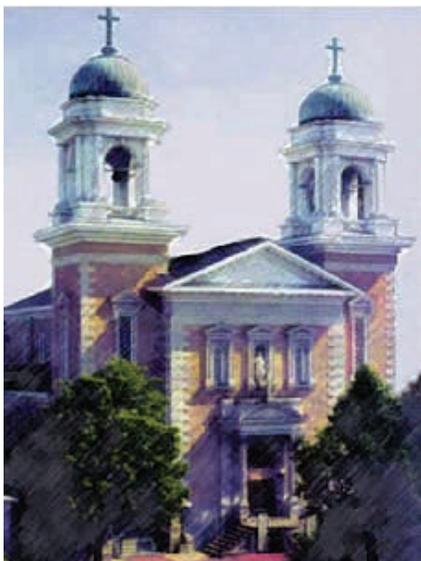
(with Pilgrimage in the subject line) to:  
info.ms@maplemount.org



Ursuline Sisters  
of Mount Saint Joseph

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

St. Francis  
de Sales  
Catholic Church  
520 Broadway, Paducah



Holiday Bazaar (9:00-2:00)  
& Lunch (10:30-2:00)  
Saturday, Nov. 6  
& Sunday, Nov. 7,  
2010

- Hand Knitted, Crocheted & Quilted Items
- Original Watercolor Paintings
- Hand Painted Items & Christmas Decorations
- Gift Baskets & Homemade Baked Items
- Bring the whole family
- Luncheon Menu: Chicken & Dressing Casserole, Corn, Green Beans, Cranberry Salad, Dessert, Roll & Drink
- \$8 per person; Children (ages 5 & under) free.
- All proceeds go to the Building & Maintenance Fund

• Parish Office: 116 S 6th Street; phone: (270) 442-1923; fax: 270-443-4616

The next Spinning Day is  
Saturday, Nov. 13

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

Future dates: Feb. 5 and May 7, 2011.

Contact Kathy McCarty to register:  
270-229-0200 ext. 413

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



Mount Saint Joseph  
Conference and Retreat Center

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

# The 2010 Sophia Awards



Patricia Reynolds, Sophia Award recipient from St. Joseph Parish, Bowling Green, posed with her son, Rev. Pat Reynolds, pastor of St. Thomas More, Paducah, Kentucky on Sunday September 26th at the 11th annual Sophia Award Celebration in Henderson, Kentucky.

Photo by Ed Simon



Sophia Award Winners from across the Diocese Sunday September 26th, at Holy Name of Jesus Church.

HENDERSON, Ky. - On Sunday September 26, Holy Name of Jesus Church hosted for the second time the 11th annual diocesan Sophia Awards Mass and reception. Bishop William F. Medley was presider for his first time. "What an honor it is for me to be here among such an esteemed group," Bishop Medley said.

The Sophia Award is presented to an outstanding senior citizen aged 65 or over who is or has been a good Faith role model, active in their parish and community, and has influenced others' lives. Anyone in the parish can nominate a person or couple based on the criteria. The word, "Sophia," is Greek for "Wisdom," and was so named by Fr. Joe Mills

in 1999, the year of the first celebration. There have been over 600 awards presented since the first one. The awards celebration is always held in September as suggested from Pope John Paul II that recognition of the elders be in the fall of the year. The deadline for nominations is always July 15.

Continued on page 23



At left, Bishop William Medley gives his first Sophia Award Mass homily at Holy Name of Jesus, on Sunday September 26, 2010, pictured with the 56 trophies awaiting their new owners.  
Photo by Ed Simon



**"Thank You"** for allowing us to be apart of this wonderful day." The Religious Education Confirmation group that served at the Sophia Award Mass and Reception. Front row l to r: Joe Bickers, Kaci Phillips, Michelle Blanchette, Brittney Tolch; back row l to r: Ben Schneider, Mason Wolfe, Jake Anderson, Christina Gaines, Claire Tumey, Lauren Haire. The group enjoyed not only helping out, but they have not stopped talking about meeting the Bishop. This interaction with him early in the year will change the face of our teaching year.  
Photo by Rose Wheeler



Jane and Andre' Chustz, Sophia Award Winners for St. Rose of Lima, Lewisport, Ky. Photo by Ed Simon



Beverly Todd, Sophia Award Winner for outstanding senior citizen, shows off her award after Mass. Photo by Ed Simon

This year 56 parishes were represented.

"I'm very proud" (of my grandparents), said Larry and Gennie Payne's grandson when asked about them receiving the Sophia Award.

Special thanks go to the Senior Group at Holy Name of Jesus parish for providing the wonderful homemade delights for the reception. The kitchen duty was provided by Gloria O'Nan, Jean Pagragan, and Ann Hargis. Special mention to Rose Wheeler and her "red shirts" youth group that provided so much help for the entire day. Of course, the music was great, thanks to Neil Biggers, Holy Name parish music director, and the choir.

Congratulations to the 2010 Sophia Award recipients.



Larry and Gennie Payne of St. Anthony's Brown's Valley - Utica-, Kentucky were accompanied by thier family as presenters of gifts at the Sophia Award Mass. Pictured are Larry, and Gennie Payne with children and grand children: Leah, Todd, Hunter, and Haley McGee and Jeremy Payne.



Eleanor Renshaw, Sophia Award winner for the Parish of the Immaculate, in Owensboro, listens to Bishop William Medley's homily.

Gloria O'Nan, Jean Pagragan, and Ann Hargis members of the senior group at Holy Name Of Jesus parish in Henderson, and Ginny Knight-Simon, Coordinator of Wisdom discuss details of the reception to follow the Sophia Awards Mass.



## Sophia Award Winners 2010

### Parish

Blessed Mother, Owensboro  
 Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro  
  
 Christ the King, Madisonville  
 Christ the King, Scottsville  
 Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson  
 Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 9. Immaculate Conception, Hawesville  
 10. Precious Blood, Owensboro  
 Rosary Chapel, Paducah  
 Sacred Heart, Waverly  
 Sacred Heart, Hickman  
 St. Ann, Morganfield  
 St. Agnes, Uniontown  
 St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph  
 St. Anthony, Browns Valley, Utica  
 St. Anthony, Axtel  
 St. Anthony, Peonia  
 St. Augustine, Reed  
 St. Augustine, Clarkson  
 St. Benedict, Wax  
 St. Columba, Lewisport  
 St. Denis, Fancy Farm  
 St. Edward, Fulton  
 St. Francis de Sales, Paducah  
 St. Jerome, Fancy Farm  
 St. John the Baptist, Fordsville  
 St. John the Evangelist, Paducah  
 St. Joseph, Bowling Green  
 St. Joseph, Central City  
 St. Joseph, Leitchfield  
 Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro  
 St. Lawrence, Philpot  
 St. Leo, Murray  
 St. Mark, Eddyville  
 St. Martin, Rome  
 St. Mary's Franklin  
 St. Mary Parish, LaCenter  
 St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho  
 St. Mary of the Woods, McQuady  
 St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville  
 St. Michael the Archangel, Oak Grove  
 St. Paul, Leitchfield  
 St. Paul, Princeton  
 St. Peter of Antioch, Waverly  
 St. Peter of Alcantara Stanley  
 Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville  
 St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro  
 St. Romuald, Hardinsburg  
 St. Rose of Lima, Cloverport  
 St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro  
 St. Thomas More, Paducah  
 St. William, Knottsville

### Award Recipient's Name

Francis & Ethel Watrous  
 Louise Johnson, TIE, Dorothy Fulton  
 (Margaret Ferguson, posthumously)  
 Ann Lynn  
 Alfred & Joyce Wheeler, Sr.  
 Sister Margaret Ann Aull, O.S.U.  
 Eleanor Renshaw  
 Shirlene Quinn  
 Linda L. Jackson  
 Sister Mary Jude Cecil, O.S.U.  
 Eddie & Judy Espy  
 David Lattus, TIE, Johnnie Lattus  
 Rose Mary Austin  
 Michael D. Guillerman  
 Tony Hayden  
 Larry & Gennie Payne  
 William & Laverne Vincent  
 Pauletta Grant  
 Robert & Delores Purgeason  
 George and Treacy Smith  
 Quintin & Mildred Johnston  
 James & Lillie Lanham  
 Wilma Toon & In Memory of John Toon  
 Conrad & Neva Antosiak  
 Catherine Vaughn  
 Dorothy & Leon Carrico  
 Leo & JoAnn Kauffeld  
 Louis and Kaye Haas  
 Mary Patricia Reynolds  
 Letha J. Harris  
 Wanda Pierce  
 Dorothy Cecil Hood & Doug Hood  
 Joseph B. Coomes  
 Paul & Joan Sachse  
 Kenneth Pierson  
 Barbara Schell, TIE, Betty Hamilton  
 Mary Ann Petty  
 Sister Teresa Riley, O.S.U.  
 Bobby & Terry Knott  
 Joe & Betty Ann Payne  
 Jordan Evans  
 Jim & Janet Doyle  
 Rebecca Darst  
 Virgil A. Nauman  
 James & Margie Watson  
 Jimmy & Mary Keller  
 Beverly Todd  
 Gertie Frey  
 Earl & Rita O'Reilly  
 Andre & Jane Chutz  
 Ignatius Payne  
 Delphine Operle  
 Joe & Mary Sue Elliott

At left, families and friends of Sophia Award winners filled Holy Name Church Sept. 26 to witness their loved ones honored by the diocese as models of disciples trying to live a good Christian life in service to God and one another.

Photos on this page taken by by Ed Simon

## Blessing of Animals

by Kevin E. Mackin, O.F.M.

As autumn arrives, people in various places may notice something odd.

A procession of animals, everything from dogs and cats to hamsters and even horses, is led to churches for a special ceremony called the Blessing of Pets.

This custom is conducted in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures. Francis, whose feast day is October 4th, loved the larks flying about his hilltop town. He and his early brothers, staying in a small hovel, allowed themselves to be displaced by a donkey.

Francis wrote a Canticle of the Creatures, an ode to God's living things. "All praise to you, Oh Lord, for all these brother and sister creatures."

And there was testimony in the cause for St. Clare of Assisi's canonization that referred to her little cat!

That there are today over 62 million cats in the U.S. attests to the continuing affection we have for our furry, feathered or finned friends. We've even had a cat called Socks in the White House. Other popular presidential pets range from Abraham Lincoln's Fido to Lyndon Johnson's beagles, named Him and Her.

For single householders, a pet can be a true companion. Many people arrive home from work to find a furry friend overjoyed at their return. Many a senior has a lap filled with a purring fellow creature.

The bond between person and pet is like no other relationship, because the communication between fellow creatures is at its most basic. Eye-to-eye, a man and his dog, or a woman and her cat, are two creatures of love.

No wonder people enjoy the opportunity to take their animal companions to church for a special blessing. Church is the place where the bond of creation is celebrated.

At Franciscan churches, a friar with brown robe and white cord often welcomes each animal with a special prayer. The Blessing of Pets usually goes like this:

"Blessed are you, Lord God, maker of all living creatures. You called forth fish in the sea, birds in the air and animals on the land. You inspired St. Francis to call all of them his brothers and sisters. We ask you to bless this pet. By the power of your love, enable it to live according to your plan. May we always praise you for all your beauty



Above, Fr. Larry Hostetter, Brescia University President, blessed all the pets and their owners in attendance at the annual Blessing of the Pets held in the Quad on October 4.

Photos on this page taken by Tina Kasey

At left, Sr. Pam Mueller, Brescia campus minister, began the story of how St. Francis of Assisi became the patron saint of animals.



Student Heather Elmore played the role of St. Francis of Assisi during the interactive story. Barney the Bearcat was played by student Courtney Clements.

Some people criticize the amount and cost of care given to pets. People are more important, they say. Care for poor people instead of poodles. And certainly our needy fellow humans



Harley, dog of current Brescia student, Terri Amos, shakes hands with Kat Downs.



Students Jasen and Krystal London brought their Labrador-Shepherd puppy, Gretchen, for a blessing.



Ginger Mitchell's dog, Tossie, received an up close and personal look at Sarah Florez's turtle, Jeffie.

should not be neglected.

However, I believe every creature is important. The love we give to a pet, and receive from a pet, can draw us more deeply into the larger circle of life, into the wonder of our common relationship to our Creator.

Kevin E. Mackin, O.F.M., is a Franciscan of the Holy Name Province.

# Welcoming the Roman Missal third edition

## Key changes to missal capture original meanings

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

*By James Breig*

Casual observers of the Roman Catholic Church often remark that it hasn't changed in 2,000 years. Actually, just like any living institution, it is constantly changing. Over the centuries, where and when the Mass is celebrated, how saints are chosen, and the method of electing popes are some of the ways the Church has adjusted its traditions.

Now come changes to the Roman Missal, the book containing the prayers for the Mass. For years, the Church has been working to more accurately translate those prayers from the Latin into modern languages, including English. Msgr. Kevin Irwin, dean of the School of Theology and Religious Studies at The Catholic University of America in Washington, says those alterations were necessitated by two factors.

"First, the Committee charged with the English translation of the Roman Missal issued the post-Vatican II translations very quickly," he notes, referring to the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s. "They realized, after a few years' use of the Missal, that some translations should have been more accurate. Second, some feasts have been added to the Church's liturgical calendar in recent years, for example, St. Padre Pio's. Those Latin Masses need to be translated into English."

Peter Finn, associate director of the International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL), compares the changes "to the cleaning of an old painting whose images are brought to clearer light in the cleaning process. ... The translations have sought to achieve a suitable balance between the word-for-word, literal meaning of the Latin and the demands of good proclamation, style and intelligibility."

One of the most significant changes, Msgr. Irwin says, involves the familiar phrase, "And also with you," which the congregation recites after the celebrant of the Mass says, "The Lord be with you."

He explains that "the congregation will now say, 'and with your spirit.' This places the English translation in line with most other

languages. The response is not to the person of the priest but to the Spirit of God, who ordained him to permanent service in the Church. It is an acknowledgment of the 'spirit' and grace which is in him."

Msgr. Anthony Sherman, executive director of the U.S. bishops' Secretariat of Divine Worship, offers another example: Instead of saying "we believe" at the beginning of the Creed, Catholics will soon recite, "I believe." The reason he says, is "to underline the fact that, although we share our belief together with our brothers and sisters, each one of us is called to make an individual profession of faith."

As the changes are introduced, parishioners will have many guides to help them learn their new responses. "Plans are underway by a number of publishers to print up Mass booklets or cards containing the changes," Msgr. Irwin notes.

One Web site available to help people become familiar with the new translation of the Missal is sponsored by the U.S. Bishops: [www.usccb.org/romanmissal](http://www.usccb.org/romanmissal)

Average Catholics may not immediately grasp the necessity and benefits of the changes, Msgr. Irwin admits, but the familiarity that comes with time should lead people to comfort with and understanding of the words.

"All of us – laity, clergy and religious – will need to take time to review the changed words and come to appreciate what we may not have understood or appreciated before," he says. "There are layers of meaning to liturgical texts, not just one meaning. These translations and the education we shall receive before they are implemented will offer us a chance to 'brush up' our knowledge of the Mass and of our beliefs."

Msgr. Sherman believes the changes "will invite the faithful to pause and reflect on what, after so many years, we may have taken for granted.

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

## ADVENT PRAYER RETREAT DAY

### Thursday, Dec. 9, 2010

9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Led by Msgr. Bernard Powers

Cost: \$15 (Includes lunch)

*Join us as we celebrate  
this holiest of seasons.*



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

[kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org](mailto:kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org)



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## Saint Gerard Life Home

*Providing shelter and services for  
pregnant women and their babies.*

St. Gerard Life Home is a residential program for pregnant women age 18 and older who are in need of housing.

The need for safe housing in a loving, nurturing environment is crucial to someone dealing with a crisis or unplanned pregnancy.

*St. Gerard Life Home is here to help.*



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toll-free: 1-877-803-5064



## Knights of Columbus, A Fraternal Benefits Society, Agency Expansion

Due to the growth of the Knights of Columbus, a fraternal benefit society, we have a need of a field agent in the Owensboro area. The Knights of Columbus was founded by the Venerable Fr. Michael McGivney to unite Catholic families in their faith and be here for Catholic families in times of need with our life insurance, long-term care, and retirement savings plans. The Knights of Columbus is one of the 50 largest Insurance and Financial Services companies in North America, achieving the highest financial ratings (AAA rating by Standard and Poors) in the industry.

What does a field agent do? They devote their entire working day to the needs of our Brother Knights in their assigned councils. We have established territories within which agents can work with their assigned membership. Our agents help our members determine their needs for life insurance or annuities, and then help provide the proper coverage based on our member's needs, budget, and retirement plans. We work exclusively with Brother Knights and Catholic gentlemen who are eligible to join the Knights of Columbus.

Dan Turnwald, General Agent, can be contacted at 859-630-6942 to provide information about the field agent position. This is a full-time position that offers an exclusive faith-based market, training, competitive product portfolio, pension plan, bonuses, and other incentives. Candidates for the position must be eligible for membership, have a strong work ethic, unquestionable honesty, and a desire to assist the members and their families.

*Submitted by the Knights of Columbus*

## Blessing of Pets at Sts. Joseph and Paul Church, October 4, 2010

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Fr. Carl McCarthy celebrated an outdoor mass for Man and Man's Best Friend on Oct. 5th, the Feast day of St. Francis of Assisi. An estimated 35 parishioners and 12 dogs, gathered in a grassy area on Bolivar Street in Owensboro to pray and honor St. Francis, patron saint of animals and founder of the Franciscan Order.



In the picture above, Jim and Penny Vinson admire their neighbor's poodle while attending a mass full of blessings.

In the photo at top right, Matthew Burton, Sts. Joseph and Paul Youth Minister and his wife, Ashley, discuss music with Fr. Carl McCarthy as they prepare for an outdoor mass.

In the photo at right, Davena and John Cecil are proud to pray and pose with their two best friends, Kayla and Sydney. Photos by Lavidia Mischel



## 🎵 We Are The Champions! 🎵

The St. Mary Middle School Vikings are the Western KY Middle School Season champions with a record of 17-1 and a sweep at the Middle School Championship Tournament in Marshall County on September 25. The head coach was Bob Lang with assistant coaches Terry Sullivan, David Blackwell, Steve Shaw, and Scott Babbs. The 2010 championship team included: (top row) Zack Blackwell, Davis Sims, Jacob Lang, Ben Hopper, Matthew Higgins, Brian Johnston, Cole Urhahn, Austin Shaw (bottom row) Houston Babbs, Matthew Poat, Jacob Zakutney, Conner McGowan, Jack Elliot, Matthew Austin, Tim Emmons and Brandon Quarles. Trevor Bunte was not pictured. SMSS Photo



# May Peace Prevail On Earth

OWENSBORO, Ky. - September 21, 2010 was United Nations International Day Of Peace.

Can you imagine it? The whole world united in prayer for peace? A Million Minutes For Peace. At noon on September 21, Odyssey Networks asked all people to offer a prayer for peace during one minute of silence. Many Roman Catholic organizations were signed on as sponsors of A Million Minutes for Peace. A faith group member for the Odyssey Network, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) acted as one prayer source for this prayer effort.

Then at 12:05, Odyssey asked people to pledge to go beyond the minute and pray for peace every day, to reach beyond September 21. People were asked to pledge to pray for peace for one minute every day from Noon, Sept. 21, 2010 until next September, and then to join a special observation of the tenth anniversary of 9/11, followed just ten days later by the International Day of Peace, September 21, 2011.

Odyssey Networks is the nation's largest multi-faith coalition dedicated to enriching spiritual life and promoting peace, tolerance, and social justice through the production and distribution of media; look online at <http://www.odysseynetworks.org/>. \*Source: <http://www.amillionminutesforpeace.org/>

Sister Pam Mueller, OSU, Campus Ministry, Brescia University sent out a message across campus on Sept. 21: "Wherever you are, stop for one minute and pray for peace. Let's join together on Brescia's campus and pray together for peace at noon, TODAY, September 21. (Should anyone forget at noon, please feel free to pray when you remember to do so.)"

Father Leonard Alvey celebrated Mass in the Brescia Chapel at noon Sept. 21, the feast of Saint Matthew, the tax collector, and before the Mass, he asked the assembly to pause in silent prayer for a minute to offer a prayer for peace. In the first reading proclaimed by Father Fid Levri, St Paul urged the Ephesians to "...unity of Spirit through the hand of peace ..." Following the reading, the assembly prayed in the Responsorial Psalm "Their message goes out to all the earth." In the Gospel reading this day, Jesus said, "Go and learn the words, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.'"

In the homily, Fr. Alvey said, "In one of my favorite songs, we sing

"If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other." ~ Mother Teresa 27



Father Leonard Alvey, right, asked the assembly gathered for noon Mass at Brescia University Chapel Sept. 21 to quietly pray a minute for peace. In the foreground, Father Fidelis Levri prayed with his head bowed as did members of the Brescia University community. Mel Howard Photo

'Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.' We sing for peace of mind, heart, and soul. As we think of the wars and the violence today, we all really do need peace in our world. In all our hearts we carry a silent prayer for peace!"

During the petitions, the assembly prayed "For a conversion of hearts to peace ... We Pray to the Lord."

At the Final Blessing of the Mass, Father Alvey commissioned the people, "Let us go now in peace to love and serve the Lord."

In A comment after this Mass, Father Alvey reflected on the minute of prayer for peace before Mass, the readings and homily of this Mass, and the words of the final blessing saying, "Every day we Catholics pray this prayer '...to love and serve the Lord,' but we can't do this without peace!"

It was very clear this day at Brescia University that Catholics make a pledge to pray for peace simply by participating at Mass every day. Each Mass ends with a prayer for peace; it stays with us all day a silent prayer in all our hearts.

# May Peace Prevail On Earth



The students at Saint Joseph School in Bowling Green observed "International Day of Peace" September 21, by creating "Pinwheels for Peace" in their art classes. Each student designed their own pinwheel with a message of



peace along with bright colors and artwork. The SJS Student Council along with the Principal, Mrs. Jan Lange, led a prayer service outside



for the entire student body after which the students "planted their pinwheels" along the drive in front of the school. Submitted photos

## 28 Opportunities for Life Expands Ministry

For many years, Opportunities For Life (OFL), a ministry of hotline volunteers sponsored by the Catholic Conference of Kentucky, has operated as a network of state-wide volunteers. Volunteers were recruited and trained by a single director who operated out of the Catholic Conference of Kentucky office in Frankfort and provided them resources. Opportunities For Life's work was guided by an advisory board of members who generously provided input to the OFL director and Bishops. However, changes in the environment precipitated a discernment process to explore new directions in OFL's organization and delivery of services.

Since 1986, when OFL was founded, two additional Catholic Charities agencies have been established in Kentucky and the number of independent pregnancy resource centers in many communities in the state has increased. To insure that OFL's ministry continued in the most effective way possible, the Bishops of the state established an "Ad Hoc Committee on the Pastoral Care of Women in Crisis Pregnancies" in 2009 to determine what form the services of OFL should take in the future.

Opportunities for Life has plans to expand its local presence through the establishment of regional offices in Catholic Charities' agencies located in Owensboro (to serve the Archdiocese of Louisville and the Diocese of Owensboro) and Lexington (to serve the Dioceses of Covington and Lexington). Two regional coordinators will staff these offices. This will allow the OFL coordinators, whose primary responsibility is to recruit and train hotline volunteers, to establish closer relationships with current volunteers and with local parishes for additional volunteer recruitment. Details about the transition are still being worked out, but according to Rita Heinz, director of Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Owensboro, "Our goal will be to make the transition as smooth as possible for our volunteers and those we serve."

Lupita Shemansky, a volunteer from St. Henry Parish, Aurora, serves on the Spanish-speaking hotline. She believes that callers welcome the prayerful and spiritual focus of this ministry: "Most of the women I speak with do not want an abortion but believe that because it is legal it is a solution to their problem. We try to give them another perspective."

*The Western Kentucky Catholic* asked the OFL Owensboro-Louisville Regional Coordinator to tell us about her new work:

"My name is Brenda Thomson, I have been involved with Opportunities for Life since 2000 as a Helpline Volunteer and an Advisory Board member. I am a member of St. Pius X Parish, in Owensboro. I have been appointed by as the Opportunities for Life Regional Coordinator for the Owensboro and Louisville Dioceses.

"Opportunities for Life currently has a dedicated volunteer base of 63 helpline volunteers and 31 prayer volunteers. These volunteers are both men and women who come from a variety of backgrounds and experience. The helpline volunteers answer calls from people experiencing an untimely pregnancy. These volunteers are able to offer a compassionate caring ear to provide callers information to empower them to make a life affirming decision. "Prayer volunteers offer prayer for callers in general and also for specific prayer requests and needs of callers.

"The revised organizational structure of OFL will allow for greater recognition of the ministry throughout the entire state through familiarizing local parishes with the ministry. New volunteer training will be regionally located making the opportunity to become involved in this ministry more accessible for those who are interested in becoming a volunteer. Regional training sessions are being planned for Spring 2011.

"If you are interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities with OFL contact me, Brenda Thomson, by email at [brenda.thomson@pastoral.org](mailto:brenda.thomson@pastoral.org)." The contact number for Opportunities for Life is 1-888-496-3638.

## Benedictine sister transfers to Ferdinand monastery



FERDINAND, Ind. -- Sister Karen Joseph, a Benedictine Sister of Perpetual Adoration, made a permanent transfer from the Benedictine monastery in Clyde, Missouri, to the Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand in a ceremony during Evening Prayer on September 19 at Monastery Immaculate Conception in Ferdinand.

Sister Karen, a native of Olean, New York, made her first profession of vows in 1970 and her perpetual profession in 1975. She studied theology and scripture at Conception Abbey Seminary in St. Louis, and monastic studies at St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota. She served in leadership as subprioress and prioress in her religious community and also as prioress general for the Congregation of Benedictine Sisters of Perpetual Adoration. Prior to those positions, she ministered in education as a teacher and principal.

## The Diocesan Marian Shrine Committee of Owensboro presents... Mary, Our Spiritual Mother ...a one day Marian retreat November 6, 2010

**The Carmel Home, 2501 Old Hartford Road, Owensboro, KY**

• **Guest Speaker:** A national speaker, Rich May has a BA in Theology from the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Texas and an MA in theology from Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio. Rich will be speaking on Mary as a co-worker of redemption with Christ, the Immaculate Conception, Mary's Spiritual Motherhood and Marian Consecration. His presentations include audio visual with beautiful slide photography and free handouts.

• **Guest Speaker/Musician:** At 19, Tatiana, singer/songwriter, was a Central European phenomenon reaching pop star status equivalent to "Beatlemania" in the 1960's. After a spiritual journey she left everything behind and moved to America. Secretly baptized Catholic as a baby, Tatiana sought to find meaning in her faith that was kept hidden from government officials who forbid the practice of religion in Communist Croatia. She found her answers in prayer. In her faith and in the freedom it brought her, she found the inspiration to compose music and sing about her new experiences. Tatiana has released two live concert TV specials on DVD—"I Thirst" and a Christmas concert. Tatiana has been inspiring audiences across America with her voice, her songs and her story.

• Registration begins Saturday, November 6th at 8:30 am  
Bishop William Medley will be celebrating mass with us!

• Register by November 1, 2010! Registration is \$20.00 per person. You may register by phone or by completing and returning the form below to: Heather Clemens ~ 2159 Sheffield Court, Owensboro, KY 42301. Call (270) 683-1570

### Mary ,Our Spiritual Mother Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Number attending \_\_\_\_\_

\$20 per person - Total :\$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Priests and Religious – no charge)

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Lunch and dinner are on your own \* Make checks payable to: Marian Shrine



In October 2007, Sister Karen began the process for a permanent transfer to the Ferdinand monastery. She was officially accepted into the Ferdinand Benedictine community in July 2010. Currently, she serves as assistant director of Spirituality Ministry of the Sisters of St. Benedict.

## Ridin' For Corbin: Because We Can!

By Mel Howard

MYERS CREEK PARK, McLean Co., Ky. - Oct. 9, 2010 - The Angels for Ashley Foundation in Whitesville, Ky. heard about the need of the Corbin McCarty family, Lee, Brandy, and Corbin, 5, members of Saint Sebastian Parish in Calhoun, Ky. Lee is an older brother of Father Bruce McCarty, pastor of Precious Blood Parish in Owensboro. Corbin has Batten's Disease, a fatal, inherited disorder of the nervous system that begins in childhood. Symptoms of this disorder usually appear between the ages of 5 and 10, when parents or physicians may notice a previously normal child has begun to develop vision problems or seizures. In some cases the early signs are subtle, taking the form of personality and behavior changes, slow learning, clumsiness, or stumbling. Batten disease is often fatal by the late teens or twenties.

Eddie and Pam Morris of Pleasant Ridge, Ky. often camp at area Daviess County campgrounds such as the excellent facility at Myers Creek Park, and were at Diamond Lakes campground this past July 4. There they met the Lee and Brandy McCarty family who with their only child, Corbin, were camping. They learned that Corbin had only recently developed symptoms which were diagnosed when he was four as Batten's. The Morrises felt that the McCarty's need support and help from the community.

Eddie knew about the involvement of his cousin Jerry Morris of Whitesville in the Angels for Ashley Foundation, so he gave him a call, as well as his good friend, Mike "Red" Sallee, McLean County Jailer; he also contacted James Moore, owner of McLean County Locker and Corbin's maternal Grandpa.

It took about six weeks to pull it all together, but these men organized some benefit fund raisers for Corbin to help the family with expenses. The first benefit took place at Myers Creek Park October 9, "Riding For Corbin." Eddie Morris and Red Sallee met with the Calhoun Mayor Galena Fulkerson who agreed to close off the main street in Calhoun for a golf cart parade. And so, Jerry Morris began organizing barbecue and burgoo cooks and musicians to meet Oct. 9 at Myers Creek Park to hopefully draw a crowd for a Ridin' For Corbin Benefit to include a golf cart parade, barbecue pork, ribs, chicken, and burgoo, a corn hole tournament, a cake sale, and a haunted house at the park. They did pull all this together, and the weather was great that day. "Team Sippin' and Dippin'," a.k.a. Terry and Debbie Morris (no relation to the other two Morris men) from Calhoun also cooked and sold barbecue lunches for the benefit. There was no barbecue cook-off competition for this benefit.

A few things hurt their crowd, though: schools had just let out for fall break and families were out of town. Other



### Ridin' For Corbin

In the picture at right, Lee and Brandy McCarty at Myers Creek Park in Calhoun Oct. 9 for the Benefit for Corbin.

In the picture above, a golf cart parade wound its way through downtown Calhoun on a warm, sunny afternoon October 9 as Lee, Brandy, and Corbin McCarty watch the parade from a golf cart in a local bank's parking lot. Mel Howard Photos



## Precious Blood Parish Celebrates 50 years of Faith



On Sunday, September 19th Precious Blood Parish, Owensboro, celebrated their 50th anniversary as a parish. They had a special Mass at 1pm. Fr. Bruce McCarty, Pastor, along with former pastors, Fr. Joe Mills, Fr. Richard Powers, and Fr. Brad Whistle concelebrated the Mass. At the end of mass a few people were recognized: the oldest living parishioner, Helen Schwartz; the 1st Person baptized, Thomas W. Mills; the 1st couple married there 50 years ago: Jake Armando Valdez & Mary Hettinger; and one of the 2 children to make their 1st communion, Charlene Meadows. After mass, a reception was held, as well as a picnic with games outside for the rest of the afternoon. April Dickens Photo

similar benefits were going on in the area. However, the Ridin' For Corbin benefit successfully gathered nearly 200 people who came to help out as well as enjoy an excellent barbecue and burgoo meal for only the offer of a donation to Angels for Ashley Foundation who then sent the proceeds to the McCarty family. WBIO-FM 94.7FM radio station in Owensboro aired a live remote from the park from 10:00 am until 11:00 a.m.

Just before the parade started at 2:00 PM, Rev. Richard Sams, pastor of Calhoun Baptist Church, gave an invocation to start the activities of the afternoon. Rev. Sams recounted the story of Jesus asking a crowd to "Let the little children come unto Me," and concluded his prayer saying, "Today, here in this beautiful park, we are bringing Corbin to God." Rev. Sams said later that his church had a practice of supporting a community effort like Ridin' For Corbin to be good neighbors, trying to help out any family in need.

The meal got going around 3:30 p.m., followed by music and the cake sale, and haunted house. Angels for Ashley also decided to send the McCarty's to Disney World, leaving October 18, for a week, as part of the Ridin' For Corbin Benefit. There were balloons all around the park and in the parade because Corbin loves balloons, his Mom said, and had to have one every time they went to Owensboro's WalMart.

The parade was led by McLean County firefighters, motor cycle riders ("Kids love bikes," Eddie Morris said.), dozens of golf carts whose owners were camping at the park, horses, 4-wheelers, vintage cars and trucks. Eddie got on the PA in the parade to let all Calhoun know "We're Ridin' For Corbin" today, y'all!" and invited them to come on down for a great dinner and music that evening.

Jerry Morris shared a bit of conversation he had while planning this benefit. A lady asked him, "Now, tell me, just why are y'all doing this (benefit)?"

You have to know Jerry Morris to really appreciate the theology behind his quick reply, and it is filled with a commitment to the principles from Matthew 25 about the Kingdom of Heaven. His answer to why the Ridin' For Corbin Benefit was being done? "Because We Can!"

## 30 “Until you hold me in heaven, I am safe in the arms of Jesus.”

By Debbie Ward

OWENSBORO, Ky. - 10-10-10 is a day that will be remembered for many things by many people. For me, this day will be remembered as the day of Hope. It began with the homily from my parish pastor during the Sunday liturgy. Fr. John pointed out the similarities between Namaan, from 2 Kings, to the Samaritan leper, from Luke. Both were healed of their afflictions; however, the main point was that both were considered outsiders to the Jews. Fr. John listed some who may be considered outsiders by us: relatives, neighbors, those of different color, different religion, etc. Women who have had abortions came to my mind because I have actually heard people say they do not deserve forgiveness.

There are no outsiders with God. While I am not post-abortive, I was called by our Sorrowful Mother to pray for healing for post-abortive women, then later to an active role of ministry with Rachel's Vineyard Retreats. I have witnessed women deeply wounded by abortion; some in so much despair that they find it hard to believe that God could forgive and love them. During the course of the weekend I have witnessed the mighty hand of God restore dignity and hope to those who thought of themselves as outsiders not worthy of God's mercy or deserving of new life.

That afternoon I went to the dedication of the Hope sculpture in the Garden of Hope, sponsored by the Gospel of Life Committee, which represents the message of hope for life and also for God's mercy. Originally, I had planned on going to a Marian Congress in honor of our Blessed Mother. Maybe it was she who drew my heart to the dedication instead as she did to prayer and Rachel's Vineyard. The sculpture depicts Jesus, a woman, and an infant. Jesus is holding the infant in one arm, which is looking up at Jesus, while holding the hand of the mother. Jesus and the mother are facing each other and appear to be conversing. The mother is holding a heart pendant with her other hand. I wondered if Jesus gave her the pendant. Maybe it is a special gift to remind her of the healing of her wounded heart now made whole. It makes me think of an insight shared on a recent retreat by one of the ladies, “Healing of our wounds does not mean that there will be no trace of the wounds, rather, our wounds are to be glorified, like the glorified wounds of our Lord Jesus Christ! Jesus still bears the wounds of His Passion, but He does not suffer from them anymore; we also will always have the wounds from our



Rachel and her little yellow rose in a Garden of Hope. Birgit Jones Photos

past abortions — but glorified and perfected and healed in Him! Let us each join our wounds with those of our Blessed Lord, and know that He will bring them to glory in heaven!”

The brochure describes the scene in the Garden as a “Place of Hope: Jesus comforts us with the assurance that our precious one now lies cradled in His love and will forever live and rejoice in the presence of God. A Place of Love: Trusting in Jesus, who gathered children into His arms and blessed them, we commend

our precious one to His tender care until the day when we will be brought together again. A Place of Healing: In this quiet setting, we come to understand that Jesus is always inviting us to receive His forgiveness and love. He heals us with the reassurance that none who trust in His mercy are lost to Him.” The sculpture's setting is called “Garden of Hope: Remembering those innocent lives who have gone to the embrace of an all merciful God. For those who trust in God: in the pain of sorrow there is Consolation, in the face of despair there is Hope, in the midst of death there is Life. We ask for strength, for healing and for love.”

Before the conclusion of the prayer service, all were invited to come forward to reverence the sculpture and to take a rose. I already had my eye on a yellow rose which was just beginning to open. I wanted it for two reasons. The first being like graces received in the beginning of conversion. As the heart continues to respond to grace, a new life opens up just like the rose as its petals open up to reveal the beautiful flower. The second reason was for the birth of my new niece who was scheduled to be delivered on Monday, the 11th; however, God had another plan. Just now, an inspiration came about another flower, a lily, which makes me think of the Resurrection. My niece's name is Lily.



About 50 people participated in the Blessing of the Garden of Hope monument to life in the Brescia University quad on 10-10-10. At left, Brescia University president Fr. Larry Hostetter gave a reflection on the monument and prayed with the people that the moonstone can be a place of healing for those who visit. Birgit Jones Photo

## LIFE CHAIN:

OWENSBORO, Ky. - On the first Sunday in October, LIFE CHAIN invites the churches in each city and town across North America to stand on a designated local sidewalk and pray for 90 minutes, while holding pro-life sign messages. The Life Chain was held along Frederica Street from Parrish Ave to the Mall on Sunday, October 3 from 2:30 to 3:30pm.

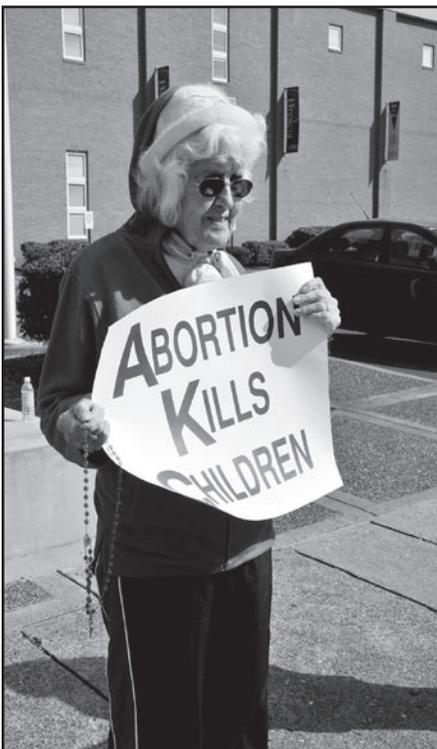
LIFE CHAIN is church oriented and pastor focused and a key to a successful Chain is for local pastors to educate their congregations about abortion and then lead them to the sidewalk where their Chain is to be held. With firm pastoral support, a Life Chain can fulfill its potential for saving lives and changing hearts.



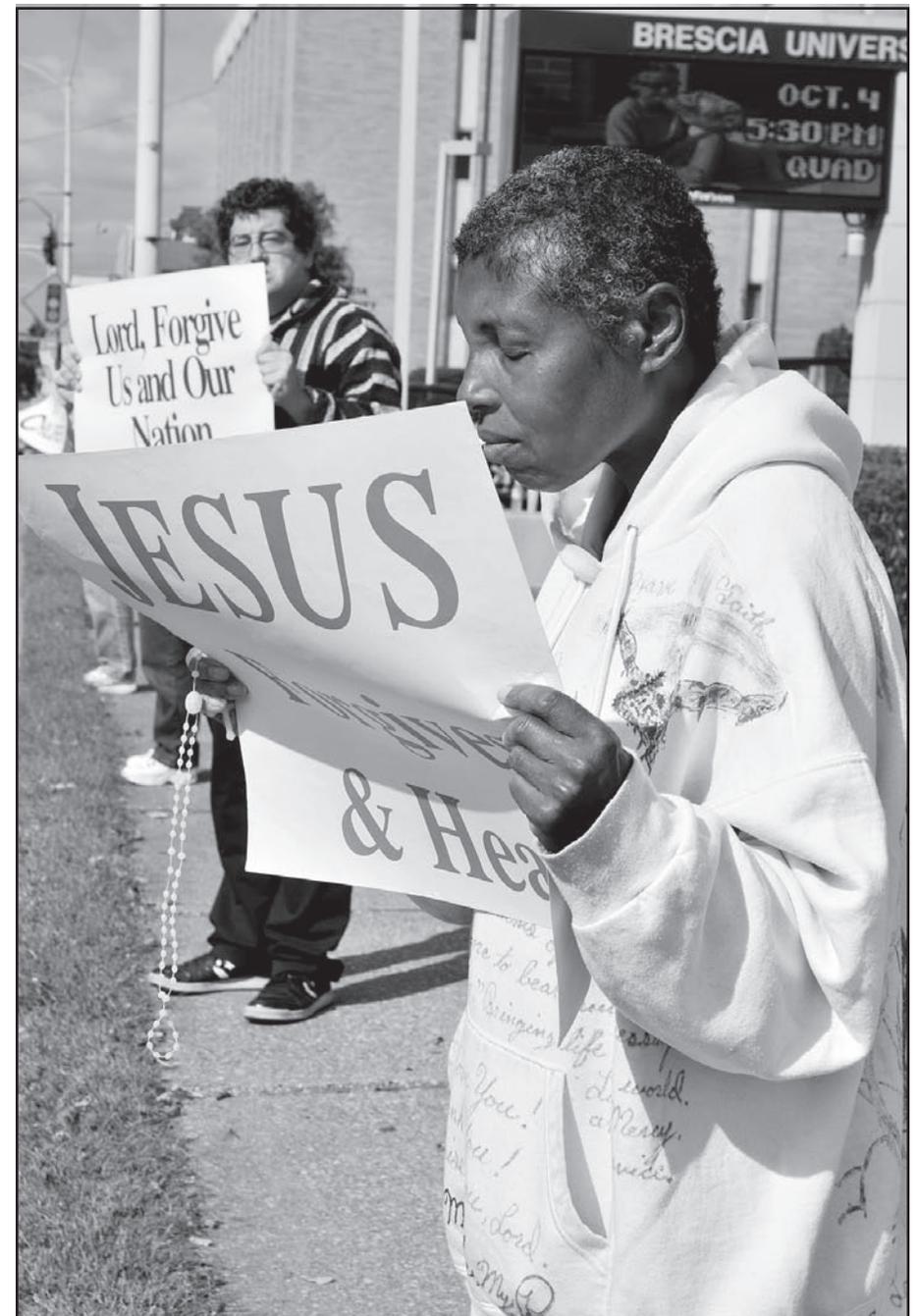
### A Family For Life

Chris And Julie Ford brought their family, Allie, Elizabeth, Johnathan, Olivia, and Elijah to stand quietly and reverently for life during Life Chain on October 3, 2010 on Frederica Street in front of Brescia University.

In the picture below, a Life Chain participant stands behind her sign, partially hiding her face as the Life Chain web site states, "During the Life Chain hour, idle chatter, frivolity, and both verbal and physical responses to motorists are strongly discouraged. LIFE CHAIN is a time for prayerful self-analysis, repentance, and serious commitment to helping end abortion in our nation." <http://www.nationallifechain.org/>



Mary Roby, a member of Saint Mary of the Woods Catholic Church in Whitesville, Ky. came to stand in defense of Life during Life Chain October 3 along Frederica Street in Owensboro.



### In Christian Service

Charlene Meadows held a placard while praying her Rosary for Life during Life Chain along Frederica Street in front of Brescia University with about two dozen other people witnessing for life on October 3, 2010. Charlene is also a volunteer companion at St Benedict Joseph Shelter at Seventh and Sycamore Streets in Owensboro. A fellow volunteer at the shelter spoke of Charlene, "She is quite a woman; a real saint of a person."

Mel Howard Photos

## Jacob's Ladder Workshop

An interdenominational, Scripture led group for the support of those persons grieving the loss of a child.

**Saturday, November 13, 2010**  
**8:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.**

The Owensboro Diocesan Family Life Office, in conjunction with several Christian churches in the Daviess County area, is promoting a program called Jacob's Ladder on November 13, from 8:30 am-1:30 pm (Lunch provided). The mission of this program is to provide a loving environment of healing and hope based on Scripture for persons grieving the loss of a child.

This day will be followed by four 90-minute Monday evening gatherings beginning on Monday, November 15th and concluding on Monday, December 6th. They will discuss different topics such as anger and guilt. The last session will include a healing and remembering ceremony, which will provide an opportunity for the participants to tell their stories and identify the commonalities they share. Feel free to contact Ron Goltry for additional information at 686-7559. Also, Jacob's Ladder, 3847 Bowlds Court, Owensboro, Kentucky 42301

Email: [jbsladder@gmail.com](mailto:jbsladder@gmail.com)

Blog: [www.jacobsladder1.blogspot.com](http://www.jacobsladder1.blogspot.com)

## Coping With Loneliness

By Betty Medley

The dictionary tells us that to be lonely is to be without companions...to be empty of people...aware of being alone and feeling dejected because of it. This definition is probably a fairly good description of an individual's experience of loneliness. Following the loss of a loved one, bereaved persons often speak about the experience of loneliness as very painful. They miss their loved one's presence in their life; they may also experience an ending of other relationships. As a result, they may simply feel like they "don't want to be around others." This increases their sense of isolation and emptiness.

It is important to recognize the difference between loneliness and aloneness. Every human person has the need to deal with being alone at times. We all need to plan for some time alone for

## Grieving Through The Holidays

The journey through grief is difficult...and painful. We are forever changed by a major loss experience. Clearly, we will never be the same person we were before this loss became part of our lives. The real struggle occurs when we consciously or subconsciously resist the change that must take place if we are to survive and learn to live with our loss. (It is difficult to get to know and accept this new person who is emerging.)

Grief is a complex process, unique to each individual, based on personality type, circumstances of death, and our relationship with the person who died. There are, however, emotions common to almost all bereaved persons.

Understanding is the KEY to the tolerance and patience necessary to accept and integrate loss into our lives.

There will be a bereavement support group for anyone who has experienced a death at any time of his/her life. This group will run every Monday for three consecutive weeks and is open to all the public at no charge.

### Bereavement Program-three Week Sessions

**WHERE: Catholic Pastoral Center**

**TIME: 2:00-3:30 pm**

**600 Locust Street, Owensboro, Ky**

Contact Person: *Betty Medley (270) 683-1505*

**Dec 6** What Grief is Really Like: Some common reactions to a Situation no one is ever prepared to handle. Why we feel the way we do and why no one seems to understand.

**Dec 13** Depression: Sadness, loss, and the feeling that nothing will ever be the same. Physical symptoms; healing can happen.

Anger: Nice people DO get angry. Recognizing our anger, coping with it and getting over it. (Address suicide and our feelings of outrage and shame.)

Guilt: Blaming ourselves for what has happened, handling the "what ifs..." and "if onlys..." (touch on suicide, and our responsibility or lack of it.)

**Dec 20** From Grief to Living Again: Putting grief in perspective, learning to share our lives with the living and realizing that we will never "get over" our grief, but we can learn to live with it.

### *Surviving The Holidays...helpful Hints:*

Limit your expectations of yourself. Decide what is the best way for you to survive the holiday season.

reading, walking, resting and praying. Time alone helps one to rebuild our own personal inner resources that are often depleted through our interactions with others. Fear of loneliness often deters us from spending time alone. It is important to view solitude as a gift to treasure. It can enable us to become more aware of our "real" self. We are never really alone! Never! We know that God never leaves us on our own. God is always present.

Loneliness is a common human experience. Although a person may feel that no one else could feel "as bad as I do," that is not really true. Persons who are lonely can find companions who not only share a similar experience but who are willing to enter into a mutually satisfying relationship that could counteract feelings of loneliness. In order to benefit from such new relationships, however, individuals have to give up the mistaken notion that "no one feels the grief that I

do." Discovering the common threads of grief throughout life is much more beneficial to one's well being than isolating oneself. Assuming attitude that will exclude all others from possible companionship is truly detrimental to one's well being. Invite a new friend for lunch and experience how a previously lonely meal time can be transformed.

It is helpful for persons who are lonely to become involved in various activities which can lessen loneliness. Enrolling in a course, taking part in volunteer services, becoming active in one's parish, or taking up an old or new hobby or pastime are but a few examples of constructive methods of coping with loneliness.

Most important, invite God into your life to share those times that are the most difficult. God is there with us whether or not we are aware of it. We can become more appreciative of God's presence only by our intention or desire. God is never far away.

## Are you called to the Permanent Diaconate?

The Permanent Diaconate Program of the Diocese of Owensboro is in the fourth year of preparation for the ordination class of 2012. The formation of permanent deacons is a five year program. The first year allows interested men to meet and have the opportunity to ask questions. At the conclusion of the first year, application is made for the Aspirancy Year through which formal discernment and academic preparation is made. The next three years are spent in spiritual, emotional, and academic formation toward diaconal ordination. For those men who are interested, we are beginning the program for the ordination class of 2015.

If you are a male age 35 – 60 and are interested in the permanent diaconate, you might wish to begin discussion with your pastor, and personal reflection on the following qualities sought in a deacon candidate:

- emotional maturity, personal integrity, appropriate self- knowledge
- demonstrate a personal commitment to grow in Christian holiness / an active prayer life / participation in the Eucharistic and Sacramental life of the Church
- generosity for service already being demonstrated (active in some parish ministry)
- good physical and psychological health (both candidate and wife, if married)
- ability to work in a team / works well with people
- clearly demonstrates an ability and willingness to lead
- good communication skills (both as a speaker and as a listener)
- ability to speak publicly and proclaim the Gospel effectively
- acceptance by the Christian community as evidenced by his ministry in the parish
- he must show an acceptance and personal commitment to the teaching of the Church

We will meet from 10:00 AM – 12 Noon at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Hopkinsville, KY on the following dates:

**November 20 and December 18**

These are informal gatherings for prayer, discussion, and discernment. If you would like more information or have questions about the program, please contact: Reverend Father John M. Thomas, Director of Permanent Diaconate, SS Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 902 East Ninth Street, Hopkinsville, KY 42240 [jmthomas@stspchurch.org](mailto:jmthomas@stspchurch.org)

Tel. 270-885-8522 Fax. 270-885-5296



**Sister Ann Victoria Wasylina, OSU**

Maple Mount — Sister Ann Victoria Wasylina, 86, an Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph, died Oct. 12, 2010, at Mount Saint Joseph, in her 56th year of religious life.

She was born Irena Wasylina in Duliby Stryj in the Ukraine, then a part

of Poland. In 1942, during the Nazi occupation, she went to Austria, where she lived and worked with a farm family until coming to the United States. She came to Mount Saint Joseph in March 1950 with her friends the Stelmach family, and became a sister in 1954.

She ministered at St. Columba Convent in Louisville and at Mount Saint Joseph, where she was in charge of the

dairy for 29 years. The butter and cottage cheese she produced were legendary. From 1986-88, she served as minister to the sick in Grants, N.M. From 1988 until her retirement in 1995, she served in pastoral care and in hospitality at the Mount Saint Joseph Guest House.

She had a beautiful singing voice and often inspired the sisters and friends by singing her favorite hymn to Mary in Ukrainian.

She is survived by the members of her religious community. The funeral Mass was Oct. 14, at Mount Saint Joseph, with burial in the convent cemetery. Glenn Funeral Home and Crematory, Owensboro, was in charge of arrangements. Gifts in memory of Sister Ann Victoria Wasylina may take the form of donations to the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, 8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, KY 42356.

## Wake Reflection for Sister Ann Victoria Wasylina, OSU, June 11, 1924 – October 12, 2010

*“Do not neglect hospitality, for through it some have unknowingly entertained angels.” Hebrews 13:2*

In 1950, the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph welcomed our displaced angels from Poland, some of whom remained with us and have transformed our lives together. Around six o’clock this Tuesday morning, October 12th, perhaps with strains of “Edelweiss” still resonating, one of those angels – Sister Ann Victoria Wasylina – disembarked from her final journey into the arms of her loving God.

Born June 11, 1924, Irena Wasylina was the only daughter of the blacksmith, Basil Wasylina, and his wife, Anna. Growing up in Duliby, Stryj, in the Polish Ukraine, Irena had two brothers, Peter – also a blacksmith – and Nicholas, a cobbler. Irena was baptized and confirmed in the Byzantine Rite at St. Basil Church, and grew up in a faith-filled family.

When she was eight, she lost her father to cancer, but she would also later recall some mischievous childhood memories as she practiced her English. Irena had played hookey from school one day when, as she recounted, she simply had to go to the fields with the sunshine and “gentle breeze blowing the wheat, and field flowers in swing, little birds singing, and colorful butterfly flying over me; but when I come home, my mother find out about my hookey, then wasn’t butterfly but switch was flying on my back.”

But truant, light-hearted daughter was not the only relationship that existed between Irena and her mother. In 1953, when asked to recount how she had found her vocation, Irena would write: “When I was little girl in Poland, one time I asked my mother, have you liked when I go into convent and gave myself to God and serve him? I think this is my best life in the world. My mother was very happy.”

She continued that in 1938, “come communism to Poland and all cloister and churches was shuttering from Russians, some priests and sisters was [deported]. All hamlet was sadness and quiet and can

hear no more church bell. When people come from working the field, then see the ground with Catholic bloodshed.” Shortly after the communists came, the Nazis invaded Poland in 1939, and Irena’s school years were over. She was forced to quit school and go to work in a cord wood factory, a hardship that ultimately benefited her family, for she was allowed to carry a bonus of wood home with her those cold nights.

Then one morning in 1942, Irena’s life was catapulted in yet another direction. As she came home from Mass, her mother was waiting with an order from the Nazis for Irena to board a train bound for a German work camp in Austria. From the train, Irena saw her mother for the last time and by 1944 she would hear from her no more. In Austria, the Germans lined up the trainload of workers who were then chosen at random by those who had requested workers. Irena had the God-graced good fortune to be chosen by Johann Stieglebauer, a good Catholic farmer. For the next eight years, through the end of the war and beyond, Irena worked with the Stieglbauers cutting hay, tending the farm, learning the German language, and caring for the baby – Rosa – together with the other Stieglbauer children – Fritz, Hanzel, and Pepy.

Although war and its ravages were all about them, the mischievous Irena was still there. In another English-practice narrative, she described an Austrian oxen adventure: “One day I helpt bring the wagon of hay from the field to home . . . I remember when I come with the hay and I post [supposed] to say to the oxen ‘haw’ (left). I say wrong to them, ‘gee’ (right). Oh boy, they broken limbs from the trees, and all bean poles flight up in the air. Oh boy, my farmer was mad and shout on me, but didn’t last very long. He cool up, and was OK. I loved my oxen; they was very graceful . . . and that is my little story about my dear oxen; and I miss them very much.”

While Irena’s joyful nature survived the war, she experienced tragedy

and real danger nonetheless. She would learn later that both her brothers were lost in the war, and that she almost lost her mother when she was interred at Auschwitz. Although her mother, Anna Wasylina, was later released, she had allowed herself to be transported to the camp in place of the “other” Anna Wasylina, giving that unknown Anna a chance to escape. At the war’s end, Irena herself narrowly escaped repatriation, or capture, at the hands of returning Bulgarian and Russian soldiers by hiding under the back staircase and fleeing through hayfields to the neighboring hills.

By 1950, Irena knew it was time to move on to the next phase of her life. She contacted the Catholic Relief Services and signed up to come to America. When she heard that she was coming to an Academy – she made it abundantly clear that she was NOT going to go to school; she was a grown woman and was coming to work.

Once again, Irena was in a new place, confronting an unfamiliar culture and language; she would ultimately be able to communicate in five languages – Ukrainian, Polish, Russian, German, and English. In the meantime, however, Irena was in a new country, surrounded by “nuns,” still searching for word of her family, and trying to learn that new language. Sister Casimir Czurlas, a Mount Saint Joseph Ursuline who spoke Polish, was a life-saver for Irena, serving as a translator and helping her find her way. Still, the Sisters noted that every evening would find Irena on the porch or in a swing softly, sadly, singing the songs of home. Several months later, when the Stelmachs arrived at Mount Saint Joseph, she would experience a welcome reconnection to the home of her childhood. And to the Stelmachs – Genevieve and Todd, John, Joe, and Mike – please know that we Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph offer you our love and condolences at the loss of your dear friend.

Now, we’ve been told that many of the Sisters at the Mount pitched in to help Irena – a good student – learn her

English. According to one chronicler, however, “the best efforts of her English teachers were somewhat complicated by prankster Novices who taught her slang, which got her into trouble with superiors later on. Two incidents stand out; when [a sister] died, Irena looked at her and asked, ‘When she stop kicking?’ . . . and then [had the audacity to] call the cemetery ‘Grasshopper Hill.’ That one was not at all appreciated by [the] Mother Superior.”

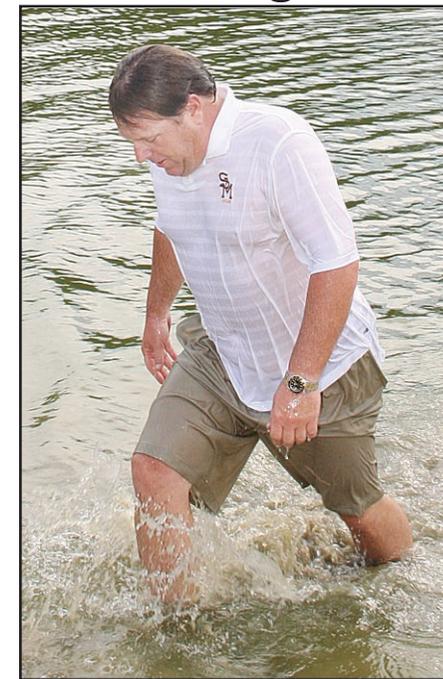
Yet, in all this time, Irena had never lost her earlier certainty that the “best life” for her was in the convent. After she had been at the Mount for a few years, in an attempt to validate this choice, Irena spent six months in St. Louis, working at a factory to learn about the other side of life. At this time, she was sponsored, befriended, and supported by Sister Victoria Brohm and the Brohm family. Finally, when, in response to a request from Mount Saint Joseph, word came from the Sacred Congregation for the Oriental Church that Irena Wasylina could be admitted to their novitiate and “conform with the Latin Rite in all ways,” the path was paved for Irena to begin her next life’s journey if that were still her choice.

From St. Louis, Irena would write to Mother Ambrose, “My heart still want [to go] to convent; can I come home in August?” So, she came home to Mount Saint Joseph in August and by September, Irena entered the postulancy. On August 14, 1954, she was invested as Sister Ann Victoria – for her mother, Anna, and for Sister Victoria – and joined a class of eleven other novices – perhaps the very prankster novices we heard about earlier. Two of Sister Ann Victoria’s classmates are still with us – Sisters Mary Matthias Ward and Susan Mary Mudd – and to you, her classmates, we also extend our love and sympathy.

Later, Sister Ann Victoria would write that she did not really remember her Novitiate, because she was in the dairy all

## 34 St. Mary Lady Vikings golf team won the All “A” Classic for Region 1

PADUCAH, Ky.—For the first time in their school’s history, the St. Mary Lady Vikings golf team won the All “A” Classic for Region 1 in Kentucky.



In the team group photo, front row from left are Nicole Burks and Linsey Quigley; middle row - Michaela Jones, Sydney Edwards, Jessica Jones and Morgan Bucher with Coach Walt Edwards in back. Not present for photo: Haley Eck. Coach Walt Edwards promised players that he would take a dip in the pond on the 18th hole if team won (photo at far left). He didn't get wet looking for golf balls (photo at right). Way to go, Coach Edwards!! Thanks for keeping your word!!

Photos by Pam Bucher

## The Basham Team For Life

Submitted by Leo basham

LEWISPORT, Ky. “The family that prays together. . .” Anyone reading this article knows the rest of that axiom. For Eileen and Leo Basham the family not only prays together often at family gatherings; but many walked together last September 11th in the annual Walk For Life sponsored by Owensboro Right to Life. In years past, Eileen, Leo, and some family members have participated in the event; but this year the family got together “in force and organized.” Their four sons and one of their three daughters, along with sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren—a total of 24 persons—made the hike from Our Lady of Lourdes Church on Frederica Street to Wesleyan Park Plaza and back.

Plans for a “team” walk shifted into high gear when grand-daughters Shannon Case and Deborah Pate put their heads together. Shannon has been quite the organizer for family events. Deborah, a Graphic Artist, designed T-shirts and outfits for all, including great-granddaughter Annabelle—2-1/2 years, great-grandson Landis—15 months, and great-granddaughter Katie—5 months. The outfits worn by each of the 24 participants bore the identification, “Team Basham”, and the logo: “Everyone deserves the right to Live, Love, Life.”

“Ours is an ecumenical family,” says Leo, “in that we are a mixture of Catholic, Methodist, and Baptist.” “But one thing we share in common—we all respect the sanctity of human life,” he adds.



The Basham Team in the Sept. 11, 2010 Walk for Life in Owensboro, Leo and Eileen Basham from Lewisport, Ky. with children, in-laws, and grandchildren.  
Submitted photo



**JMJ 2011  
MADRID**

**Can't Afford to go to  
Spain?  
August 21-22, 2011  
Gasper River Catholic  
Youth Camp and Retreat  
Center World Youth Day  
Local Event  
More information at [www.gasperriverretreatcenter.org](http://www.gasperriverretreatcenter.org)**

## Thoughts on Gasper River Catholic Youth Camps 35

By Marcella Henderson

This summer for the second year in a row my son attended Camp LIFE at Gasper River. Ben asked if I would be willing to put my thoughts and observations on the impact spending a week at Gasper River had on my sixteen year old into a brief article. After careful prayer and consideration I agreed and have spent the last few weeks deciding just what message I wanted to convey. (I will do my best attempt at brief!)

Let me start with last year's experience. On a Sunday afternoon in late June, I dropped off a 15 year old typical teenage boy, more interested in the next video game, surfing the internet, talking with friends and watching TV than any other activity. On Friday afternoon that same 15 year old returned home with joy! When I say joy, I don't mean just any joy – It was a "power-

ful joy" in his Lord, Jesus Christ! His excitement and the expressions on his face as he described his week: attending daily mass and the teaching mass, making Reconciliation (with a deeper understanding of it's meaning in his life), walking and praying the Stations of the Cross, praying the Rosary, attending Adoration and receiving the Holy Eucharist. Then there were the friendships made and activities, games and music that brought him closer to the Lord and aware of God's power in his life. He wanted to do more things with his Catholic friends and attend high school religious education. He looked forward to the next summer when he could return and even wanted to volunteer at camp as a junior counselor with a younger age group! He even asked me to pray about volunteering as camp nurse for a week the following year. (That's another story for another time.)

This summer he did just what he said he would last year! He spent two weeks at Gasper volunteering at the 5th and 6th grade camps. He came home exhausted but full of stories on how he saw God at work in the campers, summer staff and counselors. He felt God's presence in the kids who he encouraged, prayed with and played with, but also in his heart.

Finally his time for Camp LIFE arrived; I sent him off for another five days down by the river expecting to pick him up with more of the same stories, happy but exhausted!

I had not been at camp on a Friday afternoon when it was time for the campers to pack up and leave so I was not prepared for what I would encounter. What I saw had me thanking God for his wonderful work that week! The final activity at camp was celebrating the mass. The parents were gathered in and around the main lodge waiting for their children to come up. As those kids came up from mass, you could see the joy that can only come from Jesus shining in their faces! They cried, hugged friends and cried some more. They were sad to leave their friends and Gasper River, but mostly they cried from the power and love they felt from Jesus as they celebrated mass and received the Holy Eucharist.

As I drove my son and his friend home from camp I listened to them talk about the amazing love they felt from God and for God, heard the joy in their voices as they discussed the activities they participated in and listened in

amazement as they talked about spending time in Adoration, crying as they felt the presence of the Holy Spirit in their hearts. Both were able to speak up and share what was in their hearts with their peers. My son told the group how he was excited to return home the next day because he wanted to bring Christ's love to his friends, talk about making good choices and leading a Christian life. Besides the love and joy, they also experienced: peace, hope, faith, courage, and God's grace. Both cannot wait to attend camp next year, plan on volunteering as counselors and were planning to get together with their new friend, who are Christians and share their Catholic faith!

My son told me he thinks God is calling him to some form of ministry in his life, not sure what yet, but he is open and willing to serve. He has trained to be a Eucharist Minister in church, plans to attend a TEC (Teens Encounter Christ) weekend, wants to attend CLI (Christian Leadership Institute) next summer, camp LIFE, World Youth Day, NCYC (National Catholic Youth Conference) and the list goes on...

My point of the list, our diocese offers a multitude of opportunities for our youth to grow in their knowledge and love of Jesus Christ. The youth in our church today are the future of our Catholic communities tomorrow! We as parents need to support the youth programs at our local parishes and within our diocese. Gasper River is a beautiful, spiritual place and a blessing for our youth. Our bishop and diocese supports Gasper River and its mission. I am telling you this as a parent who has seen great spiritual growth in my teenage son from his experiences at camp. Gasper River needs our support, spiritually through prayers, for growth by sending our children to the camps they offer and financially through donations of our time, talents and treasure.

The joy I feel for my son is overwhelming and that joy in my heart is from Jesus Christ. Thank you God for your amazing love and grace! Will he become a priest some day? Only God knows for sure; but I am sure he will walk in this life with Christ as his navigator and will in some way minister to others.

I leave you with a verse from Jude, chapter one, verse 34: "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth."

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



Sister Rosanne

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

Visit our website: [ursulinesmsj.org](http://ursulinesmsj.org)

Follow us on Facebook: [facebook.com/ursulinesmsj](https://www.facebook.com/ursulinesmsj)

Read our blog by Director of Vocations Sister Martha Keller, OSU:

<http://ursulinesmsjvocations.blogspot.com/>

E-mail Sister Martha Keller, OSU: [martha.keller@maplemount.org](mailto:martha.keller@maplemount.org)

Or call her at 270-229-4103 ext. 212



**Ursuline Sisters  
of Mount Saint Joseph**

8001 Cummings Road  
Maple Mount, KY 42356-9999

## 36 Owensboro Diocesan Jubilee Celebration For Vowed Religious Persons

REED, Ky. - The Jubilee Celebration was held here at St. Augustine Church on Saturday, Oct. 2, the feast of the Guardian Angels. After the prayer service and distribution of certificates by Bishop William Medley in the church, the Owensboro and Henderson Serra Clubs served lunch for the sisters in the parish hall.

The day's program states: "We gather as an assembly to celebrate with prayer and rejoicing God's faithfulness through the years. We name this time a "celebration of jubilee."

The Jubilee Celebration concept is to gather the women and men religious serving in the Diocese of Owensboro together and to honor those who have reached a milestone of 25, 40, 60, 65, 70 and 80 years of dedication in service to the Church of Western Kentucky.

These are the Sisters who were invited and attended the jubilee celebration on Saturday, Oct. 2, at Saint Augustine Parish, in Reed, KY.

- **80 Years:** Sr. Agnes Cecilia Speak, OSU
- **70 Years:** Sr. Frances Miriam Spalding, OSU; Sr. Robert Ann Wheatley (unable to attend)
- **65 Years:** Sr. Bernadette Hengstebeck, GMHS
- **60 Years:** Sr. Marie Michael Aull, CP (unable to attend); Sr. Marie William Blyth, OSU; Sr. Marie Goretti Browning, OSU; Sr. Elaine Burke, OSU; Sr. Marie Carol Cecil, OSU; Sr. Mary Jude Cecil, OSU; Sr. Raymond Dieckman, OSU; Sr. Mary Cabrini Foushee, OSU; Sr. Alfreda Malone, OSU; Sr. Mary Angela Matthews, OSU; Sr. Joan Walz, OSU
- **50 Years:** Sr. Kateri Kaufman, OSF; Sr. Anne Michelle Mudd, OSU (unable to attend); Sr. Molly Thompson, SCN (unable to attend)
- **40 Years:** Sr. Cheryl Clemons, OSU; Sr. Pam Mueller, OSU
- **25 Years:** Sr. Esperanza Rivera Gomez, MAG

### A Celebration Of The Jubilees

*From Sister Pam Mueller, OSU*

A celebration of the jubilees of women religious who have served in the Diocese of Owensboro has been happening for the past several years, since 2006. Before 2006, the anniversaries of both the priests and religious were celebrated in the Spring, usually after Easter, in a celebration at the Cathedral with the entire diocese invited.

Since 2006, the Serra Clubs of Owensboro and Henderson have been partnering with the Council of Religious to mark the jubilees (anniversaries) of those religious men and women who are ministering or have ministered in the Owensboro diocese. The event is a celebration of appreciation for their vocations and their service to the Church, particularly in the Diocese of Owensboro.

The Serra Club in Paducah will be joining in the effort in the future. The Council of Religious and the Serra Clubs get together to find a convenient date in the fall when it will be convenient for everyone to attend, including the Bishop. Once the date and place are scheduled, the invitations are sent to all religious in the diocese. This includes those priests who are also members of congregations (i.e. Heralds of Good News, Glenmarys, etc.).

The Council of Religious prepares a prayer service for the day and every Jubilarian is presented a certificate acknowledging their years of commitment in their religious communities, signed by the Bishop and the President of the Council of Religious. Within this year's prayer service, every jubilarian's founder(s) were named. It was a great way of showing the variety of charisms and diversity among the religious groups.

After the prayer service, everyone enjoys a meal and lots



**Top Photo: Bishop William Medley proudly posing with Jubilarians at St. Augustine Church October 2; above, Sr. George Mary Hagan, OSU, held prayer aid for Sr. Agnes Cecilia Speak whose 100th birthday was Oct. 29, 2010; above right, Sisters socializing before the ceremony; at right, Sr. Pam Mueller led a prayer for the assembly.**

**Larena Lawson Photos**

of fun prepared by the Serra Club members. There is always good food including chicken from the Moon-Lite, and homemade side dishes and delicious and beautiful desserts. The Serra Club members make it fun with games and drawings for money prizes that range from \$5 cash (many winners) to a single grand prize of \$50. This year there was also a gas card worth \$20. There is lots of comradery and fun throughout the event. This was Bishop Medley's first participation in this joyous occasion.

The officers of the Council of Religious include Sister Pam Mueller, OSU, acting President, Sister Elaine Burke, Secretary, Sister Eula Johnson, SCN, Treasurer, and Representatives to the Council include Sr. Margaret Alokun, OSF, Sister Debra Bailey, AD, and Sister Sharon Miller, GMHS.





## Finding God's Will in My Life

**WHO?** YOUNG ADULTS AGES 18 & OVER

**WHAT?** A CHANCE TO GET AWAY & REFLECT  
YOUNG ADULT RETREAT

**WHEN?** DECEMBER 28-30, 2010

**WHERE?** GASPER RIVER CATHOLIC YOUTH CAMP &  
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**HOW MUCH?** \$50

**LED BY:** Fr. Nathan Cromly, Community of St. John



Tuesday, Dec. 28, 2010  
2:00 p.m. Registration  
3:00 p.m. Retreat begins  
Thursday, Dec. 30, 2010  
9:00p.m. Retreat ends  
SPACE IS LIMITED-  
register EARLY!!

Go to [www.gasperriverretreatcenter.org](http://www.gasperriverretreatcenter.org) for registration information, directions and what to bring. Questions, call 270.781.2466 Some scholarships are available for those who truly need it. Don't let the cost keep you from coming!!



**Looking for something to do over Christmas Break? Come to Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp & Retreat Center's first Christmas and New Year's Camp!**

**When:** December 31<sup>st</sup> through January 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Where:** Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp  
Bowling Green, Kentucky

**Who:** High school students (9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade)

**Cost:** Only \$50

Come celebrate Christmas and New Year's, meet up with old friends and make new ones. Celebrate the Sacraments, zip line, be the first to use our new indoor team's course, learn about our faith, go sledding (if there's snow), watch movies, praise and worship, folk dancing, Adoration and so much more. For more information, please contact our office at 270.781.2466 or visit our website [www.gasperriverretreatcenter.org](http://www.gasperriverretreatcenter.org) for info and registration forms. Start the year off right; we can't wait to see you there! Faith, fun & friends!



License No. 0290

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



Sister Mary Cabrini Foushee

Sign up by noon on Nov. 5 to get 11 chances to win a handmade quilt, or sign up by Dec. 3 to get 10 chances to win, with our 2010-11 Quilt Club annual memberships, available for only \$20 each. A new quilt is raffled each month.

For details, visit [www.ursulinesmsj.org](http://www.ursulinesmsj.org). Click on "How You Can Help."

**Order your ticket today! (only 2,000 will be sold).**

**270-229-4103 ext. 278**

[tiffany.orth@maplemount.org](mailto:tiffany.orth@maplemount.org)



## Catholic Charities Adoptions

*Providing help, creating hope.*

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

## A Dream Come True

Submitted by Sister Audrey Mary, Sisters of the Lamb of God

OWENSBORO, Ky. - On Oct. 3, 2010, the Immaculate Church here, Sister Marissa Wick, pronounced her first vows into the order of the Sisters of the Lamb of God. She began her formation in 2006. Sister Marissa has worked as a nurse's aide, served as a Eucharist minister at the hospital and in the parish.

Before the Mass, Sister Marissa gave a witness which was humble, forthright, and touched one's heart. Fr. Anthony Shonis encouraged the congregation to take that "next step" in our faith journey as Sister Marissa was doing. "That one step will often change our entire experience of life," Fr. Shonis explained in his homily.

After the mass, there was a joyful reception held in the Parish Family Center and served by the parish scripture group. Her family and some friends from Texas were with her on this special day.

A hope of becoming a religious, a



**Sister Marissa Wick, pronounced her first vows into the order of the Sisters of the Lamb of God Oct 3, 2010**

hope Sister Marissa has held since age 7, was moved forward by one step; a step taken in humility and love.



**In the name of the Church, Fr. Anthony Shonis accepted the pronouncement of Sister Marissa Wick, second from left, as she made her first vows into the order of the Sisters of the Lamb of God Oct 3, 2010 at Immaculate Church, Owensboro. Submitted photos**

## Wake Reflection for Sister Ann Victoria Wasylina, OSU *(Continued from page 33)*

classmates." That mischievous streak, though, might still have been alive, because from the official "Questionnaire on Temporary Professed," we learn that over the years – although a generous and excellent worker – she could only earn a reluctant "generally" for keeping conventual or grand silence. Perhaps even then she was already singing in the dairy.

In fairly rapid succession, three significant events for Sister Ann Victoria transpired:

- Sister Ann Victoria made temporary vows on August 15, 1956;
- Sister Ann Victoria became a naturalized American Citizen (together with the Stelmachs) on February 13, 1957; and
- In the summer of 1957, Sister Ann Victoria returned from her first mission as housekeeper at St. Columba in Louisville to begin her 30-year ministry in the Mount Saint Joseph dairy.

She made her final vows on August 15, 1959, and was already quite famous for her artistically crafted, individually stamped butter pats and the best cottage cheese around. Sister Ann Victoria trained many novices in proper practices for filling the pasteurizer and keeping the dairy clean; in the later years, when record players were allowed, the dairy always had some music and, oh, my goodness, what fun when the German Christmas Carols came on or we could sing along with *The Sound of Music*. She kept us all kicking.

In celebration of her 25th Jubilee, Sister Ann Victoria went home again – not to Poland, still under communist rule – but to Austria and the Stieglbauers. She was more than warmly welcomed and remembered; and she discovered that some clothes she had sent as gifts in the war recovery years had never been worn, but, as the family said, had been carefully packed away as relics, just "because they were from you."

After thirty years in the dairy, Sister Ann Victoria was given the opportunity to spend some time at St. Teresa Parish in Grants, New Mexico, working in outreach to the sick and elderly. She fell in love with the high mesas and their people, and the mesas and people returned that love to her. In 1988, Sister Ann Victoria came home to the Mount where she was active in personal and pastoral care and ministered in the Guest House as well. In 1995, she retired from active ministry, joining our powerhouse of prayer.

At around this time, when asked about how she saw her "sunset years," Sister Ann Victoria wrote: "My sunset is, I'm still happy and that I still kicking, and able to pray and work, too." In 2002, she joined the family in the St. Joseph Villa. To the staff and Sisters at the Villa, who lived and ministered so closely with Sister Ann Victoria these past years, to you also we offer our particular gratitude and our prayers and sympathy.

Those who lived and worked with her in the Villa remember Sister Ann Vic-

toria's smile and laughter. They remember she had special jokes with many – anything from seeing frog hairs to big and little chickens. She was an excellent mimic, taught German to any who asked, and always, always, loved her music – from "Edelweiss," to "Stille Nacht," to Marian hymns, to the Irish Rovers.

And now, we know that Sister Ann Victoria – our Polish angel in heaven – is asking the heavenly host if each is still kicking; and we know that she would be most happy if we could end our reflection with what she gave as the "Closing Prayer" to her story:

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, I give you my heart and soul.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, assist

me in my last hour.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, may I breathe forth my soul in peace. Amen.

**By Sister Sharon Sullivan, Congregational Leader  
Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph**

## Ann-Claude Rakotoniaina Named National Merit Semi-Finalist

Congratulations to Ann-Claude Rakotoniaina who has been named a National Merit Semi-Finalist. Ann-Claude Rakotoniaina is the daughter of Anna Rakotoniaina and a member of St. Stephen Cathedral parish.

About 1.5 million juniors in 22,000 high schools entered the 2011 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2009 PSAT, which served as an initial screen of program entrants.

The nationwide pool of Semifinalists, which represents less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state.



## Hurting from Abortion? Know someone who is?



Rachel's Vineyard of Nashville

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

**Next Retreat: November 5th - 7th, 2010**

**Retreat Location:** Sisters of Mercy Convent, 2629 Pennington Bend Road, Nashville TN 37214

Contact:  
info@hopeafterabortiontn.com  
www.hopeafterabortiontn.com  
Phil Trevathan 615-525-8239

**"Peace begins with a smile.**  
Every time you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing." ~ Mother Teresa



At left, Bishop William Medley greeting Pope Benedict XVI in Rome in September, 2010.

In photo below, Father Daniel Dillard holding a child at Saint Thomas More Church, Paducah. Submitted Photo



## Seniors Bus Trip



**Saturday, December 4th 2010**  
**Grand Rivers Day Trip**  
**Christmas Variety Show at Badgett Playhouse Grand Rivers**

- 9:15 a.m bus loading at Audubon Plaza, Parrish Avenue, Owensboro
- 9:30 departure
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch on your own at the Southwest Grill, Kuttaw
- 1:00 p.m. sight seeing at Grand Rivers
- 1:45 reserved seating at Badgett Playhouse. Branson style variety show. Great Songs and dance. Expected return home approximately 6:20 p.m
- \$42 per person.

For reservation please call: *Ginny Knight-Simon, Coordinator of Wisdom, Diocese of Owensboro, 270-683-1545*



MARY SAID YES TO GOD



WILL YOU?

**HAVE YOU** ever wanted to feed the hungry, clothe the naked or shelter to the homeless?

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VOCATION FACILITATOR • P.O. Box 22264 • Owensboro, KY 42304-2264

# 40 Faithful Citizenship and CCK Policy on Political Activity

FRANKFORT, Ky. - August 20, 2010 - In a letter to Pastors, Parish Administrator, School Superintendent, Principals, and Catholic Charities Directors of Kentucky dioceses, the Kentucky Bishops wrote,

“As we head into this year’s fall political campaign season, we recall the obligation we have as Faithful Citizens to be participants in our nation’s political process and to bring our values to the shaping of public policy. As we taught in Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, every Catholic has a responsibility to be involved in political life:

In the Catholic Tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation. This obligation is rooted in our baptismal commitment to follow Jesus Christ and to bear Christian witness in all we do. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us, “It is necessary that all participate, each according to his position and role, in promoting the common good. This obligation is inherent in the dignity of the human person...As far as possible citizens should take an active part in public life” (nos. 1913-1915). <http://www.faithfulcitizenship.org/>

Consistent with the prior practice of the Catholic Conference of Kentucky, we bring to your attention the Political Activity Guidelines for Catholic Organizations as published by the Office of General Counsel, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Certain activities, such as non-partisan voter registration drives,



**Bob Castagna, former CCK Executive Director who retired Sept. 23, 2010 is shown here working at the 2010 Fancy Farm Picnic staffing the CCK booth. CCK Photo by Father Pat Delahanty**

are permitted. It should be noted, however, that there is an absolute prohibition against non-profit organizations, such as parishes, schools and Catholic Charities agencies, “from participating or intervening in political campaigns on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.” <http://www.usccb.org/ogc/guidelines.shtml>

As part of the Catholic Conference of Kentucky’s history and policy regarding elections and voters’ guides, we recall and repeat the long-standing policy of not distributing voters’ guides or election year materials unless they have been published by the USCCB or the Catholic Conference of Kentucky. Such materials, even though they may be prepared by other Catholic entities or people, may not be distributed

on Catholic property or in conjunction with church activities since they may not cover a full range of issues and may violate the Political Activity Guidelines for Catholic Organizations and the requirements for non-profit organizations as issued by the Internal Revenue Service.

We established this policy in 1995 because of concerns expressed to us. The content and presentation of such voter guide education materials may fail to satisfy the requirements applicable to Catholic non-profit organizations. Often, the organizations preparing the materials are not 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations subject to the prohibition against political campaign activity. Even though these other organizations may be permitted to distrib-

ute such literature, it is not appropriate for Catholic organizations to do so. While Catholics are encouraged to be active participants in the political process, all are required to abide by the Political Activity Guidelines for Catholic Organizations. The energy and passion often on display during elections should not encourage or permit individuals or organizations to violate these guidelines. We appreciate your taking the time to disseminate this letter’s contents to your parish, especially parish council and parish committee chairs, school, Catholic Charities staff and to your entire parish through the parish bulletin and/or pulpit announcements to apprise them of what activities are permitted and what activities are prohibited during this election year.

Thank you for your review and sharing of this letter and the information contained through the Internet links to the web site of the USCCB. May God continue to bless you as together we seek to build God’s Kingdom on earth.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

**Most Reverend Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D., Archbishop of Louisville; Most Reverend Roger J. Foys, Bishop of Covington; D.D. Most Reverend Ronald W. Gainer, D.D. Bishop of Lexington; Most Reverend William F. Medley, D.D. Bishop of Owensboro; and Executive Director Robert J. Castagna**

*Editor’s Note: The letter and its accompanying document can be found online at <http://www.ccky.org/>*

## In Your Kindness, Pray for the Repose of the Soul of Virginia Bauer, SCN



NAZARETH, Ky. - Virginia Bauer, SCN, formerly Sister Charles Francis Bauer, 87, died at Baptist Hospital East, Louisville, Ky., on October 17, 2010. She had been a Sister of Charity of Nazareth for 70 years.

Sister Virginia ministered in the apostolate of elementary and secondary education for thirty years in Tennessee, Kentucky, Massachusetts and Virginia. In the Diocese of Owensboro, Sister served at Rosary Chapel, Paducah, from 1978-81.

Sister later worked in parish, social and health ministries in Virginia, Kentucky and Mississippi. Her last ministry was Appalachian Ministry of Presence in Greensburg, Ky., from 1996-2001.

Survivors include three sisters, Thelma Saphara of Jeffersonville, Ind.; Hazel Schadt and Margaret Baird; two brothers, George and Charles Bauer, all of Louisville, Ky.; and her religious community.

Sister Virginia’s body has been donated for medical research at University of Louisville. A Memorial Mass will be celebrated for Sister at Nazareth Home, Louisville, Ky., at 11 a.m. on Saturday, October 30, 2010. Memorials may be made to SCN Missions, P.O. Box 9, Nazareth, KY 40048.

**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 20<sup>th</sup>**

9:15 a.m.	Rosary and Confession
10:00 a.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>nd</sup> 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

**Woman’s Day of Recollection & 1<sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>nd</sup> Conference
3:00 p.m.	Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament Chaplet of Divine Mercy
4:00 p.m.	Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary 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

By Carol Rumage

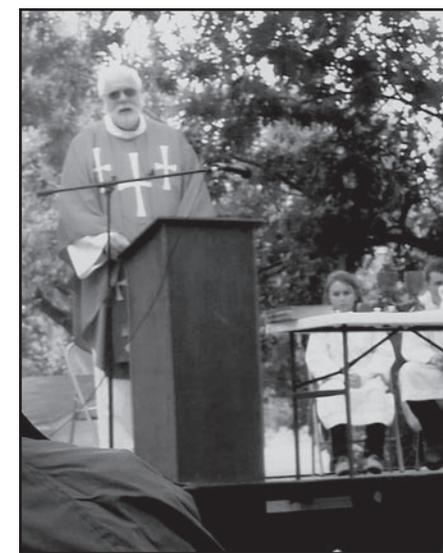
SAINT JOSEPH, Ky. - On a crisp sunny morning on Sunday, October 3, the parish of St. Alphonus gathered in the park at Maple Mount along with the sisters of Mount. Saint Joseph for a morning mass. The occasion was to honor some of our parish's benefactors, Dan and Brian Reynolds.

The Reynolds family generously volunteered their time and labor in stripping the newly resurfaced parking lot at St. Alphonus Church. After the mass which was offered by pastor, Fr. Ray Goetz, a pot luck lunch was served. The parish furnished the meat and the people brought in different dishes for the meal.

Though the day was somewhat cool it didn't seem to quell the spirit of the Parish's people or the Sisters. It was the Parish's way of saying "thank you" to the Reynolds family.

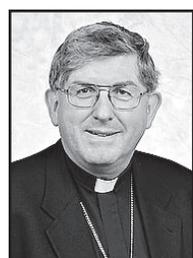


Saint Alphonus parishioners and Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph at the Sunday Mass Oct. 3. Carol Rumage Photos



Father Ray Goetz giving the homily at the outdoor Mass at MSJ Park for Saint Alphonus and Sisters of the Mount.

## Toronto archbishop leads by example, sponsors Iraqi refugee family



Archbishop Collins (CNS/ Archdiocese of Toronto)

From Catholic News Service reports

For Toronto Archbishop Thomas Collins, the fate of Iraqi Christians trapped in Syria, Jordan and Lebanon is not just another tough case in an unfair world full of too much heartbreak. For him, the situation is personal.

Archbishop Collins has written to his fellow bishops across Canada about the fate of Iraqi Christian refugees, asking them to encourage refugee sponsorship in their dioceses. He has urged pastors in Toronto to get their parishes involved in sponsoring refugees.

He is also personally sponsoring a refugee family. "Helping refugees is important in this world in which so many people are suffering, and I want personally to assist in this," Archbishop Collins told The Catholic Register, a Canadian weekly, in an e-mail.

Archbishop Collins -- like any parish sponsoring a refugee family -- will wait months before he gets to meet the family picked out for him by the archdiocesan Office for Refugees. However, wait times for Iraqis are among the shortest for privately sponsored refugees.

## Bluegrass Singing and a Sandwich

By Teresa Hayden

HICKMAN, Ky. - Sacred Heart church here was a lively place to be on Saturday, August 21st. At the Saturday night liturgy, parishioners took part in a Bluegrass Mass. Apple Valley California residents and former Hickman natives, Lewis and Lawrence Lattus, better known around these parts as the "Lattus Twins," led the music. With their twin guitars at the forefront, they not only strummed away through all of the Mass parts, but also led a full house of parishioners and visitors in simple, but beloved songs like: Amazing Grace, In the Garden, and How Great Thou Art.

After a liturgy that was indeed a celebration, everyone gathered at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall where they were greeted by a southern spread of BBQ, chips, drinks, and desserts. Once all appetites were satisfied, everyone reared back and enjoyed a concert by the Lattus Twins, featuring the music of various country and bluegrass artists.

The brothers seem to always have a story to share and a joke to tell, but here is an interesting bit of Lattus Twin trivia: Lewis and Lawrence were former next door neighbors to the late Roy Rogers and Dale Evans. As a matter of fact, they serenaded Roy and Dale at their 50th wedding anniversary celebration. What an exciting life these two retired California state troopers have led!

Eventually the night had to end. But, everybody really had a good time, and left with a full stomach and a new revelation: There's nothing better than a Bluegrass "singing and a sandwich!"

As a Christian community, the Catholic Church in Toronto should feel a special bond with Christian refugees from Iraq, said the archbishop.

"We should always seek to help any people who are suffering, and the people of our archdiocese have always done so," Archbishop Collins wrote. "But at this time, many Christians are suffering because of their faith, and we need in a particular way to reach out to them."

The archbishop created the Office for Refugees not long after becoming archbishop of Toronto. Last year he set a goal of doubling the number of refugees sponsored by parishes and religious communities in the archdiocese. The archbishop's example has made it easier to persuade parishes to be involved, said the refugee office's executive director, Martin Mark. Given the number of Catholics in Toronto who were refugees themselves or are descended from refugees, it's not a tough sell, Mark said.

"In the Lithuanian Martyrs Parish, which has nothing to do with Iraq, they understood years ago that regardless of whether (the refugees) are Lithuanian, if they are persecuted and we have the means to help, why not?" he said. Mark spent all of July in Syria, Lebanon and Jordan, interviewing refugee families and choosing 200 for future sponsorship through the Office for Refugees. He is also in talks with Citizenship and Immigration Canada on ways of speeding up the sponsorship process.



Apple Valley California residents and former Hickman natives, Lewis and Lawrence Lattus, better known as the "Lattus Twins," among Sacred Heart parishioners, led the music at Mass August 21. Photo by Teresa Hayden

## 42 Heather Gemmen Wilson: “For When I am Weak, Then I Am Strong!”

By Mel Howard

PHILPOT, Ky - The Right To Life Banquet held in the Hines Center here October 7 was a celebration of the sanctity of life. About 700 people from several faith expressions came to the banquet just to celebrate life, to help raise money for the Owensboro Right To Life Committee, and to re-commit themselves to the struggle to defend all life in this country wherever it is threatened by law or other promptings of the evil one. Each person who took the speaker's stand invoked the Spirit of Jesus for help in the defense of life, especially the night's main speaker, Heather Gemmen Wilson, who told her story of being raped in her home and becoming pregnant from the rape.

As she spoke Ms. Wilson cited scripture quotes that still sustain her after the sexual assault, the self-blaming, the tough choices she made getting to the point of keeping her baby rather than aborting it. Life found a way through her continuing faith in God's power to sustain her, she said, and Rachel was born.

Throughout her talk, Ms. Wilaon recounted the many phases of her life since Rachel's birth, and after sharing each one, she would say, “But the story doesn't end there!” Each time that she thought her life could not get any worse or any better, God kept His promises to her,



Heather and her daughter, Rachel, Wilson. HW publicity photo from <http://www.heathergemmen.com/>

she said, as people and events kept changing for Heather, helping her cope, adapt, accept life, even prevail over life's obstacles.

“Tell them that life does get better,” Ms. Wilson advised the pro-life defenders, as she referred to the ministry of walking with women and couples who are contemplating abortion, or enduring depression as she did, or even contemplating suicide. “Tell them to trust in God in whatever situation you are in.”

“I don't know what club you are in,” Ms. Wilson concluded for the 700+ listeners, but God is there, can do powerful things if you trust Him and let God use you in whatever way you can.”

“Sometimes it is our own weaknesses that make us beautiful,” Ms. Wilson



Bishop William Medley of Owensboro, Ky., and Bishop Neil Tiedemann, of our sister Diocese of Mandeville, Jamaica. Visited with the young people at their table during the Right To Life banquet in Philpot, Ky.'s Hines Center October 7, 2010. Mel Howard Photo

said, “Sometimes it is our own weaknesses that God uses to make us know what He wants us to do in this life. For when i am weak, then i am strong! God makes me strong.”

Ms. Wilson spoke about her hand being burned when she was a child, and her years of hiding that hand from people and not letting God sue her weakness. But as she came to know God in her life, she learned to accept her hand and use it. Then she said that because she had softened her heart to God, she could now do this - and she left the podium, sat at a piano, and played her song, having to start over twice to get her hand limbered up enough to strike the keys correctly. Through the performance, she spoke with the listeners, not giving up, and really did play a happy tune, a beautiful instrumental.

“God's grace is sufficient for you,” Ms Wilson said. “Rachel is proof of that. She reminds me of my need to be thankful to God, as in our family and in her life, she is so welcomed and received.”

But Heather Gemmen Wilson's story doesn't end there. Her story and her song still live, still resonate in the minds and hearts of those 700+ life defender-listeners who are now better empowered to go out and change people's hearts to end the evil of abortion and its accompanying culture of death in our country.

### Vatican meeting looks at mission of Catholic press

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Budget crunches, the availability of free information from the Internet and suspicion about the Catholic Church in the wake of the clerical sex abuse crisis have all combined to present a serious challenge to the future of the Catholic press, said speakers at a Vatican conference. But the importance of information in Catholics' daily lives and the need for the church to communicate and to help people grow in responsibility and holiness also combine to encourage the Catholic press to find ways to stay afloat, they said. The “difficult and painful” cases of abuse must lead “the entire believing community to a greater commitment to following the Lord and placing itself at the service of humanity with an even greater witness of life capable of demonstrating what we bear in our hearts,” said Archbishop Claudio Maria Celli, president of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications.

Archbishop Celli's office sponsored a Catholic Press Congress Oct. 4-7 to discuss the present and future role and challenges facing Catholic journalism. Representatives from 83 countries gathered at the Vatican for the congress. The archbishop told the journalists and communications directors that the Catholic press must have a clear idea of its mission and role within the church and society, and must look at how it can help people face their worries and desires in a truly Catholic way. “Of no less importance,” he said, is “the role that the Catholic press has within the church because it can be a privileged instrument in the not easy task of promoting and nourishing an intellectual understanding of the faith.”

Owensboro  
Diocese  
Youth  
Conference

# Heroes

Real People, Real Faith...  
Saints in Training



**featuring  
Mike Patin**

**ABOUT MIKE PATIN**

Mike lives in California, L.A. He is a husband and a dad of one daughter. He spent 5 years as a high school teacher and coach, and has worked in youth ministry since 1998. Mike always wanted to be a speaker and do something special for his faith. His faith was on an airplane, on a light, and during great things were where we'd bring his presence. His work, Mike will take you on a journey of looking at HEROES of faith in real life in 2010, and make being a hero as where we fit in it.

**WHEN:**

Friday, November 19, 2010  
Registration: 6:30pm - Conference: 7:30  
8:30pm

**Saturday, November 20, 2010**  
Conference: 8:00am-7:00pm

**WHO:**

Grades 6-12

**WHERE:**

The Stone Convention Center  
Holiday Inn University Plaza  
1621 Williamson Trace  
Bowling Green, KY 42103

**COST:**

\$25 Per Person

**CONTACT:**

Your Parish Youth Minister/Coordinator

## Greetings from Bani

By Father Stan Puryear

Life this past month in the Caribbean has been a bit soggy as tropical depressions and storms have brought rainfall. Thankfully, none of the storms had achieved hurricane status as they passed by Hispaniola, the island that the Dominican Republic shares with Haiti.

This month also brought my first break from the routine of life in the Diocese of Bani as I ventured to the Diocese of Mandeville, Jamaica, on a mission experience with the Pilgrims of Hope. Certainly most people reading this article in the Western Kentucky Catholic will be aware that Mandeville is a sister diocese to the Diocese of Owensboro, and that the Ash Wednesday collection of the Owensboro diocese goes to Diocese of Mandeville. The Pilgrims of Hope is an organization founded by lay persons in the Diocese of Owensboro to promote person-to-person experiences with the people in the sister diocese. Currently, that is achieved primarily through mission experiences, and it was on just such an experience that I had the privilege to be a participant.

The task undertaken by the Pilgrims of Hope's October 2010 journey was to construct chicken coops. Five coops were constructed and delivered to families, along with broiler chicks, feed, feeders, waterers, medications, and written instructions on raising broilers. Father Peter, a priest of the diocese, chose the five families and will be closely working with them to ensure the success of the project.

We have all heard the maxim: "Give a man a fish, and he will eat for a day; teach a man to fish, and he will sit in a boat and drink beer all weekend." (Or something to that effect!) The chicken coops are the figurative fishing poles, hooks, line, sinkers, and bait that the people need in order to begin raising chickens for themselves. With Fr. Peter guiding and teaching, the families will learn to raise the chicks, sell them at market, and use a portion of the profit to purchase another bunch of chicks along with feed. Not only does this project provide families with the ability to provide for themselves, but it also relays a sense of believing in the family that they can provide for themselves.

So many times, whether it is in Jamaica, the Dominican Republic, or the United States, persons living in poverty possess a lack of self-confidence that can be a self-fulfilling form of self-oppression. All persons working with the poor have met those who truly feel that they will never be able to get ahead and thus they are unwilling to make the effort. In truth, economic structures in some third-world countries are constructed so as to intentionally keep some people in poverty. Even when international pressures are applied to force open the door of opportunity, however, many of the poor are reluctant to move forward. As proof of this, one need only look at the United States: even though Jim Crow laws, camp stores, and many other structural causes of poverty have disappeared, there are still many who lack the self-confidence to raise themselves up.

As I have worked here in the Dominican Re-



**Suzanne Rose next to chicken coop under construction.**  
(Editor's Note: Look for Suzanne's account of this Pilgrims of Hope trip in a future Western Kentucky Catholic.)  
Photo by Fr Stan Puryear

public and journeyed to other parts of the world over the years, I see from many perspectives the universality of the human condition. We are all broken to some extent, in need of God's mercy and God's grace. That brokenness can and does affect our ability to interact with the world around us (including economically, politically, and socially), but more importantly for those of us who are missionaries, that brokenness can and does affect our ability to give praise and thanks to God. Hence, missionaries often are tasked with a dual role of seeing to the physical and the spiritual needs of the children of God.

Though I cannot even claim to understand the mind of God, I find that it is no accident that the universality of the human condition can and is met by the universality of our Church. We all are taught in our catechism that the word "catholic" means "universal". Not only are we a Church that embraces people from all walks of life in all nations of the world, but our universality also allows us to offer a unique gift of faith to our world.

A few years ago, I had the privilege of attending a general audience of the Holy Father at St. Peter's Square in Rome. Thanks to a great favor granted by one of my brother priests in the Diocese of Owensboro and an early arrival in spite of the ubiquitous mass transit of Rome, I was able to get a seat with an incredible view. As I enjoyed the gathering of the Holy Father, myself, and 5,000 or so of the Holy Father's closest friends, I came to a sense of belonging to something so much greater than myself. Others who have attended the general audiences have expressed the same sentiments: people of every color from every continent speaking many languages gather in one place and time to express solidarity of faith and become much greater than the sum of the parts.

As the internet and international deregulation of the airline industry have progressed, we see today a Church that is more greatly embracing its universality. That is especially true among the persons who are ministering in the Church. In the Diocese of Bani, priests and religious come from the Dominican Republic, Canada, the United States, Guatemala, Spain, and Poland. In the Diocese of Mandeville, priests and religious come from Jamaica, Kenya, India, the United States, Canada, Great Britain, Brazil, and France. In the Diocese of Owensboro, priests and religious come from the United States, Mexico, India, Kenya, Nigeria, and Minnesota. (And I apologize to all those whose



**Sister Ann Patrice Cecil next to chicken coop under construction.** Photo by Fr Stan Puryear  
nationality I have overlooked.)

That universality of the Church is also present among the laity worshipping together as members of congregations, especially in the United States. In my past assignment at St. Joseph Parish in Bowling Green, for example, at last count there were more than 26 nationalities represented on a regular weekend, with 3 weekend Masses celebrated in English and two in Spanish.

That same universality of the Church is what has brought me to the Dominican Republic and what leads me forward. Our church has so much to offer our world, and all of us have something to learn and something to teach our brothers and sisters.

This past month, as I journeyed to Jamaica with the Pilgrims of Hope, I learned a great deal that I could bring back to the Diocese of Bani. Primarily, I was reminded again of the importance of development, seeking out those who are interested in sharing the vision and the mission of the parish of Santiago Apostol in Paya. And secondly, I was reminded that I had some experience of my own in raising poultry, although it has been many years since I lived on a farm.

Upon returning to the Dominican Republic, one of my first acts was to purchase a rooster who could keep company the 5 or so young hens who have mysteriously taken up residence on the parish grounds. None of the neighbors know anything about them nor claim them as their own, so I decided that they were like the quail that God sent to Moses and the Israelites in the desert. Named after a red-headed young man from St. Joseph Parish in Bowling Green who was going away to basic training for the National Guard as I left for the D.R., Lukester has made himself at home at the parish backyard. Pictures will follow once he becomes a bit less camera shy.

And, as I had mentioned previously, priests in the Diocese of Bani have to be creative in finding ways to financially support themselves. Given the inspiration of the Pilgrims of Hope and some inquiries about the market here in the Dominican Republic, I'm going to try my hand at raising turkeys. Currently, turkeys consumed at Christmastime are imported at a substantial cost, so home-grown turkeys should be money makers. As well, my hope is that by showing others how easy it is to "fish" for themselves, perhaps they too will realize that feeding themselves might not be as great a challenge as imagined.

## 5 Saludos desde Bani

By Father Stan Puryear

La vida caribeña este mes pasado ha sido un poco mojado debido a las depresiones y tormentas tropicales y que han traído las precipitaciones. Afortunadamente, ninguno de las tormentas había alcanzado de ser huracán al pasar por la Española, la isla que la República Dominicana comparte con Haití.

Este mes también me trajo mi primer salto de la rutina de la vida misionera en la Diócesis de Bani. Viajé a la Diócesis de Mandeville, Jamaica, en una experiencia misión cooperativa con los Peregrinos de Esperanza. Espero que la mayoría de las personas que leen este artículo en el Católico Kentucky Occidental ya saben que la Diócesis de Mandeville es una hermana diócesis a la Diócesis de Owensboro, y que la colección del Miércoles de Ceniza de la Diócesis de Owensboro va a Diócesis de Mandeville. Los Peregrinos de Esperanza es una organización fundada por personas laicas en la Diócesis de Owensboro para promover experiencias de persona a persona con el pueblo en la hermana diócesis. Por el tiempo corriente, esto se logra principalmente a través de experiencias de misión, y fue en una experiencia que tuve el privilegio de ser participante.

La tarea hecho por la peregrinación de septiembre de 2010 fue construir gallineros. Cinco gallineros fueron construidos y entregados a familias, junto con polluelos, forraje, alimentadores, abrevaderos, medicamentos y instrucciones escritas en la crianza de polluelos. El Padre Peter, sacerdote de la diócesis, eligió las cinco familias y trabajará con ellos para garantizar el éxito del proyecto.

Un dicho en inglés se dice que si le de a un hombre un pez, el comerá por un día, pero si le educa a pescar, él puede comer por toda la vida. Los gallineros son figurativamente los polos de pesca, ganchos, línea, platinas y carnada que el pueblo necesita con el fin de comenzar la cría de pollos por sí mismos. Con el Padre Peter dando consejo y ayuda, las familias aprenderán a criar los polluelos, venderlos en el mercado y utilizar una porción de las ganancias para comprar otro montón de pollitos junto con la alimentación. No sólo este proyecto ofrece familias con la capacidad para proporcionar por sí mismos, sino también transmite una creencia en sí mismos para que puedan proveer lo que necesitan para vivir.

Tantas veces, ya sea en Jamaica, la República Dominicana o en los Estados Unidos, las personas que viven en la pobreza poseen una falta de confianza en sí mismo que puede ser una forma auto-cumplida de auto-opresión. Todas las personas que trabajan con los pobres han encontrado los que

verdaderamente sienten que nunca serán capaces de salir adelante y, por tanto, no están dispuestos a hacer el esfuerzo. En verdad, las estructuras económicas en algunos países del tercer mundo se construyen para intencionalmente mantener algunas personas en la pobreza. Incluso cuando las presiones internacionales se aplican a la fuerza abierta la puerta de la oportunidad, sin embargo, muchos de los pobres son reacios a avanzar. Como prueba de ello, sólo hay que mirar en los Estados Unidos: a pesar de que leyes de Jim Crow, tiendas de campamentos y otras causas estructurales de la pobreza han desaparecido, todavía hay muchos que carecen de la confianza en sí mismos para levantar ellos mismos.

Como he trabajado aquí en la República Dominicana y viajado a otras partes del mundo durante los años, veo desde muchas perspectivas la universalidad de la condición humana. Estamos todos quebrados en cierta medida, necesitados de la misericordia de Dios y la gracia de Dios. Esa situación puede afectar nuestra capacidad para interactuar con el mundo alrededor de nosotros (incluyendo económicamente, políticamente, y socialmente), pero lo que es más importante para aquellos de nosotros que son misioneros, que la situación puede afectar la capacidad para alabar a Dios. Por lo tanto, misioneros a menudo se encargan un doble papel de ver a lo físico y lo espiritual de las necesidades de los hijos de Dios.

Aún no puedo decir que comprendo la mente de Dios, me parece que no es casualidad que la universalidad de la condición humana es contestada por la universalidad de nuestra Iglesia. Todos hemos escuchado en el catecismo que la palabra “católica” significa “universal”. No sólo somos una iglesia que abraza a personas de todos los aspectos de la vida en todas las naciones del mundo, sino nuestra universalidad también nos permite ofrecer el tesoro de la fe a nuestro mundo.

Hace unos pocos años, tuve el privilegio de asistir a una audiencia general del Santo Padre en la Plaza de San Pedro en Roma. Gracias a un gran favor concedido por uno de mis hermanos sacerdotes de la Diócesis de Owensboro y una llegada temprana a pesar del tránsito de Roma, fue capaz de conseguir un puesto con una vista increíble. Mientras disfrutaba el encuentro el Santo Padre, yo mismo, y 5,000 de los mejores amigos del Papas, llegué a un entendimiento de pertenecer a algo mucho más grande que yo. Otras personas que han asistido a las audiencias generales han expresado los mismos sentimientos: personas de todos colores de cada continente hablando varios idiomas se reúnen en un lugar y



**Pensamiento serio por Bill Butler, Richard Dale, Joe Schippers, and Jim Scott**  
*Serious brainstorming by Bill Butler, Richard Dale, Joe Schippers, and Jim Scott.*  
Photo by Fr Stan Puryear

tiempo para expresar la solidaridad de fe y ser mucho mayor que la suma de las partes.

La internet y la desregulación internacional de las aerolíneas han permitido que hoy vemos una iglesia que es más abrazando su universalidad. Esto es especialmente cierto entre las personas que son ministros en la Iglesia. En la Diócesis de Bani, sacerdotes y religiosos se proceden de la República Dominicana, Canadá, los Estados Unidos, Guatemala, España y Polonia. En la Diócesis de Mandeville, sacerdotes y religiosos provienen Jamaica, Kenia, India, los Estados Unidos, Canadá, Gran Bretaña, Brasil y Francia. En la Diócesis de Owensboro, sacerdotes y religiosos se proceden de los Estados Unidos, México, India, Kenia, Nigeria y Minnesota. (Y pido disculpas a todos aquellos cuya nacionalidad he pasado por alto.)

La universalidad de la Iglesia también está presente entre los laicos juntándose como miembros de las congregaciones, especialmente en los Estados Unidos. En mi última asignación en la Parroquia San José en Bowling Green, por ejemplo, en el último recuento, hubo más de 26 nacionalidades representadas en un fin de semana regular, con el fin de semana 3 Misas celebran en inglés y dos en español.

Ese mismo universalidad de la Iglesia es lo que me ha traído a la República Dominicana y lo que me lleva adelante. Nuestra iglesia tiene mucho que ofrecer a nuestro mundo, y todos nosotros tenemos algo que aprender y enseñar a nuestros hermanos y hermanas.

Este último mes, mientras viajaba con los Peregrinos de Esperanza, aprendí muchas cosas que yo pude traer de vuelta a la Diócesis de Bani. En primer lugar, me

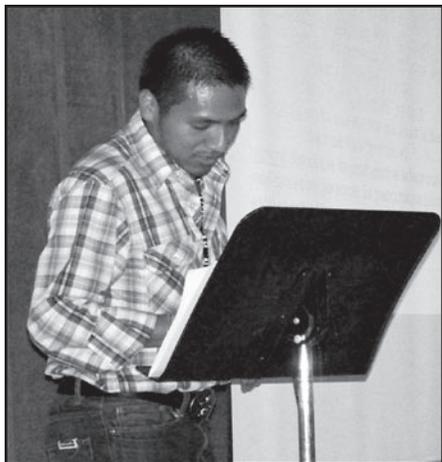
acordé nuevamente de la importancia del desarrollo, búsqueda de quienes estén interesados en compartir la visión y la misión de la parroquia de Santiago Apóstol en Paya. Y en segundo lugar, me acordé que tenía cierta experiencia de criar polluelos, aun han pasado muchos años desde que vivía en una granja.

Al regreso a la República Dominicana, uno de mis primeros actos fue comprar un gallo que podría mantener a la empresa las 5 gallinas jóvenes que misteriosamente han tomado residencia en la parroquia. Ninguno de los vecinos sabe nada acerca de ellos, por lo que decidí que eran como la codorniz que Dios envió a Moisés y los israelitas en el desierto. Nombrada en honor de un joven de la parroquia de San José en Bowling Green quien se fue a la formación básica para la guardia nacional cuando salí para la República Dominicana, Lukester ya se ha acostumbrado vivir en el patio trasero de parroquia. Fotos seguirá una vez que se convierte en un poco menos cámara tímido.

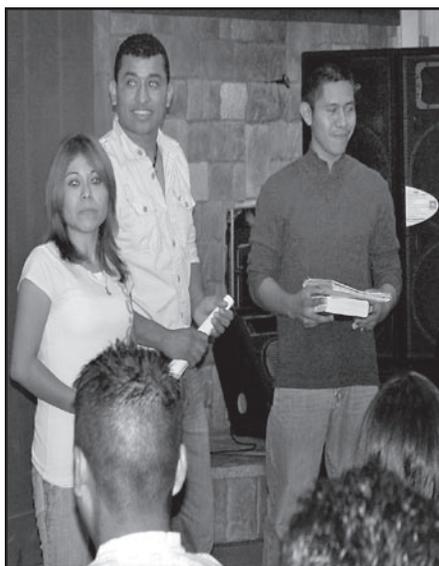
Y, como había mencionado anteriormente, sacerdotes de la Diócesis de Bani tienen que ser creativos en la búsqueda de maneras de apoyar financieramente a sí mismos. Con la inspiración de los Peregrinos de Esperanza y algunas investigaciones sobre el mercado aquí en la República Dominicana, voy a criar de pavos. Pavos que son consumidos en Navidades se importan a un costo considerable, lo desarrolladas internamente pavos deberían ser creadores de dinero. Así, mi esperanza es que por otros que muestra lo fácil que es para “pescar” por sí mismos, tal vez se demasiado darán alimentarse podría no ser como gran un desafío como imaginaba.

## 4 Actividad De Los Jóvenes Durante Los Encuentros/retiros

En éstas fotografías, podemos apreciar la actividad de los jóvenes durante los Encuentros/Retiros que realizamos en el Ministerio Hispano, las fotografías hablan mas que las palabras, es un testimonio que no se puede observar sobre los día y medio de convivencia.



El Joven Luis Fabián, en el momento en que expone su Tema de la Amistad, con todos los jóvenes participantes en el Encuentro. Gracias Luis por ser uno de nuestros buenos lideres del Ministerio Juvenil de los Latinos.



Los jóvenes; Cristina, Uriel y Marvin, procedentes de la Parroquia de Santos Jose y Pablo de Owensboro inician su presentación con el tema: Retos de la Juventud en el Encuentro Juvenil de los Hispanos que se realizo en el Centro de Retiros Gasper River.



El grupo de jóvenes juntamente con los Ministros Hispanos, se les tomo esta fotografia como constancia de su participación, en este significativo Encuentro con los Jóvenes de las diferentes parroquias de la Diócesis, incluyendo de Nashville TN. Que nos acompañaron felizmente.



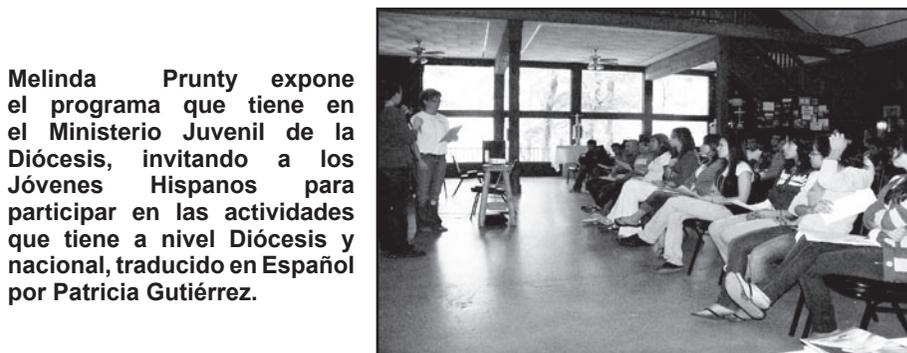
Todos los Ministros Hispanos de la Diócesis, presentados por el P. Carmelo durante la Celebración de la Eucaristía al finalizar el Encuentro Juvenil, aprovecho para expresar su agradecimiento por todos los esfuerzos que cada uno realiza en su comunidad. Así como también a la oficina del Ministerio Hispano de la Diócesis.

### “En Nombre de Dios”

*(Continued from Catolico page 2)*

la casa para que el difunto(a) se sienta en su casa. Esta es la tradición en las familias Latinas, como puede ser diferente dependiendo del país de origen. Aquí en los Estados Unidos, es difícil seguir con estas tradiciones, porque existen personas, que viven solos hombres, mujeres y jóvenes de ambos géneros, se han separado de sus familias y viven solos, en estos casos es donde nuestro Ministerio Hispano es presente para llenar estos vacíos y organizar actividades en la comunidad para que nadie se sienta solo. Que Dios los Bendiga y hasta la próxima.

tions because there are men, women and young people who have been separated from their families and live alone. It is in those cases where Hispanic Ministry is present to fill these holes and organize activities in the community so that no one feels alone. May God bless you and until next time.



Melinda Prunty expone el programa que tiene en el Ministerio Juvenil de la Diócesis, invitando a los Jóvenes Hispanos para participar en las actividades que tiene a nivel Diócesis y nacional, traducido en Español por Patricia Gutiérrez.



Durante la Misa, se hizo presente el coro de Santa Susana de Elkton KY. Para acompañar a los jóvenes en la Celebración de la Misa para finalizar el evento, ellos sin cobro alguno, vinieron para apoyar a los jóvenes. Este gesto tan grande dice mucho, por lo tanto la Oficina del Ministerio Hispano les da su agradecimiento profundo por tan noble gesto. Las siete fotografías son tomadas por Luis Aju



Los líderes de la Pastoral Juvenil de la Diócesis, reunidos en el Parroquia de Santos Pedro y Pablo, para organizar el Encuentro para ellos, que tomara lugar el día 8 y 9 de Octubre en el Centro de Retiros de la Diócesis, Gasper River.



La Estampa de San Miguel Arcángel, figura de la corte Celestial, defiéndenos del enemigo. Amen.



Hna. Esperanza y la Hna. Eloisa, con el grupo de niños, preparándolos para llevar las Banderas de México y de otros países centroamericanos.

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

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

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

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



Los Ministros Hispanos, acompañan a los jóvenes en la elección de los temas a tratar, esta vez, será guiado por los Líderes de los mismos jóvenes, pero bajo la supervisión de los Ministros Hispanos como también los responsables de velar por el ambiente seguro de todos los participantes.

## Hablar y Dialogar y Escuchar Junto con Nuestro Obispo Un Corazón Agradecido



**Bishop William  
F. Medley**

Mi querido Pueblo de Dios,

Como había prometido, yo asistí a una escuela desde el 9 al 17 de Septiembre del 2010. Todos los sacerdotes que fueron llamados en los últimos doce meses a servir como obispos a través del mundo nos juntamos en Roma para una conferencia. El título de la conferencia fue "Una peregrinación a la Tumba de San Pedro," y entonces nuestros estudios y reflexiones se hicieron como una jornada religiosa.

La Basílica de San Pedro en la Ciudad del Vaticano está construida encima de la tumba de San Pedro según la tradición. Por siglos muchos han especulado que eso tal vez es una leyenda piadosa, pero unos estudios arqueológicos del final del siglo 20 sugieren que es históricamente cierto. El domingo,

12 de Septiembre, al concluir la Misa concelebrada en la Basílica de San Pedro, todos los nuevos obispos procesamos a la tumba de San Pedro y allí rezamos.

La introducción del Directorio para el Ministerio Pastoral de los Obispos dice en parte, "Sucesores de los Apóstoles (Apostolorum Successores) por institución divina, los Obispos, mediante el Espíritu Santo que les ha sido conferido en la consagración episcopal, son constituidos Pastores de la Iglesia, con la tarea de enseñar, santificar y guiar, en comunión jerárquica con el Sucesor de Pedro y con los otros miembros del Colegio episcopal."

Desde el diciembre pasado cuando fui informado que el Papa Benedicto XVI me había escogido para ser Obispo, he estudiado y rezado sobre el papel del obispo en la Iglesia. Esta peregrinación para rezar en la tumba de San Pedro se enfocó mi oración y reflexión de estos últimos meses. Es una reflexión increíble que mi único papel como obispo es ser testigo de la conexión directa entre nuestra Iglesia Católica de Kentucky Occidental en el siglo 21 y el ministerio antiguo de los Apóstoles, un ministerio inaugurado por Jesucristo.

Nuestros sacerdotes comparten conmigo este ministerio de enseñar, santificar y guiar la Iglesia. A la vez, todos somos acompañados por cientos de personas que conforman el personal diocesano y parroquiano y los miles que extienden aún más las buenas obras de la Iglesia como catequistas, ministros litúrgicos y servidores de los pobres.

Como herederos de esta tradición sagrada que ha venido de los Apóstoles, nos recordamos en una manera poderosa la comunión de los santos, todos los que "han venido marcados por la señal de la fe." Noviembre tradicionalmente es un mes en que rezamos de una manera especial por los que han muerto. Recordemos pues a nuestros queridos difuntos y pidamos que la misericordia de Dios los haya llevado a la vida eterna. En nuestro país, este mes también nos trae el Día de Acción de Gracias y nos recuerda que nuestra fe ha sido un regalo por parte de Dios a través de nuestros papás, abuelos, maestros y amigos que han sido modelos de la fe para nosotros.

Mi oración por todos ustedes es que tengan el corazón agradecido y que esta temporada maravillosa los encuentre con otras personas con quienes puedan compartir su gratitud.

Yours in Christ,

+ Most Rev. William F. Medley, D.D., Bishop of Owensboro, Ky.

## "En Nombre de Dios"

### Día de Los Santos y difuntos fiesta familiar y comunitario

November, 2010 - En este tiempo del otoño, se nota el cambio de la naturaleza que nos rodea, otra vez se siente el tiempo del fin del año. Podemos observar como la agricultura ha sido cosechada por los granjeros y por lo consiguiente estamos disfrutando el fruto

del trabajo del hombre y la Bendición de Dios que reparte a todos la comida y la vida.

En el mes de Noviembre, conmemoramos el día de Todos los Santos y de nuestros Difuntos, celebraciones que traen alegría de haber vivido juntos como familia, como amigos o como hermanos.

El día de todos los Santos se celebra también en toda la America Latina, con diferentes connotaciones de celebración, pero que todo es orientado a la gente que merece nuestro respeto que vivió en el pasado pero que se hace presente la vida de los Santos tratando de imitar sus buenas obras realizadas en sus vidas. Habrá que entender que la Santidad no es solamente los que están en un altar, sino los que se están purgando para luego ser santos ante Dios algún día, también hay que entender la vida de los santos que están vivos, nosotros los que vivimos en la tierra, toda la gente que hace buenas obras en una comunidad, con la propia familia trabajando duro por el Pan Nuestro de cada día, viviendo la pobreza en los diferentes niveles, ofreciendo sus sacrificios como victimas de cualquier atrocidad en la sociedad. Todos los que luchamos para llegar a ser algo bueno en la tierra, cultivando nuestra santidad. Conclusión: hay santos en el cielo (triumfantes) los santos en el purgatorio purificándose de sus faltas (purgantes) y los que caminan en la vida aquí en la tierra (militantes).

El día de nuestros difuntos, nuestros seres queridos no se fueron, están mas cerca de nosotros, porque somos la continuación de la vida de ellos, cada persona ve a su ser querido en varias formas, por eso para el día de los difuntos los celebramos.

Para las familias Latinas (hispanas) el día 2 de Noviembre de cada año, la comida para ese día se hace en honor al difunto, por ejemplo, qué comida le gustaba mas, entonces se hace ese tipo de comida y todos los miembros de la familia comen juntos, sirviéndole un plato al difunto, colocándolo sobre la mesa donde esta un ramo de flores y la fotografía de El o Ella, con un vaso de agua pura (si tomaba cerveza, se le pone una nada mas) sintiendo la presencia de la persona como fuera en vida. Al final del día todos los miembros de la familia se toman un pedazo de la comida del difunto para consumirlo, puesto que no se debe tirar, de esta manera se celebra el día de los difuntos. Desde luego se limpia, se adorna



**Luis Ajú**

### The Day of the Saints and Death Is A Community and Family Feast

November, 2010 - In this time of Fall, we notice the changes in nature that surround us and again we feel the end of the year approaching. We can observe the agriculture and how the farmers have brought in the harvest and so we are enjoying the fruit of the labor of man and

the Blessing of God who distributes food and life to all. In the month of November, we commemorate All Saints Day and All Souls Day, celebrations that bring joy at having lived together as family, friends or brothers.

On All Saints Day we also celebrate all over Latin America, with different styles of celebrating, but it is all oriented toward the people who deserve our respect. They have lived in the past but we make the Saints present today by trying to imitate their good works carried out in their lives. It's important to understand that Sanctity is not only referring to those we see in statues on our altars, but also those who are being purged in order to be saints before God one day. Also, we need to understand the lives of the saints that are among us still living, those of us that live on the earth, all of the people who do good works in a community, working hard with their own family for their Daily Bread, living poverty in it's different levels, offering their sacrifices as victims of any atrocity in society, all of us that strive to become something good on earth, cultivating our holiness. Conclusion: there are saints in heaven (triumphant), the saints in purgatory being purified of their sins (purging) and those that walk through life here on earth (militants).

On All Souls Day, our loved ones have not gone, they are closer to us, because we are a continuation of their lives, each person sees their loved one in various ways, and so we celebrate on All Souls Day.

For Latino/Hispanic families, November 2nd of each year, the meals cooked that day are in honor of the deceased loved one, for example, their favorite food. So that food is cooked and all of the family members eat together, serving a plate to the deceased with a bouquet of flowers and a picture of the person where their plate is, including a glass of water (or if the person drank beer, one beer could be placed there) and everyone feels the presence of the person as if they were still alive. At the end of the day all of the family takes part of the food of the deceased to consume it, since it shouldn't be thrown out, and that brings an end to the celebration of All Souls Day. And of course one cleans and decorates the house so that the deceased loved one feels at home. That is the tradition of Latino families, which could be different depending on the country of origin. Here in the United States, it's difficult to continue these tradi-

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Luis Aju y la Srita. Almedy Reina saliente de la Independencia 2009-2010, esperan a la futura Reina, tan pronto que sea elegida, por los votos que el publico deposito en ella. La corona y el cetro están listos para ser investida.



En esta fotografía, podemos apreciar el baile Tradicional de mucha historia en los pueblos de México. Niños vestidos, bailando y portándose como viejitos.



En honor al Patrono de la Parroquia de San Miguel de Sebre, la Sra. Ministro Hispano Patricia Gutiérrez, organizo la Novena, invitando a varias personas a desarrollar un tema, en este caso Luis Aju, expone una platica sobre la Santidad de nuestros niños estando presentes algunos miembros de la Parroquia.



## Celebraciones Patrias en la Diocesis de Kentucky

En uno de los campos de la ciudad de Mayfield fue celebrado el día 18 de Septiembre la conmemoración de las fiestas Patrias que se celebraron los días 15 y 16 de Septiembre, no cuenta el día, lo que si, cuenta es el sentimiento patriótico de muchos Latinos que por razones personales, tienen que celebrar en tierras lejanas, pero el amor a la Patria es por donde quiera la misma.



En honor al día de la Independencia, un grupo de jovencitas bailan al compás de la música regional de Oaxaca. Elegante colorido de los vestidos que llevan.



La Sra. Elaine Roberston, también participo en la exposición del mismo tema en Ingles para la gente de habla Ingles. Hablo del mismo tema la Santidad de nuestros niños, nosotros dos



Luis Aju, acompañando a la Nueva Reina Independencia, 2010-2011, Srita. Melany después de su coronación, como representante de la comunidad Latina en cualquier evento que se le pide estar presente en cualquier ángulo de la región. Luis la facilito en nombre de toda la comunidad Latina, deseándole toda clase de éxitos en su Reinado.



La Sra de la Comunidad de San Jose de Mayfield, sirviendo comida para la comunidad, ya que en cualquier fiesta que los Latinos organizamos, siempre convivimos en la Santa comida.



hemos expuesto el día 23 de Septiembre. Gracias Patti por invitarnos. 9 tomas fotográficas por Luis Aju.

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