

Diocese Celebrates Blessing of Boone Lodge Aug. 23 at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center

GASPER RIVER CATHOLIC YOUTH CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER - On August 23, 2014, Bishop William Medley with Bishop-emeritus John McRaith, Fr. Pat Reynolds, Fr. Mike Williams and Deacon Matthew Keyser together with about 150 people celebrated a Mass in Boone Lodge's St. Francis Assisi Chapel and later shared a reception in the newly renovated dining hall here.

The Mass included a blessing of Boone Lodge named in honor of Sister Joseph Angela Boone, OSU, former Diocesan Chancellor, and co-founder of the Diocese's Youth Camp with Bishop-emeritus McRaith.

About 70 members of Sister Joseph Angela's family from Larue and Nelson Counties, sixteen Ursuline Sisters from the Mount Saint Joseph Ursuline Sisters, most of the members of the Diocesan Staff, and many friends of the diocese and of Sister Joseph Angela shared the joy of the day at Gasper River.



Sister Joseph Angela Boone, OSU, standing in front of a memorial plaque inside Boone Lodge. Sister JA, as she is affectionately known in the diocese, is co-founder with Bishop-emeritus John McRaith of Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center.

Bishop Medley praised the



Boone Lodge pictured on Aug. 23 at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center before a blessing by Bishop William Medley.

co-founders of the diocese's youth camp, Bishop-emeritus John McRaith and Sr Joseph Angela Boone, OSU, describing both their lives as "dedicated to helping others find God in all things."

Bishop Medley thanked camp director Ben Warrell and his wife, Susan, with their son Paul, who served the

Aug 23 Mass, saying, "Much of what you see here (at Gasper River) is a labor of their love. **Continued on page 4**



Members of Sister Joseph Angela Boone's family gathered at Boone Lodge for a family picture after Mass August 23.

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Bishop Medley To Join With Twenty Other Bishops For USCCB's "Bishop's Prayer Pilgrimage For Peace In The Holy Land"



Most Reverend
William F. Medley,
Bishop of
Owensboro

Dear sisters and brothers,

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops is sponsoring a "Bishop's Prayer Pilgrimage for Peace in the Holy Land" from September 10 – 19, 2014 and I have accepted an invitation to join with twenty other bishops and Conference staff in this opportunity. This pilgrimage has been in the planning for more than a year. When Pope Francis visited the Holy Land in May of this year and then later brought together both Jewish and Muslim leaders to discuss a lasting peace our planned pilgrimage appeared to be another positive step. But then the violence of recent weeks seems to have dashed those hopes. Thousands have died in the Palestinian territory of Gaza and hundred more in Israel proper over the last several weeks. So tenuous is the life of the people of the Holy Land.

As of this writing the planning for the pilgrimage is still proceeding. The original itinerary may well be adjusted as we were set to visit some areas that have been particularly hard hit by the resumption of war in the past couple of months.

Some may believe our pilgrimage should be cancelled or postponed and quite obviously events can impact this from day to day. This Prayer Pilgrimage for Peace is perhaps more timely than ever in the wake of these recent setbacks.

The message of the pilgrims is simple: prayer for peace is important and can be effective even when political solutions appear more remote than ever. Each day we will pray at a significant site, praying that peace may come to this Sacred and Holy Land. At times we will be joined by Jewish and Muslim leaders together and separately. Throughout the visit we will visit Holy Sites, talk with Israeli and Palestinian civil society groups. We will see Catholic Relief Service projects, and dialogue with public officials.

Bishop Richard Pates, chairman of the USCCB Committee on International Justice and Peace, notes, "The key feature of this pilgrimage, in the spirit of Pope Francis, is to give tangible, corporate witness of our commitment to peace in the Holy Land through substantial prayer. We are motivated by two convictions: the power of prayer and the belief that peace is possible."

I have been privileged to visit the Holy Land before. These previous visits were indeed spiritual encounters as we visited many of the holy sites associated with the life of Jesus and the experiences of the early Church. But our interaction with local peoples was largely limited to people in the tourism industry. My hope and prayer is that opportunities to pray with Muslims and Jews will reassure the people of the Holy Land that they are not alone in their struggles for peace and tranquility.

It is an extraordinary experience to walk in the footsteps of Jesus. I ask your prayers for all of the pilgrims with whom

I will travel that we may well represent the message of the Prince of Peace.

May God Bless You all.

William F. Medley

+Most Reverend William F. Medley,
Bishop of Owensboro

Bishop Medley's Calendar for September 2014:

September 2	9:00 a.m.	Staff Mass and Meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center
September 6	5:00 p.m.	Mass/New Pastor Installation, Fr. Carmelo Jimenez, St. Michael, Sebree
September 7	9:30 a.m.	Mass/New Parochial Administrator Installation, Fr. Joosa Marydasan, St. Mary, LaCenter, Rosary Chapel at Rosary Chapel, Paducah
September 9	8:00 a.m.	School Mass, St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville
September 10-19		Bishops' Prayer Pilgrimage for Peace, Holy Land
September 20	9:00 a.m.	Diocesan Pastoral Meeting, Gasper River Catholic Camp
	4:30 p.m.	Confirmation, Holy Spirit, Bowling Green
September 21	2:00 p.m.	Diocesan Marriage Celebration, St. Stephen Cathedral
September 22-25		Catholic Extensions Mission Bishop's Conference, Chicago, IL
September 26	5:00 p.m.	VOCARE, Owensboro Convention Center
September 27	10:00 a.m.	Dedication New Church, St. Michael Archangel, Oak Grove
	4:00 p.m.	Mass, Family Life Day, Gasper River Catholic Camp
September 28	2:00 p.m.	Mass, Sophia Awards, St. Stephen Cathedral
September 30	11:00 a.m.	Mass of the Holy Spirit, Opening Mass, Brescia U.



Back To School

After an Opening of School Mass on Friday, August 8, 2014, Father Richard Meredith blessed the Kindergarten Class at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic School in Hopkinsville. The Kindergarten teacher is Gina Cayce; the aide is Luci Hughes. Photo by Ann Flaherty

Bishop William Medley has asked parishes to hold a voluntarily special collection the weekend of September 6/7, 2014. He states that Archbishop Kurtz has asked Catholic bishops across the country to take up a special collection for humanitarian needs and pastoral support for Christians and other victims of violence in the Middle East.

Amid the ongoing crisis in what is "the cradle of Christianity," the Catholic Church "mourns the terrible suffering of Christians and other innocent victims of violence in Iraq, Syria and Gaza who are struggling to survive, protect their children and live with dignity in dire conditions," said Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz.

Funds from the collection will be used by Catholic Relief Services, the U.S. bishops' overseas relief and development organization, and other Catholic agencies "working in partnership with the local church" to meet the most urgent humanitarian needs of people in the three countries.

Please send any funds collected to the Diocese of Owensboro (marked Special Collection for the Middle East) and in turn the Diocese will send the contributions to the Office of National Collections at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in Washington.

A Scout is Reverent

This year's Scout retreat will be held at Gasper River Retreat Center the 24th through the 26th of October. Please see the Diocesan website for registration information or contact Fr. Ken at (270) 852-8348 or at scouts@pastoral.org. More details will follow.



You are invited to attend the Diocese of Owensboro

Social Justice Ministry Workshop

for persons currently working with Parish Social Ministries or considering to start working in this area in your parish.

September 6, 2014

9:00 AM - Noon

Catholic Pastoral Center

600 Locust Street, Owensboro, Ky.



Schedule:

- 9:00 Registration
- 9:15 Welcome, Opening Prayer, and Overview
- 9:30 Tools for Building, or Maintaining an Effective PSM Committee
- 10:30 Ministry Matrix Resource Guide to Assist with Parish Outreach
- 11:30 Panel Discussion with Question & Answer Session
- 11:50 Survey for Future Needs and Evaluation
- 12:00 Closing Prayer



For information, contact:
Richard Murphy
Director, Diocese of Owensboro
Office for Social Justice
Richard.murphy@pastoral.org
270.852.8343

The Western Kentucky Catholic

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

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

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

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

The Diocese of Owensboro MARIAN CONFERENCE

"Mary, Queen of Families"

September 13, 2014

8:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Riverpark Center in Owensboro

Holy Mass with the Bishop, talks,
panel discussion, Confessions



Bishop James D. Conley
Bishop of Lincoln in Nebraska
"Mary and the Way of Beauty" and the Holy Vigil Mass Homily



Teresa Tomeo
Author and speaker
"From Secular Anchor to Media Evangelist" and "Bringing America back to Life"



Chris Stefanik
Speaker and author
"Mass: The Power and Presence of God," "Relativism," and "The New Sexual Revolution"



Tickets: Riverpark Center Box Office
101 Daviess Street, Owensboro, KY 42303
Phone: 270-687-2787

\$35.00 per person or \$60.00 for a married couple

Priests and Religious may enter for free.

Bring your children/grandchildren aged 13 through 21 and they will get in Free!

Talks are geared for adults and young teens! www.marianshrineky.org

Sponsored by the Diocesan Marian Shrine Committee

Join Bishop Medley

And Celebrate Your Marriage!



Join us on Sunday, September 21st at St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro for the annual Marriage Celebration.

Mass begins at 2:00 pm with a reception immediately following in the Fr. Vaughan Community Center.

All are invited and families are welcome, we only ask that those coming RSVP to Charlotte Hedges at (270)683-1545 or charlotte.hedges@pastoral.org.

Sponsored by the Diocesan Family Life Office.

“Hope”

It is with heartfelt gratitude that we thank our generous donors who have helped to make the Garden of Hope a reality.

We are grateful to Brescia University for allowing the placement of this monument on its campus as a beacon of Hope—especially to those who have lost a child prematurely.



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

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.



*Gospel of Life Committee
– Diocese of Owensboro*

The “Hope” sculpture created by Beverly Paddleford.

Blessing of Boone Lodge Aug 23 (Continued from page 1)



Members of the Mount St. Joseph Ursuline Sisters gathered joyfully with Sr. Joseph Angela Boone Aug 23. in front of a memorial plaque inside Boone Lodge.



Bishop William Medley, assisted by Deacon Matthew Keyser blessed Boone Lodge with Holy Water Aug 23. Bishop Medley began with a blessing of St Francis of Assisi Chapel, then the rooms inside Boone Lodge which includes a storm shelter, and the outside of the building. Sister Joseph Angela Boone, OSU, at left, smiled in this photo as this blessing of the new lodge for the youth camp, one of her many labors of love for the diocese. Mel Howard Photos

Saint Raphael Farm Lease

The Saint Raphael Farm lease expires December 31, 2014. This lease is for a three-year period beginning January 1, 2015 and ending December 31, 2017. If you are interested in submitting a bid for leasing the 146 tillable acres of this farm, you may pick up a bid form from the Catholic Pastoral Center, at 600 Locust Street between 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM on week days. If you would like a form mailed or e-mailed to you, please call (270) 683-1545 Ext. 378 and provide your address.

All bids are due at the Catholic Pastoral Center by noon on October 6th, 2014.

The winning bid will be made known to the other bidders.

**CATECHETICAL
SUNDAY
2014**

Teaching about
God's Gift of Forgiveness



This year, the Church will celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 21, 2014, and will focus on the theme "Teaching About God's Gift of Forgiveness."

Susan Higdon Named Interim Principal at St. Mary Middle/High School



Susan Higdon

PADUCAH, KY – St. Mary School System is pleased to announce Susan Higdon as interim principal at St. Mary Middle/High School. Mrs. Higdon began her duties at the Catholic school on Monday, Sept. 25, 2014.

No stranger to education in Western Kentucky, Higdon retired from the Graves Co. School District where she spent the majority of her career. Her education experiences include 20 years as a high school teacher and three years as a middle school teacher before becoming principal at Fancy Farm Elementary for five years. She has also worked with the Kentucky Department of Education as a Highly-Skilled Educator,

as a teacher for high school boys in a youth detention center, as a trainer for the Kentucky Leadership Academy and as a teacher mentor. In her most recent role, she served as interim principal at Dawson Springs High School.

“We welcome Mrs. Higdon to the St. Mary family. She has always seen St. Mary as a school of excellence and will use her talents to maintain the highest standard, both spiritually and academically,” said Rev. J. Patrick Reynolds, Episcopal Vicar of St. Mary School System.

Higdon will serve the full year as interim principal at St. Mary while a nationwide search is underway for a strong, Catholic principal. She resides with her husband, Gene, in Fancy Farm. The Higdon family has two grown daughters and two granddaughters.

Please join us in welcoming Mrs. Susan Higdon to the St. Mary family!

The Gift of Aging

Thursday, Oct. 16

**Retreat Hours:
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

**Retreat Facilitator:
Sister Mary Matthias Ward**

**Cost:
\$15 fee includes lunch**

Contact Kathy McCarty to register:
270-229-0206

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org
www.ursulinesmsj.org



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

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



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

Old Age: Shipwreck or Fine Wine? September, 2014 5

By Sister Constance Veit, I.S.P.

The month of September begins and ends with a focus on the elderly. Since 1978 the first Sunday after Labor Day has been celebrated as National Grandparents Day; this year's observance falls on Sept. 7. Later in the month, senior citizens will gather in Rome for a special celebration in their honor at the invitation of Pope Francis. The meeting, entitled “The Blessing of a Long Life,” will take place in Saint Peter's Square on Sunday, Sept. 28.

In announcing the event, Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, president of the Pontifical Council for the Family, stated, “The day is based on the assumption that old age is not a shipwreck but a vocation.” A shipwreck? I suspect what Archbishop Paglia meant was not that advanced age itself is a disaster, but that society's response to this stage of life is sadly adrift. He suggested that neither politics, economics, nor culture has developed an adequate approach to the contemporary individual needs of older persons or the growing population of seniors as a whole.

The inadequacy of society's response to the needs and problems of the elderly is nothing new. In 1982, Saint John Paul II suggested that society needed to be “jerked into awareness” with regard to the elderly in order to foster “a vision of the old which is genuinely human and Christian, a vision of old age as a gift of God to the individual, the family and society.” More than 30 years later, the ship seems to have completely lost direction! Pope Francis has deplored our “throw-away culture” and a “hidden euthanasia” which silences and marginalizes the old. “A nation that does not respect grandparents,” he said, “has no future because it has no memory.”

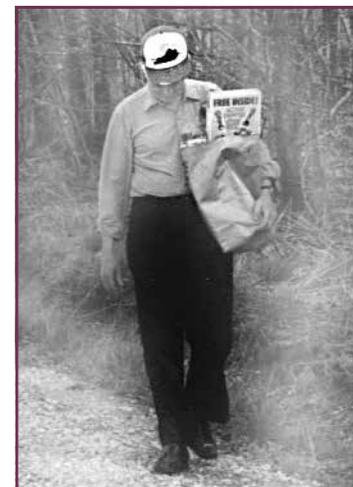
Pope Francis often evokes the memory of his own paternal grandmother, whom he visited each day as a child and to whom he credits his early spiritual formation. The Pope feels that we live in a time when the elderly do not count. Yet, he asserts, “the elderly pass on history, doctrine, faith and they leave them to us as an inheritance. They are like a fine vintage wine; that is, they have within themselves the power to give us this noble inheritance.”

In a homily about the elderly Eleazar, who accepted death rather than give bad example to the young (Maccabees 6:18-31), our Holy Father related the following story he heard as a young child and never forgot: “There was a father, mother and their many children, and a grandfather lived with them. He was quite old, and when he was at table eating soup, he would get everything dirty: his mouth, the napkin ... it was not a pretty sight! One day the father said that given what was happening to the grandfather, from that day on, he would eat alone. So he bought a little table, and placed it in the kitchen. And so the grandfather ate alone in the kitchen while the family ate in the dining room. After some days, the father returned home from work and found one of his children playing with wood. He asked him, ‘What are you doing?’ to which the child replied, ‘I am playing carpenter.’ ‘And what are you building?’ the father asked. ‘A table for you, papa, for when you get old like grandpa.’”

Although each of us alone may be powerless to influence policies or economic decisions regarding the elderly, we can change the culture in our own families. To begin, do not let the month of September pass without pausing to reflect and thank God for the precious legacy you have received from grandparents or other significant elders in your life. And then, be sure to set a place at your table for the elderly, regardless of their limitations. Teach your children to reverence the old and one day you will be considered fine vintage wine in the heart of your own family. You will experience the blessing of a long life!



Sister Constance Veit is director of communications for the Little Sisters of the Poor.



**Grandpa With Groceries:
A Significant Elder in Your Life;
Memories Made Here.**

Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Vocation Director Nancy Gerth, SCN, recently set out to answer a question she is often asked. Why would a woman want to enter religious life today?

The answer is the same as it was when I, and many others, entered the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth: God called. God is still calling today and young women are trying to listen. Beyond the experience of the initial call, women still desire prayer and spiritual growth, Community life and serving others, while being part of something bigger than themselves ... some of the same things that attracted many Sisters in the past. So what is different today? The world and many things in it!

In the past, many Sisters came from a "Catholic-centric" world where most family, neighbors and friends were Catholic and many activities revolved around the church. Life and its choices seemed to be more neatly packaged with delineated roles for almost everything we were and did: wife, parent, religious Sister, doctor, farmer, teacher, etc. The world today offers many more options and complicated, quick-evolving answers, partly due to our increased capacity to use and share information. Think about just one factor that has been a game-changer in recent years - technology. Today, if I can't remember a fact, all I have to do is use a search engine on the Internet; the information is literally at my fingertips in seconds. Just a little over 15 years ago, Google had just begun and who would have thought to "ask" your phone for information? In addition to technology changing things, so many other things have and are evolving right along with it. The young women searching today come from a framework different than anyone has had before, and they are discerning religious life in uncharted waters. Their world is filled with manifold family configurations, shifting neighbor relationships, and diverse friendships extending from friends seen every day to those visited halfway across the world. Coming from this world sometimes feels overwhelming and daunting, especially when exploring serious life decisions. Simply having the amount of options, variations on options, mixed with unpredictable life events is enough to paralyze even the most skillful seeker.

Where does one begin? How does one integrate the flood of data coming in

Never Close A Door



Nancy Gerth, SCN, vocations director, at right, pictured with Felicia Boham at Nativity Hall during a visit to Nazareth, Ky. SCN Photo

from all sides? Who has the correct information? When does one finally say enough data-gathering, I have all I need to move forward with a decision? Who do I talk to? Who do I trust? And, most of all, how do I remain attentive to the inner stirrings that are part of a sometimes long, confusing and surprise-filled process?

There are six women in the United States, all of whom I greatly admire, who dare to wade into these uncharted waters of discernment and delve into these questions, among many others. I admire them, especially for doing this at our particular time in the world and Church, for holding all these things, including societal influences and deep questions, with great resolve and integrity as they pursue a mysterious invitation from God.

Some in this group of six are in college pursuing a first degree, others are in the workforce and/or are pursuing higher education goals. Each woman is distinct in personality, talents and passion to serve; each enters the journey of discernment from a different place in life. Each comes with her own experience of Sisters, as well as her understanding and preconceived ideas about religious life. Each woman is at a different point in the exploration of her call - from just dipping her toe in to check the temperature of the water, to jumping in to ride the waves.

I am in a privileged position as vocation director to meet them where they are, stand beside them as their journey unfolds, listen to their pondering, and witness God working in and through them. My role and desire is to accompany each woman who considers a call as a vowed member of the SCN Community with a listening ear, a steady hand in choppy waters, and a reminder that God is in it all - no matter where the journey might lead.

Here are a few things these women say about the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth and what attracts them:

- The SCNs are kind and caring.
- They are generous in many ways.
- They make everyone feel welcome and comfortable.

Felicia Boham, from Lima, Ohio, shares that she is inspired by the way SCNs reach out to everyone — all over — and that it comes from a strong faith life. When she is with SCNs and at Nazareth, she is inspired to do her best and appreciates the sense of community she experiences. She isn't sure where God is leading her, but she says one should "never close a door."

ABOUT VOCATION MINISTRY CONNECTING WITH WOMEN

How do you connect with women exploring a call to religious life? Being present with women at retreats, on service trips, "Nun Run" events (women visit several communities over a 24-hour period), Come and Serve weekends, and being introduced to them by Sisters, Associates, diocesan vocation staff, and others.

FINDING THE SCNS

How do women "find" the SCNs if they don't know us? Online: through vocation referral services such as Vision, ¡OYE!, Guide to Religious Ministries and the SCN website.

VOCATION AWARENESS

What type of Vocation Education outreach is currently being done? Vocation Education presentations at grade schools and high schools, religious education classes and for college groups.

MAKING CONTACT

How do most women end up in contact with the vocation director? Through direct and personal interaction with a Sister! (All six women mentioned above began a conversation with the vocation director after meeting a Sister of Charity of Nazareth or the vocation director in person.)

ENCOURAGE DISCERNMENT

Do you know someone you think might have a vocation to religious life? 1) Ask them about it! 2) Encourage them regarding the qualities you notice. 3) Pray for them. 4) Contact any SCN or the vocation director for information. 5) Encourage discernment for all types of vocations and for putting one's faith into action.

This article, photos, sidebar articles are reprinted with permission of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth newsletter, The Journey, Volume II, 2014, pages 17-18.



Nancy Gerth, SCN, enjoys a moment of quiet during prayer at a vocation event in Pittsburgh, Pa. (Pittsburgh Tribune-Review), Reprinted with permission.

Tri-Parish Catholic Community Pastor Installation

September, 2014 7

Submitted by Erv Moore

PEONIA, Ky. - Our new pastor, Father Babu Kulathumkal, was installed as the Pastor of Tri-Parish Catholic Community here during Sunday Mass on August 10 by Bishop William Medley. An excellent pot luck breakfast was held after the Mass in St. Anthony Hall for homemade food, fellowship, & celebration of our new Pastor, Father Babu.

Photo at right: Bishop William Medley saying Blessing for the potluck breakfast on August 10.



From Left to Right: Bishop William Medley, Father Babu, and Sister Anne Michelle Mudd, OSU.

Residents Encounter Christ *Men's REC #2 St. Pius 10 Catholic Church, Owensboro*

Submitted by Dr. Bob Cinnamond

REC (Residents Encounter Christ) #2 St. Pius Catholic Church was held August 8-10 in St. Pius Parish Hall. 70 men attended the three day retreat led by David Kuegel who did a fantastic job as Lay Director. The men either gave their life to Jesus Christ for the first time or renewed their faith in Jesus Christ.

REC, Similar to TEC (Teens Encounter Christ) is a three day retreat based on the Paschal Mystery of Christ and sponsored by Fresh Start Prison Ministries of Owensboro. Men that attended the REC struggle with addictions ranging from too much television to Meth. Twelve talks and numerous testimonies were given during the weekend to help the men grow stronger in Christian faith and defeat their addictions.

St. Pius parishioners need to be recognized as they worked constantly in the background and on the team to make the REC successful. St. Pius parishioners cooked and served all of the meals for the 70 men, set up the parish hall for the retreat and cleaned the facility. Special mention must go to Joe Wathen and Vicky Conder, Directors of Faith formation for St. Pius for their total dedication to the program.

William Lucey, one of the Residents handed me this letter:

"You all have had a very big impact on my life. I know it through our Lord Jesus Christ. Just knowing that you took time to be away from



To Everyone in prison ministry: thanks for all of your prayers, REC#2 St. Pius was awesome! 65 men in all made the weekend. David Kuegel did a marvelous job. St. Pius X parishioners were wonderful: they cooked, paid for, and served all of our meals and the food was delicious! Photo submitted by Dr. Bob Cinnamond

your family to help us means a lot to me. I really wish that the REC could go on forever. The Holy Spirit really touched me very deep inside. I am a new man. When you all prayed over us, I began to cry. Don't know why but I did; I had been holding it in all day.

"I have a new hope. I have been here a long time and maybe I can get out in a few more years. I know what I want to do now when I get out (of treatment). I want to help lost kids and their families. Please keep me in your prayer. I want to start a REC in Louisville.

"Thank you for all of the outside letters 'Wheat'; it meant a lot to us. Tell them also: 'Thank you, Sharrie, for the Brownies, they were so good!' Your new brother in Christ," William Lucey."

Gather For First Time

By Mel Howard

BARREN RIVER STATE PARK - Bishop William Medley, Vocations Director Fr. Jason McClure, Associate Vocations Director Dr. Fred Litke and the twelve Owensboro seminarians participated in a meeting of all bishops, Vocations Directors and seminarians from the Louisville Province from Aug. 11-13, 2014 at the Louis B. Nunn Lodge here. About 120 seminarians from the seven dioceses in the province gathered for the three-day event which coincided with one of the quarterly meetings of the bishops of the province.

After a meeting the first day among the Bishops of the Catholic Conference of Kentucky, a presentation was given by Bishop David Choby, Diocese of Nashville. The next day was for diocesan meetings with the respective bishop, Vocations Director, and seminarians. The third day's schedule was for a Bishops' Provincial Meeting and a presentation by Very Reverend Denis Robinson, OSB, President-Rector of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology.

Archbishop Joseph Kurtz, Louisville, preached a homily on Aug. 12 for the assembly of nearly 140 priests, bishops, seminarians and Vocations Directors. He compared the present account of the dioceses of the province to how Bishop Benedict Joseph Flaget, S.S. reported to Pope Pius VII on April 11, 1815. The Bardstown Diocese included most of Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Michigan. In the Diocese of Bardstown in 1815, ten priests served the Catholic Community in Kentucky, with six subdeacons, four semi-



Bishops and seminarians from the seven dioceses in the Louisville Province - Louisville, Covington, Lexington, Owensboro, Nashville, Knoxville, and Memphis - gathered in this photo at Barren River State Park Aug. 12 during a Mass and afterwards for fellowship, prayer, meetings and recreation. Mel Howard Photos

narians in minor orders, and six who had received tonsure. Bishop Flaget offered these numbers as "a proof of the zeal and spirit of the priests who had cultivated vocations in that backwoods state." Bishop Flaget accounted for 19 churches, seven under the care of Rev. Mr. Nerinckx in Kentucky. Tennessee contained 25 Catholic families at that time who were visited by four priests from Kentucky.

"These priests of 1815," said Archbishop Kurtz, "had the same pastoral task as do we today: to announce the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to gather the people for the celebration of the Sacred Mysteries, and to provide pastoral care with a heart that is the Heart of Jesus."

Archbishop Kurtz then prayed for the assembly gathered this day for the provincial meeting "... by walking faithfully in our vocations, we may be faithful examples of the shining light (of Christ ...)" as were those early priests with Bishop Flaget in 1815."



Associate Vocations Director Dr. Fred Litke accompanied Owensboro Diocesan Seminarians Aug 11-13 during the Louisville Province meetings. Owensboro seminarians attending were Deacon Gary Clark, Deacon Michael Charles Ajigo, Basilio Az Cuc, Jamie Dennis, Nick Higdon, Alex French, Jesus Mendez, Derek Hayden, Corey Bruns, Jacob Fischer, CJ Glaser, and Emmanuel Garcia.



In the photo at left, Basilio Az Cuc, center, prayed among seminarians from other dioceses during the Louisville Province meetings Aug. 12. During the three-day gathering shared fellowship and built relationships, many of which stem from sharing classes and community life in seminaries during the school year.

"Today is maybe the first time we've done this," Archbishop Kurtz continued, "having a gathering of all the seminarians of the Kentucky - Tennessee Province. Christ and His people need you to be well-equipped to carry out this sacred trust of ministry given to those who assist Him. The hand of God is at work in each of your hearts here in this room made into a chapel. Enter the lives, the joys, the sufferings of the people you serve."

Bishop William Medley felt the gathering was a valuable experience. He commented, "Bishop David Choby of Nashville proposed more than two

years ago the possibility of gathering the seminarians of the dioceses of Kentucky & Tennessee together with the bishops. The gathering at Barren River brought together more than 120 seminarians plus the Vocation Directors and the Bishops. The opportunities for shared prayer and fellowship seems to have been positive. Many of these men will in the future find their ministries intersecting and thus building relationships now will provide dividends perhaps for many decades to come. I think the consensus was that this was a valuable experience and one we will want to repeat."

Diocesan Schools Office Hosts Professional Development Days for Catholic Educators September, 2014 9

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Staff of the Diocese of Owensboro Catholic Schools Office conducted Common Core State Standard Professional Development (PD) days for Catholic educators of diocesan schools. Susan Schmitt was hired as a consultant to facilitate the PD meetings conducted at The Catholic Pastoral Center (CPC) from June 3 to July 24, 2014. PD days for Catholic Elementary School educators were also conducted in Lyon County in July, 2013. For the PD meetings at the CPC, the trainings were divided into three sections for elementary, middle school, and high school personnel. Separate trainings were organized for Math and ELA (English and Language Arts) for elementary school educators; Science and Social Studies sessions were added to the sessions with middle school and high school educators. Educators attended the days with others teaching in their grade level and discipline.

Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Ann Flaherty, emceed the PD training sessions, first to introduce Susan Parnell-Schmitt, M.Ed., the trained:

“Susan is a national professional development literacy trainer with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in the areas of Write Traits and Reading Instruction. She also works for the national professional development companies, Bureau of Education and Research (BER) and Staff Development for Educators (SDE).

“Susan is a member of the Kentucky Department of Education Scholastic Audit Team and an Indiana Opportunity Reading School Consultant. With over 20 years of educational experiences at multiple levels, preschool through high school literacy programs, Susan continues to pursue her passion for effective professional develop-



On July 21, 2014, Catholic educators attended a PD day at the Catholic Pastoral Center. From left are Elizabeth Brey, OCHS, Pamela Wright and Melissa Reed from St. Mary High School, Paducah, and Bill Hagan, OCHS. The table group was listening to Susan Schmitt introduce the Common Core State Standards concepts for ELA. Mel Howard photos

ment in research based instruction and student success.

“Susan has worked for Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation and provided 4 years of training in CCSS for the Diocese of

Evansville, K-12, broken out by grades in the elementary area and by departments in the middle and high school areas.

“The Diocese of Owensboro, after being invited to attend a workshop she presented in the Diocese of Evansville fall 2013 and asking her to provide a workshop for our principals in March 2013, elected to hire her to provide PD in

the area of CCSS instructional strategies for all of our diocesan schools’ faculties beginning with last year’s CCSS PD week for the western part of our diocese and ending this year with the middle and high school CCSS PD’s July 2014.

“I have had the pleasure of working with Susan the past year and a half. She has gone out of her way to make PD affordable for our Diocese.”



Susan Parnell-Schmitt, M.Ed. conducted the Professional Development Days for diocesan Catholic Educators in June and July at the Catholic Pastoral Center.



As with every Diocesan Catholic School Educator activity whether in the classroom or during PD days, prayer starts the session and focuses the work and learning. Above, Patty Kaelin OCHS teacher, folded her hands in prayer July 21 during the high school ELA session on CCSS and Instructional Strategies in the Catholic Pastoral Center

At left, Ms. Susan Schmitt, speaking to diocesan high school Social Studies teachers at the Catholic Pastoral Center on July 24, 2014.

Diocesan Catholic Schools Office Hosts A Celebration of Catholic Schools

"You have the privilege of bearing the stamp of Christ in everything you do."

- Bishop William F. Medley

HENDERSON, Ky. - On Friday, August 1, 2014, the Catholic Schools Office hosted a Celebration of Catholic Schools at Holy Name Church here. This is an annual event for the school system. Invitations to Parish Catechetical Leaders were given as part of building a bridge between the parish and Catholic schools.

The day began with Mass at 9:00 a.m. in Holy Name Church. Bishop William Medley's homily set the tone for the Jesus-centered Celebration of Catholic Schools. Bishop Medley concluded his homily with a message that was echoed in talks throughout the day: "You will do mighty deeds this school year because as Catholic educators in a Catholic School, you have the privilege of bearing the stamp of Christ in everything you do."

When asked if they could recall Bishop Medley's final sentence, many paraphrased it. One Catholic School principal said that this concluding sentence of Bishop Medley's homily this day would become a continuing theme in the school for school year 2014-2015.

After the celebration of Mass, the group proceeded to Holy Name School cafeteria for a presentation by Brother David Anthony Migliorino, O.S.F. who is a member of the Franciscan Brothers

of Brooklyn, New York. In a two-part presentation, Brother David shared his personal story with regards to catechesis, Catholic identity, and the role of the Catholic school teacher as related to Jesus Christ.

Brother David delivered his presentations with many stories about teachers and students he's known. His talks were organized around simple statements about Jesus which he asked people to write down, for example, "Jesus said 'I Am,' 'Jesus knew His mission and he stuck to it,' 'Jesus said Thank You and loved to celebrate.'" With this celebration idea, Brother David commented about the title of the Diocese of Owensboro Celebration of Catholic Schools, "Many school systems have from one to three in-service days to begin a school year. I like this diocese's idea to celebrate Catholic Schools. There is no greater work of the Church than the Catholic Schools. Jesus went everywhere teaching, healing, preaching; it's in the Scriptures. We in Catholic Schools go around teaching, healing, and preaching all day long. Jesus spoke to people



The 2014 Celebration of Catholic Schools began with Mass in Holy Name Church in Henderson. The Mass, the source and summit of our Christian life, is our most important prayer as Catholic Christians. From the earliest days of the Church Fathers, the Mass is known as the sacrament of Church unity. What better way to begin a Celebration of Catholic Schools, a day when Catholic educators of the diocese unite with our Bishop to celebrate this great work of the Church - Catholic Education?

about an attitude change with His message that 'You need to work on this' ... When you as a Catholic educator do these things, you're being like Jesus."

Brother David concluded his presentations saying to Catholic Educators, "Your joy in what you do should come in the process, not in the end results. Nobody works harder than you, does more important work, or understands the mission of the Church than you. Thank you for what you bring to the Church, for teaching the little ones and the big ones."

Continued on page 11

Brother David asked all the people in the Celebration of Catholic Schools to give the most frequently offered gift at collection time, a dollar, to St. Paul Catholic School in Grayson County for a student's tuition. In the photo at left are Brother David giving the collection basket to St. Paul principal Joan Butterworth. Other Saint Paul School faculty here are Sister Anne Michelle Mudd, OSU, Gina Sims, Emily Drake, Nicole Higdon, Janice Darst, and Annette Cannon. Passing the baskets netted \$553 for St. Paul Catholic School.



Mr. Jim Mattingly, diocesan Superintendent of Catholic Schools, presented a plaque to Sister Laurita Spalding, OSU, in honor of her being named the 2014 Educator of the Year Aug.1 during the Celebration of Catholic Schools in Henderson.

See related article about Sister Laurita on page 13



Andy Donohoe, Durand Engineer, and Jim Ivey, Owensboro Catholic High School staff, enjoyed one of Brother David's stories about his parents.

Bonnie Marks, 6th grade teacher at OCE 4-6 Campus, shared a story with Brother David during a discussion time Aug 1.



"...Bearing the stamp of Christ ..." Brad Ehlers (6-12 PE, Saint Mary, Paducah) and Ann Morrow (Grade 3, St. Mary, Paducah, returning to their seats after receiving Communion at Holy Name Church Aug. 1.



In the photo above, Brother David illustrated the importance of service in Catholic Schools as he washed the hands of Trinity High School principal Ron Williams Aug. 1.

In the photo at above right, Sister Laurita Spalding, OSU, reacted with surprise as her name was called as the 2014 Catholic Educator of the Year.

At right center, Mary Carrico Catholic School staff donated dollars into the collection basket for Saint Paul School.

At bottom right, Kaylee Morris, Lauren Boze, Kara Morris, Kamille Stich, Director for Holy Name School in Henderson, Kevin Steele, PE/Health teacher, Luke Johnson, Nicholas Thatcher, and Emma Eyre prepare to serve the meal for the Celebration of Catholic Schools in the Holy Name School cafeteria Aug 1. These are 7th and 8th graders and the 8th graders were receiving service hours towards Confirmation.

All photos this page by Mel Howard

"... In everything you do ..." In the photo at left, Terri Thornton (Grade 3, St. Joseph Catholic School, Bowling Green) dips a finger in a Holy Water font after Mass Aug 1 to mark herself with the Sign of the Cross. She teaches her students to bless themselves with the Sign of the Cross as a sign of remembering their Baptism upon entering and leaving a Catholic Church.



To see more pictures of The August 1, 2014 Celebration of Catholic Schools, check out the Owensboro Diocesan website on the Catholic Schools webpage: <http://rcdok.org/schools/>



Sister Laurita Spalding, O.S.U., Named Catholic Educator of 2014

By Dan Heckel

Ursuline Sister Laurita Spalding was named 2014 Educator of the Year for the Diocese of Owensboro on Aug. 1, the same day several Ursulines were honored for their service to Catholic schools.

Sister Laurita teaches second grade at Holy Name Catholic School in Henderson, Ky., where she has taught since 2000. She has been teaching in Catholic schools in the Diocese of Owensboro for 46 years, and is celebrating her 50th year as an Ursuline Sister this year.

Sister Laurita Spalding holds her plaque Aug. 1 naming her Educator of the Year for 2014, presented to her by Jim Mattingly, superintendent of schools for the Diocese of Owensboro.

Sister Laurita Spalding holds her plaque Aug. 1 naming her Educator of the Year for 2014, presented to her by Jim Mattingly, superintendent of schools for the Diocese of Owensboro.

These were some of the statements that accompanied Sister Laurita's nomination, said Jim Mattingly, superintendent of the Catholic Schools:

- This teacher is an exemplary role model.
- The parents want their sons and daughters to be in this teacher's classroom because of the example she sets for students.
- There are many ministries at this teacher's parish. This teacher has been actively involved in most all of them at one time or another.
- From being a religious education instructor for public school students, to being a lector and Eucharistic Minister at Mass, this teacher has done it all and with dedication.
- This teacher is also known for the example provided to other teachers and support staff and for outstanding rapport with colleagues.

Sister Laurita is a native of Springfield, Ky., but has spent all her time in education in the Diocese of Owensboro. She previously taught at St. Peter of Alcantara School, Stanley (1968-72), St. Paul School, Princeton (1972-73), Precious Blood School, Owensboro (1973-78, 1983-89), Immaculate Conception School, Hawesville (1978-83) and Bishop Francis Cotton School, Owensboro (1989-2000).

Sister Laurita's classmate with the Ursuline Sisters, Sister Mary Timothy Bland, was named the diocese's Educator of the Year in 2012. She teaches at the



Ursuline Sister Laurita Spalding

Owensboro Catholic K-3 Campus.

Also during the awards ceremony, all of the Ursuline Sisters currently serving the Catholic Schools in the Diocese of



She's Golden!

At the Owensboro Catholic Schools K-3 Campus school Mass on May 15, 2014, Sister Mary Timothy Bland, OSU, was recognized by Bishop William Medley. This is Sister's GOLDEN Jubilee Year and the students and staff wanted to show their appreciation for her 50 years of service to the church and her 48 years as a classroom teacher! After Mass, we presented her with a gift from the faculty and had a special jubilee cake! Sister Mary Timothy Bland, was named the diocese's Educator of the Year in 2012. Photo by Lori Whitehouse, Principal, OSC K-3 Campus

Owensboro were recognized. They include Sister Mary Celine Weidenbenner (Mary Carrico Memorial School, Knottsville), Sister Suzanne Sims (St. Mary of the Woods School, Whitesville), Sister Anne Michelle Mudd (St. Paul School, Leitchfield), Postulant Stephany Nelson (St. Joseph School, Bowling Green), Sister Laurita and Sister Mary Timothy. Sister Joseph Angela Boone, who recently retired from the diocese, introduced the sisters.



All of the Ursuline Sisters currently serving the Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Owensboro were recognized on Aug. 1 in Henderson, Ky. They include, from left, Sister Laurita Spalding (Holy Name School, Henderson), Sister Mary Timothy Bland (Owensboro Catholic Schools K-3 Campus), Sister Mary Celine Weidenbenner (Mary Carrico Memorial School, Knottsville), Sister Joseph Angela Boone (who introduced the sisters), Sister Suzanne Sims (St. Mary of the Woods School, Whitesville), Sister Anne Michelle Mudd (St. Paul School, Leitchfield) and Postulant Stephany Nelson (St. Joseph School, Bowling Green). Photo by Mel Howard

Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph 2014-2015 Quilt Club Tickets

NOW AVAILABLE!



Sister Luisa Bickett

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

Buy one for yourself and one for a friend!

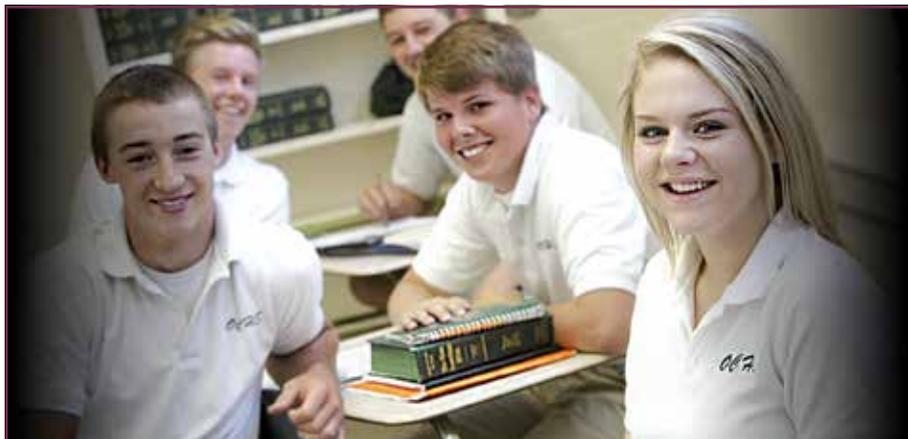
A new quilt is raffled each month.

For details, visit ursulinesmsj.org, click on "Help the Sisters" and then "Quilt Club."

New Quilt Club drawings begin Oct. 3.

ORDER YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

270-229-2009 • april.ray@maplemount.org



Catholic Schools Are Changing Lives

Catholic schools are communities of the New Evangelization and partners with parents in a child's education.

Consider a Catholic school for your child. For information about a Catholic school near you, please access the diocesan web page at <http://rcdok.org/schools/> Photo courtesy of <http://ochs.owensborocatholic.org/>

Congratulations to our Holy Name School

TIP Test-Takers

cmcfarland@holynameschool.org

This winter and spring, several of our seventh graders took the ACT through Duke University's Talent Identification Program or the Johns Hopkins CTY Talent Search. This opportunity is a great learning experience in itself because these seventh graders take the ACT with high school students. Each of them performed well. We would like to congratulate **Abby Haley, Davis Howell, and Jyotirmayi Jadhav** whose scores qualify them for recognition on the state level. Abby and Davis tested through Duke's TIP program, and Jyotirmayi tested through Johns Hopkins CTY Talent Search. These students earned this hon-



or by scoring above the national average on one or more areas of the ACT. They have each been invited to attend a formal Recognition Ceremony, where they will be honored for their outstanding achievement. We would like to congratulate these three students for their accomplishment and to all of the seventh graders who took the test.

St. Ann Fundraiser For Buying Technology for School

St. Ann School held their annual Susan Byars Golf Scramble at the Breckinridge Golf Course. Funds raised from the event will be used to purchase technology for the school. Pictured is Redmond Greenwell, Rhett Cardwell, Lane Welden, and John Davis, 2nd place winners of the tournament. Redmond, Lane, and John are St. Ann School alum. The golf scramble is named for former student Susan Byars, who died from cancer several years ago. Photo by Beth Hendrickson, principal, St. Ann Interparochial School



Marian Devotion Close To Hearts of Catholic Schools

In the photo at left, St. Ann School kindergarten students playing "Ave Maria" with the bells during the May, 2014 Procession. Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Owensboro have a close devotion to Mary, the Mother of God, and celebrate her feast days throughout the liturgical year. Photo by Beth Hendrickson, principal, St. Ann Interparochial School

Vocare

Bishop William Medley and the Vocare committee would like to invite parishioners to consider purchasing or sponsoring a table for the diocese's First Annual Vocare event set for Friday, September 26, 2014 and to be held at the Owensboro Convention Center.

Vocare will be an exciting evening of celebration of Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life with a multiple-course meal, entertainment and invited speakers. Seminarians from our Diocese will be present as well. Tables can be purchased or sponsored at \$500 for a table of eight. Individual tickets can be purchased for \$65 and couples may purchase a pair of tickets for \$125. Tables/tickets may be reserved by contacting Kathy Rasp in the Bishop's office at 270-683-1545 or by email at Kathy.rasp@pastoral.org.

Join our Spinning Retreat! Weekend of November 7-9



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

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

Enjoy the fellowship of those who appreciate this traditional skill.

The group plans to "spin, knit and talk until we're done!" For information on room rates, costs, etc., or to register, contact Kathy McCarty: 270-229-0206

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org • www.ursulinesmsj.org



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999

ARISE/ LEVÁNTATE Revives Kentucky Parish's Ministry Efforts

Along the Ohio River lies a bustling city with over sixty thousand people, the fourth largest city in Kentucky. This city, Owensboro, is home to St. Stephen Cathedral, a parish whose members have experienced a spiritual renewal thanks in part to ARISE Together in Christ, a faith-sharing process from RENEW International. One has only to look at the many new and revived ministry activities to notice this new-found vitality at St. Stephen's.

"ARISE has awakened the spirituality of our parishioners and improved their actions," said Deacon Dirck Curry, who is the parish coordinator for ARISE.

"It has been a great stimulus as well as a wonderful experience for our parish." Deacon Curry, a doctor of osteopathic medicine, has served at St. Stephen Cathedral for four years.

These comments come in light of revived ministries such as the parish's Social Concern Committee, which has taken on responsibility for a number of new activities in the community. These activities include feeding hungry children in local schools as well as reviving parish gardens in order to raise food for the community. Additionally, parishioners volunteer at the St. Stephen's soup kitchen, as well as the local women's and men's shelters.



Deacon Dirck Curry, pictured on the far right, and members of the Social Concerns Committee distribute food at Benedict Joseph Shelter.

St. Stephen Catholic Church Donates School Supplies

CADIZ, Ky. - The parishioners of St. Stephen Catholic Church held a month long drive to provide school supplies for the students at Trigg County Schools. The reason for the drive was due to the rising costs of school supplies for families in the community. The donated supplies will help students from Kindergarten to 8th grade, and consist of paper, theme books, pencils, colored pencils, pencil sharpeners, pencil boxes, rulers, glue, folders, note books, backpack, earphones, tissue, and hand wipes. The supplies were sorted out and given to the appropriate grade for distribution. There was also a cash donation box to be used for assistance with class fees to be given to the Family Resource Center. The parishioners were given list by grade of the supplies that each child was responsible for providing. As a result many students at Trigg County School will receive support because of the drive. Submitted by Stephen Washer



Members of the newly established Stephen Ministry are presented to the congregation at St. Stephen Cathedral in the Diocese of Owensboro.

The committee has also reached out to their sister parish in Mandeville, Jamaica, in order to arrange for the shipment of needed materials there. A trip to Mandeville is planned for 2015 in order to better discern how St. Stephen's can further assist the parish there.

Besides the revival of previously established ministries, St. Stephen's has initiated the "Stephen Ministry" which assists the pastor and parish by providing members who can act as "a listening ear" to those who need one.

Other examples of outreach tie in closely to Deacon Curry's medical occupation. As a clergyman and a healer, Deacon Curry described himself as "a holistic physician caring for the mind, body,

and spirit of the whole person" and that he adds prayer to his care because "there is only one great healer." Complementing this outlook with action, the St. Stephen's health committee has held a geriatric health fair and is looking to have a white Mass for health-care personnel around the time of St. Luke's feast day (Oct. 18) in order to promote a compassionate community of health-care providers.

"As the Cathedral for the Diocese of Owensboro, we would like to see us as a welcoming community to all and a leader in the diocese in faith formation and scripture study that leads us to doing great actions in the Lord's name," Deacon Curry said. -

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



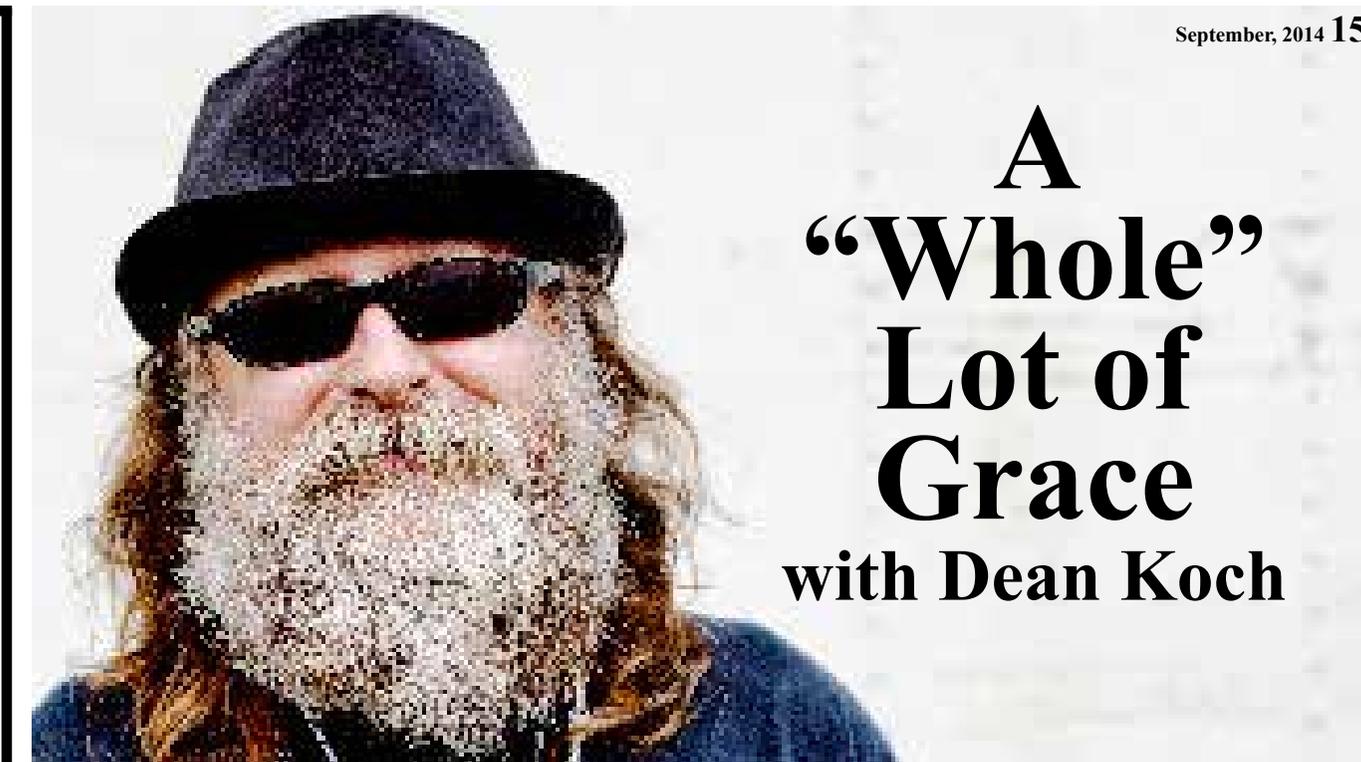
By Larena Lawson

Lolek Productions has released the sixth video in the “icon Project” series, “Whole.” This short film of personal testimony tells the incredible story of how a devastating, life-changing event turned out to be a life-giving blessing. God’s powerful grace can work through all circumstances, tragic though they seem, to reach those who let Him in.

After leaving home and his faith behind, Dean Koch spent fifteen years living his own life which ended up in disillusionment and a failed marriage. One day, on the way to work, everything changed dramatically through a life threatening accident.

The accident gave Dean a chance to reconcile with God and with his own father.

Dean says he was, “living the lifestyle.” He looks the part; a long-bearded, long-haired, rugged looking Harley Davidson motorcycle rider cruising down the street on his chopped out bike.



A “Whole” Lot of Grace with Dean Koch



Watch the video at
lolekproductions.com

 **LOLEK**
PRODUCTIONS

He didn’t think about God much after he left home as a teenager. But years later his drastic motorcycle accident changed his life. Now he “thinks about God every day and tries to live the faith every day.”

Though he lost a limb, he’s feeling whole once more.

Dean Koch’s story is a part of the “icon Project” series. All the stories are beautiful testaments to the power of God’s loving grace.

You can watch this faith affirming, grace-filled short film by accessing lolekproductions.com in your web-browser.

iconproject
Short Films of Personal Testimony

lolekproductions.com fr.mccarty@lolekproductions.com



Bottom Row Left to Right: Alyssa Hurm, Emily Fulkerson, Brianna Hengen, Jo Carver, Jayla Burgess, Iliana Parrillas, ; 2nd Row left to right: Anne Beckert, Lauren Probus, Gary Long, Jose Solorza, Mason Fritz, Blake Swaidner; 3rd row left to right: Cletis Duncan, Matt Knight, Erik Davis, Joey Vettiankal, Mitchell Long, Shannon Long, Charlie Hardesty; Very Back Row Left to right: Emerson Jones, Michael Massoth, Quin Stallings, Quint McGowan, John Probus. Photo and article submitted by Charlie Hardesty

Oktoberfest

St. Mary School System
September 20, 2014
12-5 p.m.

- German Dinner
- Beer Garden
- Live Music
- Accordion Player
- Silent Auction Baskets
- Raffles
- Carnival Games
- Inflatables



St Mary School System • 1243 Elmdale Rd.
Paducah, KY 42003

Mission Wisconsin Reflection

By Erik Davis

Mission Wisconsin 2014 was truly an experience that I hope to never forget. Even if it was only ten days, it felt like we were doing mission work for much longer. Before I knew it, though, everyone was already gathering for the closing mass to celebrate the Eucharist together as fellow missionaries before we departed and went our separate ways. The experience itself was everything that I hoped it would be and more. Also I know for a fact that I have developed a more mature and knowledgeable spiritual livelihood. As I worked every day I could see how my actions affected the community directly and the people within it.

The work crew that I was a part of was given the job of cleaning the parks within the community and doing other work as we saw fit. The first park we worked on was completely overgrown. Only the top of a swing set poked through and multiple park benches were completely obstructed from view. Charlotte had told us that no kids had visited the site in weeks, maybe even months, because almost all of the equipment was covered with foliage of all sorts. The task that was given to us almost seemed impossible to accomplish in just one short week, but with the right mindset, our trusty clippers and weed-eaters in hand, and help from another work crew we were able to completely clean up the park within three days. Within the next couple of days, kids were already showing up and playing on the once covered playground equipment, and a great sense of self-accomplishment and self-worth arose within me knowing that I had affected the lives of these young children for the better.

The second park we were stationed at was not as bad, just numerous weeds and a basketball court that needed a makeover. Even while we redoing this park, kids started gathering and playing on the new basketball court and the hopscotch squares we had just painted. At one point the boys asked if some of the members of our work crew and I would play with them, so we took a break from working and had some fun. Afterwards, we broke our bread that was given to us and shared it with the boys that we had played basketball with and got to know them a little better.

Overall, this trip was amazing and I wouldn't trade anything for the memories I made and what this trip has made me realize. Looking back, I now realize that the actions you take can directly affect a large or small group of people in a positive way. You can make a difference. Also, this trip made me realize that there is poverty, hardship, destitution, and austerity that hides itself within every community, even my own. But after growing closer to God and considering all the experiences that happened on the mission trip, I know that one of the jobs I was put on this earth to do is to alleviate some of this pressure and help those less fortunate than I because it is not fair to them that someone is not providing for them. The only thing that is different for some is the circumstance of their birth. After this mission trip I know that I can make a difference in the lives of those around me for the better if I set my mind to it and apply myself.

Help To Protect Life

The Knights of Columbus Council #6897 made a \$250.00 donation to Life House to help support the 31st Annual Fundraising Dinner to be held Thursday, September 18th, 2014 at the Murray State University Curris Center Ballroom. Seating begins at 6:00 p.m. with the Dinner and Program starting at 6:30 p.m. Table Host needs to turn in registration form before Sept. 15th. Please attend this event and help protect "LIFE". In photo above, from left to right Life House Director Stephanie Kelly & Grand Knight Kevin D'Angelo.



By Kelsey Steinwachs

HENDERSON, Ky. - During June 8th-14, 2014, I participated in my first Holy Name Youth Group mission trip to Caruthersville, Missouri. I wasn't really sure what to expect going into this. I also wondered about how it was going to be for me to be away from home and my family and friends for a week and what I would be missing out on. I wanted to go but I was also nervous about going somewhere that I thought people would be "different" than me and I worried that I wouldn't know how to talk to them or how to help them.

There were several different kinds of jobs we could choose from on the trip. I chose to work at the Vacation Bible School that the youth group helps with each year because I've always loved to work with kids. Other teams worked construction projects and other things to help the community. On the first day when I arrived at the park where the Bible school was held I was very nervous. I didn't know what the kids would expect from me. I wanted to give them hope and the faith to inspire them to set goals, accomplish them, and know that life could get easier for them, but I didn't know if I could really do that. When I saw the kids start walking, riding their bikes and even running toward the park, I could feel their excitement and I decided my goal would just be for them to have as much fun as

my youth group and I were having.

There were lots of activities for them to participate in. Everyone made at least one or more creations at the arts and crafts table. I can't even begin to describe how much it meant to me when they made something for me or when they wanted me to make something for them. We tie-dyed shirts, played kickball and basketball, had many many races, gave lots of piggy back rides. Every day they had a snack while we told a bible story. I didn't realize how much it touched their lives to get the attention from us that they rarely get. It amazes me when I think about what those kids were capable of.

Each day after we were finished with the bible school, our youth group spent time together. We helped make our dinner, took showers, ate and then had group reflection. The sadness and poverty we saw really affected everyone. There were lots of tears, especially the night before our last day. We had heard some of the saddest stories from the kids that were heartbreaking. I also thought a lot about how much I have, and how much I take for granted in my life. I just had no idea how other people really live. It was eye opening and life changing. I also grew closer to the people in my youth group after sharing this experience with them. We hung out and talked to each other in a way that we really hadn't before going on this trip together. I felt more connected to



Bottom Row left to right: Charlie Hardesty, Dana Vinitski, Shelby Benson, Rachel Payne, Matt Knight; Middle Row left to right: Beth Probus, Dusti Benson, Sidney Cain, Caroline Boze, Katarina Vinitski, Chris Galbraith, Bryce Hoffman, David Phillips, Riley Powers, Amanda Marlin; Back Row left to right: John Probus, Ian McGowan, Kelsey Steinwachs, Trey Book, Joe Bickers, Wyatt Jenkins, Grant Wilson, Cletis Duncan, Hadlie Comer, Adrian Etensohn, Lauren Probus, and Sister Darlene Presley. Photo and article submitted by Charlie Hardesty

them again and it felt really good.

The last day with the kids was bittersweet. We played with water balloons, shared a lot of hugs, and just had the best time with them, but it was also very sad because I knew we were leaving them. I had grown an attachment to them, and worried about what would happen to them after we were gone. I had worried about giving them hope and faith, but looking back and remembering their smiles, laughter and happiness made me realize that we gave them love, shared our faith with them, touched their lives, and that those are the things that give them hope and help them feel things can get better.

Since I've been back from the trip,

I've been making an effort to help out more at home, to appreciate the life I have and to remember to tell my parents how grateful I am for everything they do for me and give me. I've always been grateful for what I have, but this experience made me see that in a whole new way. I've kept pictures of me with the kids to remind me of how happy we made them, but also how much it meant to me to help them. I hope to stay more connected with my youth group, and plan to return to Caruthersville with them again next summer. The connections I not only had with the kids but with my youth group as well are things I hope I never let go of, and know I will cherish the memories I made forever.



Just An Incredible Job!

The Saint Mary of the Woods Catholic School middle school volleyball team did an incredible job on 8-9-2014 and wanted to share their experience! The girls participated in the "South Warren Summer Slamfest" at South Warren High School. The nine girls of the St. Mary of the Woods Catholic School team competed against 7 out of 14 other schools August 9 at the tournament. The irfirst game was at 8:45 a.m.; 7 matches later at 8:00 P.M., the St. Mary team emerged as the Champions of the Silver Division Tournament. The girls' first focus before every match was prayer. The girls all came together in solidarity in the middle of the gym floor and prayed the "Hail Mary" or "Our Father" before each of the games. This was a great preseason start, for our new school year. The participating St. Mary of the Woods Catholic School team members were who are included in the picture at left are: Nina Wathen, Brittney Booker, Abbey Pike, Savannah Aull, Allison Payne, Mary Hardesty, Colsi Stauffer, Madi Edge, and Josie Booker with Head Coach Shawn Aud. Submitted by Kim Rydecki

Fenton, Michigan St. John's Youth Group Makes KY Mission Trip

By Mel Howard

OWENSBORO, Ky. - "May God Bless this house and keep all those who enter safe" - Brittany C.

"Forever Rely on God." - Jessica Ulrich.

During the week of July 20-25, the youth group from Saint John Catholic Church in Fenton, MI. made a mission trip to Owensboro to serve the community by helping build a Habitat For Humanity house, do landscaping on another Habitat House, help the Joe Ford Nature Center with landscaping. The group began every day of their mission trip participating at 7:15 a.m. Mass at the Mount Saint Joseph Ursulines Chapel.

Saint John The Evangelist's youth group worked at the following places during the week: Habitat projects on Triplett St, Davis Ave, Crittenden st, and 28th St. in Owensboro. They also worked at the Joe Ford Nature Center, St. Vincent DePaul Store, Pitino Shelter and helped clean and paint at Mount. Saint Joseph Motherhouse.

Deacon Ron Kenney, Director of



Many of St. John's Youth Group left prayer messages on the wood boards of the house's framing. Here Brittany Constantini wrote, "May God Bless this house and keep all those who enter safe."



Jessica Ulrich, who was volunteering her efforts and labors on her fifth Habitat build in Owensboro wrote her prayer on a 2x4 wall stud: "Forever Rely On God" under a drawing of a smiling frog.

Ellie Pohlod hammered 16p nail into a wall stud as Sait john the Evangelist youth group adult chaperone Bob Metcalfe watched. The youth group's travel van carried a quote from James 2:14, "Faith without works is dead faith."



Virginia Braswell, right, Owensboro's Habitat For Humanity Director, warned St John youth group members working at the Joe Ford Nature Center to watch out for poisonous brown recluse spiders. Mel Howard Photos

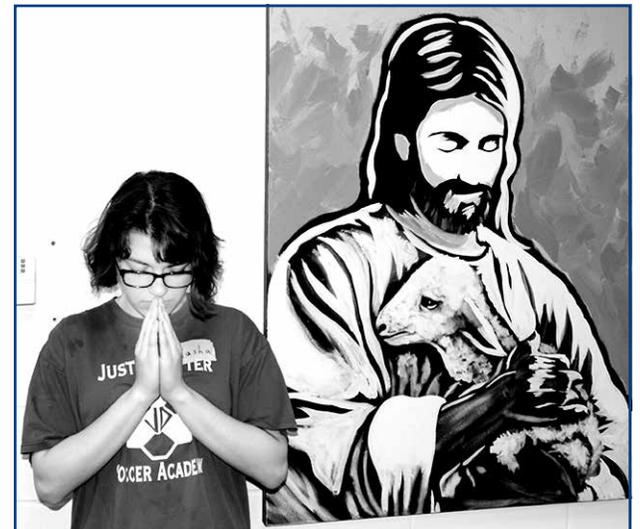
Faith Formation CYM, for St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, said, "The group stayed in the gymnasium at Mt St Joseph Retreat Center, sleeping on air mattresses. The good Sisters welcomed us with good Ole Kentucky hospitality, Ursuline style. After evening prayer and dinner, some Sisters would stay back and play cards, games, socialize and just build some good Ole community. We also would venture into town to the local Walmart, Goodwill Store, (Treasure hunting) We went to the movies one night and

to the Go Carts off Parrish Ave. We also went down to Friday After 5 on Owensboro's beautiful river front.

"It was another great year stepping out of our comfort zone and working with Habitat For Humanity and other places. We love Owensboro and helping where we can. Our theme for this year's mission was taken from the Psalm 19 that can be summed up as 'Love take me over'.

"May our actions, our words, our relationships be taken over by God's love. Thanks again. Be Peace."

Lunch on Thursday, July 24, was provided by Daviess County Detention Center food services and Jailer David Osborne. Later, the youth group visited the chapel at the detention center. Standing next to an image of The Good Shepherd, at right, Tasha VanTassell prayed for an end to capital punishment during a talk by guards. Tasha said, "No one should have to fear death by capital punishment. I prayed that new light can come to all inmates in this place... There's always Mercy for everyone in this life."



Paducah Area Churches Answering Need for Warming Center Downtown September, 2014 19

Ed. Note: This article is a follow up for a Western Kentucky Catholic February, 2014 article about the Warming Center in Paducah.

By Edie Keeney

The need for a Warming Center in downtown Paducah had been in the planning stage for several months by The Salvation Army, Paducah Cooperative Ministries, the City of Paducah and the Paducah United Way. Many homeless individuals go to the Paducah Library during the day, go to the Community Kitchen for the free meal and then return to the Library until closing time. They had no safe place to go to sleep out of the weather.

The efforts of these groups plus four Paducah area downtown churches became a reality in these past four months. Grace Episcopal Church opened the Center in December and the Washington Street Baptist Church was the location in January. February the Center was located at The Broadway Methodist Church and at St. Francis de Sales in March. The Center would be open any evening when the temperature was forecasted to be 32 degrees or below. Due to the harsh weather conditions all during the first three months of the operation of the Warming Center, it was open all or most of the evenings. The weather conditions in March were so changeable that it was difficult to determine when the Center needed to be open. The Center at St. Francis de Sales was open most evenings



Members of the youth group at United Methodist Church painted pillows with crosses and Bible verses for the guests. Photo submitted by Edie Keeney

the first two weeks of March hosting 10 to 15 individuals and then as needed for the remainder of March.

Jamie Mills commented that all of the volunteers with whom he spoke felt it was a very positive experience. However, all individuals that were involved felt that 32 degrees was really too cold and the Center should be open if the temperature was anywhere in the 30's and for the most part it was open.



Children with pillows for the Warming Center in Paducah. Photo submitted by Edie Keeney

Most of the individuals that stayed at the Center were homeless. However, one woman who stayed overnight at Broadway Methodist ran out of propane gas and was not able to get a refill that day. One man was a veteran and wasn't aware that he was eligible for VA benefits. He was helped and now has benefits. Another was helped to get subsidized housing.

Ruth Elliott, one of the coordinators from Broadway Methodist commented, "It was a good thing for us to do and I believe we learned a lot. Our Warming Center was open every night of February and we provided hot meals each night. The guests were very appreciative and everything that we needed just seemed to appear. We averaged 15 people, the largest number was 23, and of those 12 came every night. Everything worked out well."

Members of the youth group at United Methodist Church painted pillows with crosses and Bible verses for the guests that would be theirs to take with them. Some of the individuals attended church services during February and some have continued to come.

Devona Rosa, who helped Ruth Elliott coordinate, commented, "The Warming Center was badly needed. Several of the volunteers were from other churches in Paducah. Everyone who volunteered had a great experience. Paducah needs a permanent place for the Center so that people know to go to one place and where everything will be consistent.

Scott and Debbie Jones volunteered

several evenings. Debbie commented, "It was a real eye opener; it makes you appreciate what you have, we take so many things for granted. We come home and everything we need is right there. These past cold nights I find myself wondering where they are and how they are doing."

The Warming Center went beyond providing shelter. One individual was helped to get to Alabama where he was able to find a job and called the church to say "Thank you" and to say that he did get a job and was living in a small trailer.

The Community Kitchen in Paducah serves more than 1,000 free meals a week, Monday through Friday, to anyone who comes and the homeless individuals go there for the one hot meal they may have all day. Just recently the Community Kitchen has acquired a 6,000 square-foot building that it hopes will be ready to move into by late fall. Along with the free noon meals five days a week the Kitchen hopes to provide a Warming Center and also a Cooling Center.

Many meetings and much planning with many groups and organizations will be ongoing as evaluations of what was learned from this first attempt and future plans are discussed. Expansion to provide a Warming and Cooling Center by the Community Kitchen will be a reality as space for expansion and the money to accomplish this becomes a reality. Donations and fundraisers will help make this happen. The Kitchen is a nonprofit tax exempt entity located at 1225 Broadway in Paducah, KY.

MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH ACADEMY AND JUNIOR COLLEGE



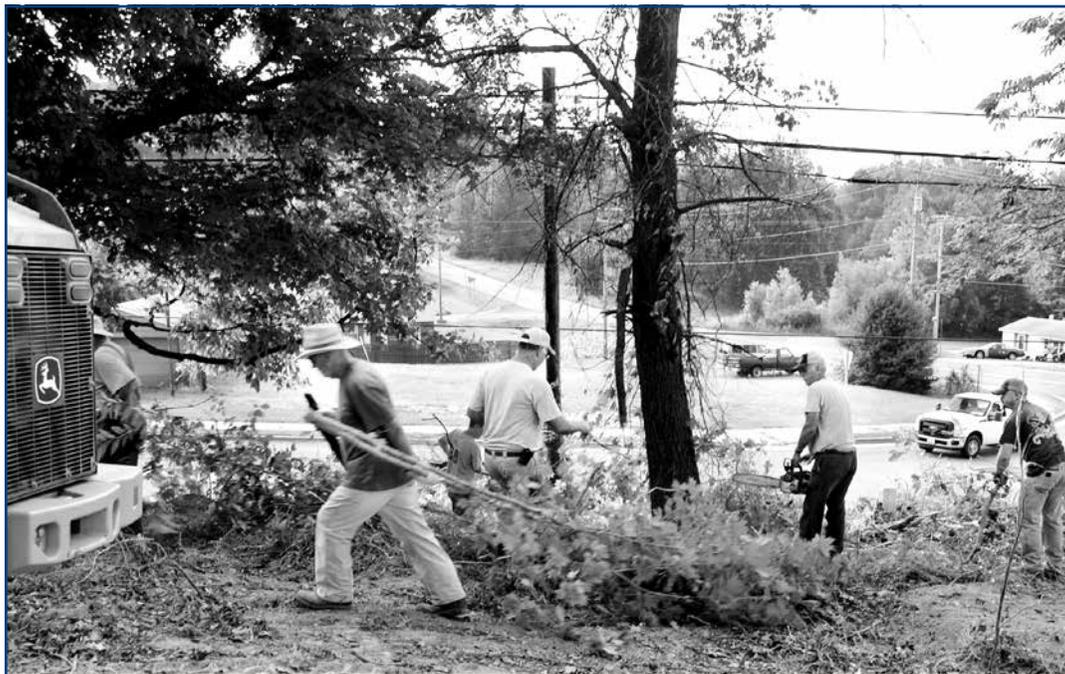
ALUMNAE MEMORIAL MASS • 4 P.M. SATURDAY, NOV. 1

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On Saturday, July 25, from 8 to 12:30 several church members cut down trees, trimmed bushes, hauled away brush, swept the cemetery road, and dozed off the bank to make the cemetery attractive. We really appreciate Mark Logsdon and Rondie Humphrey bringing their equipment to make this huge project so much easier. Thanks to the following people for all their help: Michael Baldwin, Marcie Blankenship, John Calhoun, Rondie & Nathan Humphrey, Bruce Lee, Mark, Joseph, John, Marsha, Philip, McEuen Logsdon, Deacon Nick Nichols, Rene Picard, Sonny & Ann Renfrow. This has been a project that we needed to do for years to make it easier the lawn easier to mow and the embankment along Highway 431 easier to weed trim. Thanks so much for all the help. Together as a church family we can make a difference. It has been a beautiful day. Photos by Marsha Logsdon PhD



Answering A Call To Serve In the Community Kitchen

PADUCAH, Ky. - St. Mary students and Alumni worked in the Community Kitchen here. They cleaned, prepared and served food to over 240 people. Most of the fresh produce the volunteers prepared was provided by Dr. Hilary Hunt, gardener extraordinaire. Sheree Halicks has been coordinating St. Thomas More parishioners to serve at the kitchen for approximately 4 years. We are all called to serve our brothers and sisters who live in poverty and hunger. Amen

In the picture at left, Isabelle La Barge, Conner McGowan, Jacob Lang, Ben Hopper, & Ian La Barge. Submitted by Felicia LaBarge



First Vietnamese Refugee To Become General In U.S. Army Promoted August 6, 2014

Thirty-nine years ago, the Immigration & Refugee Division of Catholic Charities LA (then named the Catholic Welfare Bureau) ensured that Major Duong Xuan Luong, his wife, and their eight children, found a safe home in the United States. Major Luong's only son, Viet Luong, was ten when his family was resettled by Catholic Charities Los Angeles. He attended the University of Southern California and joined the U.S. Army after graduation. After 20 years in the Army, he was promoted from the rank of Colonel to the rank of general, making him the first Vietnamese refugee to become a General in the US Army. Credit: Loc Nguyen, Director of Immigration and Refugee Department, Catholic Charities Los Angeles. <http://mrsserves.tumblr.com/post/92641704859/first-vietnamese-refugee-general-in-us-army-thanks-to>. Posted by USCCB Media Relations - Norma Montenegro Flynn, <http://usccbmedia.blogspot.com/2014/07/five-things-to-remember-on-july-28.html>



"In the Church, no one is a stranger, and the Church is not foreign to anyone, anywhere." —Pope John Paul II

"I was a stranger and you welcomed me..." —Matthew 25:35

"We pray for a heart which will embrace immigrants. God will judge us upon how we have treated the most needy." —@Pontifex (Pope Francis)

Photo of Colonel Viet Xuan Luong from USCCBLOG, July 28, 2014.

Spiritual Leadership Highlights St Mary's Eight Grade Chicago Trip

September, 2014 21

By Donny Smith

WHITESVILLE, Ky. - On the stormy afternoon of May 14, 2014 Sr. Suzanne Sims, OSU, led a group of eight 8th grade students from St. Mary's of the Woods Elementary School on a class trip to Chicago, IL. In addition, five parents also went on this trip. We stayed overnight in Carbondale as we had an early train to catch the next day.

After an early breakfast, we made our way to the Amtrak station in Carbondale to catch the train called "The Saluki". Despite a few unexpected hurdles, we successfully made our way to Chicago arriving at Union Station by early afternoon on May 15.

We checked in to our hotel that was located within walking distance of Union Station and started our adventure. Most of our group of fourteen travelers had never before been to Chicago. Our first tour occurred at the Willis (formerly Sears) Tower. The views from the 103rd floor of the Willis Tower enabled us to get spectacular views of Chicago and Lake Michigan.

Later that afternoon, the weather began to turn colder as we took advantage of a limo driver who gave us a reduced fare to take us to the Art Institute of Chicago. Our group was able to see works of art created by Chagall, Monet, Van Gogh, Wood, and O'Keeffe. It was overwhelming to see such an array of masterpieces.

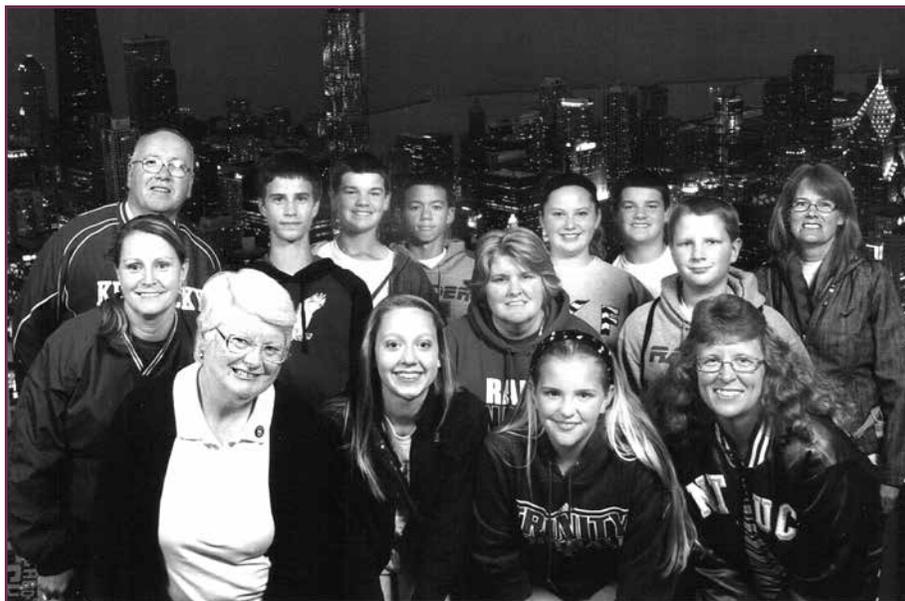
We concluded our first day in Chicago by returning to our hotel by subway and spent some time in prayer and reflection after a late supper.

Our second day in Chicago (May 16) began ominously. There was snow in the northern suburbs of Chicago while a cold rain fell in downtown Chicago.

We began our morning with breakfast at the hotel. Soon thereafter, the students provided Sr. Suzanne with an umbrella patterned after stain glass designed by Marc Chagall.

Our first tour of the day began at Shed Aquarium. We explored the first floor of the Aquarium and our group was exposed to the various aquatic life that exists in the Earth's oceans and rivers.

We then made our way to Wrigley Field, the home of the Chicago Cubs. The Cubs hosted the Milwaukee Brewers. 2014 marks the 100th anniversary of Wrigley Field. Unfortunately, our love of history and baseball was severely tested



Sister Suzanne Sims, OSU, left front, and adult chaperones with St. Mary of the Woods Elementary Eight Grade Class in Chicago, May, 2014. Submitted Photo

by temperatures in the upper 30's and a stiff breeze coming straight at us from Lake Michigan. The Cubs were trailing 4-3 when we made a strategic retreat to the bottom of the 5th inning to return to our hotel.

We spent that afternoon re-charging ourselves. The students were able to spend some time in the hotel swimming pool. Our supper was delivery pizza from Gino's and we all joined in to play some card games. Our day ended by spending time in prayer and reflection to consider the impact that we might have on Chicago and the impact Chicago might have on us.

We began our third day in Chicago (May 17) with breakfast and then a bus ride to the Museum of Science and Industry. We began our tour of the Museum by watching an Imax film "Flight of the Butterflies". After lunch, we toured an actual German U-boat, one of only 5 still remaining. Thanks to an excellent tour guide and some special effects, we briefly felt the fear that the crew members must have experienced as the German submarine tried in vain to escape the pursuing American Navy fleet. Afterwards, the group went on a tour of a replicated Southern Illinois underground coal mine. It seemed to me that the miners had to confront some of the same fears as the crew on the German U-boat.

Some unexpected but now comical

bus delays provided us with the opportunity to see Sr. Suzanne's flexibility skills in action. Sr. Suzanne is one of those people who, when given lemons, is able to make lemonade. Sr. Suzanne adjusted our schedule so that we could attend 5:15 Mass at Holy Name Cathedral. The Cathedral was beautiful and awe-inspiring. Sr. Suzanne reminded us that the readings we were about to hear would be the same readings that would be read in Whitesville. It was comforting to reflect upon the universality of the Catholic Church and realize some of the common bonds that help tie all those of the Catholic faith together.

After Mass, we walked around the neighborhoods of Chicago adjacent to Michigan Avenue. We saw part of the campus of Loyola University (Sr. Suzanne's alma mater) and the famous Chicago Water Tower that survived the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. After supper, we returned to our hotel for more prayer and reflection time. We also started to pack for our return to Whitesville.

The weather improved markedly for our fourth and final day in Chicago (May 18). We were treated to blue skies and temperatures in the 70's.

After breakfast, we completed our packing and stored our luggage for safe keeping at the hotel. We made our way to Millennium Park and saw the beautiful reflective sculpture that Chicagoans call

"The Bean". We then walked on to Grant Park and experienced first-hand the power and majesty of Buckingham Fountain.

The day was so perfect that we were inspired to walk along the shoreline of Lake Michigan where we made our way to Navy Pier. After a quick lunch, we took a guided architectural tour up the Chicago River. We were shown the various and competing styles of architecture including buildings designed or influenced by Mies van der Rohe who coined the famous phrase "less is more".

Upon completion of the tour, the students and one child-like parent rode the Ferris Wheel at Navy Pier to get one more panoramic view before we make our homeward departure.

We ended our day by boarding a train bound for Carbondale known as the "City of New Orleans". This train served as the inspiration for the song by the same title in the mid-1970's that was made famous by Arlo Guthrie. We arrived in Carbondale at 2:00 AM on the morning of May 19 where we continued on by vehicle back to Whitesville. We safely arrived at 5:30 AM.

As the child-like parent that went on this trip, I was so impressed by Sr. Suzanne's spiritual and leadership skills. I was also impressed by the diverse array of skills each of the parents were able to provide during this trip that assisted Sr. Suzanne and the 8th grade class.

I was most impressed by the how the 8th grade class behaved on this trip. It is not easy to be agreeable when you're cold, wet, and tired. This group of students always bounced back quickly and they thoroughly enjoyed the time spent in Chicago.

There is no telling how this trip will impact the 8th grade class of St. Mary of the Woods. Clearly, this trip exposed these young adults to an environment they had never before experienced. I think the trip brought the students closer together. It certainly had a strong impact on the adults and it certainly proved to be a journey worth taking.

Our thanks go out to Ms. Kay Howard who serves as Class Sponsor for the 8th Grade Class. Her influence was obvious and was witnessed by their good behavior. We also thank Father Gerald Baker for allowing the 8th grade class the opportunity to take this trip.



St. Stephen Cathedral Preschool Begins New Year With Blessings

The faculty and staff of the Cathedral Preschool for the 2014-2015 school year gathered at the front entrance under the Preschool's new sign on Aug. 18 with St. Stephen Cathedral Pastor, Fr. Jerry Riney: from left to right, Emily Wyatt, Jane Lovekamp, Valerie Henry, Emily McNulty, Angela Franey, Fr. Jerry, Bonnie Stuart, Juanita Garcia, Pam Weafer, Karen Aud, Tami Neel, Karen Katchuk, and April Patton. Fr. Jerry blessed each of the staff, their classrooms, and the new school sign as the faculty and staff gathered for their first meeting to begin the school year. In the picture at right, Bonnie Stuart and Pam Weafer receive



a blessing for a good school year from Fr. Jerry Riney. Mel Howard photos

**The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph
in Maple Mount, Ky., invite you to our**



44th BBQ PICNIC

Sunday, Sept. 14

Booths open 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Serving BBQ pork, mutton, chicken, burgoo 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
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Get tickets from any Ursuline Sister or call 270-229-2009 or find a form online: ursulinesmsj.org/help-the-sisters/picnic
Tickets will also be available at the picnic.

We are located 12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56

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First Day of School

Saint Mary of the Woods Catholic School in Whitesville opening day was Wednesday, August 13. The first day of school concluded for Saint Mary of the Woods in the prayer garden. Here, Principal Sr. Suzanne told the story of Saint Mary of the Woods and the founding of the school. It has special significance this year as St. Mary's will be celebrating their 135th year. Students had the opportunity to learn the history of their school and pride themselves in being a St. Mary's Angel. Submitted by Kim Rydecki

One Amazing Summer at Gasper River Youth Camp and Retreat Center

By BenWarrell

It's funny how we put things in our mind and how we want them to happen or unfold. It's also funny how God has other plans for us! We have been filled with excitement for the new dining hall and Boone Lodge to be completed and ready for summer camp and how it would change this summer. Well, it didn't unfold the way we had planned! With the extreme winter, wet spring and hot and humid start to the summer, Boone Lodge was not ready for use this summer. At first we were devastated; however, we soon realized that God had something else, something better in store for us. We had to limit the number of campers we could take each week and we were left with a waiting list of well over one hundred campers. While our hearts were broken for the young people who couldn't attend, we were blown away by the power of the Holy Spirit this summer. With the smaller numbers, the intimacy level at camp was incredible and it was without a doubt, the most spiritually powerful summer we've ever experienced! It was almost like God was saying, "It's okay, I've got this, just trust me!" And boy did God ever deliver!

"This summer was life changing for me!" "I have never felt closer to God than I did this week at camp!" "Something happened at Adoration that I can't explain. It was the first time in my life that I really felt the love of God for me!" "The activities, the staff, the food were

all awesome, but the sacraments were the best!" "I wish I didn't have to leave, it's been the greatest week of my life!" These are all quotes from the campers this summer!

Our theme was from Pope Francis' letter to the young people for World Youth Day. It was "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven." Mt. 5:3 We learned all about the meaning of being poor in spirit and how to live it out! It was incredible as well to hear from so many parents and campers of young people who went home and immediately made changes in how they live. One young lady packed up all kinds of things from her room that she didn't really need any more, that she was just holding on to. She donated those items to St. Vincent DePaul to help others! How amazing!

Part of what makes camp such an amazing ministry is the number of people who lift camp up in daily prayer. From the staff at the Catholic Pastoral Center every day at mass, to countless parents across the diocese, state and country, to former summer staff and counselors, to religious all over the country and world-camp is prayed for continuously! Please take our word for it, God hears those prayers and answers them! That is one of the greatest things about the Catholic Church - the community! It is never about one person, it is always about us! This summer over four hundred forty campers felt and lived that message and have now taken it back into their families and communities. Thank you so much for the prayers and the support! Our retreat season is already backed and booming! It will only continue to get crazier as the new lodge is completed and ready for busy! Please keep the camp and the staff here in your prayers and please know that we will do the same for you!



"This summer was life changing for me!"



Karrie Givens: "This is a great place for the young people to come closer to God and create life long friendships."



"I have never felt closer to God than I did this week at camp!"



Corey Bruns: "Beautiful and wonderful place. You can truly tell Gods hand is at work through the staff, landscape, and campers. One of the best investments our Diocese has made! Blessed to be part of the Gasper Family!"

Matt Perkins: "Both of our children have experienced Gaspar River and hand had wonderful experiences. They will both continue to attend and gain from their experiences for many more years. We are blessed to have such a wonderful faith based place for our kids where they are surrounded by true role models."



24 September, 2014

Celebrating 25th Priestly Ordination, 25th and 70th Religious Profession

Submitted by the Carmelite Sisters, DO

On July 16th, the Solemnity of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Fr. Richard Cash, Chaplain of Carmel Home and Owensboro Regional Hospital, celebrated his 25th Jubilee of Priestly Ordination. He was the Principle Celebrant at the Jubilee Mass in the Chapel of Carmel Home at which Sr. Mary Therese Esselmann celebrated her 70th Jubilee of Religious Profession as a Carmelite Sister of the Divine Heart of Jesus and Sr. M. Angela Therese Kim celebrated her 25th Jubilee of Religious Profession.

Fr. Cash is a native Kentuckian. He was born and grew up from Fancy Farm, KY where his parents, grandparents and great grandparents lived, back to the late 1820s. He had one brother and one sister. He discovered his Priestly vocation while working in the tobacco farm. By listening to Bishop Sheen's tape on retreat and committing himself to making a daily holy hour, gave him the conviction and deepened his desire to become a Priest. He entered seminary in 1980 and was ordained in 1989. His first assignment was at the Immaculate Church parish after his ordination. One of his deep loves and passion was the RCIA program. He also taught High School in Whitesville. Fr. Cash is gifted with spiritual direction to all ages. The Carmelite Sisters and the Carmel Home family are grateful for his ministry.

Sr. Mary Therese was born in Hartford, WI. At the age of five, her family moved to Athens, WI. She had ten brothers and sisters. One of her brothers was a Discalced Carmelite Priest, one was the member of the Brothers of Mary and one was a Carmelite Brother. She had one sister who was a Franciscan. Her parents were members of the Order of Secular Discalced Carmelites. After her mother passed away, her father joined the Carmelite Priests in Holy Hill, WI and became a Carmelite Brother.

Sr. Mary Therese entered the Carmelite Sisters of the Divine Heart of Jesus Congregation in 1942. Throughout her last 70 years of religious life, she has served the elderly in our various Homes: Milwaukee, WI, Grand Rapids, MI, Kenosha, WI, Jefferson City, MO, St. Louis, MO and Owensboro, KY.

Sr. M. Angela Therese Kim was born and raised in South Viet Nam. She was one of the boat people who left their country by a small fishing boat. After the war, as a young teenager, she attempted many times trying to escape the communist, until finally she was rescued by the German ship. After she was rescued, she temporarily resided in Singapore and In-



The Jubilarians, from left, are Sister Mary Theresa, Father Richard Cash, and Sr. M. Angela Therese.

donesia while awaiting the paper process. She arrived at New Orleans, LA and Cincinnati, OH to resume her schooling and learned English. She joined the Carmelite Sisters D.C.J Congregation in 1986, and has served the elderly and children in our Homes in St. Charles, MO; Jefferson City, MO; St. Louis, MO and Owensboro, KY.

Sr. M. Angela Therese has seven brothers and sisters. Two of her brothers are Priests and one sis-



Seated at table on July 16 at the Carmel Home are from left, Sr. M. Bernaette, Sr. M. Angela Therese, Sr. Mary Therese, and Father Richard Cash.



On July 16, celebrating Jubilees at Carmel Home in Owensboro, from left to right, are Fr. John Tran, Fr. Vincent Kim, Sr. M. Angela Therese Kim, Fr. Joseph Nan Kim, Sr. Bernadette Kim, and Sr. Maria Na Nguyen.

ter is a Religious of the Servants of Jesus the High Priest Congregation. Her parents are Secular Third Order Dominicans.

The Carmelite Sisters and Carmel Home join them in celebrating their jubilee and we thank God for their faithful services to the Church and their Congregation, but especially their immediate and joyful "Yes" to God in their holy vocations.

Sister M. Angela Therese's friends with her on July 16 celebration of Jubilees of Priestly Ordination and Religious Profession. Submitted Photos

Passonist Nun Celebrates 50 Years of Religious Life

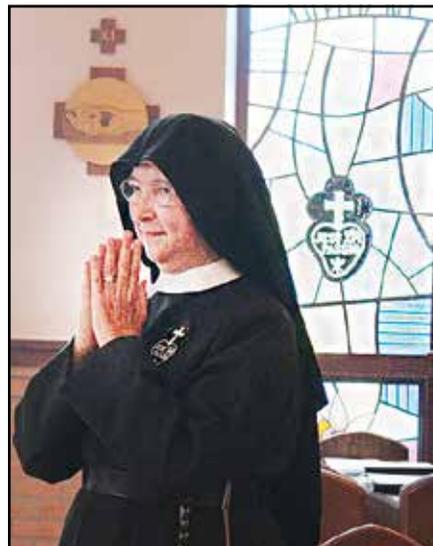
September, 2014 25

By Larena Lawson

WHITESVILLE, Ky. - Sister Mary Therese of Jesus Crucified celebrated 50 years of Passionist Profession on Sunday, August 10 at St. Joseph Passionist Nuns Monastery in Whitesville, Kentucky. The Mass of Thanksgiving in celebration of her golden anniversary of religious life was well attended, welcoming family, friends, fellow religious sisters, Passionist Oblates, a seminarian and priests from around the Diocese of Owensboro. The Holy Mass was offered by Bishop William F. Medley and included the renewal of religious vows by Sister Mary Therese. Father Ben Luther, Pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Central City was the invited homilist. After the beautiful Mass, guests were greeted in the parlor where they were able to visit with the joy-filled cloistered nuns and offer Sister Mary Therese their congratulations and good wishes. Delicious refreshments were also served. It was a wonderful day for giving



God thanks for the holy vocation of Sister Mary Therese and to ask His blessings for her continued faithfulness and fidelity to the call that He gave her in life, fifty years ago, and what a very special one it is.



In the photo at top left, Sister Mary Therese of Jesus Crucified renews her religious vows as a Passionist Nun at the Mass of Thanksgiving offered on Sunday, August 10th, in celebration of her 50th Anniversary of Passionist Profession.

In the photo at near left, During the Sign of Peace, a glowing Sister Mary Therese offers a gesture of love to her family seated on the other side of the chapel, apart from the cloistered side of the Passionist Nuns.

The Spirituality of Beauty

Tuesday, Oct. 7

Time:

5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Presenter:

Sister Rose Marita O'Bryan

Cost:

\$15 fee includes meal

Contact Kathy McCarty to register:

270-229-0206

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



This program provides an opportunity to explore the theme of beauty and its important role in spirituality.

The Ursuline Sisters will present a new topic on the first Tuesday of each month through August 2015. Coming up on **Nov. 4: "Do You Hear What I Hear?"** with Sister Vivian Bowles

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



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

Join us for a

BABY SHOWER

Celebrating moms and moms-to-be

Benefitting



Date:
September 7th, 2014

Location:
Saints Peter and Paul
Catholic Church
902 East 9th Street
Hopkinsville, Ky.

Time:
After the 10:30 Mass

Hosted by
Saints Peter and Paul
Moms Group

Alpha Alternative is in most need of the following items:

Bottles, Newborn/Infant Socks, Baby Toiletry Items, Crib Sheets, Diapers Pack 'n Play Travel Cribs, Infant Car Seats, Bassinets

All donations including Cash/Check are appreciated!!!!

****Alternative donation collection times will be after all masses the weekend of the 6th-7th**

For more information please contact:

Karla Wagner karicawag@yahoo.com or Gillian Tilley gilliantilley@gmail.com

26 September, 2014

Happy Anniversary

*Marriage Anniversaries for September 2014
Anniversaries of 25, 40, 50
and Over 50 Years of Marriage*

Blessed Mother, Owensboro

Wallace & Julie Johnson, 40
Kerry & Debbie Riney, 25
Leo & Paula Bradley, 25
Steve & Kristie Hayden, 25
Ben & Thelma Crump, 65
William & Mary Alice Weise, 58
David & Lisa Englert, 25
Christ the King, Madisonville
Holeman & Diane Cardwell, 25
Dr. Rennan Quijano & Dr. Angeli Suarez, 25
Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson
Alphonso & Linda Baity, 25
Wayne & Brenda Barnes, 51
Charles & Gladys Buckman, 53
Ronald & Deborah Faupel, 25
Carroll & Margaret Fulkerson, 51
Ronald & Joan Hockey, 55
Stephen & Marilyn Schwallier, 40
Holy Spirit, Bowling Green
Kenneth & Barbara Burch, 58
James & Veronica Diemer, 52
Robert & Frances Fiore, 57
Robert & Mary Graham, 55
Joe & Sally Liles, 15

Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

Jeff & Holly Cecil, 54
John & Pat Kelley, 54
James & Marilyn Kurz, 58
Bill & Jeanne O'Bryan, 64

Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro

Cliff G. & Judy Brandon, 50
Tony & Stacy Hampen, 25
Joseph & Dorothy Bowlds, 59
Joseph William & Sherma Clark, 59
John C. & Shirley Faye Howard, 51
Eugene & Anna Scheidegger, 56
Joseph C. & Sue T. Riney, 70

Resurrection, Dawson Springs

Carl & Rosa Lee Coffey, 58

Rosary Chapel, Paducah

Lonnie & Vonn Crowdus, 40

Sacred Heart, Hickman

John B. & Mary Jo Lattus, 62

Sacred Heart, Waverly

Marlin & Gladys Drury, 50

St. Agnes, Uniontown

Dorris & Joyce Collins, 54

St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph

Gary & Pam Bunch, 25

St. Ann, Morganfield

Paul P. & Bernice Chandler, 62

William & Janet Robertson, 54
Leon & Eva Clara Hendrickson, 58
Charles R. & Catherine Dyer, 62
Earl G. & Emma Jean Duncan, 58
John & Laura Sheffer, 25
St. Anthony, Axtel
Narvin & Jewell Whitworth, 50
Michael & Brenda Thomson, 25
St. Anthony Padua, Grand Rivers
Bob & Dot Lang, 25
St. Columba, Lewisport
James & Pattie Toler, 65
St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Clarkson
Jim & Joan Chaney, 40
St. Francis de Sales, Paducah
Nick & Suzanne Warren, 25
Rodney & Mary Ann Williams, 40
Mark & Karen Wurth, 40
David & Nancy Smith, 53
Thomas & Rose Marie Weitlauf, 66
Hugh P. & Doreen Smith, 53
St. Henry, Aurora
Thomas & Janet Moore, 52
St. Jerome, Fancy Farm
Howard & Jackie Elliott, 55
St. Francis de Sales, Paducah
John & Norma Chapman, 25
Rodney & Mary Ann Williams, 40
Mark & Karen Wurth, 40
Nancy & David Smith, 53
Thomas & Rose Marie Weitlauf, 66
Hugh P. & Doreen Smith, 53
St. John the Evangelist, Paducah
Richard & Betty Wurth, 52
Paul & Jerri Durbin, 62
Kirk & Johanna Studzinski, 25
Robert & Yolanda Neihoff, 51
Paul & Ellen Carrico, 56
Vernon & Dot Neihoff, 59
William C. & Barbara Hayden, 58
St. Joseph, Bowling Green
Stuart & Sue Baseheart, 25
Antonio & Isabel Valladares, 25
St. Joseph, Leitchfield
Mike & Patricia Boone, 55
St. Joseph, Mayfield
Marvin & Martha Byrd, 52
St. Jude, Clinton
Robert & Frieda Templeton, 50
St. Lawrence, Philpot
Joseph & Nancy Payne, 54
George & Mary Catherine Payne, 53
St. Leo, Murray
Byron & Mary Cates, 63
Tomas & Sara Royal, 61
James & Joan Carden, 50
St. Mark, Eddyville
Achille & Eileen Biagi, 55
Milt & Rita Schroeder, 51
Richard & Bonnie Wiening, 56

St. Martin, Rome
Charles & Juaretta Dockemeyer, 57
St. Mary, LaCenter
Sylvio & Rita Mayolo, 55
Sonny & Helen Anselm, 69
St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho
Bobby & Terry Knott, 55
St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville
Randall & Cindy Ward, 25
St. Michael, Sebree
Larry & Brenda Allinder, 40
St. Paul, Leitchfield
Al & Janice Darst, 40
James R. & Helen Gawarecki, 52
St. Peter, Waverly
Robert & Bettye Bolts, 53
Clarence & Darlene Powell, 40
St. Pius Tenth, Calvert City
John & Dolly Bardsley, 52
Chuck & Diane Fischer, 58
St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro
John & Kelly King, 25
Michael & Brenda Thomson, 25
Ronald & Mary H. Strehl, 50
James & Barbara Coomes, 60
St. Romuald, Hardinsburg
Greg & Denise Hardesty, 25
Pat & Ruby Wheatley, 63
Donald & Alice Bland, 55
St. Rose, Cloverport
Andy & Shelia Flood, 40
Mark & Elizabeth Smith, 40
Thomas & Leigh Flood, 67

Danny & Sandra Gedling, 52
St. Stephen, Cadiz
James & Betty McVey, 58
Richard & Sally Gust, 55
St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro
Louis & Debra Byrne, 40
Steve & Susan Higdon, 40
Norman & Joan Froehlich, 50
John M. & Patsy Clayton, 57
St. Thomas More, Paducah
Todd & Angie Nelson, 25
Robert & Kathleen Wheeler, 25
Steve & Julie DuPerieu, 40
Mike & Susan Wurth, 40
Phil & Betty Higdon, 50
Leo & Marilyn Wurth, 60
St. William, Knottsville
Joseph & Mary Sue Elliott, 54
Stanley & Doris Fulkerson, 64
Lawrence & Dortha Mae Johnson, 63
Charles O. & Joyce Mills, 57
Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro
Jerry & Debbie Loyd, 25
Bobby E. & Theresa Pedley, 50
Ronnie & Ginger Ray, 50
James L. & Theresa Clouse, 57
John & Nancy Grimes, 50
Jack & Rose King, 61
James & Imogene Loyd, 61
Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville
Andrew & Annette Mongeon, 62
Robert & JoAnn Spader, 55
Paul & Anne Cummings, 51

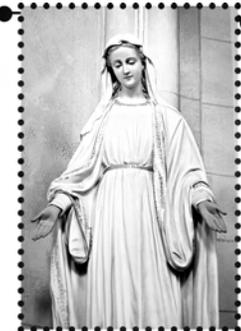
Annual Marian Retreat Weekend Oct. 18-19, 2014

Retreat Director: Msgr. Bernard Powers

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



The \$125 fee includes retreat, meals and accommodations. Commuters can attend for \$85. **Deduct 10% if paid in full by Sept. 18.** Retreat begins Saturday at 9 a.m. and ends Sunday at 1 p.m.



Contact Kathy McCarty
270-229-0206

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org

Find a flyer online:

www.ursulinesmsj.org



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

Thousands across the country will be walking in recognition of
NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK
 September 8 - 14, 2014

"I'll cry with you,"
 She whispered,
 'Until we run out of
 tears. Even if it's
 forever, we'll do it
 together."
 There it was... a
 simple promise of
 connection.

Join us - Saturday
September 13, 2014
 for the

The loving alliance
 of grief and hope
 that blesses both
 our breaking apart
 and our coming
 together again.

Molly Fumia
 Safe Passage

7th Annual
Owensboro Lifesavers Walk

Where? When?

The Walk leaves from the Owensboro
HealthPark
 1006 Ford Avenue
Registration* - 9 a.m.
Walk begins - 10 a.m.
 * Preregistration is not required

**Participant T-Shirts
 AVAILABLE**

**Music by
 Jeff "Wildman" Hardesty**



Walk in memory of those who have died by suicide

Walk for those struggling with depression and thoughts of suicide

Walk to raise awareness of suicide and the need for suicide prevention

Sponsored by:



OWENSBORO REGIONAL
SUICIDE PREVENTION
 COALITION, INC.

Visit our website: www.orspc.org

Donations Accepted



**The Third Annual
 Diocesan Family Day**

**Saturday, September 27 at Gasper River Catholic Youth
 Camp and Retreat Center**

1 PM-4PM

Games, Activities and Camp Tours

4 PM

Mass with Bishop Medley

5 PM

**Potluck Cookout (Hamburgers, Hotdogs and
 Drinks Provided)**

**Come and enjoy a beautiful and relaxing day
 with your family.**

**Please RSVP to the Family Life Office:
 270-852-8377 or joe.bland@pastoral.org**



Consider A Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

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

Rachel's Vineyard offers a unique approach to healing the wounds of abortion. We do not focus primarily on the emotional hurts, and therapeutic techniques to work through our feelings (though a licensed professional therapist is part of every retreat team). Nor do we look at abortion as a purely spiritual wound, which can only be approached through prayer and confession (though a Catholic priest is an important part of every retreat team). Rachel's Vineyard sees the human person as both body and soul, with body, emotions, and a spiritual soul that longs for union with our Creator. There is ultimately only one Healer, only one Divine Physician who can heal each and

every wound that we have suffered. Rachel's Vineyard is a retreat process: over the course of a weekend (Friday evening until Sunday afternoon), our experienced team will accompany you on a spiritual journey, a journey back to God, a journey in which we reflect on the Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior and Healer, and allow Him to do what only He, our God, can do - to heal us and restore us to emotional and spiritual health.

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

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

The next Rachel's Vineyard Retreat in the Owensboro, Kentucky area is April 10-12, 2015. For more information, contact: Debbie: 270-205-4388. debbie@hopeafterabortion.com

God's Loving Arms

"Just Breathe"



A Woman Shares Moments In Her Life Where The Hand Of God Was Evident

By Julie Murphy

"Just breathe, Mom, please just breathe."

Every breath she took was so labored and painful. It was extremely hard on us to see our mother in this condition. To say the least, it affected us all very much.

We knew it was inevitable that our mother wasn't going to be with us much longer because her health had deteriorated so rapidly and we were all taking shifts to feed her due to her failing health. But are you ever prepared to watch someone you love take her last breath and die?

I got my call from my sister Susan the early morning of January 13 that our mother had taken a turn for the worse and I responded right away and went to the Carmel Home. When I arrived I was not at all prepared for what I saw. She did

not resemble my Mom at all. I was heart-broken at what was before me. I knew immediately that my mother was dying. I saw in my mother's face suffering, and assuredly and quite understandably, fear. With that first glance I looked at my sisters, Susan, Holly, and Carolyn. I knew they were thinking the same as I was.

One by one all of Mom's children were with her and many of her grandchildren also came to console her with affection of love, hugs, and kisses. After about a couple of hours, all thirteen of her children had gathered around her bedside and prayed the Rosary and the Divine Mercy chaplet at the three o'clock Hour of Mercy.

It was identical to the scene of when my first husband Steve died in April, 2005. Steve was struggling to breathe from a lung disease. And in his final hours he was surrounded by family praying for his soul. What will never, ever, leave my memory of my mother was her struggle to breathe as well. But then, this sweet older sister from the Carmelites came in to pray over my Mom with such a beautiful prayer that brought me so much comfort at this difficult time for our mother. I asked her not once, not twice, but

three times to repeat that prayer for me, and I tearfully in the privacy of my home memorized that beautiful prayer and I now say it very regularly. It moved me in ways that brought me great comfort. Immediately I sensed it was a gift from the Holy Spirit. I knew it would comfort our mother in her distress as well. The sisters of the Carmel Home came in and out of mother's room to check on her and to pray over her and for that we are all eternally grateful.

Here is that prayer that touched me profoundly; "Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, I give you my heart and my soul. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, assist me in my last agony. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, let me breathe forth my spirit in peace with you." How fitting a prayer for my Mom who had such difficulty to "just breathe."

As beautiful as it was that we could be with Mom in her hour of need it is still pretty painful for me. We gathered so tightly close to Mom's bedside and she

would breathe, then she would skip some breaths. We were all on pins and needles, and then in the dead silence, we all looked at each other and exhaled because we too were holding our breath thinking that would be her last. I still wanted her to, "just breathe!" It became hours, then half hour, then minutes, then she breathed her last and we all kissed her beautiful face and hands and we all whispered in her ear and professed our love and gratitude to a mother who loved her children so strongly.

I now in my lifetime have witnessed two very holy deaths and know the extreme importance of praying for ourselves and our loved ones for the grace of a holy death. And I will never, ever, take that for granted now.

+JMJ+ Julie Ward Murphy

Editor's Note: We welcome you to share your reflections with us. Julie Murphy <love4ben81192@hotmail.com> or mel.howard@pastoral.org

Walking With the Poor: Bishop Oscar Romero and Pope Francis

Saturday, Nov. 22

Retreat Hours:

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Retreat Facilitator:

Father Anthony Shonis

Cost:

\$25 fee includes lunch

Contact **Kathy McCarty** to register:

270-229-0206

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



Archbishop Romero was the voice of the voiceless poor in El Salvador. He is increasingly recognized as a model Christian, a pastor and a bishop — a saint for the 21st century.

Pope Francis asks us to ensure humanity is served and not ruled. Our responsibility as Christians is to ensure the best opportunities and care for our children and the poor.

The retreat is based on the books, "The Joy of the Gospel" by Pope Francis and "Pope Francis: Untying the Knots" by Paul Vallely.



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Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

Join us for Catholic Catechism

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



• Sept. 11

• Oct. 9

• Nov. 13

• Dec. 11

Study the
Catechism
with us!

Second Thursday of the month

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

Each session is \$10 (includes lunch)

A program book is \$5

Led by **Sister Ann McGrew**

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



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

Located 12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 56

CATECHETICAL
SUNDAY
2014

Teaching about
God's Gift of Forgiveness
September 21, 2014



By J.Patrick Kerr

PADUCAH, KY - At the beginning of August, St. Thomas More celebrated the second anniversary of Perpetual Adoration of the Holy Eucharist. This unique opportunity has been well-received by parishioners and so many have given of their time to spend an hour with the embodiment of Jesus and to ensure others are able to do the same whenever their schedule allows.

The anniversary Mass was celebrated by Rev. J. Patrick Reynolds, JCL, and attended by more than 100 St. Thomas More members. Following the Mass, in the not necessarily "sacred," but certainly expected, tradition of St. Thomas More, a dinner was held to both thank those who have given an hour of their time and also enjoy the fellowship of one another.

Eucharistic Adoration was a mainstay of the Church for years, however as



busier lives and the practicality of having the church open 24-hours a day became the norm, this time-honored privilege fell by the way side at St. Thomas More. Upon

completion of the Mercy of Works Chapel in 2012, the church made a commitment to bring back this opportunity to the parish family. The effort meant that parishioners would be asked to give an hour of their time to make sure someone was always in the Chapel.

Of course, "perpetual" means that whether it is two in the afternoon or two in the morning, the Chapel would be open and it would be necessary for someone to be there. St. Thomas More members stepped up and, while sometimes a struggle, the hours of the day and night always manage to get filled.

Parishioners have found this to be one of many options to deepen their relationship with the Lord and to further their understanding of God's plan for each of us through quiet reflection.

Medical Mission To Jamaica

The Diocese of Owensboro is planning a medical mission trip to the diocese of Manville for one week sometime in the spring of 2015. They are in need of various medical personnel to spend a week working in one of their clinics that serve those in need. We are looking for dentists, dental hygienists, optometrists, pediatricians, physical therapists and gynecologists for this trip. If you are licensed in one of these fields and are interested in taking a closer look at using the skills that God has blessed you with to serve those in our sister diocese, contact Fr. Steve Hohman at 270-784-1520, or Richard Murphy at 270-683-1545.

USCCB Reasserts Commitment to Dialogue with Muslims

WASHINGTON—The Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) reasserted their commitment to dialogue with other religions and Muslims in particular in a statement developed between October 2013 and its release August 19. The committee, which is chaired by Auxiliary Bishop Denis J. Madden of Baltimore, listed tensions between Christians and Muslims in different parts of the world as a primary reason for reaffirming the need for dialogue.

"We understand the confusion and deep emotions stirred by real and apparent acts of aggression and discrimination by certain Muslims against non-Muslims, often against Christians abroad," the bishops wrote. "Along with many of our



The men's and women's Benedictine communities of Monastery Immaculate Conception and Saint Meinrad Archabbey are co-sponsoring a pilgrimage for youth and young adults on the afternoon of Saturday, October 19, 2013.

The day's events will begin at 12 noon (CDT) at the Archabbey Church of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad, Indiana. Following a brief prayer for pilgrims, we will walk the six miles along country roads to Monastery Immaculate Conception, stopping along the way at Monte Cassino Shrine for prayer and an opportunity for pilgrims to present their pilgrimage intentions.

Pilgrims will arrive at the Monastery Church at Ferdinand for Vespers at 5 p.m. (EDT), followed by a cookout with members of both

monastic communities.

Bring your youth group, campus ministry group or Newman Center community, or come as an individual pilgrim and meet other pilgrims to walk with. Groups are encouraged to bring a banner or standard to walk with and to use in the procession into the Monastery Church.

The cost is \$7 per pilgrim (to be collected upon arrival) to cover the cost of supper (lunch is not provided).

What to bring: Comfortable walking shoes; Snacks or bottled water for the walk; Sunglasses, sunscreen, warm or cool clothes, depending on the weather.

For information, contact Br. John Mark Falkenhain, OSB, Director of Monastery Vocations, Saint Meinrad Archabbey. Office: 812-357-6318. Mobile: 812-686-4179. Email: vocations@saintmeinrad.org.

fellow Catholics and the many Muslims who themselves are targeted by radicals, we wish to voice our sadness, indeed our outrage, over the random and sometimes systematic acts of violence and harassment—acts that for both Christians and Muslims threaten to disrupt the harmony that binds us together in mutual support, recognition, and friendship."

The bishops expressed sadness over "deliberate rejection" of the call to engage in dialogue with Muslims by some Christians, Catholic and not. They noted that the call to respect and dialogue comes from the Second Vatican Council's Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions (Nostra Aetate)

and has been reaffirmed by subsequent popes. They also noted that, for nearly 20 years, their committee has dialogued with several national Muslim organizations, producing documents on education, marriage and revelation.

The bishops affirmed Pope Francis' words of November 28, 2013, to the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, that "dialogue does not mean renouncing one's identity" nor accepting compromises on faith and morals. They wrote, "Like the pope, we are convinced that the encounter and dialogue with persons different than ourselves offers the best opportunity for fraternal growth, enrichment, witness, and ultimately peace."

A Facelift for the Paducah St. Vincent de Paul Store



By Edie Keeney

The last week of July was a very busy week for the Paducah St. Vincent de Paul Store. Nine youth and five adults from the St. Ann's Catholic Youth Ministry, CYM, from Nashville, Illinois worked together to produce a much needed make over at the store. A mother of a CYM member was born and raised in Paducah and knew of different organizations that could use their help. The group chose the St. Vincent de Paul Store and contacted Store manager, Kathy Keeney. The building needed to be painted inside and out and needed brighter lighting in the sales floor and the volunteer work area.

The CYM group arrived early Monday morning and armed with the paint, the rollers and brushes that were waiting for them, got to work. Warm peach, a sunny yellow and a St. Vincent blue strip was painted separating the two colors, began to appear on the walls. Very soon it was evident that the end result would be bright and cheerful. By the end of the week with the painting finished and the updated brighter lighting, the entire store was transformed and truly appreciated by shoppers and volunteers alike. Not only did the group supply the elbow grease, they also paid for the materials. They deserve a really big "Thank You!" from all who will benefit from their generosity.

Youth Director, Rick Harris and members of the group have volunteered a week each summer since 2009 to help different non-profit groups. This year the



CYM returned to Paducah for the second time; in 2009 they worked with Paducah Habitat. Harris commented, "I think this kind of experience exposes the youth to the real world that many people live in everyday. Leaving Nashville and coming to Paducah exposes them to a different environment and it enriches their development in becoming more mature adults. They come to appreciate what they have and how they live."

Michelle Kurwichi, a 19-year-old youth leader, experiencing her second mission trip, said, "It is very enriching to have a part in helping people get the help they need. I like to teach others and tell them it is OK to have fun but realize that we need to put others first."

Jessica Kempfer is also a group leader and she is the mother of one of the group. "I believe this mission is a great opportunity to give to others. I try to do that in my life and it's good to have a whole week to reflect on Jesus' work here on earth and to bring a piece of it into my life. I want to be a model for my daughter and to other youth."

Bob Gippert, is Rick Harris' assistant and is sharing this week with his son, "It is really great to be able to help others and it's good for the kids to do different kinds of work and to have different experiences."

"When you have a group of individuals who work together on a project to help an organization that helps others,

such as St. Vincent de Paul, they should receive triple the blessings. This group from St. Ann's has made such a difference, not only in the outward appearance of our store but also in the hearts and souls of our clients and volunteers. Their actions will be remembered and appreci-



Nine youth and five adults from the St. Ann's Catholic Youth Ministry, CYM, from Nashville, Illinois worked together to produce a much needed make over at Paducah's St. Vincent de Paul store. Photos by Edie Keeney

ated by all who shop and volunteer here. I want to express my sincere gratitude and thanks to all who worked so hard to make it happen," Kathy Keeney.

Your Unwanted Items Can Bring Hope To Struggling Families

When you donate your gently used clothing, furniture and household items to St Vincent de Paul, you are helping families right in your local community. Proceeds from our Stores-Donation Centers help local families in need. See below to find a store near you:

- Beaver Dam - 213 Midtown Plaza 270-274-5118
- Bowling Green - 655 US 31 W Bypass 270-904-1832
- Bowling Green - 1901 Russellville Road 270-783-7533
- Brownsville - 301 North Broadway 270-286-6145
- Fordsville - 327 East Main St. 270-276-5102
- Henderson - 116 North Alvasia St. 270-827-4138
- Hopkinsville - 902 East 9th St. 270-885-8522
- Lewisport - 8185 US 60 West 270-295-3494
- Madisonville - 101 East Arch St. 502-821-2159
- Morganfield - 218 Jim Veatch Road 270-389-4281
- Oak Grove - 15088 Ft. Campbell Road 270-640-6241
- Owensboro - 200 East 18th St. 270-683-1747 (new location)
- Paducah - 2025 Cairo Road 270-442-9351
- Whitesville - 10534 Walnut St. 270-233- 5118

As always, volunteers are needed and welcome to help at any of the stores. Please call the store location for information on how you can volunteer."



Meet The New Focus Team At MSU Newman Center

Submitted by Allie Loomis

With a new semester starting at Murray State University the Newman Catholic Campus Ministry Center would like to introduce their new FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) team to you.



Team Director; Zach Krueger: Married to Meghan Krueger and has a beautiful one year old daughter Flannery.

- Hometown: Sioux Falls South Dakota
- Degree: music education
- Why have you chosen to be a FOCUS missionary? Had a big conversion in college and wanted to do something to help. Read about the Saints and that inspired me to evangelize

• Favorite Saint: Francis of Assisi

- Favorite thing about Murray: The students
- Most looking forward to this academic year: seeing all of the students from last year grow deeper and watching the program at Newman grow and deepen



Logan Hepp: First year missionary

- Hometown: Omaha Nebraska
- Degree: physics
- Why have you chosen to be a FOCUS missionary: Went to SEEK conference and had a radical reversion during adoration

• Favorite saint: Saint Anthony of Padua

• Favorite thing about Murray: St. Leo's

• Most looking forward to this academic year: SEEK conference in Nashville in January



Alli Griffin: First year missionary

- Hometown: Fairhope, Alabama
- Degree: Exercise Science
- Why have you chosen to be a FOCUS missionary: Share with people the love and enjoy I have found in having a relationship with Jesus

• Favorite Saint: Blessed Teresa of Calcutta

• Favorite thing about Murray: the people

Most looking forward to this academic year: SEEK conference in Nashville and outreach on campus.



Becca Zander: First year missionary

- Hometown: Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin
- Degree: Theology and Education
- Why have you chosen to be a FOCUS missionary: Want to be able to help people experience Christ the way I do

• Favorite Saint: Blessed Pier Giorgio

• Favorite thing about Murray: Newman Center

• Most looking forward to this academic year: SEEK conference in Nashville

FOCUS is a national outreach that meets college students where they are and invites them into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and the Catholic faith. Some of the ways that they accomplish this is by inspiring and equipping them for a lifetime of Christ-centered evangelization, discipleship, and friendship in which they lead others to do the same.

Having a FOCUS team at the Newman Center is made possible thanks to the support of Bishop Medley, the Diocese of Owensboro and a grant via Catholic Extension, as part of their young adult initiative.

MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- 2 **Evening with an Ursuline presentation: Environment**
- 11 **Study of the Catechism**
- 14 MSJ 44th BBQ Picnic
- 22-26 Runaway Quilters
- 26-28 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program

OCTOBER

- 3-5 Regional Cursillo
- 7 **Evening with an Ursuline presentation: Beauty**
- 8 **Lunch and Learn**
- 9 **Study of the Catechism**
- 11-12 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 13-17 **Spiritual Direction Training Program (Week 5)**
- 16 **The Gift of Aging**
- 17-18 Sister Trek for single women ages 18-35
- 17-19 Yoga & Meditation Retreat
- 18-19 **Marian Retreat**
- 20-23 Quilters Guild - Trigg County
- 24-26 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program
- 26-31 Glenmary Sisters Retreat

NOVEMBER

- 1 Grief Camp for Youths
- 4 **Evening with an Ursuline presentation: Do You Hear**
- 7-9 **Yarn Spinners Weekend**
- 7-9 Diocese of Owensboro Ordained Deacons Retreat
- 13 **Study of the Catechism**
- 14-16 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program
- 21-22 Teen Leadership Conference
- 22 **Walking with the Poor Retreat with Fr. Shonis**

DECEMBER

- 2 **Evening with an Ursuline presentation: Gift of Gifts**
- 3 **Advent Day of Prayer**
- 3 **Lunch and Learn**
- 13 **Study of the Catechism**
- 19-21 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program

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

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

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



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center
ursulinesmsj.org



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

Eucharistic Adoration

4 p.m. - 5 p.m.

2nd Sunday of the month



The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph invite you to join us for Eucharistic Adoration on the second Sunday of each month. Upcoming dates: Aug. 10 - Oct. 12 - Nov. 9 - Dec. 14



Ursuline Sisters
of Mount Saint Joseph

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

Eucharistic Adoration is from
4 p.m. - 5 p.m. at the Motherhouse
Chapel (located 12 miles west of
Owensboro on Hwy. 56) and concludes
with evening prayer. If you are unable to
be present, please join us in prayer as
we give particular attention to vocations.

Come Find Out Why the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center is the Spiritual Life Office for the Diocese of Owensboro



Right: Monsignor Bernard Powers' dynamic speaking style kept the attention of participants during an Advent Day of Prayer in 2013. This event takes place each year at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center.

Left: The first building ever constructed at Mount Saint Joseph became part of the new Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center in 1983.

Below: Visitors to Mount Saint Joseph can pray at their leisure on the Rosary Walk.



By Dan Heckel

When the doors opened on the Mount Saint Joseph Retreat Center in September 1983, the first group to use it was the staff of the Diocese of Owensboro and their new bishop, the Most Rev. John McRaith. The diocese hadn't had a retreat center, something McRaith knew needed to be remedied. To illustrate how important a retreat center is, he designated the Mount Saint Joseph Retreat Center in Maple Mount as the Spiritual Life Office for the diocese.

"To set aside time to turn off the noise of the world and spend some time with God in a special way is so important," McRaith said in 2008, which was the 25th anniversary of the Center. The setting at Mount Saint Joseph, home of the Ursuline Sisters' Motherhouse, makes it special, he said.

"God's creation is so magnificent and such places are more conducive to the beauty and grace of others," said McRaith, who is now bishop-emeritus. "The Mount is a beautiful example of God's handiwork."

The former Mount Saint Joseph Academy was transformed into the Retreat Center over the summer of 1983. It was renovated in the 1990s, and changed its name to the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center, to make it clear it was available for multiple groups who need the opportunity for peace and quiet among nature.

Even artisan groups that use the



Center are getting in touch with their spirituality, whether they know it or not.

"The spinners and quilters come because they enjoy the peace," said Sister Ann McGrew, director of the Center. "It nourishes their spiritual life. It's about relationships."

Sister Ann serves on the diocesan staff in her role leading the Spiritual Life Office, just as her predecessors did. Aside from her duties at the Center, she gets called on to lead retreats or organize

prayer days for schoolchildren.

There are always programs planned at the Mount to enhance spirituality, which are needed now more than ever because of the often frantic pace of life.

For the rest of this year, guests are welcome to take part in any of these programs:

- An Evening with an Ursuline Sister, a monthly gathering featuring one of four Ursuline Sisters who will lead a program that taps into a different aspect of spiri-

tuality. The next session is at 5:30 p.m. Oct. 7, the "Spirituality of Beauty" led by Sister Rose Marita O'Bryan.

- On the second Thursday of each month, a study of the Catholic Catechism for Adults takes place from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The next session is Sept. 11. It is led by Sister Ann.

- The Marian Retreat, led by Monsignor Bernard Powers, is Oct. 18-19. It will focus on Mary and include opportunities for solitude as well as communal prayer.

- "Walking with the Poor: Bishop Oscar Romero and Pope Francis" is a one-day retreat from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 22, led by Father Anthony Shonis. It will focus on our responsibility as Christians to ensure the best opportunities and care for our children and the poor.

- The Advent Day of Prayer on Dec. 3 will bring Monsignor Powers back to the Mount to help participants deepen their faith as they prepare to welcome the birth of our savior.

Information for all these programs is available on the Ursuline Sisters' website, ursulinesmsj.org, and then clicking the Conference and Retreat Center tab. Or interested parties can call Kathy McCarty for more information, (270) 229-0206, or email at kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org.

The motto of the Retreat Center is "Give peace, quiet and prayer a chance." Come find out why Maple Mount is the Spiritual Life Office of the Diocese of Owensboro.

The Struggles of Christian Parenting

by Stephen Mattson

Every mother and father know the struggles, frustrations, unrealistic expectations, horrific fears, and exhaustive drama associated with raising children, but let me just say this: Christianity adds an entirely new dimension to the chaos that is parenting.

Besides an assortment of play dates, sports activities, school classes, music events, and other social obligations, Christianity requires the additional burden of attending an endless array of church activities.

Mission trips, youth groups, service projects, summer camps, volunteer activities, Sunday school classes, Bible studies, evangelism outings, and church services require tons of time — it's a huge commitment.

Christian culture goes out of its way to accommodate parents and their children, and while this is a good thing, it also adds social expectations that can often feel burdensome and frenetic — leading to burnout.

Additionally, whether they're warranted or unwarranted, perceived or palpable, real or made up, Christian environments often cause parents to feel extra nervous, anxious, and stressed. Being invested within a spiritual community requires a deep relational investment, and by constantly hearing, discussing, and sharing various techniques related to how kids are supposed to eat, sleep, talk, socialize, play, exercise, learn, pray can often cause feelings of inadequacy, depression, hopelessness, fear, incompetency, anxiety, anger, and guilt.

We're inundated with tactics and strategies on how to raise physically, emotionally, intellectually, and spiritually healthy children, and we're tempted to constantly compare ourselves — and our kids — to others.

When we — or our children — inevitably fail (it will happen), we blame ourselves, oftentimes to the point of extreme guilt.

Christian parents can easily become obsessed with sin and pun-

ishment, continuously blaming and penalizing themselves instead of accepting the grace and freedom of Jesus. Thus, we routinely beat ourselves up, unfairly seek unrealistic goals (like perfection), and become consumed with our mistakes.

If only we would've been less strict. If only we would've had them eat healthier. If only we had sent them to better schools. If only ...

To make matters worse, Christian pastors, teachers, speakers, authors, and others within the church throw around clichés like “if only children were disciplined better” and “kids just don't work as hard as they used to” or “this generation is morally bankrupt.” Although these catchphrases might be uttered with good intentions, they can actually be demoralizing and offensive to parents trying everything in their power to do the right thing.

In our endless effort to be good Christian parents, we attend special parenting conferences, buy parenting books, listen to parenting podcasts, visit parenting blogs, attend parenting breakout sessions, and dive headfirst into the educational tools that our churches provide — often with frustrating results.

We're given a deluge of competing strategies, formulas, theories, and practices that often conflict with each other and are based on cultural fads.

Should we breastfeed or use formula? Should we purchase generic groceries or buy organic? Should we let babies cry themselves to sleep? How much TV should our kids watch? What type of vocabulary should know by now? Should we home school, invest in a private education, or send them to public school? Should we let them wear those clothes? Should we give them an allowance or require them to do chores? Should we enforce a curfew? At what age should they get a job?

There are an infinite number of questions, and everyone seems to have an opinion about what the right answer is. The reality is there's no

perfect answer beyond trying our best to emulate Christ.

Dear parents, it's not your fault, and even if you've made mistakes, forgive yourself and let it go — because we've all been there.

Each day requires parents to make hundreds of split-second decisions, and there's a lot of pressure to succeed — and for our kids to succeed. But what does “success” actually look like? This is probably the hardest thing about Christian parenting: wanting our kids to actually live like Christ.

Do I really want my child to be a peacemaker? Do I honestly want my kids to grow up and serve the poor, sacrificing their time, energy, and their chance to get ahead in life just so that some bum on the street can have a place to sleep at night? Unfortunately, successful Christian parenting doesn't look anything like “success.”

Typically, being a good parent means that your children are behaved, got good grades, went to a prestigious college, and landed a great career with a high-paying salary.

Realistically, I often want these things for my kids. The last thing I want for them is to become a pastor, or worse yet, a missionary!

It's at this point where I rationalize. I tell myself that my children can be “good Christians” no matter what they do in life, that they'll be “missionaries” despite the vocation they go into. They can minister to their co-workers and glorify Christ in whatever they do!

This way, they'll still be making lots of money, living in comfort, and enjoying life — all while still being a Christian!

Although this can — and does — happen, it can also be a spiritual disguise for maintaining society's status quo. This is why Christian parenting is so atrocious: It requires being completely and utterly counter-cultural, requiring that we instill values that seem ridiculous and absurd according to everyone else's standards.

Passionately following an unseen God? Believing in the supernatural?

September, 2014 33

Reading an antiquated book called The Bible? Giving away your money to others? Interacting with the despised, outcast, and downtrodden? Being friends with them!? Taking time to help others at your own expense? Sacrificing your career, job, fortune, and reputation for the sake of a nutty religion — because of some might-not-even-be-real person named Jesus?!

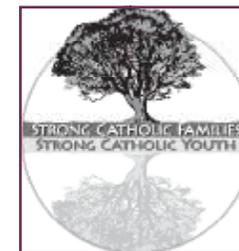
Christian parenting scandalously goes against our instincts to safeguard our children from the evils of the world. We want to protect them, hoping that they'll never have to face the grim reality that we've seen: the real world, full of pain, suffering, sickness, and depravity.

But Christianity isn't meant to be a form of escapism. Rather, it's embracing the truth. Realistically, God calls us to help a hurting world. As parents, are we willing to embrace this calling?

Christ-like parenting requires us to eagerly raise our children with the expectation that they might be viewed as subpar, unsuccessful, and complete failures according to worldly standards.

In the end, do I really want to raise my kids to be like Christ? Do I want them to devote themselves to loving others knowing that it might cause them stress, pain, and heartache? I hope I'm brave enough. Please God, give me — and my children — the strength and bravery to follow your will.

Stephen Mattson has contributed for Relevant Magazine and the Burnside Writer's Collective, and studied Youth Ministry at the Moody Bible Institute. He is now on staff at Northwestern College in St. Paul, Minn. Follow him on Twitter @mikta. Source: <http://sojo.net/blogs/2014/05/07/struggles-christian-parenting>



Immaculate Parish Celebrates 60 Years



Immaculate Parish Owensboro celebrated 60 years of being a parish on Sunday, August 24th. Bishop Medley presided at the celebratory Mass. Former pastor, Fr. Timothy Sweeney returned to the parish as the guest homilist. Fr. Tony Jones, pastor concelebrated the Mass too. After the Mass, a dinner reception was held for all parishioners. The new church pictorial directories were distributed to those in attendance. Also the names of 60 people who filled out "The Bucket List" were given a prize.

Immaculate plans to continue its celebration of 60 years by a musical workshop/concert in May.

Jeff Cavins Coming To Owensboro



Don't wait until the last minute as seats are limited to hear Jeff Cavins, internationally known speaker. Mr. Cavins will be in Owensboro September 19 and 20 to help us grow in our faith through use of Scripture.

Friday night, September 19, Mr. Cavins will be at Immaculate Church to speak on "Living the Life You Don't Have Time For". This presentation will begin at 7pm. This talk is free and open to the public.

The Saturday Seminar will be held from 9-3. Doors will open at 8:30. This event will be held at Immaculate Parish Family Center. The Seminar is entitled Walking Toward Eternity – Making Choices for Today. The cost of the seminar is \$35 which includes material, light breakfast and lunch. The event is funded by the Diocesan Bishop's Annual Appeal. It is sponsored by the Diocese of Owensboro, Immaculate Parish, St. Stephen Parish, Our Lady of Lourdes and Precious Blood.

To register or for more information, contact Diane Willis 270-683-0689 or dwillis@immaculateparish.org. Registration forms are also available on the websites of the sponsoring churches.

Blessings At Immaculate

Almost 200 goodie bags were distributed to boys and girls at Immaculate Parish the first weekend of August as the students came forward for a blessing of their backpacks. Fr. Tony Jones prayed for the children as they headed out on the adventure of a new school year.

On August 16-17, families of Immaculate who are expecting babies took part in the "Blessing of the Child in the Womb". This prayer of blessing is prayed over expectant couples several times a year as the parish celebrates life!

Older students who will be driving this year for the first time will be given a blessing at Mass on September 6-7. These students will also receive a Guardian Angel visor clip for safe travel.



Immaculate Church Picnic

Immaculate Parish Picnic is held Behind Owensboro Catholic Middle School 2516 Christie Place.

Mass @ 7:00pm

Saturday September 27

Booths Open 2:00 p.m.
Serving (& Drive-Thru) open at 3:00

FOOD BBQ CHICKEN BBQ PORK MUTTON BURGOO ICE CREAM SNO CONES SOFT DRINKS FUNNEL CAKES	 \$\$\$ RAFFLE PRIZES! SILENT AUCTION INFLATABLES FOR THE KIDS	COUNTRY STORE CAKE STAND BINGO FACE PAINTING FISH POND DART THROW RING TOSS NOVELTY STAND AND MORE!!!
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Eat in Comfort! Indoor Dining in the Parish Hall. All you can eat for \$10.00. WOW!

Adult Faith Formation At Immaculate

Immaculate Parish is offering several faith formation programs this year for adults to take part in. Both of these programs are offered by Ascension Press and feature Jeff Cavins, who will be speaking in Owensboro September 19-20.

THE BIBLE TIMELINE, the foundational study (24 week series) will take one through the entire Bible. This class will be offered Wednesdays from 10am-noon or 6-8pm beginning September 3 through March 25. The fee is \$35 for the entire year. This is the foundational study in The Great Adventure Bible Study Series that has helped hundreds of thousands of Catholics learn to read the Bible. The Bible Timeline is a fascinating study that takes participants on a journey through the entire Bible. They will go deep into each period of salvation history and discover the amazing story woven throughout all of Scripture.

PSALMS (a 12 week series) will be offered Mondays from 10am-noon or 6:30-8:30pm beginning September 8 until November 24. Fee is \$22. At the heart of the Bible are the Psalms, prayers from God that help us learn to pray. The Holy Spirit inspired them. Israel sang them. Christ himself prayed them, as did our Blessed Mother. These sacred hymns become our heartfelt response to God's loving and wondrous deeds for us. Their words captivate the imagination and draw us into a deeply personal encounter with God.

To register (and ensure a book at the first meeting), please contact Diane Willis 270-683-0689 or dwillis@immaculateparish.org or go to www.immaculateparish.org and fill out the registration form.



2014 Labor Day Statement Focuses on Unemployment Among

Young People

WASHINGTON—The high unemployment rate of young adults, both in the United States and around the world, is the focus of the 2014 Labor Day Statement from the chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski of Miami. The statement, dated September 1, draws on Pope Francis' teaching against an "economy of exclusion" and applies it to the millions of unemployed young adults in the United States.

"For those fortunate enough to have jobs, many pay poorly. Greater numbers of debt-strapped college graduates move back in with their parents, while high school graduates and others may have less debt but very few decent job opportunities," wrote Archbishop Wenski. "Pope Francis has reserved some of his strongest language for speaking about young adult unemployment, calling it 'evil,' an 'atrocious,' and emblematic of the 'throwaway culture.'"

Archbishop Wenski added, "Meaningful and decent work is vital if young adults hope to form healthy and stable families." He noted that in other countries unemployment among young adults reaches as high as three to four times the national average.

Archbishop Wenski said policies and institutions "that create decent jobs, pay just wages, and support family formation and stability" help honor the dignity of workers. "Raising the minimum wage, more and better workforce training programs, and smarter regulations that minimize negative unintended consequences would be good places to start."

Archbishop Wenski noted that Pope Francis has called young people a source of hope for humanity. "We need to do more to nurture this hopefulness and provide our young adults with skills, support, and opportunities to flourish," Archbishop Wenski wrote. He also called for greater solidarity: "Since each of us is made in the image of God and bound by His love, possessing a profound human dignity, we have an obligation to love and honor that dignity in one another, and especially in our work."

Faith in Action

PADUCAH, Ky. - At St. Mary School System's annual back to school faculty/staff retreat, teachers and staff delved into the three pillars of the SMSS mission: faith, academic excellence and servant leadership.

Following a morning session focused on the classroom, Mass was celebrated at St. Francis de Sales Church. From there, the group headed to the St. Vincent de Paul Store to model for the students the meaning of servant leadership by putting their Catholic faith to action, assisting with various projects in the store, including sorting donated items, stocking the store and painting.

Photo at top left: Painting - Elementary and middle school art teacher Jenny Gillituk and middle school and high school teacher



Photo at top right: St. Vincent de Paul

manager Kathy Keeney (center) with middle school teachers Eugenie Outzen and Marie Wade, preschool teacher Teresa Reed and elementary school teacher Annette Ellis.



Photo at bottom right: Saint Mary Schools System Director Eleanor Spry takes a selfie with middle school teacher Ryan Cowsert, high school teacher Andrew Snyder, and athletic director Brad Ehlers. Submitted by Heather DeHart



Principal at St. Mary of the Woods, Celebrating 47 years as an Ursuline Sister

This was an exciting day at St. Mary of the Woods Catholic School in Whitesville. Thursday, August 14th, Principal of Saint Mary of the Woods Catholic School, Sr. Suzanne Sims, celebrated her 47 year as an Ursuline Sister. Students, teachers, and staff honored Sr. Suzanne, congratulating her on her achievement and dedication to her faith, sisterhood, school and students. Submitted by Kim Rydecki



Saint Jerome Parish Listed on the National Register of Historic Places



On Sunday July 20, 2014 St. Jerome Church in Fancy Farm unveiled a new bronze marker noting that St. Jerome Church and Rectory, the cemetery, St. Jerome School, St. Jerome High School, the Agriculture Shop, the Junior High and Cafeteria, and the Parish Center were listed on the National Register of Historic Places in January 2014 by the U.S. Department of the Interior. Pictured from left to right are Father Darrell Venters, Pastor at St. Jerome Church, and members of the St. Jerome School 1909 Renovation Committee, Andy Elliott, Father David Willett, John Carrico, Gayla Elliott, and Bill Higdon. The marker was produced by Eagle Sign and Design in Louisville. Jason Sams donated his time and talent for the installation. Mayfield Eastside Concrete and Septic Tank donated the installation materials, and Steve O'Guinn donated the use of a forklift. Submitted by John W. Carrico

RAIDER RUN 5K Run/Walk

Trinity High School Board Members will host a 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, September 20, 2014. This is a great way to show your support. Those interested in being a Raider Run sponsor, please contact Kimberly Rydecki at 270-233-5533. The 2014 RAIDER RUN 5K Run/Walk starts at 8:30 a.m. Sept. 20, 2014. The event benefits the Students of Trinity High School. For information, contact Kimberly Rydecki at 270-233-5533.



One of 13 stained glass windows in shrine

24th Diocesan Marian Congress - Pilgrimage Sunday, October 26, 2014

2:00-5:00 pm

Diocesan Marian Shrine

"Mary, Mother of the Church and Model for all Christians"

St. Joseph Catholic Church
434 Church St
Bowling Green, KY

THEME:

"Total Consecration to Jesus Through Mary"
Why? True Devotion to Mary Began With Jesus!
Speaker - Rev. Louis Caporiccio, C.P.M.



- Parish Center:** - Music - Welcome - Crowning of Statue of Mary - Speaker
- Refreshments - Display of Religious Articles - Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- Outdoor Procession:** - Our Lady of Fatima Statue - Porters-K of C- Rosary - Hymn
- Church:** - Exposition of Blessed Sacrament - Scripture Reading - Petitions
- Eucharistic Procession with Blessing of Sick - Reposition of Blessed Sacrament
- Confessions:** - Heard throughout the Congress

EVERYONE WELCOME

PILGRIMS - PLEASE VISIT THE BEAUTIFUL SHRINE

For more information, call Joann Bradford at (270)586-5926 or (270)776-5526

OWENSBORO SISTER TREK Friday-Saturday, Oct. 17-18, 2014

For single women ages 18-35

You are invited to a fun exploration of six women religious communities in the Owensboro, Ky., area.

Meals, accommodations and transportation are included at no charge.

Come and see what being a Catholic Sister is all about!

The trek begins and ends with prayer and supper (6 p.m. Friday until 8 p.m. Saturday).

Participating communities are:

- Sisters of Charity of Nazareth
- Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph (includes overnight stay)
- Franciscan Sisters
- Glenmary Sisters
- Sisters of the Lamb of God
- Carmelite Sisters



To register, contact Sister Martha Keller, OSU
by Oct. 10, 2014

270-229-4104

vacations.msj@maplemount.org
Register online at ursulinesmsj.org



St. Vincent de Paul Volunteers

A few members of the St. John Catholic Church youth group from Fenton, Mich., volunteered at the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store in Owensboro on July 24. They were in town for a week to help with Habitat for Humanity and other local projects. The students helped restock and clean the store. Pictured at left is June Howard and at right is Tiffany Cunningham, St. Vincent de Paul staff. If you are interested in volunteering at St. Vincent de Paul, contact us at 270-683-1747. Remember to shop and donate in order to "Help Us Help Others." Photo courtesy of SVdeP.



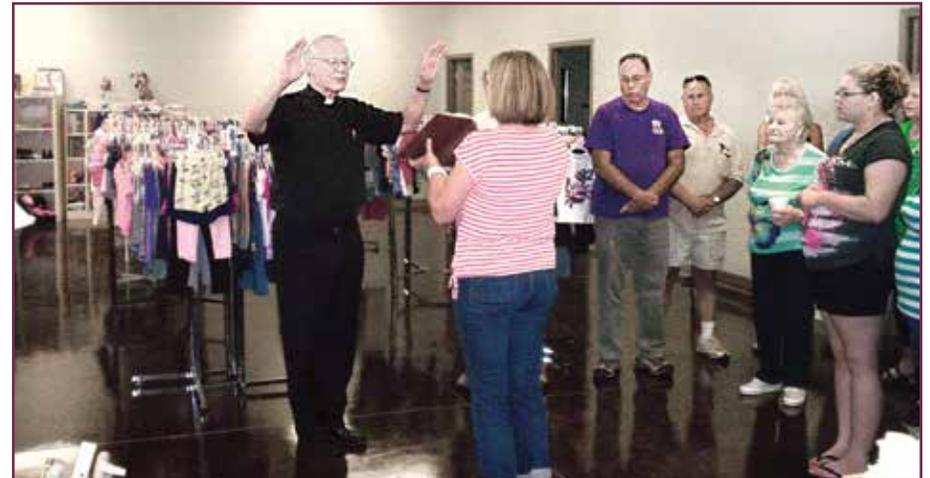
The New Saint Vincent de Paul Thrift Store In Madisonville is at the same location as the previous building (Arch St. near Franklin in Madisonville). Store Hours are Monday through Friday, 9AM - 3PM. Submitted Photo

MADISONVILLE, Ky. - The St. Vincent de Paul Madisonville Conference proudly announces the opening of its new thrift store on July 7, 2014.

The new store is at its old location (Arch St. near Franklin). Twice the size of the old store, its floor space allows ample room for a greater display of merchandise. Hours: Monday through Friday, 9AM - 3PM.



STANDING BESIDE THE SIGN: Father John Vaughan and Joe Rocha, President, SVdeP Christ the King Conference, Madisonville, KY. Submitted Photos



In the photo above, Father John Vaughan blesses the new store.

In photo at right, Richard Morris, SVdeP Executive Director, Owensboro Diocese, Joe Rocha, President SVDP Madisonville Conference, Reverend John Vaughan, pastor Christ the King, Madisonville.





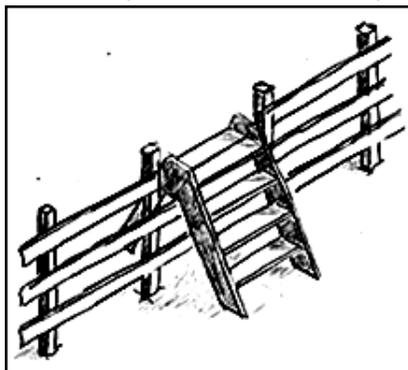
By Deacon Terry Larbes
"The Holy Spirit creates diversity in the Church. The First Letter to the Corinthians, chapter 12. He creates diversity! It's true this diversity is so rich, so beautiful." 1

During the past 100 years we have become efficient as we journey from city to city. The road planners draw a line from city to city marking where the road is to be built. We like roads that are straight. The road builders take earth from the high places to fill in the low places. We strive for a road that is level. The quickest and easiest way to journey from city to city is on a straight and level road. We have become masters of road building. The journey is no longer about the countryside. The countryside is an obstacle. In our desire to get to the next city we no longer experience the diversity of the country side. The straight and level road is uniform; the diversity of the hills, valleys and curves have been removed.

We are called to journey with all Christians not just the Catholic Christians. We should journey with these brothers and sisters although they worship and pray differently than us – Catholics. How can we pray together? As Christians our prayer forms are diverse. How can we worship the Triune God together? As Christians our worship services are diverse. This journey requires us to accept the diversity that each brings. At times the diversity that someone brings seems extreme.

- What one faith community calls joyful, another calls hand-waving.
- What one faith community call reverent, another calls cold and distant.
- The music of one faith community is modern, the music of another is traditional.

We have a tendency (because we are human) to revise and modify the different prayer forms into a uniformity so that we do not have accept the apparent extremes that diversity can bring. Simplifying prayer forms to uniformity is similar to filling in the low places with earth from the high



place; reducing forms of worship is similar to eliminating the curves.

"But then the same Holy Spirit creates unity, and this way the Church is one in diversity." 1

The beauty of a choir comes from the diversity of voices that harmonize so that there is unified voice. A unified voice that springs from the diversity of the choir members.

The Holy Spirit harmonizes the prayer and worship of Christians so that a unified voice is lifted to God. One unified voice that springs from the infinite diversity of God's people.

Accepting diversity requires us to accept the uniqueness of each one of us. This acceptance has to be grounded in the belief, faith, and understanding that our "worth" comes from God. Our "worth" does not come from society or position or wealth; our "worth" is independent of all that. Accepting diversity is the litmus test of whether we believe that we are unique in the eyes of God. When we accept our uniqueness then we should expect others to be different – diverse. Our reluctance to accept diversity is rooted in our belief, faith, and understanding that each of us is unique in the eyes of God. Pushing back from the diversity of Christian prayer and worship resists the Holy Spirit's efforts to harmonize the diversity of the people of God into unity.

"For this the first theologians of the Church, the first fathers ... said: 'The Holy Spirit, He is harmony', because He creates this harmonic unity in diversity." 1

1. ADDRESS OF POPE FRANCIS, Pentecostal Church of Reconciliation, Caserta, Monday, 28 July 2014.

Deacon Terry Larbes (deacon@stmores.org) serves in ministry at Saint Thomas More Church in Paducah.

Ecumenical Calendar

- Sept. 8, 2014 Ecumenical Commission Meeting: Christ the King, Madisonville- 11am to 2pm
- Oct. 24 – 25, 2014 KCC Annual Assembly: Cincinnati Airport – northern Kentucky
- Nov. 10, 2014 Workshop: Catholic Pastoral Center, Owensboro – 5:30pm to 8pm
- Nov. 11, 2014 Workshop: St Thomas More, Paducah- 5:30pm to 8pm
- Nov. 15, 2014 Workshop: Holy Spirit, Bowling Green- 10am to 2pm
- Nov. 24 – 28 Ecumenical prayer gatherings of Thanksgiving: celebrated locally
- Dec. 15, 2014 Ecumenical Commission Meeting: Christ the King, Madisonville- 11am to 2pm
- Dec. 21 – 25 Ecumenical prayer gathering for Christmas: celebrated locally
- Jan. 18 – 25, 2015 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: celebrated locally
- Mar. 16, 2015 Ecumenical Commission Meeting: Christ the King, Madisonville- 11am to 2pm
- Apr. 5, 2015 Ecumenical prayer gatherings for Easter: celebrated locally

The Pope In Your Pocket: New 2.0 App Launched

Tuesday, 08 July 2014. Vatican City (Vatican Radio) - Pope Francis has expressed his appreciation for the work being done by all the Vatican's media services in enhancing their presence and participation in the digital world. The Pope's words came on Monday as he was given a personal viewing of the new updated version of "The Pope App", developed by the Pontifical Council for Social Communications.

In the photo above, Council President Archbishop Claudio Celli, accompanied by project coordinator, Thaddeus Jones, met with the Pope to demonstrate features of the app, which was released in the iTunes and Google Play stores on July 4th. Available in five languages, the Pope App 2.0 is free and can be downloaded on Apple and Android devices. Powered by News.va, it features the latest papal news and information as produced by the Vatican's own media services – including Vatican Radio. Its new design simplifies access to content and, according to Archbishop Celli, allows people to be in ever closer contact with the Pope, his ministry and his message of God's love.

Source: *The Free Pope App found online at <http://www.pccs.va/index.php/en/>*



"People only express themselves fully when they are not merely tolerated, but know that they are truly accepted." Pope Francis, 48th WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY MESSAGE: "Communication at the Service of an Authentic Culture of Encounter," 1 June 2014. Source: <http://www.pccs.va/index.php/en/journees-mondiales-des-communications-sociales-2/2014>

A Successful MD to KY and Beyond Reunion in "Kentucky Holy Land"

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By Pam Pressgrove

The Maryland to Kentucky and Beyond Reunion was held at St Catharine College in Springfield, KY on June 27 - 29th, 2014. There were 465 reunion participants coming from 26 states to share their history and genealogy of the Maryland to Kentucky ancestors. These ancestors were supported by Bishop John Carroll of Baltimore to leave Maryland and migrate to Kentucky in 1785 and later. Certainly religious freedom was a likely concern to many of these pioneers. They settled together in what today are the Kentucky counties of Nelson, Washington and Marion Counties, Even now this central Kentucky area is known far and wide as the Kentucky Holy Land. The theme of the Reunion was "Celebrating Our Heritage of Liberty."

Several speakers came to discuss topics ranging from researching genealogy online, researching in the Washington County Courthouse, to the evolving role of DNA research. Visitors were also treated to discussions by Eddie Price, editor of "Widders Landing" and James Higdon, the author of "The Cornbread Mafia". The communities of several religious sisters in the area were represented with displays in the gymnasium along with many book vendors.

On Sunday, June 29th, Bishop William Medley celebrated Mass at St Rose Proto-Priory and Church in Springfield, Ky. Fr. Kevin McGrath, OP, Pastor of St Rose and Fr. Harry Hagan, OSB concelebrated with him. The Mid-Kentucky Chorus provided the musicians and beautiful music. Archbishop Lori of Baltimore, MD sent a letter with warm regards to our friends in Christ reminding us of our privileged time of prayer and vigilance for the precious gift of religious liberty. He wished each of us God's abundant blessings.

The Mid Kentucky Chorus then provided a beautiful concert for the MD to KY Reunion visitors at the St Catharine Motherhouse. With the success of this year's Maryland to Kentucky and Beyond Reunion, the committee of 27 dedicated members hope that another state will take up the task of hosting another event in 2016. The MD to KY and Beyond, Inc. website: <https://google.com/sitelmdtoky3>.

Submitted by Pamela Pressgrove, President, MD to KY And Beyond, Inc. P.O. Box 1417 Shepherdsville, KY 40185



The procession at Mass took place on June 29 at St. Rose Catholic Church in Springfield, with Bishop William Medley, Father Harry Hagan, OSB and Father Kevin McGrath, OP, along with the Knights of Columbus.



Ursuline Sister George Mary Hagan reads the petitions during Mass on June 29.



Ursuline Sister George Mary Hagan, a member of the planning committee, asks the Brown Brothers Band to play the "Tennessee Waltz" during the picnic June 27 at St. Catharine College.

The MD to KY and Beyond Reunion sought to unite descendants of the pioneers who came from Maryland and settled in the central Kentucky area that became known as the "Kentucky Holy Land." Among those involved in the planning of the event were Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph George Mary Hagan and Ursuline Associates Ed Cecil of Owensboro and Marilyn Beam of Louisville.

On this page are some photos from the weekend, courtesy of Bud Smith Photography.



Genealogy sharing and exhibits for the MD to KY and Beyond Reunion were set up in the St. Catharine College gym in Springfield, Ky. on June 27 - 29th, 2014

Dear Cursillistas,

Prayers are being said every day for all the 4th day that we may live and work in the joy and peace of Jesus Christ. May we continue in this apostolate called Cursillo. For some, it has been a long time since our Cursillo weekend, for me-1990, and for the 5 men who made their weekend in March and the 9 women who made their weekend in June, I hope the joy, peace, and love of God is still with you.

We are preparing for the weekends for next year. We need men and women who can commit to all formation meetings and to being there for the entire weekend of service to the Lord. The time put in is important for the success of the weekends for the candidates and the rewards of joy, love, and peace for the team. The team prepares for the weekend by attending school of leader's meetings, Ultreyas, and formation meetings. This is a serious commitment of time and prayer. We are called by God to give our best service to Him. Please prayerfully consider accepting the call of God and saying yes to being on a team and working the next weekends. A big Thank You goes out to all the men and women who made up the teams for the past years and this years Cursillo weekends. DE COLORES

To receive an application for a weekend, or for more information, please, contact: Your sister-in-Christ, Mary Hagan, Lay Director P. O. Box 222 Owensboro, KY 42302 270-240-4778 Leomaryel789@yahoo.com

Dear Cursillistas of the Diocese of Owensboro,

It has been some time since I have written to you and so now is my chance! I'm hoping you had a great peaceful and fun summer.

Let us ask our good and gracious God to challenge us to look and see and feel and inspire us to trust, to reflect, and to believe in God's goodness. In our soul searching, let us open our hearts and minds to all that might be revealed to us. Permit us to focus on piety (prayer), on study and action to those we meet at home, in our work place, and at our church gatherings.

During this year we completed both men and women cursillos. The Holy Spirit guided us, inspired us, and gave us the strength and courage to focus on the best we could give of ourselves to bring the candidates to a closer union with Jesus Christ. We concentrated on talks and meditations and much prayer to make the weekend happen. We had to be realistic, take responsibility, be open to God's call, pray sincerely, know how to relax and see it as a supreme Joy. We developed our friendships with one another and nourished a deeper love relationship with God. God showed us what is possible and filled us with grace and wisdom to carry out the Call to service to others.

To all the 4th Day cursillistas, let us acknowledge God's presence in our daily life. With God's help, we can become the persons God would have us to be. By following God's will we can become a living example of love in the world. We can live our faith in ways that are dynamic and fulfilling and experience the joy God has imagined for us. We are called to be men and women of the Gospel identifying with Christ in the many passages of our life.

DeColores, Sister Elaine Burke OSU, Diocesan Spiritual Advisor



Row 1 (right to left) Mary Hagan, Karla Warner, Deana Holdman, Teresa Krampe, Cecelia Hamilton, Mary Lee; Row 2 (right to left) Alisha Wheatley, Teresa Westerfield, Sr. Elaine Burke, Rose McClurg, Martha Wheatley, Sherri Cecil, Julie Crawford; Row 3 (right to left) Susie Westerfield, Mary Grace Woodward, Rachael Gily, Tina Wheatley, Dot Cherry; Row 4 (right to left) Fr. Terry Devine, Jane Irwin, Felicia Elliott, Muriel Gillim, Mary Moehlman, Jo Etta Mayfield, Kathy Weinzapfel. Submitted Photo

The Cursillo Movement Of The Catholic Church



What joy fills my heart knowing that Jesus loves me!!!

"The aim of Cursillo is to present the truth of Christ in a concise and succinct way, emphasizing the most important thing: the Resurrection of Christ

and the fact that He loves each of us in particular and personally, and that He is present when two or more are gathered together in His name." (*My Spiritual Testament* by Eduardo Bonnin Aquilo)

A Catholic Diocese can begin a Cursillo Movement when it has a core group of Cursillo leaders who have chosen to serve within the Movement, as their apostolic vocation. Our Catholic Cursillo has been approved by the Bishops of our Diocese since its beginning in 1968. It was approved by Emeritus Bishop John McRaith and Bishop William Medley.

A Cursillo weekend begins with 3-6 formation meetings to prepare our teams of Catholic men and Catholic women. Each

Catholic candidate must have a Sponsor who commits and walks with them their first year in the Movement. The weekend is a short course in Christianity, and it is held from Thursday evening to Sunday evening. It consists of talks, meditations, Mass, Sacrament of Reconciliation, Palanca (prayers for each candidate and the group), and the joyful proclamation of being Christian. The weekend helps the candidates to obtain or continue a conversion which enables them to join their lives more fully to Christ and to constantly move toward sanctity in communion with their brothers and sisters. Each weekend is an encounter with self (1 St day), and encounter with Christ (2nd day), and an encounter with others (3rd day).

"Power ideas" are used, "Without Christ, we can do nothing"; "We are children of the Father, brothers and sisters of Christ and temples of the Holy Spirit". Prayer is the supernatural means of success during the Cursillo. Our Christian community prays earnestly before, during and after the Cursillo. The candidates are motivated to pray using the Pilgrim's Guide, rosaries, and chapel visits for "heart" prayers. Cursillistas

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The Cursillo Movement Of The Catholic Church

(Continued from page 40)

draw their inspiration to pray from Jesus.



He prayed and gave us the Our Father prayer and promised that God would hear our prayers.

A Movement is as good as its leaders. Our School of Leaders prepares us to be

leaders of Christianity. Our leaders prepare themselves to put on a Weekend of 3 days so we can live out our 4th day (the rest of our lives). We have group reunions and attend monthly meetings called Ultreyas.

Group reunions are practiced on Sunday to help the groups create an atmosphere in which the candidates can speak openly and share their experiences with each other. The basic objectives are: 1. To encourage openness and friendship 2. To get each person's point of view.

The purpose of the group reunions is to make possible for each one the normal, lasting and joyful living of our lives as Christians. It is never too late to begin group reunions. The groups function as natural units of friendship so that each one can live in joy and pray with their Christian brothers and sisters. In piety we share what has helped sustain our joyful aids for personal growth in our life. In study, we show we are able to grow in our love for ourselves, Christ and each other. In action, we fulfill Christ's mission through us to others.

Cursillo Meetings

- **Owensboro Leader's School**

The FIRST Monday of each Month at 7 p.m.-Blessed Mother Parish Hall at 601 East 23'd Street, Owensboro, KY 42303.

- **Owensboro Ultreyas**

The FOURTH Monday of each Month at 7 p.m.-Blessed Mother Parish Hall at 601 East 23'd Street, Owensboro, KY 42303.

- **Hopkinsville Leader's School and Ultreya**

The THIRD Sunday of each Month at 3 p.m.--Sts. Peter and Paul Parish Hall at 902 East 9th Street, Hopkinsville, KY 42240.

- **Region IV Fall Encounter**

Will be held at Mount St. Joseph Center on October 3-5, 2014. Cost will be \$120 per person. Commuters cost will be \$50.

Our action is shared on a larger scale when groups come together at Ultreyas. There one must live, experience and share the same atmosphere as in the Cursillo weekend. The Ultreya oversees the good of the community. One shares with others what they have lived during the month and picks a prayer partner to share Christ's love. Ultreyas are gifts given to us by the Holy Spirit to maintain and share the joy of Christ's love. It warms the heart, rekindles hope and attracts people toward the Christ, who is the way, the truth, and the life.

To receive and application for a Cursillo weekend or for more information, contact: Mary Hagan, Lay Director P.O. Box 222 Owensboro, Ky 42302 Phone: 270-240-4778 Leomarye1789@yahoo.com

To contact leaders of Cursillo: Mary Hagan, Lay Director 270-240-4778 Leomarye1789@yahoo.com

Brescia Prayer Service

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Each year before classes begin in the fall semester, the faculty and staff of Brescia University are invited to take part in a prayer ritual led by the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, who founded Brescia in 1950. This year, the service took place in the Brescia Chapel on Aug. 13, with Ursuline Sisters who are current or former faculty and staff members leading the way. Here are some photos from the day.



Sister Rose Marita O'Bryan, right, leads the prayer service. She is coordinator of Mission Effectiveness for the Ursuline Sisters and director of the Contemporary Woman Program at Brescia.

Sister Ruth Gehres, left, looks at a picture on the phone of Eva Atkinson, counseling director at Brescia. Sister



Ruth was president of Brescia from 1985-95, and an English professor there for 17 years. She returned to Maple Mount in December, 2013 after serving six years in Chile.



Sister Rebecca White prepares to carry in a candle symbolizing the enrollment of 2014-15. Sister Rebecca was director of the Contemporary Woman Program at Brescia from 1995-2001. She now ministers in archives at the Motherhouse.



Representatives of Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline held a three-day workshop July 23-25 at *Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center*. The company is headquartered in Owensboro. Pictured, left to right: David Finley, Bob Bahnick, Rob Carlton, Philip Rullman, Susie Harris and Jerry Morris.



The Kentucky Environmental Education Council held its quarterly meeting at the *Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center* on July 28-29. KEEC is a state agency with a mission to help Kentuckians develop the skills necessary to solve current environmental problems, prevent new ones and maintain a balance between the economy and the environment for future generations. Ursuline Sister Amelia Stenger is a member of the Council. Eleven members of the Council or staff gathered in Conference Room B of the Retreat Center on the afternoon of July 28. Council members come from various backgrounds, including business, industry, government, education and environmental protection. MSJ Photos

An Open Letter

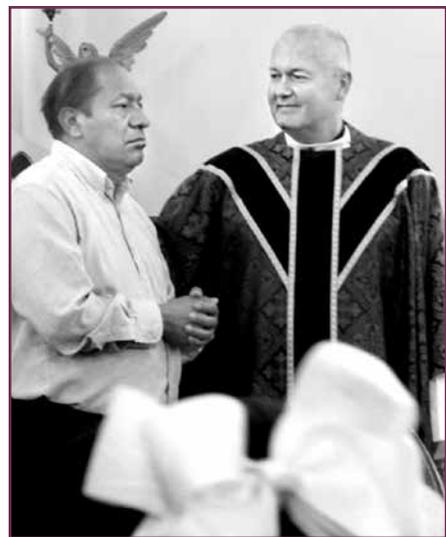
To all the different parishes of the Diocese of Owensboro, where the Latin-American community is present, I dedicate this letter.

By Luis Aju.

Respectful greetings to all, hoping this letter finds you well and enjoying the blessings we receive daily from God.

I believe that as important events occur within this ministry here in our Diocese, you as an important part of the community need to be informed. Therefore I am writing this letter to inform you that: I Luis Aju, the current Diocesan Director of Hispanic Ministry, will be retiring from office and ministry in a short time.

I will deeply appreciate your support and your continuing care to carry on the programs we have designed and established during all these years, in which I had the opportunity to serve the Hispanic com-



Rev. Andrew Garner welcomes Mr. Luis Aju, the Diocesan Director of Hispanic Ministry during Sunday mass at St. Joseph, in Bowling Green, KY. Fr. Andrew took the opportunity to say thank you for everything Luis did during his time as as diocesan director. He mentioned and remembered moments of mutual help and friendship with Mr. Luis Aju. Fr. Andrew was also thanked for his care and dedication to learn Spanish, to better the communication among all. It was like a family visit.



Luis Aju, Diocesan Director of Hispanic Ministry, directs himself to the whole community of the Parish of St. Joseph, in Bowling Green, to let them know of his upcoming retirement. Many in the community, expressed their appreciation for the provided support and understanding in the road of life.

munity in the Diocese. I am very thankful to our Father because in several parishes what was done was well accepted. I urge you to move on, this mission is not just a job but it is a calling that God gives us to serve Him through serving our brothers who need a word of hope, in the mist of our difficulties in life.

I deeply appreciate the support, of the men and women of these communities, and the youth who allowed us serve them during all these years. Also to the pastors who welcomed me as Diocesan Director in the Hispanic communities, to them goes out my immense feelings of gratitude.

Along with the duty of leadership to the whole Hispanic Ministry, God gave me the opportunity to also serve as a: Photographer, and writer to the WKC's Spanish column under the title "En Nombre de Dios" (In God's Name). All these functions were carried out with care and dedication, for both God and you. Thank you for your care and hospitality. I urge you to please also do so with each person in your community or parish.

To the leaders, follow the footsteps of Jesus, the only true Teach-



All parishioners of the Parish of St. Joseph in Bowling Green, attentive to the presentation of Luis Aju, as he informs of his retirement as Director of Hispanic Ministry. The unconditional participation of all in the different training programs under the direction of the Hispanic Ministry, which has been a success was mentioned as well. Luis said to be happy because he saw the success in the training process, which took place in the diocese. Photo by Luis Aju

er, who leads us to find the way to our Father in Heaven. He taught us to be humble, charitable, servers and to be brothers and sisters to him. God bless you all.

The Pastor of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bowling Green, Fr. Andrew, presented baby Armando Alejandro Ortiz, Son of Mr. Diego Armando Ortiz and Mrs. Eber Luis to the community who welcomed him with a loud applause as a new member of the community. We hope he receives the blessings of the baptismal waters, Diego Armando. Photos submitted by Luis F. Aju.





Bishop William Medley and Father Anthoni review and oversee the many games and activities during the 60th Anniversary Picnic.



The Knights of Columbus #10988 Honor Guard provide support to the Mass celebrated by Bishop Medley and Father Anthoni (seated: Lonnie Carey, FRONT ROW: James Poat, Bishop William Medley, Father Anthoni, Joe Cirrito; STANDING BACK ROW: Derwood Doyle, Kurt Schmidt, Russell Tomlinson, Danny Shea, RJ Witowski)



In the photo above left, some Parish members enjoy BINGO.

In the photo at left, Bishop William Medley greets parishioners after 10:00 AM Mass. Knights of Columbus serve and assist members as they leave church.

Photos submitted by RJ Witowski.

To Report Allegations of Sexual Abuse

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

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

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

The safety of our children is the responsibility of every Christian.

Anyone aware of the abuse of a person under the age of eighteen is required by law to report this to the proper state authorities: local law enforcement or the Kentucky Child Abuse Hotline (toll-free: 1-877-KYSAFE1; 1-877-597-2331).

To report to the diocese abuse by church personnel (paid or volunteer) either past or present, please call the Pastoral Assistance Coordinator at this confidential phone line: 270-852-8380.

The Diocese of Owensboro has just revised its sexual abuse policy, and it is available at this parish and also on the diocesan web site (www.rcdok.org/safe).

St. Gerard Life Home in Owensboro, KY – provides free shelter and services for pregnant women age 18 and older in a crisis pregnancy. A woman may come to us at any point in her pregnancy and may stay for up to 3 months after the birth of her child. There are no limitations on race, nationality or religion. Let us help. Call: 270-852-8328 or Email: stgerard@pastoral.org. A ministry of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Owensboro, Kentucky.

Notice:

On June 4, 2014, Louis Piskula plead guilty of one-count of first degree sexual abuse of a minor under the age of 12 and on August 6, 2014 he was sentenced to five years in prison.

Piskula was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Owensboro in 1975 but has not been in public ministry since 2002.

Reportar las Acusaciones de Abuso Sexual

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

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

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

Mayfield, KY- La asistencia de la santa misa en español de la Parroquia de San José se ha más que cuadruplicado en los últimos años. Cabría preguntarse cuál ha sido la causa. En noviembre del 2011 un retiro para los hombres, Cristo renueva su Parroquia (CRSP), fue ofrecido por primera vez aquí en San José. En un primer momento, todos los feligreses se mostraron escépticos con respecto a los resultados, pero no todos sabíamos que este sería el catalizador para lo que iba a venir. Tuvimos treinta y dos hombres que asistieron a este retiro, encabezados por las Madres Eloisa Torralba y María Luisa Morales de San José y la Madre Esther Ordóñez de nuestra vecina parroquia de Santo Tomás Moro en Paducah, Kentucky. Un equipo de personas que provenían de San Patricio Iglesia en Atlanta, GA., vinieron para ofrecer el retiro. Unos meses después, un retiro para mujeres fue ofrecido, también dirigida por un grupo de mujeres de la misma parroquia en Atlanta, GA.

Tuvimos cuarenta y nueve mujeres participantes. Después de los retiros, tanto los hombres y las mujeres participantes asumieron el compromiso de reunirse semanalmente y crecer espiritualmente para formar un equipo principal que más tarde presento otro retiro aquí en Mayfield. Desde entonces, los hombres han ofrecido tres retiros así como a las mujeres y, muy recientemente, el Padre Eric Riley, nuestro pastor que es bilingüe, pidió que se ofreciera CRSP en inglés a las mujeres. Un grupo de cinco mujeres asistió al padre para formar un grupo de servidoras y durante seis semanas se prepararon para poder ofrecer el primer retiro para mujeres en inglés. Sin duda alguna nuestra parroquia ha sido bendecida con la presencia del Espíritu Santo. Hemos crecido como comunidad parroquial y nuestra fe nos ha guiado a llevar una vida espiritual mas plena. La comunidad hispana aquí en San José no se ha tomado a la ligera el año de la

evangelización y por lo tanto ahora se va a buscar a hermanos y hermanas que se han alejado de la iglesia para invitarles a venir a buscar el Evangelio. Ahora ambas comunidades se juntan una vez al mes y asisten a la Hora Santa y después hacen una quermes en donde comparten su apoyo los hermanos y hermanas de CRSP. Hemos sido muy bendecidos con

las invitaciones de otras parroquias para llevar CRSP. Ya tenemos un retiro programado aquí en San José que se ofrecerá en Inglés a los hombres de nuestra parroquia y oramos para que suigamos siendo llamados a extender este llamado a todos nuestros hermanos y hermanas dentro de la diócesis. Submitted by Carmen Madera.

Saint Joseph Parish Mass Attendance In Spanish Has More Than Quadrupled In The Last Couple Of Years

Mayfield, KY- Saint Joseph Parish Mass attendance in Spanish has more than quadrupled in the last couple of years. You might ask what the cause has been? In November of 2011 a retreat for men, Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP), was offered for the first time here at St. Joseph. At first, the parishioners were all skeptical of the outcome but little did we all know that this would be the catalyst for what was to come. We had thirty-two men attend this retreat that was offered in Spanish to the men, headed by Madre Eloisa Torralba and Madre Maria Luisa Morales from St. Joseph and Madre Esther Ordóñez from our neighboring parish of St. Thomas More in Paducah, KY. A lead team of men came from Saint Patrick Church in Atlanta, GA., to offer the retreat. A few months after, a women's retreat was offered, also headed by a group of women from the same parish in Atlanta, GA. We had forty-nine women participants. After the retreat, both the men and women participants made the commitment to meet weekly and grow spiritually to form a leadership team that would later present another retreat here in Mayfield. Since then, the men have offered three retreats as well as the women and just recently, Father Eric Riley, our pastor who is bi-lingual, requested that CRHP be offered in English to the women. Five team members from the women's Spanish CRHP assisted to form a new team which then offered the first retreat in English. A team of twelve men from the English and Spanish speaking members of our parish are offering our first men's retreat this month. The second women's retreat in English will follow in September. We, at Saint Joseph, have come together not as the English or Spanish speaking parishioners but as one body of CRHP. Without any doubt our parish has been blessed with the presence of the Holy Spirit. We have grown as a parish community and our faith has guided us to lead a more spiritual life. The Hispanic community here at St. Joseph has not taken lightly the year of Evangelization and therefore now goes out to seek the brothers and sisters that have been away from the Church to invite them back to come and seek the Gospel. Together, both communities now have a bilingual Holy Hour once every month and a bilingual evening prayer every week. This has been a great opportunity to come together and show our support through CRHP. We have been very blessed with invitations from other parishes to bring CRHP to them. We pray that we continue to be called to extend this calling to all our brothers and sisters within the diocese to share in the great love and mercy of Christ as He renews us in mind, body, spirit and soul. Submitted by Carmen Madera



Sister Esther Ordoñez with Luis Aju at the ambo of St. Thomas More Church, Paducah, Aug 10 weekend Liturgy. Luis informed the parish community that he was retiring from the Office of Hispanic Ministry. Submitted Photo

A visit and farewell to the Hispanic Community in the parish of St. Thomas More, Paducah.

PADUCAH, Ky. - On August 10, 2014, Luis Aju, said farewell to the Hispanic community in the parish of St. Thomas More in Paducah. Thanking them for their support and the mission of Sister Esther, a sister from the community of the Sacred Heart of Jesus of Mexico, doing mission in the Paducah area.

The community members like sister Esther expressed their gratitude to Mr. Luis Aju for his unconditional support to the community, not only in Paducah, but also to all the other parishes of the Diocese of Owensboro. As a gesture he was presented with a beautiful bouquet of flowers, full of love and appreciation for the support and attention to the whole community.

My words are, thank you for this gift so great, I know that it has come from the heart of the community members. Also as Director of the Hispanic Ministry, he expressed his thanks to the two priests, Father Thomas and Father Brandon who have been serving the Hispanic community in the area as well as for their efforts and dedication in learning Spanish, in order to have good communication with their parishioners. May God bless each family in the parish of St. Thomas More of Paducah. - Luis Aju

En Nombre de Dios Niños y niñas, de América Latina en la frontera de México y Estados Unidos.

Para cualquier grupo humano, con una cultura bien definida, tiene en su conciencia, que la base de la sociedad es la familia. Por lo tanto, cualquier situación en contra de este principio, está violando la dignidad de sus miembros como personas. Papá, mamá, abuelitas y abuelitos hermanas y hermanos, tíos, y tías, toda una comunidad de personas, forman una sola familia, todos con una dignidad profunda que no se les puede violar o alienar.

En el caso de los niños, niñas y adultos en la frontera, lo que buscan es restaurar la Unidad Familiar, que les fue arrebatada por ser diferentes, en su lengua, color y posición social, y un estatus migratorio.

La existencia de Leyes migratorias, es para proteger el valor intrínseco de cada persona, que todos sabemos, que son inviolables. Sin embargo en la realidad de estos tiempos, no existe el respeto a la familia. No alcanzaría este periódico para mencionar las formas de violación a las personas humanas que suceden hoy día.

¿Porque vienen a los Estados Unidos y se proponen pasar horribles dificultades en el camino?, un reto grande que afrontan en su jornada, es porque buscan el abrazo lleno de amor y ternura de papá y mamá, aunque en este triste caminar, lleno de lágrimas, como siempre, la esperanza es encontrar el cariño y el calor de papá y mamá y los hermanitos (as).

Es lamentable que en nuestros países de América latina, sobre sale, la corrupción, esto causa el desempleo de buenas personas que quieren trabajar. Tiene que dejar su país, su comunidad para ir a otro país. Hoy en día, nos preguntaremos que podemos hacer con estas situaciones, los niños con hambre y sed de su libertad para encontrarse con sus padres y vivir en paz, como una familia fundada por Dios.

Muchos se preguntaran, ¿porque no se quedan en su casa y en su país de origen y vivir como los demás? Como he mencionado, el ser humano, especialmente los jóvenes, sueñan con un futuro diferente, no forzosamente tiene que ser en USA. Existen hispanos en otros países no Latino Americanos alrededor del Mundo.

Lo que busca el hispano, es una oportunidad para trabajar, nadie está buscando regalos. Solo pide, integración de su familia, en el caso concreto que los padres fueron deportados y se desintegro la familia. Muchas Diócesis y parroquias en Estados Unidos, se han pronunciado en pedir por el respeto a la vida, esperamos en Dios que la comprensión, llegue a nuestros hogares en estos tiempos difíciles. Que Dios os ampare en nuestro caminar diario.



Quien mamá, no ama a sus hijos, por eso quien vive la ausencia de una hija o un hijo, lo buscará hasta encontrarlo, no importa los riesgos que implica su búsqueda, porque sabe que un hijo es producto de un amor grande de Dios y de los padres. Por eso Jesus, llama a los niños diciendo, "Dejad que los niños vengan a mi" Nadie puede separar un hijo o una hija de su mamá y su papá, al hacerlo sería en verdad un crimen en contra la humanidad y contra Dios. Por eso no existe justificación alguna que los niños sufren las imprudencias de los grandes.



Luis Aju



La Fe como ilustra la fotografia, viene de los Padres, tios, abuelos, (as) hermanos, por eso queda de generacion en generacion, aprendido por largos años. A traves de nuestros antepasados. Por eso el arraigo en la familia es muy profundo. Esta fotografia muestra la reflexión que nos dio el P. Pedro, en la Parroquia de Cristo Rey en Madisonville. con la comunidad Hispana, Retiro Diocesano. F. Luis Aju

It is unfortunate that in our countries of Latin America, corruption is at a high, which leads to unemployment for good people who want to work. Therefore they are forced to leave their country and community to go to another country.

Today, we ask what can we do about these situations: children with hunger and thirst for freedom to find their parents and live in peace, as a family founded by God.

Many might wonder, why do they not stay in their home and in their country and live like everyone else? Like I mentioned already the young men and women dream of a different and better future not necessarily in the US. There are many Hispanics living in different countries that are not Latin American countries all around the world.

What Hispanics look for is an opportunity to work, no one is looking for gifts. Hispanics just ask for the integration of their family, in the case that parents were deported and the family disintegrated. Many dioceses and parishes in the United States have spoken asking for respect to life, we hope in God for understanding to find its way into our homes during these difficult times. God help you in our daily walk.

What mother does not love her children? This is why one who lives with the absence of a daughter or a son, will seek for them until they are found, no matter the risks involved in the search, knowing that a child is the product of a great love of God and parents. This is why Jesus calls the children saying, "Let the children come to me," No one can separate a son or daughter from his or her mother and father. To separate children from parents something serious it is a crime against humanity and God. So there is no justification that children suffer the follies of adults.



In God's Name

Children of Latin America on the border of Mexico and the United States.

By Luis Aju

For any group with a distinct culture holds in their conscience, that the basis of society is the family. Therefore, any situation against this principle is violating the dignity of its members as individuals. Dad, mom, grandparents, sisters and brothers, uncles and aunts, a whole community of people, form one family, all with a profound dignity that cannot be violated or alienated.

In the case of the children and adults at the border, what these individuals are looking to restore is the family unit, which was taken from them for being different, in their language, color and social and immigration status.

The existence of immigration laws is to protect the intrinsic value of each person. We all know, they are laws that are not to be violated. But in reality, there is no respect for the family. This newspaper is not sufficient to mention all the forms of violations to human persons that happen in today's world.

Why come to the United States and intend to spend horrible difficulties on the way? Such a big challenges they face in their journeys. It is because they seek to embrace mom and dad full of love and tenderness. In this sad walk, full of tears, as always, the hope is to find the love and the warmth of Mom and Dad and siblings.



El Padre Alejandro López-Cardinale, coordinador de Programas hispanos de Renew Internacional, habla en un 10 de junio del 2014 en la sesión de entrenamiento de Levántate Unámonos en Cristo en la iglesia de San José en Mayfield. Misión Parroquial, como parte de Levántate. Unámonos en Cristo. La actividad en esta foto fue antes de la última temporada de Levántate en la Diócesis; muchas parroquias estaban celebrando cómo LEVANTATE ha impactado a la comunidad hispana. Foto por Luis Aju.

Esta actividad que se llevó a cabo, fue uno de los temas claves del proceso. Las presentaciones anteriores fueron más acercarnos al conocimiento de los temas que contempla LEVÁNTATE. Unámonos en Cristo. En este evento, se nos dio las pautas a seguir para llevar la Buena Nueva a nuestras comunidades. Como su nombre lo dice LEVÁNTATE. Unámonos en Cristo, y no nos quedemos dormidos, sino hacer la buena Nueva.



Una acción de amor. En servicio al prójimo. Seguir las huellas del Maestro, uno de los temas más profundos tratados. Eso nos impulsó a recibir esta actividad en verdaderos agentes, que Jesús nos pide ahora y que la iglesia a la que pertenecemos nos exige hacer. Acciones, no palabras, basta con los sermones bonitos que van separadas del mensaje original de Jesús, muchas personas, nos quedamos callados, y no levantar nuestra voz, para dejar así el Estatus Dúos de la tradición. Pero ahora en las pequeñas comunidades de base de la Iglesia, discutiremos las formas muy tradicionales de llevar el mensaje de Jesús. Es tiempo de hacer algunos cambios, que permita a todas las personas, sentirse parte de, y no solo verlos bajo un medio de asistencia y que produce más dinero para el mercadeo. Jesús echo afuera del templo los que hacían negocio en el Templo. Lea su biblia y lo encontrará.

Gracias a la Diócesis de Owensboro, por traer este programa con personas idóneas para dirigirlo. A todos los involucrados en el desarrollo de este programa les decimos gracias por venir y hacer esto como un gran evento en su comunidad. A cada uno de los participantes, que su presencia ha sido un gran apoyo para la parroquia local. **Escribió: Luis Aju.**

Visita y despedida a la Comunidad Hispana, en la parroquia de Santo Thomas More

PADUCAH, Ky. - El día 10 de Agosto 2014, Luis Aju, se despidió de la comunidad hispana, en la parroquia de Sto. Thomas More en Paducah, agradeciendo el apoyo y misión de la Hermana Esther, de la comunidad del Sagrado Corazón de Jesus, ADGENTES, haciendo misión en el área de Paducah.

Tanto la Hna. Esther, como los miembros de la comunidad ha mostrado su Gratitude al Sr. Luis Aju por su apoyo incondicional a la comunidad, no solo en Paducah, sino en las otras parroquias de la Diócesis de Owensboro. Como gesto le han presentado un Hermoso ramo de Flores, lleno de amor y aprecio por el acompañamiento y atención a la comunidad entera.

Mis Palabras son, Mil gracias por este regalo, tan grande, sé que ha venido del corazón de los miembros de la comunidad. También como director del MH. Expreso su agradecimiento a los dos sacerdotes, P. Brandon y al P. Thomas que sirven a la comunidad Hispana en el área, También se les agradeció por el esfuerzo y esmero en aprender el español, a efecto de tener una buena comunicación con los feligreses de la parroquia. Que Dios bendiga a cada familia de la Parroquia de St. Thomas More de Paducah. - Written by Luis Aju



Flowers and Goodbye to Luis Aju

These flowers were given in gratitude for the Hispanic Ministry Office presence in the community of St. Thomas More, Paducah. A remarkable way to say thank you. These flowers express the appreciation of the Community at St. Thomas More. Submitted photo

El Obispo Medley se unirá a otros veinte obispos para "La Peregrinación de Oración de los Obispos por la paz en Tierra Santa" de USCCB



Mons. William F. Medley, Obispo de Owensboro

Queridos hermanos y hermanas,

La Conferencia Estadounidense de Obispos Católicos está patrocinando una "Peregrinación de Oración de los Obispos por la Paz en Tierra Santa" del 10-19 de Septiembre 2014 y he aceptado una invitación para unirme

con otros veinte obispos y personal de la Conferencia en esta oportunidad. Esta peregrinación ha estado en planificación más de un año. Cuando el Papa Francisco visitó la Tierra Santa en Mayo de este año y luego reunió a ambos líderes Musulmanes y Judíos para discutir una paz duradera nuestra peregrinación planeada pareció ser un paso positivo. Pero la violencia de las últimas semanas parece haber desvanecido estas esperanzas. Miles de personas han muerto en el territorio palestino de Gaza y cientos más en Israel durante estas últimas semanas. Tan vulnerable es la vida de la gente de Tierra Santa.

Al escribir estas líneas la planificación para la peregrinación todavía está en proceso. El itinerario original puede también ser ajustado, ya que nos propusimos visitar algunas zonas que han sido

especialmente afectadas por la reanudación de la guerra en el último par de meses.

Algunos piensan que nuestra peregrinación debe ser cancelada o pospuesta y, obviamente, los acontecimientos pueden afectar esto día a día. Esta Peregrinación de Oración por la Paz es quizá justa a su tiempo que mas nunca a raíz de los recientes acontecimientos. El mensaje de los peregrinos es simple: la oración por la paz es importante y puede ser efectiva incluso cuando las soluciones políticas parecen más remotas que nunca. Cada día vamos a orar en un lugar significativo, para que la paz pueda llegar a esta Sagrada y Santa Tierra. En diferentes tiempos vamos a estar unidos por líderes judíos y musulmanes juntos y por separado. A lo largo de la visita vamos a visitar los lugares santos, y hablar con los grupos de la sociedad civil Israelita y Palestina. Veremos proyectos de Catholic Relief Service, y estaremos en diálogo con funcionarios públicos.

Obispo Richard Pates, presidente del Comité de Obispos para la Justicia y Paz Internacional, señala: "La característica principal de esta peregrinación, en el espíritu del Papa Francisco, es dar , testimonio colectivo de nuestro compromiso con la paz en la Tierra Santa a

través de oración sustancial. Estamos motivados por dos convicciones: el poder de la oración y la creencia de que la paz es posible".

He tenido el privilegio de visitar Tierra Santa antes. Las visitas anteriores eran encuentros espirituales, ya que visitamos muchos de los lugares sagrados asociados con la vida de Jesús y la experiencia de la Iglesia primitiva. Pero nuestra interacción con los pueblos locales se limitaba en gran medida a las personas de la industria turística. Mi esperanza y oración es que las oportunidades para orar con los Musulmanes y los Judíos tranquilizará a la gente de la Tierra Santa

de que no están solos en sus luchas por la paz y la tranquilidad.

Es una experiencia extraordinaria para caminar en los pasos de Jesús. Les pido sus oraciones por todos los peregrinos con los que voy a viajar para que pudramos representar el mensaje del Príncipe de la Paz.

Que Dios los bendiga a todos.

+ William F. Medley

+ Mons. William F. Medley,
Obispo de Owensboro

Calendario del Obispo Medley para Septiembre 2014:

Septiembre 2	9:00 a.m.	Misa y reunión del Personal, Centro Pastoral
Septiembre 6	5:00 p.m.	Misa/Instalación de nuevo Pastor, Pr. Carmelo Jiménez, St. Michael, Sebree
Septiembre 7	9:30 a.m.	Misa/Instalación de Nuevo Administrador Parroquial, Pr. Joosa Marydasan, St. Mary, LaCenter, Rosary Chapel at Rosary Chapel, Paducah
Septiembre 9	8:00 a.m.	Misa estudiantil, St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville
Septiembre 10-19		Peregrinaje de Oración del Obispo, Tierra Santa
Septiembre 20	9:00 a.m.	Reunión Pastoral Diocesana, Campamento Gasper River
	4:30 p.m.	Confirmación, Holy Spirit, Bowling Green
Septiembre 21	2:00 p.m.	Celebración Diocesana Matrimonial, St. Stephen Cathedral
Septiembre 22-25		Conferencia de Misión Obispa de Catholic Extension, Chicago, IL
Septiembre 26	5:00 p.m.	VOCARE, Centro de Convenciones Owensboro
Septiembre 27	10:00 a.m.	Dedicación de Nueva Iglesia, St. Michael the Archangel, Oak Grove
	4:00 p.m.	Misa, Día Familiar, Campamento de Gasper River
Septiembre 28	2:00 p.m.	Misa, Premios Sophia, St. Stephen Cathedral
Septiembre 30	11:00 a.m.	Misa del Espíritu Santo, Misa de Bienvenida Brescia University

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**DOMINGO
CATEQUÉTICO
2014**

Enseñando sobre
el regalo del perdón de Dios



El domingo catequético el 21 de septiembre de 2014

Este año, la Iglesia celebrará el Domingo Catequético el 21 de septiembre de 2014, y se centrará en el tema "Enseñando sobre el regalo del perdón de Dios". Aquellos a quienes la comunidad ha designado para servir como catequistas serán llamados a recibir la comisión de su ministerio. El Domingo Catequético es una maravillosa oportunidad para reflexionar sobre el papel que tiene cada persona, en virtud del Bautismo, en transmitir la fe y dar testimonio del Evangelio. El Domingo Catequético es una oportunidad para que todos vuelvan a dedicarse a esta misión como comunidad de fe.

Carta Abierta

Por Luis Aju

A las diferentes parroquias, de la Diócesis de Owensboro, en donde está presente la Comunidad, Latinoamericana les dedico esta carta.

Va para todos mi saludo respetuoso, esperando que se encuentren bien, disfrutando de las bendiciones de Dios, que recibimos a diario.

Yo pienso que, acontecimientos relevantes que ocurren dentro de este Ministerio aquí en nuestra Diócesis, ustedes como parte importante de la comunidad deben saber, por lo consiguiente les escribo esta carta, para hacer de su conocimiento que: Yo Luis Aju, Director del Ministerio Hispano Diocesano, todavía en funciones, que dentro de muy poco tiempo dejaré la oficina de este Ministerio.

Por lo que agradezco infinitamente, su apoyo, seguimiento y esmero, en seguir los programas que diseñamos y realizamos en todos estos años, en que tuve la oportunidad de atender a la comunidad hispana en la Diócesis. Gracias a Dios en varias parroquias fue bien aceptado lo que se realizó. Les exhorto a seguir adelante, esta misión, no es simplemente un empleo, sino es un llamado que Dios nos hace para servirlo en los hermanos (as)



Luis Aju, como Director del Ministerio Hispano, se dirige a la Comunidad entera de la Parroquia de San Jose, en Bowling Green, para hacerles saber de su proximo retiro. Muchos de la Comunidad, expresaron su agradecimiento por el apoyo, comprensión y acompañamiento. En el camino de la vida. Dios los bendiga. Luis Aju.

que necesitan una palabra de esperanza, en medio de las dificultades de la vida.

Agradezco profundamente su acompañamiento, a los Señores, Señoras, de las comunidades, a los jóvenes, niños y niñas que pudimos servir en estos años.

También a los párrocos que me recibieron, como Director Diocesano en las comunidades hispanas, mi inmensa gratitud.

A la par de la dirección del Ministerio Hispano, Dios me dio la oportunidad de laborar también como: Fotógrafo, Escritor de Artículos y una Columna en Español, bajo el título de "En nombre de Dios" en español, en el periódico Diocesano. Todas estas funciones las realice con esmero y dedicación, por Dios y ustedes. Gracias por su acogimientos y hospitalidad. Por favor hagan lo con cada una de las personas en su comunidad o parroquia. A los líderes, sigan las huellas de Jesus, el único Maestro, que nos



Hermana Esther Ordoñez con Luis Aju en el ambón de la Iglesia St. Thomas More, Paducah, Aug 10 Liturgia del fin de semana. Luis informó a la comunidad de la parroquia que se retirara de la Oficina del Ministerio Hispano. Foto Enviado



El Rev. Padre Andres Garner, da la bien venida durante la misa Dominical al Sr. Luis Aju, Director del Ministerio Hispano de la Diócesis, delante de todos los miembros de la Parroquia de San Jose, en Bowling, Greene, KY. P. Andres aprovecho para decirle Gracias por todo lo que hizo durante su tiempo, como como director diocesano. Alago los momentos, de mutuo ayuda y amistad con el Sr. Luisaju. Tambien se le agradecio, por su esmero y dedicacion por aprender el espanol, para una mejor comunicacion entre todos. Fue una visita muy familiar.

lleva al camino para encontrar a nuestro Padre del Cielo. Él nos enseñó, ser humildes, caritativos, servidores y ser amigos de El. Dios bendiga a todos. Por: Luis Aju.

