

## 18 U.S. Bishops Bring Message To Holy Land: Prayer Is Powerful; Peace Is Possible



Most Reverend William F. Medley, Bishop of Owensboro

Dear sisters and brothers,

From September 10 – 19 of this year, I joined a delegation from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops on a Prayer Pilgrimage for Peace to the Holy Land. The delegation included 18 bishops and 5 staff members from the bishops' conference. The threefold intent of the pilgrimage was to affirm the message: Prayer is powerful; Peace is possible; and the USCCB joins the Holy See in advocating a two-state solution to the conflict

between the Israelis and the Palestinians.

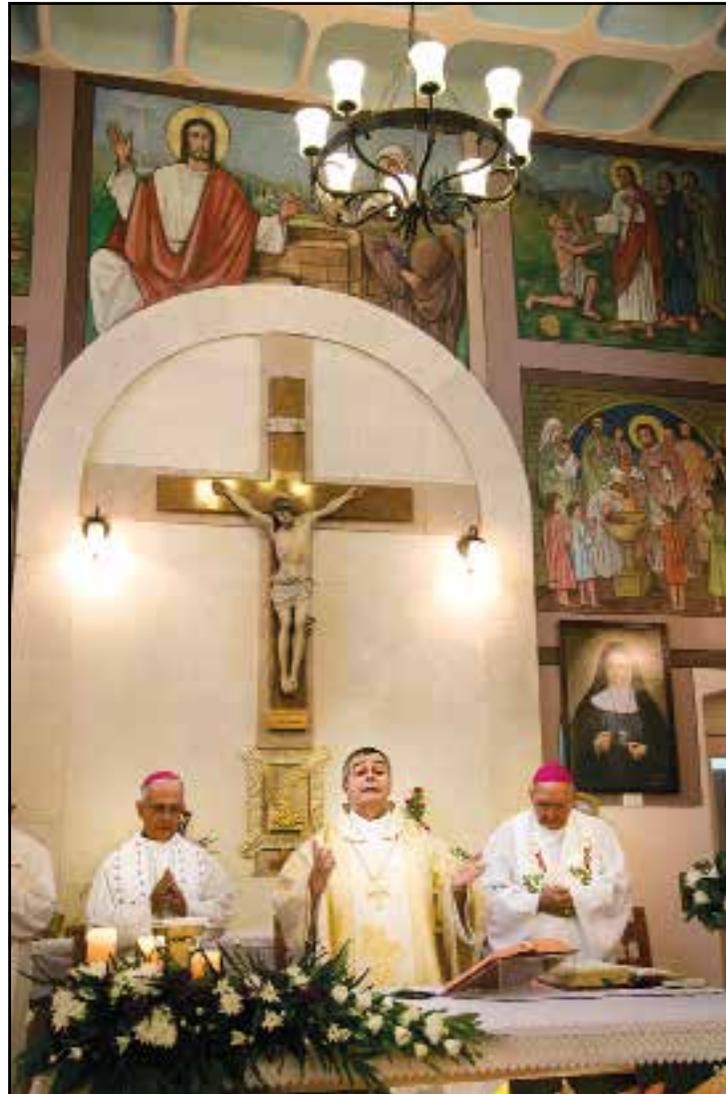
Upon our arrival in the Holy Land we first went as pilgrims to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. There we venerated the shrines within the Church marking the site of Calvary and Christ's crucifixion and the tomb of Christ, the place of the resurrection of Christ. We also celebrated Mass within the Roman Catholic Chapel of the basilica.

I had been privileged to visit the Holy Land before and to visit this basilica. On any given day there are thousands (sometimes tens of thousand) of pilgrims from throughout the world there. Thus as one pauses in prayer there is always at hand a guardian to insure that the lines keep moving. If one lingers more than ten or fifteen seconds there is a tug to the sleeve reminding you to move along out of courtesy. Pilgrims can pause in other places of the church to reflect more deeply.

In the sacristy as we prepared for Mass, Bishop John Barres of the Diocese of Allentown learned from a Franciscan brother from Providence, Rhode Island now serving at the basilica, that every night as the Church is locked a select group of pilgrims are permitted to stay overnight in prayer.

Bishop Barres approached our delegation about some of the bishops keeping this vigil as a part of our prayer pilgrimage. Our day to day schedule was quite packed and saw us moving throughout parts of the country, which is not large but nonetheless many days took us hours from Jerusalem. So the challenge was going to be finding an evening where we could be at the church before the doors were locked at 8:15.

On Tuesday, September 16 our group was in Tel Aviv visiting the Perez International Peace Center where we had an opportunity to meet former Israeli President Shimon Peres. As we departed the center one of our drivers told us



Members of the USCCB's 2014 peace pilgrimage to the Holy Land celebrate mass with Bishop William Medley presiding, and met with parishioners of St. Justin's Latin Church in Nablus. The Christian population in Nablus is small, but parish priest Fr. Johnny Abu Khalil calls it a "community of hope" and prays for a peaceful resolution to conflict. The USCCB and Catholic Relief Services led a peace pilgrimage with 18 bishops from across the country to the Holy Land from September 11-18, 2014. Photo by Jennifer Hardy for Catholic Relief Services

at 7:00 p.m. that it was only an hour back to Jerusalem and that he could have us at the church on time. So Bishop Barres and I set out for our vigil. Traffic snarls slowed us and we were at the gates of the Old City of Jerusalem by 8:00 – but had to run the last few blocks not navigable by cars.

Most of the pilgrims remaining in the church after the doors were ceremoniously closed were part of a Russian Orthodox group. Most of them went to the holy tomb, venerated by many as the most sacred of all Christian sites. So I climbed steep stairs to a small chapel marking the place of Calvary to separate myself from the crowd. When pilgrims visit here they will kneel to touch or to kiss the spot beneath an elaborate altar remembered as the place where the cross of Jesus stood.

Continued on page 2

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

As it happened, I was in this space alone for the better part of an hour and half before any other pilgrims wandered up there.

That time passed quickly and I contemplated the three hours that Jesus would have hung on the cross. I meditated on Mary's presence at the foot of the cross those three hours and considered her own agony as her Beloved Son cried out in anguish before he died. In the time of Jesus this site would have been outside the

walls of the city and I considered where all the Apostles, save for John, may have spent those hours. Were they in hiding some place where they could see the cross from a distance? Could they have heard Jesus' prayer and lamentation? Were they too suffering in shame because they had abandoned their Lord and friend?

I knelt at Calvary part of this time and recalling the gesture of priests as they begin the Good Friday observances, I lay prostrate at the holy site. It was a profound and holy time.

Later during the night, as the Russian pilgrims spread out I did have a few moments in the tomb. The tomb is a small place and dimly lit by candles and oil lamps. I considered the Resurrection in new ways: What was Jesus' consciousness when he was alive again after three days, no doubt tightly wrapped in a shroud in a place of no light? How long was he alive again before his first encounter with the women who came to anoint the body on that third morning?

As the night turned to a new day at midnight the Franciscans, who serve as guardians of the Roman Catholic areas of the shrine, chanted the Holy Office. September 17 historically has been observed as the Feast of the Stigmata of St. Francis of Assisi and is therefore a very important feast to their community. Bishop Barres and I, who it seems may have been the only Roman Catholics observing the vigil, joined them in prayer. After the office they invited us into their friary, attached to the church, for orange juice and fig newtons. At this time I realized that in our rush to get to the Church we had not had supper the previous evening nor had access to water. The supper I did not miss, but I was thirsty. Again, this presented a meditation on the thirst of Christ.

At this time also I realized that it was my birthday. So orange juice and fig newtons were my birthday treat.

Typically the church is not opened in the morning until 5:15. But September 17 was also a day of special observance for the Greek Orthodox Catholics and at midnight the church had been opened for a special Mass. The doors remained open after that and we could have left at any time. But Bishop Barres and I remained in prayer vigil until 3:00am. At that time we walked several blocks to the city gates where we found a taxi to take us a couple of miles back to our hotel.

This night of prayer in this sacred place was indeed the highlight of my pilgrimage. I still find solace in my experience of praying alone and uninterrupted at Calvary and the place of the Resurrection. One prayer found its way to my lips over and over again that night and since then: "We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world."

May God Bless You all!

*William F. Medley*

+Most Reverend William F. Medley, Bishop of Owensboro



**These 18 US bishops who participated in the Peace Pilgrimage to the Holy Land Sept. 11-18, 2014 followed in the footsteps of Jesus by 2,000 years, followed in the footsteps of Pope Francis, who visited the Holy Land in June, and followed the devastation of the war in the Holy Land by only days. Their message: Prayer is powerful; peace is possible. Members of the USCCB's 2014 peace pilgrimage to the Holy Land meet with H.B. Patriarch Fouad Twal at the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem. The 18 bishops from the United States celebrated mass at the Patriarchate and met with leaders from the Greek Orthodox Church, Anglican Church and other Christian leaders. The peace pilgrimage occurred 3 weeks after a ceasefire of fighting between Israel and Hamas in Gaza. Photo by Jennifer Hardy/CRS**

### **Bishop Medley's Calendar For November 2014:**

November 1	9:00 a.m.	Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting, Gasper River
Catholic Youth Camp		
November 6	10:30 a.m.	School Mass, Owensboro Catholic High School
November 8-14		USCCB General Meeting, Baltimore, MD
November 16	8:30 a.m.	Confirmation, St. Mary, LaCenter
November 17	9:45 a.m.	Priests' Personnel Board Meeting, CPC
	1:30 p.m.	Priests' Council Meeting, CPC
November 18	10:00 a.m.	Presbyteral Day, CPC
November 19	8:30 a.m.	Diocesan Finance Council Meeting, CPC
November 20	9:00 a.m.	School Mass, Owensboro Catholic Middle School
November 21	9:00 a.m.	School Mass, St. Romuald School, Hardinsburg
November 22	6:00 p.m.	ODYC closing Mass, Owensboro Convention Center
November 23	11:00 a.m.	Mass/New Pastor Installation, Fr. Daniel Dillard, Christ the King, Scottsville
November 25	10-3:00 p.m.	Paducah Office, Lourdes Hospital
November 27	8:00 a.m.	Thanksgiving Day Mass, St. Stephen Cathedral
November 29	4:00 p.m.	Admission to Candidacy, Basilio Az Cuc, Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson



## Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

*Gospel reading for Sept. 14, 2014: Jn 3:13-17*

“Jesus said to Nicodemus: ‘No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.’

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.

“For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.”

Contrails are artificial clouds made of water that form behind aircraft. On the morning of Sept 14, 2014, the same day as the Mount Saint Joseph Picnic, these clouds appeared in the sky in front of KY 56 looking west. This photo shows a large cross in Saint Mary Magdalene Cemetery and a contrail cross which was pointing downward in the direction of Mount Saint Joseph. Mel Howard Photo

## Christmas/New Year's Camp

at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp

December 29th through January 1st

Cost: \$100

**Ages: 8th graders (come and meet some of the people you'll go to camp with next Summer) and high school aged youth**

**Don't miss out on this amazing camp! It's a great way to end one year and start the next!**

**Hope to see you there!**

## 500 – 50 – 5 Workshop (The un-Christian History)

**About 500 years ago the Christians divided along theological & political lines.**

- History of the Protestant Reformation
- Discuss the theological and political reasons for the Christian division.
- Evaluate the past
- Catholic sins against unity; Lutheran sins against unity.

**About 50 years ago the Roman Catholics joined the ecumenical conversation.**

In ecumenical dialogue, Catholic theologians, standing fast by the teaching of the Church yet searching together with Christian brethren into the divine mysteries ... with love for the truth, with charity, and with humility.

The Council accepted the principle that different ways and methods of proclaiming the faith should complement one another.

**During the next 5 years we can come together to commemorate and celebrate.**

Commemorate that which divides us; Celebrate that which unites us.

Justification, Eucharist, Ministry, and Scripture & Tradition

When we do not agree .... Conflict .... Or .... Diversity?

All interested persons are welcome to participate. Just let us know whether you are coming so that we can make the appropriate plans. Snacks will be provided on Nov 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>; lunch will be provided on **Nov.15th**. Please contact either:

Donna Biggs, Catholic Pastoral Center: donna.biggs@pastoral.org (270) 852-8324  
Dc. Terry Larbes, St. Thomas More: Terry.Larbes@pastoral.org (270) 534-9000

Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> at the Catholic Pastoral Center, Owensboro 5:30 pm to 8 pm

Nov 11<sup>th</sup> at St Thomas More, Paducah 5:30 pm to 8 pm

Nov 15<sup>th</sup> at Holy Spirit, Bowling Green 10am to 2 pm

Sponsored by the Offices of Faith Formation and Ecumenical/Interreligious Affairs  
2014/2015 Ecumenical Workshops

## The Western Kentucky Catholic

600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY. 42301

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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](http://www.rcdok.org/ministries/communications/WKC_online.php)*

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

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

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

**Please send all Western Kentucky Catholic address additions, deletions or changes to Cathy Hagan at [cathy.hagan@pastoral.org](mailto:cathy.hagan@pastoral.org).**

# Catholic Campaign For Human Development

## Working On The Margins

To be just toward others, we must work to ensure they have adequate resources to meet their human needs. Projects supported by the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) move beyond providing for immediate needs. They work to build healthy, sustainable futures for communities.

Ten years ago, Boston's Haley House began offering bakery training at the request of a few regular guests at the soup kitchen. Due to high demand, Haley House expanded the training into a six-month course that includes customer relations and basic business principles. Haley House currently has 70 trainees who have completed the program and are now employed in the Boston area. Haley House also offers cooking classes for at-risk teens and holistic, individual support to men and women re-entering the community after incarceration.

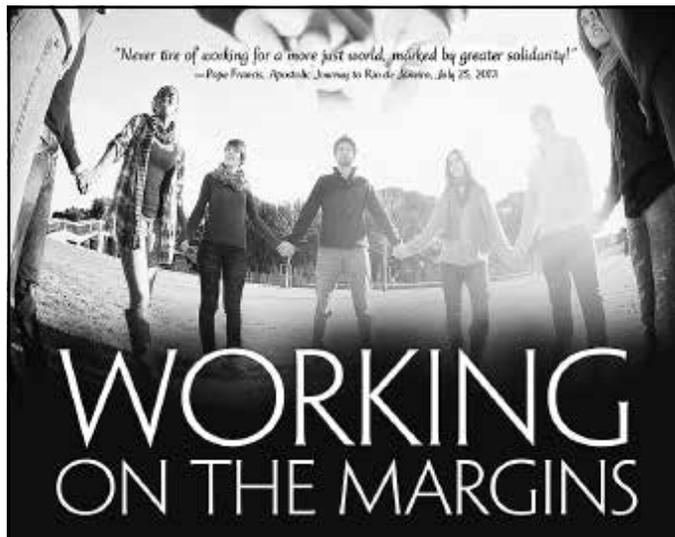
Like Haley House, Faith Works recognizes the value of human relationships in the fight against poverty. Operating in the Roanoke Valley, Faith Works builds community through conversation. After listening to residents and members of parishes and congregations in the city's Southeast area, the group worked to get the area recognized as "medically underserved," and thereby secured \$6 million for a new health clinic. This change will make a dramatic difference in the lives of residents, 80 percent of whom are uninsured.

The dialogue fostered by Faith Works also bridges racial divides. One member commented that "nowhere else would we probably have talked to each other, but here we are now working together, gardening [in community gardens] together." Members are working to train leaders in the Hispanic community and to listen to their concerns. Haley House and Faith Works create a strong local economy by building human relationships and carry on Christ's mission "to bring glad tidings to the poor . . . liberty to captives . . . sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free" (Lk 4:18).

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development funds programs like these in communities across the United States and helps people living in poverty join together, identify problems and find ways to improve their lives and neighborhoods.

CCHD is the official domestic anti-poverty agency of the Catholic bishops in the United States. Your support helps to end poverty one community at a time. Working

together, we can reach out and touch the lives of those living on the margins of society. Please visit [www.povertyusa.org](http://www.povertyusa.org) to read more details of CCHD's efforts to spread Christ's love by helping to break the cycle of poverty in your community and across the country.



### MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER

#### CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS



#### NOVEMBER

- 1 Grief Camp for Youths
- 4 Evening with an Ursuline presentation: Do You Hear
- 7-8 Yarn Spinners Weekend
- 7-9 Diocese of Owensboro Ordained Deacons Retreat
- 13 Study of Pope Francis' Joy of the Gospel
- 14-16 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program
- 20 Senior Moments
- 21-22 Teen Leadership Conference
- 22 Walking with the Poor Retreat with Fr. Shonis

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



[ursulinesmsj.org](http://ursulinesmsj.org)

Located 12 miles west of Owensboro, Ky., on Hwy. 50



Mount Saint Joseph  
Conference and Retreat Center



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

#### DECEMBER

- 2 Evening with an Ursuline presentation: Gift of Gifts
- 3 Advent Day of Prayer
- 3 Lunch and Learn
- 11 Study of Pope Francis' Joy of the Gospel
- 18 Senior Moments
- 19-21 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program

#### JANUARY

- 6 Evening with an Ursuline presentation: Learning to See as the Mystics See
- 8 Rediscover Catholicism
- 10 Yarn Spinners Day
- 16 Senior Moments
- 17-23 St. Meinrad Retreat Week
- 23-25 Diocese of Owensboro Diaconate Program
- 26-30 Spiritual Direction Training Program (Week 6)
- 30-1 Retrouville Weekend

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

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

### 4 P.M. - 5 P.M.

### 2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH



(located 12 miles west of Owensboro on Hwy. 50). We will conclude with evening prayer. During this special time of the

Year of Consecrated Life, we ask you to join us in praying for a deeper awareness and openness in response to God's call to consecrated life.

The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph invite you to join us for Eucharistic Adoration on Nov. 9, Dec. 14 and on the second Sunday of each month in 2015 from 4 p.m. - 5 p.m. at the Motherhouse Chapel



Ursuline Sisters  
of Mount Saint Joseph

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**Heather Eichholz, left, is a Judge for the Diocese of Owensboro tribunal, and has been working in the Tribunal since July, 2014. At right is Father Ken Mikulcik.**

**Mel Howard Photos**

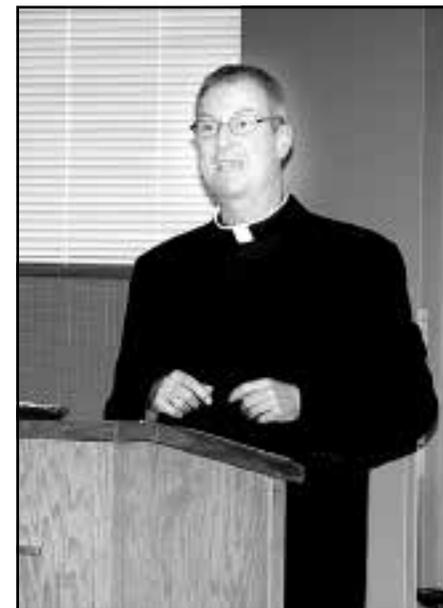
OWENSBORO, Ky. - The Tribunal Advocate's Program is a ministry composed of priests, deacons and lay people in the parishes who are trained by the Diocesan Tribunal Staff to assist those seeking a declaration of invalidity (annulment). The role of the Advocate is an important ministry at a critical time in peoples' lives. Advocates provide emotional support, in-

formation, and assistance throughout the process. It is essential that an Advocate have an adequate current knowledge of the procedures and grounds used by Tribunals to hear and judge marriage cases.

On September 29th and 30th, the Diocesan Tribunal Staff provided a training workshop for new Advocates at the Catholic Pastoral Center. Covered during the course of the two-day training



**Helen Bennett speaking to Parish Advocates Sept 29, 2014 in the Catholic Pastoral Center. Helen is a trained Advocate and a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Owensboro.**



**Diocesan Judicial Vicar Father Mike Clark welcomed the participants to the training meetings for new advocates Sept. 29.**



**Seated around the table in the picture above are Anna Cairney, Kathleen Baumgarten, Mike Marsili, Jed Conrad and Pat Cairney.**

was the theology of marriage, diocesan marriage policy, the concept of validity and invalidity, the role of an Advocate, procedures and grounds for the marriage invalidity process, and the different types of cases the Tribunal processes.

Upon completion of this training, there are 55 lay advocates, in addition to priests and deacons throughout the diocese, available to assist those who need to avail themselves of this process. Contact your pastor or the Tribunal if you have questions about seeking a declaration of invalidity.



## **Favorite Way Of Honoring Mary Mother Of Jesus**

**Ms. Gera's Pre-K class at St. Romuald are honoring Mary by saying a decade of the Rosary each day before rest time. Submitted by Erin Waddell**

## 2014 Diocesan Marriage Celebration Honors Married Couples With Praise and Thanksgiving for Commitment to Marriage

OWENSBORO, Ky. - In his homily on Sept. 21, 2014 in St. Stephen Cathedral for the Diocesan Marriage Celebration, Bishop William Medley preached on the Gospel reading for the Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time: MT: 20:1-16A - "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard ... What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? ... Are you envious because I am generous? Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Bishop Medley commented that this parable challenges us to tolerate times in life when we experience "too much giving, too much love, too much forgiveness, too much tolerance. Does this sound a lot like marriage?"

Jesus' parable says that the last shall be first, and the first last. "Does God, Bishop Medley asked, "ask too much of us? We can say, 'I'm not getting what I deserve.'"

"YES!" Bishop Medley said, "And you should be grateful! Think about it. Say Thank You to God that we're not getting what we deserve from our foolish, extravagant God who gives just wages."

When married couples say "I do," at their wedding, little do most realize what this can mean as do those married couples who have endured, survived 25, 40, 50+ years of life together as a couple. Bishop Medley said, "It's hard work, a decision every day to be extravagant in love, giving, forgiving, tolerating each other, and giving all those 'too much' gifts to one another.

"My word for you today," he said in concluding, "Is that you're just TOO MUCH!"



Bishop William Medley led couples in a renewal of their wedding vows. The 2014 Anniversary Couples recognized by parishes of the diocese and listed in the worship aid for the Mass of the Diocesan Marriage Celebration Sept. 21, 2014 represented 4,130 Years of marriage according to the Diocesan Family Life Office. Renewing their marriage vows are, in the photo at far left are Lou and Martine Boarman, St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville; at near left are Mike and Pat Boone, St. Joseph, Leitchfield; and below are Dave and Onee Clark, Sts. Joseph and Paul, Owensboro

### Married Couples Honored During The Diocesan Marriage Celebration 2014

Charles L. & Lucy Adams, Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Kevin & Karla Arnold, Blessed Mother, Owensboro  
 Bobby & Mary Belcher, Holy Spirit, Bowling Green  
 Ralph & Rose Ann Bemboom, St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville  
 Herbert & Bernice Bertke, Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro  
 Bud & Mildred Boarman, St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville  
 James L. & Martine Boarman, St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville  
 Gene & Margaret Boehmann, St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro  
 Mike & Pat Boone, St. Joseph, Leitchfield  
 Cliff & Judy Brandon, Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 George & Joan Brockman, Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

James & Mary Bumpous, St. Thomas More, Paducah  
 John & Raymunda Calhoun, Blessed Mother, Owensboro  
 Dave & Onee Clark, Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro  
 Justin & Minnie Clark, St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville  
 Gordon & Rose Cobb, Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro  
 Charles & Joan Collins, Blessed Mother, Owensboro  
 Billy & Lynda Combs, Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville  
 David & Judy Connor, St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville  
 David & Brenda Coombs, St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro  
 Richard & Ruth Dale, Christ the King, Madisonville  
 Warren & Martha Davis, St. Henry, Aurora  
 Charles & Juareta Dockemeyer, St. Martin, Rome  
 Phil & Cathy Ebelhar, St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho

Continued on page 7



## Married Couples Honored During The Diocesan Marriage Celebration 2014 *(Continued from page 6)* November, 2014 7

Larry & Dottie Elder, St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho  
 Ronald & Deborah Faupel, Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson  
 Matthew & Haley Fitzgerald, St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro  
 Nelson & Barbara Fitzhugh, St. John, Sunfish  
 Norman & Joan Froehlich, St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro  
 Thomas & Mary Frances Galvin, St. Thomas More, Paducah  
 Gene & Elaine Glenn, St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph  
 Omer & Lucy Harpe, Jr., Blessed Mother, Owensboro  
 Wally & Rose Mary Harris, St. Rose, Cloverport  
 Patrick & Stacy Hemen, Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Charles I. & Lois Marie Hoskins, St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro  
 Brice & Marilyn Howard, Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro  
 Joe & Bernice Jakub, Holy Spirit, Bowling Green  
 Robert & Denise Jernejcic, St. Joseph, Bowling Green  
 Stephen & Patty Johnson, Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro  
 Dean & Christina Jones, St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro  
 John & Joan Jurkiewicz, Blessed Mother, Owensboro  
 Bill & Brenda Kelley, Jr., St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro  
 Paul & Sue Kuerzi, Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson  
 Paul R. & Joyce A. Lambert, Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro  
 John & Peggy LaMure, Christ the King, Madisonville  
 Robert & Carole Lastufka, St. Joseph, Bowling Green  
 Robert & Mary Ann Mattingly, St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph  
 Craig & Rose Mauzy, Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro  
 Don & Barb McConnell, St. Jude, Clinton  
 Frank & Sandra McGrath, St. Denis, Fancy Farm  
 Dr. David & Janet Medley, St. Augustine, Reed  
 Alan & Linda Murphy, Immaculate Conception, Hawesville  
 Nick & Donna Nichols, St. Charles, Livermore  
 Dale & Lila Noffsinger, St. Joseph, Central City  
 Joseph William & Minnie Payne, St. William, Knottsville  
 William A. & Mary Carla Payne, Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro  
 Rennan & Angeli Quijano, Christ the King, Madisonville  
 Fred & Joan Roberts, Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro  
 Tom & Suzanne Rose, St. Anthony, Browns Valley  
 James T. & Peggy Rowland, Sts. Mary & James, Guthrie  
 Henry & Joan Scott, Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Mark & Martha Sims, St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro  
 Robert W. & Marjorie W. Slack, Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Norbert & Helen Rose Smith, St. Anthony, Browns Valley  
 Edward & Agnes Stallings, Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Ross & Jane Thomas, St. Agnes, Uniontown  
 Frank & Florence Tomsic, St. Pius Tenth, Calvert City  
 Tony & Cecilia Toren, St. Thomas More, Paducah  
 Louis & Cathy Travis, Precious Blood, Owensboro  
 Marco & Claudia Valladares, St. Joseph, Bowling Green  
 Robert & Mary Vollman, Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Haymen & Marie Ward, Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Don & Mary Weaver, Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 George & Louise Weldon, Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro  
 Kenneth & Elaine Williams, Blessed Mother, Owensboro  
 Arnold & Rita June Wolfe, St. Ann, Morganfield  
 Edward & Marilyn Wolfe, St. Leo, Murray  
 Mike & Ann Wurth, St. Thomas More, Paducah  
 Tommy & Margaret Wurth, St. John the Evangelist, Paducah  
 Richard N. & Janice M. Yasko, Rosary Chapel, Paducah



Diocesan Family Life Director Joe Bland, left, introduced Bud and Mildred Boorman, St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville, at right, who are celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary in 2014.



Upon receiving their certificate from Bishop Medley, Larry and Dottie Elder, St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho, express a joy felt by all the couples attending the 2014 Diocesan Marriage Celebration. Mel Howard Photos



Each of the 2014 Anniversary Couples received a framed certificate from Bishop William Medley Sept. 21 in the Father John Vaughan Community Room. Here Deacon Nick and Donna Nichols thanked Bishop Medley.



Bishop Medley leading married couples in a renewal of their vows; from left. Bob and Mary Vollman, Deacon Nick and Donna Nichols, and Ralph and Rose Ann Bemboon.

# Happy Anniversary

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

## **Blessed Mother, Owensboro**

Eldridge & Lois Owens, 58  
Harry & Charlene Baumgarten, 58  
John & Raymunda Calhoun, 40

## **Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro**

Phillip & Joyce Moorman, 57

## **Christ the King, Madisonville**

Richrd & Ruth Dale, 50

## **Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson**

Gary & Kathy Coney, 25

Larry & Jane Denton, 55

Billy & Betty Gatten, 65

William & Sandra Haynes, 53

Leland & Donna Leslie, 50

Bobby & Della May Marlin, 57

Ralph & Jeannine O'Nan, 56

Charles & Faye Pippin, 57

Ernest & Mary Schreiner, 53

Ray & Sharon Thompson, 53

Chester & Julie Watson, 40

Ronald & Judy Wilkerson, 53

## **Holy Spirit, Bowling Green**

Bernard & Lois Schwitzgebel, 55

Randy & Jean Thompson, 53

## **Immaculate Conception, Hawesville**

William & Phyllis Emmick, 51

## **Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro**

Stephen & Sherry Jones, 40

John & Barbara Collignon, 50

Stephen & Patty Johnson, 50

E. L. & Dianne Woodward, 51

Gene & Shirley Zogman, 54

## **Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro**

Henry & Joan Scott, 40

Donald & Mary Blanford, Sr., 61

Charles & Mary Jane Bowlds, 62

Thomas & Mary Louise Cecil, 64

Stewart & Barbara Coomes, 60

James H. & Norma Hagan, 54

William M. & Martha Mills, 53

John & Patricia Mountain, 58

Robert W. & Marjorie Slack, 55

Haymen & Marie Ward, 53

Tom & Rosella C. Whitsett, 64

## **Precious Blood, Owensboro**

Louis & Liz Cecil, 70

Charles & Shirley Merimee, 58

James & Doris Schrecker, 60

## **Sacred Heart, Hickman**

Morrison & Paula McClure, 57

Mike & Teresa Hayden, 40

## **Sacred Heart, Russellville**

William & Jean Danhauer, 64

## **St. Agnes, Uniontown**

Ross & Jane Thomas, 55

Pat & Peggy Thomas, 61

Gerald & Marilyn Greenwell, 53

Fred & Mary Evelyn Eckmans, 55

## **St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph**

Richard & Nancy Blandford, 53

Bill & Daisy Gibson, 58

Murray & Jean Murphy, 63

Doug & Janie Hayden, 50

Robert & Mary Ann Mattingly, 56

## **St. Ann, Morganfield**

Harold & Kathy Thomas, 55

John & Peggy Jenkins, 52

## **St. Anthony, Browns Valley**

Thomas & Suzanne Rose, 40

Larry & Julia Jennings, 40

David & Trudy Thomas, 40

## **St. Anthony, Peonia**

Arthur & Linda Pierce, 53

## **St. Augustine, Grayson Springs**

John & Sue Mudd, 52

## **St. Augustine, Reed**

Billy Joe & Philomena Bollinger, 53

## **St. Charles, Bardwell**

Walter & Ethel O'Neill, 40

## **St. Charles, Livermore**

James & Margie Logsdon, 50

## **St. Edward, Fulton**

Doug & Connie Lorton, 58

Bill & Jean Fenwick, 62

## **St. Francis Borgia, Sturgis**

Paul & Bernadette Farr, 60

## **St. Francis de Sales, Paducah**

Hayvert & Catherine Sutton, 55

Charles W. & Bonnie Kortz, 52

Joyce & Larry Hooks, 55

## **St. Henry, Aurora**

Les & Judy Jegenyes, 53

Anthony & Karin Kent, 52

Jerry & Edna Jones, 59

## **St. Jerome, Fancy Farm**

Jerry & Lyndia Elder, 51

Bernard & Wilma Hobbs, 64

Charles & Mary Ann Thomas, 56

David & Susan Newhouse, 40

## **St. John the Evangelist, Paducah**

Glenn & Judy Smith, 51

Francis & Dorothy Scheer, 60

George & Emma Bourgois, 60

Bennie & Doris Durbin, 64

## **St. Joseph, Bowling Green**

Stan & Cody Young, 52

William & Lou Moore, 51

## **St. Joseph, Central City**

Jim & Mary Beyke, 55

## **St. Joseph, Mayfield**

William & Brenda Shelton, 40

Howard & Rita Darnell, 51

John & Helen Riley, 58

Douglas & Hilda Webb, 66

## **St. Jude, Clinton**

Don & Barb McConnell, 55

## **St. Leo, Murray**

Kenneth & Carolyn Ramsey, 58

Leonard & Elenore Lankford, 56

Vincent & Anne Beichner, 55

Ralph & Mria Bokeno, 25

## **St. Martin, Rome**

James & Joan Johnson, 53

Larry & Sharon Gillim, 55

## **St. Mary, Franklin**

Mark & Joyce Pais, 25

Harry & Mae King, 50

## **St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho**

Jim & Martha Kamuf, 51

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

Lou & Martine Boarman, 66

Gordon & Evelyn Millay, 60

J. W. & Mary Morris, 62

## **St. Peter, Waverly**

George & Regina Vogel, 66

Darrell & Bernice Russelburg, 53

## **St. Peter of Alcantara, Stanley**

Sonny & Rosie Clary, 53

Hugh & Betty Cecil, 62

Delbert & Shirley Fulkerson, 62

## **St. Pius Tenth, Calvert City**

Jerry & Gayle Seay, 61

## **St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro**

George & Geraldine Keller, 50

Sherman & Dolores Roberts, 51

Dennis & Charlotte Gatton, 55

## **St. Romuald, Hardinsburg**

Kenny & Mary Trent, 25

Joe Paul & Phyllis Flood, 57

Wayne & Judy Hardesty, 52

Victor & Lillian Henning, 57

## **St. Stephen, Cadiz**

Lonnie & Pam Wimsatt, 50

## **St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro**

William E. & Jean Danhauer, Jr., 64

James & Jolene Hudson, 58

Gilbert & Theresa J. Moore, 57

## **St. Thomas More, Paducah**

David & Lawra Blackwell, 25

Jim & Sharon Godec, 52

Jack & Vonnie Howard, 52

Wayne & Margaret Hagan, 56

George & Emma Bourgois, 60

George & Joanna McMinn, Sr., 60

## **St. William, Knottsville**

Leon & Patricia Lanham, 57

Frankie & Elsie Lindsey, 58

Thomas & Stella Boehmann, 50

## **St. William of Vercelli, Marion**

George & Diane Sutton, 51

## **Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro**

Shelby & Angie Strobel, 25

Paul & Anna Marie Haynes, 50

Donald & Martha Hare, 59

Charles & Florence Howard, 59

Richard & Rita Stiff, 59

## **Sts. Mary & James, Guthrie**

Don & Cathy Hall, 57

## **Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville**

John & Ae Park, 25

David & Marguerite Watzek, 40

Earl & Regina Combs, 40

Ronny & Darlene Fuller, 50

Thomas & Winnie Wilson, 62

Arnold & Julia Borders, 59

Henry & Hannelore Kumpfmuller, 57

Charles & Judy Folz, 53

## Precious Blood Parish To Sponsor Bus Trip



A bus trip is being planned to go to Bardstown. WE will leave on Friday, November 7th after the 7:00 a.m. Mass and return on Saturday, November 8th. Cost is \$148 per person/double or \$138 per person/triple (Includes bus transportation, one overnight stay, tour of Spalding Hall, tour & tasting at Heaven Hill Distillery, continental breakfast, lunch at Stephen Foster Restaurant on Saturday, tour of Abbey of Gethsemani, St. Thomas Church and St. Joseph Cathedral). Lunch (Talbot's Tavern) and Dinner (BJ's Steakhouse) on Friday on your own. If interested, please contact Penny Blandford at the Parish Office at 270-684-6888. Registration deadline is October 23, 2014.

## Fifth Annual Search Begins for Longest Married Couples in United States, Sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif., The fifth annual search for the longest married couple in the United States begins on Friday, October 10, 2014, it was announced today by Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME), the original faith-based marriage enrichment program in this country. This marks the project's fifth consecutive year for the highly acclaimed activity recognizing couples for their long marriages. In 2011 Marshall & Winnie Kuykendall from Lordsburg, New Mexico were honored for 82 years of marriage, while in 2012 Wilbur & Theresa Faiss of Las Vegas, Nevada were honored for 78 years of marriage. In 2013, John & Ann Betar of Fairfield, CT were honored for 80 years of marriage. In 2014, Harold & Edna Owings of Burbank, CA were recognized for their 82 years of marriage. There are also state winners recognized at the same time each year for their longest marriages. There have been over 1,200 couples nominated for the honors during the last four years. Winners are selected solely from nominations submitted.

"Once again we want to honor the longest married couple in the United States, as well as in each of the 50 states and territories. The national winners will be recognized during Valentine's Week 2015, which coincides with World Marriage Day, which is the second Sunday of February," explained Dick & Diane Baumbach and Fr. Dick Morse, the coordinators for the special project.

In addition to the longest married couple for the entire United States, recognition will also be given to a couple from each state and territories who has achieved that distinction. In the case of the United States couple, appropriate gifts will be presented to them by Ron & Judy Pekny and Fr. Rocky Grimard, the WWME national leadership team, at a

ceremony to be held at the winner's location during Valentine's week. The state winners will also receive personal recognition and a special certificate of achievement from the Worldwide Marriage Encounter movement.

Nominations, which are open to all husband and wife couples regardless of religious affiliation, may be submitted by email, regular mail or by calling a special phone number.

The contact information for sending in a nomination, which simply requires the name of the couple, their wedding date and where they currently reside- plus a contact phone or email address of the individual nominating the couple, is as follows: email [wwmelmc2015@gmail.com](mailto:wwmelmc2015@gmail.com), regular mail Dick & Diane Baumbach 8924 Puerto Del Rio Drive Suite 402, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920, and special phone number 321-613-5180. Nominations must be received by January 10th, 2015.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WME) has been offering weekend experiences for over 45 years and is considered the original faith-based marriage enrichment program. WME offers married couples the opportunity to spend time together away from the busyness of the world to focus on each other. Priests are also encouraged to attend a WWME weekend, which offers insights into their relationship with the church and their parishioners, and how their Sacrament of Holy Orders interacts with the Sacrament of Matrimony. WWME offers tools for building and maintaining a strong, Christian marriage in today's world. To learn more about the Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends online, go to [wwme.org](http://wwme.org), or contact the WWME national office at (909) 863-9963.

## "Feed My Starving Children"

In the photo at right, an ecumenical group from the Henderson community that included Holy Name Church and School families gathered to package over 250,000 meals on Saturday, September 20, for the world's hungry children. The project called "Feed My Starving Children" attracted volunteers of all ages who hand-pack meals specifically formulated for malnourished children. Those meals will be shipped to nearly 70 countries around the world. Pictured from L to R are: Vicki Higginson, Jim Roethemeier, Janet Barkley, Trevor Weldon, Judy Jenkins, Kenny Barkley, Landon Hurtte, Terra Hurtte, and Anne Klaffer.

Photo by Denise Roethemeier.



## Mary Carrico October Class of the Month

The Mary Carrico Catholic School's Class of the Month for October is Ms. Stephanie Hermann's second grade. Pictured are Front row L to R: Kamrym Johnson, Abby Fish, Autumn Fish, Corbyn Coomes, Sarah Payne. Back Row L to R: Ms Hermann, Carter Crisp, Parker McManaway, Kate Mills, Kenzie McDowell, Braxton Hamilton. They have been very busy with their Religion classes as well as learning word and math problems, and reading chapter books. They also love doing their web-based "Extra Math" and "Dreambox".

Submitted by Chuck Greene



# St. Michael the Archangel, Oak Grove, Dedicates New Church Sept. 28, 2014

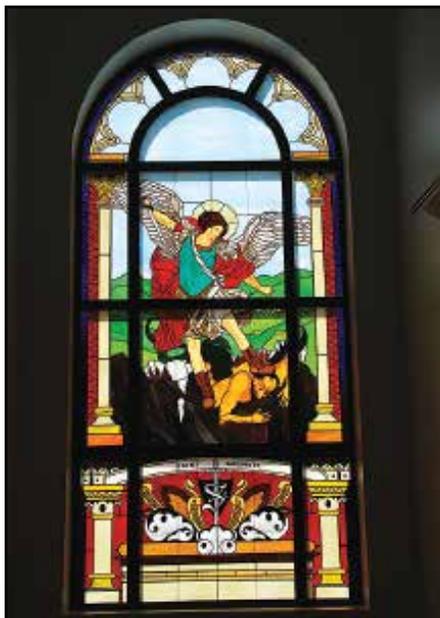


Cross bearer Prisca Chukwuemeka age 12, led the parishioners from the Parish Hall to the new church building Sept 28, 2014 for the dedication Mass.

Mel Howard Photos



Saint Michael The Archangel Catholic Church located at 448 State Line Road in Oak Grove, Ky. was dedicated on Sept. 28, 2014 by Bishop William Medley.



This recently finished custom window for Saint Michael Church in Oak Grove, KY measures 8' wide by 18' tall and is part of a series of windows being created for the church.

OAK GROVE, Ky. - St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Parish was established by Bishop-emeritus John J. McRaith in 1995; he assigned Fr. Len Arcilesi as the First Pastor. He built the First Church as part of the Multi-Purpose Hall. For Christmas 2007, that Church was remodeled by the addition of pews, to replace chairs. Now, here's the story which fulfills a large part of Fr. Len's vision, as he told to parishioners,

The blessing of a new church building for St. Michael Parish has been a dream from the beginning when about ten families met in Colonel Elder's home for the first Mass of this Catholic community. The little group of Catholic families met in people's homes for Mass, gathered at the JackaWay Farms rooms owned by Patrick and Marie Shaut, members of the new Catholic community, then at the the AmVets bingo hall for a time to share Sunday Mass.

A special dedication of this Cruciform New Church of St. Michael the Archangel in Oak Grove, Kentucky, took



Bishop William Medley sprinkled the people with Holy Water.



274 of the people of Saint Michael The Archangel Parsh gathered for the Mass of Dedication Sept. 27, 2014, and prayed fervently the Mass prayers, as shown in these photos.

place on September 28, 2014.

On that day, one of the St. Michael's Catholic community's original families,

Joe Doyle, said, "This place, this parish hall and the new church came about by

**Continued on page 11**



**Bishop William Medley anointed the walls of Saint Michael The Archangel Church with the Oil of Chrism.**

the volunteer works of the People of God in the Diocese of Owensboro. No one, not even our deacons, are paid staff. All who serve this parish are volunteers, except, of course, for Father Dave Kennedy.”

Another early member of the parish, Robert Fletcher, said, “St. Michael’s is the most diverse Catholic community in our diocese.

Even a New York Times article noted that fact. (cf. Laurie Goldstein, “In America for Job, Kenyan Priest Finds A Home” Dec. 28, 2008, NYT.) The article quoted Father Darrell Venters speaking about how the diverse Catholic population at St. Michael’s might react to a Kenyan priest, Father Chrispin Oneko:

“In this largely rural, largely white area of Western Kentucky, the Rev. Darrell Venters, who is in charge of recruiting priests for the Diocese of Owensboro, knew that some of his parishes would never accept Father Oneko, who is short, stout and very dark-skinned.

“But Father Venters thought that Father Oneko and St. Michael’s, a parish on the outskirts of a big military base, with its racial mix and many families who had lived abroad, was a good bet.

“We knew if any parish would accept him, it would be this one,” Father Venters said.

In another part of Laurie Goldstein’s NYT 2008 article, she wrote, “When Father Chrispin left the parish after four



**Bishop William Medley presided at Mass Sept. 26, 2014 in the new Saint Michael the Archangel Catholic Church and several priests concelebrated the Mass.**

years at St. Michael’s, some cried. ... He was leaving the parish no more and no less healthy than he had found it. Attendance still fluctuated from 300 to 450 on a weekend — lower in summer and during troop mobilizations. ... The campaign to raise money for the new church was still under way. But as a temporary measure, the parishioners had replaced the stacking chairs with wooden pews and built an arched altar, so the old recreation hall looked more like a real church.”

“Our people here,” Mr. Fletcher continued, “Come to us a lot from the Army base, and from many parts of the world. The gifts of all are what’s needed to have gotten us this far toward our building the new church. We’ve been able to join all our volunteer efforts toward this common goal.”

Here is another part of the parish’s story as found on their parish website:

“The story of St. Michael Parish is one of a challenge of faith and hope begun by a small group of dreamers who felt



**Bishop William Medley gave the people of Saint Michael the Archangel parish his blessing; Deacon Jack Cheasty processed from the church behind the bishop.**

Mel Howard Photos

the need for a parish to serve the growing

Continued on page 14



**Vocare : to call, to invoke.**  
Thank you to everyone who had the opportunity to attend the First Annual VOCARE celebration. Your presence made it a tremendous success!  
You may view photos from the evening on the Diocesan webpage, [www.rcdok.org/vocations/](http://www.rcdok.org/vocations/) In a few months we will be able to announce a Save the Date for next year's celebration! Thank you again!



Photos by Mel Howard

## Why **Vocare**? Diocese of Owensboro Chosen by Catholic Extension for Seminary Endowment Challenge November, 2014 **13**

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

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

The Seminarian Endowment Challenge Initiative offers matching funds to selected dioceses to grow their long-term funding resources for seminarian education. For every qualifying \$1 the Diocese raises toward its seminarian endowment this year, Catholic Extension will match \$1, up to \$50,000.00. Qualifying donations must be new or increased gifts of \$1,000 or more, or else money raised through special fundraising events designated for the program.

Bishop Medley has been quoted as saying, "The Catholic Extension Society is one of our most generous supporters of not only vocations but in other areas such as Hispanic and Campus ministries as well as assisting many of our parishes in building projects that are vital to sustaining their ministries. The Seminarian Endowment Challenge gives the diocese another way to raise much-needed funding to support our development efforts for

seminarian education.

Since Bishop Medley came to Owensboro, he has wholeheartedly supported the vocation office which is currently led by vocation director, Father Jason McClure and he is assisted by Dr. Fred Litke. Our seminarian numbers have remained steady, and now number 12. For those efforts to continue we must con-

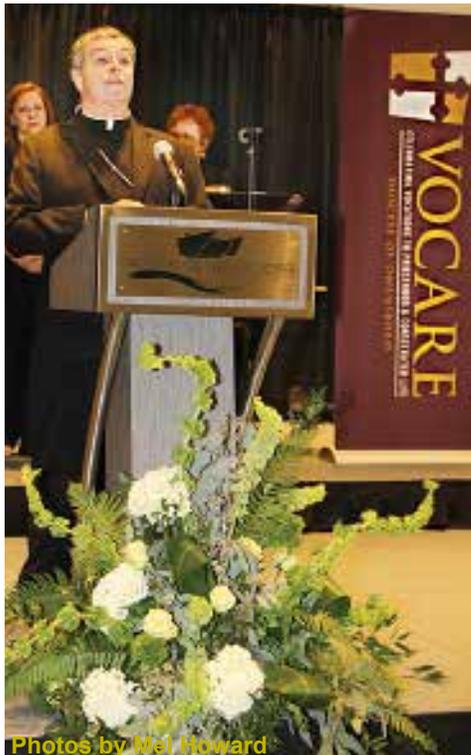
tinue to raise vocation awareness in our diocese. It currently costs approximately \$30,000/yr for five years or \$ 150,000.00 with an annual office budget of to educate each seminarian.

If you would like to make a donation to this challenge, before Dec. 31, 2014, please send your qualifying contribution (cash, check, money order or readily mar-

ketable securities) to: "Seminarian Endowment Challenge", 600 Locust Street, Owensboro KY 42301

For information, please contact:

- Kevin Kauffeld, Chancellor at [kauffeld@pastoral.org](mailto:kauffeld@pastoral.org) or 270-683-1545 or
- Dr. Fred Litke, asst. vocation director at [fred.litke@pastoral.org](mailto:fred.litke@pastoral.org) or 270-683-1545



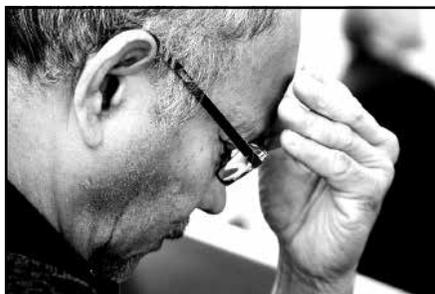


**Saint Michael The Archangel Church in Oak Grove has a Crucifix with a corpus on both sides of the wood. The cruciform church has a Eucharistic Chapel behind the chancel, the elevated platform containing the altar, This Crucifix is visible showing a corpus behind both the main altar and the chapel's altar. Mel Howard Photos**

number of retired military and civilians living in the Fort Campbell area.

"The first meeting of the Steering Committee was held on September 22, 1993. The name chosen for the Church was St. Michael the Archangel, patron Saint of the airborne and security forces in which many of the prospective members served. With the support of Bishop-emeritus John McRaith of the Owensboro Diocese, fund raising and land search proceeded. On July 1, 1995, the bishop assigned our founding pastor, Fr. Leonard Arcilesi, and it is with his guidance and the blessings of the Holy Spirit that we found a site suitable for our needs. On March 21, 1997, eight and one-third acres on State Line Road (KY 400) were purchased for \$210,000. A three-year Pledge Drive was begun and in October, 1997, construction of our Parish Center started. Dedication of the building was on September 27, 1998, the culmination of a dream born of faith and hope, at the cost of approximately \$440,000.

"With the need of more space for our expanding CCD program, an Edu-



**As the photos above and at left illustrate, the piety of the people of Saint Michael the Archangel parish is readily seen by a visitor to the Catholic community's worship services.**

hall to hand out worship aids, line up the ceremony's participants, inform the people about the day's activities, and settle any little misunderstandings about who would do what. For instance, Janet Doyle made sure that each of the candle bearers knew how to comport themselves, where to be in the ceremony, and fulfill their role. Paul de Jesus faithfully kept the doors open when needed. George O'Connor welcomed the people. The Father Emil J. Kapaum Council of the Knights of Columbus acted as honor guard, and helped the procession from the parish hall to the front door of the new church for the ceremony handing over the plans from the Clark Construction personnel to Bishop Medley and Fr. Kennedy. Andrew Jones, 12, who wants to be an altar server. Many young parents made sure that their active young children did not interfere with the conduct of the ceremonies.

**David Snow**, editor of *The Eagle Post*, newspaper for Oak Grove and Fort Campbell Communities, posted an article on Oct. 1, 2014, "St. Michael the Archangel dedicates building."

Here are excerpts, reprinted with permission, from Mr. Snow's article:

"(Bishop William) Medley spoke to the congregation about the history of temples and altars and how they are the "living stones" of God's church.

"This ground, this St. Michael the Archangel Parish, is yet still the newest parish of the Diocese of Owensboro, built only in the 1980s," he said, "and yet, already in that time, a people have gathered and other people have come and they've been formed in faith so much so that they have already outgrown this space, and that's good work.

"...Your mission, then, of putting up bricks and mortar is complete. Your mission is to use this space so that you might continue your blessing of breaking and sharing, assuring that all who eat will have their fill here. But if we come here to eat a morsel of bread and a sip of wine, that becomes scandalous if when we leave here that we are not also concerned that those in this community and beyond have plenty to eat and plenty to drink."

"Anointing with oil is an ancient tradition even predating Christianity," Medley said after the mass. "People anointed things they thought were holy, so we anoint people and we anoint places and we anoint walls to signify that this space has been dedicated to something holy."

"It's always a great joy when a church has outgrown its space and needs more space," Medley said after the mass. "That's good news, but we know also that, no matter where we are, there are people out there who have not yet heard the good news of Jesus Christ. So, hopefully, these new facilities invigorate this community so that they're going out and knocking on doors and finding people and feeding the hungry and caring for the sick and taking care of the stranger."

"(Fr Dave) Kennedy has seen the building project from start to finish and was pleased with the outcome. 'The parish gave us nine years to do it, and in the last six years, we started raising money, but in the last three years, that was when we really started to work on the building, the last three of four years of working with the contractor,' he said.

"We're still working on the yard. It's all really something special. It means a lot to the people. We had a lot of friends coming from different areas to join us."

# Once a Catholic

By Teresa Hayden

“Once a Catholic, always a Catholic.” Is that really true? I know several Catholics who have definitely moved on. Some worship elsewhere; others simply stay home on Sundays. But do they still feel – Catholic?

I have a friend who grew up Catholic. When she married her husband, she followed him to his church where she worshipped for decades until he passed away.

A few months after her husband died, I ran into my friend. “I’ve been thinking a lot about going back to the Catholic Church. I was raised Catholic, you know.” Yes, I did know. But she’s not the only one I know.

Last week I ran into my friend again. “Guess what I did this summer?” she said. “I went back to church!” She was one excited prodigal daughter, happy to be home again. “You know what they say,” she reminded me, “once a Catholic, always a Catholic!”

I have another friend who, while growing up, was educated in Catholic schools, received the sacraments, and attended Mass regularly. When she married a non-Catholic, nearly forty years ago, she made the decision to go to church with her husband as a move of family unity. She has never returned to her Catholic roots.

But sometimes, like sea nymphs in “The Odyssey”, the church beckons her Catholic heart and she longs to go to Mass again. Inevitably she’ll talk to me about it when she has these spells. It pulls her like a magnet – her Catholicism. But she sacrifices her yearning for her family. As long as her husband lives, I believe she will remain where she is. I suspect, like my other friend, she will return when her husband passes away.

I know how it feels to be a yearning wayward Catholic. I once left the Church. Not because I was unhappy; I have always loved my church. I left because circumstances in my life made it seem the right thing to do at the time. During those years, I grew to understand the words we have all heard a million times, “Once a Catholic, always a Catholic.” I was like my two friends. Every once in a while something would reach out to me and I would long for everything Catholic.

Several years after my hiatus from Catholicism, God nudged me at a Cath-



**The author, Teresa Hayden, said, “A votive candle is a link with Heaven for loved ones who have passed. When I see burning votives at church, I think first of my parents, and other members of Sacred Heart, Hickman, parish who have passed but whose presence I still feel. The burning, flickering flame feels and looks like the comforting spiritual link between us. And that’s what I was thinking when I lit this candle in Sacred Heart Church.” Photo by Janice Glasco.**

olic funeral. It was the sight of the white pall draped over the casket that broke me. God inwardly said to me: This is how I want you to end your days – wrapped in the white covering of this church. God couldn’t have been any clearer about his desires. I returned to Catholicism knowing I would never leave again. I have since told non-Catholic friends who attend Catholic funerals: “No one sends loved ones to God in more style than Catholics!”

Since then I have nurtured an ecumenical streak while remaining true to my Catholicism. Often, while taking part in ecumenical services, I will come upon someone who tells me, “I used to be Catholic.” None has ever given me explanations of why they are no longer practicing. They offer no excuses. Nor do they roll out Martin Luther’s ninety-five theses as a list of complaints about the church. Often, their countenance speaks of pride in their Catholic history. Having been there myself - I never judge them. I understand that life sometimes dictates detours. Many eventually find their way back. But for some, whatever made them leave in the first place is still a stumbling block.

What is it that woos us back when we are away? Do the remnants of fingers dipped in holy water fight to keep us true to our sign of the cross? It is as if every tabernacle, candle, stained glass window, crucifix, and altar has been commissioned to infiltrate our souls. I believe that whatever Catholic is in us – is never extinguished.

I wondered for years what it was that kept drawing me back to Catholicism. Why does it seem that once I was Catholic I was destined to always be? I have decided it is God’s grace at work – the supernatural nature of the sacraments.

The sacraments – I took them for granted. I received them giving

little credit to the extent of their power. When the church imparted them to me, it infused the sacred into my spiritual chemistry. Embedded it into my soul. Though I don’t always feel its power inside of me, it is triggered by what is outside of me: burning candles, ornate crucifixes, bejeweled rosaries, saints chiseled in stone, the smoky scent of incense, kneeling before the altar, the Eucharist raised high, chanted Latin, icons, genuflections, confessional booths, bows of reverence, gold chalices, and dabs of holy water.

Sally Read, an English poet, once atheist converted to Catholicism, says, “The Catholic Church is extremely poetic, the system and the symbols – it all fits together just like a sonnet.” The moment I was baptized into this ancient tradition, I became a part of the poem. The Catholic sonnet is not complete as long as I am missing. It is when I experience its physical, mental, and spiritual stanzas that I long to go home to what is familiar to my soul.

That is why “once a Catholic, always a Catholic.” We are part of the sacred sonnet - The Church – the eternal poetry of God speaking to and from the hearts of his children.

**God’s Players**  
Presents  
**“The Prairie Home Companion Radio Show”**



**Saturday, November 15, 2014 @7:00 pm**  
and  
**Sunday, November 16, 2014 @2:00 pm**

**Immaculate Conception Parish Hall**  
Benefit for Hancock Co. Catholic Churches

**Tickets: \$10.00 in advance**  
**\$12.00 at the door**  
For Tickets call Jean Mattingly 270-302-9143  
Lou Fleck 270-295-3471 or Sharon Russelburg 270-314-1748

**No Assigned Seats - No Refunds**



A new global research project conducted by Viacom International Media Networks (VIMN), surveyed over 6,200 kids aged 9-14 across 32 countries--one of

the largest studies of its kind.

The “Kids of Today and Tomorrow Truly Global Exploration” study focused on what VIMN calls “last wavers,” or the youngest Millennials, born between 2003 and 2008. The findings point to several key traits that shape these kids’ world views and make them distinct from older members of this generational cohort.

**Kids of today and tomorrow are more “we” than “me.”**

The youngest Millennials extend their positive spirit to also include a commitment to community and the wider world around them.

- 88% believe it’s important to help people in the community, with 61% having taken part in an effort to raise money for charity in the past year.

- 94% believe it’s people’s responsibility to protect the environment.

Advances in digital media play a large part in broadening horizons and inspiring kids to use the power they have at their fingertips in a positive manner:

- 85% agree “my age group has the potential to change the world for the better.”
- 71% agree “having access to the internet changes the way I think about the world.”

However, they don’t see this as anything out of the ordinary or think of themselves as “techy”:

- 2 out of 3 kids think that being connected is as much a part of everyday life as eating and sleeping – it’s simply how life is today. As a consequence of being constantly connected in a fast-moving world, it is natural for them to constantly adapt and be open-minded. They are resilient and life-ready.

#### Implications:

- To reach these confident kids, it is important to communicate with them with a tone of positivity, smart but not cynical humor; and a playful approach, in line with the fun and happiness they seek in life.

- Kids respond best to authentic brand messages: they recognize when someone

## Viacom: Kids of Today and Tomorrow Global Study

is trying to sell them, so be honest.

- It’s important to be both globally and locally relevant.

#### Kids of today and tomorrow are grounded.

Authenticity is a key value for kids today and they live with their feet firmly on the ground.

- 94% report wanting to be true to the close circle around them and 93% to be true to themselves. When it comes to the people who inspire them or the people they trust most, it’s all about close family and friends. They might feel inspired by celebrities and sports stars, but they know not to trust them.

- 49% of the youngest Millennials name a family member as their #1 best friend—rising as high as 90% in Morocco and 87% in Brazil.

#### Kids of today and tomorrow are confident.

Today’s youngest Millennials are overwhelmingly happy and optimistic.

- 88% consider themselves very happy, with happiness levels in this age group increasing over last six years.

- Spending time with family and friends is the top factor generating happiness in

most countries. Young Millennials enjoy doing activities together as a family.

- Humor is important to young Millennials, who use it strategically to navigate life: 64% agree “I use humor to help me get my way.”

- Happiness outweighs stress by a factor of 3 to 1: while almost 9 in 10 young Millennials describe themselves as very happy, only 24% report high levels of stress, with stress levels falling since 2006.

Kids today are re-calibrating their sense of what it is to be stressed as well as happy: they have grown up in a world of constant change and global economic crisis – for them, this is the norm.

- Even in Greece, where the economic crisis is particularly acute, stress levels are only 36%. The highest stress levels among 9-14s are actually in Singapore and China (41% and 39%) – caused almost certainly by the highly pressured education systems in those countries.

- In general, the youngest Millennials are characterized by an optimism with which they approach challenges: 90% agree “I can accomplish anything if I work hard enough” and 89% agree “I always try to be positive.”



**This year at St. Mary of the Woods Catholic School in Whitesville, our theme is “Gentleness”. Students are encouraged to be gentle as Jesus was. We had the honor of having a real lamb brought to our school on Thursday, October 2nd by Roxi Goetz. Students got to see just how gentle lambs really are, in hopes that they will live their lives the same way. Photo by Kim Rydecki**

At the global level, these high levels of happiness, low stress and growing positivity are combining to form a “virtuous circle” of mutual support that helps kids create an overall sense of confidence.

- Belief in themselves: 65% believe not only that they are smart but also that they are smarter than other people.

- Belief in their future: Despite everything, a large majority (84%) believe they will earn more than their parents

- Belief in their generation: This is the winning generation ... the expression “#winning” suits them perfectly and is acknowledged by many more 9-14s than by older Millennials (77% vs. 66% of 15-30s)

- Belief in their creativity: 89% believe their creativity will help them to keep on winning in a fast-paced world.

#### Kids of today and tomorrow are simultaneously more and less sheltered.

The difference is very clearly defined: in the real world, they are much more sheltered than in the past, with parents restricting and controlling their interactions with everything. However, given advances in technology and access to a wide range of devices, there is often relatively little protection – kids have unprecedented exposure to global ideas and images.

- 43% own their own computer/laptop and 28% own a smartphone.

- 61% have a social media account (and 11 years is the average age for having a first account – despite being below the age threshold set by many social platforms’ Terms & Conditions).

- 9-14s have 39 online “friends” they have never met (up from five since 2006).

#### Kids of today and tomorrow are proud to be.

The youngest Millennials are increasingly expressing a sense of affinity with their country. Their sense of national pride is growing stronger and they are more likely than six years ago to believe it’s important to maintain their country’s traditions.

- 87% agree that they are “proud to be [their ethnicity]” up from 81% in 2006.

- 79% agree “it’s important to maintain my country’s traditions,” up from 60% in 2006.

- At the same time, they are tolerant of other cultures: 74% think it’s great to have people from other countries living in the kid’s country.

# Water With Blessings Wins International Health Award

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Water With Blessings, a ministry founded by Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph Lorraine Lauter, was chosen as the 2014 winner of the Clarence H. Moore Award for Excellence in Voluntary Service.

The Clarence H. Moore Award is one of six Awards for Excellence in Inter-American Public Health for 2014, awarded by the Pan American Health Organization Foundation, an affiliate of the World Health Organization. Created in 1989, the award highlights the benefits that the voluntary/nongovernmental sector contributes to the public health mission and to improving the lives of the peoples of the Americas. It calls attention to the achievements of nongovernmental organizations performing work in Latin America and the Caribbean to improve public health.

Water With Blessings trains women in 21 countries across the developing world to become "Water Women," learning how to use a simple filtration system to provide clean water to families in their community. There are now more than 4,000 Water Women across the world.

Several Water With Blessings representatives traveled to Washington, D.C., to accept and celebrate the award on Sept. 29, 2014, at the invitation of the PAHO Foundation. The award includes a prize of \$5,000, which Water With Blessings will apply to sponsorships for 80 new mothers in the program.

The award letter from Dr. Jennie



**Sister Lorraine Lauter, left, visits with a young girl on one of her visits to Honduras. "Water With Blessings brings water projects to villages and towns. We have over 4,000 volunteers in 21 countries. We asked what were the best hands to receive what water filtration technology we could come up with. The majority of the people interested in working for fresh water are mothers. We decided to train mothers to follow a household water treatment and storage model, see photo at left, of "Water Women". Mothers are the same everywhere. You can count on mothers." Photos courtesy of Water With Blessings**

Ward-Robinson, president and CEO of the PAHO Foundation, says, "The selection of your organization, recognized by an independent jury of professionals,

speaks truly to the organization's noteworthy impact on public health in the Americas." Winners of other awards hail from Argentina, Bolivia, Mexico and Peru. Water With Blessings is the only winner from the United States.

Clarence H. Moore was the chief of the Pan American Health Organization Office of Budget and Finance from 1957 to 1968 and the Pan American Health and Education Foundation's executive director from its founding in 1968 until his death in 1988.

Sister Lorraine began traveling to Honduras in the early 2000s with a medical mission team led by the First United Methodist Church of Frankfort, Ky. That's where she met Jim Burris, an architect, and Arnie LeMay, a hospital engineer. Year after year the team realized they were treating the same illnesses, dysentery in the children that could sometimes kill the very young because they ingested water with parasites in it. It was LeMay who said, "We can be treating this water instead of the illness."

Water With Blessings became Sister Lorraine's main ministry in 2012 and has continued to grow through donations and the support of multiple organizations.

"We want to especially thank our nominator, Sister Barbara Smith, OSB, and our three supporting letter writers: Katherine Wojitan of Mary's Pence, Gerry Delaquis of Life For All, and Sister Michele Morek, OSU, of UNANIMA International," Sister Lorraine said. Sister Michele is also an Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph.

Sr. Lorraine commented that within the Diocese of Owensboro area, a number of collaborating people and parishes are supporting Water With Blessings:

- Denise Long, Hancock County Catholics...have sent nearly 100 Water Woman kits to Kenya
- Ranni Dillard, Holy Name...going to Jamaica in November, 2014
- Lee Franey and others, Sts. Joe & Paul, possibly Immaculate...for Haiti
- Fr. Fid Levri -- wherever he can preach our good news!
- Fr. Darrell Venters, recently challenged his parishioners to a different kind of bucket challenge.
- Sr. Suzanne Sims, St. Mary's Elementary, Whitesville.
- The Mount Saint Joseph Ursuline Sisters.
- And many of sponsors of Water Women.

The UNANIMA Update emailed Oct. 1 congratulated Water With Blessings, saying, "Several UNANIMA communities are involved in teaching their sisters how to train water women; other communities are making donations and/or helping with fundraising. You can be proud of our partnership with this fine organization!"

To learn more about Water With Blessings and get involved as a supporter, visit its website, [waterwithblessings.org](http://waterwithblessings.org). To watch videos of Sister Lorraine demonstrating the filter, or her presentation in Bowling Green, Ky., visit the Ursuline Sisters' YouTube channel, [youtube.com/user/UrsulineSistersMSJ](http://youtube.com/user/UrsulineSistersMSJ).



Clean Water for God's Thirsty Children. [www.waterwithblessings.org](http://www.waterwithblessings.org). Above, Bolivia 2014 Mary Meyers Photo; at right, Honduras 2014 Peter Obetz Photo





### First Graders Learn About Baptism

At the Owensboro Catholic Schools K-3 Campus this week, 1st grade student learned about the Sacrament of Baptism during Religion by re-enacting. Photos at left and above submitted by Lori Whitehouse.

### Kail Kabalen Joins Church

At Mass, on October 2, Feast of the Guardian Angels, the OCS K-3 Campus students and staff were honored to be a part of 2nd grade student, Kail Kabalen's baptism. Kail was baptized by Father



Brad Whistle during the all school mass. (Pictured are OCS K-3 principal Lori Whitehouse, at left, and Kail with his parents: Kevin Kabalen and Melissa Hoffer)

### Living History

WHITESVILLE, Ky. - On Wednesday, October 1st, a Living History exhibit visited St. Mary of the Woods and Trinity High School. Students had the opportunity to ask questions, learn about specific pieces of history, and see a real musket be fired! Enjoy these photos from the event!

In photo top left, Robert Brooks spoke with St Mary students. At top right, Michael Roach explained Army uniforms. Photos by Kim Rydecki. In the two photos below, Robert Brooks explained quill pens and a black powder rifle. Photos by Christina Rhodes.



## St. Romuald Church Celebrates Blessing of Pets Sept. 21

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On Sunday, September 21st, the K-6th Religious Ed students at St. Romuald Church held their Pet Blessing in honor of St. Francis of Assisi. There were many dogs, a few cats, 1 chicken & several stuffed animals that received a blessing from Fr. Brian Johnson.

**Photo at near right: Cloey Anthony brought her silky hen Lacey to receive a blessing.**

**Photo at far right: Fr. Brian Johnson gives a blessing to dogs belonging to cousins, Callen & Lucas Whitfill and Lucia Flood.**

**Photo below : Before the Pet Blessing, Fr. Brian talked about St. Francis of Assisi & read from the Gospel. Photos submitted by Kim Brumfield**



## Mt. Carmel Catholic Cemetery's Restoration Project Reflects Our Respect For Both Our Ancestors And For History By Preserving The Past



of the the restorative cleaning of monuments that accumulated a layer of deposits resulting from hard water, dust, dirt, lichens, mold, bird and sap droppings as well as fungus.

Lonnie Crowds from Rosary Chapel and Board Chairman Jim Sanders, along with caretaker John Bufford are pictured cleaning some of the historical gravestones in the Priests Garden. Mike Wurth also helped and photographed the remarkable transformation. One of the monuments cleaned and restored was that

of the cemetery's founding priest from St. Francis de Sales, Rev. Peter Thomas Meagher O.C.C., native of Ireland, ordained in Rome March 17, 1864 and died Aug. 2, 1880 at the age of 40 years. It was Father Meagher who purchased the grounds for the cemetery and named it Mt. Carmel.

Death is always a moment of religious significance, the culmination of our earthly pilgrimage and the passage to eternity. Ever since the cemetery opened people of all backgrounds have been interred on this holy ground. A person can stroll over Mt. Carmel Cemetery all day and still not take in all the history, or mystery of the people buried there, including

Priests, slaves, politicians, and veterans from several wars including soldiers from the Civil War. In this cemetery are buried many people of all walks of life. The cemetery is located on the corner of Elm-dale and Old Mayfield Road near Lourdes Hospital in Paducah. We invite you to visit in person to experience this unique setting. For more information please call (270) 331-1006, or (270) 534-9000 or visit our website [mtcarmelcemeterypaducah.org](http://mtcarmelcemeterypaducah.org)

Photos courtesy of Mike Wurth

**Submitted by Brenda Spees**

PADUCAH, Ky. - Mt. Carmel's consecrated holy ground is beautifully landscaped with rolling hills, mature trees and peaceful surroundings, yet rich in history. Several historical gravestones were recently cleaned and restored to their original beauty by members of the Mt. Carmel Cemetery board. The gravestones provide a lasting memorial for the deceased, show love, honor and respect for our forefathers, family and friends. This cleaning restoration was done to improve the readability of faint inscriptions. Preserving the gravestone helps ensure the monument will last for generations to come. Over time, these gravestones became worn and discolored.

These photos show before and after



## From Conflict to Communion



### Gospel Unity

By Deacon Terry Larbes

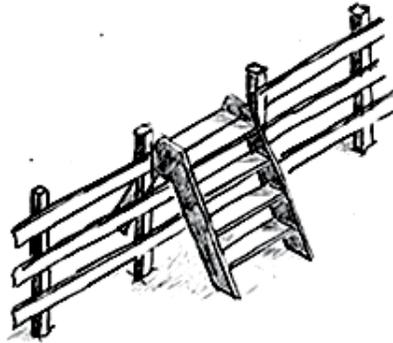
Our calendars display November but October 31st is still fresh in our memory. October 31st is a day during which: children contribute to a family tradition; parents relive their memories through their children's activities; and grandparents bask in the afterglow of passing on of a tradition.

October 31 is Reformation Day. Reformation Day? The historical root of Reformation Day reaches back to October 31, 1517. On that day an Augustinian monk nailed a document to the door of the castle church in Wittenberg, Germany.

Actions always have consequences: intentional and unintentional. Unintended consequences often create a situation that spirals out of control. After nailing the document to the door of the castle church, the situation quickly spiraled out of control. Similar to a marriage relationship splitting apart into "He said; She said," with an abundance of blame, the Body of Christ in Europe was split apart. First into two parts. Then into several parts. Then into many parts.

Actions always have consequences: intentional and unintentional.

Unintended consequences often create a situation that spirals out of control. After nailing the document to the door of the castle church, the situation quickly spiraled out of control. Similar to a marriage relationship splitting apart into "He said; She said," with an abundance of blame, the Body of Christ in Europe was split apart. First into two parts. Then into several parts. Then into many parts.



Intended consequences are difficult to realize when the unintended consequences dominate the issue. The monk intended to initiate a process of change in the practice of the Catholic faith; a reformation of practice which would place the Gospel at the center of life. Today the Gospel is the center of life for many Christians. They have allowed themselves to be reformed by the Holy Spirit so that the Gospel is the center of their life. The Holy Spirit unifies the separated, unifies the many, unifies the Body of Christ by placing the Gospel at the center of life

Reformation Day is an annual event; in 2017, three years from now, the 500th anniversary of Reformation Day will arrive. The people of Protestant and the Roman Catholic faith traditions are asking

Ecumenical Calendar	
• 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
• <b>Nov. 24 – 28</b>	<b>Ecumenical prayer gatherings of Thanksgiving: celebrated locally</b>
• Dec. 15, 2014	Ecumenical Commission Meeting: Christ the King, Madisonville- 11am to 2pm
• <b>Dec. 21 – 25</b>	<b>Ecumenical prayer gathering for Christmas: celebrated locally</b>
• <b>Jan. 18 – 25, 2015</b>	<b>Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: celebrated locally</b>
• <b>Mar. 16, 2015</b>	Ecumenical Commission Meeting: Christ the King, Madisonville- 11am to 2pm
• <b>Apr. 5, 2015</b>	<b>Ecumenical prayer gatherings for Easter: celebrated locally</b>

the same question: "Should the Catholics be invited to participate in the 500th year anniversary of Reformation Day?"

For Catholics to join in the celebration indeed requires there to be something positive in the Protestant churches, providing grounds to celebrate. They could not possibly celebrate if there were only the negative of division; but then Protestants would not be able to celebrate either. The decisive ecumenical question is thus whether the good that Protestants celebrate can also be perceived and recognized as good by Catholics. The Second Vatican Council has however paved the way for this to happen. The Council is known for having recognized "elements of sanctification and truth" to exist

beyond the boundaries of the church that is led by the Pope. It established that "some and even very many of the significant elements and endowments which together go to build up and give life to the Church itself, can exist outside the visible boundaries of the Catholic Church. (Prof. Theodor Dieter)

The question of celebrating together involves nothing less than the catholicity of the Roman Catholic Church and the Protestant churches. ... Catholics would not be taking their catholicity seriously were they not to celebrate in 2017. Conversely, Protestant Christians would not be taking their catholicity seriously if they were not to invite Catholics to celebrate with them while also allowing for space to express their own pain over the division as well as that of their Catholic brothers and sisters. Churches

that are not aware of their catholicity and do not take this seriously are only ecclesial communities. An individual church can only be Church if it has an awareness of its catholicity and expresses it in an appreciable way. 2017 involves a challenge to the churches to develop this awareness further, with the appeal: Roman Catholics should be more catholic! And the Protestant Christians should be more catholic and live in a more catholic manner! (Prof. Theodor Dieter)

If Protestants, however, rejoice at how the reformers opened up the Gospel to them with such clarity and power, can Catholics do anything else but rejoice along with them? Both are indeed members of the same body. They are, as the Second Vatican Council established, bound together through the ties of baptism. (Unitatis redintegratio 1.3) To recapitulate: The Protestants celebrate the Gospel, as it was revealed to them, but not the division of the church; the Catholics must therefore not fear that they would be celebrating this rift if they were to take part in the 2017 Reformation anniversary celebrations. (Prof. Theodor Dieter)

Any Gospel centered Christian can pray with any other Gospel centered Christian. Human definitions of language, race, nationality, denominations, and ethnicity are transcended by the Gospel. A retired police officer related the following story to me. The officer was called to a home that was embroiled in a severe and violent domestic dispute. The officer tried all the standard methods to calm and separate the family. None of them worked. Finally the officer standing among the arguing family started to pray the Our Father aloud. Within a few seconds the arguing disappeared. By the end of the Gospel prayer peace was restored.

## Owensboro Diocesan Youth Conference

November 21-22, 2014

Owensboro Convention Center

Fr. Joseph Esquillat  
Keynote



Mary Bielski  
Emcee



### Conference Offerings:

Keynotes  
CHR Helping Hands Project  
Adoration  
Confessions  
Exhibitors  
Workshops

For more information visit: [www.odyc.us](http://www.odyc.us)

Conference is open to  
Middle and High School

A Eucharistic Procession to St. Stephen Cathedral will be held on Friday evening.

Hotel available at:  
Hampton Inn Riverfront for \$119 per night. Call 270-685-2005 and ask for room block Diocese of Owensboro by Oct 31st for the discount price.

### Other Hotels in Owensboro:

Sleep Inn  
Comfort Suites  
Holiday Inn Express  
Ramada Inn  
Days Inn  
Hampton Inn  
Fairfield Inn  
Courtyard  
Marriott

## Talking The Faith

### Gospel Call

By Thomas Ryan, CSP

The community to which I belong, the Paulist Fathers, was founded in 1858 by a group of five converts to Catholicism. Their leader, Isaac Thomas Hecker, was raised in a Methodist family and participated in the 19th century communitarian and Transcendentalist movements with Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau.

This religious society of priests was founded in an era where Catholics were “outsiders”, a separated minority in the midst of a dominant American culture strongly influenced by Evangelical Christianity. The early Paulists described themselves as “missionaries to main street”. Their expertise was to operate on the boundaries that separated Catholics and Protestants in America.

Using every form of modern media, they explained the Catholic Church to the larger Protestant culture; opened campus ministries on state university campuses; created trailer missions into the rural Southern states, the heartland of Protestant America; built Catholic Information Centers where Protestants worked and shopped in American and Canadian cities.

In the years following the Second Vatican Council when religious communities were asked to renew their mission statements, the Paulists formally made ecumenism—the work for Christian unity—an integral part of their pastoral mission. It was an era in which the work of Paulist preaching teams began to disappear.

In the early years of my ministry, while serving as the director of the Newman Centre at McGill University in Montreal, I found myself reflecting on how we might be able to put an “ecumenical spin” on the traditional work of mission preaching and breathe a new air into it. Shortly thereafter, in accepting a full-time ministry at the Montreal-based Canadian Centre for Ecumenism, the inspiration was given.

The associate pastor of the Anglican cathedral in Montreal, William Derby, had become a friend, and responded positively to my inquiry as to whether he would be interested in becoming my preaching partner in a new form of parish missions—ecumenical missions. These

missions would be sponsored not just by one congregation, but several—from different denominations.

In the traditional 4-evening model for parish missions, we would move around to a different church each evening, giving participants from the different denominations the opportunity to pray together in each other’s churches, fellowship in each other’s halls, and develop a little “family feeling” by spending some time in each other’s “rooms” within the Christian household.

We would also offer day-time events such as a breakfast session for those on their way to work, a mid-morning bible study, an afternoon luncheon talk, or mid-afternoon faith-sharing over tea and crumpets.

I made effective use of the ecumenical centre’s nation-wide contacts with city and provincial councils of churches and clergy associations to promote this model for an ecumenical mission that would be co-sponsored by at least three or four congregations in their area.

The first to take the bait were four congregations—Anglican, Lutheran, Roman Catholic, and United Church of Canada—in Sherwood Park, Alberta, in 1989. And the seeds fell on fertile soil. They found it such a positive experience that they decided to do it annually, albeit with a slightly different model.

Each one of the co-sponsoring congregations would take its turn in hosting the events, and the preacher for that year would come from that denomination. They invited Rev. Derby and I back to preach their 10th anniversary mission, and this past October 5-8, re-employing the original model of moving the events around to a different church each day and evening, to lead their 25th anniversary mission!

Over these 25 years the number of co-sponsoring congregations has grown from 4 to 10. What a marvelous example of the words written by St. Paul: “Paul plants, Apollo waters, and God gives the growth.”

This is grassroots ecumenism at its best, for it is groups of people, even more than theological propositions, that need to be reconciled. And this is a task which theologians alone cannot accomplish. It is relationship and love which set us free and enable us to overcome our estrangements.

Theology alone cannot hope to cope

with the host of social, cultural, historical, political and theological factors involved in the disunity of the churches. Only people being Christ to one another can heal those wounds.

In order for the healing of these wounds to happen, we need places and events where people from different denominational backgrounds can come together to share faith and life, places where they can have an experience of Christ present in members of other churches and come to perceive them precisely as Christian, as members of the one body of Christ.

I am now with my third preaching partner, but continue to offer these mis-

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sions—now titled Gospel Call (<http://www.paulist.org/ecumenism/gospel-call>) --because nothing in my 34 years of ecumenical ministry has been as fulfilling as bringing Christians from different congregations together over several days to share prayer, faith, and life.



Fr. Thomas Ryan, CSP, directs the Paulist North American Office for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations in Washington, D.C. [www.tomryancsp.org](http://www.tomryancsp.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 Shonka

Cost:  
\$25 fee includes lunch

Contact Kathy McCarty to register:  
270-229-0206  
[kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org](mailto:kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org)



Mount Saint Joseph  
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road  
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999  
270-229-4103  
[www.arsalinesmj.org](http://www.arsalinesmj.org)



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro



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 Verhey.

## To Report Allegations of Sexual Abuse

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).

In addition, 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 revised its sexual abuse policy, effective July 1, 2014 and it is available at parishes and also on the diocesan web site ([www.rcdok.org/safe](http://www.rcdok.org/safe)).

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.

By Larena Lawson

Lolek Productions, led by Father Joshua McCarty, is evangelizing through high quality Catholic media in this digital world. The icon Project takes a closer look at life, using a video camera lens to see grace more clearly.

These “short films of personal testimony” stir thought and emotion, drawing the viewer into the beauty and candor of these inspiring stories. The surprising moment of grace in each video serves to catch the viewer off guard and insert the Gospel Message.

St. John Paul II, (Lolek was his childhood nickname) said in 1983 to CELAM,

*The commemoration of the half millennium of evangelization will gain its full energy if it is a commitment, not to re-evangelize but to a New Evangelization, new in its ardor, methods and expression.”*

Lolek Productions takes on this challenge and is totally committed to using new methods and expression to share the Good News of the Gospel.

Each video in the icon project includes a detailed Study Guide that will help facilitate group discussion on various critical subjects that are relevant to people living in the modern world.

It is the vision of Lolek Productions that Parish Youth Ministers, Catechists, Catholic School Teachers, Home School Parents, Adult Study Groups and even those within the family themselves, would use these inspirational videos as powerful

resources to help teach more about the beauty and truth of the Catholic faith.

**Make a \$50 donation online or more and receive a DVD and study guide for FREE!** <http://lolekproductions.com/donate>

# LOLEK PRODUCTIONS



Short Films of Personal Testimony

iconproject

Watch the video at [lolekproductions.com](http://lolekproductions.com)

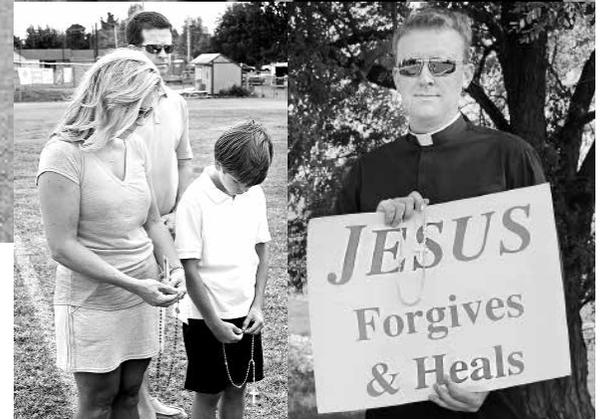
# Paducah Deanery and Catholic Schools Stand With Paducah Life Chain October 2 At Lone Oak Road and Around Lourdes Hospital

November, 2014 23

PADUCAH, Ky. - On October 2, 2014, St. Mary students and family members took a stand for an end to abortion; a stand for women, men and babies who are victims; a stand for life as part of the 2014 Paducah Life Chain.

Grades 6-12 lined Medical Center Drive and independently recited the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary or stood in silent reflection, while Mrs. Clark led the elementary students in the Rosary on the soccer field. In addition to the prayer chain at StM, members of the local parishes lined Lone Oak Rd. near Lourdes. Thank you all of the St. Mary parents, alumni and grandparents who joined us for this event.

**St. Mary Schools Community praying the Rosary with students during the October 2 Life Chain. Photos by Heather DeHart**



## The 2014 Diocese of Owensboro Sophia Awards Presented in St. Stephen Cathedral Sept. 28, 2014

**The 2014 Sophia Award Winners:**  
Blessed Mother, Owensboro - **Agnes Muriel Gillim**; Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro - **Larry J. Allen**; Christ the King, Madisonville - **James & Judith Donley**; Christ the King, Scottsville - **Rosalie & Jim Barnard**; Holy Cross, Providence - **Claude D. Melton**; Holy Guardian Angels, Irvington - **Brenda F. Lucas**; Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson - **Paul D. Kuerzi**; Holy Spirit, Bowling Green - **Ed & Barbara Parker**; Immaculate, Owensboro - **Robert & Sylvia Lovett**; Immaculate Conception, Earlington - **Janet Hartline**; Immaculate Conception, Hawesville - **Margaret Powers**; Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro - **Tom Kurz (Deceased)**;

Continued on page 25



Many Sophia Award winners received their award in the presence of family, friends, and parish leadership Sept 28 2014 in St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro. A reception was held immediately following Mass downstairs in the Father Vaughan Community Center.



In a diocesan celebration, the sacred music which the assembly sings is an intrinsic part of the church's prayer. Many Catholics feel that the music at a Mass can lead all to a deeper sense of belonging and inspiration during the celebration. The musicians for the Sophia Awards Mass were led by Diocesan Director of Music Mr. Mike Bogdan shown here at left at the piano. The other musicians are (Center to right): Gary Weilage (guitar) from Holy Spirit, Tracy Day (oboe) from St. Anthony, Browns Valley, Matt Gray (bass) from Immaculate, and Alison Mattingly (cantor) from St. Romuald.

Mel Howard Photos



Each of the 2014 Sophia Award winners were called by name and parish to approach Bishop William Medley to receive the diocese's award. Here, for example, from Precious Blood Parish, Owensboro, Guy & Linda Connor received their award and Bishop Medley's recognition and his thanks on behalf of the diocese.



### The 2014 Sophia Award Winners:

*(Continued from page 24)*

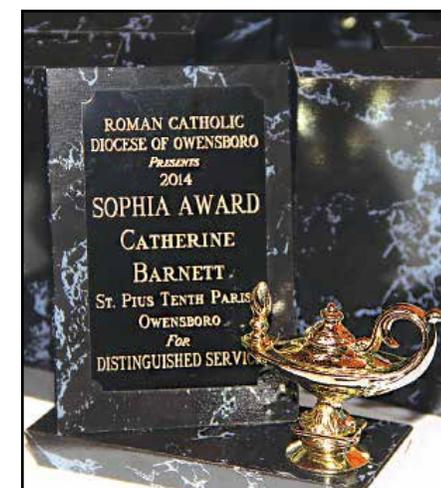
Precious Blood, Owensboro - **Guy & Linda Connor**; Rosary Chapel, Paducah - **Rose Lowery**; Sacred Heart, Russellville - **Pat Bucher**; Sacred Heart, Waverly - **Mike & Linda Williamson**; Saint Agnes, Uniontown - **Matthew L. Buckman**; Saint Alphonsus, St. Joseph - **Frank (Deceased) & Bernice Thomas**; Saint Ann, Morganfield - **John Jenkins**; Saint Anthony, Axtel - **Carl & Joyce Eskridge**; Saint Anthony, Peonia - **Georgetta Smith**; Saint Anthony of Padua, Grand Rivers - **Richard & Patricia Gorbett**; Saint Augustine, Grayson Springs - **Violet Hamilton**; Saint Augustine, Reed - **Ben & Stanette Blair**; Saint Benedict, Wax - **Brenda M. Childress**; Saint Charles, Bardwell - **Anna Rose Rogers**; Saint Charles Borromeo, Livermore - **John & Marsha Logsdon**; Saint Columba, Lewisport - **Robert & Patty Durbin**; Saint Denis, Fancy Farm - **James & Carolyn Morgan**; Saint Edward, Fulton - **Ben Davis**; Saint Elizabeth of Hungary,

Clarkson - **Barbara A. Kiper**; Saint Francis Borgia, Sturgis - **Don & Beth Kemp**; Saint Francis de Sales, Paducah - **Barbara Cissell**; Saint Henry, Aurora - **Myra Frances Fassett**; Saint Jerome, Fancy Farm - **Robert L. Spalding, Sr.**; Saint John the Baptist, Fordsville - **Lee & Connie Roberts**; Saint John the Evangelist, Paducah - **Michael E. Kaufman**; Saint John the Evangelist, Sunfish - **Dwayne & Barbara Fitzhugh**; Saint Joseph, Bowling Green - **Carroll & Sue Hughes**; Saint Joseph, Central City - **Walter & Barbara Doll**; Saint Joseph, Leitchfield - **Dick (Deceased) & Judy Warren**; Saint Joseph, Mayfield - **Mary Jo Cash Wyatt**; Saints Joseph & Paul, Owensboro - **Bill & Katherine Thomas**; Saint Jude, Clinton - **Don & Barb McConnell**; Saint Lawrence, St. Lawrence - **John & Sarah Boarman**; Saint Leo, Murray - **Richard F. (Dick) Weaver**; Saint Mark, Eddyville - **Mrs. Norah Anna Brown**; Saint Martin, Rome - **Harold L. Ebelhar**; Saint Mary, Franklin - **Carol Darrow**; Saint Mary,

LaCenter - **Julie Owsley**; Saint Mary Magdalene, Sorgho - **John D. & Mary Ann Ebelhar**; Saint Mary of the Woods, McQuady - **Joe E. Miller**; Saint Mary of the Woods, Whitesville - **Katie Ellen (Ward) Williams**; Saints Mary & James, Guthrie - **Carl W. Naylor, Sr.**; Saint Michael, Sebree - **Jimmy & Linda Frederick**; Saint Michael the Archangel, Oak Grove - **Sue Montoya**; Saint Paul, Princeton - **Ron & Sue Karst**; Saint Paul, St. Paul - **Dorris McGrew**; Saint Peter of Alcantara, Stanley - **Ken & Edie McKay**; Saint Peter of Antioch, Waverly - **Dottie Peak**; Saints Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville - **Jerry Brockman**; Saint Pius X, Calvert City - **Helen Bennett**; Saint Pius X, Owensboro - **Catherine Barnett**; Saint Romuald, Hardinsburg - **Alvin & Margie Mattingly**; Saint Rose of Lima, Cloverport - **Wally & Rose Mary Harris**; Saint Sebastian, Calhoun - **David & Lynne Scott**; Saint Stephen, Cadiz - **Robert L. Wigger**; Saint Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro - **Mary Horn**; Saint Susan, Elkton - **Bryan W. Blount, III**; Saint Thom-

as More, Paducah - **James & Camilla Shumaker**; Saint William, Knottsville - **Jack & Mary Ann Haycraft**; Saint William of Vercelli, Marion - **Leo & Marian Alvey.**

*Mel Howard Photo*



The Diocese of Owensboro's Sophia Award

## Let the Children Come To Me

You get up early on Sunday morning and you make sure all your children are dressed appropriately; you get yourself dressed and now only have maybe 20 minutes or less to get to church on time. I remember vividly when my daughters were nine and under and it was a pretty easy task getting them dressed because they had to wear what I put out for them and there were no arguments. Those were the days!

Now you have teenage daughters insisting to dear old mom that what they have chosen to wear to church was perfectly appropriate and I am looking at them like they are crazy. Was I too picky? Probably so! But I was going

to stand my ground and they were going to stomp off mad at their crazy mother, then be sly and go to their dad and ask; "Do you think this looks good for church, dad?" I hear the question way down the hall and I yell loudly for Steve to say no. Tick-tock, tick-tock, I look at the clock and I only have 15 minutes to get ready in time for church after that debate.

On our way to church we always used that time to talk to our youngest son, Ben, about behaving in church. I preferred to choose a pew already kind of crowded because that wouldn't allow a whole lot of wiggle room for my ADHD son. And I am not ashamed to



**Lydia Enjoys Life And What God Has Given Her**  
Paul and Ashley Haycraft with their children, Lydia, second from right, and Drake, were tossing rings in a bottle pitch booth of the Mary Carrico Catholic School picnic. Lydia and Drake had been saving their money to spend at the picnic. Lydia won that Coke beside her. Photo by Larena Lawson



**Saturday, September 27, 2014 Confirmation by Bishop William Medley**  
Holy Spirit Church, Bowling Green celebrated Confirmation with Bishop Medley. Fifteen Burmese Youths were confirmed in the group. Posted by Burmese Catholic Community in KY, Source: <http://mcatholicky.blogspot.com/2014/09/2014-confirmation-by-bishop-william.html>. Photo by Joseph Khai.

say that Steve and I did our fair share of bargaining with Ben, trying to get enough incentive for him to try harder. Then, we finally arrive!

Ben starts out for the first 10 minutes pretty calm. Another ten minutes go by and he is elbowing and crouching in on his sister's space. Well Brett is showing signs of annoyance and elbows him back. I give that cold stare at both of them. Next thing I know he is laying on the kneeler making race car sounds and crashing sounds. I pull his arm up and whisper in his ear again about being quiet and I just couldn't help myself and mention our little agreement. He throws me a smile and for about two minutes he is back at it and laying in the pew and just wiggling all over the place. Now it's dad's turn to try. I point at Ben and his daddy whispers sweet nothings in his ear. Just joking, it was more like be good or else talk!

Ben's face goes from joy to total fear, and I am meaning a healthy fear of the consequences of what will happen when we get home if he doesn't stop being so disruptive. I am already exhausted at this point. I ask Steve if he liked the homily because I didn't get to hear

a thing, or at least have it penetrate my heart.

With some nostalgia, do I miss those days? No way!!! I miss my kids when they were small children and have some amazing memories but this gal doesn't want to turn back the time.

All of you wonderful parents who are taking their children to church every Sunday just remember the fruits of your sacrifice and the most important lesson you will ever instill in your children; the responsibility of going to Mass and keeping God's commandment to keep holy the Sabbath. You are teaching your children, "God's children," a love for their creator. Don't worry about what everyone is thinking about your child, or what you presume to think they are. Most of them have been through it themselves and remember all too well what it was like for them, back in the day!

Just remember what Jesus Christ said about our kids; "let the children come to me!"

+JM+ Julie Murphy



# Mary Carrico Catholic School Picnic Is a Family-Centered Celebration

November, 2014 27



Carl and Jim O'Bryan cutting mutton.

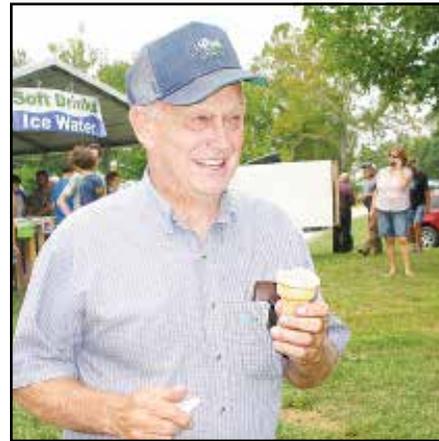
SAINT LAWRENCE, Ky. - The Mary Carrico Catholic School Picnic, Sept. 20, 2014, was very much a family-centered celebration and fundraiser for the school. Many of the stands for the picnic were staffed by family members - Dads and sons, Mothers and daughters, husbands and wives, grandparents and cousins, too. Even those who were not in a family at a booth were included as family for the work, for the fun, and for serving the public who came to the picnic.

It's like Jim O'Bryan, shown cutting mutton in the photo at left, with his father, Carl O'Bryan, said: "I'm from around here, and I always like to come back to help out."

Helping out, volunteering a morning, an afternoon, or even the many days of preparation for a parish picnic has been a strong family tradition for the Catholic parishes of Eastern Daviess County. The Catholic culture is strong in the area. For example, Saint Lawrence Church is near the site where the first Catholic Mass was offered in Daviess County, on land in the southeast corner of the intersection of Aull Road and KY 144. The pictures here celebrate this family spirit of picnic day at St. Lawrence & St. William Picnic grounds.



Mary Carrico Catholic School principal Chuck Green was being interviewed about the picnic Sept. 20 by WBKR-FM 92.5 radio reporter Barb Birgy. The students are L to R: Hunter Smith, Ezra Matingly, Trevor Howard, Wesley Hamilton, and Eli Matingly.



Jimmy Johnson, in photo at left, likes ice cream. So do two of his grandsons, twins Zeke and Zack Roberts. You gotta have ice cream at a parish or school picnic.



Traffic was backed up along St. Lawrence Road waiting to buy mutton, pork, chicken and burgoo Sept 20. Dick Johnson who lives nearby said the cars were backed up all the way to near his house at the intersection of St. Lawrence Spur Rd. and St. Lawrence Rd.



Their sign at the front of an ice cream stand says: "WE ARE the Saint Lawrence & Saint William YOUTH GROUP. We have awesome t-shirts, awesome people and do stuff like Volunteer! Go To Church! Eat Pizza Rolls! Play Basketball!" From left are Ethan Rhodes, Mikaela Mills, MacKenzie Mills, Whitney Ferguson, Kateri Rhodes, Katrina Rhodes and Monnie Rhodes. Mel Howard photos

At left, Kayla Veach teaches third and fourth grades at MCCES. With her husband John Veach, she was helping out with the inflatables, a popular feature of the MCCES Picnic for the kids. Kayla is holding her son Connor, about 5 months old in this picture.

## Fall Events at Trinity High School and St. Mary Catholic Elementary



On Wednesday, September 24th, 2014, Saint Mary of the Woods Catholic School honored our 8th grade volleyball players and parents on our annual 8th grade night! Eighth grade volleyball players are shown in the picture attached: Allison Payne, Brittney Booker, Savannah Aull, Mary Haycraft, Abbey Pike, Colsi Stauffer, and Nina Wathen.



On Monday, September 15th, August Students of the Month were recognized in front of parents, family members, students and staff. The students recognized from St. Mary of the Woods Catholic School were Georgia Howard, Clayton Rhodes, and Peyton Chaffin.



This year, Trinity High School started a golf team. Members of the golf team are included in the attached picture: Head Coach Brock Rydecki, Luke Payne, Daniel Morris, Sam Russelburg, Nolan Howard, Hunter O'Bryan, Brent Graham.

In the photo at lower right - Each month, Trinity High School Student Council members lead students in celebration of fun national holidays. In the month of September, Student Council celebrated National Chocolate Milk Day! Student Council members welcomed students and staff as the school doors opened with glasses of chocolate milk. Student Council members are shown in the attached picture: Hope Boue, Sarah Smith, Abby Booker, Mikaelyn Aud, Caleb Goetz, Hannah Bland, Allison Mattingly, Blake Booker, Hannah Armes, Alex Hamilton, and Daniel Morris (Jessica Henson not shown).



On September 14th, 2014, St. Mary of the Woods Catholic School YDOSA girls served at the annual Ursuline Sisters Picnic. Students are pictured in the photo attached with Sr. Suzanne Sims, principal of Saint Mary of the Woods Catholic School and fellow Ursuline Sister.

Trinity High School grad, Chad Mills, Gov Steve Beshear and Chad's father Ray Mills. also a THS Grad are shown at right. Chad is Business Manager of the United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union 633, and was recently awarded the



2014 Julian Carroll *Outstanding Young Leader & Business Award*. This award was presented to Mills at the 2014 Kentucky Labor Management Conference by Governor Steve Beshear.

Along with holding the office of Business Manager for Local Union 633 in Owensboro, Kentucky, Mills is currently the President of the Owensboro Building and Construction Trades Association. He serves on the Executive Board of the KY AFL-CIO and Chairman of Local Union 633 Apprenticeship Program Board. He is also a member of the Owensboro Chamber of Commerce. Mills has been a member of Local Union 633 for over 20 years and was the previous owner of the union plumbing contractor, "Four C's Plumbing". Submitted by Fr. Tony Shonis



Before school began this year, Saint Mary of the Woods Catholic School and Trinity High School teachers and staff joined together for a day of professional spiritual development. The staffs worked together with Habitat for Humanity to give back to a family in need in the Owensboro area.



# Fall Events at Trinity High School and St. Mary Catholic Elementary

November, 2014 29



On Saturday, September 20th, Trinity High School hosted the 3rd Annual Raider Run! We had a great turnout! Above, runners leaving the starting line and the 2014 Raider Run winners!

Below left, each school year, Trinity High School Y Club gives back to the school by completing a Beautification Project. Students work diligently after school one afternoon to completely clean the high school from head to toe. Students love the opportunity to invest their time and effort to making the school a better place. Above, Allen Howe making a clean sweep near Trinity's front entrance. Kim Rydecki Photo



On Tuesday, September 23rd, St. Mary of the Woods Catholic School celebrated their annual Grandparents Day! Grandparents of our students came to participate in Mass and share breakfast with their grandchildren.



Ian Howard with Jerry & Berdelle Howard



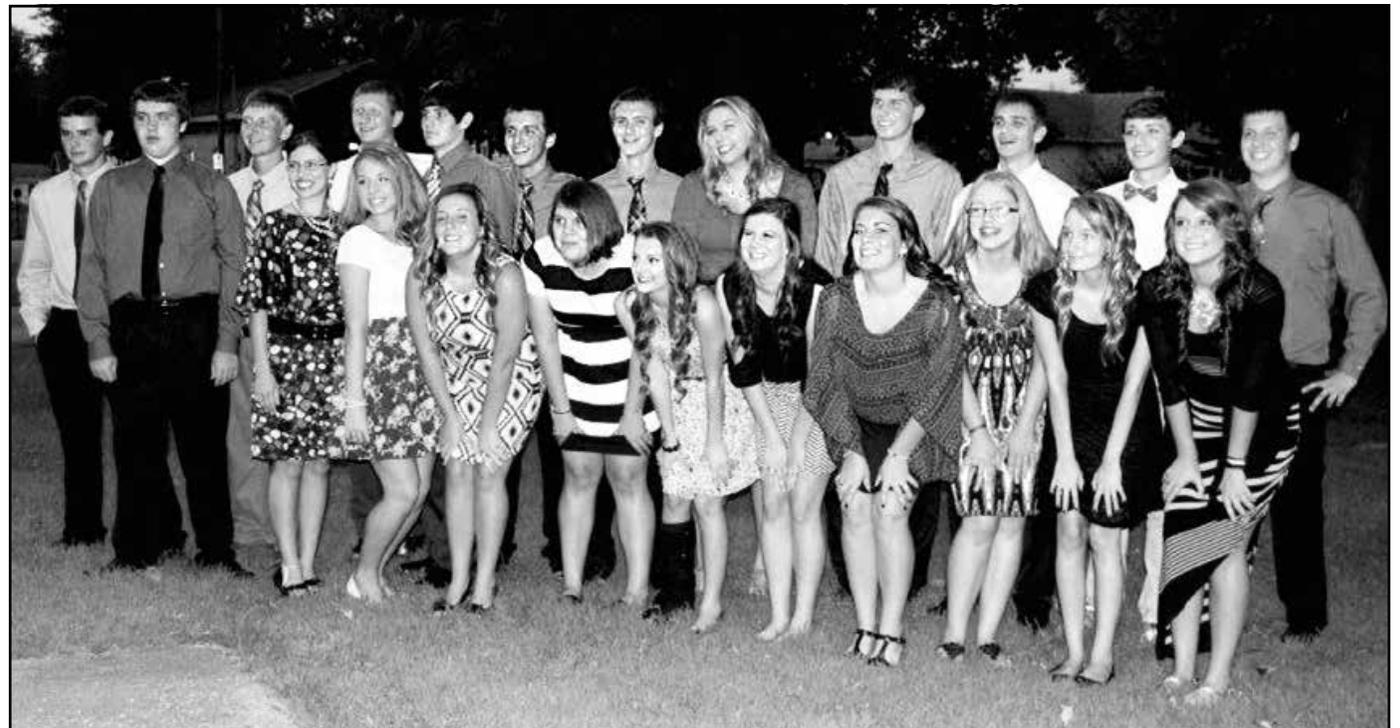
Elizabeth Wathen with Anna & Thomas Wathen



Thomas Jarboe with his grandmother Kathy Jarboe



Allison Payne with her grandmother Catherine Payne



On Wednesday, August 27th, Seniors at Trinity High School celebrated their Ring Day Mass and Reception. On this special day, Seniors have their rings blessed and presented to them from our residing pastor, Father Gerald Baker. Seniors then have the opportunity to visit and eat with friends and family at the reception. Picture above is of the senior class who participated in this Ring Day Mass celebration.

## Grandparents' Day At OCHS Sept. 25, 2014



Virginia Corley, lower left, visited with her grand-daughter, as Fr. Ed Bradley, OCHS Chaplain, greeted a grandparent before Mass Sept. 25. Mel Howard Photos



Members of the FFA of OCHS worked with Ashley Thomas FFA sponsor, center, to serve a meal for OC grandparents in the small gym.



Sam Aull helping to place additional chairs on the gym floor as it was being changed into a chapel for Grandparents' Day at OCHS Sept. 25, 20-14



## At Catholic High, students truly come together to make a beautiful puzzle

At Grandparents' Day At OCHS Sept. 25, 2014, Fr. Ed Bradley quoted Pope Francis: "Just as fine wine grows stronger with age, grandparents and other elderly Catholics have

the strength to leave us a noble inheritance," Pope Francis also said at early morning Mass Nov.19, 2013 in the chapel of his residence, the Domus Sanctae Marthae. "Grandparents

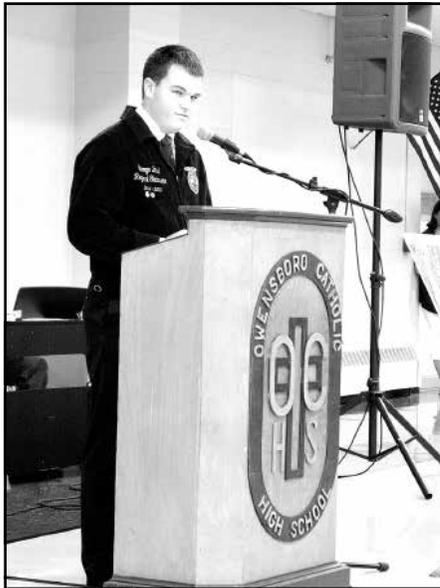
are a treasure ... the wisdom our grandparents have is something we must welcome as an inheritance." Pope Francis urged the world to not lose its memory: A society or community that

does not value, respect and care for its elderly members "doesn't have a future because it has no memory, it's lost its memory," Pope Francis added. Photo composite by Mel Howard

# OCHS Senior: Today, We Celebrate All You Do For Your Grandchildren

November, 2014 31

OWENSBORO CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL - Good morning! My name is George Bittel and I am a senior here at Catholic High. It is an honor to speak to you today and celebrate all you do for your grandchildren.



George Bittel delivering a tribute to Grandparents Sept. 25, 2014 at OCHS.

As a little boy I loved going to my grandparents for two reasons: the first was to see what my grandmother had baked for my sisters and me and the second was to put together one of the many puzzles in their basement. My favorite puzzle was one my Granddaddy liked too, a colorful arrangement of hot-air balloons floating in the clouds. Although this was my favorite puzzle there was a major problem, it was the biggest puzzle and I was only four years old. Every visit my sisters would tell me there was no way I would solve the puzzle before we left. I would piece together the edges and work my way in until I got stuck, but no worries; my granddaddy was always there to help me. He encouraged me to try new pieces until I finally got it right.



OCHS student Sam Hein assisted his Grandmother in the Communion line at Grandparents Day Mass, Sept. 25.



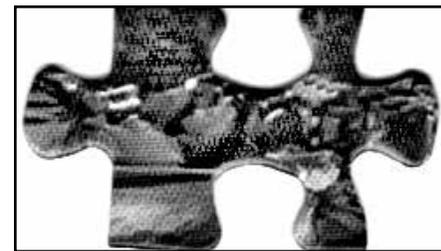
## Celebrating Life With The Grands!

Crystal Huang, at right front, stood with OCHS Counselor Bev Howard and her Granddaughter, Allie Ford, at left. Crystal's grandma's name is Zhao Shuyi, who is from South China. Crystal came to OCHS because her mother, Zhengyan Guo, taught at Brescia University, KWC and OCTC a few years ago and learned about OCHS. Crystal said she came here to study and get a good education. She was missing her grandma on that day, so Mrs. Howard was standing in as Crystal's Grandmother with hugs and smiles. Mel Howard Photo

I would get so excited when I finally finished the puzzle.

Little did I know my granddaddy was teaching me to be independent, to believe in myself, and shaping me into the young man I am today. He never gave up on me and he showed me how to support others. As I look back, its unbelievable to see how many values our grandparents teach us through simple acts like solving a puzzle.

As you walked in today, each



of you received a puzzle piece. This puzzle piece represents one of the 460 students here at OCHS. The piece you are holding is one of a kind, just as each of your grandchildren are. All these pieces have differ-

ent shapes, colors and sizes. These differences are the different values our grandparents have instilled in us: courage, humility, leadership, patience, hope, love, faith, and many more. Every puzzle piece is different yet the pieces come together to make a beautiful picture. The pieces you are holding make this beautiful basilica. Just as they come together, your grandchildren come together here to be a family. It is amazing to see the values given to us by our grandparents transcend into our relationships with our peers as well as our teachers at Catholic High. Students here truly come together to make a beautiful puzzle.

Without grandparents it would not be possible for students to learn and grow in a Christian atmosphere like OCHS. Grandparents shape us into the young men and women we are today. On behalf of the OCHS family I want to thank you, our grandparents, for creating the beautiful puzzle we call Owensboro Catholic High School. Thank you.

## USCCB Chairman announces observance of “Days with Religious” for 2015 Year of Consecrated Life

WASHINGTON—As the Catholic Church prepares to celebrate the Year of Consecrated Life, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ (USCCB) Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations is promoting “Days with Religious” initiatives and resources to help families learn about the consecrated life of religious men and women. Activities will focus on sharing experiences of prayer, service and community life with those living a consecrated life.

“Our brothers and sisters in Christ living consecrated lives make great contributions to our society through a vast number of ministries,” said Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, president of USCCB. “They teach in our schools, take care of the poor and the sick and bring compassion and the love of Christ to those shunned by society; others lead lives of prayer in contemplation for the world.”

Pope Francis proclaimed 2015 a Year of Consecrated Life, starting on



the First Sunday of Advent, the weekend of November 29, 2014, and ending on February 2, 2016, the World Day of Consecrated life. The year also marks the 50th anniversary of Perfectae Caritatis, a decree on religious life, and Lumen Gentium, the Second Vatican Council’s constitution on the Church. Its purpose, as stated by the Vatican is to “make a grateful remembrance of the recent past” while embracing “the fu-

ture with hope.”

“The ‘Days with Religious’ activities will represent great opportunities for families and adults to look at the many ways men and women serve Christ and the Church while answering the call to live in consecrated life,” said Bishop Michael F. Burbidge of Raleigh, North Carolina, chairman of the USCCB Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations.

Catholics are invited to join activities that will be promoted in collaboration with the Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious, (CMSWR), the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) and the Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM).

The events planned are as follows:

- February 8, 2015: Religious Open House. Events will be coordinated to also celebrate the World Meeting of Families to take place in Philadelphia

and will include tours, open houses, receptions, family activities, and presentations on the history of religious communities at convents, abbeys, monasteries and religious houses.

- Summer 2015: Day of Mission and Service with Religious. Events will include joining religious in their apostolates or special service projects, such as assisting the elderly, ministering to the poor and homeless, and caring for the less fortunate.

- September 13, 2015: Day of Prayer with Religious. Events will include vespers, rosary or holy hours in convents, monasteries, religious houses, parishes and churches.

Prayers intentions, prayer cards, a video on consecrated life and other resources are available at: [www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/vocations/consecrated-life/year-of-consecrated-life/index.cfm](http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/vocations/consecrated-life/year-of-consecrated-life/index.cfm)



## Firefighters Are Our Everyday Heroes

Thanks to the Henderson Fire Department for hosting Holy Name School’s Kindergarten classes on September 30. Miss Judy and Mrs. Kim’s classes walked from the school to the downtown station and even got a chance to try their hands at using the fire hose. Jace Evans is assisted at lower left by one of Henderson’s finest. Photos by Karen Evans and Candy Marsh



## A Clean Sweep

On Monday, October 5th, 2014 Trinity High School Boys Basketball team visited Mount St. Joseph and volunteered their time and talent to better this religious environment.

Kim Rydecki Photo



The Sts. Peter & Paul Msgr. James H Willett Council #7847 Knights of Columbus shared the Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose with SPPS students. The rose is traveling throughout the United States and was brought to Hopkinsville and displayed in the church for 3 days. From left to right are Bob Marko, Kate Cayce, Rocky Spader, Joseph Ethridge, Madelyn Harrington, and Karsyn Steger. Photos submitted by Sarah Kranz

On September 19, 2014, the First Grade and Kindergarten Jr. American Citizen classes of Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic School in Hopkinsville, Ky. presented the program "We the People" in honor of Constitution Week. They sang patriotic songs and shared facts about the Constitution and the United States. Flags, pencils, and Constitution pamphlets were distributed by the Col. John Green Chapter DAR, KY Trace Chapter Jamestowne Society, and Cumberland Trace Chapter DAC. Pictured left to right 1st row: Jack Whaley Long, Maddy Harrington, Jared Oñate, Brady Brown, Timothy Sunderhaus, Garrett Sharpe, Aaron Stevens, Gregory Daugherty, Scarlett Davis; 2nd row: Keoni Yingling, Lila Jorgensen, Trieu Nguyen, Joseph Etheridge, Kate Cayce, Zach Allen, Alexander Becker, Karsyn Steger, Violet Zabka; 3rd row: John Allard, Hunter Reigel, Hunter Goodin, Julian Oriaku, Laney Chaudoin, Annalee Renfroe, Emily Maides, Caroline Baker, Cecilia Langhi; Elizabeth Stevens, Mariana Vierya, Liam Nisbet, Collin Woods, Michael Guzman, Myles Hewell, James Graves.



Each Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic School student presented Jerry Brockman, the \$2 Bill Man, with his own "Brockman's Bucks" in honor of his 80th birthday and being named the recipient of the 2015 Sophia Award. Mr. Brockman was given this name after he began quietly presenting students with \$2 bills for serving, lecturing, or singing at Mass. In this picture, he is showing one of his "bucks" while sitting with the 3rd graders.



The 2014-2015 officers for the Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic School Jr. Beta Club are Alma Valdez, Shane Ethridge, Georgianna Baker, and Anna King. In the front row are new inductees Jude Doer, Will Long, Kaleb Hall, Kendall Doer, and Ian American Horse.



Visitors to the Saints Peter and Paul Catholic School website, found online at <http://stppschool.org/wordpress/>, can get to know these student faces, at left, as well as many others on the school website's Gallery of Photos. Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Owensboro regularly post news, informaton and photos on their websites.

## St. Mary School System "Willkommens" Oktoberfest

PADUCAH, Ky. - Coinciding with the official start of Oktoberfest in Munich, St. Mary School System hosted its inaugural Oktoberfest on Saturday, September 20. The German was brought out in each of the hundreds of St. Mary families, local parishioners, and community members who all enjoyed the day's festivities. The event included a German dinner, an accordion player, carnival games, cloggers, inflatables, live music, a beer/wine garden, a dunking booth and a silent auction.

Designed to build community and provide income on the opposite year of the St. Mary auction, Oktoberfest received rave reviews from those in attendance. Thanks to a dedicated steering committee and many generous donations from the St. Mary families and community, Oktoberfest raised more than \$35,000 for SMSS. The event was such a success and a wonderful day of fall family fun, plans are underway for a similar event for every year. Willkommens - Welcome!

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**Father Pat Reynolds and Eleanor Spry, SMSS Director, welcome and bless the Oktoberfest.**

ables, live music, a beer/wine garden, a dunking booth, and a silent auction.

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**SMEC Chair Chris Hrdlicka officially opens Oktoberfest with the opening of the keg.**



**Jolie Fleming, Chris Hrdlicka, Ann Morrow, and Gale Hatton. Photos by Heather DeHart**



**Pam Heavrin painted many faces at Oktoberfest.**



### 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.

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

Future date: Saturday, Jan. 10, 2015 Spinning Day



**Mount Saint Joseph**  
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road  
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999

Located 12 miles west  
of Owensboro on  
Highway 58

## Spending An Evening With An Ursuline Sister

MAPLE MOUNT, Ky. - "The Spirituality of Beauty" brought 21 people to the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center on Oct. 7 for the second Evening with an Ursuline Sister. Sister Rose Marita O'Bryan brought her special insights into how beauty's role is so important to our daily lives. Eight Ursuline Sisters were joined by 13 lay people for the discussion, including some who attended the first Evening with an Ursuline in September.

The next Evening with an Ursuline Sister is Nov. 4, with Sister Vivian Bowles leading the discussion on "Do You Hear What I Hear?" She will address communication skills and styles related to family, friends and most interpersonal relationships. After that is "Receiving the Gift of Gifts" with Sister Mary Matthias Ward on Dec. 2, where time will be spent journeying into a deeper relationship with God. The evenings begin at 5:30 p.m. with dinner. The cost is \$15. Contact Kathy McCarty to register: [kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org](mailto:kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org) or (270) 229-0206.



Sister Rose Marita used this picture and the words from "Confessions of Saint Augustine" that begin, "Late have I loved you, O Beauty ever ancient, ever new, late have I loved you!" to stress the importance of seeing beauty in wherever we go.



Participants listen to and ponder Sister Rose Marita O'Bryan's presentation on the Spirituality of Beauty. In the foreground, from left are Mary Conroy, Sister Mary Celine Weidenbenner and Ursuline Associate Jennifer Kaminski; in the background, from left, are Sister Mary Matthias Ward, Associate Karen Lasher, Associate Bonnie Marks and Associate Martha Little.

At left, Marie Caraway and her son Isaac pay close attention to Sister Rose Marita's talk. MSJ Photos

## Korean Woman Makes Final Vows as Maryknoll Sister

MARYKNOLL, NY - Sister Anastasia Lee made her final vows as a Maryknoll Sister of St. Dominic at a Mass on Sunday, September 28, 2014, at Assumption Chapel, Maryknoll Sisters Center.

Born in Seoul, Korea, Sister Anastasia was attracted to Africa from an early age and dreamed of being a missionary there. After graduating from University, she taught English for 10 years.

In 1999, she became a Catholic and began thinking of combining religious life with that of a missionary. While searching the internet for missionary groups, she came upon the Maryknoll Sisters website. The importance they placed on living in community, combined with the types of work they did and their openness to receiving women from many different nations into their congregation, stirred her to apply.

Sister Anastasia joined the Maryknoll Sisters in 2005 at Maryknoll, NY. After being trained in Chicago, she took her first vows at Maryknoll, August 12, 2007, and was sent to join the Maryknoll Sisters Peacebuilding Team in Kenya, in East Africa, where she has served for the



**Sister Anastasia Lee**  
past seven years.

Founded in 1912, Maryknoll Sisters is the first US-based congregation of women religious dedicated to world mission. Working primarily among the poor and marginalized in 22 countries around the world, they now number nearly 450 members.



**Maryknoll Sisters**  
Making God's Love Visible

## Foggy Mornings

I was up and out of the house by six am this morning only to step out of the house into the darkness; the world around me was covered in a thick fog. The occasional dim light from a car or house was all you could see.

What lurks there in the darkness?  
Are the lights that I see lights I can trust or could they lead me astray?

This made me think about the world we live in.  
Every day there are many things that can lead us down the wrong paths.

Look for Christ in the dark, foggy places in your life.

He is there offering His peace, love and mercy!  
Be His light and love for others who are struggling in this foggy place we call life!

Christ's blessings to all of you my friends,  
- Marcie

Marcie Henderson is a member of Immaculate Conception Church in Hawesville, Ky.  
Photo by Juanita Smith

## BEHOLD THIS HEART VOCATION RETREAT AT THE PASSIONIST NUNS MONASTERY



Behold This Heart Vocation Day June 2014



"The Thirty and Under Gang"  
Our youngest Sisters

*Wonder what it's like being a Nun?  
Interested in Religious Life?*

Holy Mass & Time for Prayer  
Talks by the Nuns  
Learn about Passionist Life

Hang out with the Sisters  
Make new Friends  
Hike the Trails & Sit by the Lake

Single, Catholic women Ages 16-35 \* November 28-29, 2014  
Call or email Sr. John Mary at  
(270) 315-0800 \* [sjohnm@passionistnuns.org](mailto:sjohnm@passionistnuns.org)

[www.passionistnunsblog.com](http://www.passionistnunsblog.com)

## "Do you Hear What I Hear?"

Tuesday, Nov. 4

"Evening with an Ursuline"

Time:

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

Presenter:

Sister Vhrian Bowles

Cost:

\$15 fee includes dinner

Contact Kathy McCarty to register:

270-229-0206

[kathymccarty@maplemount.org](mailto:kathymccarty@maplemount.org)



This session will address communication styles related to family, friends and most interpersonal relationships.

We will distinguish between hearing and listening, use better conflict and confrontation practices, discuss nonverbal implications and identify roadblocks to mature communication.

The Ursuline Sisters will present a new topic on the first Tuesday of each month through August 2015. Coming up on Dec. 2: "Receiving the Gift of Gifts" with Sister Mary Matthias Ward



**Mount Saint Joseph**  
Conference and Retreat Center

9901 Cummings Road  
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999  
270-229-4103  
[www.ursulincmsj.org](http://www.ursulincmsj.org)  
[info.ms@ursulincmsj.org](mailto:info.ms@ursulincmsj.org)



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro



**YOU ARE INVITED!**

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**October 8 - 17, 2015**

**\$4,399 from Louisville**

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

[www.pilgrimages.com/bishopmedley](http://www.pilgrimages.com/bishopmedley)



D-Day American Cemetery



Stations of the Cross, Lourdes

## Receiving the Gift of Gifts

Tuesday, Dec. 2

"Evening with an Ursuline"

Time:

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

Presenter:

Sister Mary Matthias Ward

Cost:

\$15 fee includes meal

Contact Kathy McCarty to register:

270-229-0206

[kathymccarty@maplemount.org](mailto:kathymccarty@maplemount.org)



Do you experience God's presence?  
What is your response to God's presence? Have you ever felt "empty"?

Was it the absence of God?  
Spend some time in journeying into a deeper relationship with God.

The Ursuline Sisters will present a new topic on the first Tuesday of each month through August 2015. Coming up on Jan. 6: "Learning to See as the Mystics See" with Sister Rose Marita O'Bryan



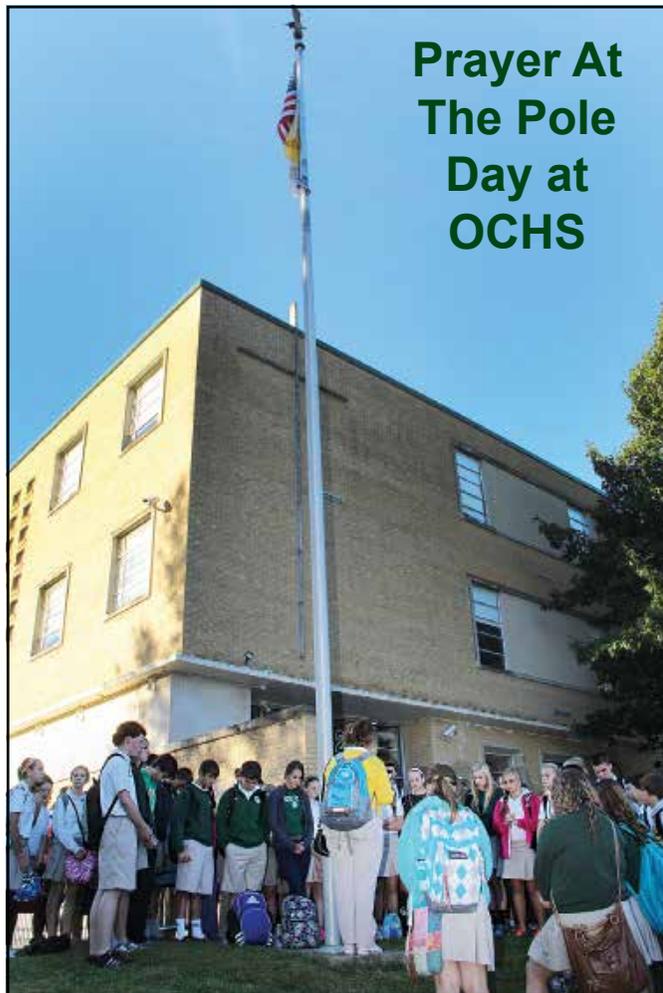
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Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

## Prayer At The Pole Day at OCHS



Students at Owensboro Catholic High School shared in a Global Week of Prayer Sept 24, 2014, nationally known as "See You At The Pole Day," as they gathered before classes started to pray at the flag pole in front of the school.



Madeline Rafferty, in the picture at left, OCHS Student Council Vice-President and SCRUBS VP, Class of 2015, led the nearly 125 students in this prayer:

**I**n a world where people are persecuted for their beliefs, let us be thankful for living in a country where we can express our faith without persecution. Let us not forget those who have given so much for us to be free this day. Free to gather and pray, free to live our lives without fear and free to love God and thank Him each

## Diocesan Group Meets To Begin Discernment about Pastoral Planning for Diocese

OWENSBORO, Ky.

- On October 10, 2014, a group of sixteen diocesan staff members and some parish staffers met at the Logsdon Community Center to start a process of discernment about pastoral planning for the diocese.

Jim Lundholm-Eades, from the Leadership Roundtable for Church Management, presented a day long workshop

for the Diocese's Steering Committee for Pastoral Planning. There is a difference between pastoral planning and strategic planning. The main difference is that pastoral planning is about discerning God's will. Pastoral planning is focused always on the Mission entrusted to us by Christ: "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. (Mt 28:19)"

The process of Pastoral Planning, therefore, looks and feels different. It involves assessing how the Mission is being accomplished, looking at the current reality in our area and in the world, and listening to God's desire for us now. All of this is done in a collaborative way, modeled to us by the Trinity. This way of working may take longer, but it more authentic to what we believe.

Each Sunday in the Creed we say we believe in the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. This sentence describes the Mission. (CCC)

and every day for the gifts he has given us.

"Let us pray, know that God is ever present in our lives. He is the daily presence in our hearts and souls. He is yearning to speak with us like a father yearns to speak to his children. His love is greater than imagined and His mercy undivided. Give up the hate, the anger, the resentments that may be in your heart. Peace and love will come from Jesus and in Him you will find happiness. Be thankful for what you have, be giving and caring for the Lord provides us all with gifts to be shared. What one may be lacking another may provide. Be open to Jesus, He



On Oct. 10, 2014, Jim Lundholm-Eades, right, led participants through a session about what collaboration in church work can be. Mel Howard Photo

Those four aspects involve community; worship and spiritual development; evangelization, catechesis, faith formation; and service to the poor and marginalized. Mt 25:

Members of the Steering committee for Pastoral Planning are: Deacon Paul Bachi, Joe Bland, Sr. Ethel-Marie Biri, Abraham Brown, Ann Flaherty, Chris Gutierrez, Martha Hagan, Charlie Hardesty, Dan Heckel, Rosa Hockenberry, Kevin Kauffeld, Fr. Larry McBride, Sr. Ann McGrew, Richard Murphy, Louanne Payne, Peggy Potempa, and Fr. John Vaughan.

Each person present found Mr. Lundholm-Eades workshop to be very informative and helpful. As a result of the workshop, the shift from a business model to a pastoral model became clearer and the committee had the opportunity to experience some the processes involved. At the end of the workshop the committee knew what our next step will be and left with a greater confidence and trust that God will lead us and we will listen.

will guide your thoughts and feelings. The reality is that God is our creator and He lives in us. He sacrificed His Son to show us the way back to His love. Jesus is that reality and truth.

"Fear leaves us hollow inside  
Love fills us up.  
Resentment rips us apart.  
Love heals.  
Ego wants more.  
Love has plenty.  
Anger burns out.  
Love's light endures forever.  
Glory be ... Amen"

*Prayer written by Scott Lowe, OCHS Senior Counselor*

## Paducah Area Serra Club's Mission For Vocations

PADUCAH, KY – Each month, The Paducah Area Serra Club meets for lunch and works to strengthen the dedication to its mission. Serra clubs are located throughout the world, and the Paducah club is part of Serra International; and even though Serra Clubs are worldwide, you may not know much about the organization. However, the fruit of their labor is something that every Catholic encounters often in spiritual life.

The Serra Club is dedicated to encouraging religious vocations and supporting those who have chosen to enter into religious life. The Serra Club takes its name from Franciscan missionary Blessed Fr. Junipero Serra, who was the founder of the mission system in California in the 1700's. Father Serra's missions were established along El Camino Real, which linked his Church-centered communities up and down the California coastline.

Like Father Serra, the groups put faith into action by accepting the challenge of fostering vocations and encouraging spiritual growth in priest, nuns,

brothers, deacons and others seeking a life in religious service. Through vocation programs, educational outreach and prayer, the Serra Club members strive to encourage those considering a vocation and supporting those who have already made the decision.

At the Paducah Area Serra Club's October meeting, the group heard from Fr. Jason McClure, director of vocations for the Diocese of Owensboro. Fr. McClure spoke to the group about his own calling to a life centered in Christ and how mentors along his spiritual journey helped during his time of discernment. He further discussed the importance of groups like the Serra Club who help support those making the decision and those that have newly chosen to travel this path.

If you are interested in being involved in the Serra Club and support their efforts of encouraging others to choose a life of religious vocation, check with your local parish. If there is not a Serra Club in your area, maybe you are called to lead an effort to start a chapter. More information about Serra Club's can be found



At the Paducah Area Serra Club's October meeting, the group heard from Fr. Jason McClure, director of Vocations for the Diocese of Owensboro. Fr. McClure spoke to the group about his own calling to a life centered in Christ and how mentors along his spiritual journey helped during his time of discernment. Photo by J.Patrick Kerr online at [www.serraus.org](http://www.serraus.org).

## Cardinal Turkson to Lead U.S. Symposium on Faith and Farming

By Jonathan Liedl

The high-ranking Vatican official, who is helping to draft a papal encyclical on the environment, will participate in the Nov. 5 to 7 Symposium on Faith and Farming event.

St. Paul, Minn. – One of world's leading Catholic officials will bring Pope Francis' message of faith-based ecology to the United States this fall. Cardinal Peter Turkson will deliver the keynote address and participate in working sessions at the Faith, Food & the Environment Symposium, a groundbreaking event that will confront the challenges of 21st century agriculture from a faith-based perspective.



Cardinal Peter Turkson

The symposium will be held from Nov. 5 to 7 on the St. Paul campus of the University of St. Thomas.

Cardinal Turkson serves as the pres-

ident of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace in the Vatican and is considered a leading authority on the ethics of agriculture. The Ghanaian native has played a leading role in drafting Pope Francis' forthcoming encyclical on the environment.

His presentation, expected to hint at what the world can expect from the pope, will be held at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 5, in the O'Shaughnessy Education Center Auditorium on St. Thomas's campus. The lecture is free and open to the public, and seats can be reserved at [ffesymposium.eventbrite.com](http://ffesymposium.eventbrite.com).

The cardinal will be joined at the symposium by other notable Catholic figures. Five bishops, including Bishop Richard Pates of the Diocese of Des Moines, will participate, as will a number of Catholic moral theologians and scholars. Policy experts, such as Jason Adkins of the Minnesota Catholic Conference, Dan Misleh of the Catholic Climate Covenant, and Antony Granado of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, will also take part.

About the Symposium

The Faith, Food & the Environment Symposium will bring together more than 40 leaders in the fields of agriculture and food production, environmental studies and theology to examine how faith traditions can inform solutions to modern agricultural challenges, such as food shortages, environmental degradation and the ethical use of biotechnology.

This year's symposium is part of a broader initiative called The Vocation of the Agricultural Leader, which aims to provide leaders in the farming and food industries with practical, faith-based principles that can be applied to their daily work.

The November event will be followed by an international symposium in Milan, Italy, in 2015. The results of both symposiums will be used to develop a set of resources for the initiative.

The symposium is co-hosted by several organizations from the faith, academic and agricultural sectors. Co-hosts include Farmers Union Enterprises (Minnesota Farmers Union, Wisconsin Farmers Union, South Dakota Farmers Union, North Dakota Farmers Union, Montana

Farmers Union), The St. Paul Seminary School of Divinity, Catholic Rural Life, the University of St. Thomas, the Center for Catholic Studies at St. Thomas, the Minnesota Catholic Conference, the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, and the International Catholic Rural Association.

About Catholic Rural Life

Catholic Rural Life (CRL) is a 90 year old organization dedicated to applying the teachings of Christ and his Church to the countryside. CRL addresses the most pressing needs of America's rural communities by focusing on three areas of impact: Stewardship of Creation, Food and Agriculture, and Rural Ministry and Outreach. The organization is committed to the spiritual, social, and economic well-being of rural Catholics, and pursues this end through a number of initiatives, ranging from lay leadership programs for countryside parishes to public policy advocacy on behalf of proprietary and family farmers. CRL is based in St. Paul, Minn., and is led by its executive director, Mr. James Ennis.

# St. Thomas More Parish Dedicates Rosary Garden

November, 2014 39

PADUCAH, KY – On October 1, nearly 100 St. Thomas More Parishioners and guests turned out for the official dedication of the Works of Mercy Chapel's Rosary Garden. The garden was envisioned as part of the parish's Works of Mercy Chapel project, which was completed in 2013. The garden itself was tended to during the spring and summer of 2014 and was completed this fall.

The Rosary Garden includes Relief Plaques representing the newest Mysteries of the Rosary and serve as a visual reminder of each Mystery as the Rosary is prayed. In addition, the outdoor space houses a beautiful sculpture of the Holy Family as well as a waterfall fountain, both of which serve as centerpieces in the garden. The quiet, serene place has come to mean a great deal to many St. Thomas More parishioner and nearly every day someone comes to sit and reflect on all the Blessed Mother has to offer, and her desire to constantly intercede on behalf of the faithful.

The night of the dedication included scripture readings, and the blessing of the Rosary Decade Relief Plaques as well as the blessing of the Holy Family sculpture.



The evening was punctuated with glorious music throughout the dedication and several young people of St. Thomas More read the scriptures. Each scripture reading was directly tied to a Mystery of the Rosary.

Ft. J. Patrick Reynolds, St. Thomas More pastor said of the children chosen to read, "It is important to remember that efforts we make today are not only for us, but also for those who will

come after us. That's why I believe it is especially fitting to have children read scripture this evening."

Following the dedication service, a reception in the church's gathering space provided an opportunity for food and fellowship with those who attended; and gave an opportunity for parishioners to meet the artist who created the relief plaques in the garden.



## Runaway Quilters Brighten Up Mount Campus For The 23rd Year

MAPLE MOUNT, Ky. - Slightly more than 100 women from nine states gathered in the Mount Saint Joseph Confer-

ence and Retreat Center or the gymnasium at Maple Mount under the constant whirring of their sewing machines Sept.

22-25, 2014. Many completed quilts during the retreat. This is the 23rd year Runaway Quilters have come to Maple

Mount, and 10 of this year's women are first-timers.



Teresa Nevis, left, of Sarasota, Fla., sews with her mother, Nina Sue Davis, of Owensboro, Ky., in the gymnasium. This is Nevis' first visit to Runaway Quilters. "My mother told me I had to come stay with her for a week every year, so this was a good occasion," she said with a smile. "I'm having a good time."



Dana Hughes points out a detail to her class on how to make a Day Dreaming quilt. She's been teaching a class at Runaway for eight years and enjoys sharing what she's learned.



Dana Hughes, of Mayfield, Ky., poses with the Day Dreaming quilt she was teaching her class to make. MSJ Photos



## THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL

By Teresa Krampe



On the weekend of October 3-5, 2014, Cursillistas gathered for a faith-filled weekend for the Region IV Fall encounter at Mount St. Joseph, Maple Mount, Kentucky. People from dioceses in Region IV came from different places, such as Gatlinburg, TN; Morriston, Marydale and Johnson City, TN. There were people from the Louisville area; Perryville, MO; New Baden and Belleville IL as well as from Hawesville, Henderson, Hopkinsville, Owensboro and Philpot, Ky.

Four speakers from different areas gave talks on Pope Francis' book, "The Joy of the Gospel." The theme of the talks was "The New Evangelization". Fr. Alex Waraksa, the spiritual director for our region along with two other priests, Fr. Joe Brando and Fr. Al Wilson celebrated the Eucharist and gave everyone the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Penance.

According to the speakers, we lay people are to be the new evangelizers. Of course, as Cursillistas, that has been what we are supposed to do from the day we received our crosses when the officiating priest said to us, "Christ is counting on you."

The definition of evangelization according to Pope St. John Paul II is "to look at the faces of others as Jesus."

Some of the topics were: The Church's missionary transformation; "Proclamation of the Gospel-the entire people of God proclaim the Gospel; "Social dimensions of evangelization-include the poor in Society"; and "Spirit filled Evangelizers."

Our speakers, along with those listening were all very joyful and faith filled. On Sunday morning, our own Bishop William Medley celebrated the Mass and gave a wonderful homily.

**In the photo above are Father Joe Brando, left, Bishop William Medley, and Father Al Wilson. Submitted Photo**

## Picnic Supports The Church At St. Henry

AURORA, Ky. - Under new pastor Father Greg Trawick, St. Henry parish held its annual picnic on Sunday, Sept. 21.

The beautiful, early fall weather allowed many outside games for the children as well as a cake walk with many "goodies" to choose from. The centerpiece of the picnic, as usual, was the free bingo with cash prizes donated by parishioners. Face painting and prizes for the kids and a 50/50 drawing increased the fun.

*From The Diocesan Office of Spiritual Life:*

## Group Completes A Study of the Catholic Catechism Sessions for Adults



**Eleven people joined Diocesan Spiritual Life Office Director Sister Ann McGrew, right, in Conference Room B for the final Study of the Catechism session.**

MAPLE MOUNT, Ky. - The final session of studying the Catholic Catechism for Adults was Oct. 9, in Conference Room B of the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center.

For the next two months, the second Thursday will be spent studying Pope

Francis' "The Joy of the Gospel," which was the pope's first Apostolic Exhortation in 2013. The sessions on Nov. 13 and Dec. 11 are from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and led by Sister Ann McGrew. The \$10 fee includes lunch. Contact the Center at 270-229-0206 to register.



A picnic-style combination of hamburgers, hot dogs and brats was on the menu as well as many types of salads, slaw, relish trays and desserts capped off a wonderful day of parish socializing.

Many thanks go to Myra Fassett for the planning and organization of the event and to the many helpers that made the picnic a success.

## Study of Pope Francis' Joy of the Gospel

Thursday, Nov. 13



### Retreat Hours:

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

### Retreat Facilitator:

Sister Ann McGraw

### Cost:

\$10 fee includes lunch

This is a 2-part study. The second session will be on Thursday, Dec. 11.

Contact Kathy McCarty to register:  
270-229-0206

kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org



Mount Saint Joseph  
Conference and Retreat Center

8601 Cummings Road  
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999  
270-229-4100  
www.uscclinesmj.org



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro

"The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus." So begins the "The Joy of the Gospel" which was given at Saint Peter's in Rome in November 2013 at the conclusion of the Year of Faith. It is Pope Francis' first Apostolic Exhortation.

## 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."



## Great News for RCIA Teams!

Save  
the  
dates!

The Dioceses of Evansville and Owensboro are partnering to bring you a series of two institutes from TeamRCIA.

**Making Disciples Institute**  
July 31 - August 1, 2015  
Diocesan Catholic Center, Evansville

**The Rites Institute**  
October 16 - 17, 2015  
St. Pius X Catholic Church, Owensboro

Registrants from the Dioceses of Owensboro and Evansville will be able to attend at the greatly reduced rate of \$50 per person (\$40 per person for groups of 5 or more from the same parish).

Registration forms will be mailed in March, 2015.

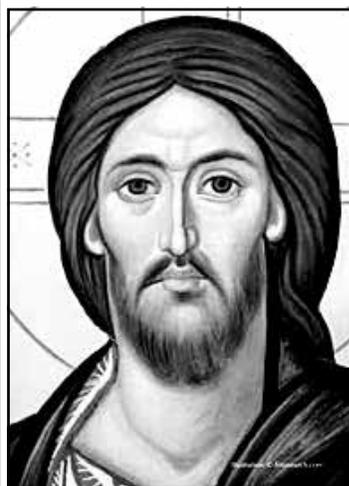
For more information, contact:  
Kathy Gallo (Evansville) 812/424-5536  
kgallo@evdio.org

Martha Hagan (Owensboro) 270/852-8366  
martha.hagan@pastoral.org

For more information about TeamRCIA, visit **TEAMRCIA**  
[www.teamrcia.com](http://www.teamrcia.com)

## National Vocation Awareness Week November 2-8, 2014

National Vocation Awareness Week (NVAW) is an annual week-long celebration of the Catholic Church in the United States dedicated to promote vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life through prayer and education, and to renew our prayers and support for those who are considering one of these particular vocations. NVAW began in 1976 when the U. S. bishops designated the 28th Sunday of the year for NVAW. In 1997, this celebration was moved to coincide with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which falls on January 13 in 2013. Beginning in 2014, NVAW was moved to the first full week of November.



### Prayer for Vocations

God our Father  
, we thank you for  
calling men and women to serve in your  
Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, and  
consecrated persons. Send your Holy  
Spirit to help others to respond generously  
and courageously to your call. May our  
community of faith support vocations of  
sacrificial love in our youth and young adults.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives  
and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy  
Spirit, one God, forever and ever.  
Amen.  
*Secretariat Of Clergy, Consecrated Life And  
Vocations, [www.usccb.org/vocations](http://www.usccb.org/vocations) • [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)*

## My Roads of Migration Into Kentucky From Honduras

*On Oct. 2, 2014, Pope Francis said that he prays for migrants who faced closed borders.*

**By Johanna Sánchez**

Migration? What do you know about being an immigrant? What roads, what avenues, what streets, have you experienced that an immigrant goes through? Let me share the roads, avenues, streets, that I as an immigrant have gone through. My name is Johanna Sanchez and at the age of 9, I started my journey as a Honduran immigrant.

The struggles that forced my mother to make a sacrifice to leave both her six-year-old daughter and two-year-old son is where the journey truly began: coming from a country where a monthly wage was less than 10 dollars a month, living with an alcoholic dad. There, women do not have the same rights as men to attend school in order to achieve a better life. Women are raised to know how to cook, clean and tend to their husbands. As a young woman facing poverty, sacrifices, and violence, my mother decided to take another approach in life. I was a six year old, having an adult conversation with my mother, facing the responsibility to become the caregiver and mother for her two year brother, her only response to reassure me was that, "It is going to be okay. I will see you soon." With that she kissed my forehead and tucked me to bed with a prayer.

As a six-year-old, seeing kids play outside with both their parents I struggled to face what had become my reality. Waking up at the crack of dawn, getting breakfast ready for my brother and I, facing another unknown day, I rushed to get myself to school while my mind as a temporary mom was worried about my two-year-old brother. Coming home to an elderly 65-year-old grandmother that was sick and a father who was drunk, I did not know which task to start first - take a shower, cook, clean, care for both my brother and grandmother, put up with my father. I felt an urgency to finish everything quickly to be able to play like a normal six-year-old girl. I regretted the weekend to come, because I would end up searching for my father outside of the bars, and not only had to try to survive but also have the responsibility to take care of adults.

Not having the protection of either parent and being terrified when walking



**Johanna Sanchez with her daughters, Bailey, Giselle and Hailey in Saints Joseph and Paul Church Oct. 9, 2014. Mel Howard Photo**

home after school by myself, I found out that the world was not all rainbows and sunshine when a drunken man that I should have been used to seeing approached me with intentions of harming me. My innocent six-year-old hands pushed him with the most strength that I had to escape his grasp. I ran full speed for miles, it seemed, without stopping. I arrived seven hours later at my house because I got lost through the woods. While running, my mind ran a thousand miles an hour worrying about my two-year-old brother left alone with a sick grandmother. I learned quickly that the only way to survive was to trust no one and earn my own money.

At age seven I had multiple jobs. After my normal routine, I would get home tired, only to make coconut bread to sell and do errands for people to earn an income for the household. My days would start at 5:00 in morning and end, if possible, at 10:00 at night. My motivation was knowing that I had a five-minute call once a week from my mother in the USA, giving me a code that I would exchange for a bit of money. I would use the money to pay some bills and get my grandmother's medication and hide what was left of the money in a can of rice from my alcoholic father. At age eight I faced the dramas of gangs and street violence and trying to rescue my four-year-brother from being drafted.

Time flew by so quickly; mom had been gone for three long years.

On January, 1994 I receive a five-minute call from my mother saying to get ready because she had saved enough money to pick up my brother and I. I couldn't explain the feelings of happiness and sadness. Happiness because I knew I was going to be with my mother and I wouldn't be a parent to my brother now. But also sadness because I was leaving my father and grandmother behind in a place where I knew one had to be strong and alert to survive.

We started our trip. Mom had said, "It would only be a few hours away, you can see year dad and grandmother anytime you want to." Having to reflect back now on these tucked-away memories brings tears to my eyes.

I left my home, Tela, Honduras, on January 10, 1994. I could not know then that even though we spoke the same language as Guatemalans and Mexicans, we were considered immigrants, meaning that we couldn't just go through the streets being seen. We had to hide in the shadows, enduring starvation, dealing with dehydration, walking for days and nights, facing harsh climates, and the dangers of jungles and other environments where they didn't speak Spanish but rather ancient indigenous dialects. We would have to stay behind in different cities while my mother would try to cross with one of the 9 family members she decided to bring.

Loosing hope many times, we would pray to God for rain to fall just so we could hold out hands out to drink what we could. After a month of this journey we arrived in Mexico where we were worse off than before. In the jungle we were able to run freely; now we had to hide inside of old hotels, homes and shelters to be safe from the Mexican immigration.

We were deported 5 times from Mexico. Because of our accent, and the way we looked, they new we were from Central America.

I was then nine-and-a-half years old, sleeping on a cold, dirty floor with criminals in a small box for days until they decided to send us back to where we had said we were from: Gautemala.

On our last attempt to cross Mexico, the guys who we had paid to smuggle us into the USA decided to take everything we had down to our cloths. Seeing my mother's eyes filled with deep sorrow and not knowing what to do was the most heart-breaking moment I had witnessed where I had no plan, no idea on how to help my mother. My mother finally decided to hide us for 5 months while she worked as a waiter to save money to afford our long journey to the land of the freedom.

In January, 1995 we swam across el Rio Grande, risking our lives, not knowing that on the other side we had the American immigration waiting for us.

They had what is called a waiting line to be sent back to your country. We were there for two weeks. Immigrants from all over the world were there,

**Continued on page 43**

# My Roads Of Migration Into Kentucky From Honduras

November, 2014 43

Continued from page 42



**The author, Johanna Sanchez, prays with her family every day, and teaching her children to trust in God.. She said "When we have doubts and fears, we should smile because God gave us life!" Mel Howard photo**

Cuba, Salvadoreños, Guatemanticos, Mexicanos, Nicaraguense, Panameños, Columbianos, and of course Hondureños, us. Mom had learned that in order to survive there, we had to behave and earn the trust of the night guards. Within a few weeks we were able to escape and drive to our destiny, Kentucky, where mom had worked hard for three long years, Monday through Sunday, day and night while saving every penny to bring us to the land of what she called freedom.

On January 30, 1995 we were in this place where everyone looked like angels to us and we looked like aliens to them. It was known as Owensboro, KY. My family was one of the first Hispanics families in Owensboro. I remember lying in bed and getting up, not knowing why my mom had to leave so early and come when it was so dark. I was facing the reality that a belief I had was wrong: that one can come to America and assume that one can pick dollars from a tree. Instead I learned that one had to work like a slave to have what you want. Mom had said that until we learn how to speak English, we will just smile and answer yes ma'am and yes sir.

To my understanding, people in Kentucky then had never associated with Latinos and hadn't seen a Hispanic family. I was then coming to the reality of being called names on the bus, and at the stores. In these Kentucky roads, streets and avenues, I had to become an adult once again, getting dinner ready because mom was so tired of cutting tobacco and picking up potatoes and peppers. I was

forced to learn English to interpret for my family to do the basic things like putting gas in a car, buying groceries and make appointments.

By the age of 13 years old, I knew how to make a bill payment, how to schedule appointments. It got to the point where people didn't even ask for mom anymore it was "Can I speak with Johanna". Getting paid the minimum wage, we had to live in a shelter called Centro Latino where we met the Centro Latino Angels, Sister Fran, "hermana panchita," Father Tony Shonis, and Connie Caceres who helped us find a home in the church called Saint Peter's in Stanley, KY.

Johanna Sanchez said, "The Catholic Church is our home where we feel secure."

I found out that when mom wanted a new job, they asked her for her social security number. I asked mom while interpreting for her and she looked at me with those fearful dark eyes and said "I don't have one, mija." Being a teenager, I was clueless about what that number was. But I quickly learned that it was your identity for this so called land of freedom.

Mom upgraded from tobacco, and peppers to a pig farm where they provided us a home that was not in good enough condition even for animals to live in. My mother was working Monday through Sunday with lots of overtime hours and holidays, and she was paid the same minimum wage - \$5.00 per hour. After being taken advantage at work and abused at home by my step-father, my mother is now a home owner, has her own businesses, has raised 6 kids, and now she is a legal permanent resident.

I can now talk today without being ashamed of my accent. I can walk with my head up. I can tell you that I have worked beside my mother to be able to achieve the American dream that includes, but is not limited to, being a legal permanent resident, graduating high school, having three beautiful daughters, knowing that they can enjoy being a child, and that I have the opportunity to provide for them by working hard. That is the best reward and a true blessing to me.

I have worked long and hard and still have many dreams and goals to achieve. One is that I will achieve my dream of owning my own business, while continu-

ing to help others with a similar story to mine, by inspiring and motivating them with the simple belief that nothing is impossible, that if there is a desire and motivation, then there is a possibility. I'd like to open up a shelter where we could help one another to reach our dream.

I can not only believe in myself now, but also in others. Walking in my faith and in God's grace everyday made all my worries and struggles disappear without a trace. While the memories are still there I am able to embrace them each day. My inspiration is strengthened by attend-

ing Sts. Joseph and Paul Catholic Church as a member. I am she who watched and endured my roads, streets and avenues, and now I am now a mother, a sister and a member of a wonderful church. I realize how many choices, simple choices, I can make now without the fear or despair of being restrained from my desires like having to hide in the jungles, within the shadows so I wouldn't be seen. Today, I now can walk these roads streets and avenues in KY with my head high and without a possibility of fearing my choices.

## The Church Without Frontiers, Mother To All

"Solidarity with migrants and refugees must be accompanied by the courage and creativity necessary to develop, on a world-wide level, a more just and equitable financial and economic order, as well as an increasing commitment to peace, the indispensable condition for all authentic progress.

"Dear migrants and refugees! You have a special place in the heart of the Church, and you help her to enlarge her heart and to manifest her motherhood towards the entire human family. Do not lose your faith and hope! Let us think of the Holy Family during the flight in Egypt: Just as the maternal heart of the Blessed Virgin and the kind heart of Saint Joseph kept alive the confidence that God would never abandon them, so in you may the same hope in the Lord never be wanting. I entrust you to their protection and I cordially impart to all of you my Apostolic Blessing". From Pope Francis' message for World Day of Migrants and Refugees: "A Church without frontiers, mother to all" Sept 23, 2014.

**The Pope's Letter** is a call to action and to have solidarity with migrants and refugees. For guidance and resources visit the Catholic Bishops Campaign for Comprehensive Immigration Reform online at [www.justiceformigrants.org](http://www.justiceformigrants.org)

## Advent Prayer Retreat Day

Wednesday, Dec. 3

Time:  
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Presenter:  
Monsignor Bernard Powers

Cost:  
\$20 fee includes lunch

Contact Kathy McCarty to register:  
270-229-0206  
[kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org](mailto:kathy.mccarty@maplemount.org)

 **Mount Saint Joseph**  
Conference and Retreat Center  
8801 Cummings Road  
Magic Mount, Kentucky 42356-6999  
270-229-4103  
[www.mountstjoseph.org](http://www.mountstjoseph.org)  
[info.mq@universityofkentucky.edu](mailto:info.mq@universityofkentucky.edu)



Office of Spiritual Life for the Diocese of Owensboro



The season of Advent is more than just trimming a tree and buying presents. The true nature of Christmas calls us to prayer and celebration at the Lord's coming and our own salvation.

This will be a day to reflect on the meaning of Advent and Christmas through prayer. Reconciliation will also be offered. Join us in celebrating God's wonderful love for us all in the best gift of all - GOD'S SON.

## Mis Caminos de Migración a Kentucky desde Honduras ...

*Viene de la página 4*

mesera para ahorrar dinero otra vez para nuestro viaje largo a la tierra de libertad. En enero del 1995 cruzamos al Rio Grande nadando, arriesgando nuestras vidas, sin saber que al otro lado nos esperaba la migración americana.

Tenían lo que llamaban una línea de espera para regresar a su país. Allí estuvimos por dos semanas. Había inmigrantes de todo el mundo: Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Columbia y claro Honduras: nosotros. Mi mamá había aprendido que para sobrevivir allí teníamos que portarnos bien y ganar la confianza de los guardias de la noche. Dentro de unas semanas logramos escapar y manejar a nuestro destino, Kentucky, donde mi mamá había trabajado duro por tres años largos, lunes a domingo, día y noche para ahorrar cada centavo y traernos a la tierra que ella llamaba libertad.

El 30 de enero del 1995 llegamos a este lugar donde toda la gente nos parecía ángeles y nosotros les parecíamos extraterrestres. El lugar es conocido como Owensboro, KY. Mi familia fue una de las primeras familias hispanas en Owensboro. Me acuerdo estar acostada en la cama y levantándome sin poder entender por qué mi mamá tenía que salir tan temprano y regresar cuando ya estaba tan oscuro. Me estaba enfrentando la realidad de que mi creencia era falsa: de que uno podría llegar a los Estados Unidos y agarrarse dólares de un árbol. En cambio aprendí que uno tenía que trabajar como esclavo para lograr lo que quería. Mi mamá nos dijo hasta aprender inglés,

teníamos que sonreírnos y constar sí señor y sí señora.

Percibí que la gente de Kentucky no se había convivido con los latinos y nunca habían visto a una familia hispana. Llegué a esta realidad donde se burlaban de mí en el autobús y en las tiendas. En estos caminos, veredas y calles de Kentucky tuve que volver a ser un adulto otra vez, preparando la cena porque mi mamá venía tan cansada de cortar tabaco y pisar papas y pimientos. Me esforcé para aprender inglés para poder interpretar por mi familia en las cosas básicas como poner gasolina al carro, comprar comida y hacer citas.

A la edad de 13 años ya sabía cómo pagar un "bill" y hacer todas las citas necesarias. Llegó un tiempo en que la gente ya no buscaba a mi mamá sino decían, "puedo hablar con Johanna?" Como mi mamá ganaba un sueldo mínimo tuvimos que vivir en un albergue llamado Centro Latino donde conocimos a los ángeles del Centro Latino: la Hermana Panchita (Fran Wilhelm), Padre Antonio Shonis y Connie Caceres quienes nos ayudaron encontrar un hogar en la Iglesia llamada San Pedro en Stanley, KY. Johanna Sánchez dijo, "La Iglesia Católica es nuestra casa donde nos sentimos seguros."

Me di cuenta que cuando mi mamá quería un trabajo nuevo que le pedían un número de seguro social. Se lo pedí a mi mamá mientras interpretaba por ella y me miró con sus ojos oscuros llenos de miedo y me dijo, "No tengo uno, hija." Siendo joven, no tenía idea sobre este número pero rápidamente aprendí que era

tu identidad aquí en esta supuesta tierra de libertad.

Mi mamá ascendió del tabaco y pimientos a una granja con puercos donde nos proveían una casa que ni siquiera era en condiciones para alojar a animales. Mi mamá trabajaba de lunes a domingo con muchas horas extras y días feriados y fue pagado el mismo sueldo mínimo - \$5.00 la hora. Después de ser maltratada en el trabajo y abusada en la casa por mi padrastro, mi mamá ahora es dueña de una casa, tiene su propio negocio, ha criado 6 niños y ahora es un residente permanente legal.

Hoy día puedo hablar sin avergonzarme de mi acento. Hoy día puedo caminar con mi cabeza alta. Puedo decirte que he trabajado a lado de mi mamá para poder lograr el sueño americano que incluye, pero no se limite a, ser un residente permanente legal, graduarme de la preparatoria, tener tres hijas hermosas, sabiendo que pueden disfrutar su niñez, y que tengo la oportunidad de proveer por ellas trabajando duro. Es la mejor recompensa y una bendición verdadera para mí.

He trabajado mucho y duro y todavía tengo muchos sueños y metas para lograr. Uno es lograr mi sueño de tener mi propio

negocio, ayudando a otros que tienen historias similares a la mía, dándoles inspiración y motivación con el simple hecho de creer que nada es imposible, si hay el deseo y la motivación, entonces hay una posibilidad. Me gustaría abrir un albergue donde podríamos ayudarnos unos a otros a lograr nuestro sueño.

Ahora, no solamente puedo confiar en mi misma, pero también en otras personas. Viviendo mi fe y con la gracia de Dios cada día, mis preocupaciones y luchas se han desaparecido sin dejar pista. Aunque las memorias todavía siguen, ya las puedo recibir con los brazos abiertos cada día. Mi inspiración se fortalece con asistir a la Iglesia Santos José y Pablo donde soy miembro. Yo soy la que miró y aguantó mis caminos, veredas y calles y ahora yo soy una madre, hermana y miembro de una iglesia maravillosa. Me doy cuenta de las muchas decisiones, decisiones simples, que puedo tomar ahora sin desesperación ni miedo de ser detenida de mis deseos. Ya no tengo que esconderme en la selva y las sombras para que no me vean. Hoy día ya puedo recorrer estos caminos y calles en Kentucky con mi cabeza alta y sin la posibilidad de tener miedo a mis decisiones.

## Reportar las Acusaciones de Abuso Sexual

Cualquier persona que sepa de un abuso de un menor de dieciocho años es obligado por ley informarles a las autoridades estatales apropiadas: policía local o la línea dedicada para el Abuso Infantil de Kentucky (gratis: 1-877-KYSAFE1 o 1-877-597-2331).

Además, para informar a la Diócesis sobre el abuso por parte de algún personal (pagado o voluntario) de la Iglesia, en el pasado o presente, favor de llamar a la Coordinadora de Asistencia Pastoral a esta línea confidencial: 270-852-8380. La Diócesis de Owensboro acaba de revisar su reglamento sobre el abuso sexual, efectivo el 1 de Julio del 2014 y está disponible en todas las parroquias y también en el sitio web diocesano ([www.rcdok.org/safe](http://www.rcdok.org/safe)).

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-Presidente), Mr. Mike Boone, Ms. Kaye Castlen, Rev. Mike Clark, JCL, Dr. Michael Farina, Mr. Mike Flaherty (Presidente), Ms. Rhonda Gillham, Mr. Nicholas Goetz, Mr. Brandon Harley, Ms. Teresa Henry, Ms. Mary Beth Hurley, y Ms. Kelly Roe. La hermana Ethel Marie Biri, SSND, sirve como enlace entre el Obispo y la Junta de Revisión Diocesano.

## Obispos : La Paz es Posible ...

*Viene de la página 2*

17 de septiembre a través de la historia se ha observado la Fiesta de los Estigmas de San Francisco de Asís y entonces es una fiesta muy importante para su comunidad. El Obispo Barres y yo, quienes éramos los únicos Católicos Romanos en la vigilia, nos unimos en su oración. Después nos invitaron a su monasterio, conectado a la Iglesia, para tomar jugo e higos. En este momento me di cuenta que con nuestra prisa de llegar a tiempo a la Iglesia no habíamos cenado la noche anterior ni habíamos llevado agua con nosotros. No tenía tanta hambre, pero sed sí. Otra vez, me presentó una medición sobre la sed de Cristo.

Allí es donde me di cuenta también que era mi cumpleaños. Entonces jugo de naranja e higos fueron mi sorpresa de cumpleaños.

Normalmente no se abre la Iglesia hasta las 5:15 de la mañana. Pero el 17 de septiembre también era un día de

observación especial para los Católicos Ortodoxos de Grecia y a la medianoche habían abierto las puertas por una misa especial. Las puertas ya se quedaron abiertas y ya podríamos salir. El Obispo Barres y yo nos quedamos en oración hasta las 3:00am. En esta hora caminamos varias cuadras a las puertas de la ciudad donde encontramos un taxi para llevarnos unas millas a nuestro hotel.

Esta noche de oración en este lugar sagrado fue realmente el momento más impactante de mi peregrinación. Todavía encuentro consuelo en mi experiencia de orar a solas y sin interrupción en Calvario y en el lugar de la Resurrección. Una oración volvía a mis labios vez tras vez esta noche y desde entonces: "Te adoramos, o Cristo, y te bendecimos, porque por tu santa cruz redimiste al mundo."

*+ William F. Medley*

+ Mons. William F. Medley,  
Obispo de Owensboro

## Hola Hermanos en Cristo.

Me da muchísimo gusto por este medio saludarlos a ustedes, a sus familias, a sus párrocos, vicarios, ministros Hispanos, sus grupos y a todos con quienes comparten y celebran su fe. ¿Qué tal estuvieron sus celebraciones de día de muertos y de todos los Santos? ¿Sus altares? Sin duda que durante estos días y como inmigrantes tenemos muy presente en nuestros corazones y mentes la memoria de nuestros seres queridos y amigos que se nos han adelantado. Por ellos en estos días rogamos a Dios por su eterno descanso al mismo tiempo en que pedimos a Dios la gracia de mantenernos preparados nosotros para el día en que nos toque partir.

Esta oficina diocesana del Ministerio Hispano existe para servirles, ser un recurso de coordinación de actividades y esfuerzos pastorales tanto en las parroquias como a nivel diocesano tratando siempre de avanzar el Reino de Dios entre nosotros bajo la guía de nuestro obispo. Así es que en cualquier cosa en que yo pueda serles de utilidad en sus parroquias



**Cristóbal Gutiérrez**

o grupos alrededor de la diócesis por favor, no duden en contactarme.

Muy presentes en mi corazón y como prioridad de atención están tantos de ustedes indocumentados con sus sufrimientos y necesidades. Cuenten con alguien que desde aquí seguirá luchando

por una reforma. Muchachos y señores que se encuentran solos por acá sin sus familias pido por ustedes y que Dios les conceda la fortaleza de mantenerse firmes en la fe. Ustedes nuestros niños, adolescentes y jóvenes hispanos. Ustedes no son el futuro de la iglesia en Estados Unidos, ustedes son ya el presente y ustedes transformaran la iglesia en los Estados Unidos. Comunidades indígenas de Guatemala y México ustedes son una bendición incalculable para esta diócesis. Mamás solteras, ustedes y sus hijos son preciosos a los ojos de Dios y sepan que Jesús camina con ustedes y la iglesia



existe para acompañarles. Todas las nacionalidades latinoamericanas y sus culturas, devociones, tradiciones presentes en nuestra diócesis; no olviden que Dios nos llama a enriquecer a otros con tantos regalos.

Los invito pues a que caminemos juntos y avancemos en la construcción del Reino entre nosotros. Tomémonos de la mano ayudándonos unos a otros y a través también de la intercesión de Santa María de Guadalupe seguramente llegaremos a buen puerto.

Cristóbal Gutiérrez  
Oficina del Ministerio Hispano  
Diócesis de Owensboro  
(270) 852-8352  
(270)880-8018 Celular

## Mis Caminos de Migración a Kentucky desde Honduras ...

*Viene de la página 1*



**La autora, Johanna Sánchez, reza con su familia todos los días y enseña a sus hijas confiar en Dios. Ella dice, "¿Cuándo tenemos dudas y miedos, debemos sonreírnos porque Dios nos dio la vida!" Foto de Mel Howard**

shacerme de sus garras. Corría a toda velocidad por millas, parecía sin parar. Llegué siete horas después a casa al haberme perdido en el bosque. Mientras corría, mi mente también corría a miles de millas preocupada por mi hermano de dos años que se había quedado atrás con la abuela enferma. Aprendí rápido de que la única forma de sobrevivir era en no confiar en nadie sino más bien ganarme mi propio

dinero.

A la edad de siete años tenía varios trabajos. Después de mi rutina 'normal', llegaba a casa cansada solo para ponerme hacer pan de coco para vender al mismo tiempo que hacia mandados para distinta gente y así ganarme un poco de dinero para la casa. Mis días comenzaban a las cinco de la mañana y cuando posible terminaban a las diez de la noche. Mi motivación era saber que tendría una llamada de cinco minutos una vez por semana de mi madre en los Estados Unidos quien me daba un código para sacar un poco de dinero. Utilizaba ese dinero para pagar algunos "biles" y para comprar medicamentos para mi abuela; lo que sobraba lo escondía de mi padre alcohólico en un botecito de arroz. A la edad de ocho años tuve que enfrentar el drama de las pandillas y la violencia callejera tratando siempre de rescatar a mi hermano de cuatro años de que no fuera reclutado.

El tiempo pasó tan rápido. Mama ya había estado ausente hasta por tres años. En enero del 1994 recibí una llamada de cinco minutos de mi madre diciéndome que me alistara porque había podido ahorrar lo suficiente para recogerme a mí y a mi hermano. No podía expresar

el sentimiento de felicidad y de tristeza. Felicidad porque estaría con mi madre y ya no sería una madre para mi hermano. Pero también tristeza porque estaba dejando atrás a mi padre y abuela en un lugar donde yo sabía que solo se podía sobrevivir si se estaba siempre alerta y fuerte.

Comenzamos nuestro viaje. Mamá nos había dicho: "Solo estarán a unas horas de distancia; podrán ver a su papá y abuelita en cualquier momento que deseen." Se me vienen las lágrimas a los ojos de tan solo reflexionar y recordar tales memorias tan profundas.

Dejé mi casa en Tela, Honduras el 10 de enero de 1994. No podía saber en ese entonces que aunque hablábamos el mismo idioma que los guatemaltecos y mexicanos, éramos considerados inmigrantes, así que no podíamos recorrer las calles así no más en plena vista. Tuvimos que escondernos en las sombras, aguantar hambre, enfrentar la deshidratación, caminar por días y noches, en mal tiempos y con los peligros de la selva y otros ambientes donde no hablaban español sino diferentes dialectos. Tendríamos que quedarnos en varias ciudades mientras mi mamá cruzara con uno de los 9 familiares que

decidió traer.

Muchas veces perdimos la esperanza y rogábamos a Dios por lluvia para poder aunque sea juntar agua en las manos para tomar a gusto. Después de un mes de viajar así llegamos a México donde nos fue peor todavía. En la selva pudimos correr libres; ahora tuvimos que escondernos en hoteles viejos, casas y albergues para estar salvos de la migración mexicana.

Fuimos deportados 5 veces de México. Por nuestro acento y cómo nos veíamos ellos sabían que éramos de centro américa.

En ese entonces ya tenía nueve años y medio durmiendo en el piso frío y sucio con criminales en una caja pequeña por cuatro días hasta que se decidieron mandarnos de regreso a donde dijimos que venimos: Guatemala.

En nuestro último intento de cruzar México, los hombres que habíamos pagado para pasarnos a los Estados Unidos decidieron quitarnos todo lo que teníamos, incluso nuestra ropa. Ver los ojos de mi mamá llenar de tristeza profunda y sin saber qué hacer fue el momento más devastador que había visto. Yo no tenía ningún plan ni idea de cómo ayudar a mi mamá. Al final mi mamá decidió escondernos por 5 meses mientras trabajaba como

**Continúa en la página 5**

# Fiesta Patronal, San Miguel, Sebree

Novembre, 2014 3

La diversa familia parroquiana de San Miguel en Sebree nos juntamos el Domingo, 28 de Septiembre para celebrar nuestro Santo Patrono. Las festividades empezaron la noche anterior con una noche de película para adolescentes quienes vieron y platicaron de la película Dios No Ha Muerto. Después, el Ministerio de Música y el Grupo Carismático de San José en Bowling Green nos guiaron en una vigilia de oración hasta la madrugada. Las actividades del Domingo empezaron con una procesión desde la Escuela Primaria de Sebree mientras caminábamos alrededor de Sebree rezando el rosario y cargando a nuestra imagen de San Miguel donada por las Hermanas Ursulinas. Luego nuestra celebración tuvo su culmen con una misa bilingüe y un convivio con comida en el salón parroquial. Que por la intercesión de San Miguel y Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, nuestra familia parroquial diversa siga creciendo en unidad con amor y respeto.



## Patron Saint Feast Day, St Michael's, Sebree

The diverse parish family of St. Michael's in Sebree gathered together on Sunday, September 28th to celebrate our Patron Saint. The festivities started the night before with a youth movie night where middle and high school youth watched and discussed God's Not Dead. Then the Hispanic music ministry and Charismatic Group from St. Joseph's in Bowling Green led a prayer vigil into the wee hours of the morning. Sunday's activities started with a procession from Sebree Elementary as we walked around Sebree praying the rosary and carrying our image of St. Michael donated by the Ursuline sisters. Then our celebration culminated with a bilingual mass followed by food and fellowship in the parish hall. Through the intercession of St. Michael and Our Lady of Guadalupe, may our diverse parish family continue to grow in unity with love and respect.



# 18 Obispos de los Estados Unidos Llevaron un Mensaje a la Tierra Santa: La Oración es Poderosa; La Paz es Posible



**Mons. William F. Medley, Obispo de Owensboro**

*Queridos hermanos y hermanas,*

Que Dios los bendiga a todos.

Del 10 al 19 de Septiembre de este año fui parte de una delegación de la Conferencia Episcopal de los Estados Unidos en una Peregrinación para la paz a la Tierra Santa. La delegación incluyó a 18 obispos y 5 miembros del personal de la conferencia episcopal. La intención de la peregrinación fue afirmar el mensaje: La oración es poderosa, La paz es posible y el USCCB se une al Santo Sede en apoyar a una solución de los dos estados en el conflicto entre los Israelitas y los Palestinos.

Al llegar a la Tierra Santa, primero fuimos como peregrinos a la Iglesia del Santo Sepulcro. Allí veneramos los santuarios dentro de la Iglesia que marcan el lugar del Calvario y la Crucifixión de Jesús y la tumba de Cristo, el lugar de resurrección de Cristo. También celebramos la misa en la Capilla de Católicos Romanos dentro de la Basílica.

He tenido el privilegio de visitar la Tierra Santa antes y visitar esta Basílica. En cualquier día se encuentra miles (a veces muchos miles) de peregrinos de todo el mundo en esta Iglesia. Entonces mientras uno se pausa en oración siempre hay una mano de un guardián en tu hombro para asegurar que las filas se sigan moviendo. Si uno se para para más de diez o quince segundos uno de ellos te jala la camisa un poco para recordarte seguir moviendo por cortesía a los demás. Los peregrinos se pueden pausar en otras partes de la Iglesia para reflexionar más. En la sacristía mientras nos preparamos para la misa, el Obispo John Barres de la Diócesis de Allentown escuchó de un hermano franciscano de Providence, Rhode Island, que ahora servía en la basílica, que cada noche cuando se cierra la Iglesia con llave, se escogen un grupo pequeño de personas que son permitidas pasar la noche en oración.

El Obispo Barres preguntó a nuestra delegación si a algunos de los obispos nos gustaría hacer esta vigilia como parte de nuestra peregrinación de oración. Nuestro horario diario fue muy lleno y



**Miembros de la peregrinación para la paz del USCCB a la Tierra Santa celebran la misa con el Monseñor William Medley presidiendo, y se reunieron con los parroquianos de la Iglesia Latina de San Justino en Nablus. La población cristiana en Nablus es pequeña, pero párroco Padre Johnny Abu Khalil la llama "una comunidad de esperanza" y pide a Dios por una resolución para la paz. El USCCB y Catholic Relief Services dirigió la peregrinación para la paz con 18 obispos de a través del país a la Tierra Santa desde el 11 al 18 de septiembre del 2014. Foto por Jennifer Hardy de Catholic Relief Services**

nos movimos a varias partes del país, que aunque no es muy grande, muchos días viajamos varias horas fuera de Jerusalén. Entonces el reto iba a ser encontrar una noche cuando podríamos llegar a la iglesia antes de que se cierran las puertas a las 8:15pm.

El martes, 16 de septiembre nuestro grupo estaba en Tel Aviv visitando al Centro Internacional Peres de la Paz donde tuvimos la oportunidad de conocer al expresidente de Israel Shimon Peres. Cuando salimos del Centro uno de nues-

tros choferes nos dijo que solo era un viaje de una hora a Jerusalén y podríamos llegar a la iglesia a tiempo. Entonces el Obispo Barres y yo salimos para hacer nuestra vigilia. Por el tráfico nos detuvimos y llegamos a la orilla de la Vieja Ciudad de Jerusalén a las 8:00 – pero tuvimos que correr las últimas cuadras donde no se puede manejar.

Muchos de los peregrinos que se quedaron la noche en la iglesia con las puertas cerradas fueron parte de un grupo de Ortodoxos Rusos. La mayoría de ellos se fueron al santo sepulcro, venerado por muchos como el lugar más sagrado de todos los sitios Cristianos. Entonces subí las escaleras a una capilla pequeña marcando el lugar del Calvario para separarme de la muchedumbre. Normalmente cuando los peregrinos llegan allí se hincan para tocar o para besar al lugar debajo de un altar adornado venerado como el lugar donde la cruz

de Jesús estuvo. Por buena suerte, allí estaba solo en este lugar por más de una hora y media antes de que otro peregrino llegara.

El tiempo pasó rápidamente y contemplé las tres horas que Jesús se colgó en la cruz. Medité sobre la presencia de María al pie de la cruz por estas tres horas y consideré su angustia personal mientras

su Hijo Amado gritó en angustia antes de morir. En el tiempo de Jesús este sitio hubiera sido fuera de las murallas de la ciudad y consideré dónde es que todos los apóstoles, menos Juan, pasarían estas horas. ¿Estaban escondidos en algún lugar donde podían ver todo a la distancia? ¿Podrían escuchar el lamento y oración de Jesús? ¿Estaban también sufriendo vergüenza porque habían abandonado a su Señor y su amigo?

Me arrodillé en el Calvario una parte del tiempo y también, recordándome del gesto de los sacerdotes cuando empiezan la celebración del Viernes Santo, me postré en este lugar santo. Fue un tiempo profundo y sagrado.

Más tarde, mientras los peregrinos rusos se dispersaron tuve unos momentos en la tumba. La tumba es un lugar pequeño con poca luz, iluminado por las velas y las lámparas. Consideré la Resurrección en formas nuevas: ¿Cómo fue para Jesús volver a ser consciente después de tres días, sin duda envuelto en la mortaja en un lugar sin luz? ¿Cuánto tiempo pasó entre su resurrección y su primer encuentro con las mujeres quienes llegaron para unir el cuerpo en la mañana del tercer día?

Mientras la noche pasaba a la madrugada a la medianoche los Franciscanos, quienes sirven como guardianes de las áreas de Católicos Romanos en el Santuario, cantaron la Liturgia de las Horas. El

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## Calendario del Obispo Medley de Noviembre 2014:

Noviembre 1	9:00 a.m.	Reunión del Consejo Pastoral Diocesano Campamento Católico de Gasper River
Noviembre 6	10:30 a.m.	Misa Escolar, Preparatoria Católica de Owensboro
Noviembre 8-14		Reunión General del USCCB, Baltimore, MD
Noviembre 16	8:30 a.m.	Confirmación, Santa María, LaCenter
Noviembre 17	9:45 a.m.	Reunión del Consejo de Personal Sacerdotal, CPC
	1:30 p.m.	Reunión del Consejo Sacerdotal, CPC
Noviembre 18	10:00 a.m.	Día del Presbiterio, CPC
Noviembre 19	8:30 a.m.	Reunión del Consejo Diocesano de Finanzas, CPC
Noviembre 20	9:00 a.m.	Misa Escolar, Escuela Secundaria Católica de Owensboro
Noviembre 21	9:00 a.m.	Misa Escolar, Escuela de San Romualdo, Hardinsburg
Noviembre 22	6:00 p.m.	ODYC Misa de Clausura, Centro de Convenciones de Owensboro
Noviembre 23	11:00 a.m.	Misa/Instalación del Párroco Nuevo, Padre Daniel Dillard, Cristo Rey, Scottsville
Noviembre 25	10-3:00 p.m.	Horas de Oficina de Paducah, Hospital de Lourdes
Noviembre 27	8:00 a.m.	Misa de Acción de Gracias, Catedral de San Esteban
Noviembre 29	4:00 p.m.	Recepción del Candidato, Basilio Az Cuc, Santo Nombre de Jesús, Henderson

## Mis Caminos de Migración a Kentucky desde Honduras

El 2 de Octubre del 2014, el Papa Francisco dijo que él pide a Dios por los migrantes que se enfrentan con fronteras cerradas.

Por Johanna Sánchez

¿Migración? ¿Qué es lo que sabes sobre ser un inmigrante? ¿Cuáles caminos, veredas, calles has experimentado de los cuales los inmigrantes experimentan? Permíteme compartir sobre los caminos, calles, y las veredas que yo como inmigrante he recorrido. Mi nombre es Johanna Sánchez y a la edad de 9 comencé mi caminar como inmigrante Hondureña.

Las batallas que forzaron a mi madre hacer el sacrificio en dejar atrás a su hija de seis años y su hijo de dos años marcan donde realmente este camino comienza: viniendo de un país donde el sueldo mensual era menos de 10 dólares al mes y viviendo con un esposo alcohólico. Allí las mujeres no tienen los mismos derechos que los hombres de ir a la escuela para así alcanzar una mejor vida. Las mujeres son criadas para saber cocinar, limpiar y atender a sus esposos. Como mujer joven frente a la pobreza, sacrificios y violencia; mi madre decidió tomar otra di-



Johanna Sánchez con sus hijas, Bailey, Giselle y Hailey en la Iglesia Católica de Santos José y Pablo el 9 de Octubre del 2014. Foto de Mel Howard

rección de vida. Yo fui una niña de 6 años y tuve que transformarme como en una

## Invitación al Diaconado Permanente en Español



Por El Padre Julio Barrera

En el libro de los Hechos de los Apóstoles se nos narra, en el capítulo 2, el gran evento de Pentecostés, evento en el cual los doce Apóstoles junto con María reciben el Espíritu santo enviado por Jesús para confirmar y fortalecer a la nascente comunidad cristiana. El derramamiento del Espíritu Santo sobre la comunidad apostólica fortalece a todos los miembros y los anima a que den ejemplo de este nuevo modo de vivir tan intenso que hace que la gente los note por el amor que se tienen entre ellos. Esta nueva forma de vivir atrae a más y más seguidores, que a su tiempo se bautizan y por lo tanto se incorporan a la comunidad de los primeros cristianos. La primera comunidad de cristianos llega a tal número que los mismos apóstoles se dan cuenta que necesitan ayuda extra, pues los creyentes de origen helenista se quejaron contra los de origen judío de que sus viudas no eran

bien atendidas (Hechos 6, 1)

Así que en el capítulo 6 del libro de los Hechos de los apóstoles no habla sobre cómo los primeros siete diáconos fueron elegidos para ayudar a los apóstoles y asistir a las viudas y los necesitados. Sabemos que estos eventos sucedieron alrededor de dos mil años atrás. Sin embargo, tenemos la misma necesidad el día de hoy; los obispos representan en nuestros días a los apóstoles y los obispos han re-abierto la invitación para tener nuevamente la asistencia de hombres que sientan el llamado a ser diáconos permanentes, ordenados para servir a la Iglesia en su misión de ayudar a los pobres y necesitados.

El sacerdocio de Jesucristo tiene tres grados o a las que comúnmente se les llama Órdenes. El primer grado se llama Orden del Diaconado y los diáconos pueden ser permanentes o transitorios. El segundo grado es el Orden del Presbiterado que mayormente conocemos como los sacerdotes y el tercer grado es la Orden del Episcopado o los Obispos.



adulta, enfrentando las responsabilidades de hacerme la “madre” y responsable de un hermano de tan solo 2 años a lo que mi madre solo me aseguraba al partir: “todo va a estar bien. Te veré pronto.” Con tan solo esto me dio un beso en la frente, me acomodó en cama, y recitó una oración.

Como una niña de 6 años, observando a los otros niños afuera jugando con ambos padres sufrí en enfrentar lo que ahora era mi realidad. Despertando al amanecer, haciendo el desayuno para mi hermano y enfrentar otro día impredecible yo corría para llegar a la escuela mientras que en mi mente de ‘madre temporal’ me preocupaba de mi hermano. De regreso llegaba a casa a una abuela ya de 65 años que estaba enferma y a un padre que estaba borracho. No sabía qué hacer, si comenzar tomándome un baño, o cocinar, limpiar,

preocuparme por ambos mi hermano y abuela y aguantar a mi padre. Sentía una urgencia de terminar todo rápido para poder jugar como una niña normal de tan solo 6 años. Detestaba las llegadas de los fines de semana porque tenía que ir en busca de mi padre afuera de las cantinas y no solo tenía que tratar de sobrevivir pero también enfrentar la responsabilidad de cuidar a los adultos.

Sin la protección de ninguno de mis padres y estando horrorizada al caminar de regreso a casa después de la escuela yo sola, me di cuenta de que el mundo no era todo de color de rosa cuando un hombre borracho al que estaba impuesta se me acercó con intenciones a lastimarme. Mis inocentes manos de tan solo seis años lo empujaban con todas mis fuerzas para de-

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La diócesis de Owensboro inició el programa del diaconado permanente en inglés por primera vez en el año 2007. Este primer grupo de candidatos se ordenó en septiembre del 2012. En 2013 nuestro sr. Obispo Guillermo Medley abrió la oportunidad para que este mismo programa al diaconado permanente se abriera en Español. Los diáconos pueden celebrar bautizos, proclamar el Evangelio y predicar la palabra de Dios durante la Misa, presidir en el sacramento del Matrimonio, presidir en los funerales, bendecir objetos de piedad, entre otras cosas.

Por lo tanto, por medio de este conducto estamos invitando a hombres de nuestra Diócesis de Owensboro, que sientan la inquietud de servir a la Iglesia por medio del Diaconado Permanente a que consideren seriamente en oración el llamado que Dios le puede estar haciendo. La invitación es para hombres, tanto casados por la Iglesia Católica como aquellos que aún permanecen solteros con la intención de permanecer solteros para gloria de Dios. Tienen que ser may-

ores de 32 años y menores de 60 años de edad, educación mínima de primaria o su equivalente al sexto grado y sobre todo que tengan la inquietud de servir.

Para mayores informes comuníquese con el Director del Diaconado Permanente de la Diócesis de Owensboro.

Diacono Heriberto Rodríguez,  
P.O. Box 788/221 Allensville St,  
Elkton, KY 42220.

• TEL 270-265-5263

• Alguno de sus correos electrónicos

heribertorodriguez77@msn.com

heriberto.rodriguez@pastoral.org



Si usted conoce a algún miembro de su Iglesia y creé que tiene la vocación al Diaconado Permanente contacte a su párroco o al director del diaconado y nosotros nos pondremos en contacto personalmente con el hermano que usted nos refiera. Les pedimos que nos mantengan en sus oraciones. San Esteban, ruega por nosotros.