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October, 2000

Trinity Students Connect With Larger Church at World Youth Day 2000

By Kelly Boarman, senior, Trinity High School
WHITESVILLE, KY - The pilgrimage we made to World Youth Day 2000, in Italy, is one that I believe that I will always remember. It's really quite challenging to put into words, what the trip was like for me.

On August 7, 2000, twenty-five young people left St. Mary of the Woods here with the mission of attending World Youth Day in Rome. We landed in Milan on August 8. In Milan we visited the El Dumo church. In my opinion it was the most extravagant church that I saw the whole time that I was in Italy. The church took over five hundred years to complete and if you have ever seen it you would understand why. The detail of the artwork on the inside as well as the outside was absolutely amazing.

We were also given the opportunity to visit many other cities on our way to Rome. We went to Venice where we spent the day at St. Mark's Square and even got to ride in a gondola. We spent two nights in the city of Florence, where we were given the chance to view many famous pieces of art. We also toured the cities of Pisa and Assisi before actually

arriving in Rome.

Once in Rome it seemed that we went non-stop for a week. There was always something to do or see. We were very fortunate to have three people with us who had been to Rome before and knew their way around the city. Each day that we were in Rome more and more youth were arriving.

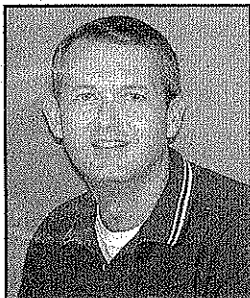
On August 15 we took part in the opening ceremony in St. Peter's Square. Even though Pope John Paul II was not going to arrive until eight o'clock that evening, people began gathering at noon. Those eight hours were spent praying and singing and went by rather quickly. When the Pope did arrive it was amazing to see the reactions that people had, many being moved emotionally.

The days after the opening ceremony were spent attending catecheses. At these catecheses we were able to meet people from the United States and other English speaking countries. It was really neat to see how they worshiped God. At night there were always things going on such as concerts and prayer services.

Continued on page 31



Pilgrims from St. Mary of the Woods parish in Whitesville went to World Youth Day in Rome August 7. Here they posed for a group picture on top of El Dumo in Milan. Pastor Fr. Richard Powers is seated in front at left; Associate Pastor Brian Roby is fourth from left in back row. The blue berets and yellow shirts helped the group stay together in the crowded venues of Rome and other cities they visited while on their once-in-a-lifetime pilgrimage. Submitted photo.

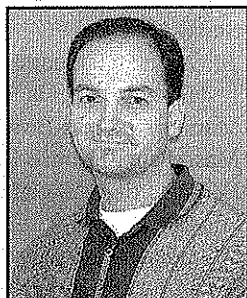


David Andrew Garner

With Praise and Thanksgiving to Almighty God

the Church of Western Kentucky
joyfully announces the Ordination
of

David Andrew Garner
son of Robert and Ellinore Garner
and
Randall Drury Howard
son of Drury and Jennie Howard



Randall Drury Howard

to the Sacred Order of Deacon by the invocation of the Holy Spirit
and the laying on of hands by the Most Reverend John J. McRaith, D.D.,
Bishop of Owensboro

Saturday, the eighteenth of November, two thousand at ten thirty in the
morning, Central Standard Time

Parish of the Immaculate, 2516 Christie Place, Owensboro, Kentucky

USCC Labor Day Statement Focuses on Gap Between Rich and Poor

"Labor Day. A new season is in; summer is over. In farming communities, the people are looking forward to harvest. We pray that we can receive a living wage for our work. It is a real blessing in the USA that we can have work and a fitting return for that labor. Our Holy Father says that work is our sharing the creativity of God."

- Fr. Richard Powers, pastor, St. Mary of the Woods Church, Whitesville.

Today's economic prosperity and good times "can mask the growing gap between rich and poor," the chairman of the U.S. Bishops Domestic Policy Committee warned in a message for Labor Day 2000. Cardinal Roger Mahony of Los Angeles said that Labor Day this jubilee year "is a good time to reflect on the progress and problems of the American economy and how it can serve all of God's children."

The Cardinal urged Catholics to get informed about economic globalization, especially about who it lifts up and who it leaves behind. He called Catholics to raise ethical and moral questions about the dignity of work and the rights of workers.

He spoke about the obligation to consider a general amnesty for those workers who come to the USA fleeing oppression and destitution and who make significant contributions to our society. He said that immigrant workers deserve "the dignity and honor afforded all people."

For the complete text of Cardinal Mahony's Labor Statement, turn to page 7 of this issue.

During October We Celebrate Life, Harvest, And The New Millennium Entrusted To Mary, Our Blessed Mother

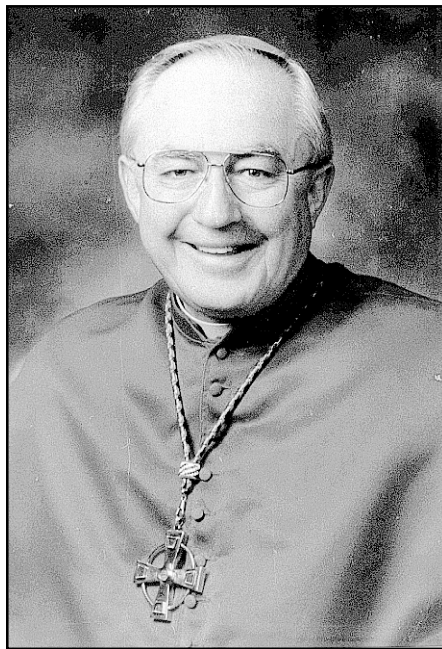
My Dear Friends,

The bishops of the United States have designated October Respect Life Month and Sunday, October 1, 2000, is Respect Life Sunday. Once again the Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life has developed wonderful material that covers a number of life issues and this has been mailed to all our parishes. I am sure that you will be hearing about the issue of life on Sunday, October 1st, and the following Sundays. It is my hope that life issues will never be confined just to October but will be part of our faith life throughout the year. Our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, has talked and written a great deal about the need to change our world from a culture of death to a culture of life.

Time to Champion the Cause of Life

We have seen enough death in the past century and now it is time to champion the cause of life in the new century and the new millennium. This can happen only when we realize that humans should not make the decision to end life—we must leave life in the hands of God. Our challenge and obligation is to defend life always and in every circumstance from the moment of conception to the moment of death.

I had the privilege to be standing at the bedside of my brother Jim as God called him home on July 4, 2000. While this was obviously a painful moment for my family, it was a moment of special grace for me. I watched God bring my brother to a new life. It was so obvious to me that it was all in the hands of God. We would have wanted Jim to live a lot longer—many more years—but that was not in God's plan for him. He died so peacefully that I could only think that Jesus and His Blessed Mother (to whom he had a great devotion) had said at 7:45, "Jim, it is time for you to be with us." The experience made the life issue so real for me. What human being would ever dare get in the way of God? Yet, as I stood at that bedside, I knew that there were many people who would take a stand opposing God's sole right to make decisions about life and death, people who would take this decision into their own hands. I prayed for them at that moment, as I prayed that we could accept my brother's death as God's call for him to come to a new life. This was only God's call and no one else's—period—end of discussion, end of any of us thinking



Most Reverend John J. McRaith, D.D.
Bishop of Owensboro in Western Kentucky

we are in control.

God Brings Life to Fulfillment

As we raise the issue of life in October, another image comes to my mind. We are about to finish the harvest in our part of the world. We see beautiful corn and bean fields that have had life all spring and summer and now it is time for the harvest. The only way that the corn and beans could reach the point of dying was because they were allowed to live until their time for harvest had come. God is so good to let us live in a part of the world where we can see this first hand. God gives life; God brings it to fulfillment, and then God takes that life to serve His family. Many people will live off what appears to be dead corn and bean fields. At any point someone could have gone into one of those fields and destroyed the life that was there. We may know enough to make harvest decisions about crops, but what right have we to destroy people? Only God knows what might have been intended for each person's life.

Mary Plays a Special Role in the Struggle

October is also a month that we give special attention to Mary, our Mother and the Mother of the Church. It is always highlighted by the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. When we think of Mary, we think always of Jesus. Mary said "yes" to being

the mother of Life—of Jesus our Messiah, our Savior, our Redeemer. She is the Mother of the very source of all Life and thus plays a special role in our struggle for making our world a world with a Culture of Life. Mary understands better than anyone what it means to stand at the Cross of Death and she understands better than anyone what it means to stand at the empty tomb that brings new Life—eternal life.

Diocesan Marian Shrine Celebration

There will be a diocesan celebration at the shrine of Mary in Bowling Green (St. Joseph Parish) on October 8th, beginning at 2:30. Although the 10th such celebration, this one is special, since it symbolizes our new hope for Life. I would hope that many could attend. This event will allow us in Western Kentucky to be part of the Universal Church's Act of Entrustment. The Holy Father will celebrate a ceremony where he will declare an "Act of Entrustment of The New Millennium to The Protection of The Blessed Virgin

Mary." This will be done along with simultaneous ceremonies presided over by all the bishops of the world. Some of the bishops will be with the Holy Father for this important celebration. I hope to be in Bowling Green with all of you as we join ourselves with the Universal Church as part of that Entrustment to the Blessed Virgin.

I end this message to you by saying that of the many things that need to be done to defend life in our society today, nothing is more effective than prayer. Let us join with Mary—and with her Son—in praying for an end to the culture of death and for the rise of a new world that is filled with a culture of LIFE.

God's blessings on you always.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend John J. McRaith
Bishop of Owensboro

BISHOP McRAITH'S OCTOBER SCHEDULE

- 1 Mass-Sr. Marie Michael Aull, CP 50th Anniversary-Passionist Monastery, Whitesville-2:00 p.m.; Mass, meeting, dinner-Engaged Encounter-St. Raphael-3:30p.m.
- 2 Age Group Meeting with Priests-St. Raphael
- 3 Paducah Office
- 4 Mass and Meeting-Glenmary Sisters-Owensboro-12:00 noon; RCIA-Eastern Deanery-St. Joseph, Leitchfield-7:00 p.m.
- 5 Staff Meeting-CPC-9:00 a.m.; RCIA-Owensboro/Daviess County/McLean Deanery-St. Stephen Cathedral-7:00 p.m.
- 7 Installation of Fr. Dan Kreuzer as Pastor-St. William, Marion-5:30 p.m.
- 8 Marian Congress-Bowling Green-2:30 p.m.
- 9 Mass-Paul VI House-Brescia University-5:30 p.m.
- 10 Young Priests' Meeting-St. Raphael-11:00 a.m.
- 11 Sacred Heart School of Theology, Hales Corner, WI-Ministry of Acolyte Installation
- 12 Mundelein Seminary Visit-Mundelein, Illinois
- 15 Mass-Marriage Anniversaries-St. Stephen Cathedral-2:00 p.m.
- 16 Priest Personnel Meeting-CPC-9:30 a.m.; Priests' Council Meeting-CPC-1:30 p.m.
- 18 Mass-Priests' Retreat-MSJ-11:00 a.m.
- 19 Staff Meeting-CPC-9:00 a.m.
- 21 Serra Club Picnic for Religious-St. Anthony, Browns Valley-12:00 noon
- 22 Candidacy Mass-Al Bremer-Immaculate, Owensboro-10:00 a.m.; Mass-Sophia Awards-St. Stephen Cathedral-1:30 p.m.
- 23 Owensboro Mercy Health System Board of Directors Meeting-5:30 p.m.
- 24 Paducah Office; RCIA-Paducah, Fancy Farm, Lake Deaneries-CCC, Paducah-7:00 p.m.
- 25 Mass-Meeting of Province Newly-Ordained Priests-4:30 p.m.
- 27 Brescia University Board of Directors Meeting-All Day; Dedication, Chapel-Brescia
- 29 Mass for Hurting Families-St. Stephen Cathedral-2:00 p.m.; Mass and Blessing of New Cross-Newman Center, Bowling Green-8:00 p.m.



10th DIOCESAN MARIAN CONGRESS IS COMING!

You are invited to the Marian Congress at the Diocesan Marian Shrine Of *Mary Mother of the Church and Model of all Christians*, at 434 Church Street in Bowling Green, KY, on Sunday, October 8th, 2:30 to 5:00 PM. Bishop McRaith will lead us in the worldwide entrustment to Mary with a special prayer. Speakers will inspire you to live your Catholic Faith. Marian procession with the statue of Our Lady of Fatima. At concluding ceremonies in beautiful, historic St. Joseph's Church, the Blessed Sacrament will be borne throughout the church to give you a blessing. There is no charge. Confessions will be heard. Display tables of religious articles will be available. Welcome!

Information: (all 270) Karen Jarboe (683-5108), Michelle Hayden (683-7111), Lisa Bivins (683-6769), Bill and Joy Bach (685-3743), and Fr. Ben Luther (554-3810).

Celebrate New Life Ministry Day

Saturday, November 11, 2000
Catholic Pastoral Center, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, KY
1-270-683-1545

Facilitator: Mr. Don Vanatta; 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Please call the Family Life Office to register. Lunch will be served.



Date Set for Religious and Priestly Jubilee Celebration

The Diocesan Council of Religious is pleased to announce that the annual celebration of Religious and Priest Jubilees will be held on Sunday, February 18, 2001. The celebration, honoring priests, sisters and brothers commemorating 25, 40, 50, 60, 65, 70, 75 or more years of religious life or ordination, will be held at St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro. Bishop John J. McRaith will celebrate Eucharist at 3:00 PM and a reception will follow in the undercroft of St. Stephen's. Please mark your calendar and reserve February 18, 2001 for this celebration.



...invites you to
attend an

Information Night

highlighting our

**Weekend College Associate & Bachelor Degree Program
and
Master of Science in Management
and
Master of Science in Curriculum & Instruction**

Tuesday, October 17, 2000, 5:30 p.m.

Brescia University Lechner Center, The Laurels (3rd floor)
717 Frederica Street, Owensboro, Kentucky 42301
(7th and Frederica St., North of Firststar Bank)

Learn about:

- Weekend Associate and Bachelor degrees
- Master of Science degrees
- Application and registration process

Refreshments will be served

Please R.S.V.P.: (270)686-4241, toll free 1-877-273-7242 or
E-mail: admissions@brescia.edu
If you cannot be with us that evening but would like information,
please contact the Brescia University as shown above.

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"Those who want moral children can offer no better gift than a passion for reading," wrote William J. O'Malley, S.J. in "Plow Before You Plant," *America*, Sept. 16, 2000, page 18.

Labor Day Statement Focuses on Gap Between Rich, Poor

A Jubilee for Workers: Challenges and Opportunities for the New Millennium

By Cardinal Roger Mahony,
Archbishop of Los Angeles

Labor Day, September 4, 2000 was declared the Jubilee Day of Workers. It is a day set aside to honor working men and women and to celebrate the meaning and value of work as we begin a new millennium.

From its early Hebrew origins, Jubilee has focused on the importance and meaning of work. Leviticus 25 speaks about the relationship of people to the land and to their work. It speaks about the farming, financial practices and work of the Jewish people. It encourages the just distribution of goods. God's people are reminded that all things come from God and they are for common use.

The Book of Genesis records God's command to human beings: "Fill the earth and subdue it" (Gn 1:28). We fulfill this command through work.

In God's plan and Catholic teaching, work is both a right and duty. It is a right because work is how we express our dignity and provide for ourselves and our families. Work is necessary to help use the earth's resources to benefit each of us and all of society. Through work we contribute to God's continuing creation. Indeed, work helps to direct human activity toward God. In the words of St. Paul "Whatever you do, do all to the glory of God" (1Cr.10:31).

Over the past century, the Church has developed its teachings on work and economic life. Our Catholic tradition holds that "human work is a key, probably the essential key, to the whole social question" (*Laborem Exercens* #3) facing society. This Jubilee year is a good time to reflect on the progress and problems of the American economy and how it can serve all of God's children.

The American people are experiencing the longest sustained economic growth in history. Work is abundant. Profits are growing. People are moving from welfare to work. The unemployment rate is remarkably low, below what many thought, was possible just a few years ago. Real family income has begun to rise again. Inflation seems to be held at bay.

These certainly are very good times. But the big picture can mask the growing gap between rich and poor. Economic growth can sometimes distribute economic benefits inequitably. Some new jobs offer meager wages and few benefits. Just beneath the surface of economic prosperity lies the reality of what our bishops have described as three economies living side-by-side (NCCB,

A Decade After Economic Justice for all, 1996).

A first economy finds many people prospering in this new information age and global marketplace. They not only cope but thrive in the new economy, experiencing remarkable economic rewards for themselves, their families and their companies. They are moving ahead.

A second economy includes people who



An auto mechanic uses physical strength and know-how to repair a damaged frame on a car; this work has a clear dignity and benefit for all concerned. Staff Photo

are doing well by some measure, but are squeezed by declining incomes, struggle to afford health care, and worry about the cost of college education or Catholic schools for their children. They find the new "global competition" not only an opportunity but also a source of worry.

A third economy touches a substantial number of people who are left behind and cannot escape poverty. Too often they live in the wrong place—a neighborhood without decent jobs or affordable housing. They lack the necessary skills for the "new economy." Many need not only decent well-paying jobs, the means to get to work and/or the child care necessary to continue working.

For Christians, these realities represent not just troubling statistics, but the struggles of brothers and sisters, members of our one human family. The values of our faith call us to shape economic policies that protect human dignity, promote strong families, and create vibrant communities. In our religious tradition the fundamental moral test of any society is how the poor, the weak, and the vulnerable are faring.

We are making progress, but challenges

remain. One vital challenge is the increasing globalization of finance, trade, and work in our world. Rapid globalization is one of the reasons for both economic growth and economic dislocation. Retraining of dislocated workers to allow them to engage in the developing technologies should be a top priority. At the same time, workers, particularly those in the growing service industry, must be assured of their right to choose whether to organize and join unions or other associations to promote and defend their dignity. The Church has long stood and continues to stand with workers and their unions in the struggle for justice, decent wages and a meaningful voice in economic life. The results of globalization must be managed wisely and assessed for their impact on human life and human work. In the words of John Paul II: "Solidarity too must become globalized." (*Jubilee of Workers*, May 2, 2000)

The debate over globalization is often polarized: some see it as the solution to economic problems; others see it as the source of economic difficulties, especially for vulnerable workers and poor families. The Church looks to raise the moral and human dimensions of these issues—how they touch immigrants fleeing poverty, workers seeking their rights, regions like Africa and parts of Latin America that could be left behind, trade embargoes which shape our relations with other peoples and nations, and the oppressive debt that impedes the progress of many developing nations. While Pope John Paul II's call for debt forgiveness to mark the Jubilee Year is being addressed by the Congress and the Administration, much more is needed.

The bishops' Conference is exploring ways to encourage a Catholic conversation on economic globalization framed by our traditions and values. We intend to invite business and labor leaders, economists and theologians, those who shape globalization and those touched by it to join in a discussion of both the opportunities and challenges of rapid globalization, who it lifts up and who it

leaves behind. We believe our social tradition and our everyday experiences as a community of faith and service—both here at home and around the world—give us unique perspectives and useful contributions to contribute to the discussion on globalization.

Another critical issue related to globalization is the plight of immigrant workers in our country. We must treat immigrants with the dignity and honor afforded all people. Many of these workers, regardless of their immigration status, have contributed greatly to the overall economy. In exchange for their willingness to work in difficult jobs with little pay and few benefits, they are often mistreated and abused. To address this serious problem, there should be serious consideration of a general amnesty for those workers who come to the U.S. fleeing oppression and destitution and who make significant contributions to our society.

As we celebrate Labor Day and observe the Jubilee Day for Workers, we should also remember election day comes in two months. "As Catholics, we can celebrate the Great Jubilee by recommitting ourselves to carry the values of the Gospels and church into the public square. As citizens, we can and must participate in the debates and choices over the values, vision, and leaders that will take our nation into the next century." (*Faithful Citizenship*) Let us use the campaign to raise the ethical and moral questions surrounding the dignity of work and the rights of workers and to lift up the call to economic justice in our nation and world.

It is worth remembering on this Labor Day—this Jubilee for Workers—that a person is more valuable for what she or he is than for what they have, for the work they do rather than for what they possess. We must join together—workers and employers, entrepreneurs and union leaders, tradespeople and policy makers—to build a society that respects each person and their work. This is our continuing challenge and our necessary work as we begin this new millennium.

Cardinal Roger Mahony is Chairman, Domestic Policy Committee, United States Catholic Conference, Department of Social Development and World Peace, 3211 4th Street N.E., Washington, DC 20017. To order additional copies of the Labor Day Statement, USCC publications, call toll-free: 800-235-8722. Or visit our website at www.nccbuscc.org/sdwp/

Calvary Temple Assembly of God Church Labor Day Picnic in English Park, Owensboro. Staff Photo



Diocese

St. Mary High School Students Classwork: Walking The Talk In Public

Editor's Note: These three essays were submitted by Rosanna Whiting, principal of St. Mary Middle and High School, Paducah. These essays were prepared for regular classroom assignments in the students' classes.

PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS

By Shaun Kennedy and Joanna Paxton



They see our plaid skirts and tucked in shirts, they hear us pray together before athletic events, but do most people really know what goes on inside Catholic schools? Do our schools project a positive image as havens for educational excellence and religious development, or do they simply come across as rehab and reform centers for public school rejects?

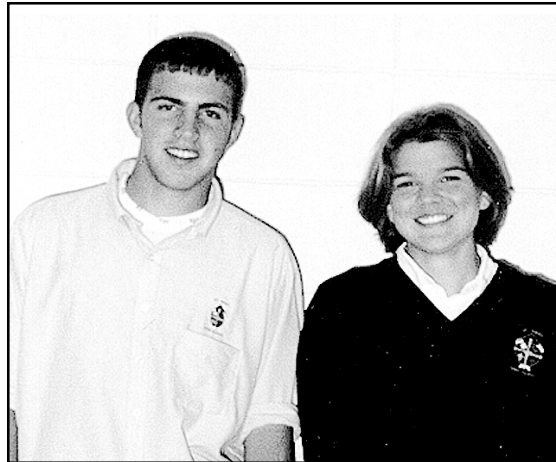
The public holds on to a variety of images associated with Catholic schools. Because of the high price of tuition many students at Catholic schools come from wealthy, upper-middle-class families. Perhaps a few snobbish young Catholics ruined the reputation of an entire generation of Catholic school students who appreciate the traditional Christian approach to education. Although Catholic schools are separate from public government run schools, and tuition payment is required, scholarships and financial aid are available to select students whose families do not have the resources to deal with the financial burden. In addition, not all students who attend Catholic schools are members of the Roman Catholic Church. For example, 18 percent of the students attending St. Mary School System are not of the Catholic faith.

Catholic school students are enraged by negative stereotypes pinned on them by the media and the public. They believe that students from other schools have the wrong idea about the type of people who attend Catholic schools. When asked how public school students perceive Catholic school students, sophomores at St. Mary all had similar ideas. Ashley Jenks best summed up their thoughts when she said, "They think we're a bunch of rich snobs and we only care about ourselves."

"They think we're promiscuous," said sophomore Lauren Tomlinson. This perception has been perpetuated by the film and music industries. Consider for example Britney Spears' music video in which she dances seductively arrayed in the classic Catholic school girl uniform consisting of knee-high stockings, plaid skirt, and pigtails. The important difference between Spears' and the average female Catholic school student is the immodesty with which she carries herself. Her skirt barely reaches mid-thigh and her shirt is tight and tied up, bearing her midriff. In reality, school dress codes would not permit any student to dress in such a suggestive manner. The public has a distorted image of Catholic schools because the media has changed the wholesome image of innocent, young girls into sex symbols.

Although the public has a distorted view of Catholic school students, it is the obligation of the students themselves to try to change their image. Administrators and faculty can do everything in their power to instill values and morals in young students, but it is up to these young people to carry themselves in a way that will cause the public to change their ideas about Catholic schools.

Ms. Whiting has a good idea here in sending in student writing from classroom assignments. We invite other teachers or parents to send in student writing. One thing we ask is that the content relate to current world, national, state or local issues of concern to young people today, as are these three essays. Thank you. --Editor



Shaun Kennedy and Joanna Paxton, St. Mary High School, Paducah, KY. SMHS Photo

Students Inspired by Soul Food

By Shaun Kennedy and Joanna Paxton

PADUCAH, KY --St. Mary High School students were galvanized when motivational speaker R. V. Brown recently visited their school. R. V. Brown is an outstanding speaker and has an intimidating presence that helps him get his point across very well. While flexing his biceps he proclaimed, "This is not steroids! It's turnip greens, black eyed peas, ham hocks, and combread!"

He was born in Caycee, South Carolina and is the 16th of 17 brothers and sisters. Growing up, he was very poor. He had to stuff his shoes with cardboard and do his homework at night by a kerosene lamp. Overcoming these obstacles allowed him to build a strong set of values and a dynamic character.

Brown has been to many schools across the country. When he speaks he has a real-life message that focuses on an anti-drug policy, individuality, and setting goals.

He also stresses the importance of who your friends are. "If you attach yourself to a group just because you think they're cool," Brown says, "they might start to jerk you around. All of a sudden you're not making your own decisions any more, you're just following the leader and he won't let go of you!"

"He got into your head pretty good," said junior Patrick Reck.

"He makes you think about things before you do them," added sophomore Kaley Goff.

"Every year, 32,000 teens die in drinking and driving accidents, Brown says. "A kid is in a drunk-driving accident every 14 seconds." He goes on to talk about how out of his 10 close friends he grew up with, 9 have died from drug-related deaths.

Like a tidal wave, Brown flooded St. Mary High School with a message of strength and individuality. Judging from student reaction, the impact of his words will be felt for a long time to come.

CHAPTER 2 TEST ESSAY: "EXPLAIN THE OUR FATHER"

By Sara Spees

You can say your prayers, but can you explain them? One reason you may not be able to is that we sometimes view prayers as words to be recited, not felt. When learning a prayer, people are drilled on the words, not the meaning. An example of this is the Our Father. Like many other prayers it expresses our beliefs, virtues, and devotion. But how often do we actually comprehend it?

Here's the answer to your essay question: the Our Father is loaded with meaning.

Jesus gave us this prayer, and he was saying that God is our father, and rules over all of us. He said to do good deeds in his name to glorify him. We are dependent upon God who will forgive us if we forgive others.

Next time you say a prayer, instead of just saying the words, dig a little deeper.



Todd Roof, Sara Spees, and Matthew Schultz, students at St. Mary High School, Paducah. SMHS Photo

by
Rev. Maurice J. Tiell

AT JACOB'S WELL

By Fr. Maurice Tiell

We Christians will indeed be walking the talk

When in Jesus' footsteps we faithfully walk.
In order to keep on doing our very best,
With Jesus sometimes we need to rest.
As Jesus asked the Samaritan woman for a drink,
It surprised her a lot and made her think.
Since in Jesus' Mission we all do share,
We need to ponder his words to her with care.
Though the Words of Jesus we are sent to sow,
It is God alone who has the power to make them grow.
To the "Unchurched" the Gospel we are sent to teach,
So to the ends of the earth Jesus' Words will reach.

- March 4, 1996

Reprinted with author's permission from his book, Over My Shoulder, Volume VI, 1996-2000.

Mary Beth Bonacci Will Speak at November Youth Rallies in Paducah

Mary Beth Bonacci is scheduled to deliver a keynote address for the November 17-18 Diocesan Youth Rally held at the St. Mary High School campus in Paducah. She will also speak with diocesan youth in two question and answer sessions Friday, Nov. 17, at 8:30 p.m. and on Saturday, Nov. 18, at 2:45 p.m.

Mary Beth Bonacci holds a BA in Communication, University of San Francisco (magna cum laude); a MA in Theology of Marriage and Family, John Paul II Institute (magna cum laude); and a Ph.D. (honorary), from the Franciscan University of Steubenville

Her major addresses to youth include: St. Louis, Missouri - Keynote speaker at Papal Visit Youth Rally, January 1999; Denver, Colorado - 75,000 teenagers at Mile High Stadium during World Youth Day, August 1993; Uganda, Africa - National seminar for singleadults, 1996; Monterey, Mexico - 10,000

teens at national youth conference, March 1992; Franciscan University of Steubenville - 5000 teenagers at annual youth rally - keynote addresses, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998.

Her television appearances include: NTRV (Music Television) - several appearances, 1992; Life on the Rock - 3 appearances, 1997 The Choices We Face, 9/94; A Closer Walk, 5/94; Franciscan Forum, 10/92; Numerous local and national news broadcasts and radio interviews 1987-1998.

Mary Beth is the author of two books, *We're on a Mission From God* and *Real Love*. She has written a syndicated Catholic newspaper column from 1992 to the present. She was founder and executive editor of VOICE magazine, 1991-1992. Mary Beth has been a regular contributing writer for YOU! magazine, 1988-1992.

Mary Beth Bonacci won the 1996 Crown Award for Best Youth Curriculum. for the

Youth Rally Schedules

FRIDAY, NOV. 17 (6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.)

5:30 p.m. Registration
6:30 P-m. Opening/Music/Icebreakers—Cooper Ray
6:45 p.m. Prayer
7:00 p.m. Keynote
8:00 p.m. Break
8:30 p.m. Q&A with Mary Beth
9:00 p.m. Closing (Highlights of WYD/announcements/promos etc.)
9:30 p.m. Dismiss

SATURDAY, NOV. 18 (9:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.)

8:30 a.m. Registration
9:30 a.m. Opening/Music/Icebreakers—Cooper Ray

9:45 a.m. Prayer
10:00 a.m. Keynote—Mary Beth (One talk with Q&A format—with break)
11:30 a.m. Announcements (NCYC, “Seize the Net”)/Highlights of WYD/Promos
12:00 p.m. Lunch (provided)
1:00 p.m. Workshop of Choice
2:30 p.m. Break
2:45 p.m. Q&A with Mary Beth
3:45 p.m. Break
4:00 p.m. Liturgy with Bishop McRaith presiding
5:30 p.m. Supper (on your own)
6:30 p.m. Holy Hour
7:30 p.m. FUNTIME! (Includes a climbing wall, karaoke, dance and coffeehouse)
10:30 p.m. Formal Closing

video *Sex and Love: What's a Teenager to Do?* She was listed in Outstanding Young

Women of America, 1997.

Youth Talk

The Importance of Modesty

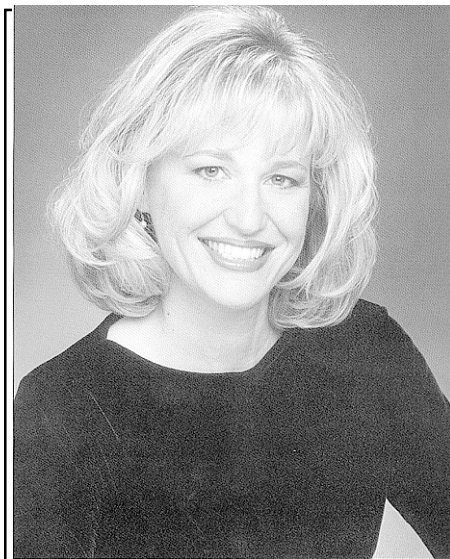
By Mary Bonacci

My life runs in themes.

The latest theme started when I bought Wendy Shalit's (excellent) book *A Return To Modesty*. Then last week a phone call came from a reporter writing a story about modesty. Made me think that it's probably about time I addressed the topic myself. It's important, after all. And, aside from this recent, isolated spate of attention, the virtue of modesty really doesn't get much press these days.

And so I consulted my best social barometer - *The Young and the Restless*. And I observed there the same phenomenon I've observed in the rest of society. While the idea of saving sex for marriage seems to be slowly catching on, there is no parallel trend encouraging a return to modesty in dress. On *Y&R*, several couples have decided to abstain from sex until their wedding night, and much ado is made about that decision. But those young brides who so convincingly sang the virtues of premarital abstinence are the same women who constantly parade around in plunging necklines and teeny-weeny bikinis, showing off their saline enhanced bodies to anyone and everyone in sight.

I've decided that the issue of modesty cuts to the heart of the difference between



Mary Beth Bonacci

abstinence and chastity. Abstinence is simply abstaining from sexual intercourse - in order to prevent sexually transmitted diseases, or pregnancy, or emotional heartbreak, or whatever. Technically, then, it really doesn't matter what one wears (or doesn't wear) while one is not having sex. A woman can dress in as risqué a manner as she likes, as long as she doesn't actually take off what little she is wearing and jump with someone.

Chastity, on the other hand, is more than simply abstaining from sex for one reason or another. Chastity is comprehensive. It's an attitude of respect for the power, the beauty, and the dignity of human sexuality, and it's

a lifestyle that puts that respect into action. Chastity doesn't just say "I'm not having sex." Chastity says, "Sex is beautiful, sacred and *private*, and every aspect of my life will respect that."

Honestly, most women don't fully understand the importance of modesty. And they particularly don't understand (as I didn't for years) why so much of the onus for dressing modestly is placed on them. "Why is it always about us?" I'd ask. "After all, I'm not complaining about what guys are wearing. Why is what women wear suddenly such a big deal?"

But then I got older, and I started talking to men about what it's like to be a man. And about what it's like to be an 18 year old man. And suddenly it all made sense. It's not about the systematic oppression of women or the patriarchal society or anything like that. It's simple biology. Men and women are wired differently. Men are much more visually oriented than women are. They are much more sexually affected by what they see. Of course women don't understand. We don't have the same visually sexual reaction to the male body. That's why *Playgirl* magazine never really took off. The whole situation reminds me of a line from *Seinfeld*, when Elaine says, "The female form is a thing of beauty, it's a work of art. The male body is more functional - you know, like a jeep."

So, at any rate, I learned a lot talking to these guys. They told me what it's like to be a guy who's really committed to living chastity and respecting the gift of sexuality. They

want to see a woman for who she *is*, to see her as a complete human person created in the image and likeness of God and loved by Him for her own sake. But, if she's dressed in a way that exposes or accentuates certain body parts, those "parts" scream out for attention. "Hey, look at me!" they say. "I'm a part. I'm a *fun* part! Hello! Down here!" It's an enormous distraction, to say the least.

Now *this* motivated me to dress modestly. After all, women, how would you rather have men look at you? Would you rather they say, "Gee, I'd like to get to know her better" or "I'd like to have a piece of that"?

Does that mean men have no moral responsibility here? Of course not. They have to dress in a way that respects their bodies, too. And they have to strive to respect women - even those who are dressed in a way that doesn't show respect for themselves. A woman's immodest dress doesn't give a man the license to view her as merely a sexual object. In the old days, they called this "custody of the eyes." It still holds true today.

Modesty is about being seen for who we are. It's about showing off *ourselves*, not our parts. It's about demanding the respect due to an image and likeness of God, and not allowing ourselves to be viewed as objects, mere means to someone else's satisfaction. Modesty doesn't mean we dress dumpily or unattractively. It means we dress in a way that shows off the image and likeness of God in us, not simply the parts that make up that image and likeness.

REFLECTIONS ON CHASTITY

By Rev. Richard Meredith
September 10, 2000

According to our doctrine, the grace of chastity is offered by God in Jesus Christ to shape the sexual drive of every human being in the direction of God's love. This is a good thing. It is the gift of God by which we are able to teach and form our sexuality to be a servant of love, life, relationships, and commitments, rather than a destructive and fickle tyrant over us. True love seeks the true good of oneself and others. Love protects the vulnerable. While often fierce and passionate, love is a form of faithful, self-sacrificing, life-giving friendship. All of this is included in the reality of chastity.

The teaching of the Catholic Church on chastity has no interest in condemning or controlling people. The interest lies in proclaiming the gospel truth which sets free. Sexuality is so foundational to the human psyche and personality that it is exceptionally vulnerable to harm and full of the potential for the love which gives rise to life and the community we call family. Many of the mistakes and injuries affecting sexuality are permanent with no second chances. Even redeemed by God's mercy, some injuries here leave a scar of grief for the rest of one's life. I am convinced that for the most part our doctrines concerning chastity and sexuality are motivated by compassion as a protection for tender human hearts. God made us to desire to love and to be loved. Our history of sin has refashioned this with theft, violence, omnivorous predation, and death. Human evil and sin have not been able to destroy the natural goodness of our created being, even sexuality. But we stand in absolute need of God's redeeming grace in Jesus Christ for the healing and fulfilling of the Creator's purpose in our personal sexuality. This story of grace in each of us is a life-long formation. Chastity, just like love and freedom, is a life-long work of grace.

From this perspective, take another look at the *Catholic Catechism's* section on chastity [mostly 2331-2400]. It is fascinating reading. Chastity informs almost every aspect of our Christian lives, but it flatly opposes a good deal of what our present culture proposes for human consumption. Among other things, our society is fixated on the goal of acquiring "safe sex." But what it means by this is sex without any consequence — disposable sex, sex without impact, without disease for sure, but also with-

out life, without commitment, without anything but a momentarily thrilling diversion. It usually means "cheap sex." It's what the consumer demands. It's what sells. It's the oldest method known of separating fools and their money. It also kills, and with a vengeance. Chastity has never killed, cheapened, enslaved, mutilated, or deceived. It teaches sexuality how to be passionate for life and intimate to and the friend of the beloved's good. To be Chaste is to be free to love and in God's embrace of grace, to be safe from evil.

I recall as a child that no one at home spoke about sex or chastity much at all. Interest in these matters was only occasional and for the most part low key. Our lives as children were not saturated with the topic by way of television or the music we heard some forty to fifty years ago. When puberty and adolescence arrived, however, I recall that interest kicked into high gear. The state I remember was one of chaos and confusion, along with an intention to be good faced with at times overwhelming curiosity, even urgency. More than once I wondered if adolescence could be survived. I even remember at times resenting the moral "brakes" placed on the "drives" induced by the new cascade of teen hormones. Wonder competed with exhaustion, growth and achievement with uncertainty and arrogance. With millions of variations on these themes, even with age appropriate information and the spiritual and moral formation available in the Church today, the journey through adolescence still appears to be experienced for most as one of competing risks and potentials. The goal is that of integrating adult sexuality into one's person in terms of truth, love, life, and covenant. Each is an essential and integral factor. The work is also life long.

Truth regards the reality of God and faith and our human reality in relationship to God. It filters the fantasies and imaginations, and it challenges the realities of infatuations. Without truth, love is impossible. Love, real and true love, seeks the good of self and others. I am told and I firmly believe that love is always work, exertion, labor, it is energy requiring. So, true love is a deliberate working for the real good of self and others. It does not deceive or accept deception. True love, then, affirms life. It does no harm and strives to limit unavoidable harm, even at the cost of painful self-sacrifice. Since sexuality is constructed for the begetting of new life and for the bonds of human mating and family, covenant relationship is required.

This includes fidelity to one's own integrity; fidelity to spouse; fidelity to offspring; and, key to it all, fidelity to our Creator. God IS truth, love, life, and covenant in person. God is the source and ultimate goal of human sexuality, in fact, of the entire human person.

I believe that we can, by God's gracious love, rise to the challenge of chastity. It is a life-long labor, best engaged in earnest certainly no later than adolescence. Children need a chaste environment in which to grow up. The stakes are high and our choices have permanent (life and death) consequences. Truth, life, love, relationship, and eternal destiny are all on the line here. All mistakes and sins by the cross of Christ can surely be redeemed and healed, but not reversed. That's better, however, than the prognosis on most sexually transmitted bacteria and viruses these days. A new life conceived is eternal. A new life destroyed is irreversible. A story of stolen intimacy, deceitful love, is not rewritten, so it is better to love truly, humbly, and chastely from the start. The norms of the Church are wise but still developing toward the Kingdom of God. It's best to pay attention to them. What they guard are precious and vulnerable hearts. They intend the human good.

The much more detailed presentation of Catholic doctrine in the *Catechism* is certainly worth exploration, given the universal impact of sexual morality and immorality on human life. Personal integrity, public morality, interpersonal relationships and responsibilities, and all our social structures are affected by chastity or the lack thereof. Sexuality and the virtue which humanizes it are foundational to being human. When chastity flourishes, human life and freedom flourish, when vice reigns, ruin.

As I said before, the Church's interest here is the human good, not some sort of condemning and prudish grab for control over people. Pastoral authority proclaims the good and decries evil, says what behavior is full of virtue and blessed by grace, and points out what is evil and full of the potential of sin (i.e., sinful). It rightly ministers spiritual and moral diagnosis, but never rightly judges a conscience. However fine a line, it is a necessary distinction. God alone judges the heart. Even the individual must defer to God in the matter of personal conscience.

So. The norms of chastity insist that sexual intimacy serve covenant love, life, truth, and goodness—namely, the purposes of the Creator. Chastity is a grace from God which frees human sexuality in its service of these higher priorities. At the same time chastity is grueling, person-shaping and relationship-building labor. It is also a life-

long project. Positively, the basic norm says that sexual intimacy belongs in heterosexual marriage and only there, for no other context can uphold the essential criteria of love, life, truth, and goodness together. The positive results of this teaching in experience are limitless. It's the negative norms—**don't ever do...**—which get all the bad press and inspire, ironically, the "dirty" jokes.

Today, there is widespread and defiant rebellion against chastity. The new-human-life-generating aspect of sexual intercourse is often treated like a disease. There's a huge appetite for severing sex's biological link with new life. This is at the center of the Catholic Church's opposition to contraceptives. Abortion is the most virulent form of this severance of life from sex. The total dissociation of life generation from sex is what would morally equate heterosexuality, homosexuality, bisexuality, etc. The Church flatly rejects this being in accord with God's purpose. Covenant responsibilities for life and love, given the permanent consequences of sexual intimacy, move the Church to proscribe sexual cohabitation outside of marriage for anyone of any age. Casual sex, fornication, adultery, the old list of sins, remain as wrong as ever and as harmful. Neither should sexual behaviors invert the individual toward self-centeredness and selfishness or use another person as an object. Chastity leads to joy, but it might not get many cheap laughs, in fact it angers many.

Saint Paul said in Romans (5.20), "Where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more." Obviously, this is not a statistical statement. He didn't do a spreadsheet and balance columns to conclude that God's grace surpassed our sins in number. It is a declaration of fact, known in faith and expressed in hope, that where human sins caused the killing of the Messiah, God's gracious mercy for us through him, overcame death in him, raising Christ to glory for us. His victory is grace or divine gift for us, far surpassing the potential of our evil, surpassing all the cumulative evil of human history. I believe this.

Radio, newspapers, magazines, and TV, all inform us of the sins against chastity. These are sins against love, life, truth, and the human good, sins against ourselves and against God. The list is long: rape, abuses and violence of all sorts, incest, slavery, prostitution, pornography, abortion, various forms of contraception, casual and habitual promiscuity, harassment, extramarital sex, sexual cohabitation, infidelities of mind and action, perversions, etc. It appears that

CCK Candidate Survey 2000 Results • September 19, 2000

Editor's Note: The Catholic Conference of Kentucky (CCK) sent questionnaires to candidates running for office in Kentucky. As of our press time, these responses have come in from the CCK.

Ed Whitfield, First District Republican, Incumbent

Issue Abortion

Question: What is your position on legislation pending in this congress that would ban partial birth abortion except to save the life of the mother? Response: Support

Question: What is your position on the use of taxpayer funds to pay for abortion? Response: Oppose

Question: What is your position on a constitutional amendment that would protect the right to life of unborn children (human life amendment)?

Response: Support Comment: None

Issue Capital Punishment

Question: What is your position on efforts to abolish the death penalty? Response: Oppose

Question: End the use of the death penalty in cases where the defendant who has committed the crime is a minor? Response: None Given

Comment: Depends on circumstances of individual case.

Question: End the sentence of death when a state has in place a sentence of life in prison without possibility of parole or pardon? Response: Oppose

Issue Charitable Choice

Question: What is your position on legislation to make it easier for churches and religiously affiliated institutions to participate in government funded programs intended to address problems in society such as poverty, unemployment and homelessness? Response: Support
Comment: None

Issue Economic Help for Families

Question: What is your position on the federal government providing financial resources to low income persons to gain access to affordable, quality childcare and programs for early child development? Response: Support

Issue Economic Help for Families

Question: Through tax relief to low income working families with children to keep them above the poverty line, e.g., refundable children's tax credit and/or earned income tax credit (EITC)? Response: Support
Comment: None

Issue Education

Question: What is your position on legislation to provide financial assistance to all parents enabling them to exercise their right to choose the elementary and/or secondary schools, including religiously oriented schools, which are best suited for their children such as: Legislation to provide tax benefits to both public and private school parents to offset the educational costs of their children? Response: Support

Question: Legislation to provide education vouchers/scholarships to parents to pay for the cost of their children's schooling? Response: Support

Question: Legislation to provide financial support for services to private and religious school students with disabilities? Response: No Position
Comment: Disabled students currently receive financial support through the IDEA program

Issue Embryo Research

Question: What is your position on using taxpayer funds for research that involves destroying live human embryos to obtain their cells for experimentation (embryonic stem cell research)? Response: Oppose

Issue Environment

Question: What is your position on legislation to further regulate and reduce pollution? Response: No Position

Question: Legislation to further regulate and reduce the harmful effects of pesticides and other chemicals on children's health? Response: No Position
Comment: Our nation has the strongest environmental laws in the world-clean air, clean water insecticide, fungicide and rodenticide laws are all particularly strong. If you show through valid scientific analysis that additional steps should be taken, I'll support it, if not I will oppose it.

Issue Euthanasia

Question: What is your position on legislation that would allow a physician to prescribe a drug overdose to assist in the suicide of patients diagnosed as terminally ill? Response: Oppose

Comment: None

Issue Food/Agriculture

Question: What is your position on amending or repealing current farm policy in favor of programs that are more favorable to small to moderate-sized family owned and operated farms, including providing a "safety net" in times of low prices or natural disasters?

Response: Support
Comment: Our current agriculture program has provided disaster -AMPTA, and TLAP payments to farmers two years in a row. The safety net is in place.

Issue Health Care

Question: What is your position on legislation that would assure universal and genuine access to affordable health care coverage through use of mandates, e.g. individual, employer? Response: Oppose
Comment: My position on the issue will depend upon your definition of mandates.

Issue Human Rights

Question: What is your position on making the defense of human rights-including religious liberty-a central concern of u.s. foreign policy, especially in places where human rights are most at risk, by linking other policies (e.g., trade preferences or military aid) to a country's performance on human rights? Response: Support
Comment: However, I believe it is counter productive to isolate these matters from the world these matters from the world community.

Issue Immigration

Question: What is your position on legislation that would: Permit long-term permanent resident aliens to avoid deportation and remain in the u.s., if they have committed minor criminal offenses, but have been rehabilitated and built ties to their communities in the U.S.? Response: none
Comment: Candidate had questions concerning the issue and CCK was unable to provide answers in time allotted for publication.

Question: Restore benefit eligibility to legal immigrants who fall on hard times?

Response: no position
Comment: Candidate had questions concerning the issue and CCK was unable to provide answers in time allotted for publication.

Question: Ease current restrictions that deny people at U.S. ports of entry the ability to seek political asylum in the United States?

Response: No Position

Issue International Debt Relief

Question: What is your position on legislation to fund substantial and rapid debt reduction for all heavily indebted poor countries that commit to using the benefits of debt reduction to relieve poverty? Response: Support
Comment: If we have sufficient funds to release America's federal debt.

Issue International Economic Sanctions

Question: What is your position on policies to end economic sanctions against Cuba and Iraq, while funding an alternative means of promoting respect for human rights and democracy that would not cause so much suffering for civilian populations? Response: Support
Comment: I have voted to remove sanctions against Cuba.

This six-page questionnaire completed by: Ed Whitfield, M.C. 9-18-00

Brian Roy, First District Democrat, Challenger

Issue Abortion

Question: What is your position on legislation pending in this congress that would ban partial birth abortion except to save the life of the mother? Response: Support

Question: What is your position on the use of taxpayer funds to pay for abortion? Response: Oppose

Question: What is your position on a constitutional amendment that would protect the right to life of unborn children (human life amendment)? Response: None Given
Comment: I am opposed to abortion except in the case of rape, incest and to save the life of the mother and I will support legislation to that effort.

Issue Capital Punishment

Question: What is your position on efforts to abolish the death penalty? Response: Oppose

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Question: End the use of the death penalty in cases where the defendant who has committed the crime is a minor? Response: Support

Question: End the sentence of death when a state has in place a sentence of life in prison without possibility of parole or pardon? Response: Oppose

Issue Charitable Choice

Question: What is your position on legislation to make it easier for churches and religiously affiliated institutions to participate in government funded programs intended to address problems in society such as poverty, unemployment and homelessness? Response: Support
Comment: None

Issue Economic Help for Families

Question: What is your position on the federal government providing financial resources to low income persons to gain access to affordable, quality childcare and programs for early child development? Response: Support

Question: Through tax relief to low income working families with children to keep them above the poverty line, e.g., refundable children's tax credit and/or earned income tax credit (EITC)? Response: Support Comment: None

Issue Education

Question: What is your position on legislation to provide financial assistance to all parents enabling them to exercise their right to choose the elementary and/or secondary schools, including religiously oriented schools, which are best suited for their children such as: Legislation to provide tax benefits to both public and private school parents to offset the educational costs of their children? Response: Oppose

Question: Legislation to provide education vouchers/scholarships to parents to pay for the cost of their children's schooling? Response: Oppose

Question: Legislation to provide financial support for services to private and religious school students with disabilities? Response: No Position Comment: None

Issue Embryo Research

Question: What is your position on using taxpayer funds for research that involves destroying live human embryos to obtain their cells for experimentation (embryonic stem cell research)? Response: Oppose

Issue Environment

Question: What is your position on legislation to further regulate and reduce pollution? Response: No Position

Question: Legislation to further regulate and reduce the harmful effects of pesticides and other chemicals on children's health? Response: Support Comment: I believe that we must find a healthy balance between a clean environment and keeping our economy strong.

Issue Euthanasia

Question: What is your position on legislation that would allow a physician to prescribe a drug overdose to assist in the suicide of patients diagnosed as terminally ill? Response: Oppose Comment: None

Issue Food/Agriculture

Question: What is your position on amending or repealing current farm policy in favor of programs that are more favorable to small to moderate-sized family owned and operated farms, including providing a "safety net" in times of low prices or natural disasters? Response: Support Comment: None

Issue Health Care

Question: What is your position on legislation that would assure universal and genuine access to affordable health care coverage through use of mandates, e.g. individual, employer? Response: Support Comment: None

Issue Human Rights

Question: What is your position on making the defense of human rights-including religious liberty-a central concern of u.s. foreign policy, especially in places where human rights are most at risk, by linking other policies (e.g., trade preferences or military aid) to a country's performance on human rights? Response: Support Comment: None

Issue Immigration

Question: What is your position on legislation that would: Permit long-term permanent resident aliens to avoid deportation and remain in the u.s., if they have committed minor criminal offenses, but have been rehabilitated and built ties to their communities in the U.S.? Response: Oppose

Question: Restore benefit eligibility to legal immigrants who fall on hard times? Response: No Position

Question: Ease current restrictions that deny people at U.S. ports of entry the ability to seek political asylum in the United States? Response: No Position

Issue International Debt Relief

Question: What is your position on legislation to fund substantial and rapid debt reduction for all heavily indebted poor countries that commit to using the benefits of debt reduction to relieve poverty? Response: No Position Comment: We must address our debt at home before we begin helping other nations reduce their debt.

Issue International Economic Sanctions

Question: What is your position on policies to end economic sanctions against Cuba and Iraq, while funding an alternative means of promoting respect for human rights and democracy that would not cause so much suffering for civilian populations? Response: Support Comment: None

This six-page questionnaire completed by: Dale Howard

9-15-00

Ron Lewis, Second District, Republican Incumbent

Congressman Ron Lewis responded to the CCK questionnaire, but declined to give direct responses or comments to specific questions.

Rather, Ron Lewis wrote a statement: "I have had the privilege of serving as the Representative for Kentucky's 2nd Congressional District since May of 1994. During this time I have cast hundreds of votes in the House of Representatives. With many of these votes on bills that are of

interest to you and your members, I believe you will be able to judge where I stand on these issues.

"For these reasons, I prefer that groups with particular interests consider my views on the issues in the context of actual votes rather than in light of responses to specific questionnaires that may or may not accurately reflect the issues before the Congress."

Brian Pedigo, Second District, Democrat, Challenger

Issue Abortion

Question: What is your position on legislation pending in this congress that would ban partial birth abortion except to save the life of the mother? Response: Support

Question: What is your position on the use of taxpayer funds to pay for abortion? Response: Support

Question: What is your position on a constitutional amendment that would protect the right to life of unborn children (human life amendment)? Response: None Given Comment: I personally do not approve of abortion, yet I cannot with a good conscience believe that for the government has to dictate to women how or what to do with their own bodies. It is a health procedure and should be treated as one as far as coverage.

Issue Capital Punishment

Question: What is your position on efforts to Abolish the death penalty? Response: Oppose

Question: End the use of the death penalty in cases where the defendant who has committed the crime is a minor? Response: Support

Question: End the sentence of death when a state has in place a sentence of life in prison without possibility of parole or pardon? Response: No Position Comment: Let a jury decide based on the case to hear the death penalty on life in prison in states that have that option.

Issue Charitable Choice

Question: What is your position on legislation to make it easier for churches and religiously affiliated institutions to participate in government funded programs intended to address problems in society such as poverty, unemployment and homelessness? Response: Support Comment: Community help and assistance begins and ends with the community. The government is there to assist those in the community not dictate.

Issue Economic Help for Families

Question: What is your position on the federal government providing financial resources to low income persons to gain access to affordable, quality childcare and programs for early child development? Response: Support

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Issue Economic Help for Families

Question: Through tax relief to low income working families with children to keep them above the poverty line, e.g., refundable children's tax credit and/or earned income tax credit (EITC)?
Response: Support *Comment:* Every American deserves a chance to better their situation. The government should help those who want to help themselves.

Issue Education

Question: What is your position on legislation to provide financial assistance to all parents enabling them to exercise their right to choose the elementary and/or secondary schools, including religiously oriented schools, which are best suited for their children such as: Legislation to provide tax benefits to both public and private school parents to offset the educational costs of their children? *Response:* No Position

Question: Legislation to provide education vouchers/scholarships to parents to pay for the cost of their children's schooling? *Response:* No Position

Question: Legislation to provide financial support for services to private and religious school students with disabilities? *Response:* Support *Comment:* I will not support any measure that undermines the public school systems. I do not want people to have the freedom of private school choice.

Issue Embryo Research

Question: What is your position on using taxpayer funds for research that involves destroying live human embryos to obtain their cells for experimentation (embryonic stem cell research)? *Response:* No Position

Issue Environment

Question: What is your position on legislation to further regulate and reduce pollution?
Response: Support

Question: Legislation to further regulate and reduce the harmful effects of pesticides and other chemicals on children's health? *Response:* Support *Comment:* I like clean air, clean water and I want my children to enjoy them as well. We also need to keep in mind farmers and not go overboard on regulation.

Issue Euthanasia

Question: What is your position on legislation that would allow a physician to prescribe a drug overdose to assist in the suicide of patients diagnosed as terminally ill? *Response:* Support *Comment:* Life is a gift but I hate to see anyone suffering and if it is thoroughly discussed with the patient, doctors and patient's immediate family present it should be up to them to reach a decision.

Issue Food/Agriculture

Question: What is your position on amending or repealing current farm policy in favor of programs that are more favorable to small to moderate-sized family owned and operated farms, including providing a "safety net" in times of low prices or natural disasters? *Response:* Support *Comment:* My father is a small farmer who must work a full-time job to keep above water. Willie Nelson and Farm Aid can't save all the farms. We need to do what we can as a whole to save this way of life.

Issue Health Care

Question: What is your position on legislation that would assure universal and genuine access to affordable health care coverage through use of mandates, e.g. individual, employer? *Response:* Support *Comment:* With health care costs continuing to sore higher and higher a plan must be enacted to get every American some level of coverage while not putting a large burden on employers.

Issue Human Rights

Question: What is your position on making the defense of human rights-including religious liberty-a central concern of u.s. foreign policy, especially in places where human rights are most at risk, by linking other policies (e.g., trade preferences or military aid) to a country's performance on human rights? *Response:* Support *Comment:* If we truly believe in human rights we have to take the lead in insisting that other countries improve their record on human rights. We need to raise their standards not lower ours.

Issue Immigration

Question: What is your position on legislation that would: Permit long-term permanent resident aliens to avoid deportation and remain in the u.s., if they have committed minor criminal offenses, but have been rehabilitated and built ties to their communities in the U.S.?
Response: Support

Issue Immigration

Question: Restore benefit eligibility to legal immigrants who fall on hard times? *Response:* Support

Question: Ease current restrictions that deny people at U.S. ports of entry the ability to seek political asylum in the United States? *Response:* No Position

Issue International Debt Relief

Question: What is your position on legislation to fund substantial and rapid debt reduction for all heavily indebted poor countries that commit to using the benefits of debt reduction to relieve poverty? *Response:* Support *Comment:* I support it as long as those commitments are strictly adhered to or funds will be cut off immediately.

Issue International Economic Sanctions

Question: What is your position on policies to end economic sanctions against Cuba and Iraq, while funding an alternative means of promoting respect for human rights and democracy that would not cause so much suffering for civilian populations? *Response:* No Position *Comment:* Our disputes are with governments not the people who unfortunately bear most of the suffering, but to get our point across, I believe sanctions are usually necessary.

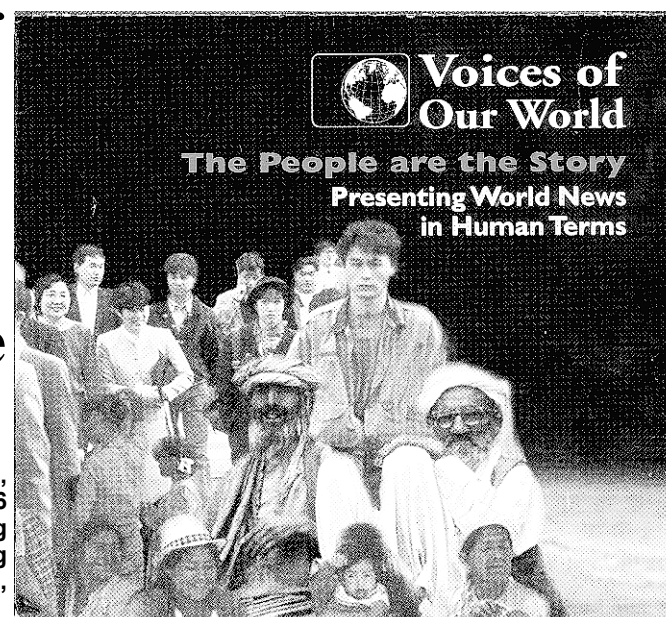
This six-page questionnaire completed by: Brian Pedigo

9-15-00

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**The
Mass
on TV**

Bowling Green
Insight Cable Channel 25,
Wed. At 3p.m. and Fri. At 1p.m.

On WB19 WWAZ
Evansville, IN
Crawfordsville Cable
Channel 13

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Channel 20

Diocese

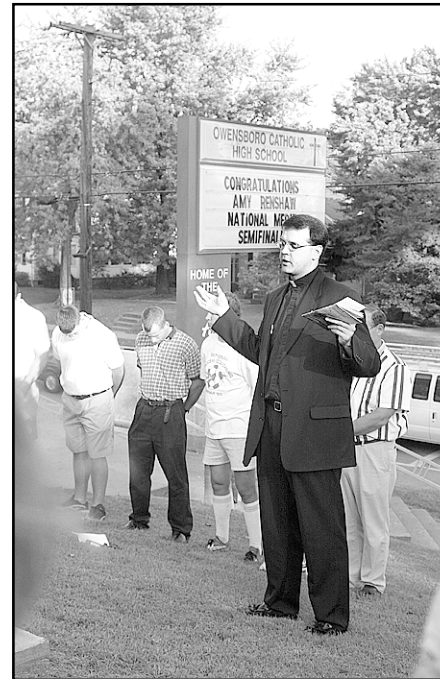
OCHS Students and Staff Join See You At The Pole Prayer Sept. 20



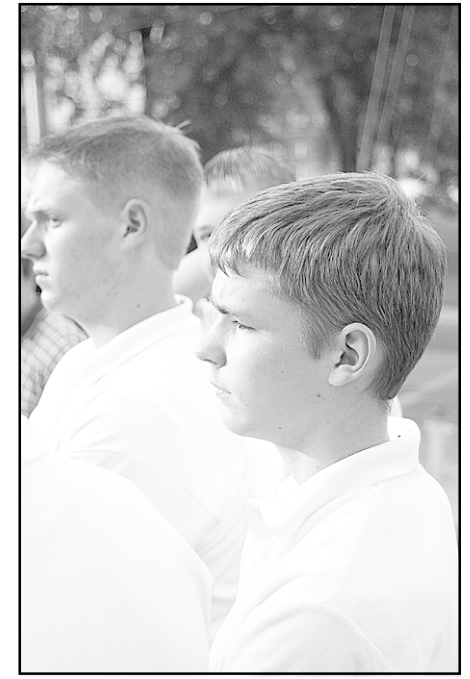
On a bright warm September 20 morning it was easy to pray at the flagpole on the Owensboro Catholic High School campus. Part of what impelled the OCHS students to gather this morning was to be in solidarity with many of their friends who were gathering to pray in the

same way in the nation's public schools.

About 60 students, staff and faculty gathered at 7:45 a.m. for prayer. They



Fr. Brian Roby lead the gathering at the OCHS flagpole in a litany of petitions. Staff Photo



Signing a petition for abstinence education in the nation's schools.



were participating in See You At The Pole, an expression of the right to religious expression in the USA as part of a worldwide movement to pray for their classmates, teachers, and country.

A Mass for grandparents was also scheduled later in the day for the Owensboro Catholic High School community where prayer is both private and communal, personal and continuing through every class day.

Happy Anniversary!

Anniversaries for October

Blessed Mother, Owensboro

Brenda & Clifton Clark, 25 years
Phillip & Judy Day, 25 years
Ernie & Lou Davis, 40 years
Robert & Eula Taylor, 40 years
Herman & Ernestine Adams, 50 years

Holy Spirit, Bowling Green

Stanley & Mary Zale, 57 years
Francis & Wilma Rods, 52 years
William & Melinda Barbieau, 59 years
Camille & Margaret Picciano, 57 years
Jake & Polly Leibfreid, 50 years
George & Shirely Handlon 40 years
Earl & Mary Ann Averite, 54 years

St. Paul, Princeton

Vernon & Alois Burkhead, 51 years

St. Joseph, Mayfield

George & Pat Thomas, 52 years
Joseph & June Elliott, 53 years
J. Steele & Mildred Robbins, 58 years

St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Millard & Barbara J. Roberts, 40 years
William & Janetta Booker, 25 years
Richard & Debbie Kelley, 25 years

St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

Mr & Mrs John Stahr, 25 years
Mr & Mrs Donnie Wilson, 25 years
Mr & Mrs Charley Toon, 53 years

St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho

G.J. & Rose Isbill, 55 years

St. Johns, McCracken County

Chalres & Margaret Ballard, 40 years
Louis & Judy Roof, 40 years
Bob & Barbaranelle Tackett, 40 years
Paul Louis & Martha Wurth, 40 years

Immaculate, Owensboro

Billy & Anna Marian King, 50 years
Daniel & Cynthia Clark, 25 years
Greg & Kennetha Waninger, 25 years

Holy Redeemer, Beaver Dam

Jerald & Linda Hardison, 25 years
Steve & Rose Poanl, 62 years

St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph

Douglas & Benola Dant, 50 years

St Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

George & Katerine Dieterle, 63 years
Wayne & Mary Gordon, 59 years
Harry & Betty Sapp, 53 years
Billy & Anna Marian, 50 years

St. Henrys, Aurora

Mr & Mrs Herschel Underwood, 52 years

St. Thomas More, Paduach

August & Leola Kiren, 61 years

St. Pius Tenth Church, Owensboro

Gene & Bernadette Bickwermert, 53 years
Roy & Mabel Lindsey, 51 years
Richard & Betty Greenwell, 52 years
Fred & Martha Hall, 30 years
Martin & Pat Howard, 30 years
Daniel & Sharon Morris, 25 years
James & Sandra Payne, 25 years
George & Rosemary Early, 25 years

St. Rose of Lima Parish

Richard & Dorothy Carter, 51 years
James & Mary Jo Carter, 50 years

St. Leo, Murray

Mr & Mrs Alex Paluch, 54 years
Mr & Mrs Herbert Cole, 59 years
Rowan & Romand Robert, 53 years
Mr & Mrs Bruno Zubko, 56 years

Holy Name, Henderson

Franklin & Alice Atkinson, 50 years
Richard & Lori Deckard, 25 years
Leslie & Sarah Jennings, 56 years
Robert & Alberts Konsler, 52 years
Huston & Dorothy Payne Jr. 54 years
Constantino & Gina Regalbuto 54 years
Ray & Evelyn Shoemaker, 53 years
William & Virginia Thomas, 54 years

St. Ann, Morganfield

Mr & Mrs James L. Wolfe, 58 years
James L & Margaret Wathen, 52 years

Precious Blood, Owensboro

Michael & Cathy Richeson, 25 years
Royce & Patricia Dant, 25 years
Roy & Lena Reed, 50 years

Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

Dr. & Mrs Lyndon Goode, 40 years

St. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro

Mr & Mrs Richard Holland, 50 years

St. Anthony, Axtel

Alfred & Edna Critchelow, 50 years
Dan & Patricia Rhodes, 40 years
Joseph & Valerie Buckman, 25 years

Greenwells Celebrate 50th Wedding Anniversary



Drury and Mildred Greenwell posed with Fr. Tom Buckman July 7 in Morganfield. Submitted photo

On Friday July 7, 2000, Drury and Mildred (Thompson) Greenwell celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at St. Ann Church in Morganfield. Their wedding vows were renewed and a special mass was offered by Fr. Tom Buckman of St. Stephen Cathedra.

Sally Beaven (niece) was the organist and Jennifer Nally was the soloist. Brenda Wallace and Alan Greenwell (children of the couple) and Randy Greenwell (nephew) were the Eucharistic ministers. Jonna Wallace and Kyle Greenwell (grandchildren) were the lectors. Kevin Greenwell (grandson) and Lee Greenwell (daughter-in-law) presented the gifts. Luke and Jacob Hagan (great nephews) served at the Mass. Ariana Wallace (step-granddaughter) and Amy Harlan attended the guest register.

A reception followed at St. Ann Parish Hall.

Many relatives and friends were on hand to help celebrate their special day.

The couple and their family traveled to Evansville for a short cruise on the Casino Aztar and joined in other festivities on the boat.

Drury and Mildred were married on Friday, July 7, 1950 at St. Ann Catholic Church in Morganfield. Fr. Phil Riney assistant Pastor at St. Ann, officiated at the Nuptial High Mass with a double ring ceremony.

SUBMITTED BY BRENDA WALLACE

ONCE MORE WITH LOVE

A Marriage Preparation Program for couples preparing for marriage
after one or both persons have experienced a divorce
or death of a former spouse.

**This will be held Saturday - November 11, 2000
from 8:30 am - 5:00 pm at St. Stephen Cathedral.**
For more information contact Betty Medley @ (270) 683-1545
ext. 121

Carmel Home Bazaar Coming October 28

The Carmel Home Annual Christmas Bazaar and Barbecue at 2501 Old Hardford Road in Oowensboro will be October 28, Saturday, from 8:00 a.m to 4:00 p.,m. featuring homemade baked goods, religious articles, a silent auction for furniture and miscellaneous collectors items. There will be a big raffle: First Prize \$10,000; Second prize \$5,000; third prize \$3,000; 4th and 5th prizes are \$2,000.

For information, call Kathy Shaver at 683-0227

A Certificate In Youth Ministry

By Melinda Prunty, Associate Director of the Office of Youth Ministry

In light of the fact that Youth Ministry is a relative "baby" in the Catholic Church when compared to Protestant denominations, there is a real shortage of "trained" Youth Ministers in the Catholic Church at large. In our particular diocese, our history has been unstable with regards to Youth Ministers who are hired by parishes or by several parishes. There have been some hired with unrealistic expectations placed upon them which was unhealthy for them and the youth/parishes that they served. Slowly, the mentality is changing from hiring a Youth Minister that is supposed to be the "end all, be all," and a more realistic vision of a Youth Minister being a "coordinator" working with a core group of interested, committed adults and youth is emerging. One person cannot possibly meet the needs of all the youth in a parish. There are different personalities of youth and adults and having a variety of personalities involved helps better ensure that there will be someone around that can relate to the various personalities of the youth and help create a "youth friendly" parish.

There are various options in thinking about Youth Ministry for a parish. A realistic view of the parish's budget is one consideration. What are the priorities of the parish financially. What can we reasonably afford?

What are the needs of the youth in OUR parish?

Some of the options might include:

1) Hiring a college student if you live close to a college campus. While you may get someone young who can relate well to the youth, if they do not plan to stay in the area after graduation, you need to look at the stability and continuity of your program. Is it fair to the youth to have such frequent turnover? If you have a strong core group of adults and you hire a college student knowing that you will have to rehire frequently and the core group can provide the stability, then this may be a viable option for your parish.

2) The Pastor or Associate Pastor could act as the Youth Minister—questions you might consider are: Does the pastor have enough time to devote to this ministry with all of his other responsibilities? Is it fair to him? Is it fair to the youth? What about when either of them is moved—what happens to the program then?

3) A parish could organize a core team of adults and youth; a good resource to assist in this process is "Celebrate Youth," a program published by the Center for Ministry Development. It is a step-by-step program on "how to" build a team with questionnaires, surveys, etc. already designed to



Aaron Jahn, a native of Jasper, Indiana, attended a Catholic grade school, and graduated from Jasper High School. He currently is Youth Minister at The Immaculate Parish in Owensboro. Staff Photo

assist in the process. Cost of this program is \$69.95. A relatively minor expense compared to other expenses of the parish.

4) A parish might identify an individual or a couple within the parish that they might nurture into becoming Youth Ministry Coordinators for the parish. One resource would be to encourage and pay for them to obtain their "Certificate in Youth Ministry," offered at various sites around the country by the Center for Ministry Development. Cost varies according to location but generally runs around \$200 per weekend times 8 weekends for a total of \$1600-\$2000 with other expenses included. Even if you don't stipend them after they complete the course, they will have had invaluable training that will assist them and more than likely peak their interest into further training at various points along the way. They could continue their training through various workshops and may even want to pursue a degree. Issues of longevity and continuity might be minimized with this option.

5) A parish could hire someone fully trained or actively working on receiving their certificate or degree. Issues of longevity and continuity would be more dependent on the amount of support they felt from the parish

and an atmosphere of continued growth and openness.

The following article was written by Aaron Jahn, Youth Minister at Immaculate Church in Owensboro. Aaron recently graduated from the Ministry Formation Program at Brescia University while at the same time obtaining his Certificate in Youth Ministry from the Center for Ministry Development. I am hoping that his story will inspire others to follow his lead. Since many of the folks "doing" Youth Ministry in our diocese are volunteers with full-time jobs or small children, obtaining a certificate could be a very practical step for folks with a call to Youth Ministry to get training and skills that would enhance their ministry "to, with, by and for" young people in our diocese. Take it away Aaron...

My Experiences In Earning A Certificate in Youth Ministry

By Aaron Jahn

OWENSBORO, KY - Although I was working for a degree in Pastoral Ministry from Brescia University, I was searching for a focus more in youth ministry. This focus came about when I learned of a certificate program in youth ministry offered by the Center for Ministry Development in *Naugatuck, Connecticut*. I had many friends who worked in the field who had recently finished or were currently enrolled in the program. I also discovered I could earn undergraduate and graduate credit for these classes. Deciding to get it all out of the way while I was still in college and to reap the benefits of the undergraduate credit, I called the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, where my friends were enrolled, and inquired about the classes. After talking with the director who sent me some information pertaining to the program, I enrolled, working toward my certificate in youth ministry. After two years consisting of weekends away at classes, arduous attempts to finish assignments by due dates, and attaining an overload of knowledge. I received my certificate from the Center for Ministry Development along with the focus in youth ministry for which I was searching.

The Certificate in Youth Ministry Studies that is offered by the Center for Ministry Development is an eight-class program that stretches over two years. The classes are based upon the bishop's document on youth ministry, "Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry." Each class contains an element of the docu-

REFLECTIONS ON CHASTITY

By Rev. Richard Meredith

Continued from page 7

humanity is quite creative in sins against chastity and the preceding list is not exhaustive. But I still believe that what Saint Paul said is true. The list of chaste virtues and behaviors far surpasses in number and variety its familiar counterpart. It includes every type of faithful and self-less act of friendship or kindness. Every kind of gentle and thoughtful care of child or spouse or neighbor is there. The intimacy essential to human life and friendship which respects God's design for human sexuality is experienced in countless forms. Parenting, teaching, medical care, spiritual care, pastoral care, brotherly and sisterly affection, family and friendship, working together, recreation, politics and civility, law and justice, transportation and commerce of most commodities: all of these require chastity for their positive functioning and are often surrounded by ordinary and trusted examples in our lives. Of course, where chas-

tity is violated in these spheres we are violently devastated. Where the trust of chastity is violated, lies, betrayals, thefts, injuries, and killing, and an all too familiar coldness and distance follow like clockwork.

Chastity is the human work of the grace of God forming sexuality in the service of life, truth, goodness, and covenant love. It is an essential component of human well-being. It is a life-long labor. Even given all the struggle, signs of its presence are fidelity, discovery, growth in goodness, freedom, security, intimacy, and joy. Sin in us resists this goodness and rebels. We are inclined to satisfy our desires according to our own tastes. The beauty of the grace of chastity is that it is more creative, persistent, and certainly more merciful. "Where sin increased, grace overflows all the more." Here is our hope and our courage to keep working chastely at love.

Continued on page 25

Times of Prayer



Photos this page by Mel Howard

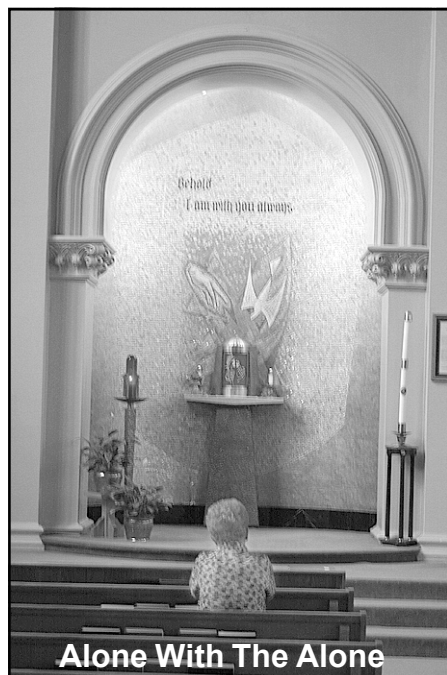


Motorists Say A Little Prayer Each Time They Pass The Place Where Danny Died

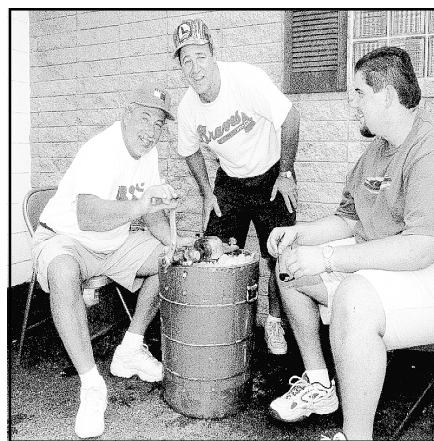
"It is the one who does the planting and who does the watering, and each will be duly paid according to his share in the work. We are fellow workers with God; you are God's farm, God's building."
Bible text from New Jerusalem Bible, Lectionary reading for September 6, 2000: Colossians 3:8-9.



ON BENDED KNEE -- Owensboro Catholic High School Students Venerating An Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe



Alone With The Alone



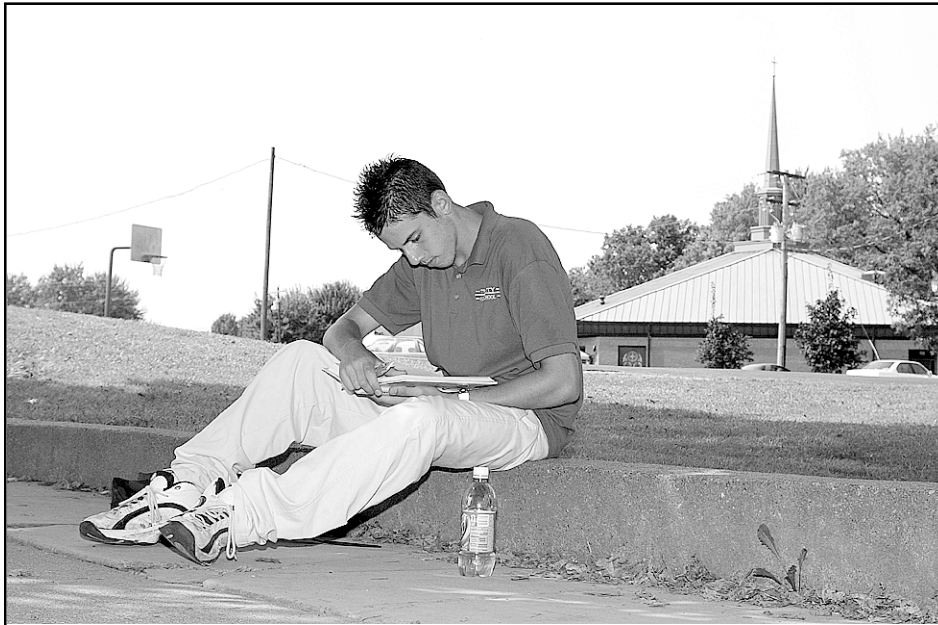
ON A CRANK AND A PRAYER
 Promise Keepers from Dundee, KY making ice cream to raise money during annual Dundee Days to go to national convention.

FOR THE CHURCH:
 Charlie Lanham dipping meat, Gary Johnson, Jeff Lanham, and Todd Lanham cooking for St. William Picnic Sept. 17, 2000.



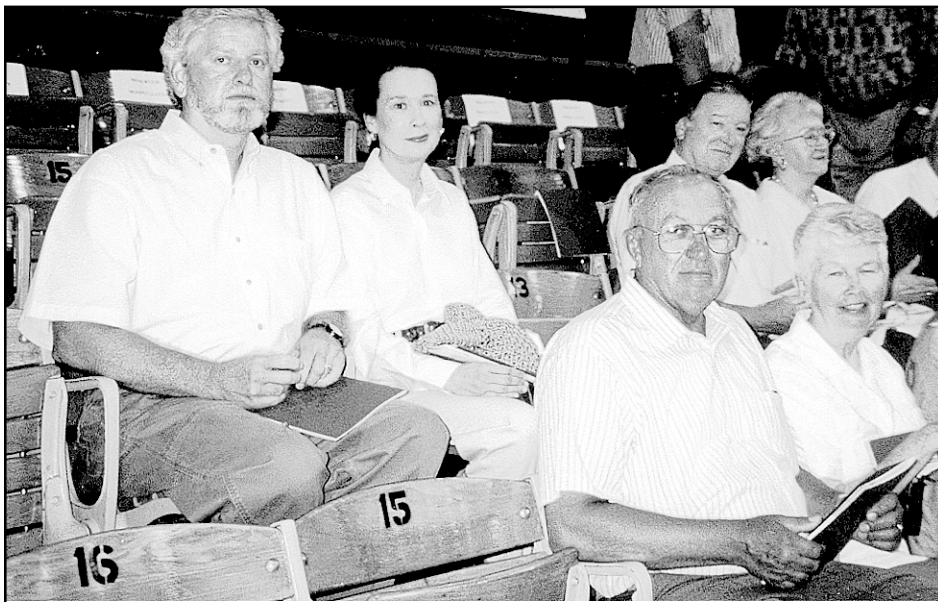
Diocese

A Diocesan Family Album



Friday Afternoon Under A Shade Tree

Allen Hagan, a Trinity High School Sophomore, caught up on his reading after school Friday August 25 under a shade tree near the school. Allen was reading "The Return of Merlin" by Deepak Chopra, expanding his awareness of intercultural folkways. Staff Photo



Date Set for Religious and Priestly Jubilee Celebration

The Diocesan Council of Religious is pleased to announce that the annual celebration of Religious and Priest Jubilees will be held on Sunday, February 18, 2001. The celebration, honoring priests, sisters and brothers commemorating 25, 40, 50, 60,

65, 70, 75 or more years of religious life or ordination, will be held at St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro. Bishop John J. McRaith will celebrate Eucharist at 3:00 PM and a reception will follow in the undercroft of St. Stephen's.



New members of Saint Pius Tenth Parish in Calvert City are shown here, from left, Kathy Morris, Lori Droke, Wendy Maupin, and David Eck. Photo by Sr. Mary Angela Matthews, OSU.



Jubilee 2000 Ecumenical Celebration: Parishioners from St. Anthony of Padua parish in Grand Rivers attending the Jubilee 2000 celebration in the Sportscenter were pleased to represent the parish to witness the many denominations coming together in a spirit of ecumenism and unity. Helen Krivan photo



Julia Colgan made her First Holy Communion in May, 2000 at St. Anthony's; she is the daughter of Dr. John and Janice Colgan. Julia's brother and sister served at the Mass. Photo by Helen Krivan

Please mark your calendar and reserve February 18, 2001 for this celebration. The jubilarians, brothers, and sisters who serve this diocese will delight in your presence on this most festive day.

St. Paul School, Grayson County Catholic High To Hold Reunion

You and Your Family are invited to an Alumni Picnic for graduates of St. Paul School and

Grayson County, Catholic High on Sunday, October 8th, 2000. We will begin with a Mass at 2:00 p.m. in St. Paul Church,

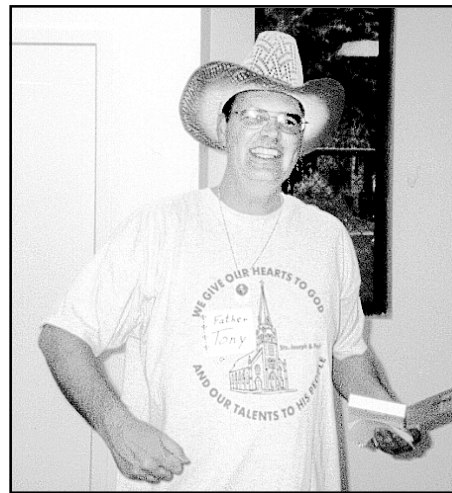
A meal will be served after the Mass. Donations will be accepted to defray the cost of the meal. RSVP by October 1 to Deanna Kipper

By phone: 270-242-7483 or 270-242-7530

By mail: St. Paul School, 1812 St. Paul Road, Letchfield, Ky. 42754



First Annual Lock-In At Sts. Joseph And Paul



OWENSBORO, KY - For their first annual lock-in at Sts. Joseph and Paul Church, pastor Fr. Tony Bickett, several parents, and 19 spirit-filled teens met at the Fr. Tucker Center. Youth ministers Tracy Naylor, Tony Kraus, and Tara Brooks prepared a night of excitement, beginning with a camp fire and meditation.

The night progressed with games, fun and food, highlighted with Joy Bean on air guitar and Fr. Tony on karaoke. As the wee morning hours approached, several worn parents remained as well as 19 spirit-filled teens.

Submitted by Lavida Matthews.

At top left, "Can you whistle with a cracker in your mouth?" Tony Kraus tried, as Christina Wimsatt gives him a pat on the back. At left, Fr. Tony Bickett modeled his "mission Statement" shirt and new hat. And, above these four happy people were winners in a scavenger hunt. We recognize Thelma Simon at left. Submitted photos

Journey of Faith

JUDGMENT DAY

By Rev. John Buckel, Continuing Education Program, St. Meinrad School of Theology, St. Meinrad, IN 47577
jjbuckel@juno.com

"Number 143,999," called out an angelic voice over the loudspeaker. "Oh God, I'm next!" It's Judgment Day and George is next in line. "I knew this would happen some day, but I never dreamed it would be so soon."

"Come in," God said as he shook hands with George. "Excuse me for saying this," George responded, "but you look just like my dad."

God smiled. "Everyone tells me that." George replied, "I expected you to be an old man with a long beard, with lightning bolts coming out of your head." God shook his head and replied: "That's typical."

God stood up and began to pace back and

forth. "This has been a crazy day. The last person I had in my office said he was disappointed. He had hoped to walk toward a 'bright light' after he died. He didn't see a thing.

"Then a man came in who wanted to discuss reincarnation. He thought it would be nice to 'go back' as a movie star. I told him that life was a one shot deal. You should have seen the look on his face.

"A certain college professor walked in and said he felt very confident. He had read his horoscope that morning and it promised that 'things would be looking up.' God shook his head in disbelief. "Where do these people get such strange ideas?"

"It happened that two people in the wait-

ing room were talking and came to discover they were related, even though they had never met on the other side of life. They were mother and daughter...but the mother had an abortion.

"I had to do it. There was no other way," the mother said. "I loved you, mom, even from the inside," the daughter responded. "The mother interrupted, 'Try to understand. I did what I thought was best.' The daughter continued, 'I don't understand, mom, but I forgive you.'

"The mother came into my office crying and said that she was sorry. The daughter was also in tears, begging me to let her mother into heaven.

"One woman crying is bad enough, but two women crying is more than I can handle. I started crying! 'Go to heaven,' I told them, 'but please stop crying.'

"An atheist walked into my office and demanded to see some identification to prove that I was God!

"A minister came in shouting hell fire and damnation. He spoke of the rapture, the beast and Armageddon. Then he started quoting the bible, chapter and verse.

"Imagine someone quoting Scripture to

me! I sent him for a long walk through the woods," God answered. "I hope that will help.

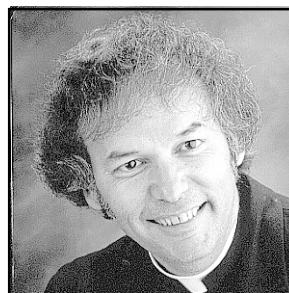
"Then there was this hippie who came in smoking marijuana. I think he was high because he asked me if I ever meditated.

"I also had several mothers this morning. They are easy appointments. I send them straight to heaven. The only trouble with mothers is that they insist on showing me lots of pictures of their children.

"Now, how about you, George? What should I do with you? Heaven or hell?"

"Well, God," George answered. "Thanks for my life on earth. I probably deserve to be sent downstairs, yet your son Jesus died for me and I would hate to think that his great sacrifice was in vain."

"Well put, George. You are heaven bound. If more people responded like that my job would be a lot easier. Go now, your faith in my son has saved you."



Fr. John Buckel

Fr. Jerry Riney's 25th Anniversary Celebrated Sacraments, Memories, Challenges for Future

By Pat S. Smith

As a young seminarian in Rome in the early 1970's Fr. Jerry Riney visited a little church and found inspiration that would sustain him in the coming years. At his 25th anniversary celebration at Holy Spirit Parish in Bowling Green on August 13, there was "standing room only" for Mass and the reception that followed. Hundreds of friends, parishioners, family members (his parents, grandparents, five sisters, two brothers and 22 nieces and nephews) were in attendance for this Jubilee celebration, and listened intently to a homily about inspiration, grace filled times and challenges over a quarter of a century.

Fr. Jerry recalled, "I was in Rome from 1971-1975 where I studied theology. One day I came upon a little church just down hill from the North American College. It was called St. Honofrio's, named for a 15th century hermit. There in the courtyard I noticed some graffiti scratched on a wooden post in Italian. The words touched me and inspired me in such a way, that I had them engraved on my chalice. They were simple, 'Prego (I pray), Piango (I cry), and Spero (I hope).'" And Fr. Jerry says he has used these three simple words as a celebration of his life. He says that celebrations are not a "thing," but of and about relationships.

"All prayer," he reflected, "is about relationships." Prayer enhances his relationship with God, others and self. He cries out when he knows he fails to meet the needs of others, but then finds hope in the Eucharist, which sums up the totality of the experience.

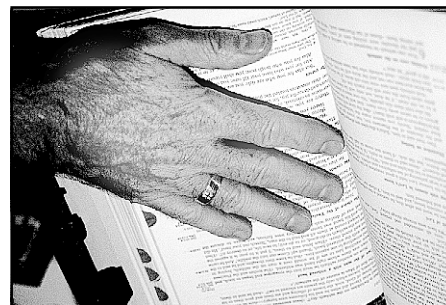
When he and a friend, Ben O'Bryan, were baptized at St. Alphonsus Church in St. Joseph, Kentucky on February 20, 1949, the celebrant, Fr. Paul Barrett, said, "One of these boys will become a priest." On the day of his ordination, Ben, married and the father of three, told Fr. Jerry that when his mother showed him that statement in his baby book, he exclaimed, "I knew it would be you, Jerry!"

When asked if the last 25 years have seemed like a long time, Fr. Jerry replied, "Well, 25 years seems long when you think about other people. But when you think of yourself, not really." The years have been, for Fr. Jerry, filled with gratitude, hope and challenge. He says that his greatest challenge so far has been attempting to unify parishes which make up people who are "all over the place" in regards to faith. "One of the hardest parts has been getting people to see the need for forgiveness." Too, the vow of obedience which he took on his ordination



Other priests who attended were from left to right: Fr. Bruce Fogle, Fr. Mike Williams, Fr. Phil Riney, Fr. John Vaughan, Fr. Pat Reynolds, Center: Fr. Jerry, Fr. John Speaks, Fr. Bruce McCarty, Fr. John Lesousky, Fr. Tom Buckman, Fr. Dennis Holly, and Fr. Carl McCarthy. (Attending but not pictured were Fr. Jerry Calhoun, Fr. Brian Johnson, Fr. Tom Kessler) Pat Smith photo

day has certainly been challenging, but fruitful. Fr. Jerry was at St. Jerome Parish in Fancy Farm from 1983-1989 and later at St. Thomas More in Paducah from 1989- July of 1997, leaving just a few months after seeing the completion and dedication of the new church. "Once you're in a community, one that you helped form, and come to love the people, then being transferred is a challenge, too,"



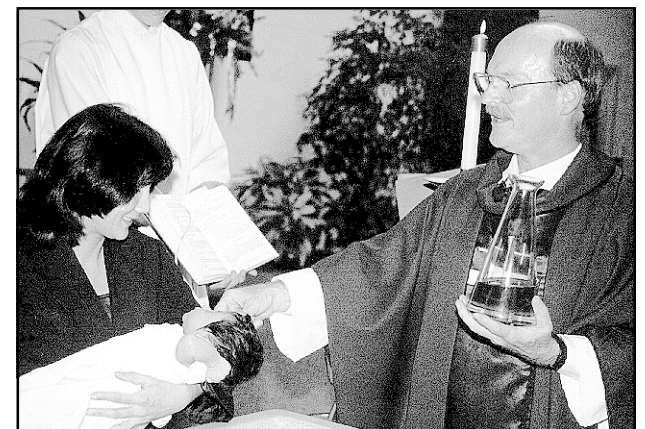
A "silver anniversary" gift... bestowed by Fr. Jerry's parents, Joe and Sue Riney, is a sterling silver ring hand-made by Tavane, the same silversmith in Rome who also made Fr. Jerry's ordination chalice. The ring shows a simple Latin cross. Pat Smith photo

he explained.

All in all, Fr. Jerry says "It's been a good journey... a little bumpy once in a while, but

there are always many blessings during down times. "In those times, it is the faith and real fidelity of ordinary people, day in and day out, that sustains me. And the sacraments and God's grace." Fr. Jerry says it is the memory of those "graced" times in his life, looking back at "mountaintop experiences," such as ordination weekend, that he treasures. Also, he says, he tends to live in the present, to put down roots, and to try to involve people in Church.

One of Fr. Jerry's "mountaintop experiences" of course was his ordination. "Bishop Soenneker told us (that day), that even with the greatness of this moment, the day we were baptized was the greatest day of our lives. He told us that it elevates us to children-of-God status and begins us on our faith journey. Baptism is the foundational sacrament from which all service flows." And God, Fr. Jerry said, has worked through the sacraments, through the Scriptures and ultimately, constantly and consistently through people to care for him on his journey of faith and service. "Looking back over these 25 years," he reflected, "the feeling that keeps bubbling to the surface is



Fr. Jerry wanted to include the Sacrament of Baptism in his jubilee celebration. Here after the baptism, he anoints baby Shawn Michael with the oil of chrism. (Parents are Veronica and Charles Shankar). Pat Smith Photo

GRATITUDE... how God has cared for me through all kinds of people—parents, family, in-laws, nieces, nephews, friends and parishioners."

He says that another challenge for the future is introducing people to Jesus Christ, "the unchurched, inactive Catholics and also Catholics who have allowed their faith to be

continued on page 19

To Talk of Many Things

"The time has come, the walrus said, to talk of many things, of shoes and ships and sealing wax, of cabbages and kings."

By H.J. RUMMAGE, JR.

"The Country Doctor"

There was a story told that during the depression of the late 1920's and early 30's, that a medical doctor who was practicing in a rural community had to do a lot of credit business with his patients. Though times were hard and money was scarce, people still got sick. The doctor faithfully tended to his sick friends and neighbors and often he would take his payment in eggs, or a ham, or anything that might be edible, or maybe he would just write the charges down in his ledger. Many years later the good doctor passed away. In settling the doctor's estate, which was a very modest one, his wife came across the old ledger book. As she looked through it she noticed the notations: "Forgiven! Too poor to pay." These were written by many of the unpaid charges. She also noted that several of these debts pertained to persons who were still living and had, over the course of the years, worked themselves into a very good financial position. In fact a few were wealthy. When she tallied the totals that were owed by these individuals who were in good financial condition, it was a considerable amount of money. Thinking that it was only fair that the doctor's estate should be paid at least a portion of these bills, she went to see her attorney to ask if under the circumstances she might collect some of these debts. As the attorney thumbed through the ledger he looked at the woman and said, "Madam, there is not a jurist in the country that will give you judgment on these debts, because in his own hand he has written the word: "Forgiven."

There is an on-going lesson in this story. It holds true for today, as for yesterday and tomorrow. Often we have worked ourselves into a position during our later life where we tend to forget some of the hard and rocky times of years past. We get kind of comfortable if you will, with our present life-style and we, like those individuals who owed the doctor, don't want to be reminded that we have a debt to pay. Like the old doctor, our Supreme Physician is also willing to say: "Forgiven! Too poor to pay." All that we have to do is ask.



WISDOM By Ginny Knight Simon

6

**Ann Reisz Bittel,
Immaculate,
Owensboro, KY**

I married Anthony Bittel 62 years ago this September and we have 5 children, 18 grandchildren, and 17 great grandchildren. We have lived in the same house that my husband lived in as a child. The house was built in 1883 and we kept updating it as our family kept growing.

We have always farmed the land and kept very busy all our lives, but now we have slowed down a bit. One of the things that I now enjoy very much is my flower beds. I love working in them and enjoy looking at them. They are peaceful when you walk the path around them. I call them my therapy.

One plant in particular that I really enjoy is my Job's Tear plant. I think the plant looks like a miniature corn stalk, complete with a tassel. I use the beads or beans to make rosaries. I'm not sure what else the plant is used for. I got interested in rosary making several years ago when I got a start of the plant from a man here in Owensboro and I've been making the rosaries since. The



CELEBRATE NEW LIFE

By Edwina J. Hyland, Family Life Office

When you were a child growing up, were you filled with wonder and enthusiasm about your everyday experiences? Did you laugh a lot at home when you played with your brothers and sisters or children in the neighborhood? If you were asked to share some stories about your early years, would you have some funny stories to tell? Were you told many times how much you were loved by your parents or how special you are in God's eyes? I hope these questions bring back many wonderful memories for you. These are the kind of things that God has in mind for us as we grow into adulthood. Jesus says, "Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14.

Let's flip the coin to the other side of life! Are you aware of how many children are neglected or abused in their families? They do not know what love is! They are in constant fear that their abusers are ready to exploit them again. These adults and older teens are people who should be loving these children instead of using their bodies for their own self satisfaction. If these adults are abusing these children—then who is going to take care of the children and love them as Jesus has? Sexual abuse is

even more devastating because the child is sworn to secrecy and their bodies are violated. They just want to be loved, but they know deep in their hearts that this conspiracy is very wrong and it is up to the child to keep it all very quiet. The bottom line is that these children learn that they cannot TRUST anyone! Family members are supposed to protect children and keep them from harm, but for the abused child they feel there is no safe place to turn. It becomes a deep dark secret that is carried for years and the child learns that there seems to be no escape.

The "Good News" is that there are places out there that you can go for help. Most areas have something available for people to either call or go to. There are also from time to time workshops available to help people learn about ways to deal with their pain. On Saturday, November 11, 2000 the Family Life Office is sponsoring a one day workshop from 8:30 A.M.—5:30 P.M. at the Catholic Pastoral Center. This Workshop is free for anyone who is seeking answers to their own questions or who wants to come to help their friend answer some questions. Mr. Don Vanatta will be our facilitator and he has worked extensively in this field. I'm sure you will find your day rewarding.

bead needs no preparation - just pull it off the plant and it's ready to be used - that's what makes it's so usual. The more the rosary is used the more beautiful the bead becomes.

I won't sell the rosaries, but I give them away. I have given hundreds of rosaries away and they have ended up all over the country. I have all the rosaries blessed, and the blessing is that whoever prays the rosary their prayer be answered. I get my materials to make the rosaries from Louisville. I feel like this is a small way to give back to God in thanks for all his blessings.

I think it is so wonderful that God made a plant, free to us, that can be used to give glory and praise.

There is a whole generation of children growing up that really don't know the rosary and I'm very glad to give them to children. I had a grandmother get rosaries for her grandchildren so that they could learn it.

I will continue making the rosaries as long as I am able. I have been so blessed this is my way of sharing my blessings.

Adsmore - Patti's Eddyville Mall Tour

The Owensboro Diocese through the Office of Wisdom presents
A ONE DAY BUS TOUR, October 24, 2000

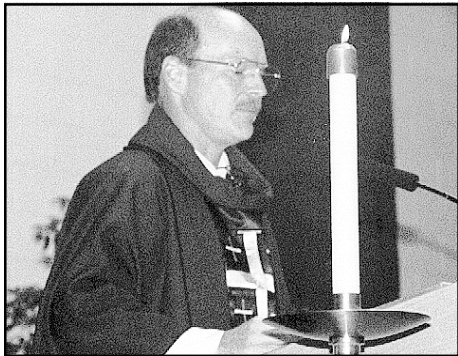
- 8:00 AM - Leave from the Catholic Pastoral Center, Owensboro
- Arrive Grand Rivers to shop and lunch at Patti's
- On to lovely Adsmore Home, built in 1857
- Stop at Eddyville Mall, then home
- Cost is \$34 per person, including lunch.

For Reservations, call Ginny Knight-Simon at 270-683-1545

Fr. Jerry Riney Celebrates 25th Anniversary

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stymied." He added, "Once the people finally realize that they ARE the Church, then they begin to take on responsibility." And to do this he returns for inspiration to the three words "prego," "piango," "spero." Praying. Crying is the downside of the



Fr. Jerry Riney giving his "Prego, Piango, Spero" Homily. Pat Smith Photo

paschal mystery, Good Friday. "It is coming to grips with my own weaknesses and my own sins and neglect." But then there is the hope, "more tolerance, more openness, as we grow into a multicultural, more inclusive church. Then seeing the people become more serious about stewarding their resources and sharing responsibilities, developing better skills in working together, where no one is threatened by another's gifts." And in hope he prays for "ears to listen better, eyes to see deeper needs, hearts that love indiscriminately and give way to forgiveness and healing."

Fr. Jerry is looking forward to his next 25 years and plans to celebrate them all. As he said ending his 25th anniversary homily, "Being a servant in today's Church, which is so diverse, is an on-going challenge; my joy is to 'feed' others, or rather to bring others to the Lord, so that they may be cared for, tended to and fed by the Real Shepherd.

Happy 25th Anniversary, Fr. Riney!

All Work is Good and Holy: A Catholic Reflection on Work

By Pat S. Smith

The Sunday before Labor Day this year, I enjoyed Mass and the emphasis placed on WORK and workers. Fr. Jerry Riney stated that all work is good and holy. Pastoral Associate Anita Willoughby led the congregation with special intentions for workers of all kinds, doctors, lawyers, restaurant workers, factory workers and many, many other types of workers. It was a "feel good" kind of Mass for me, having been in the workforce now some 35 years, but retirement looming hopefully within the next ten. I reflected over my various jobs over those 35 years, drug-store clerk, long distance telephone operator, factory worker, secretary, journalist, mother, wife, and now clerical manager in the medical field. In some small way, each of my jobs now did seem good and holy and I knew I had helped mankind through my work, while helping provide money for myself and later on my family.

After Mass, we were off on a short vacation to a nearby resort, where we would play tennis, watch TV in the cool air-conditioned rooms, eat too much good food (that I didn't have to lift a finger to prepare) and to DONO LABOR. I realized with the exception of 2 Thanksgiving Days in the past two years, I had never had to work on a holiday. And then I thought of all the laborers who were



Treva Nell Childress, Park City, KY does not seem to be unhappy that she is working on Labor Day. Something as small as pouring a cup of hot coffee can glorify God. Pat S. Smith photo

working, least to the greatest, however THAT is defined, and I felt GRATITUDE for their willingness to work so that I could rest.

The lady who served my breakfast on Monday morning was especially nice. Mrs.

Fr. Jerry Riney's comments about his silver anniversary: SHEER GRACE

Recorded by Pat S. Smith

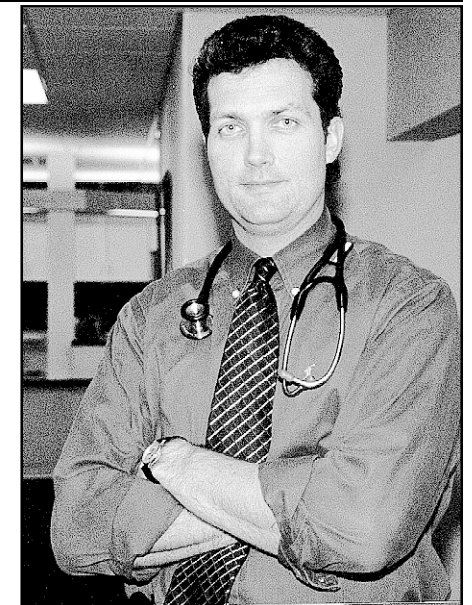
"It can't be 25 years! Yet, it is! I was ordained a priest on August 9, 1975 (a Holy Year), and then celebrated with family, friends and parishioners of the Body of Christ my silver anniversary (during this Jubilee Year). I could write a book! It would not be entitled SHEER MADNESS, the hilarious, slap-stick, murder mystery and longest running non-musical play which I saw in Chicago several years ago, but SHEER GRACE, a wonderful, colorful, intriguing, mysterious love story about the ebb and flow of darkness and light, held together by an unbreakable thread of overwhelming, unconditional, extravagant GRACE. I'm not saying there hasn't been some madness! Plenty. And humor, and amazement, ears and joy, and regrets (a few), and a huge portion of mystery. The years have taught me much that the days and weeks have not.

"As I reflect on the past 25 years as a priest, the one feeling which keeps rising to the surface is gratitude. I am so grateful for people who have shared life, faith and doubts, through good times and bad; it has been my privilege to share in peoples' highs and lows, joys and pains, victories and failures. I can't think of any other call which embraces this posture. I have been blessed with wonderful co-workers, companions and friends over the years (and now), laity, religious and priest alike—they edify me by their selfless service. I am still amazed at how God's grace manifests itself through the sacraments, especially Eucharist and Reconciliation. I feel most a priest when celebrating Eucharist when the roles come together—the ushers welcoming, our musicians leading us in sung prayer, the lector really proclaiming the Word, the servers serving, the Eucharistic ministers distributing the Body and Blood of Christ with awareness, the congregation responding—and all are actively involved, and we know we have been visited by God. It is a privilege and an ongoing challenge to be servant leader in today's Church. I feel so supported by this very gifted Holy Spirit community. Your faith strengthens mine, your service (visible and invisible) inspires me. I like being a priest—there is never a dull moment. In fact, as I reflect back on 25 years of priesthood, it has been SHEER GRACE."

Treva Nell Childress has been a waitress at The Park Mammoth Resort for 24 years and has worked every holiday, except Christmas, since then. "I expect to work. It's a way to serve people who have worked hard and deserve some special time off," she stated. She also said, "You know, everyone has to work. And the Bible tells me that there are 'angels unaware.' Who knows, maybe I've served an angel or someone really special."

Dr. Rick Welch, a family physician in Bowl-

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Dr. Rick Welch finds working a "privilege" and a "gift." Pat S. Smith photo

At left, Shannon Roberts, R.N. feels "rewarded" when she helps the sick. Here she checks patient Casey's blood pressure. Pat S. Smith photo

Credo (Certification for Religious Educators for the Diocese of Owensboro)

Classes leading to Basic Certification for Religious Educators of the Diocese of Owensboro are being offered at **St. Henry's Parish, 16097 US Hwy. 68 E., Hardin KY.** Carol York will be the facilitator. The dates and times of each module is listed below. When there are two dates listed, both classes must be attended to complete this module. Note that times are different for modules completed in one evening.

I Believe/We Believe	Sept. 26	6:00-9:00p.m.
Getting Started as a Catechist	Oct. 3 & 17	7:00-9:00p.m.
Roles of the Catechist	Dec. 5 & 12	7:00-9:00p.m.
The Person of the Catechist	Feb. 6 & 13	7:00-9:00p.m.
Introduction to the Learner	April 3 & 17	7:00-9:00p.m.
Methods for Specific Level	May 8	6:00-9:00p.m.
Toward a Living Faith	May 15	7:00-9:00p.m.

The following classes are also being held at St. Mary Magdalene, 7232 KY 56,

Owensboro, KY. The facilitators will be Patty Blair and Rose Ann Payne.

Getting Started as a Catechist	Oct. 9 & 16	7:00-9:00p.m.
Roles of the Catechist	Dec. 4 & 11	7:00-9:00p.m.
Person of the Catechist	Feb. 5 & 12	7:00-9:00p.m.
Introduction to the Learner	April 3 & 17	7:00-9:00p.m.
Methods for Specific Age Level	May 7	6:00-9:00p.m.
Towards a Living Faith	May 14	7:00-9:00p.m.

Please call the Office of Religious Education at 683-1545 to register. Classes will also be offered in Paducah and Bowling Green. Those dates are to be announced later.

Pope John XXIII, beatified on September 3, was a man of gentle holiness.

CINCINNATI--Pope John XXIII was a simple man who approached life with humility and humor. A promoter of ecumenism and interreligious dialogue, the pope worked for peace, justice and charity in turbulent times. For his life's work, he was beatified September 3.

"Good Pope John" as the press quickly christened him, had a grin and a girth that suggested this world is only a foretaste of a better one. His most oft quoted remark was his quip to a journalist who inquired about how many people worked in the Vatican. The pope's response was, "Oh, no more than half of them."

According to the 1999 decree recognizing his "heroic virtues," the pope was concerned about "fraternal relations with the Orthodox of the East,...undertook more intense relations with the Anglicans and the diverse world of the Protestant Churches. In every way, he set about to lay the foundations for a new attitude in the Catholic Church toward the Jewish world, decisively opening up the Church to dialogue and collaboration. On June 4, 1960, he created the Secretariat for Christian Unity. He promulgated two significant encyclicals, *Mater et Magistra* (May 20, 1961) on society's evolution in the light of Christian teaching and *Pacem in Terris* (April 11, 1963) on peace among all nations."

Nancy Celaschi, OSF, describes the life of Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli in "Blessed Pope John XXIII: An 'Ordinary Holiness'" in the September 2000 issue of *St. Anthony Messenger* magazine, a national Catholic magazine published by the Franciscan friars. Celaschi, a Rome-based Franciscan Sister, has worked in Italy for 16 years.

Source: *St. Anthony Messenger Press Release, September, 2000.*

The Power of Grandmothers Both in Heaven and on Earth

By Mark Cecere, Publicity, Paulist Press

A great way to observe Grandparents' Day is with the new children's book, *Sleepy Angel's First Bedtime Story* (Paulist Press/hardcover/\$9.95/ISBN 0-8091-6670-4). In the story, a fictional

grandmother saves the day, though it was a real grandmother rooting from heaven who inspired both the book and the soft huggable angel doll it's based on.

The Sleepy Angel Doll is the creation of Tara Malanga, but it was her mother, Kathy Egan who thought of it when her granddaughter had problems falling asleep. What she needed, Kathy said, was a soft angel doll as a reminder that God loved her even in the dark. Kathy and Tara hunted through stores but found nothing like it. They began to dream about making the doll themselves.

Tara and her mother spent hours planning the doll's rosebud mouth, curly lemon-colored hair, and satiny white wings. Later plans included books, tapes, and dolls from different nationalities. But before even a prototype was made, Kathy became seriously ill and died.

Tara was inspired by her mother's death to go ahead and make their dream come true. Indeed, her mother was a very real presence during the process— seemingly initiating

many "coincidences" as the doll was created, brought to national distribution, and made into its first book. All along Tara felt her mother actively cheering from heaven and acting like a personal "guardian angel" to the project.

The Sleepy Angel book is co-written by Tara and Children's Book-of-the-Month Club author Susan Heyboer O'Keefe and illustrated by Dennis Rockhill. In the story, a little girl has problems falling asleep. Her worried thoughts range from her parents being away on a trip, to the imaginary Ugly Buglies coming out to nibble toes. The fictional Grandma Kathy doesn't know how to help the girl. Then she dreams about an angel and is inspired to make her granddaughter a soft huggable angel doll. The next night the doll helps the girl remember God's love and fall asleep peacefully. The warm reassuring text is accompanied by pictures in soft pastels and detailed pen-and-ink.

Grandparents everywhere will love Sleepy Angel's First Bedtime Story as well as the doll, which is also being distributed by Paulist Press (\$9.95/NCR800). The two are sold separately and are available right now in better bookstores across the country.

Source: Sept. 5, 2000 Press Release from Paulist Press via www.mail.com



Mildred and Bud Boarman of Whitesville St. Mary of the Woods Parish, held their 18th great-grandchild, Jesse, son of grand daughter Melanie James, daughter of Bud and Mildred's daughter Delilah Higdon, at right. The family was singing at Mass Sept. 3. Grandparents' Day was celebrated in the USA on Sept. 10 this year, the same date as the Mount St. Joseph Picnic at Maple Mount. Staff Photo

Diocese

St. Vincent de Paul Opens Wide Its Doors

By Lois Rutigliano

OWENSBORO, KY --- Another St. Vincent De Paul store recently opened wide its doors for business at 18th and Triplett Streets. On August 11, 2000, at 10:00 AM, lots of activity was going on in the parking lot in front of the new store's location. A smoky mist was floating about from a portable barbeque pit where a volunteer cooking team was grilling hot dogs and hamburgers. A popcorn machine was on the sidewalk, with a sign on the side that read, help yourself, and the enticing sound and aroma of popping corn drifting in the air. A welcome sign, with multicolored balloons attached, designated the entrance to the store.

A number of people were already shopping, along with a sizable crowd that had gathered for the dedication and blessing of the store, by Most Reverend John J. McRaith. Bishop McRaith wore a unique stole about his neck for this special occasion, which depicted the impish faces of children in native dress that represented different nations and cultures around the world. It sent a powerful message in keeping with the Gospel according to Matthew, as the Holy Spirit made Himself heard through Fr. John Vaughan, pastor of St. Stephen Cathedral Parish, when he read Chapter 25:31-46, the Judgment of the Nations from the Scriptures. "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats (NAB). The bishop then walked slowly between the rows of neatly hanging clothes, as he blessed the interior of the store with holy water and concluded the blessing with a prayer.

Ruth Ann Carrico, a member of St. Stephen Cathedral Parish, brought three exchange Girl Scout Councilors from different countries with her to the Blessing Ceremony of the store. Jim and Rose Wider, her aunt and uncle, are hosting Margaret Nalubequa from Uganda, Tanya Voronia, from the Ukraine, and Irina Zastrojina, from Russia, while they are here working at Pennyriple Girl Scout Camp for the summer.

Tamy Howard, manager of the store, pointed out a nice set of bedroom furniture to two shoppers from Louisville, Juanita Woods and her daughter Lizz Lane. With them were Nakesha, Quanyan, Latifah, and Johnny, who decided to try out one of the beds. They were all foster children that were being cared for by Mrs. Lane. "We always

shop at St. Vincent de Paul when we come to Owensboro for a convention at the Church of God in Christ on 7th Street. We were at the other store shopping when they told us about this new store, so we decided to come over here," she said.

The store bears the name of St. Vincent de Paul, a saint to be remembered and is remembered by many volunteers that contribute their time and energy working at the store in various capacities. He is remembered by the people that contribute clothing and funds out of love and kind hearts for their less fortunate brothers and sisters. He is remembered at St. Stephen Cathedral Parish in one of the beautiful Stained Glass windows. He is easily recognized when the sun shines through the window on the north side of the



Bishop McRaith wore a stole depicting the world's children for the SVDP store opening ceremonies. Lois Rutigliano photo



The foster children of Juanita Woods enjoyed a brief rest during the SVDP store opening in Gabe's Shopping Center, Owensboro August 11. Lois Rutigliano photo



Bilingual Girl Scout counselors, all exchange students, from the Pennyriple Girl Scout camp attended the SVDP store opening ceremony August 11 with Ruth Ann Carrico, right. The counselors are from left, Nalubequ Margaret from Uganda; Voronina Tanya from the Ukraine; Zastrojine Irina from Russia. They were visiting Jim and Rose Weider that day. Lois Rutigliano photo.



Image of St. Vincent de Paul in stained glass window in St. Stephen Cathedral. Lois Rutigliano photo

church, wearing a bright blue cloak and skullcap. His head is surrounded by a glowing gold nimbus, which symbolizes sainthood. An infant wrapped in red cloth is protectively encircled in his left arm, while his right hand rests on the shoulder of a small boy wearing a red shirt and green pants. His arms are crossed across his chest to receive a blessing. He wears no shoes even though the background in the window suggests it might be cold, but the loving facial expression and gestures of St. Vincent de Paul radiates warmth and compassion for others. A church steeple is depicted in the window, as a symbol of St. Vincent de Paul's patronage of all charitable organizations in the Catholic Church. Frederick Ozanam founded the St. Vincent de Paul organization in Paris in 1833. He was one of the greatest apostles of his day. He died more than 300 years ago, but the charitable works he inspired have endured. (*Our Friends the Saints, Nihil Obstat* by John M. Fearn, STD)

Everyone is welcome to come to the Cathedral and meet St. Vincent de Paul, a true advocate for the poor. Fr. John Vaughan, pastor of the Church and associate pastors Fr. Tom Buckman and Fr. Brian Roby extend a warm welcome to anyone that wishes to visit the Church and experience the beauty of the stained glass window containing St. Vincent de Paul, along with the other saints, prophets, and martyrs who have a very inspiring story of faith to tell.

Helen Miles and Mrs. Wanda Jones enjoyed a funny story during the SVDP Store opening August 11. That's Fr. Pike Powell in the background. Lois Rutigliano photo



What is a Worldwide Marriage Encounter?

A little history:

A priest who was trying to minister to troubled youth traced their problems back to the attitudes of their parents. He developed Marriage Encounter as a method to enhance the relationship between husband and wife and strengthen the family unit. That was over 39 years ago in Spain. Marriage Encounter has spread from there, and is now changing lives the world over in more than 90 countries, including ours.

Marriage Encounter is a weekend experience that gives married couples a chance to get away from weekend distractions where they can just focus on one another. A priest and three couples who give a series of talks, each about a different aspect of married life, host it. Their talks are not lectures, they simply tell you experiences from their own lives. Although the weekend is Catholic in orientation, it is also open to couples of other faiths.

Mary:

Steve and I made an Engaged Encounter Weekend in 1977 as part of our pre-wedding preparations. We always had good intentions to go on a Marriage Encounter, as recommended on that first weekend, but there was always something more important to do.

I thought that we had a good marriage. Our marriage had survived two long distance moves and the normal wear and tear of raising three children. Steve and I enjoyed each other's company, but there didn't seem to be much room in our hectic lives to spend time

together. We had two careers, teenagers, carpools, housework, yard work, car repair, sports, exercise, and church activities. In terms of our relationship, we had settled into the normal complacency of middle-married-life.

God opened a door for us when we registered for the February 1998 Marriage Encounter Weekend at Mount St. Joseph. And he patiently held that door open until we finally made our weekend in November 1999!

Over the course of that weekend Steve and I listened to the presenting couples and priest. Their stories touched parts of my heart that I thought just went to sleep when you were married as long as Steve and I had been. Steve and I spent time communicating and focusing on our relationship in a way we had never been able to before.

On Sunday as we drove home we held hands and talked as excitedly about our future as when we were newlyweds. Marriage Encounter helped us re-light that spark of romance and passion that we allowed to dim with day-to-day living. I fell in love all over again with my best friend.

Steve:

Attending a Marriage Encounter was something that Mary and I had thought and talked about occasionally for many years. But it just never seemed to be a priority.

I thought that we had a good marriage. There were no major problems that I was aware of. Just the normal disputes and misunderstandings that any good marriage ran into. It never really entered my mind that our relationship could grow - that it could get better. Boy was I wrong.

I went on the weekend looking forward to spending a weekend with Mary. I expected that we could tweak a few things and maybe resolve a few nagging issues. As I walked through the door, I was a bit apprehensive about all the things that I needed to do back home.

However, as the weekend progressed, I realized that the most important thing I had to do was to focus on Mary. We talked a lot and listened to what each other had to say. That weekend



With Mary and Steve Kovar are their children, Nick, Matt & Emily.
Submitted photo

I realized that we could take our good relationship and make it better. That we could move to a level of trust and intimacy that we could not have imagined before the weekend.

It's like the old axiom, "you don't miss what you don't have". Before our weekend, I didn't miss the trust and intimacy that we now have. But now that I have it — I don't want to let it go.

Upcoming Marriage Encounter Weekends in Owensboro:

November 17 - 19, 2000

February 9 - 11, 2001

(Other weekends available in Louisville)

For information, contact Jerry and Gail
Critchelow

102 Tom's Branch Rd.

Hartford, KY 42347

Call 270-298-4637

Bowling Green: Ursuline Sisters Donate Cars to Associate Pastor and Two St. Joseph Parishioners

Four members of the Mount Saint Joseph Ursuline Sisters traveled to Bowling Green in August to give a Chevrolet Lumina to Father Manuel Rivas, at right in the photo. Two members of St. Joseph parish in Bowling Green also were given a car each by the Sisters. The Sisters are from left, Jacinta Powers, Marietta Wethington, Vickie Cravens, and Betsy Moyer. St. Joseph Parish Photo



Pope John Paul II Message To Cursillistas

Continued from page 23

that will help them rediscover the colors of life and the happiness of feeling loved by God.

"Courage! Ultreya! Go forth!" the Successor of Peter repeats to you today. Look to Mary, an example of unflinching fidelity to God, and, like her, put your trust in every circumstance in God, the Father of Mercy, who guards your steps on the way of truth and love.

Diocese

TO THE CURSILLOS DE CRISTIANDAD MOVEMENT

Christ is calling you to serve his Truth

From: tomsarg@gte.net

Some folks from the diocese, including Jerry and Cami Frey from Owensboro, participated in the 3rd World Ultreya in Rome. The Holy Father's message that was given to the 20,000+ cursillistas on July 29, 2000 at St. Peter's Square.

"You who have generously opened your hearts to Jesus are being asked by Him to proclaim his name untiringly to those who do not yet know him," the Holy Father said to the thousands of members of the Cursillos de Cristiandad Movement who had come to Rome during the Jubilee Year for their Third World Ultreya. The Pope reminded them that the "more transparent this 'diakonia (service) of the truth' becomes in your daily lives, the more convincing it will be." Here is a translation of the Holy Father's address, which was given in Italian, Spanish, English, French, German, Portuguese and Polish.

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

1. I am pleased to extend my affectionate greeting to all of you who have come here from the five continents for the Third World Ultreya of the Cursillos de Cristiandad, the Ultreya of the Great Jubilee. Thank you for your visit and welcome to all.

I greet the President of the World Organization of the Cursillos de Cristiandad and thank her for her cordial words to me in your name, and for presenting your movement's apostolic commitment and the good which the Lord works through you. I greet the movement's founders, spiritual leaders and various officers. Your presence here, so varied and festive, shows that the tiny seed planted in Spain more than 50 years ago has become a great tree laden with fruits of the Spirit. Indeed, it continues to be a successful response to the question asked by my venerable Predecessor Pope Paul VI at the first world Ultreya in Rome: "Can the Gospel still win over the mature person ... in urban and rural cultures?" (AAS, 58, 1966, 503). You transform the world by becoming new men and women.

I am therefore delighted to join in your thanksgiving to the Lord for all he has done and never ceases to do in the Church through the Cursillos de Cristiandad. The theme of this world Ultreya - "Evangelizing the Milieus of the Third Millennium: A 'Challenge' for the Cursillos de Cristiandad" - demonstrates your effort to repropose the experi-

ence of Christ to the men and women of the 21st century with new means and enthusiasm.

This has become even more urgent, since "whole countries and nations, where religion and the Christian life were formerly flourishing and capable of fostering a viable and working community of faith, are now put to a hard test ... as a result of the constant spread of indifference to religion, of secularism and atheism" (Christifideles laici, n. 34).

2. In view of this situation which challenges believers to "remake the Christian fabric of the ecclesial community" (ibid.), the Cursillo method aims at helping to transform in a Christian way the milieus where people live and work through the involvement of "new men and women" who have become such from their encounter with Christ. This is the goal of the three-day "little course" on Christianity, in which a team of priests and lay people, supported by the prayer and sacrifices of the movement's other members, communicate the fundamental truths of the Christian faith in an especially "living" way.

When presented in this way, the message of Christ almost always opens participants in a cursillo to the gift of conversion and to a deeper awareness of the Baptism they have received and of their own mission in the Church. They feel called to be the prophetic "leaven" which is kneaded into the dough so that the whole mass will rise (Mt 13: 33), to be the "salt of the earth" and the "light of the world" (Mt 5: 13-14), to proclaim to everyone they meet that only in Jesus Christ is there salvation (Acts 4: 12), and that it is "only in the mystery of the Word made flesh that the mystery of man truly becomes clear" (Gaudium et spes, n. 22).

3. Dear brothers and sisters, be the courageous witnesses of the "service of the Truth" and work ceaselessly with the "strength of communion." In relying on your rich spiritual experiences, which are a treasure, take up the "challenge" that our time raises to the new evangelization and fearlessly give it your own response. Faced with a culture that often denies the very existence of an objective Truth of universal value and frequently loses its way in the "shifting sands" of nihilism (cf. Fides et ratio, n. 5), the faithful must know how to show clearly that Christ is the Way, the Truth and the Life (cf. Jn 14: 6). You who have generously opened your hearts to Jesus are being asked by him to proclaim his name untiringly to those who do not yet know him. He is calling you to his service, to the service of his Truth, the truth

which makes us free. The more transparent this "diakonia of the truth" becomes in your daily lives, the more convincing it will be. As you are reminded in a prayer often used in the Cursillo Movement, "Christ has no hands, he has only our hands to change the world today. Christ has no feet, he has only our feet to lead this world to himself. Christ has no lips, he has only our lips to speak to the people." Carry out your apostolate in harmony with the Church.

4. This is your apostolate, carried out in constant harmony with the Church, to show the "strength of communion" which is at once the style and the very essence of the People of God. As you face the various forms of individualism which fragment and divide your evangelizing ability and resources, join your missionary forces with those of the various ecclesial groups raised up by the Spirit in the Church of our time. Endeavor to restore the beauty of the first Christian communities, which prompted pagans to say with admiration: "See how they love one another!" And always be docile to the directives of the Magisterium. No charism, in fact,

dispenses you from referring and submitting to the Pastors of the Church, whose discernment is a guarantee of fidelity for the charism, itself.

May the Jubilee celebration instill in all of you a renewed fidelity to your original inspiration and a firmer ecclesial communion. Many people are looking to you for the light of faith.

5. "Bright colors deck the fields in springtime. Bright colors clothe the little birds outside. Bright colors paint the rainbow we see shining..."

During the days of a Cursillo, the words of this popular Spanish song help the participants to reflect on the multifaceted beauty of creation. In encountering Christ, you have learned to look with new eyes at others and at nature, at everyday events and at life in general. You have experienced that true happiness is found in following the Lord. This personal and community experience must be passed on to others. Many men and women of our time, who unfortunately turn away from God, expect from you the light of faith

Continued on page 22

WISDOM

By Ginny Knight Simon

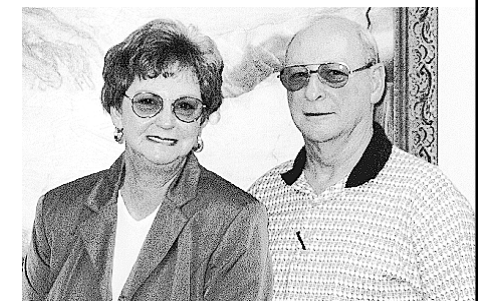
9 **Bob & Geri McMunn**
St. Thomas More, Paducah

Geri - My life started out in care giving. I helped care for my sister, 2 neighbors and a great aunt. I took care of a sweet lady who knew me as a child and she passed away not too long ago at age 100. I like caring for others - it's very rewarding for me - I feel like it's something I can do freely. Now since Bob has retired we are both able to help others who need care.

I grew up in a large family and had to help out with the other children too. I never thought we were deprived or poor but, I guess we were. Now as I look back I'm glad I had that. You learn how to do many things through necessity and that knowledge carries throughout a lifetime.

I was Baptist and joined the Church in 1987. I kept running into Sister Marie Goretti Browning, and her influence led me to the Catholic Church, I'm still thankful for her.

Bob - I've been retired for about 5 years now and really enjoy it. I like gardening,



traveling and doing volunteer work. I "help" Geri decorating our house. She really likes looking for special things!

I joined the Catholic Church at Easter in 1997. I had been going to a Congregational church, but I still felt lost. But now I'm a member here (St. Thomas More) and I help out with the bulletins, I am a greeter, I usher, I help at St. Vincent de Paul and the Habitat for Humanity.

Both - We wear lots of hats, and we enjoy all we do. Reflecting back, the biggest blessing we have is the ability to be care givers...it's what we are all here for.

Knights of Columbus Adopt Anti-death Penalty Resolution

This article is excerpted from *Catholics Against Capital Punishment News Notes*, August 25, 2000.

At their Aug. 1-3 Annual International Meeting in Boston, members of the 1.6 million-member Knights of Columbus Catholic fraternal organization adopted a resolution that "firmly upholds" the Catholic Catechism's teaching on the death penalty—that cases where capital punishment is the only possible punishment "are rare, if not practically nonexistent."

Delegates also voted to continue to respond to Pope John Paul II's challenge in the encyclical *Evangelium Vitae* to renew "a culture of life" within Christian communities

and to educate the wider public about the sacredness of human life in all stages.

Among the 2,000 attendees were 75 members of the Catholic hierarchy, including Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo, apostolic nuncio to the U.S., and Archbishop John P. Foley, head of the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Social Communications.

Efforts are underway to encourage the more than 11,000 local KofC councils to adopt similar resolutions. The text of the statement follows:

International Meeting Resolution

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus has always and will always loyally uphold, support, and defend the Magisterium of the

Catholic Church; now therefore be it RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus firmly upholds the teachings of the Church concerning the death penalty as articulated in Paragraph 2267 of the Second Edition of the Catechism of the Catholic Church as follows:

Assuming the guilty party's identity and responsibility have been fully determined, the traditional teaching of the church does not exclude recourse to the death penalty if this is the only possible way of effectively defending human lives against the unjust aggressor.

If, however, non-lethal means are sufficient to defend and protect people's safety

from the aggressor, authority will limit itself to such means, as these are more in keeping with the concrete conditions of the common good and more in conformity with the dignity of the human person.

Today, in fact, as a consequence of the possibilities which the state has for effectively preventing crime, by rendering one who has committed an offense incapable of doing harm—without definitively taking away from him the possibility of redeeming himself—the cases in which the execution of the offender is an absolute necessity "are very rare, if not practically non-existent" (*John Paul II, Evangelium Vitae* 56).

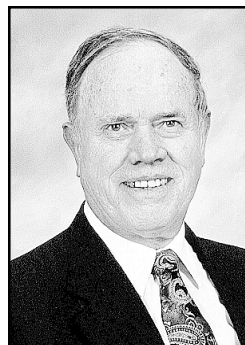
"St. John the Evangelist Family News"

By Richard Durbin

It seemed like the days of Summer were awfully long, while recovering from my wreck and thank God, I am about well again. However I won't be whole again until I recover from knee surgery that I'm scheduled to have on the 18th of September. Again I want to thank every one for the calls, cards, prayers and visits. Your thoughtfulness was surely appreciated.

We all offered thanks to our Heavenly Father for having the rain to stop at Noon on Picnic day. It surely looked like a rain out all morning but about noon the rain stopped and the crowd came and it was a huge success. We don't have an official tally as of this writing, but Father Ben announced Sunday morning that a gross of over \$100,000.00 was reached, more complete details and pictures next month. I'm sure the candidates speaking helped to draw a crowd. My thanks to all heads of stands and their workers and those in charge of preparing, cooking the meat, they were on the job for well over 24 hours. The food was just wonderful. Bill Wurth was the lucky winner of the Pontiac Grand AM that was raffled off at 10 PM, closing time.

Congratulations to Jason A. and Christine M. Roof, parents of Ashley Elizabeth Roof who was baptized at St. John in August. We offer condolences to Celeste Russell whose brother William I. Willett passed this life and was buried in Fancy Farm. Juliet R. Johnson of St. Charles Parish died and was buried at Cunningham. Father Ben Luther lost a first cousin Bill Luther who was buried in Mayfield. Cecelia P. Stout was buried in the St. John Cemetery and Martin J. Wurth, formerly of this (St. John) parish, father of Marilyn Roof was buried in Mt. Carmel



Richard Durbin

cemetery in Paducah. To the relatives of these deceased, we offer sympathy, love and prayers and may they rest in peace. Amen.

The Knights of Columbus #10962 of St. John is changing meeting times. They will meet on the 2nd and 4th WEDNESDAY instead of Monday. The change will start on September 13 at 7pm. All members are welcome and urged to attend.

The Knights are having a New Years Eve Dance. They say get your party hat ready and make reservations now. You may reserve tables for groups in advance. Tickets are \$20.00 per person, that will include a Breakfast after the dance. Louis Townsend says a very popular band, (the Cruisers) has been booked for the dance. If you were at the St. John picnic you heard them play, they were very good. Members will get first chance for the dance, then tickets will be available to the public. The KofC are holding a 4th Degree Exemplification on Sept 23 at the KC hall. Any 3rd Degree man is eligible to join. Just contact John Roof for all the details.

The St. John Social Committee has scheduled a Scotch Doubles Bowling for Saturday October 28. Mark your calendar for that if you would like to bowl.

The World Wide Marriage Encounter will have its future retreat for couples who wish to make a good marriage "better" on November 17-19 in Owensboro, Ky. For more

information call the Critchelows, 298-4637.

The Father Lew White Scholarship Fund has helped 19 families with over \$28,000 distributed on behalf of 42 students to help with tuition and fees. Our Knights are a big supporter of this fund. If you would like to be a donor to this Fund, you may call the St. Mary School System 442-1681 extension 242.

A Jubilee Celebration for couples who are in married 25, 40 and 50 years is sponsored by Bishop John McRaith for the year 2000. This celebration will occur on October 15 at 2PM in the Cathedral at Owensboro. Call in your marriage information for this celebration to 554-3810.

RCIA began September 19 at St. John, for those who wish to learn more about the Catholic Faith. The meetings take place on Tuesday nights at 7PM. It is a chance for old timers as well as those who are not Catholic but are interested and would like to ask questions. All meetings are conducted by Father Ben Luther.

I enjoyed reading the Western Kentucky Catholic Monthly paper for September. It was full of news of things that were going on in your Parish. Our Bishop John McRaith always has words of wisdom for his flock and the paper is full of interesting pictures and stories of what has happened lately. If you have a story for publication in future issues, please let me or a writer of your choice know about it. You can call me at 1-270-554-1278 and I will get your story told.

You know you're getting over the hill if you get invitations to go out on the same night and you pick the one that gets you home the earliest.

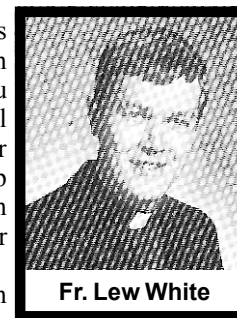
Sr. Frances Ursula Heimes, O.S.U., 84, Died Sept. 14 At Mount St. Joseph

Sister Frances Ursula Heimes, 84, an Ursuline Sister of Mount St. Joseph, Maple Mount, KY, died September 14, 2000 at Mount Saint Joseph. She was born in Wynot, Nebraska. She was in the 67th year of her religious life. She entered the Ursuline Sisters of Mount St. Joseph in 1933.

She was a teacher at St. Charles School, Bardwell, KY, St. Joseph School, Central City, KY, St. Rose of Lima School, Blanco, NM, Sacred Heart Academy, Waterflow, NM, Holy Trinity School, Fredericktown, KY, St. Catherine School, New Haven, KY, St. Bernard Academy, Nebraska City, NE, St. Joseph School, San Fidel, NM, Lourdes Central School, Nebraska City, NE, St. Margaret Mary School, Louisville, KY, St. Bartholomew School, Louisville, KY, St. Pius Tenth School, Owensboro, KY, Holy Cross School, Loretto, KY, St. Joseph School, Mayfield, KY, and St. John School, Plattsouth, NE. She retired to Mount Saint Joseph in 1988.

Survivors include two brothers, Ignatius Heimes, of Hartington, Nebraska, and Hubert Holmes of Wynot, Nebraska and her triplet sister, Ursula Kathol of Hartington, Nebraska.

Burial was in the Convent Cemetery in Maple Mount. Requiescat in pace.



Fr. Lew White

Diocese

A Certificate in Youth Ministry

Continued from page 13

ment and puts it into concrete applications that are great for the field. The classes are led by some of the front runners in youth ministry. Mike Moseley, Tom East, Joan Weber, Mike Haggerty, Mary Lee Becker, and Thomas Bright are a part of the talented staff that share their knowledge to further the growth and education in youth ministry.

The eight classes that compose the program span a two-year period and are on a rotation basis at various sites across the nation. There are two cycles within the program. The first cycle is covered in the first year and the classes consist of "Principles in Youth Ministry," "Developing Youth Ministry," "Foundations of Christian Leadership," and "Skills for Christian Leadership." The second cycle is covered in the second year and the classes consist of "Justice and Service," "Pastoral Care," "Catechesis and Evangelization," and "Prayer and Worship." Each class is covered in one weekend and lasts from early Saturday morning until Sunday evening.

Each class leaves you with a take home assignment that has something to do with implementing the effective youth ministry within your work. The assignments are lengthy, but practical to the field and flexible to individual settings. The assignments for

all classes are not due until after the last class is finished. Although there is a cycle and an order to the classes, you may start whenever it is convenient. The program works on finishing all eight classes and completing all the assignments by the desired time. Sequential order and length of completion is not a priority.

The certificate program is a great opportunity to learn the fundamentals and implications of youth ministry and its importance within the parish setting. The classes are open to youth ministers, DREs, pastoral associates, volunteers, or anyone who has an interest in youth ministry. One of the best components of attending these classes was the networking with others who were interested and working in youth ministry. This is a fabulous way to get the education and grounding in youth ministry to begin or continue working in the field. The courses cover basic theology, practical implications of ministry, fresh ideas on programs and projects, and wonderful resources to aid in getting the job done. I would recommend looking into this program to anyone that is searching for a direction or footing in youth ministry. It gave me the focus and fill-ins that I was searching for.

Carrico's Ramblings

A Story About Our Faithful Mothers Baking Biscuits and Breads

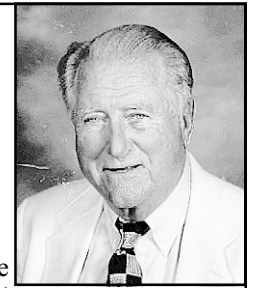
BY G. E. (Jerry) Carrico

When passing our town bakery yesterday and enjoying the wonderful aroma of baking bread my thoughts and memory turned back to the days when my mother made biscuits from scratch: flour, pinch of salt, a sprinkle of baking powder, and some milk, then kneading the ingredients all together in a wooden bowl, then becoming a large ball of dough. Afterwards she flattened the dough on a wooden board to be cut into round pieces, readying them all for the baking pan and her stove oven. At the same time she had a skillet filled with bacon strips preparing them for our breakfast. In my mind's eye right now I can hear the bacon sizzling...and smelling the aroma, too. Somehow the atmosphere of it all seemed to tie in with the early morning. Incidentally my mother intended to use the grease from the bacon for some milk gravy for our early morning breakfast. Of course, country eggs lay nearby to be fried as her last effort...and too, some fresh pieces of chicken also were on hand to be fried for our lunches at school. Invariably I always asked my mother when breakfast would be ready. She always replied "when the biscuits are done." I recall it was always very difficult to get all of her projects to come out even. It always seemed so very long because our mouths were watering for some biscuits with country butter.

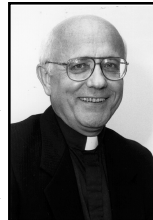
Well, well, times sure have changed. Nowadays baking biscuits is a lost art as far as home cooking is concerned. It all came to a screeching halt when Pillsbury introduced the Dough Boy; that changed it all...Wonder Bread made a difference, too. Around that time our biscuit-making mothers found out that the grocery stores stocked delicious loaves of bread on their sales shelves every other morning. The allure of home baking lost its charm. It's now only us old timers who remember the biscuit-making days in our mother's kitchens.

Speaking of bread and biscuit-making days at home, all mothers at that time knew that yeast was a very important essential to making light bread, as it was generally called. I recall my mother baked light bread possibly once a week. I especially recall the wonderful aroma of the yeast-infected dough being baked in our wood-burning stove. Generally the process was in full blast when we all arrived home from school in the afternoon. We all enjoyed smelling the mouth watering aroma. My mother was very happy with the bread-making but at times she was very unhappy with our jumping and romping. She did a bit of threatening to use her hidden away switches, but afterwards when all of us had a bite of her bread, she forgot the threats...and, of course, so did we.

Since times are changing so rapidly I'm now wondering how bread making is being handled today in our bakeries. Maybe computers and robots have taken over, doing the jobs our mothers did years ago. Undoubtedly computers have taken over. Oh well, we can't stop progress, can we?



Glenmary Father Frank Ruff Will Pastor Elkton and Guthrie Parishes



By Jean Bach

CINCINNATI - Glenmary Father Frank Ruff, a native of Bloomer, Wis., has taken up the pastorates of Kentucky Glenmary missions of St. Susan in Elkton, and St. James and St. Mary in Guthrie. His assignment began officially Aug. 28.

Father Ruff made his perpetual vows to Glenmary Home Missioners in 1962 and was ordained to the priesthood in 1963.

Since his ordination, Father Ruff, 64, has served in Glenmary missions in Dahlonga, Cleveland and Blairsville, Ga.; Shelbyville and Lewisburg, Tenn. and Franklin, Ky. Father Ruff's administrative duties have included serving as director of the Glenmary Mission Office and Vocation Office from 1971-78 as well as being a two-term president of Glenmary Home Missioners from 1983-91.

Father Ruff has taken an active role in improving ecumenical relations between

Catholics and the Southern Baptist Convention. He has been a representative of the U.S. Bishops' Committee on Ecumenism and Interreligious Affairs to the Southern Baptist Convention for many years, and will be working part time in this assignment.

In 1992, he became director of a then-new Glenmary project, "Establishing Mission Churches with Lay Leaders," which he led until July 2000. The program developed into the successful Glenmary Lay Pastoral Coordinators program headquartered in Nashville, Tenn., which helps staff established Glenmary missions as well as found new missions in rural areas where there is no Catholic congregation. Today, lay pastoral coordinators staff 12 Glenmary missions.

Source: *Glenmary Home Missioners release, Sept. 13, 2000; visit Glenmary's Web site at www.glenmary.org*

All Work Is Good and Holy

By Pat S. Smith

continued from page 19

ing Green, says that somebody has to work on holidays. The whole world doesn't stop. I've been given the gift of helping heal people, so I find my work a privilege." Ms. Shannon Roberts, an RN at a local physician's office in Bowling Green, feels the same way. "People don't pick when they get sick or injured. When I chose the nursing field, I knew I would be working holidays sometimes. It is very rewarding to be the one there when someone needs you...even on a holiday."

So, another Labor Day has come and gone, and this year, the Church made it special for me, helping me to grow more aware of all the laborers in the world, whose work doesn't stop even on holidays, and to thank God they are there to preach to us, to feed us, to care for us when we are sick. Another way Catholicism has answered prayers in my life by explaining the goodness and glory in work.

Paducah Area Children Celebrate Faith

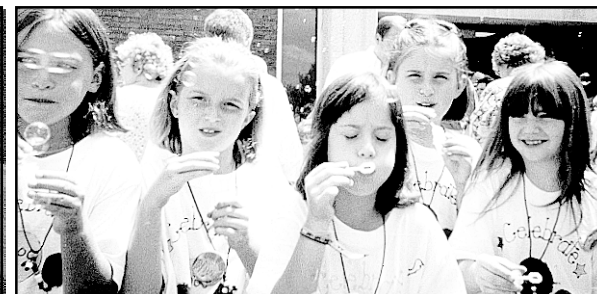
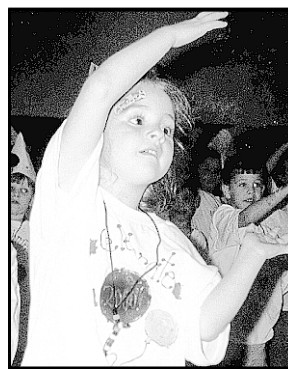
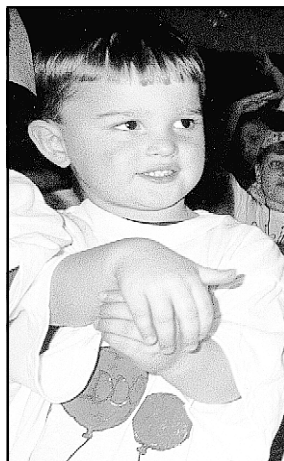
The Catholic Community of Paducah hosted Vacation Bible School (VBS) on June 19-23, 2000 at St. Mary High School. Attendance was excellent with over 150 students and over 100 parent/teen volunteers. We are proud of our teenage volunteers and those volunteers who are not yet teenagers. They gave their time and talent without a moment's hesitation.

Activities, music, and bible study all reflected the theme for this year, "Celebrate Faith." The parish priests: Fr. Bob Drury (St. Pius X at Calvert City), Fr. Ben Luther (St. John the Evangelist), Fr. Larry McBride and Fr. Gregory Arflack (St. Francis de Sales), and Fr. Henry Weider and Fr. Ken Miklucik (St. Thomas More) all graciously gave of their time, by greeting the children every day with a bible passage and one priest with his musical talent. If you listen carefully you can still hear the children singing "If you're happy and you know it, **Chick a Boom!**"

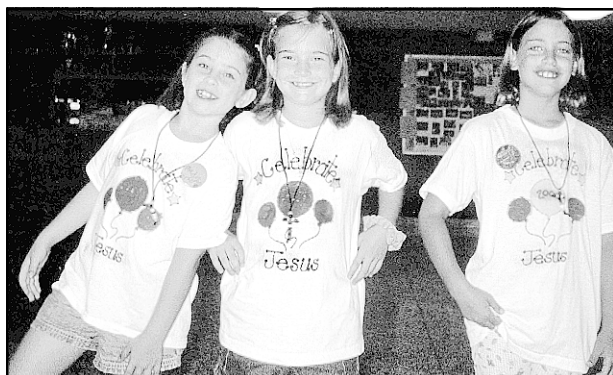
Volunteers prepared and served snacks for all of the children. Snacks were donated this year by Bremmer, Inc. out of Princeton, Kentucky. Various songs were sung; such as "F-A-I-T-H," "Jesus is the Rock" and "He Rolls My Blues Away," "Shoo Bop" and "Father Abraham." The music was led by a very talented group: Brenda Gardner, Debbie Bray, Paula Weitlauf, Mika Thomasson and Ame Kerr.

Closing ceremonies for VBS this year took on a different twist. For all our memories, good works, and inspirational wisdom received that week, the students shared them by sending them off to other students by blowing bubbles.

Editor's Note: Article submitted by Julie Sheffer, Teresa Wheat and Cindy Davidson. We really like the word, our, in their note to the editor: "...but we are hoping that you will be able to include the following story and photos in the next issue of our Western Kentucky Catholic." All right! That's the diocesan spirit, y'all!



This page, all submitted images from the Paducah area Catholic Bible School days, but below, a special thank you: Snacks for VBS were donated by Bremmer, Inc. of Princeton, KY and served by this volunteer group.



Sister Mary Sarah Briggeman, OSB, Marks Golden Jubilee

Sister Mary Sarah Briggeman, a Benedictine sister from Monastery Immaculate Conception in Ferdinand, Ind., celebrated the 50th anniversary of her religious profession on Sunday, September 3. (Also celebrating her 50th jubilee was Sister Mary Leah Baehl, OSB.)

Rev. Tobias Colgan, OSB, presided at the Eucharistic celebration in the monastery church. Sister Mary Terence Knapp, OSB, was the homilist. A public reception for relatives and friends was held in the monastery's St. Gertrude Hall.

Sister Mary Sarah, a native of Tell City, Ind., is the daughter of the late Ben and Helen (Biever) Briggeman. She entered the monastery from St. Paul Parish in 1948. She made her first profession of vows in 1950 and her final profession in 1953.

She has a bachelor's degree in liturgical music and a master's degree in liturgy and liturgical music from St. Joseph's College, Rensselaer, Ind.

Beginning in 1951, Sister Mary Sarah taught at St. Theresa, Evansville; Huntingburg; Haubstadt; Fort Branch; St. Benedict, Evansville; Sacred Heart, Vincennes; and Rockport, Ind. She served in the Evansville diocese's Secretariat on Worship from 1976 to 1982. She was also minister of music at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Decatur, Ill.; organist at St. Polycarp, Carmi, Ill.; organist/parish minister at Holy Redeemer, Evansville; organ instructor for the Owensboro, Ky., diocese; and music minister/parish minister at St. Boniface, Evansville.

At the monastery, she has worked in the business office and craft shop and has pro-



Sr. Mary Sarah Briggeman, OSB

vided supportive services, especially in the area of music. She currently serves in music ministry at the monastery.

The Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand are 226 religious women who minister in the areas of education, pastoral care, health care, counseling, social services, and mission work. They serve in four states and three foreign countries.

This article was submitted by Karen Katafiasz, Director of Communications, Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand, Indiana, karenkat@thedome.org, 812-367-1411, ext. 2635

Religious Orders: Is Anyone Listening To Us?

One way to assess the credibility of religious orders in terms of their mission is simply to ask whether those being addressed are "understanding what we are saying," Marianist Brother Stephen Glodek said in his address as president to the annual assembly of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men, held in New Orleans. Mission he said, is "speaking the story of God's deeds in language and actions that are understood."

Glodek said: So much of our renewal has been talking to ourselves. We need to begin to ask: Is anyone listening to us?"

"The question of credibility has haunted all of our renewal," Glodek said. He noted: "We used to have such standards for our credibility: numbers, institutions, church prestige. But these were standards that we produced out of an abundance that we had been given. They were hardly Gospel criteria for the credibility of the mission. But that's what we measured ourselves by and, I believe, are still tempted to measure ourselves by."

However, Glodek continued, "we need to look to Jesus' criteria for credibility regard-

The Council of Religious
of the Diocese of Western Kentucky
in Owensboro, KY
is sponsoring a presentation by
Edwina Gateley
Minister, Speaker, Poet, Writer
Author of *A Warm, Moist, Salty God*
on the topic of
**MINISTRY AND MISSION IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM: OUR CALL
TO TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE**

Friday Evening, December 8, 2000
Brescia University Chapel,
Owensboro, KY
7:00 P.M. Presentation.
Reception to follow
and
Saturday, December 9, 2000
Brescia University, Science Building,
Owensboro, KY
9:00 a.m. Registration, coffee & pastry
9:30 a.m. Program Session I
12:00 p.m. Cold lunch provided
1:00 p.m. Program Session II
3:00 p.m. Conclusion

A \$5 donation is requested for the program.

For more information contact Brother Ken Grondin (270-835-2584)
or Sister Rita Lechner (270- 927-8419)
Yes, I/we will attend the Edwina Gateley presentation.

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Telephone _____

Please indicate how many will be attending each session:
_____ Friday Evening _____ Saturday

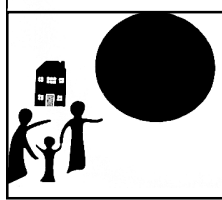
Payment enclosed

ing his mission. We need to ask ourselves: Do we live as if the Spirit of the Lord is upon us? Are we bringing the good news to the poor? Is our ministry proclaiming release to captives and freedom to the oppressed? Are we giving new sight to persons who are

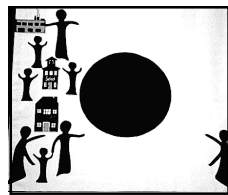
blind? Are we a healing presence, and are our lives proclaiming the favor of God? These are the criteria that Jesus established for the success of his ministry. Do we dare to choose any others?"

Source: *Catholic Trends*, August 19, 2000.

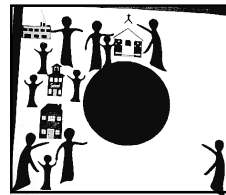
Sacred Heart, Waverly, Uses Progressive Banner For Weeks of RENEW/RENACER



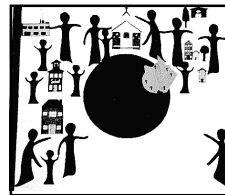
Week 1



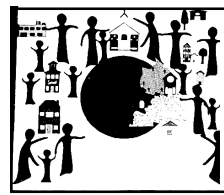
Week 2



Week 3



Week 4



Week 5

Sacred Heart Parish in Waverly built a progressive Banner for RENEW/RENACER last season. A new type of glue allows the parish to use the banner over and over, said Carolyn Rowley who sent in these pictures of the 6 banners. Each week more people and images representing the community were added. RENEW/RENACER helps a Catholic community involve more people as the themes and activities of the season progress toward a community of small communities.

The Result of Many Acts of Random Kindness

By Edie Keeney, RN, Exec. Director,
St. Nicholas Family Free Clinic

PADUCAH, KY - The St. Nicholas Family Free Clinic opened in October of 1994. The Clinic is 6 years old but its vision is much older. For several years a group of diverse individuals realized that many working uninsured families were not receiving the health care that they needed due to their inability to afford the high cost. The dream of a free clinic in Paducah became a reality after much work and many prayers. The use of a building, labor from the local unions and many other individuals, materials and money were donated so that the building could be rebuilt to accommodate the needs of a medical facility. This support came from many different sources. Both local hospitals, many churches, civic groups, area businesses, the McCracken County United Way and many generous individuals donated labor, talent, materials and money. There was overwhelming support by the community for the concept of a free clinic. Physicians, nurses, pharmacists, clerical and so many other individuals volunteered to staff the Clinic.

Since October 1994, over 3700 individuals have received free medical care at St. Nicholas. Free diagnosis and treatment by the volunteer physicians, medications and laboratory services are provided. Two registered nurses and an office manager staff the Clinic and there are over 300 volunteers. So many of the original supporters are still providing funds, materials, and are continuing to volunteer. Hardly a week goes by that someone doesn't call to volunteer. Groups call to ask if they can have fund-raisers to benefit the Clinic



The future home of the St. Nicholas Family Free Clinic at 1901 Kentucky Avenue n Paducah, KY. Edie Keeney Photo

and others tell us that they are applying for a grant or matching funds from their companies. Groups, businesses and churches call to offer supplies and equipment when they have extra or are replacing items. Many individuals donate to the Clinic monthly. Our patients frequently donate small sums of money as they are able and offer to help with many of the tasks that are always needing to be done. Keeping St. Nicholas going is truly a community effort. The Clinic depends on all of these donations, grants and fund-raisers; it does not receive any state or federal government funds.

What is happening at the St. Nicholas Family Free Clinic is a clear demonstration of what can be accomplished when caring people see beyond their own needs to work together to provide help to others. Many of these people have a deep faith in God and see this as His work, others may not see themselves as believers but to those of us who work at St. Nicholas we see God's miracles everyday. Every time there is a need it is fulfilled almost before we recognize it. This happens with small needs and even the large ones. For several months the staff and Board of Directors has come to realize that the Clinic has outgrown the present building. We discussed adding on to the building but after some investigation it was apparent that it would cost too much to be considered. Recently several physicians moved from their offices into new facilities. Two of our volunteer physicians owned one of the vacated offices. A generous offer was made to the Board of Directors that allowed the Clinic to purchase the building. Again the community has responded; free labor, materials and funds have been generously given to St. Nicholas to renovate the office to accommodate the unique needs of the Clinic. God never ceases to amaze us and yet why are we surprised? It is His work that we do and as long as we allow His Spirit to guide us the Clinic will continue for many more years.



Week 6 of the RENEW/RENACER Progressive banner created by parishioners at Sacred Heart Parish in Waverly. Submitted photos

CHARISMATIC LITURGY

PRECIOUS BLOOD CHURCH
3306 FENMORE STREET
OWENSBORO, KY. 42301

SECOND FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH 7:00 P.M.
OCTOBER 13, CELEBRANT WILL BE:

FR. BRIAN JOHNSON
ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL 771-4012.

GOD BLESS YOU,
PEGGY CLARK
3069 KY 1554
OWENSBORO, KY. 42301.

MAY THE PASSION OF JESUS AND
THE SORROWS OF MARY
BE EVER IN OUR HEARTS
SO WE CAN LIVE OUR LIVES IN,

PEACE, LOVE, AND JOY

Saint Benedict School Reunion in Wax, KY

Sunday, October 15 in the basement of the church
after the 10:00 A.M. Mass. Please bring a covered
dish and enjoy the afternoon with the family
and former classmates and teachers.

- Contact Betty Miller, 1301 Oakhill Drive, Leitchfield, KY 42754

Father Charles G. Fischer Celebrates 50th Anniversary in the Priesthood

By Renee Milliner

ST. PAUL, KY - On Sunday, June 4, 2000, Fr. Charles Fischer and other priests, family, friends, parishioners and former parishioners gathered at St. Paul Church in Leitchfield for a Concelebrated Mass of Thanksgiving in honor of Father Fischer's 50 years in the Priesthood.

In the homily, Fr. Fischer spoke of his childhood, his family, his call to the Priesthood, his years in the seminary and of the parishes he has served.

Fr. Fischer was born June 7, 1924, in Brown's Valley, the third of eight children born to Henry J. Fischer and his wife, the former Julia Reisz. About 1934 the family moved to Owensboro. The future priest had his own paper route and attended St. Anthony and St. Peter's grade school and graduated from St. Frances Academy. In 1942 he entered St. Charles College and later St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, Maryland and was ordained by Bishop Francis R. Cotton on May 30, 1950. He offered his First Solemn Mass on June 4, 1950 at St. Martin's Church in Rome, Kentucky.

Fr. Fischer has served the people of the Diocese at St. Sebastian, Calhoun; St. Anthony, Brown's

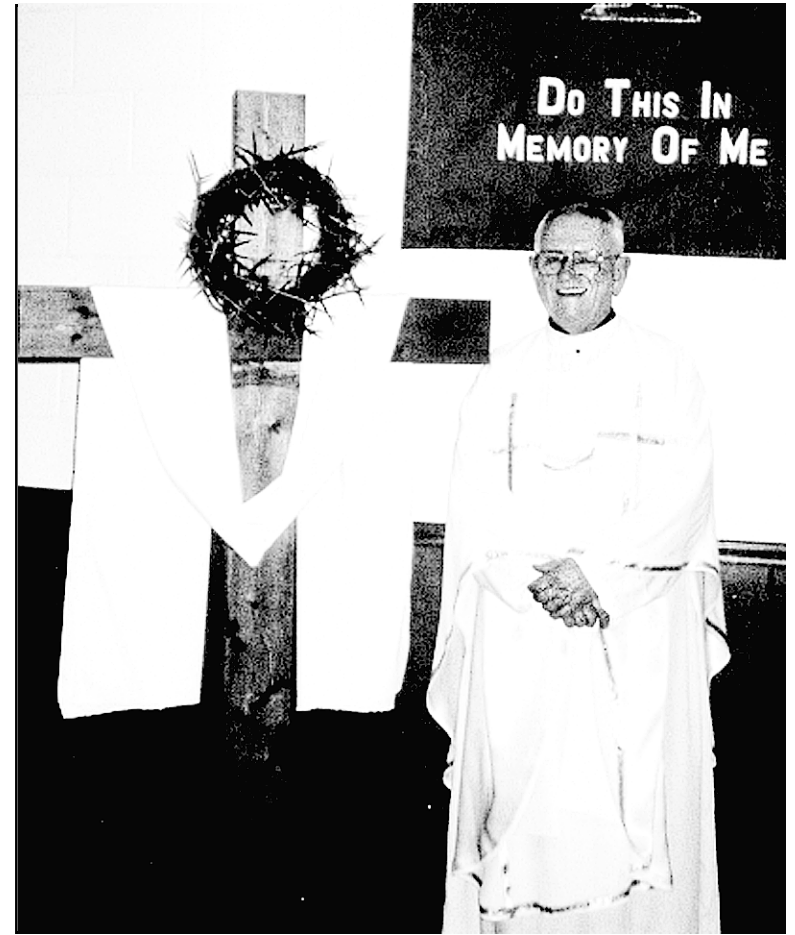
Valley; St. Frances Academy and Catholic High, Owensboro; St. Mary, LaCenter; Rosary Chapel and St. Mary's Academy, Paducah; St. Rose, Cloverport; St. Romuald High School, Hardinsburg; St. Mary of the Woods and Trinity High School, Whitesville; St. Agnes, Uniontown; Blessed Mother, Owensboro; and is currently the pastor of St. Paul, Leitchfield and St. Elizabeth, Clarkson.

Fr. Fischer was the first Spiritual Director of the Cursillo Movement in the Owensboro Diocese, serving from 1967-77, and has been spiritual director for many Cursillo weekends. He also served on the Priests' Council and the Priests' Personnel Commission.

A special highlight for Father Fischer was the arrival of his brothers, sister, and sisters-in-laws from Texas, Michigan, Iowa, and Florida for the occasion.

A reception followed the Mass of Thanksgiving. In appreciation of Father Fischer's services, the parishes of St. Paul and St. Elizabeth presented him with an Alaskan Cruise.

Renee Milliner is a parishioner and the bookkeeper for St. Paul Parish in Leitchfield.



Knights of Peter Claver Hold National Council

CHARLESTON, S.C.— Judge Arthur C. McFarland, newly-installed Supreme Knight of the Knights of Peter Claver, has two major objectives in mind for his organization.

"We must raise the awareness of what we do and who we are with the general community and with Church officials," he said, shortly after his installation. "The second objective is to strengthen the organization internally through individual and group training and through the use of current technology."

Expansion is also among the new Supreme Knight's priorities. The recent establishment of a council of the Order in Washington, D.C. offers new advantages, he believes. "We now have an entrance into areas that we didn't have before," he pointed out.

Judge McFarland also expects to pay more attention to the Middle Atlantic states. "New York and New Jersey are untapped. We must develop contacts with Church and lay leaders in this area."

McFarland's election places him at the head of the world's largest predominantly Black Catholic organization, which currently operates 364 men's councils and women's courts in 30 states and the District of Columbia.

The Order has recently been invited to organize a council in Jamaica. "If this comes to pass," McFarland said, "this will open up the entire Caribbean area."

McFarland's career shows him to be a person who takes advantage of his opportunities. He grew up in a housing project in Charleston. His father made his

living as a janitor, but the elder McFarland had a strong belief in education. He and his wife reared 10 children, eight of whom are college graduates.

The future Supreme Knight was named the outstanding Catholic youth of South Carolina in 1964, and after his graduation from Bishop England High School in 1966, he entered the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana where he earned a bachelor degree in 1970.

He attended the University of Virginia Law School from 1970 to 1973, earning the Juris Doctor degree. He was an Earl Warren Fellow for one year, under the auspices of the NAACP Defense Fund. McFarland began the practice of law in Charleston. In 1976 he became an Associate Justice of the Municipal Court, and in 1978 became the Chief Justice.

McFarland is married to the former Elise Davis and they have two children.

He had served six years as the Order's National Advocate before becoming the Supreme Knight.

For more information on the Knights of Peter Claver contact: Truman Stacey, Publicist, 1802 Second Ave., Lake Charles, La., 70601. Phone: 318.439.8036



WHAT IS SERRA?

Serra is a world-wide organization of Catholic lay women and men devoted to the promotion of vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Pope John Paul II has called Serra the vocation arm of the Church. Will you join Serra in its vital work by encouraging and praying for vocations?

SERRAN PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

O God, Who will not the death of a sinner, but rather that he be converted and live, grant we beseech You, through the intercession of the Blessed Mary, ever Virgin, Saint Joseph, her spouse, Blessed Junipero Serra, and all the saints, an increase of laborers for your Church, fellow laborers with Christ to spend and consume themselves for souls, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever, and ever. Amen.

THE PRESERVATION OF VOCATIONS

O God, you have constituted your only begotten Son supreme and eternal Priest for the glory of your majesty and the salvation of humankind: grant that those whom He has chosen ministers and dispensers of His mysteries may be found faithful in fulfilling the ministry they have received.

World Youth Day 2000

continued from page 1

Then finally the day arrived that we were going to leave for the Mass with the Pope. The evening vigil and Mass with the Pope were going to be held outside of the city therefore there was no public transportation so we had to hike. We took the subway as far as we could outside of the city and then got off and began our journey.

When we got out of the subway terminal and looked around there were people as far as eye could see. If you can just imagine 3.1 million people hiking down a road, every direction you looked there were people. After walking for about three miles we came to the spot where we were going to be staying the night. Once we got our things laid out, we had the chance to walk around and meet other people.

The evening vigil with the Pope was really touching. Pope John Paul II is such an inspiring man. You could tell how happy he was to be there with us. I thought that it was so neat when the crowd began to chant "John Paul II, we love you" and he replied with sincerity, "John Paul II, he loves you too." After the vigil there were fireworks and

then everyone went to sleep.

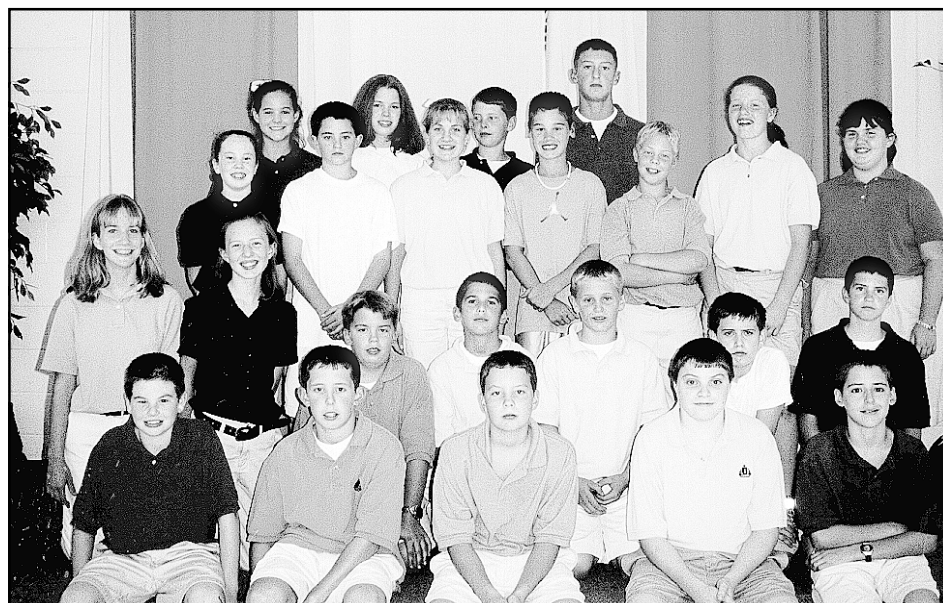
We awoke the next morning just in time to celebrate Mass with the Pope. In his homily, John Paul II, challenged all the youth to go out into the world and set it on fire. He reminded us how very important it is to take what we have learned home with us and live it in our day to day life. The Mass with the Pope was the conclusion of our trip.

The bond between all of us who attended World Youth Day is something that I can't explain. The whole time that I was gone I had a feeling of security knowing that I had those people to rely on if I should need them. I admire the adults who went with us on our trip. For those two weeks they were examples of Christ to us; no matter how stressful things got they remained calm and collected. I hope that they realize how thankful we are. I also hope that the parishioners of St. Mary's know how much we appreciate all that they did to make our trip a success. It was their prayers and support that made our trip possible. In closing I would like to thank Fr. Brian (Roby) for making the dream become a reality. It was a chance of a lifetime that we will always hold in our hearts.



St. Mary of the Woods pilgrims in front of a church in Florence. Submitted photo

24 Holy Name Seventh Graders Qualify For Duke Talent Program



Back row, left to right: Sarah Todd, Joanna Grant, Jake O'Nan, and Will Fidler. Third row, left to right: Lauren Vickers, Scott Redding, Katie Wilkerson, Alex Russell, Riley Nesbit, Krista Price, and Angela Deckard. Second row, left to right: Elizabeth Logsdon, Kristi Willingham, Tyler Comer, Thomas Carver, Justin Wedding, Tyler Francke, and Nicholas Whitt. Front row, left to right: Christopher Burton, Stephen Haile, Chris Dunaway, Chris Johnston, and Jake Mauzey. (Not pictured is Rudy Baskette).

These seventh grade Holy Name students have qualified for the Duke University Talent Identification Program (TIP) by scoring at or above the 95th national percentile on subtests of their CAT5 achievement tests. Through this program, these students have the opportunity to take either the SAT or ACT as seventh graders. The TIP program offers young students the experience of taking standardized tests, which will help them prepare for college. Submitted by Connie McFarland, Holy Name Guidance Counselor



Cardinal Newman

Theologian
Philosopher
Educator

Discussion Group: On October 28, 2000, Brescia University will host a discussion group focusing on the life and writings of John Henry Newman. The group is free, open to the public, and requires no prior knowledge of Newman. The monthly meetings are held in the Board Room of the Campus Center at 10 a.m. New participants are always welcome.

Newman was an Anglican religious leader, who after a long struggle, converted to Catholicism, became a priest and was subsequently made a Cardinal. In 1991,

Pope John Paul II declared him "Venerable" and a candidate for beatification and sainthood.

Two members of the Brescia faculty lead the discussion:

Dr. Frances Brown, Associate Professor of History
Father Raymond Lord, Ph.D., Adjunct, Religious Studies

For more information: francesb@brescia.edu; 270 685-3131

Diocese



Hands folded quietly in prayer

My Old Hands

Where did you come from?
I asked my hands one day.
Spotted, swollen, wrinkled,
they didn't know what to say.
"I don't remember growing old.
When did they?"

They've done so many things for me,
I couldn't count or tell.
They've served me constantly,
and, yes, they've done it well.

They feed, wash, and
clothe me, and they write
my letters;

They comb my hair and
dry my tears; no one could
do it better.

They tie my shoes and dial
the phone; they fold quietly
in prayer.

When I need a door to
open,

I know that they'll be there.
And then at Church where
I trod,

I hold them up in awesome
faith,
And they give me my God.

- Caroline Booth Field,
SCN



Hands holding a Host

A Sign Of The Times

Taking Communion

Q. Someone in our parish has been distributing a leaflet that tells us receiving Communion in our hands is wrong and against God's will. She claims Mother Teresa once stated that one of the greatest harms to the church was the start of Communion in the hand, and that she believed it is wrong and should never be done. When did Mother Teresa say that? (Pennsylvania)

A. That rumor has been in circulation for at least 15 years that I know of. I have no idea how it started, but as with all such rumors, the people who spread it do not hesitate to keep it going. For years I was deluged with letters urging me to tell people how Mother Teresa felt. I had strong suspicions about the claim. But at last, not long before her death, I contacted the officials of her community in India about it, describing what she was quoted as saying.

Their representative informed me that Mother Teresa never said anything like that. In fact, they added, her own sisters are allowed to receive Communion in the hand.

As I indicated, it isn't likely, from my experience, that this will hinder those who are determined to keep the rumor circulating.

- Father John Dietzen

Source: Fr. John Dietzen is a syndicated Catholic News Service columnist; this Q&A column is reprinted from *The Sooner Catholic* (Oklahoma City), August 27, 2000.

Subject: Prayer Vigil

Please visit the website of the National Black Catholic Evangelization Forum and join our cyber prayer vigil to end the death penalty.

<http://www.bcn.net/~wsavage>

We'd appreciate your sharing this message with others. Thank you!

This Cyber vigil is sponsored by the National Black Catholic Apostolate for Life and the National Black Catholic Evangelization Forum

There are children in our area with a great need--to be safe, loved and cared for. These children who, because of death, illness, abuse or neglect must be placed outside their birth family's home. Their need is for safe temporary places to live and grow until something can be done to improve their birth home or another permanent home can be found for them. There are approximately 280 children in this region alone who need a temporary home. There are several fine foster families in this area, but we need more.

The Kentucky Foster Care Association has teamed up with the Kentucky Cabinet for Families and Children to find homes in our communities for the kids who need them. KFCA is made up of people who provide stable, loving care to the children of our state who need homes. We have organizations in most regions of Kentucky.

Is there room at Your Table?



We know what it takes to do the job and we are willing to work with others who are interested in providing temporary homes for children who need them.

There is a state training requirement and a confidential home study requirement that will certify families to do the job that we now do. Finding new homes is vital for our kids. We will need more people to help us make a difference in a child's life.

Anyone interested doing this very important job can call 1-877-70HEART to get information on how to get started on the road to helping the kids who need help.

Thanks for getting the word out for our kids!

Is there room at
your table?
Is there room in
your heart?
Do you wonder if
you're able?
Help a child have
a new start!

**For more information
about foster parenting
contact: Phyllis Hurley,
President, Kentucky Foster Care
Assoc. 2212 Clay Street,
Paducah, Kentucky 42001**

WISDOM

By Ginny Knight Simon

6

Pat, Jean & Mary Galvin

"We are very pleased to have the honor of receiving the Sophia Award for St. Thomas More Parish. We are charter members of the parish, but we are more behind the scenes people. It is really nice to know, however, that people appreciate the things we do.

The funeral meals we do for the parish is the most rewarding to us all because the families are so appreciative. We have been doing the funeral meals for many years. Sometimes you have lots of food and not so many people and, sometimes you have lots of people and not so much food, but the Lord always provides. Having the meals in the parish hall provides the space for large gatherings as well as the meal itself. This eliminates the need of a family member to provide those things. It's also a much needed time for the family to visit and console each other.

We set up the food and stay until the family leaves and then we clean up. Other members of the parish help provide the food.

We like to spend our volunteer time at St.



Thomas More. We help with mailings and other odds-and-ends things. We enjoy our parish and the people here.

We are all retired and never married, and we like being single. We all live together where we grew up as children. We get along well, and it is very convenient for companionship. We don't have to call around to find someone to go with, we are all right here. We like to read, do needle work and we like being at home.

We have been blessed with good health and are able to go and do as we wish, and we have been blessed with each other.

St. Rose Parish Has Largest Homecoming Yet

CLOVERPORT—On August 27, the parish of St. Rose of Lima here celebrated their annual Homecoming. It has been the tradition over the past several years to take the first Sunday after the feast of St. Rose of Lima and pause to reflect on the past and look toward the future. The parish invites all former parishioners, pastors, and teachers for the Homecoming Celebration.

This year Fr. John Vaughan, Fr. Marty Hayes (former parishioner), Fr. B. J. Hagman, and Fr. Walter Hancock as well as many former parishioners and friends joined us for one of the largest Homecomings yet. The parish enjoyed mut-ton, chicken and burgoo made by one of the families of the parish and other volunteers as well as some very delicious home cooked food.

Even a bluegrass band was on



New Candidates Join Glenmary

Cincinnati and Detroit Natives Begin Hartford, Ky. Program

BY JEAN BACH

CINCINNATI--Bob Nicodemus of Detroit, Michigan, and Kevin Huther of Cincinnati, Ohio, have entered the Glenmary Candidacy Program headquartered in Hartford, KY. Entry into this discernment year marks a candidate's first official step toward becoming a vowed member of Glenmary Home Missioners--priests, brothers and lay coworkers who serve the spiritual and material needs of those in small towns and rural areas of the South, Southwest, and Appalachia.

Nicodemus, 25, was a philosophy and history major at Albion College before choosing to explore his vocation, religious life. *Missionary* life wasn't in the forefront of Nicodemus' life plan though. *Monasticism* was.

That is until "the Holy Spirit took over" and led him to Glenmary. "Everyone I met at Glenmary is a different individual working together for a common goal," he said recently. "There are so many different ways and opportunities in missionary life...it's a wonderful opportunity."

Huther, 26, sees Glenmary missionary life as a "terrific way to share my gifts and God-

given talents with those in rural America."

He earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio in 1996 and went on to study marine biology at the University of Charleston at South Carolina.

He has been actively involved in the Newman Club and has spent three summers working as a camp counselor. Two of his volunteer activities include visiting nursing homes and taking communion to the sick.

Both young men arrived in Hartford, Ky., on Aug. 17 and were introduced to the entire Glenmary community, the Glenmary Congress in Nazareth, Ky., the following week.

The Glenmary Candidacy Program is a hands-on experience of mission life and a chance to "try Glenmary on for size" to see if it fits a candidates' gifts and call from God to serve.

Jean M. Bach is Communications Assistant for Glenmary Home Missioners, PO Box 465618, Cincinnati, OH, 45246. Phone: 513.874.8900. E-mail: jbach@glenmary.org



Bob Nicodemus



Kevin Huther

Council of Religious Plan Upcoming Events

The Council of Religious for the Diocese of Owensboro met at the Catholic Pastoral Center in Owensboro on Thursday, August 31, 2000 to plan events for the 2000-2001 year. Members of the Council of Religious for this year are: Br. Ken Grondin, CFC, President, Sisters Georgia Acker, OP, Mary Louise Alver, OSU, Marcan Freking, OSF, Rita Lechner, SP, Diana Newton, RSM, Audrey Recktenwald, MSBT, Martha Schuler, GHMS, Mary Matthias Ward, OSU, and Fr. Timothy Sweeny, OSB.

The first event which is open to all priests and religious of the diocese is a "Prayer, Picnic, Pot Luck" at Panther Creek Park on Friday, October 20, 2000 at 5:00 p.m. All are invited to gather for a Taize prayer and picnic. Please bring a dish to pass.

A special event planned for December 8 & 9, 2000 at Brescia University is a dialogue with Edwina Gately, well known poet and social justice advocate. The event is entitled "Ministry and Mission in the New Millennium: Our Call to Transformation and New Life." The event is open to all. Please look on page 27 of this issue of *The Western Kentucky Catholic* for registration information.

As in the past, The Council for Religious will sponsor the Jubilee Celebration for all religious women and men celebrating anniversaries of their religious profession. The celebration will take place at St. Stephen's Cathedral on Sunday, Feb. 18, 2001.

The Council of Religious meets every other month. The next meeting is at Mt. St. Joseph on Saturday, Oct. 21, 2000.

hand to make it even more enjoyable. A water balloon toss was enjoyed by the children and the young at heart. We look forward to

next year's gathering--and God's continual blessings upon this parish.

Paducah Symphony Chorus Tours Prague, Salzburg and Vienna in June

By Sr. Mary Celine Weidenbener, OSU

What a joyful experience it was to be a member of the Paducah Symphony Chorus on tour singing in churches in the Czech Republic and Austria on June 8-17, 2000! That "music is a universal language," has long been a belief of mine, but with our concert in Krobociek and those following in Bad Gastein, Spitz and Melk Abbey, this belief has become knowledge.

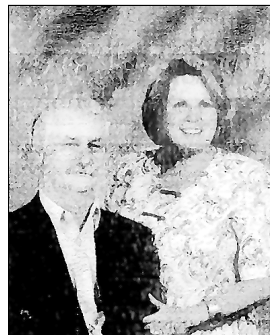
In our global world there are really no barriers, when love does the speaking and the arts convey that love. Thanksgiving fills my heart for such a wonderful experience.



Sr. Mary Celine Weidenbener, right, is pictured with a woman from the church in Krabcicich, Czech Republic where the chorus gave a benefit concert for a new wing for Alzheimers patients at the local rest home. Submitted photo

Joseph & Valerie Buckman Celebrate 25th Wedding Anniversary

Joseph and Valerie Buckman of McDaniels, KY will be celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary on October 25, 2000. The couple has 7 children, 14 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild. Joe is a retired painter and native of Marion County, Ky. Valerie is a native of the Chicago area. She is the Development Director at St. Romuald School in Hardinsburg. They are members of St. Anthony Parish in Axtel.



Checkers

By Timothy L. Tennyson

"Well move then, you old scutter," was his reply,
And then under his breath he muttered something and gave a big sigh.
He sat back, raised his eyebrows, and gave a big grin
Then he took a big swig from his Bud can again.

His opponent mused, "I play this game like I played the game of life.
You have to take your jumps, even if it causes you strife."

He was tight-lipped as he studied the board,
And studied the board, and studied the board.

Finally he moved and gave Frank a nod to go
And he said as Frank moved, this time real slow.

"I got to see one of the boys today;
I was really glad to see that he was beginning to pray."

"You're a smart alec," Frank drawled but his mind was not on the game.
"I saw his wife, my daughter, and she was doing the same.

I didn't like your boy much at first, and to their marriage I gave a snarl
But they've stayed together for thirty-some years. Your move, Carl."

"Why do you think we felt that way about their marriage and is in such a haste?"
Carl asked. "Was it because we thought relationships were made just to waste?"

We both know the answer, don't we old friend?
It wasn't them at all, but us. Crown me, I'm to the end."

Frank turned the checker slowly between his finger and thumb,
"I could see it in you, but I can't believe I was that dumb.

You were Baptist and I thought only Catholics knew the right thing,
But here we both sit--outside the gate. Move, there's your king."

"Yes, I know what you mean. I was the same way, in reverse.
I thought at first I had been given some kind of curse.

My son had married one of them! But I soon came to learn
The love of God comes from within each individual heart. Your turn."

"Your king has me trapped, all my men just the same.

How many years do you suppose we have been playing this game?
I guess we will go on and on until we both come to realize

We don't know what's in other people's hearts; we can't see it with our eyes."

"We have made some progress, I think, Frank
Either that, or God is pulling a long hard prank.

If we would keep God's laws and just our head.
Set 'em up again; this time I'll be red.

"You are right; we most definitely need to learn to love one another
And accept everyone just as they are, as our Christian brother.

Sometimes you can be as aggravatin' as an onery old skeeter.
Who's that coming? Is it St. Peter?"

Editor's Note: We like this poem because it is a friendly dialogue between two people who thought they had to be opponents, but they make peace.

Mr. Tennyson wrote us a brief explanation about his poem. Now, as RENEW/RENACER is about to start up again in parishes, we offer his poem: "I would like to submit for your consideration the enclosed poem, 'Checkers', for possible publication. I am a retired math teacher and I have completed a course in writing through the Institute of Children's Literature.

"I am a member of R.C.I.A. in Union County in St. Peter's Parish. Your last newspaper reminded us that one of RENEW's objectives is to be more ecumenical in our thinking and worshipping. This poem relates to that."

Monte Cassino Pilgrimages to be held

Saint Meinrad Archabbey's pilgrimages to honor our Blessed Mother at the Monte Cassino Shrine have been scheduled for the Sundays in October 2000.

The pilgrimages begin with an opening hymn and a short sermon, followed by a rosary procession. The one-hour service ends with the Litany of the Blessed Virgin and a hymn.

Speakers and topics for the pilgrimages are:

October 1—Fr. Carl Deitchman, OSB "Mary, Shelter of God's Word"

October 8—Br. Matthew Hipwell, OSB "Mary, Full of Grace"

October 15—Fr. Damian Schmelz, OSB "Mary, Woman, Wife and Mother"

October 22—Fr. Donald Walpole, OSB "Mary, Our Love and Caring Advocate"

October 29—Fr. Warren Heitz, OSB "Mary, Mother of God"

Services begin at 2:00 p.m. (CDT), except on October 29, which will be 2:00 p.m. (EST).

The public is invited. The Monte Cassino Shrine is located one mile east of the Archabbey on State Highway 62.

For more information on the Monte Cassino pilgrimages, call (812) 357-6585 or 357-6501 during business hours.

Sunday's for Families

By Betty Medley (Family Life Office)

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Luke 16:19-31

October 1, 2000

Theme: WOE TO THE COMPLACENT!

Family Life: Even in our families, we can divide ourselves into the "haves" and "have nots" symbolized by Lazarus and the rich man in today's Gospel...the beautiful and the plain, the intelligent and the simple, the gifted and the ordinary, the favorite and the others, the right and the wrong. Family is the community in which we need to be able to accept ourselves and each other simply as we are - as gifts from God with a unique contribution to make to our family and to the world. Comparisons reap conflict, and worse yet is the attitude that says we deserve or can earn our blessings.

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Luke 17:5-10

OCTOBER 8, 2000

Theme: FAITHFUL SERVICE IS OUR DUTY

Family Life: Life in any family, home or community provides numerous opportunities for service to one another: school lunches, carpools, child care, house care, finances, elder care, and dinner on the table are only a few! At the end of the day, when all these things are done, and there is still more to do, we can only say, however, "We are useless servants. We have done no more than our duty." Today is a good day to ask ourselves whether we are more inclined to say to one another - literally and figuratively "Come and sit down at table." Or "Prepare my supper."

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Luke 17:11-19

OCTOBER 15, 2000

THEME: GRATITUDE

FAMILY LIFE: "Say 'please.'" "Say 'thank you.'" Every parent, aunt or uncle, Grandma or Granpa has coached the youngest of the family in learning the social graces at the earliest stages of language development. "Thank you" is much more than a social grace. It is an expression of interdependence, of trust, of willingness to need and to receive from another. How and to whom do we say - do we be "Thank you"?

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Luke 18:9-14

OCTOBER 22, 2000

THEME: HUMILITY

FAMILY LIFE: A favorite playground pastime of children is bragging. "My dad's bigger than your dad..." "My mom is nicer than your mom..." "My sister's smarter than your sister." Classroom rituals often include "Show and Tell" which often enough turns into "Lie and Brag." It is not only children who use comparisons and putting other people down as an attempt to make themselves feel better. Comparisons are rarely useful, most often odious, and always diffuse the simple, humble and beautiful truth about ourselves and others. And comparisons - even subtle ones within the family are detestable and divisive. All of us are one in our brokenness and in our beauty.

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Luke 19:1-10

OCTOBER 29, 2000

THEME: NOTICING CHRIST IN DAILY LIFE

FAMILY LIFE: How easy it is to miss the presence of Jesus in today's hectic paced family life. Work, school, committees, Little League, doctor/dental appointments keep parents and children involved and "on the go." At times we function on automatic pilot unaware of the persons and events that occupy us -even those under the same roof.

PARISH SECRETARIES, BOOKKEEPERS AND ADMINISTRATORS' DAY

Wednesday, September 13, forty-six five people were in attendance for a workshop presented by Sr. Joseph Angela Boone, OSU, Office of Administration. Reverend Patrick Reynolds started the day with the Liturgy along with a very inspiring homily. Michael Bogdan provided the music which was cantored by Mel Howard and Elaine Sims. Several of the Diocesan staff attended Mass and were introduced to the participants to help them have a mental picture of who they were talking to when they called for assistance. The business of the day consisted of presentations by Tom Buerhle on PDS (Parish Data System) updates, Al Thompson on E-mail services, Kay Hardin on the Christian Brothers Benefit package along with the forms to fill out for new Employees and Sr. Joseph Angela gave a brief run down of the various forms that are required to be filed. She requested that all forms passed out be kept and copies made as needed. Among the forms given and discussed were:

- Form for permission for a parish to spend \$5,000 or more.
- Form for requesting exemption of parish revenue from diocesan assessment.
- Workers Compensation Payroll Audit and First Report of injury forms.
- Form for Renting or Leasing a vehicle.

After lunch the day turned to discussion of the things



that they enjoy about their job and the things that they dislike doing. Then it was time to come up with some possible solutions for the dislikes.

Most all seemed to like their basic job of bookkeeping, conducting the parish business, and working with the parishioners. Their dislikes for the most part had to do with filling out forms, being a mediator between the pastor and the parishioners, lack of communication, listening to telemarketers, and genealogy research.

Most felt that they had some say in the decision making in the parish and felt that collaboration in the parish was good.

Sister Joseph Angela Boone, OSU, Diocesan Chancellor, led a workshop for parish bookkeepers and secretaries Sept. 13 at the Catholic Pastoral Center in Owensboro. Above right, she visited at table with from right, Kay Clark, Lois Bell, Carol York, Judy Folz, Marissa Cooper, Joyce Toon, Helen Howard, and Nancy Elliott. At upper right, Patsy Moore recorded likes/dislikes for her table; this was her first day as a parish secretary. Near right, Marissa Cooper used colored pencils to record her table's responses. Staff photos



Pentecost 2000— Videotape available



On Pentecost Sunday, 2000, Christians from throughout Western Kentucky gathered at the Owensboro Sportscenter to celebrate their common commitment to Christ Jesus, who is our gateway to the new millennium. This historic event established new relationships and forged new bonds of cooperation between local Christian communities.

A two hour videotape of this event is now available. The videotape is designed for committees to enable them to explore the topic of Christian unity and the concerns the Christians of Western Kentucky hold in common. The video may also be used by individuals who wish to reflect on and pray for Christian unity, that, in the words of Jesus, "they may be one."

Copies of the worship aid from the celebration are included with the tape, as well as a helpful study guide, which includes information on the various Christian bodies involved in the celebration, discussion/reflection questions, prayer ideas, suggestions on furthering the work of Christian unity, and ways to support the peace and justice efforts of the various Christian communities of Western Kentucky.

The video package is available for \$24 (including postage and handling) per kit from the Communications Office of the Catholic Diocese of Owensboro. All orders must be prepaid.

This package is a limited edition. Those who order copies after supplies have been exhausted will have their checks returned to them.

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600 Locust Street Owensboro, Kentucky 42301

Evangelize? What can I do?

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A recent study of 5,000 people conducted by the Public Health Institute concluded that those who attend religious services often—once a week or more—live longer lives than those who don't. Unfortunately, as our population ages, more and more people are unable to leave their homes to attend services, and the numbers are steadily growing:

- Persons served by home health care agencies have doubled in less than 5 years, rising to 2.4 million in 1996.
- The number of elderly shut-ins, people who for the most part do not venture from their homes, is likely on the rise.
- The population age 65 and over will grow from 34.6 million in 1999 to 82.0 million in 2050, a 137 percent increase.

Formed in 1998, Gideon Productions is dedicated to making Sunday Mass services accessible to those who cannot attend services at church. The Diocese of Owensboro, through the Disciples Response Fund, strongly subsidizes this evangelizing effort, but more funds are needed to keep our Catholic Mass on the air.



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Make checks payable to Gideon Productions' "Mass of the Air," 4029 Frederica Street, Owensboro, KY 42301. For more information on how you can help, please call (270) 689-1622.

Monte Cassino Hill Climb to be held

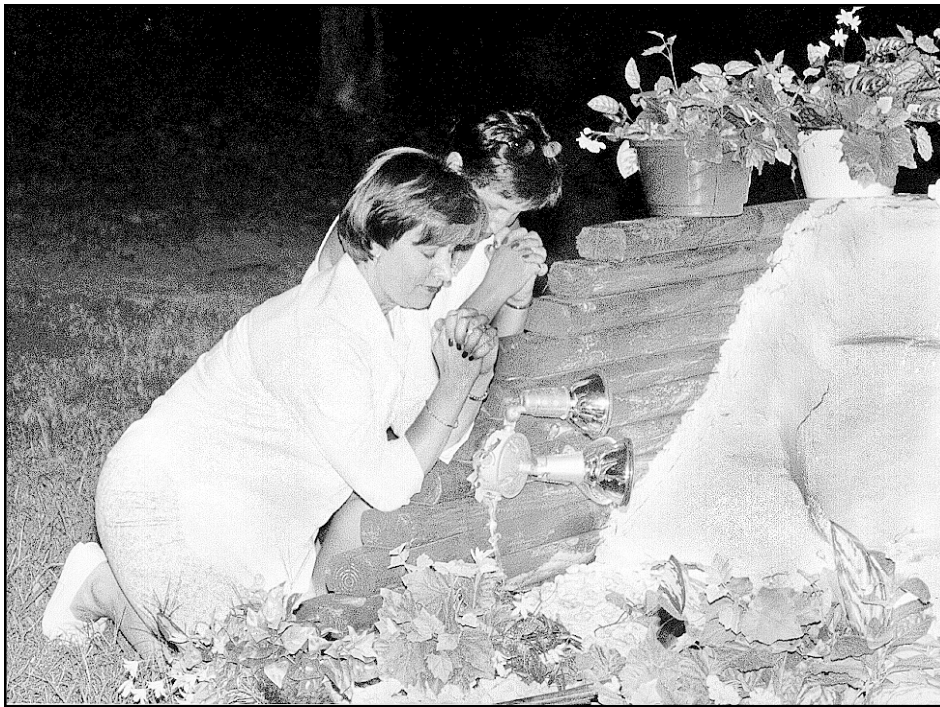
The Monte Cassino Hill Climb in the town of St. Meinrad will be held on November 5 at 2:00 p.m. (EST). Registration begins at 12:30 p.m.

The 8K (five-mile) race will begin at the Monte Cassino Shrine, one-half mile east of St. Meinrad on State Road 62. The race covers hills in and around the town and around the grounds of Saint Meinrad Archabbey. Total elevation will increase by 520 feet during the Hill Climb.

Kris Campbell is the organizer of the Monte Cassino Hill Climb. Entry fee is \$10.00 if postmarked before October 30 (\$12.00 thereafter). The first 100 entrants will receive a T-shirt. Proceeds from the Hill Climb will benefit Saint Meinrad's Wellness Department.

Entry forms and information can be obtained from these local businesses: German American Bank, Jasper; and the YMCA and Gilles Cycling & Fitness in Evansville. Or contact Kris Campbell, Saint Meinrad Archabbey, Wellness Department, St. Meinrad, IN 47577, (812) 357-6961. The registration form may also be printed from Saint Meinrad's Web site (www.saintmeinrad.edu) and mailed to Ms. Campbell.

Places of Prayer



PRAYER PLACES.... Maybe you've noticed that prayer comes from inspiring places practically everywhere... A calm prayer place could be this little water fountain in Park City, KY... It is just outside the lodge and is lighted at night so guests can go down to mediate, prayer, or just sit and listen to the water. Above, Michelle Mills-Smith prays with a friend. Pat S. Smith Photo

Jack, Welcome from St. Agnes Parish



Pictured is Jack Miller who is a newly initiated member from St. Agnes. Jack has prayed, studied and grown in his faith alongside the four neophytes from St. Peter who have pictured previously in the WKC. Jack is already involved in his parish by being an usher, serving as an Eucharistic Minister, bringing up the offertory gifts at Mass, working at the picnic and is on the Core Team for Renew. With Jack in the photo is from left to right, his sponsor, Leticia Jones, his wife, Sue Miller and pastor Fr. Bob Willett. Edna Messamore photo

Scout News



“A Scout is Reverent”

By Dave Ashley

The Diocese of Owensboro Catholic Committee on Scouting, serving Catholic youth in the area who are members in the Boy Scouts of America or Girl Scouts USA since 1993, invites Scouts and Scouters alike to the 5th Annual Catholic Retreat for Boy Scouts and Webelos Scouts, scheduled for the weekend of October 27-29, 2000 on the grounds of Mount St. Joseph Retreat Center in Daviess County. The theme, as in the past, embraces the twelfth point of the Scout Law - the title of this column. The program for the weekend is designed to help youth participants understand the importance of working toward the religious emblem appropriate for their age and get a head start on the requirements for it, but also included are campfires, Sunday Mass, food, fun, fellowship and Scouter Development training for adult leaders. A retreat patch, included in the cost of the weekend, is presented to all first-year attendees and everyone in attendance will receive an arced “2000” segment. Meals are provided by the staff, so participants will not need to do any cooking. It is important, however, that each Scouting unit planning

on having youth attend provide two-deep leadership. Rest rooms and shower facilities will be available. By this time, adult leaders should have received a letter with all details, a registration form and a map to the Mount in the mail; if for some reason you have not seen these nor been informed by your unit leader, you may call Jeff Hedges, Committee Chairman, at (270) 926-1784.

An agreement has been reached between the committee and Bishop McRaith to move the annual Awards Mass from the first Sunday in May - the customary date for the last seven years - to Sunday, March 18, 2001 at 1:00 p.m. The location of the Mass is yet to be determined but will probably be at an Owensboro church due to prior commitments by the Bishop. This date should eliminate most of the conflicts in recent years with First Communions, Confirmations and other important events; however, this also means that the due date for all youth award applications and adult award nominations will be moved up and Boards of Review will be held, sooner for Ad Altare Dei and Pope Pius XII awards. For specifics, be sure to read this column in future issues of the Western Kentucky Catholic. As always, the committee is in need of people with an interest in the spiritual welfare of our Catholic youth in the various Scouting programs and we encourage such people to attend our meetings and perhaps volunteer your services.

This month we focus on the I Live My Faith medal in Girl Scouts; this is a program for girls ages 9 to 11. The program is planned to help a girl appreciate more deeply the place of God and religion in her life. Parental involvement is a part of the program and completion time

Archabbey Library exhibit will feature calligraphy

The Saint Meinrad Archabbey Library, St. Meinrad, IN, will feature an exhibit of calligraphy pieces created by Fr. Eric Lies, OSB. The exhibit will run from October 1-31, 2000.

More than 30 pieces of calligraphy produced by Fr. Eric in the last year will be on display, most with a spiritual or Scriptural theme. Some of the pieces were commissioned by individuals, while others will be available for sale.

Fr. Eric is a monk of Saint Meinrad Archabbey; this will be the 15th exhibit of his artwork at Saint Meinrad since 1985. His art has won awards at the Indiana State Fair, most recently an honorable mention for one work, and has been selected for display in the Indiana governor's residence.

The library exhibit is free and open to the public. Exhibit hours are Monday through Friday, 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 4:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 4:30 p.m. Saint Meinrad operates on Eastern Standard Time year round. For more information, call Barbara Crawford at (812) 357-6501 during business hours.

The Great Feast Week

By Janet Inman

AURORA, KY - The week preceding the Feast of Corpus Christi was a busy one. There was a retreat day for the St. Henry Parish's six First Communicants with practice, crafts, prayer and time for confession. Our eleven Confirmandi spent Thursday in prayer and practice with lunch, adoration and talks given by several Fathers of Mercy who specially joined us for the day. I can't begin to include all the preparations made by so many, not to mention the time spent clearing the grotto, planting flowers and spreading mulch in preparation for the procession and beautifying our church grounds to welcome the Bishop!

A special Forty Hours Devotion began with the Confirmation Mass. Bishop McRaith reminded us what the Sacrament is, what it expects of us and the great privilege and responsibility that goes with receiving this indelible mark, this seal of the Holy Spirit. Eleven individuals of all ages chose names from among the ranks of the great saints.

What a great reminder of the call; what an awesome privilege to claim a place among them. Mrs. Trish Johnson watched as her husband, Bill, and four children were sealed with the Sacrament. What a great day indeed. After Mass there was time for pictures with the Bishop and a chicken dinner served compliments of the Knights of Columbus. Their presence at Mass, as always, was fitting for the Lord, our great King. Thank you Knights!

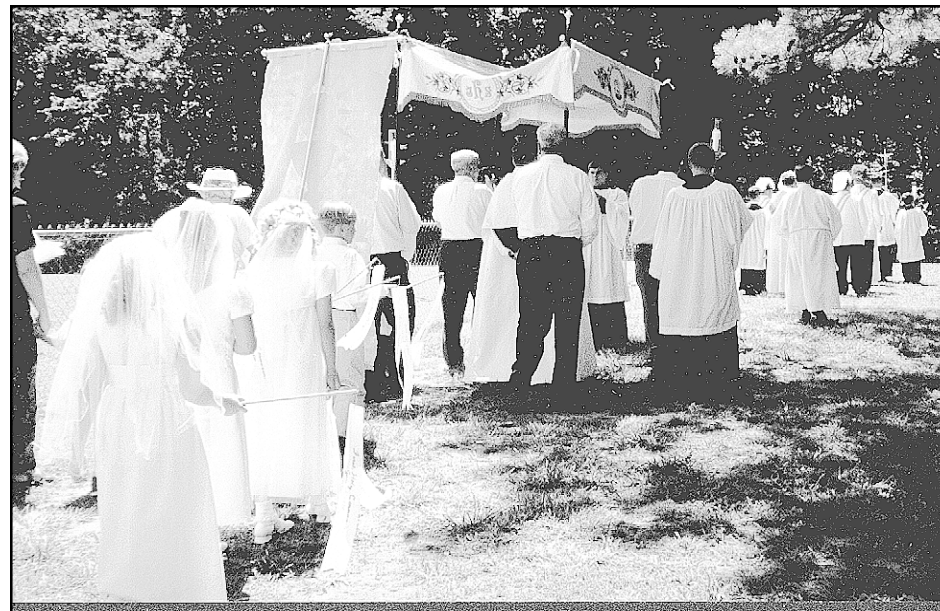
Adoration began after Mass and continued throughout the entire weekend. Saturday began with Mass and the first conference for the Forty Hours Devotion. Conference II took place during the evening vigil Mass followed by a cookout for the youth and a Youth 2000 Prayer Fest with all night adoration. Father Cash spoke of how greatly his faith is increased by seeing the love and devotion of the youth. What a blessing for all of us to have these opportunities to show our love for Jesus and to spend time with Him in adoration.

Sunday began all a-buzz once again as we prepared our six First Communicants to receive Jesus for the first time. Pictures were taken, veils were secured, flowers were pinned, cards were signed and finally, it was time for Holy Mass. Family, friends and parishioners filled the church to capacity. Deacon James gave a moving homily which at times had us laughing out loud. He spoke of being the postal clerk on a ship when he was in the Navy and keeping the Blessed Sacrament in the "safe." Imagine, God loving

us so much as to allow Himself to be contained in a floating "tin cup," this small naval ship floating in the ocean. Imagine the shipmates' surprise to see Brother James genuflecting as he entered the small post office room! For a Christian shipmate who could not believe that God would be in this metal safe and the small Host, Brother James did not argue the point. Instead, his own faith increased as he reflected that in believing God had become a baby, one has already made the great "leap of faith" necessary in order to believe that God could also make Himself present in this tiny piece of bread, the sacred Host!

Father Cash gingerly bid the First Communicants to come forward and receive the Divine Bridegroom. We were so proud of

Above, Fr. Richard Cash with First Communion Class: L to R, Michael Orr, Anna Maziarka, Mandy Jackson, Amber Hellkamp, Alison Inman, Zachary Morgan. Below Left, First Communicants process to grotto behind The Holy Eucharist carried by Fr. Cash, led by altar servers and the Knights of Columbus. Janet Inman photos.



them and thankful for Fr. Cash's love and devotion which he never fails to instill in our children. For this great feast day of Corpus Christi we were privileged to receive under both species. How special for our First Communicants to receive Jesus for the first time on such a great high feast day! After Mass Exposition continued as a small reception was held for the them and preparations made for the Corpus Christi procession and the picnic to follow.

Prayers flowed along with banners as we processed behind the tent-covered Monstrance. Many groups were represented from our church family. The First Communicants, the Confirmandi, PSR teachers and

students, the Legion of Mary, and more. Two outside altars were set up with sound systems to aid in chanting the Litanies which were beautifully done in unison by a cantor stationed at each altar. This day the prayers, litanies, and readings were either chanted by the priest, deacon, cantors or congregation. It set this great feast apart from our regular Sunday worship. It was wonderful to have such a turn-out for the procession especially considering the day was extremely hot.

The closing of the Forty Hours and third conference ended the procession followed by our picnic and parish hall filled to capacity with food, cake walks and many, many bingos! Father Cash was tricked by winning the

first cake made of concrete but iced beautifully. When asked to pick it up he wittily asked the nearest woman parishioner if she had made it! When asked to cut it he realized the joke and asked if anyone wanted a piece of "concrete pie"! Mrs. Marj Fish went above and beyond the call of duty by enduring our bingo scores. Heaven only knows how many times she patiently listened to numbers called and responded with, "that's a good bingo." Thanks to everyone who gave gifts for the prizes, food for the feasts, and as always, our beloved altar servers. Once again we welcomed several home schooling families who drove several hours to spend this time with us. We are very blessed here at St. Henry's. Special thanks to Father Cash for being a great shepherd to us all. Now that he is Pastor at St. Stephen's Church in Cadiz, KY he is working overtime travelling back and forth daily in order to serve both our needs. Thank you Father Cash!

Now, bring on the next feast and praise be to God!

Sept. 8, 2000- Blessed Mother's Birthday

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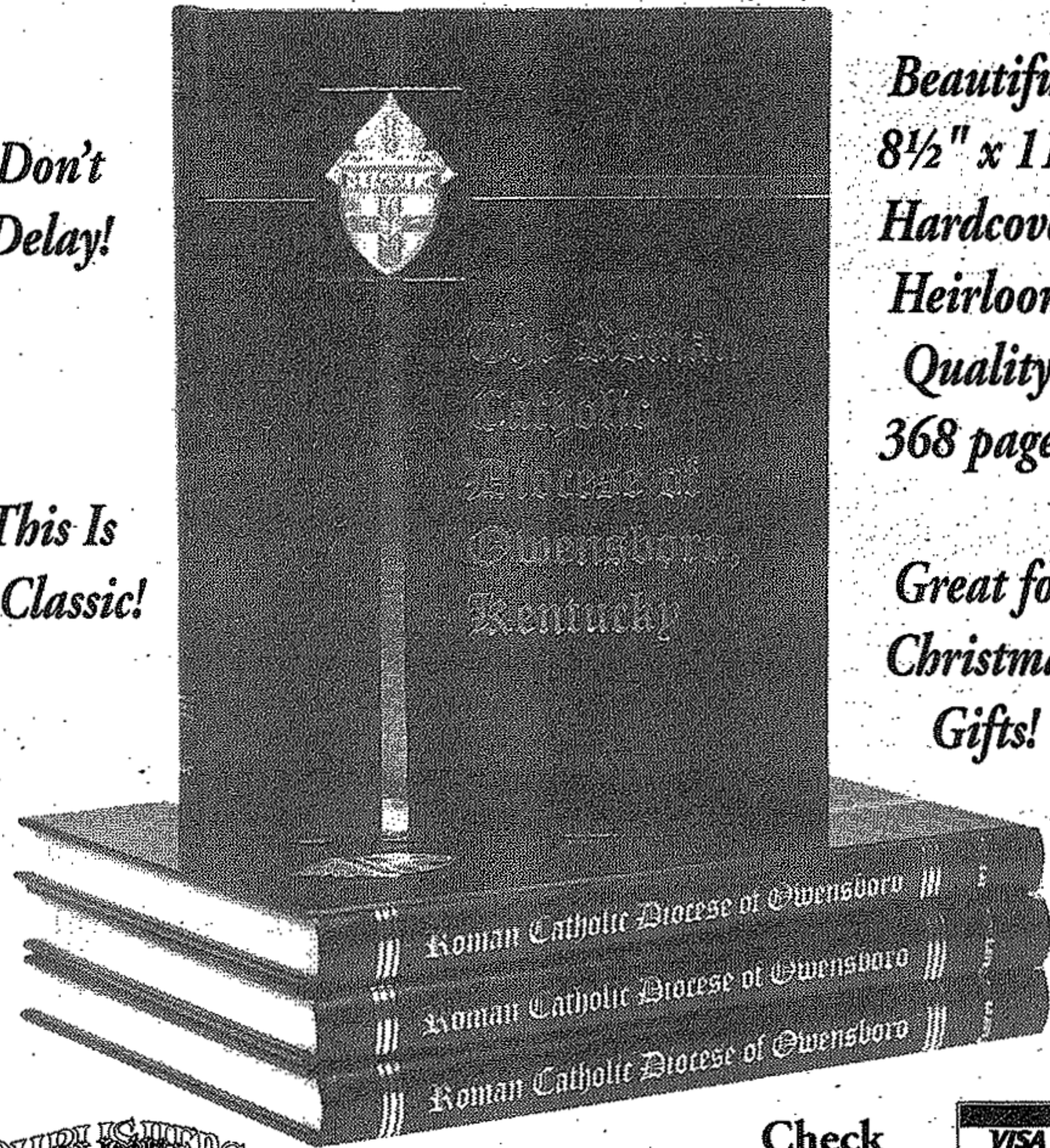
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By Maurice and Ursula Thompson

MAYFIELD, KY - We had the most wonderful experience of our lives. Our dear Queen Mother Virgin Mary visited our humble home! I was a little nervous about it because I had such a short time to prepare everything. The Custodians as a matter of fact are angels on earth. What a dedication, devotion and patience. True Catholic gentlemen.

We prayed the rosary when they were finished. They are completely dedicated to Our Mother!

Also, before the Rosary, the lady of the house gets to crown the statue of Our Lady of Fatima.

Those attending were: Christine Meyer, Ella Mae Turner, Dub Cash, Juanita Decker, Mabel Higdon, Antonia Stevens, Henrietta Frank, Noretta Hawn, Nancy Rieman Schnider, Charles Willett, Diane Hayden, Tina Painter, Yvonne Greer, Sarah Elliott, Derek Hendley, Christine Jackson, Mandy Jackson, Buddy Jackson, Dot Kilcoyne & Ruth Ann Higdon.

Parishes represented were: St. Joseph,



Ursula and Maurice Thompson, host and hostess of the Pilgrim Virgin statue. Submitted photo.

Mayfield, KY; St. Jerome, Fancy Farm, KY; St. Francis de Sales, Paducah, KY & St. Henry's, Aurora, KY.

This grand event took place on July 15th, 2000. My native parish, St. Charles, Bardwell, Ky were having their annual picnic.

For more information about our Home Visitation Program or to schedule a visit make sure to call Mary Jane at (888) 460-7371.



Awaiting the arrival of Our Lady of Fatima statue July 15 at Maurice and Ursula Thompson's Home were, from Left, front row: Henrietta Frank, Antonia Stevens, Mabel Higdon, Sarah Elliott (St. Jerome Parish); 2nd row: Ella Mae Turner, Christine Meyer, Nancy Rieman Schnider, Noretta Hawn (St. Joseph Parish); 3rd row: Yvonne Greer (St. Joseph), Tina Painter (St. Jerome), Dikne Hayden (St. Joseph), Derek Hendley (St. Jerome); 4th row: Mandy Jackson, and Buddy Jackson (St. Henry Parish); Christine Jackson and Juanita Decker (not shown). Submitted photo.

Adsmore - Patti's Eddyville Mall Tour

The Owensboro Diocese through the Office of Wisdom presents
A ONE DAY BUS TOUR, October 24, 2000

- 8:00 AM - Leave from the Catholic Pastoral Center, Owensboro
- Arrive Grand Rivers to shop and lunch at Patti's
- On to lovely Adsmore Home, built in 1857
- Stop at Eddyville Mall, then home
- Cost is \$34 per person, including lunch.

For Reservations, call Ginny Knight-Simon at 270-683-1545

Gospel's Velasquez Still Searching, Singing, Having Fun

By Emily Gurstelle

Without make-up, away from the stage lights, unnoticed by her fans, Gospel star Jaci Velasquez enjoys life like any other 20-year-old. She whoops it up on amusement park rides, giggles with her friends about boys, and worries about which direction her career will go. The only difference is that Velasquez is already at the top of her chosen field.

In an exclusive interview, published in the September issue of *Catholic Digest* magazine, Velasquez talks about her faith, her music, and her future. Twice selected a Gospel Singer of the Year by the Gospel Music Association, Velasquez has been performing since age 9. She's sold more than 2 million records and will be touring extensively in the United States this fall.

"Sometimes when I get really frustrated and I get really tired," Velasquez says. "I



Jaci Velasquez

wish I would have waited until I was older to do this." However, Velasquez realizes she has the talent and ability to succeed in both Christian and Latin music. She recently released her first Latin crossover CD, *Llegara a Ti*, and this month will release her latest Christian pop recording, *Crystal Clear*. She's signed a deal with Sony to release five more Spanish albums.

"One of the things I struggle with is finding out who I am outside of music," Velasquez says. To do that, she has turned to Scripture

study and time alone. She also relies on her family and a network of friends and advisers. Says her mother, Diana, of Velasquez, "One minute she's acting like a kid and then she walks right into the role of an adult - and then she goes right back to being a kid again."

Catholic Digest, based in St. Paul, MN, has a national circulation of more than 400,000. For more information about *Catholic Digest* or to obtain a sample copy, call 651-962-6757. Or, visit Hello Heaven, *Catholic Digest's* Web site, at www.catholicdigest.org.

IRS Warns 501(c)(3) Organizations About Political Activity During Election Year

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) recently warned organizations exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code to exercise caution lest their voter education activities run afoul of the political campaign activity prohibition. Section 501(c)(3) prohibits organizations exempt under its provisions from participating or intervening in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office.

According to an IRS news release, section 501(c)(3) organizations "cannot endorse any candidate, make donations to their campaigns, engage in fund raising, distribute statements, or become involved in any other activities that may be beneficial or detrimental to any candidate." IRS issued similar advisories in 1992 and 1996.

Detailed legal advice from the USCC Office of General Counsel on the application of the section 501(c)(3) political activity prohibition to Catholic organizations may be found at www.nccbuscc.org/ogc.

Persons have inquired in past elections whether *The Western Kentucky Catholic* (WKC) would sell or donate ad space for political candidates. *The Western Kentucky Catholic* does not sell any page space for advertisements or announcements as customarily seen in for-profit newspapers. Others have sought the mailing list used to disseminate this diocesan newspaper. The mailing list by diocesan policy is never sold or given to anyone.

Still others have written Letters To The Editor of the WKC advocating one candidate or other. Such letters are not printed by diocesan policy.

The opinions of columnists appearing in *The Western Kentucky Catholic* is another issue. We edit op/ed and syndicated columns as well as columns we regularly carry if any wording in the column endorses or opposes candidates whether directly or indirectly, especially if that columnist holds a position within the Church.

Box Tops For Education

By Cindy Davidson, Box Tops Coordinator, St. John's School

McCRACKEN COUNTY - This year our school, St. John Elementary, is once again participating in the Box Tops for Education fund-raiser from General Mills. This is an easy way for St. John to earn dollars for our school without a great deal of effort. There are a variety of products which have the Box Tops for Education label on them.

We are asking parents, neighbors, relatives and friends to save Box Tops for Education logos from participating cereals, snacks, yogurts, etc., to raise money for our children's education. St. John will receive \$.10 for every Box Top that is collected. Last year we not only met our \$200 goal but exceeded it by \$104.50. This will directly benefit our children by the purchase of additional software for their Computer Lab. A very special thank you to all those who sent in Box Tops.

Please continue to help support the children in our community and send in your Box Tops to our school at the following address:

St. John Elementary, 7450 St. John's Dr., Paducah, KY 42003

The shroud of Turin, believed by many to be Christ's burial cloth, will go into storage following its Aug. 12-Oct. 22 display in Turin's

St. John the Baptist Cathedral. No future public display dates have yet been set, but it is thought the cloth may not emerge again for public viewing until 2025. The Italian company Alenia, producer of missiles and military aircraft, helped design the climate-controlled, fire-resistant case in which the shroud now will be stored in the cathedral. Until a 1997 fire, the shroud was kept in the cathedral's Guarini Chapel, rolled up in a wooden box.

NEWS NOTES

The Diocese of Raleigh is opening three new schools this fall, bringing to six the number of new schools opened in the eastern North Carolina

diocese in the last three years. The Archdiocese of Atlanta has built four or five Catholic schools in the last few years and is planning on more. And this year, the Memphis, Tenn., Diocese is opening, reopening and expanding at least four Catholic schools. Another part of the country opening new schools is the Archdiocese of St. Paul-Minneapolis where four schools were ready to open their doors.

Source: September 2000, *CATHOLIC TRENDS*

Music for the opening ceremonies of the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia, was arranged and composed by Kenneth Dye, the University of Notre Dame's director of bands. A 2,000-member international band of young musicians performed the music as the athletes entered the stadium, Dye told CNS. The group is the "largest band ever assembled as a single unit for a single event," Dye said, and the piece, which lasted about 90 minutes, is "the longest marching band performance that has been done, as far as duration," he said. The parade music incorporates 42 musical compositions from the athletes' countries.

Of 486 canonized and beatified Asians, 384 were lay people, Jesuit Father Francis Clark, 87, says in his recently published book *Asian Saints: The 486 Catholic Canonized Saints and Blesseds of Asia*. UCA News, an Asian church news agency based in Thailand, said in a report that 275 of the 384 lay people listed in the book were men while 109 were women. All were from China, India, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. Of the Asian saints and blesseds, 482 were martyrs, while four were confessors. Confessors, said Clark, "live in heroic holiness and die in a bed" instead of being killed for their faith.

First Presbyterian Church Festival Gathers God's Children From Many Cultures

By Lois Rutigliano

OWENSBORO, KY---It seemed as though God had gathered all the people of the world together for one day recently at the First Presbyterian Church on Griffith Avenue for the second annual Multi-Cultural Festival on the front lawn of the Church. There was a continuous flow of people from all walks of life, faiths, and cultures that came together in one body to enjoy getting to know one another better and to learn more about each others' culture and customs.

Many adults and children walked about in their native dress and shopped at the booths and tables spread with items from different countries that were on display or to sell. One little girl named Cindy tried to keep cool in the heat of the afternoon sun, by shading herself with a parasol while she shopped.

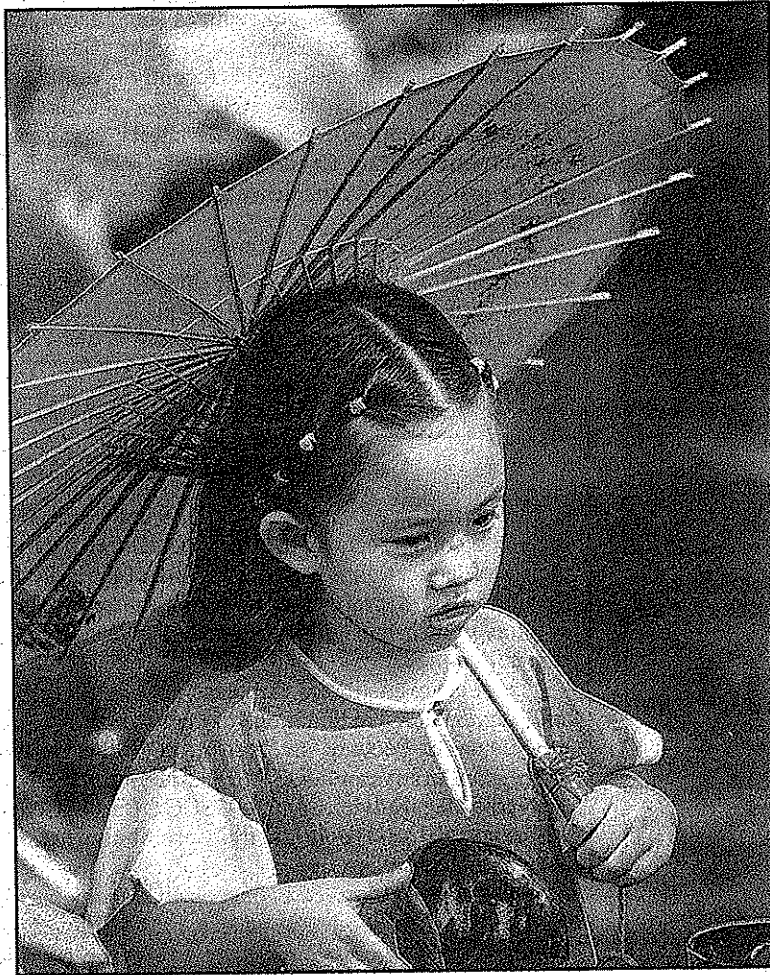
A Jewish banner featuring the nine branched candlestick was hanging from a tree limb and twirled round and round, caught by a gentle breeze. There were other symbols on the banner that depicted Jewish Festivals and the celebration of High Holy Days, such as Hanukkah.

"Let Me Entertain You" was the theme of the day, as the singers, dancers, musicians, and martial arts and yoga demonstrations took place on the showmobile stage.

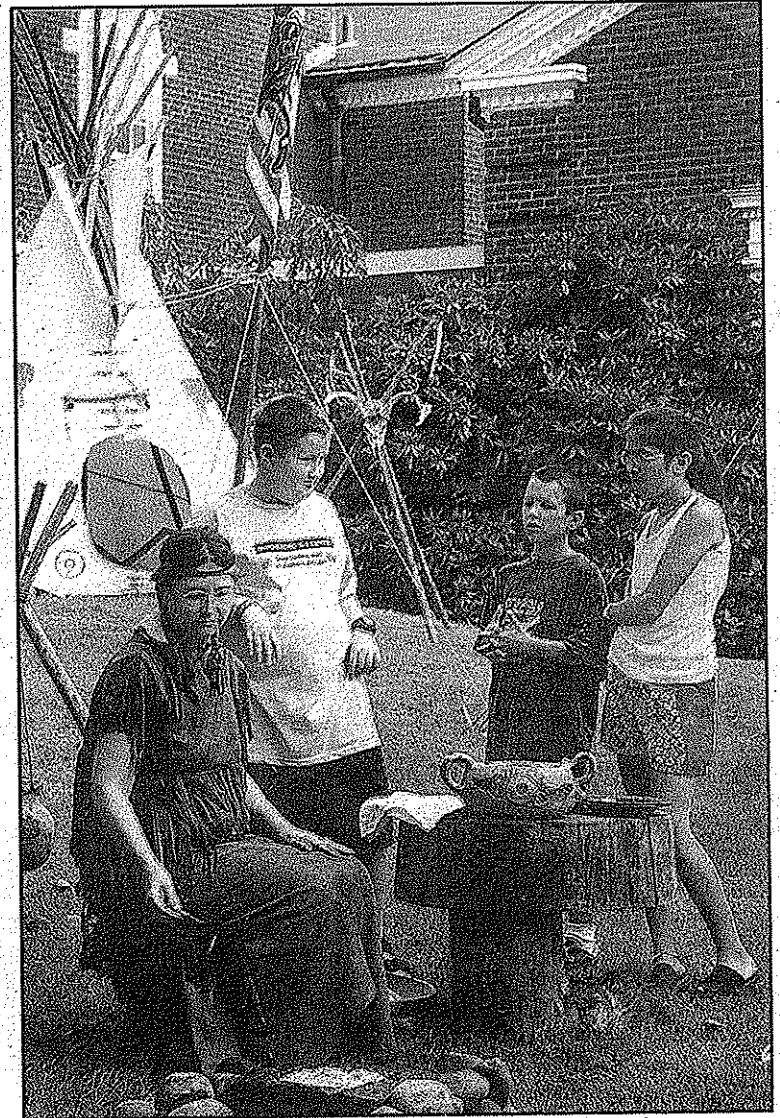
The Hispanic dancers from St. Peter Alcantara Parish in Stanley were a big crowd pleaser with their repertoire of new dances choreographed by Nestor Sanchez who arrived at the Latino Center about two months ago. Nestor is a professional dance instructor and came to Owensboro hoping to find work so he could save money for a college education.

There were many varieties of music, games, and crafts that represented different countries available such as Judaic arts and crafts, Italian tile painting, Japanese floral arrangement, called Ikebana, and Scottish weaving.

The air was permeated with the odor of several kinds of delicious smelling food, including Chinese, Native American, Greek and Italian that would please the most dis-



Above, left, Cindy, a student of Winnie Lynn who teaches at Tamarack School in Owensboro. Above right, Libby Warren who teaches at Owensboro Community College, cooked food in native American tradition for the Second Annual Multi-cultural Festival August 19 at First Presbyterian Church in Owensboro. At right, Connie Caceres and Jarabe Tapatio performed La Negra in traditional Mexican dress. Lois Rutigliano photos



cerning palate.

The number of teaching centers about foreign countries was available. Among them were China, Italy, Scotland, Ireland and Owensboro's Sister City, Olomouc, which is in the Czech Republic. Religion was not practiced there for many years, due to the Communist Regime and Christianity still does not have a major following there today.

This wonderful Multi-Cultural Festival celebrated diversity and reaching out beyond ourselves.

At left, Fr. Tom Buckman, Associate Pastor St. Stephen Parish, Owensboro, visited the Multi-cultural Festival August 19 at First Presbyterian Church in Owensboro. Fr. Tom is one of the priests of the diocese who presides at Masses speaking in Spanish. Lois Rutigliano photo.

