

Western Kentucky Catholic  
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Owensboro, Kentucky 42301

Change Service Requested

Volume 31, Number 6

# Western Kentucky CATHOLIC

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Owensboro, Kentucky

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August, 2004

## Disciples Response Fund purpose is to support and continue the mission of the Church

"The Disciples Response Fund (DRF) appeal gives every Catholic in the diocese an opportunity to share in the church's mission." These are the words from our own Bishop McRaith in the initial year of the DRF. He went on to say, "the annual appeal is necessary because even with all the good works that is being carried out throughout the diocese, there is still much to be done." How many dollars we contribute to the DRF determines how much of that work can be accomplished. So how are we doing?

4,607 donors contributed to last year's Disciple Response Fund. Our goal for this year's appeal will be to have 5,000 donors with a 20% increase in dollars raised. An additional \$60,000 would be a positive impact on our mission of helping our parishes increase their ability to offer service, such as marriage counseling for their parishioners. It would also enable us to disburse more dollars through our DRF grant process. Those dollars significantly help change the face of the Catholic Church of Western Kentucky. Historically, some factors continually impact the level of giving to the appeal. The first and foremost is a parish's own attempt to raise money for their own needs. We have currently nine parishes that are currently involved in a capital campaign or finishing one up. The second factor is the local and national state of the economy. No one expected to be paying nearly \$2.00/gal for gasoline. But as the local economy begins to improve, we pray that our many donors may be able to increase their giving levels and that the many others may see this annual appeal as a worthy cause.

Donors frequently wish to make comments about their giving as they make their gift to the diocesan DRF appeal. Here are a few

### A HEALING & INFORMATION PROCESS: For People With Divorce & Marital Invalidity Questions

On **Thursday, October 21, 2004 at 6:30 pm** the Family Life Office of the Diocese, will sponsor an evening for those people who would like to learn more about the marital invalidity (annulment process).

Fr. Mike Clark and Donna Sauer from the Tribunal Office for the Diocese of Owensboro will speak to those who want to know more about the marital invalidity (annulment process) the difference between divorce and annulments. There will be time for questions afterwards. This is open to anyone that may be going through this process.

This will be held at the **Catholic Pastoral Center 600 Locust Street**. For further information you may contact Betty Medley at

from this past year:

"God has been unbelievably generous to me...."

"Am a cheerful giver: with little seed."

"I know this is important, but I'm helping to support some of my relatives whose children go to Catholic schools."

"I am praying for you, Bishop McRaith. God bless you abundantly. Your presence blesses us."

"May the Lord continue to bless Bishop McRaith. We love him."

Your prayers contribute to the success of the appeal. Over 600 requests for prayer have been received through last year's appeal. The Stewardship staff places those requests at the foot of the altar in our chapel at the Catholic Pastoral Center. They serve as a reminder to the Bishop and diocesan staff of the many struggles the people of this diocese endure daily. These requests and many others are held in the daily prayer of the Bishop and the employees of the Catholic Pastoral Center.

Our "Thank You" List of DRF donors for last year starts on page 19. We print the list of Disciples Response Fund donors' names annually because its length graphically shows the actual number of Western Kentucky Catholics who have included in their personal Stewardship ministry the support of the diocesan church by giving to the Disciples Response Fund, and that long list is very inspirational for us all and strengthens our gratitude to God for all He has given us.

If one looks at other pages in this edition of *The Western Kentucky Catholic*, you will see the names and faces of hundreds of other Western Kentucky Catholics who do not hesitate to stand up for Jesus in print by having their picture taken and published here as part of the Good News this month from the Church in Western Kentucky.

In a time when our universal Church faces many public issues which stir up controversy and lead some to doubt their Church and their own faith in God, these names and all these

## Disciples Response Fund HONOR ROLL OF PARISHES

(Largest Percentage of Participation)

### Over 400 families

Sts. Peter/Paul - Hopkinsville	30%
Immaculate - Owensboro	26%
Holy Spirit - Bowling Green	24%
Saint Joseph - Mayfield	23%
Saint Stephen - Owensboro	23%

### 100 to 399 families

Saint Joseph - Central City	33%
Saint Mark, Eddyville	33%
Saint John the Evangelist - Paducah	29%
St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho	29%
Saint Anthony - Browns Valley	27%

### Under 100 families

Saint Anthony - Grand Rivers	44%
Saint Mary - McQuady	31%
Saint Michael - Sebree	30%
Saint Charles - Bardwell	29%
Saint Edward - Fulton	

faces in this edition joyfully say to the world that Western Kentucky Catholics strive for a Disciple's Response to God's call to Stewardship.

For information about the Disciples Resoinse Fund, contact the Diocesan Office of Stewardship in the Catholic Pastoral Center at 1-270-683-1545.

## Opportunities To Defend Life

Opportunities for Life, the Kentucky Catholic Church's pro-life ministry to women and families dealing with untimely pregnancies, is recruiting helpers and will offer a volunteer training program beginning **September 15, 2004**. This seven-week correspondence training concludes with a workshop weekend Nov. 5, 6 and 7 at the Catherine Spalding Center in Nazareth, KY.

Many helpers are needed. Telephone Helpline Attendants answer calls forwarded to their homes during certain hours. Parish Mentors minister locally in their community and parish. Prayer Warriors organize prayer groups to support the pro-life ministry. Public Speakers and Advisors are also needed.

Topics in the training program include Christian caregiving, prenatal information, contraception issues, sexually transmitted disease, abstinence education, abortion, adoption, and post-abortion counseling.

Please call (888) 496-3638 for more information and/or an application. The application deadline is September 7.

## Please Pray For Life and Vocations At All Masses

Dear Friends,

We have so many things to pray for, but I would like to call your attention to two very serious issues facing the Church and society these days. First of all, we continue to face a shortage of priests and religious. I know that there are many parts to the answer to this situation, but the one thing I know we must do is to pray more for vocations.

I am suggesting that we add a special prayer in the prayer of the faithful at every Mass that is celebrated in the Diocese — both daily and weekends. I have talked to the priests about this and am happy that many have now included this special prayer at each Eucharistic celebration. I would hope that this would also become a prayer that each family would include in family prayers in the home. I know many of you are already daily praying for vocations, and I encourage you to continue. For those who have not started to include a prayer for vocations to religious life and priesthood, I ask that you do so now.

There is no doubt in my mind that God is calling many more to these vocations than are answering “Yes.” So, our prayers are not only that God will issue the calls, but that people, especially our young people, will be willing to say “Yes” to the Lord’s call. This suggestion sounds simple, but prayer is powerful and together we can make a real difference.

Our second great need is for prayer for life — for respect for life from conception



**Most Rev. John J. McRaith, D.D.  
Bishop of Owensboro, Ky**

to death. Our Holy Father has stressed this in his many writings on the matter of life, as have the Bishops of the Conference (USCCB). The Holy Father has said that “a great prayer for life is urgently needed, a prayer which will rise up throughout the world. Through special initiatives and in daily prayer, may an impassioned plea rise to God . . . Let us therefore discover anew the humility and the courage to pray and fast so that the power from on high will

break down the walls of lies and deceit: the walls which conceal from the sight of so many . . . the evil of practices and laws which are hostile to life.” (*The Gospel of Life*, no. 100)

The *Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities*, which we Bishops addressed to the Church, indicates that prayer is the foundation of all that we do in defense of human life. Our efforts — whether educational, pastoral, or legislative — will be less than fully fruitful if we do not change hearts and if we do not ourselves overcome our own spiritual blindness. Only with prayer — prayer that storms the heavens for justice and mercy, prayer that cleanses our hearts and our souls — will the culture of death that surrounds us today be replaced with a culture of life.

The *Word of Life Series* is one source of assistance from the USCCB’s Office of Pro-life Activities that is sent to aid all parishes each month. The series provides bulletin quotations, intercessions related to weekly readings, and quarterly homily outlines touching on pro-life themes. These can be accessed in both English and Spanish online at: [www.usccb.org/prolife/liturgy/wolarchive.htm](http://www.usccb.org/prolife/liturgy/wolarchive.htm). Please consider using this resource to aid in your efforts to increase

prayer for our nation to respect and protect human life at every stage.

I would ask that Prayer for Life be included in all the prayers of the faithful at all Masses and — like the prayers for vocations to the priesthood and religious life — that prayers be added to your family prayers for the end of this culture of death, so we may develop a culture for life. Our Holy Father has certainly called this to our attention.

Now there are many other ways to support these two great needs, and I am grateful to all who work so hard in their support. Prayers are an important part of the solution, and every one of us can do that. So, please join with all your sisters and brothers in these special prayers.

Wishing you God’s blessing, I remain  
Sincerely in Christ,

  
Most Reverend John J. McRaith  
Bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro



### Leading Prayer

Father John Thomas led students from Sts. Peter and Paul Elementary in Hopkinsville in prayer and song to Mary May 25. Students placed flowers at the foot of our Lady’s statue. Sts. Peter and Paul Photo

### Bishop McRaith’s August 2004 Schedule

- 5 Staff Mtg., CPC, 9am
- 7 Fancy Farm Picnic, 2pm
- 8 Rural Life Day, Owensboro Sportscenter, 5pm
- 9 Provincial Bishops’ Mtg., Louisville
- 10 Provincial Bishops’ Mtg., Louisville
- 11 Provincial Bishops’ Mtg., Louisville
- 16 Priests’ Personnel Mtg., CPC, 9:30am
- 16 Priests’ Council Mtg., CPC, 1:30pm
- 17 SMSS Opening Mass, Paducah, 10am
- 17 Serra Club Dinner, Holy Name Parish, Henderson, 6pm
- 18 Administration Mtg., CPC, 8:30am
- 19 Staff Mtg., CPC, 9am
- 21 Separated/Divorced/Widowed Support Group dance, CPC, 5:30pm Mass
- 24 CCK Mtg., Lexington, 10am
- 28 Religious Picnic, Panther Creek Park
- 29 Mass, Tribunal Advocates, CPC, 9am
- 29 Opening School Mass, Murray State University, 6pm

## Annual St. Ann Church Picnic

MORGANFIELD, Ky. - St. Ann Church will hold its annual church picnic on Saturday, August 14, 2004, with serving beginning at 5:00 p.m.. A big difference this year will be the newly constructed barbeque pits, located on the church property adjacent to the cemetery. The new pits will feature covered vented cook areas, concrete side walks, and 625 square feet of cooking space for mutton, ribs, and chicken.

The pits have been under construction since June, 2004, and will be seasoned and ready to go for open-pit barbeque for the picnic. Other activities for the day will include karaoke, live bands, a baby contest, pageants, and a raffle featuring \$1,700.00 in cash, plus additional prizes.

This is the first time in several years for St. Ann Church to exclusively host the picnic. In years past, the picnic was sponsored by St. Ann Interparochial School, and for many years it was a joint effort for St. Ann and Sacred Heart/St. Vincent. Many wonderful activities and a lot of good food have been planned for this year's event.

We invite everyone to come join us for the first annual St. Ann Picnic!



## Diocese Recognizes Sr. Julia Head, O.S.U. With Catechetical Leader Award

OWENSBORO, Ky. - The 2004 winner of the Bishop John J. McRaith Catechetical Award is Sr. Julia Head.

Fr. Timothy Sweeney, pastor of Immaculate Parish in Owensboro, said in his nomination of Sr. Julia Head, "Sr. Julia has been an almost total commitment to catechetical work. Even in casual conversation her mind is attuned to the place of catechesis in the life of the church and its place in the world. She seems to be constantly thinking of ways to improve what's being done. Clearly she is committed to this work!"

Sr. Julia later reflected on the award. "It is really with a great pride that I have been named. Of course, I realize that there are many who have contributed to my formation/education as a catechetical leader.

"My parents and grandparents who passed on their Catholic faith, the teachers who taught me to read and to reflect on the meaning of the wonderful words of the liturgy and the Scriptures, the many associates and leaders who have encouraged, engaged, involved, and urged me on with ideas for programs, with preparation for classes. And, I cannot forget the many adult students and parents over these years who have inquired, been true seekers of truth who have enriched me with their questions and insights.

"Pastors (including Bishop John and Father Timothy) with whom I have shared the catechetical ministry in parishes have both challenged me and companioned me in the Spirit-guided work of the Church. See how blessed I am. So, thanks go to all of these along with my good friends who just 'put up with me.'"



## 2004 Parish Picnic Fall Schedule

Aug. 2	11:00 a.m.	St. Jerome, Fancy Farm
Aug. 6	12:00 p.m.	Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro
Aug. 5	5:00 p.m.	St. Martin, Rome
Aug. 14 *	4:00 Mass	St. Ann, Morganfield
Aug 14	12:00 p.m.	St. Joseph, Central City
Aug. 23	3:00 p.m. (EST)	Holy Guardian Angels, Irvington
Aug. 28	4:00 p.m.	St. Columba, Lewisport
Sept. 6	4:00 p.m.	St. Agnes, Uniontown
Sept. 11	12:00 p.m.	St. John the Evangelist, Paducah
Sept. 12	11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Mount St. Joseph, Maple Mount
Sept. 18	4:00 p.m.	Blessed Mother, Owensboro
Sept. 18	4:00 p.m.	Christ the King, Madisonville
Sept. 19	11:00 a.m.	Mary Carrico School, Knottsville
Sept. 21	12:00 Noon	St. Thomas More, Paducah
Sept. 25	4:00 p.m.	Immaculate, Owensboro
Sept. 26	11:00 a.m.	St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville
Oct. 2	Noon	St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

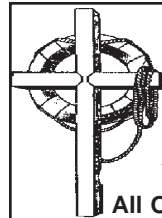
\* St. Ann picnic on St. Ann grounds in Morganfield

## DIOCESE OF OWENSBORO PRIEST ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2004

### PASTORS

**Hughes, Rev. Pete:** Pastor of St. Martin Parish, Rome, effective June 8, 2004, and continuing as Pastor of St. Sebastian Parish, Calhoun, Kentucky.

**Buckner, Rev. Mark:** Pastor of St. Pius Tenth Parish, Calvert City, Kentucky, effective June 8, 2004.



**R**etrouvaille  
ediscovery  
... A LIFELINE

### WEEKEND LOCATIONS

All Owensboro Retrouvaille Weekends are held at the Mount St. Joseph Retreat Center, 8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, KY 42356-9999. Call the Diocesan Family Life Office at (270) 683-1545 for information.

RETROUVAILLE OF  
OWENSBOROSCHED-  
ULE

August 20-22, 2004  
January 14-16, 2005  
May 20-22, 2005  
August 19-21, 2005

## The Western Kentucky Catholic

Official Newspaper of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Owensboro, KY

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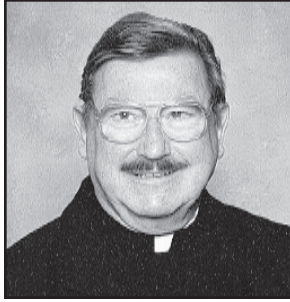
The Western Kentucky Catholic comes to your home as a direct use of your parish assessment dollars.

"Those who exercise authority in the Church will take care to ensure that there is responsible exchange of freely held and expressed opinion among the People of God."

-Pastoral Instruction Of The Means Of Social Communications, #116, Jan. 29, 1971

## Father Leonard Arcilesi Died April 23, 2004

The Rev. Leonard Arcilesi, 75, a native of Louisville and priest of the Diocese of Owensboro, died Friday, April 23, 2004, at his home. His parents, Frank and Hazel Arcilesi and his only sibling, Vita Mae Schall-Miller, preceded him in death. He was the pastor of St. Martin Catholic Church in Owensboro, former pastor of St. William and St. Lawrence parishes in Daviess County, and St. Stephen Church in Cadiz, and the founding pastor of St. Michael Church in Oak Grove, Ky. He was associate pastor of St. Pius X, Owensboro, and St. Mary of the Woods in Whitesville, Ky. Father Arcilesi was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Owensboro on May 27, 1989, after an internship at St. Anthony in Peonia.



A graduate of Bellarmine College in Louisville, Father Arcilesi received graduate degrees in education from the University of Cincinnati and St. Mary Seminary. He did post-graduate work at Purdue University, the University of Illinois, DePaul University, the University of New York and Georgetown University. He was a world traveler and student of the arts. He was involved in construction, building design, landscaping, and planning.

He is survived by his aunt, Maryann D'Angelo of Detroit; two nephews, Fred and Frank Schall; three nieces, Deborah D'Angelo (Leonard), Joan Marie Thorpe, and Lisa (Timothy) Stinson; eight great-nieces and great-nephews; and many devoted friends.

Funeral services were held on April 27, 2004, at St. Martin Catholic Church. Afterwards, in Louisville, visitation was at Bosse Funeral Home on April 27, 28, 2004, with a vigil service at the funeral home on April 27 and a prayer service on April 28, followed by burial in St. Michael Cemetery.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to the Diocese of Owensboro Seminary Fund, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, KY 42301.

**t**he priest is not an angel sent from heaven. he is a man chosen from men, a member of the church, a christian.

remaining man and christian, he begins to speak you the word of God.

this word is not his own, no, he comes to you because God has told him to proclaim God's word.

perhaps he has not entirely understood it himself. perhaps he adulterates it. but he believes, and despite his fears, he knows that he must communicate God's word to you.

for must not some one of us say something about God, about eternal life, about the majesty of grace in our sanctified being; must not some one of us speak of sin, the judgment and mercy of God?

so my dear friends, pray for him, carry him so that he might be able to sustain others by bringing to them the mystery of God's love revealed in christ jesus

## FORGIVENESS :A SPIRITUAL RETREAT FOR ALL WOMEN

**By Marilyn Roof, St. Thomas More Parish**

PADUCAH, Ky. - I attended a Women's conference in early November, 2003 at a local Baptist church. I was so overwhelmed by the beauty, power, strength, holiness and wonderful spiritual convictions felt that day. We were women from many places, many faiths, many backgrounds but one thing we had in common. We were and are His women, carrying His word, saying "yes" to Him as only women can.

That evening as I reflected on the day, I felt a little nudge from the Holy Spirit that perhaps we should have a retreat for women. The "we" I refer to are Parish Nurses. I have been a Parish Nurse for 4 years and we now have about 60 trained Parish Nurses in the area. As Parish Nurses our focus on health care is of Body, Mind and Spirit with the emphasis that healing begins with Jesus.

I asked Maurleen Neihoff, who serves St. John the Evangelist church with me as a Parish Nurse, what she thought of the idea. We then asked pastors of the area for their opinion and blessing. At this time we took the idea to Parish Nurse Fellowship of Western Ky. And we went forward to plan this event. Verna Carson was suggested as a possible speaker so I called her in December. Her response was an enthusiastic "yes." Verna's audience is usually nurses and when I called her she shared with me that she had been praying for new doors to be opened to her. This seemed to be an answered prayer.

Our Parish Nurse Coordinator, Pat Camp, has this to say in our most recent newsletter.

"WOW! Do you know what is coming to Paducah???" Our Parish Nurse Fellowship is sponsoring a Women's Retreat October 8-9, 2004 at St. Thomas More church. This Retreat is not just for nurses, but for ALL WOMEN no matter what faith tradition they are from. We are anticipating about 400 people to attend. Dr. Verna Carson, a noted speaker and author in nursing from Baltimore, Maryland, will be the guest speaker. You will not be disappointed in her. I have known Verna for many years and she is one of those uniquely gifted women who loves God and His people and can so readily convey this love to others. She was Professor of Nursing in Psychiatric Nursing at the University of Maryland for over 20 years and is now Director of Staff Builders—an organization that ministers to many health care providers. Dr. Carson will speak about FORGIVENESS and how many of us live our lives feeling as if we have been betrayed by some person and we just can't seem to let it go. She helps us walk through these experiences and to find ways to forgive. Many of us wrestle with forgiveness in its many forms and I look forward to hearing this Christian lady speak to us what God has given her to say. The Retreat begins Friday night at 6pm and costs only \$25.00 per person. It will continue again at 8am on Saturday morning. There will be 6 CEU's offered."

We ask your prayers for this retreat and hope you choose to attend. Forgiveness is a choice and some of you have experienced that freedom that fills your spirit when forgiveness is given or received and some of you long to have this feeling.

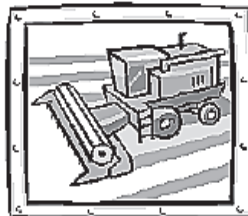


### 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Rural Life Celebration

## "Celebrating the Family Farm"

Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm  
At the Owensboro Sportscenter

Come enjoy an ecumenical celebration of rural life and the family farm in the air-conditioned comfort of the Owensboro Sportscenter. Meal will be provided followed by a program and a presentation of the first annual "Friend of Rural Life" award.



Contact Dick Murphy at the Pastoral Center at 683-1545 for more information. Sponsored by the Rural Life Committee of the Diocese of Owensboro.

## "Celebrating the Family Farm"

The Rural Life Committee of the Diocese of Owensboro is sponsoring the Second Annual "Rural Life Celebration: Celebrating the Family Farm." The event will be held at the Owensboro Sportscenter on August 8<sup>th</sup>, starting at 5:00 pm. Come enjoy an ecumenical celebration of rural life and the family farm in the air-conditioned comfort of the Owensboro Sportscenter. A meal will be provided followed by an entertaining program with speakers that include Bishop John McRaith, family farmers, and leaders within agribusiness. In addition, there will be a presentation of the second annual "Lifetime Achievement Award" to well-known advocates of family farms in Kentucky.

Plan to attend what is sure to be an enjoyable evening.

For more information, contact Dick Murphy at the Pastoral Center at (270) 683-1545 or Mike Mullican at (270) 764-0515.

## Morganfield Hometown Mission Project

MORGANFIELD, Ky. - St. Ann Church's High School Youth Group participated in a different kind of mission experience this year. They stayed home, right here in Union County, and helped a parish family. Realizing the need right here in our own community, the youth decided to stay here and help one of our own. They spent two days scraping, priming and painting the home of Richard and Judy Holliday. The youth took turns on ladders and their hands and knees painting the house and porch of the Holliday home. They stayed at the parish hall overnight and enjoyed supper courtesy of the Morganfield K of C and a night of ice cream and movies. It was a wonderful experience for the youth and adults involved to help one of our own people, as well as for the Holliday's to have their home improved. It is a house that the youth pass by everyday on their way to school and it is a job they can take a lot of pride in. They can look at the house and



**Erica Greenwell, Brittany Davis, Katie Willett, Christopher Buchanan and Jan Stone start priming one side of the house.**

say, "I did that and I made their home and life a little nicer and happier." We are very proud of our youth for the hard work that they did.



**In group photo above, Row 1: Matt Young; Row 2: Erica Greenwell, Victoria Perez, Brittany Davis, Angela Hancock, Judy Holliday, Katie E. Willett, Brittany French; Row 3: Melissa Polites, LaDonna French, Davis Jackson, Alex French; Not Pictured: Kerri Stone, Jan Stone, Kailin O'Nan, Jade Ervin, Christopher Buchanan, and Jim Scott.**

## LIGHT ONE CANDLE

By Msgr. Jim Lisante, The Christophers

### Something about Summer

We all expect a lot from summer.

Maybe you think just the opposite, that summer is meant to be a relaxing, restful time. That's just it. You're supposed to take a break and enjoy yourself. You're supposed to go on vacation, plan recreational activities. You're supposed to head outdoors and do all those things you couldn't do while stuck inside with cabin fever all winter, dreaming warm, golden summer dreams.

Of course, you mustn't forget all those summer chores like painting the house, or cleaning the guest room so that your in-laws can stay for a nice, long visit. And, while you're at it, don't forget to recharge your battery and reenergize yourself so you can go back to work and do all the other things that keep you busy the rest of the year.

And if you don't accomplish all that, you've wasted time and let the days fritter away, and, before you know it, it's football season. Well, I think there's a great deal to be said for frittering. In fact, I suggest a lot more of it.

I looked up the origin of the word "fritter" and it means to break into small pieces. At least part of summer should be about breaking life into small pieces, letting the serendipity of a warm afternoon in the park or your backyard outweigh a scheduled task because it really is OK to fritter a little time without feeling guilty. Shouldn't you be able to spend as much time lying on the grass as mowing it without your conscience nagging you that you're wasting time?

It isn't that I think people shouldn't make any plans. There's much to be said for simple, logical things like making a shopping list or arranging plane and hotel reservations. What's wrong is the way some folks schedule their days as though life were little more than a long "to do" list.

Most people are pretty good at doing things – from home to job to church to community activities, you probably do your share and more. But how are you at just being? It seems to me that's what rest, recreation and play are really

about – being rather than doing.

You know the creation story from the very beginning of the Bible. Well, that's the first place rest is mentioned – and God is doing the resting. "God saw everything He had made, and indeed, it was very good. . . . So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that He had done in creation." (Genesis 1:31;2:3) Think about it: did God really need to rest after making the universe? Perhaps, it was something more than recuperating from a task. Perhaps, God took time simply to revel and rejoice in His cherished creation. And notice that it was a day of rest to which God gave a special blessing, not a day of doing.

I think G.K. Chesterton got it right when he said, "The true object of all human life is play. Earth is a task garden; heaven is a playground."

Was God working or playing when He created His universe, His creatures, His people? For God, there probably is no difference. The rest of us are still trying to figure it out for ourselves. So, work at your work. Play at your play. Shed your tears. Enjoy your laughter. Now is the time of your life.

For a free copy of the Christopher News Note, TALKING TO GOD – EVERYDAY PRAYER FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE, write: The Christophers, 12 East 48<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10017; or e-mail: mail@christophers.org aug#4/sr

## PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

Nov. 3 -14, 2004

You are invited to join a twelve day pilgrimage which includes visits to DaVinci's painting of the Last Supper in Milan, to Brescia, the home of St. Angela Merici (foundress of the Ursuline Sisters) and stops in Florence, the home of Michelangelo, and to the medieval town of Assisi, the birthplace and home of St. Francis and St. Claire.

The five days in Rome include a papal audience and visits to the Vatican and other important religious and historical sites of the Eternal City.

For more information contact Fr. John Vaughan at 270-683-6525 or Sr. Alicia Coomes at 270-683-8444.

## Talent Show At Blessed Sacrament Church

Blessed Sacrament Chapel (BSC) will host a talent show on August 6, 2004 at the Parish Center, 602 Sycamore Street, Owensboro.. There will be three prizes: 1<sup>st</sup> prize - \$100.00; 2<sup>nd</sup> prize -\$ 75.00; 3<sup>rd</sup> prize -\$ 50.00.

Everyone in the community, especially our youth, is invited to try out for this talent show. **The tryout date is Saturday, July 31, 2004 at 12:00 p.m.,** Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall, 604 Sycamore St., Owensboro, Ky. Applications may be picked up at the BSC parish hall or the Neblett Center until the deadline. Call 926-4741 for details or further information. Contact for this announcement is Veronica Wilhite, Parish Life Coordinator, (270) 926-4741/7809.

## St. Romuald School Awards and Honors



On Tuesday, May 25, 2004, during the School Awards Ceremony at St. Romuald Interparochial School, 3rd Grade teacher Modelia Mattingly announced she would be retiring from teaching. Mrs. Mattingly taught at Ben Johnson, Irvington, and Cloverport Schools for many years and finished her teaching career with 30 years at St. Romuald. She has touched many lives and will be greatly missed. A dogwood tree was presented to Mrs. Mattingly and placed beside the St. Romuald Interparochial School sign. We wish her a wonderful retirement!



On Tuesday, May 25, St. Romuald Interparochial School held their graduation ceremony for the 2003-2004 Eighth Grade Class. First Row (LtoR): Maura O'Donoghue, Toni Jo Flood, Jill Weatherholt, and 8th Grade Teacher Connie Critchelow; 2nd Row (LtoR): Jennifer And, Jessica Garrett, Sarah Connor, Chivonne Hanks, & Victoria Wheatley; 3rd Row (LtoR): Mitchell Mattingly, A.J. Anthony, Andrew Basham, Eric Brumfield, Scotty Pile, Todd Weatherholt & Kyle Critchelow. Photos submitted by Kim Brumfield

## All Catholics are Called to Defend NFP and Church Teaching

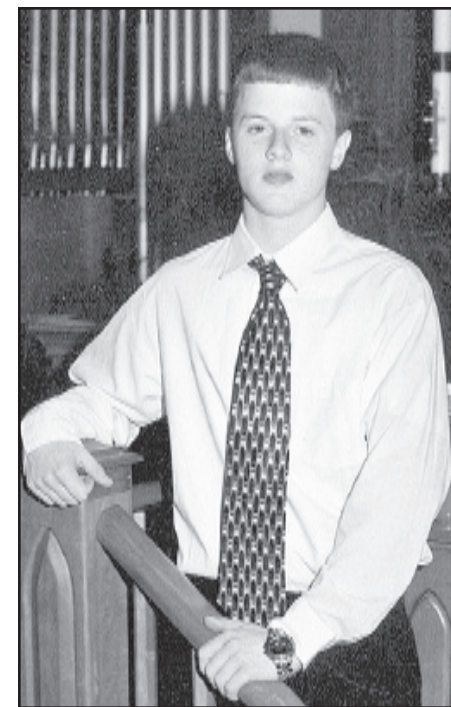
By Michelle Roberts, Instructor, Billings Ovulation Method, Diocese of Owensboro

Do you ever feel that being a Catholic requires you to justify, explain, or even offer apologetics (reasoned explanations) for the teachings of our faith? Many people tend to avoid discussions of faith particularly concerning church teachings about Natural Family Planning (NFP). However, Steve Weidenkopf, author of *The Apologetics of Natural Family Planning, Explaining and Defending Church Teaching*, states that we should develop apologetics "because the First Pope in his First Encyclical told us we should." He also references St. Peter, "always be prepared to make a defense to anyone who calls you to account for the hope that is in you yet do it with gentleness and reverence." (1 Peter 3:15). Encouraging apologetics just simply means don't be afraid to defend your faith gently.

The position of the Catholic Church regarding birth control seems to inspire much controversy. Unfortunately, Catholics who follow church teaching by practicing NFP are often the only ones defending its teaching. All Catholics should know what the church teaches about contraception and even the use of NFP. Regarding the use of NFP, *Humanae Vitae* clearly educates Catholics about responsible parenthood.

Responsible parenthood is "exercised either by the well thought-out and generous decision to raise a large family or by the decision, made for grave motives and with respect for the moral law, to avoid a new birth for the time being, or even for an indeterminate period." The Pope makes clear that married couples for serious reasons may make use of the "natural laws and rhythms" (Natural Family Planning) to postpone pregnancy.

Steve Weidenkopf encourages us to form apologetics by getting to know our faith and the facts, dispel any myths, don't try to "win the argument" and when all else fails, use humor! As Catholics, we are all called to defend the faith especially concerning church teaching on NFP. Resources about our Catholic faith are plentiful. Take the time to study it, learn it, and most importantly live it!



Todd Weatherholt received the PTO Award for writing the winning essay entitled "What My Catholic Education Has Meant To Me." The Christian Leadership Award was presented to Jennifer Aud and Eric Brumfield.

a night of fun with others who have gone through similar experiences.

Please RSVP by August 13 to Betty Medley at (270) 683-1545 ext. 105 if you plan to attend.

A support group for birth mothers who

## The Whole Again Support Group To Meet August 21 in Owensboro

The Whole Again Support Group of the Diocese of Owensboro will be hosting an evening for the separated/divorced and

widowed of our diocese. This will be held on Saturday, August 21, 2004 at 5:30 p.m. at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY.

The evening will begin with Mass celebrated by Bishop John McRaith and followed with a potluck and dance. Enjoy



Shortly before Holy Angels Elementary in Sorgho closed last May, Fr. Paul Powell, pastor of St. Elizabeth parish, Curdsville, Ky., gave the 5th and 6th grade students a holy water bottle, blessed water, and let them fill their bottles individually.

Using the occasion to explain the difference between SACRAMENTALS and SACRAMENTS, Fr. Powell said that he also gave students a leaflet

containing the blessing for holy water and a prayer they could pray when they used the holy water, especially before going to bed.

Later, Fr. Powell made available at the Curdsville, Ky. church bottles of holy water to all the students from St. Elizabeth, including the Parish Religious Education children. St. Elizabeth parish photo

## Pilgrims Pray For Divine Mercy For Us and Upon The Whole World



The busload of pilgrims who went to Stockbridge, Mass. for Mercy Sunday on April 14-20, 2004, posed here with Fathers Al Powers, Paul Powell, and Msgr. Bernard Powers. The tour also included New York, parts of Amish

country, and seeing a live play, "Behold The Lamb." The pilgrimage was organized by Martha Kauffeld, front row, third from left. Photo submitted by Father Paul Powell

### CATHOLIC CHARITIES & FAMILY LIFE OFFICE To Offer Support Group for Birth Mothers

have placed a child for adoption will meet on six consecutive Tuesday evenings beginning August 31, 2004 from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at the Catholic Pastoral

Center, 600 Locust Street. These sessions are FREE and open to any denomination. Meeting dates are **August 31, Sept. 7, Sept. 14, Sept. 21, Sept. 28 and Oct. 5, 2004.**

For more information you may contact Rita Heinz or Betty Medley @ (270) 683-1545.

This is sponsored by the Catholic Chari-

ties and Family Life Offices of the Diocese of Owensboro.

## Catholics in Political Life

We speak as bishops, as teachers of the Catholic faith and of the moral law. We have the duty to teach about human life and dignity, marriage and family, war and peace, the needs of the poor, and the demands of justice. Today we continue our efforts to teach on a uniquely important matter that has recently been a source of concern for Catholics and others.

It is the teaching of the Catholic Church from the very beginning, founded on her understanding of her Lord's own witness to the sacredness of human life, that the killing of an unborn child is always intrinsically evil and can never be justified. If those who perform an abortion and those who cooperate willingly in the action are fully aware of the objective evil of what they do, they are guilty of grave sin and thereby separate themselves from God's grace. This is the constant and received teaching of the Church. It is, as well, the conviction of many other people of good will.

To make such intrinsically evil actions legal is itself wrong. This is the point most recently highlighted in official Catholic teaching. The legal system as such can be said to cooperate in evil when it fails to protect the lives of those who have no protection except the law. In the United States of America, abortion on demand has been made a constitutional right by a decision of the Supreme Court. Failing to protect the lives of innocent and defenseless members of the human race is to sin against justice. Those who formulate law therefore have an obligation in conscience to work toward correcting morally defective laws, lest they be guilty of cooperating in evil and in sinning against the common good.

As our conference has insisted in *Faithful Citizenship*, Catholics who bring their moral convictions into public life do not threaten democracy or pluralism but enrich them and the nation. The separation of church and state does not require division between belief and public action, between moral principles and political choices, but protects the right of believers and religious groups to practice their faith and act on their values in public life.

Our obligation as bishops at this time is to teach clearly. It is with pastoral solicitude for everyone involved in the political process that we will also counsel Catholic public officials that their acting consistently to support abortion on demand risks making them cooperators in evil in a public manner. We will persist in this duty to counsel, in the hope that the scandal of their cooperating in evil can be resolved by the proper formation of their consciences.

Having received an extensive interim report from the Task Force on Catholic Bishops and Catholic Politicians, and looking forward to the full report, we highlight several points from the interim report that suggest some directions for our efforts:

- We need to continue to **teach** clearly and help other Catholic leaders to teach clearly on our unequivocal commitment to the legal protection of human life from the moment of conception until natural death. Our teaching on human life and dignity should be reflected in our parishes and our educational, health care and human service ministries.

- We need to do more to **persuade** all people that human life is precious and human dignity must be defended. This requires more effective dialogue and engagement with all public officials, especially Catholic public officials. We welcome conversation initiated by political leaders themselves.

- Catholics need to **act** in support of these principles and policies in public life. It is the particular vocation of the laity to transform the world. We have to encourage this vocation and do more to bring all believers to this mission. As bishops, we do not endorse or oppose candidates. Rather, we seek to form the consciences of our people so that they can examine the positions of candidates and make choices based on Catholic moral and social teaching.

- The Catholic community and Catholic institutions should **not honor** those who act in defiance of our fundamental moral principles. They should not be given awards, honors, or platforms which would suggest support for their actions.

- We commit ourselves to **maintain communication** with public officials who make decisions every day that touch issues of human life and dignity.

The Eucharist is the source and summit of Catholic life. Therefore, like every Catholic generation before us, we must be guided by the words of St. Paul, "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the Body and Blood of the Lord" (1 Cor 11:27). This means that all must examine their consciences as to their worthiness to receive the Body and Blood of our Lord. This examination includes fidelity to the moral teaching of the Church in personal and public life.

The question has been raised as to whether the denial of Holy Communion to some

Catholics in political life is necessary because of their public support for abortion on demand. Given the wide range of circumstances involved in arriving at a prudential judgment on a matter of this seriousness, we recognize that such decisions rest with the individual bishop in accord with the established canonical and pastoral principles. Bishops can legitimately make different judgments on the most prudent course of pastoral action. Nevertheless, we all share an unequivocal commitment to protect human life and dignity and to preach the Gospel in difficult times.

The polarizing tendencies of election-year politics can lead to circumstances in which Catholic teaching and sacramental practice can be misused for political ends. Respect for the Holy Eucharist, in particular, demands that it be received worthily and that it be seen as the source for our common mission in the world.

*Catholics in Political Life* was developed by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Task Force on Catholic Bishops and Catholic Politicians in collaboration with Francis Cardinal George, OMI, Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, OFM Cap, and Bishop Donald W. Wuerl. It was approved for publication by the full body of bishops at their June 2004 General Meeting and has been authorized for publication by the undersigned.

- Msgr. William P. Fay, General Secretary, USCCB, July 01, 2004 Copyright © by United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

### If media continues to consolidate, it will be without FCC help

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Federal Communications Commission received a stinging rebuke in late June when a federal court threw out the rules the commission had established a year ago that would have permitted greater media consolidation. The FCC's consolidation moves of 2003 would have permitted ownership of a greater number of media outlets by the same company, allowed greater concentration of ownership within cities, and given a green light to greater ownership across different forms of media. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops was just one in a sea of voices, both institutional and individual, decrying the FCC actions. Both houses of Congress, having heard the outcry, had acted to rein in the FCC action until a late-in-the-year compromise nudged the television station ownership limits upward, leaving most of the other rules intact. But when the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit struck down the rules — which had been backed by most of the media giants — it was back to the drawing board for the FCC

### Diocese To Offer Support Group for Young Adults of Divorced/Separated Parents

Are you dealing with Loss of Family? Are you between the ages of 16 and 25? A support group for young adults of divorced/separated parents is held on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at the Catholic Pastoral Center. The group will provide a loving, friendly atmosphere to all individuals struggling to cope with the breakup of their family. Come and participate and find positive ways to cope.

For more information contact Fr. Brian Roby (270) 683-5641 or Sheree Wedding

### Pilgrimage to Guadalajara, Mexico

In union with the dioceses of the United States of America, the Diocese of Owensboro is sponsoring a pilgrimage to Guadalajara, Mexico, for the celebration of the 48th International Eucharistic Congress there on October 9-18, 2004. The all-inclusive rate is \$1,850 per person, plus tax and security charge of \$102.00. Single rooms at a hotel are \$525.00.

Arrangements for air travel, hotel, and all Congress activities are through Catholic Travel, 6909 Keats Ct., Rockville, MD 20855, phone (301)869-9700 or (301) 869-6333, fax (301)990-6978. For reservations, a deposit of \$250.00 per person is payable to the "Catholic Travel Office."

***Our Holy Father Pope John Paul II has announced that this Eucharistic Congress is the official beginning of a special eucharistic holy year, October 2004 - October 2005.***



# Happy Anniversary

## MARRIAGE CELEBRATIONS FOR AUGUST 2004

### Blessed Mother, Owensboro

Robert & Margaret Berry, 52 years  
Patrick & Essie Byrne, 59 years  
Richard & Alma Gaw, 52 years  
Walter & Quida Gilles, 64 years  
James & Louise Hodskins, 58 years  
Thomas & Julie Whitten, 52 years  
David & Ann Blanford, 25 years  
Dennis & Lenora Howard, 25 years  
Tom & Anita Mischel, 25 years

### Christ the King, Madisonville

Luis & Bonnie Ortiz, 25 years  
Roy & Mary Rigney, 54 years

### Holy Guardian Angel, Irvington

Andrew & Mary Jane Diersing, 50 years

### Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson

Jeffrey & Janice Haile, 25 years  
Jesse & Teresia Johnston, 25 years  
James R. & Terri Stanley, 25 years  
Joseph & Shirley Baumgartner, 40 years  
Ben H. & Theresa Crafton, 40 years  
Danny & Janie Jacobs, 40 years  
Thomas & Dorothy Barron, 57 years  
Preston & Suzanne Johnson, 51 years  
Charles & Virginia Knight, 55 years

### Holy Redeemer, Beaver Dam

David & Diana O'Nan, 54 years

### Holy Spirit, Bowling Green

Gustavo & Charlotte Paez, 25 years  
Robert P. & Christine Bowlds, 53 years  
James & Genevieve Elmore, 58 years  
Thomas & Martha Montgomery, 54 years  
Delbert & Ellen Hayden, 42 years

### Holy Trinity, Morgantown

Robert & Shirley Hamilton, 53 years

### Immaculate, Owensboro

Lester & Martha Reed, 58 years  
Alan W. & Lynn Jones, 25 years

### Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

James & Faye Constant, 40 years  
Fred & Jeannette Dillingham, 25 years  
Michael & Ann Flaherty, 25 years  
Hershel & Tamara Morgan, 25 years  
Harry & Ruth Ann Ballard, 52 years  
Donald & Mary Dundiff, 55 years

### Precious Blood, Owensboro

Dennis & Maria Mattingly, 25 years

### Resurrection, Dawson Springs

Luis & Bonnie Ortiz, 25 years

### Sacred Heart, Waverly

Paul & Florence Clements, 64 years

### St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph

Marvin & Shirlene Dant, 50 years

### St. Ann, Morganfield

Keith & Beth Hendrickson, 25 years

Bill & Shelly Adelman, 25 years

Thomas & Allegera Luckett, 64 years

### St. Anthony, Browns Valley

Bill & Alicia Wright, 55 years

### St. Denis, Fancy Farm

John & Frances Vessells, 53 years

### St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

R. J. & Margaret Elder, 56 years  
Robert & Marie Jarboe, 55 years  
William & Teresa Matthews, 25 years  
Charles & Mary Margaret Nichols, 25 years

### St. John the Evangelist, Paducah

Steve & Cindy Kneer, 25 years  
Del & Debbie Durbin, 25 years

### St. Joseph, Bowling Green

Charles & Dorothy Shook, 59 years

### St. Joseph, Central City

J. D. & Elenita McConnell, 25 years

### St. Joseph, Mayfield

James & Linda Farris, 40 years  
Joseph & Linda Englert, 57 years  
Charles & Aline Courtney, 58 years

### St. Leo, Murray

John & Kathy Mitchell, 25 years  
Tom & Kathy Fox, 25 years  
Bertrand & Beatrice Bleemel, 55 years  
Alex & Mary Paluch, 58 years

### St. Martin, Rome

Kenneth & Alice Drochter, 50 years  
Otho & Mary Durbin, 59 years  
Richard & Mary Coomes, 54 years

### St. Mary, LaCenter

Rick & Cindy Liner, 25 years

### St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho

J. L. and Joan Byrne, 40 years

### St. Mary of the Woods, Franklin

Mr. & Mrs. John Herrmann, 40 years

### St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Bill Pat & Ann Greer, 25 years  
Steve & Carla Morris, 25 years

### St. Paul, Leitchfield

Michael E. & Catherine Milliner, 62 years

John & Bonnie Lampton, 25 years

### St. Pius X, Owensboro

Tommie & Janet Hayden, 53 years  
Herbert & Audeline Johnson, 64 years

### St. Romuald, Hardinsburg

J. W. & Lorena Bland, 58 years  
Harold & Mary Flood, 57 years

### St. Sebastian, Calhoun

Jerry and Earlene Abney, 45 years

### St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

Paul & Nelda Bickwermert, 25 years  
William & Betty Booth, 55 years  
Bernard & Juanita Clark, 54 years  
Harold & Marilyn Clements, 54 years  
Robert & Joan Englert, 52 years  
Mike & Susan Fulkerson, 40 years  
Edward & Jacqueline Jaskolski, 50 years

S. B. & Geraldine Payne, 67 years

William Hugh & Helen Riney, 56 years

Larry & Marianna Robinson, 40 years

Bill & Paddy Settles, 52 years

### St. William, Marion

David & Grace Riley, 59 years

### St. William, Knottsville

Gerald & Wanda Mattingly, 58 years

### Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro

# THROUGH A GLASS DARKLY\* . . .

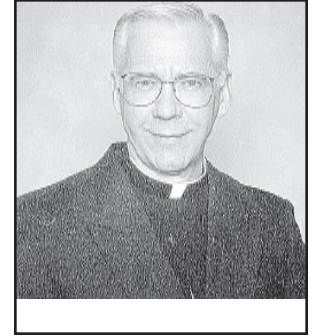
*Reflections adapted from the homilies*

*of Rev. Anthony J. Shonis*

## FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

*Rev. 11:19.12:1-6 I Cor. 15:20-26 Lk. 1:39-56*

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption, that Mary, who was conceived in grace, is body and soul in the presence of God. The feast of the Assumption means this: That God is the God of *Fulfillment*—what God creates, God brings to final fulfillment. Having called Mary into existence, God now brings her into fulfillment. What God has done for Mary, God intends to do for all of us and for all creation. In other words, nothing that is good and decent and upright in our lives, and the lives of those we love, will be lost. By God bringing Mary body and soul into fulfillment all of our relationships will be brought to completion. Mother, father, spouse, friend, grandparents . . . none of those relationships will be lost and together with Mary, and all those we love, we will journey for all eternity into the mystery of God who is Love itself.



## Praying with Scripture

Pray in gratitude that all your frustrations and setbacks will be reconciled in God's love.

Reflect on the words of the angel Gabriel to Mary: "Do not be afraid you have found favor with God." Ask God for courage to overcome unreasonable fears.

Pray that Mary's Assumption may be a message of hope and inspiration for newly baptized adults.

\* *The title for this column comes from St. Paul. The glass darkly that St. Paul spoke of was a polished metal that in the ancient world was used as a mirror. However, this type of mirror only showed images dimly and with shadows. No words or homily can*

## Mary, Mother of the Church/ Model of All Christians,

# Diocesan Shrine Living Rosary

We invite you to join us in becoming part of a Living Rosary by volunteering to say one decade of the rosary daily. We join your decade with others so that all twenty decades of the rosary are said each day to make: "THE LIVING ROSARY"

*Our Blessed Mother in 1917 spoke to the children of Fatima. Her words for them: "Pray for peace; for the conversion of Russia, for the conversion of sinners, and for vocations.*

*Recite the following prayer and meditating on the mystery assigned will bring RESULTS:*

- It gradually gives us a greater knowledge of Jesus.
- Gives us victory over our enemies.
- Makes it easier for us to practice virtue.
- Sets us on fire with love for Our Blessed Lord.
- Enriches us with graces and merits.
- Finally, it obtains *all* kinds of graces from Almighty God.

To be a part of our Living Rosary at the Diocesan Marian Shrine: 1. We ask you to offer approximately 3-5 minutes of your

Bob & Rita Christian, 56 years  
R. C. & Martha Jones, 58 years  
**Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville**



decade each day at a convenient time, while meditating on the mystery that has been assigned to you from the rosary schedule.

Won't you join us? We need at *least* 20 people willing to pray one decade each. If you *have any* questions please feel free to call: Fr. Ben Luther (270-754-1164), Fr. Bruce Fogle (270-333-5915), Jean Fulkerson (270-842-5168) or Karen Jarboe (270-683-5108). If you'd be willing to offer 3-5 minutes each day to Our Blessed Mother please send your name and address to: Diocesan Marian Shrine, c/o Jean Fulkerson, 526 E. 13th Ave, Bowling Green, KY 42101-2639. We will let you know which Mystery you will meditate on as you pray one decade of the Rosary every day.

*Through Her intercession we can change the whole world with just a few minutes each day!*

## PREP Students Meet Their Adopted Priest

By Larena Lawson, Owensboro Serra Club Member

Eastern Daviess County, Ky. - The long awaited day finally arrived! The St. William and St. Lawrence fourth grade PREP students were going to get to meet the priest that they adopted. They were full of excitement as they waited for his arrival at the prearranged meeting place.

At the beginning of class in school year 2003-2004, I approached the children that I teach with an idea for a class project. I had earlier taken advantage of the opportunity to adopt a priest myself, through the Serra Club's "Adopt a Priest" program. I thought it was a good way that I could support and encourage our priests. After I received the name of my adopted priest, I started thinking that it would be nice if everyone would do this and then all of our diocesan priests could be adopted. I then decided that it would be nice if my class could adopt one and then together, as a class, we could pray for and support him.

Serra's "Adopt A Priest" project would allow them to learn the importance of supporting another through prayer, and it would give them a greater appreciation of what all our priests do for us. I asked if they would be interested in doing this together, and told them how it worked and what a commitment that it was going to be. They agreed to do it with great anticipation and excitement! They asked me if they could pick a certain priest. They thought that it would be fun to adopt one of our former parish priests, because they remember him being so nice. I explained to them that a Serra Club member would randomly pick out the priest and we would have to take whom he gave to us. They still wanted to do it and so we did.

After I received the name of our priest, I could hardly wait to tell them who it was. We received Father Richard Cash. I did not know him and neither did any of the thirteen children in my class. Like most adoptions, we were going to have to get to know our new adoptee.

The first thing that we did was to send him a card telling him that he had been newly adopted by us. Then we began our weekly routine of saying a special prayer for him



## Pope admires natural beauty of northern Italian alps

Pope John Paul II looks out at the view of Mont Blanc from northern Italy July 16. The pontiff described the area where he spent 12 days of vacation as an "enchanted place." During his holiday, the pope preached on the value of silence in today's hectic world. "Only in silence can man listen deep in his conscience to the voice of God," he said. (CNS photo from Catholic Press Photo) (July 19, 2004)



Back row, from left: Kateri Rhodes, Megan Rhodes, Larena Lawson, Father Richard Cash; second row from back: Sherry Ann Rhodes, Molly Rhodes, Elizabeth Rhodes, Michelle Petri, Garrett Mattingly, Dillon Renfrow, Nathan Lewis; front row: Jarred Rhodes, Katrina Rhodes, Tommy Rhodes. Submitted photo

that I had written. The Serra Club sends in the adoption package a special "Adopt a Priest" lapel pin with the priest's initials and date of ordination engraved on the back. The children take turns wearing it. In doing so, it serves as a reminder to keep Father Richard in their prayers often.

We make it a point to send Father Richard greeting cards on special occasions and to keep in touch with him so that he is reminded that we are supporting him in his ministry.

I had the opportunity to meet Father Richard not long after we adopted him. I spoke to him and he expressed his appreciation for the prayers that we were saying for him. I had never met him before and was very pleased to make his acquaintance. Now that we had met, it made it nicer to personally know who we were praying for. I had a picture taken of him and me so I could show the children what he looked like.

I unexpectedly ran into him again a few months after our first meeting at the Youth 2000 retreat and we had a nice talk. I asked him if there could be any possibility that he could meet the children. They had asked me many times if they were going to ever get to meet him. He was very thankful for all of the cards that we had made him and he wanted to meet them as well, but because he is so far away in Sturgis, he does not come to town very often. I asked him if he was coming to Owensboro for the Christ Mass and he said that he was. I thought that then might be a great time to get together with him. He told me to call him and we would set it up.

In hearing this unexpected news, the children were overjoyed at the possibility of finally getting to meet Fr. Richard. We arranged a meeting at Pizzaroma, just before the Christ mass. Seven of the children were able to attend. We had a very nice dinner, with the restaurant all to ourselves. It was an evening filled with numerous questions being asked and getting to know each other. One of the first questions asked by one of the children to Father Richard was, "Have you ever been adopted before?" He certainly hasn't been by so many people all at once!

I can honestly tell you that this class project has been a success and has indeed taught the children a lesson on the power of prayer. When we take it upon ourselves to lovingly support one another in thought, word and deed, we receive many blessings in return. Through this adoption, the children have met one of our wonderful priests and will always remember that he is special to them because of their adoption of him.

As a member of the Serra Club, I challenge all of you to consider adopting a priest of your own. Our diocesan priests need our support, as they work tirelessly, in our parishes, to bring us closer to God. Their loving care and generosity in serving us is a blessing

# St. Paul High School Class of '54 holds first-ever reunion

The Western Kentucky Catholic, August, 2004 11

By DeAnna Lasley, Staff Writer, The Record, Leitchfield, Ky.

GRAYSON Co., Ky. - The St. Paul High School Class of 1954 held its first reunion June 26 at the home of Aileen Tilford Higdon. The small class of six had not seen each other since graduation

Norbert Clark, Jean Milliner, Jimmy Darst and Eddie White met at Aileen Tilford Higdon's home. Aileen is the only classmate that stayed in Grayson County, making her home the ideal place for the reunion. Only Helen Tilford was unable to make the reunion. Her grandson recently returned from Iraq after being injured twice and is staying with her. Both White and Darst had driven by their old school and were surprised it was still standing.

"I'm glad they moved the church closer," White said. As children, the church seemed a long way away from the school, but as adults the perception changed a little.

The friends talked about their lives since high school. The small group dispersed in different directions to make their livings and raise their families. In the hustle of making a life, they didn't have time to visit with old classmates, but on Saturday time was made to discuss those long years apart.

Darst and White discovered they had worked within a mile of each other in Louisville and had eaten at the same diner. Darst stayed in Louisville while White moved around some more, now living in Lexington. Clark and his wife, Karen, live in Michigan. Milliner became a nun, Sister SaRita, and resides in Louisville.

The group talked about the St. Paul community, when they graduated, there were only five houses along St. Paul Road, and the degree of education they received. They feel that the education received from the Ursuline nuns was more than prepared them for higher education. Although the curriculum was basic with no frills, it prepared the students enough that even college chemistry was no problem for the Class of '59. Then, education was inexpensive and the administrators taught as well as teachers. Then, grammar was perfection, even on the playground.

Once, a student was caught using the "Kentucky Vernacular" while outside the schoolhouse, a teacher "lit into him" with a list of reasons to practice good grammar.

The class talked about driving the old roads. Norbert took Highway 62 from Louisville to Leitchfield because it had simply been so long since he had driven it.

They talked about their favorite foods from school, including the tuna salad with nuts on Fridays. Such talk brought back the memory of how the lunchroom was set up and tomato pudding.

The students talked about going to church before school every morning. This group became friends as children, sharing a school and similar experiences. They separated to start their lives and now have come together again, completing a circle of sharing that is ever-present in friendship, no matter how long the period between lasts.

*DeAnna Lasley can be reached at news@the-record.net.*



**THE ST. PAUL HIGH SCHOOL Class of 1954 had its first-ever reunion recently. In attendance were, from left to right, Norbert Clark, Jean Milliner, Aileen Tilford Higdon, Jimmy Darst and Eddie White. Helen Tilford was unable to attend. DeAnna Lasley photos**

**Spirit: The raffle booth won the spirit award at the Saint Anthony Picnic in Peonia, Ky.**



**Ducks: Duck, duck, duck, duck no goose was found in this pond, only ducks and prizes!**



**Look what I found! With a yard sale booth among the many games and vending at the Saint Anthony Picnic, one could be pleased with just about anything they found.**



**Game: The games were a big hit literally at the Saturday picnic at Peonia.**

**Eating: It wouldn't be a picnic without something to eat and this little tot thought the ice cream was the best.**

**Saint Anthony Parish in Peonia, Ky. held its annual picnic on Saturday, July 3. Photos by DeAnna Lasley for the Leitchfield Record.**

## What a blessing to see! FORGIVENESS: a Spiritual Retreat For All Women

By Edie Keeney

PADUCAH, Ky. - Verna B. Carson will be presenting a retreat for women of all faiths October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> at St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Paducah, Ky. Dr. Carson is a registered nurse and is a National Director of Behavioral Health for Staff Builders Home Health & Hospice, where she oversees RESTORE, a psychiatric home care program. Dr. Carson has conducted research and presented widely on the subject of spiritual issues in health care. A few of her publications are *Parish Nursing Stories of Service and Care*, (2002, Saunders). Her most recent publication is *Spiritual Caregiving: Health As A Ministry* (2004 Templeton Press) in collaboration with Dr. Harold Koenig. Dr. Carson has been recognized for Innovative Nursing Practice by the American Psychiatric Nurses Association for her work in the field of Psychiatric Home Care.

The giving and receiving of forgiveness are essential ingredients in healthy relationships and personal wholeness. Over the two days of the retreat, she will explore with the participants, forgiveness, related health problems, benefits, and barriers to forgiveness, and the healing stages of forgiveness. Registration will be 5:30 and the program 6 – 9pm. Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 8:00am registration and continental breakfast. The program will begin at 8:45 am with closing at 3:15 pm. Space is limited and registration is suggested before September 15<sup>th</sup>. Later registrations will be accepted as space allows. Women from all faith traditions are invited to attend. Six (6) Continuing Education Units will be awarded to health care professionals. The fee is \$25 for the retreat with food and materials included. For additional information and to request a brochure with registration form contact Marilyn Roof at (270) 554-1641 or Pat Camp (270) 217-1407.

Marilyn Roof attended a Women's conference early in November, 2003 at a Paducah Baptist church. Marilyn explained, "I was so overwhelmed by the beauty, power, strength, holiness, and wonderful spiritual convictions felt that day. We were women from many places, many faiths, and many backgrounds but we had one thing in common. We were and are His women, carrying His word, saying 'yes' to Him as only women can," she continued, "That evening as I reflected on the day, I felt a nudge from the Holy Spirit that perhaps we Parish Nurses should host a retreat that reflects our Catholic faith for women here in our area. I have been a Parish Nurse for 4 years and we now have about 60 trained Parish Nurses in the area. As Parish Nurses our focus on health care is of

Body, Mind, and Spirit with the emphasis that healing begins with Jesus." Continuing, she explained, "I asked Maurleen Neihoff, another Parish Nurse, what she thought of the idea. We then asked pastors in the area for their opinion and blessing. Then we took the idea to the Parish Nurse Fellowship of Western Kentucky and with their encouragement we went forward to plan this retreat. Verna Carson was suggested as a possible speaker and when I contacted her, her response was an enthusiastic 'yes.' Verna's audience is usually nurses, and when I called her, she shared with me that she had been praying for new doors to be opened to her. This seemed to be an answered prayer," Marilyn said.

Parish Nurse Coordinator Pat Camp wrote in the organization's newsletter, "Dr. Verna Carson, a noted speaker and author in nursing will be the guest speaker (referring to the Retreat). You will not be disappointed in her. I have known Verna for many years and she is one of those uniquely gifted women who loves God and His people and can so readily convey this love to others. Dr. Carson will speak about forgiveness and how many of us live feeling as if we have been betrayed by some person, and we just can't seem to let it go. She helps us walk through these experiences and to find ways to forgive. Many of us wrestle with forgiveness in its many forms and I look forward to hearing this Christian lady speak to us what God has given to her to say."

Marilyn concluded by saying, "Forgiveness is a choice and some of you have experienced that freedom that fills your spirit when forgiveness is given or received and some of you long to have this feeling. By the grace of the Holy Spirit, we are planning this event with you in mind. We ask your



**Forgiveness: A Spiritual Retreat for Women presented by the Parish Nurse Fellowship of Western Kentucky. In this photo, standing left to right, Marilyn Roof, Carolyn Davis, Sr. Marie Moore and Sr. Lucy Bonifas; seated left to right, Therese Spees, Mary Beth Darnel and Sandy McGrath. Edie Keeney Photo**



## 2004 Confirmation Class in Grayson County Churches

On May 19, 2004 the young adults of St. Benedict, St. Anthony and St. Augustine celebrated their Confirmation, at St. Benedict Church, Wax, Ky. Bishop John Mc Raith was there to pray for the students that the "Holy Spirit may dwell in the hearts of those who have been confirmed," lay on hands, and give his blessings. Front row: Fr. Brian Johnson, Jason Webb, Jacob Hodges, Justus Carter, Bishop John McRaith; Second Row: Catechist, Cindy McKenna, Brooke Kersey, Rachel

By Lavidia Matthews

OWENSBORO, Ky. - On June 27, Sts. Joseph and Paul held its annual ice cream social, with a Luau theme, at English park on the river. It was a beautiful evening for a Luau. It was held at 6:00 in the evening and we watched the sun set. We had any kind of ice cream you could imagine. There was store bought and homemade, strawberry, banana, rainbow and even vanilla. There were lots of desserts to go with the ice cream too. Children young and old participated in this event. The highlight of the evening (besides the ice cream) was the limbo contest and of course as always spending time with our parish family.



Lisa Jewel, Sue Ann Daugherty, Lavidia Matthews, Laura Wells, Cathy Devine Kevin Tignor wait in line for the limbo.



Lee Ann Wells, April Dickens, Carol Alvey, Lavidia Matthews, Laura Wells,

## WISDOM

By Ginny Knight-Simon

J.W. and Lorena Bland,  
St. Romuald Parish,  
Hardinsburg, KY

"My husband J.W. and I have lived in Hardinsburg all our lives, and we are both from large farming families. He has 13 brothers and sisters and I have eleven." Said Lorena Bland during a recent senior gathering at St. Romuald's parish hall in Hardinsburg.



"We met at a square dance and dated all during high school and then we got married. We will celebrate our 58th wedding anniversary in August. Just like our parents we farmed and had mostly tobacco and cows. We raised seven children and now we have eleven grandchildren. We live next door to one of our daughters which makes it nice, but all of our children live very close except for a daughter in Lexington. All of our children were raised Catholic and went to Catholic schools. After almost 58 years of praying, J.W. joined the Church. The whole family was so happy about his decision. It just took him a little while to make up his mind!"

Lorena and J.W. use to be square dancers and enjoyed going to different places to dance. But as they have gotten a little older they have traded in their dancing shoes for a deck of Rook cards.

"We play Rook all the time!" Lorena said with a laugh. Fr. Tony (Bickett), and my daughter that lives next door, both love to play so we all get together and play Rook. We have had some serious games!"

Lorena helps with the parish bereavement meals and works on the flower beds around the church grounds. Both J.W. and Lorena say their greatest blessings are family and health.

*(The Sophia Award Mass celebration will be at 1:30 Sunday,*

## 6th Annual Marian Conference

"Coming to Christ At the School of Mary"

October 1st & 2nd, 2004

RiverPark Center

Owensboro, Kentucky,

101 Daviess Street

270-687-2787

**Speakers Include:**

*Johnnette Benkovic*

*Jim Burnham*

*Fr. William Halbing,*

*Fr. Benjamin Luther*

*Martin Doman as music minister*

**Schedule:**

Friday, October 1st 5:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 2nd 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

**Tickets:**

Adult - Pre-Reg. \$35.00 / @ door \$40.00

Married Couple - Pre-Reg. \$60.00 / @ door \$65.00

Student - Pre-Reg. \$15.00 / @ door \$20.00

For additional information:

# The next Marriage Encounter Weekend in the Owensboro area is August 27-29

Hello, we are Tommy and Mary Chinn of Beaver Dam, Kentucky. We have four daughters, April, Angel, Mary Jo, and Christine. Our oldest three girls are now married and are continuing to bless our family with grandchildren.

We want to give you some information about Worldwide Marriage Encounter and share with you a little about our own Weekend. Worldwide Marriage Encounter is "Good News" in the face of so much bad news we receive through the media today. Since the first weekend in 1967, four million couples have made the Weekend in 88 countries. So you see, this really is a worldwide group!

**TOMMY:** Mary and I made our Marriage Encounter Weekend in November of 2002. Mary had wanted to make a weekend for some time but I wasn't so sure about it. I felt we already had a perfect marriage so why go to something like this weekend thing to prove what I felt we already knew. I also thought we would be expected to share our personal lives with others in a group setting. To be honest the reason I finally decided to go is that I forgot to get her something for our anniversary and didn't want her to know, so I told her that her present was the Weekend. I had reservations and concerns even after we signed up but she wouldn't let me off the hook this time. We went and had a wonderful and loving experience that has provided us with the means to deepen our relationship.

**MARY:** The Marriage Encounter Weekend provides couples with wonderful opportunities to take an in-depth look at their lives together. It offers private time away from TV, telephones, the kids, household and work related responsibilities and obligations. This time is to openly share yourself and your feelings, hopes, and frustrations face-to-face and heart-to-heart with the one you have chosen to spend your life with.

**TOMMY:** As in many marriages, Mary and I have always felt a close bond with each other, but with the responsibilities and obligations of our daily lives we were leaving very little time for ourselves as a couple. The weekend I had been putting off for so long presented us with more "together" time than we had given ourselves in a long time. We had two whole days to focus on our relationship and ourselves.



**Tommy & Mary Chinn, Beaver Dam, Kentucky, attend Holy Redeemer Parish. Submitted photo**

We shared some of our deepest concerns and relived some of our quiet successes. The weekend reinforced our commitment to each other. We re-opened our lives to really include each other.

**MARY:** We are a sacrament much needed in this hectic modern world. The wonderful advantages of a Marriage Encounter Weekend go on and on after returning to everyday life. The weekend didn't change us into something we weren't, but it did show us what we could be if we worked for it.

When Tommy and I were asked to write this article and then speak in our parish, our first impulse was to politely decline. I counted on Tommy to turn down the invitation. You can't imagine the shock when I heard him say, "If Mary can do the talking and I can just stand there." Neither of us are comfortable writing, and especially talking in public. However, after praying about it we decided that our Weekend was too special for us to pass up this opportunity to share an invitation to each married couple

in our parish, to other family members, our friends, and all couples in the Owensboro diocese. The Weekend offers a chance for all married couples to grow closer and deepen their love for each other in a world that often seems very anti-marriage.

"Even though the Weekend is Catholic-based, it isn't just for Catholics. Tommy is a Baptist and he fully participated. There are spaces open for couples of other faiths each weekend.

**TOMMY & MARY:** A Marriage Encounter Weekend can make a good marriage great! No marriage is 100% wonderful, 100% of the time. "Happily ever after" isn't a reality for most of us. Life tends to throw us a curve now and again. The Weekend is for any couple that wants to stay married and is willing to work towards a deeper relationship.

The Marriage Encounter Weekend has been a success for us and for others because it works! It gives each couple an opportunity to reflect on their own successes, failures, hopes, and fears about their marriage. It helps to rekindle those special feelings and the closeness each of us experienced early in our relationships and provides the tools each can use to keep that special love fresh and alive through the years.

The next Marriage Encounter Weekend in the Owensboro area is **August 27-29** at the Mt. St. Joseph Retreat Center. Please talk it over with each other and seriously consider joining other couples on this next weekend. **THERE IS NOTHING TO LOSE-AND**



## Ursuline Way of Life Weekend October 29-31, 2004

The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph invite you to an Ursuline Way of Life Weekend...an introduction to aspects of living a consecrated life following in the spirit of our founder, Saint Angela Merici. You will also learn more about Ursuline ministries and about the traditions of the Mount Saint Joseph Community. You are invited to come as our guest and to be inspired by Saint Angela's life, her spirituality, and her vision for her followers.

When? Friday evening to Sunday afternoon, October 29-31

Where? Mount Saint Joseph Motherhouse

Who? Single Catholic women, age 18-35

Cost? You will be our guest

Contact Sister Pam Mueller, OSU; (270) 229-



**Ursuline Sisters**  
of Mount Saint Joseph

8001 Cummings Road  
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999

## West KY Pair Dedicate Summer With Young Disciples Team

The Western Kentucky Catholic, August, 2004 15

By Tanya Watterud, New Earth, Diocesan paper for Fargo, ND

FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA - "Yes, Lord. Yes, Lord. Yes, yes, Lord!" The words of the song boomed from the diocesan pastoral center's St. Gabriel Conference Room, as the Young Disciples Teams warmed up for another session of learning and planning for a summer filled with Catholic camps for youth.

The lyrics echoed the team members' responses to God as they accepted the call to dedicate their summer to teaching young people about the Catholic faith.

The group is divided into four teams who led Catholic camps in 32 parishes throughout the diocese.

"You do this completely on faith," said **Emily Kovar, a team member from Bowling Green, KY**. After attending a TEC retreat, Kovar received an email about the opportunity to evangelize through the Young Disciples Teams. She felt a tugging on her heart to check into it, so she looked it up on the internet. One requirement was that you had to be 18 years old. Kovar wouldn't be 18 until June 7, so she set the idea aside.

One day, as she opened her Bible to read it during third period at school, her eyes

## St. Romuald's First Senior Gathering

By Ginny Knight-Simon

HARDINSBURG, Ky. - On Tuesday June 15th, St. Romuald's parish here had its first Senior Gathering. Under the direction of Fr. Tony Bickett and Marie Rose the parish is starting a monthly Senior group.

After Mass a group met in the parish hall where Ginny Knight-Simon from the diocesan Office of Wisdom and Kevin Kauffeld, Director of Stewardship, were on hand for presentations.

"We have quite a few senior citizens in the parish," said Fr. Bickett, "and I hope to get a regular group started."

During a group discussion after a pot luck lunch, Marie Rose, a C.R.E. for the parish, set a date for a planning meeting.

"If anybody can get it done Marie Rose can" said Anna Frances Brown, a program attendee. "I really think it would be good for the parish."



Fr. Tony Bickett presented a framed picture of St. Romuald to each parish member in attendance. Here, he presented Rosemary Hinton with her St. Romuald picture. GKS photo

fell upon the words about how Jesus called the disciples. It was then that she knew she should fill out her application. She was accepted into the program, then began the work of overcoming a couple of hurdles that yet stood in the way.

Kovar attended a public high school. "My principal was very supportive," she said. He arranged for her to take her final tests early so that she could travel to Fargo for training. She also sent out several letters, hoping to raise about \$750 to fund this mission experience. "It's amazing seeing how many people believe in you," she said.

Although she knew only one team member coming in — **Matt Hunt from Bardwell, KY** — she is not worried about what lies ahead. "They keep stressing that everything they do, all of the decisions, are based on very prayerful discernment," Kovar said of the Young Disciples leaders. "When our group prays together, you can feel the spirit alive working." For information about the Young Disciples program, call Mary Hanbury, program coordinator, at 356-7909 or email [mary.hanbury@fargodiocese.org](mailto:mary.hanbury@fargodiocese.org).

## Diocesan Review Board Members Ready To Respond To Calls

The members of the board who deal with sexual abuse allegations in the Diocese of Owensboro are as follows: Mr. Larry Abel, Dr. William Bach, Ms. June Bell, Sr. Vivian Bowles, OSU, Ms. Susan Clark, Mr. William Craig, Jr., Chair, Ms. Louanne Gelarden, Mr. Bill Greenwalt, Fr. Pat Reynolds, Fr. Greg Trawick, and Ms. Shannon S. Wright.

Any person who wishes to communicate with the Diocesan Review Board is asked to call the Catholic Pastoral Center at 1-270-683-1545 and ask to speak with a member of the Review Board.

To speak with a particular member of this Board, tell the receptionist. In either case, the receptionist at the Catholic Pastoral Center will give the caller's information to a member of the Diocesan Review Board for follow-up.

Callers may choose to remain anonymous for the initial call to the Catholic Pastoral Center receptionist. The phone numbers of the members of this board will not be made public.



## Military honor guard walks with casket of soldier killed in Iraq

A military honor escorts the casket of U.S. Army Special Forces Maj. Paul Syverson III during a funeral at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia July 13. Syverson was killed June 16 in Balad, Iraq, when a mortar hit his camp. He was assigned to Fort Campbell, Ky. A total of 890 Americans had been killed in the Iraq war as of July 13. (CNS photo from Reuters) (July 13, 2004)

## Diocese of Owensboro, Kentucky Presents

# Ministry Day 2004

Saturday, September 18, Brescia University

Theme: *Being Catholic: Becoming Holy*

**Audience:** All those desiring to appreciate and enhance their God-given gifts and talents for ministry, to deepen their own faith formation as Catholic Adults, to be renewed in faith, to experience the presence and support of faith-filled people.

**Keynote Speaker:** Robert Ellsberg, "Being Catholic: Becoming Holy"

"We tend to think of saints as exceptional figures, far beyond the realm of ordinary humanity. And yet the church teaches that holiness is the common vocation of all Christians. Drawing on the example of contemporary "saints for our times," Robert Ellsberg will reexamine the meaning of holiness and show how the path to holiness connects with the journey to discover our true and best selves."

Robert Ellsberg is editor-in-chief of Orbis Books. A former editor of *The Catholic Worker*, he worked with Dorothy Day for the last five years of her life. He has written and edited many award-winning books, including *All Saints: Daily Reflections on Saints, Prophets, and Witnesses for Our Time*, and *The Saints' Guide to Happiness*.

### WORKSHOP PRESENTERS

**Patty Blair: "Being Catholic: Becoming Holy - Adult Faith Formation Using "Echoes of Faith"**

"The Echoes of Faith" series is best known in the Diocese of Owensboro for its use in Catechist Formation. Soon it will be used for Youth Ministry Certification. Upon closer examination, we discover a great resource for Spirituality and for Adult Faith Formation for all parishioners. We will look at Sacraments, Catholic Morality, Prayer and Spirituality and have a "behind the scenes" trip through the Second Vatican Council

**Audience:** DRE's, Catechists, Youth Ministers, RCIA Teams, Adult Faith Formation Teams.

Patty Blair is the Director of Religious Education for the Diocese of Owensboro. She holds a Bachelor's Degree from Brescia University and a Masters of theological Studies from St. Meinrad School of theology. Patty has been involved in ministry as a catechist, parish director of religious education, hospital chaplain, youth minister, and high school religion teacher. Patty is married to Dean and they have eight children and fourteen grandchildren.

**Betty Medley and Susan Hoflear: "Being Catholic: Becoming Holy - Rebuilding When Your Relationship Fails"** This is a unique opportunity to learn three diverse perspectives in ministering to the divorced, widowed, and separated in our Church. It contains three components of diocese and parish partnering.

**Audience:** Widowed, Divorced, Separated and parish ministers working with these groups.

Susan Hoflear is a Lay Pastoral Minister and Diocesan Coordinator of Family Life; Betty Medley is a Social Worker, Grief Counselor and Director of Family Life.

**Richard Murphy: "Being Catholic: Becoming Holy - JustFaith"**

*JustFaith* is a faith formation program that seeks to empower people to develop a passion and thirst for justice. Members of the 2003-2004 *JustFaith* class will describe their insights and learning experiences. Workshop participants will learn how they or their parish families can take part in the program.

**Audience:** All who are interested in learning more about adult faith formation concerning social justice issues and Catholic Social Teaching.

**Ginny Knight-Simon: "Being Catholic: Becoming Holy - Faith and Aging"**

This workshop will address the great blessing of seniors, the importance of parish senior ministry and the opportunity to grow in holiness through aging.

**Audience:** Those working with senior ministries, parish representatives interested in senior ministry, and interested senior citizens

Ginny Knight-Simon is the Coordinator of Wisdom for the Diocese of Owensboro since 1996, Ginny ministers exclusively to the senior citizens of the Diocese. In the year 2000 she was invited to Rome to celebrate the Jubilee of the Elderly. She has been the Guest Speaker at the National Stewardship Convention (1999), at the Kentucky Wesleyan College Gerontology Classes, and many other local organizations.

**Donna Sauer: "Being Catholic: Becoming Holy - Making Ours a User-Friendly**

### Marriage Tribunal"

Many Catholics never have the opportunity to "encounter" the Diocesan Marriage Tribunal. However, whether they realize it or not, nearly everyone with a ministry in the Church can contribute to and help improve the Tribunal's function. Learn how you can help make the Diocesan Marriage Tribunal "user friendly" for those to whom you minister, as well as for a wider audience.

**Audience:** Anyone attending Ministry Day

Donna M. Sauer, JD, JCL, recently completed her canon law licentiate studies at St. Paul University in Ottawa, ON, Canada. She also holds a civil law degree from Catholic University of America and a degree in Special and Elementary Education from Brescia University. Originally from Henderson, KY, Donna now resides and works in Owensboro.

**Paul Bellos: "Being Catholic: Becoming Holy - Spontaneous Leadership"**

Students and their leaders learn faith-based leadership skills through the tools and techniques of improvisation.

**Audience:** Students aged 16 and older and their Youth Ministers and leaders.

Paul Bellos directs *IdeaProv*, a professional improv entertaining and training center in Nashville, TN. He has twelve years of corporate and faith-based training experience working with organizations like NCCYM (National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry, HCA and Chick-Fil-A).

**Sr. Patricia Froning, OSF: "Being Catholic: Becoming Holy - Partnering with Our Sister Diocese"**

The joint decision of the Diocese of Mandeville, Jamaica and of the Diocese of Owensboro, KY to enter into the Mandeville-Owensboro Sister Diocese Partnership has opened many new doors of possibility for action and witness to the Gospel. Members of the Mission Immersion Trips to the Diocese of Mandeville will share their learnings and insights and engage the participants in looking toward future developments and opportunities.

**Audience:** All who have ever dreamed of being missionaries.

Sister Patricia Froning, OSF, a member of the Sisters of St. Francis of Tiffin, OH, serves a Coordinator of the Office for Lay Ministry and Outreach for the Diocese of Owensboro. She has ministered in the Diocese in various Health Care and Pastoral Ministry positions. Recently she coordinated and participated in the Mission Immersion Pilgrimage to the Diocese of Mandeville, Jamaica.

**Reverend Joseph Merkt: "Being Catholic: Becoming Holy - Lay Ecclesial Ministry"**

Rev. Joe Merkt directs the Ministry Formation Program at Brescia University.

## Fund Run for Charities raises \$23,000

### for Lourdes Foundation

PADUCAH, Ky. - Walking and running pays off for the Lourdes Foundation. The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Fund Run for Charities on July 17 raised a total of \$23,000.00 for Lourdes

Foundation. A number of fun-loving athletes turned out to support the Foundation in this annual 5K race, sponsored by the Community Foundation of West Kentucky. The generosity and efforts of Lourdes' employees and friends helped raise \$13,206 for Lourdes Foundation, which was matched with the maximum \$10,000 from the Community Foundation and earmarked for our endowment account held by that organization.



A team of runners, walkers and volunteers joined in to raise money for Lourdes Foundation in the Fund Run for Charities.



# The Living Soil

By Theresa McCarty, Member, Diocesan Rural Life Committee

While most of us seldom come in daily contact with soil, we all depend on soil for our daily survival. Nothing lives without soil. The living soil sustains all life on earth. One cup of fertile soil may contain as many bacteria as there are people on earth. In one acre there may be a ton or more of microscopic bacteria. It is said that millions of beneficial organisms go through a daily routine of eating, breathing, living and dying in the soil.

Neil Sampson in his essay "The Living Soil" writes that without soil, there would be no "us." The soils of the earth support our lives and cannot be taken for granted. Healthy soils support healthy environment and healthy environment support healthy life. This soil must be nurtured to remain healthy. It is the responsibility of all citizens to care for this soil.

Stewardship of our land is an ancient concept, dating back to the second chapter of Genesis. Where the soil has been cared for people have lived upon the land for thousands of years. In areas where the soils have been depleted, people in those regions suffer poverty and want.

American society has become more urban in the past century. Those who work the land are becoming fewer in numbers. We eat the food, drink the water, breathe the air and enjoy the beauty of the land but only a few of us walk the fields and forest regularly and understand what we need to do to sustain the living soil. The soil organisms from microscopic bacteria and fungi to bugs and worms and larger animal as moles are critical to grow plants and support other life. All these living parts are what make a fertile productive soil.

What must we do to nurture this living soil? First, we need to protect it from wind or water erosion. Remember the "Dust Bowl" of the 1930's when the topsoil was not protected from wind and water erosion. Dust clouds from Kansas and Oklahoma traveled eastward over the Corn Belt, darkened skies in Washington, DC, and sprinkled dust on ships far out into the Atlantic. The best protection of soil is a healthy plant community of crops, grass or forest. When the soil is covered it is protected and most likely improved.

Second, we can restore and maintain organic matter in the soil. Organic matter is anything from crop residues, grass clipping, dead trees, and animals. This energy source nurtures the living soil. Maintaining high levels of organic matter is a major contributor to soil health.

Building and maintaining soil organic matter is also globally important. Soil organic matter is about 58 percent carbon, so as we build soil organic matter we are removing carbon from the atmosphere and storing it underground. This helps to reduce the problem of atmospheric carbon dioxide buildup.

Third, we should protect and enhance soil life wherever possible. Good soil requires a thriving community of living organisms so killing those soil inhabitants is not a good idea. Learn to use the least amount, and the least toxic, materials to meet pest problems. Use natural pest controls, encouraging the good bugs that eat the bad bugs.

Each of us must take an active role in soil and water stewardship. We can choose to compost household and yard waste, reduce our use of fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides. We can plant a tree. That little tree, as it grows, lives and dies, leaves the soil beneath it nurtured. At the end of its life, that small patch of soil is likely to have far more organic matter and thriving living organisms than it would have otherwise. That tree

choose adoption  
choose life!

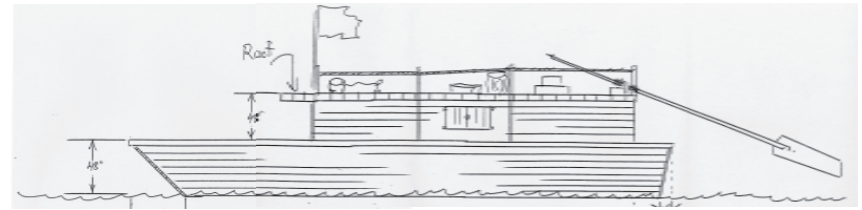
- Free pregnancy counseling
- Your choice of adoptive parents
- Assistance with prenatal care
- Open adoption
- Confidentiality assured!



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of Owensboro

Call (270) 683-1545 or  
toll free 1-877-803-5064  
[www.owensborodio.org/cc.html](http://www.owensborodio.org/cc.html)

## Have You Gotten On Board?



### URSULINE FLATBOAT ADVENTURE THE JOURNEY CONTINUES AUGUST 11-15

The reenactment of the legendary 1874 journey of five Ursuline Sisters from Louisville to Owensboro is designed to provide:



*Education about the mission of the Ursuline Sisters*  
*Information about vocations to religious life*  
*The history of Kentucky during the late 18th century*  
*Funds to support the Ursuline missions and ministries*

**You can help support the continuing mission and ministries of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph by sponsoring the Sisters as they reenact the 155 nautical mile flatboat trip from Louisville to Owensboro. You can sponsor the Sisters at \$1.00 or more per mile. To become a Flatboat Adventure sponsor - or for more information - contact project chairperson Sister Amelia Stenger at (270) 229-0200, ext 401, or e-mail Sister Amelia at [astenger@maplemount.org](mailto:astenger@maplemount.org).**

## Hot Air Balloon "Raises" funds for Lourdes Foundation

PADUCAH, Ky. - Those who bid high got to fly at Lourdes Foundation's recent Touchstone Energy hot air balloon ride fundraiser. The auction was a great success, raising nearly \$3,000 to support hospital needs. The twenty highest bidders for a tethered balloon lift attended a celebration breakfast before their rides in the Touchstone Energy hot air balloon on Friday, July 16.

Two grand prize high bidders won a special opportunity for an hour-long balloon flight across the countryside on Saturday, July 17, complete with a champagne toast followed by a gourmet picnic from Mansion II Go.

Special thanks to Jackson Purchase Energy who brought in the balloon and whose continued community commitment provides support vital to help those in



**Marcia Nemer, high bidder for Lourdes Foundation's auction of hot air balloon rides, stands in front of the Touchstone Energy balloon with her guest, Sister Marie Moore. Lourdes Foundation photo**

## Trinity High School congratulates its 45 graduates of the 2004 class

Timmy Aud  
Gina Ballard  
Joe Barnard  
Jason Bickett  
Lynn Boarman  
Matt Boehman  
Natalie Clark  
Victoria Clouse  
Rebecca Conder  
Brandon Coomes  
Nathan Fulkerson

Amy Hagan  
Ashley Hagan  
Jamie Hagan  
Michael Hagan  
Wes Hamilton  
Jessica Higdon  
Casey Howard  
Jenna Howard  
Shana Isbill  
Megan Johnson  
Rachel Kaelin

Natalie Knott  
Nick Knott  
Brandon Lanham  
Jason Lee  
Rob Lewis  
Jamie Lindsey  
Jameson Mattingly  
Lauren Mattingly  
Casey Mayfield  
Sarah McDaniel  
Jessica Melton

Cassie Merritt  
Jessica Mills  
Melissa Mills  
Jason Mitchell  
Aaron Nash  
Mark O'Bryan  
Caleb Payne  
Kaitlyn Payne  
Jonathan Roby  
Aaron Sanderson  
Caleb Stiff

Sheila Wilk-

### **Their Plans:**

Thirty-six (80 %) of our graduates are planning to further their education through trade/technical schools or 2 - 4 year colleges and universities. Six (13%) of our graduates are planning to enter the military. Two (4%) are planning to go to school in the following spring.

One (2%) has already started a career in agriculture, having purchased his own land.

Among the plans being considered by our 2004 graduates are careers in agriculture, accounting, automotive technology, biology, cosmetology, criminal law, dental hygiene, education, industrial electronics, journalism, massage therapy, medicine, the military,



*This page designed and submitted by Christina Rhodes, Trinity High School teacher.*



Members of the 2004 graduating class participate in Project Graduation, a program that supports the safe celebration of the students' successes. Right, Graduates Natalie Clark & Ashley Hagan



## St. Mary Parish Honors Alice Howard For Her 38 1/2 Years As Catholic Educator

WHITESVILLE, Ky. - Alice Howard, seventh from right in the photo here, retired after 38 1/2 years of teaching at St. Mary's. On Sunday, June 6th, Alice was honored for her years of teaching at St. Mary's. The reception was held in the school cafeteria after the 10:00 a.m. mass at St. Mary's. Many former students and colleagues attended and expressed their appreciation for her work and dedication to Catholic education. Among them were present and former members of the St. Mary of the Woods Elementary faculty: Oney Clark, Kay Howard, Janet Ebelhar, John Calhoun, Raymunda Calhoun, Linda Helm, Ellen Hayden, Alice Howard, Allison Brant, Mary Haynes, Donna Howard, Jamie Clark, Pat Bassinger, Debbie Bellamy. Submitted photo

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## Rhode Island parishioners farm parish property to feed poor

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (CNS) — Volunteers at two parishes in northern Rhode Island, St. Philip's in Greenville and St. John Vianney in Cumberland, are farming a portion of the parishes' property to help feed the poor in the state. This is the second year that St. John Vianney Parish has participated in the Rhode Island Community Farms program; it is the first year for St. Philip's.

The program, which started four years ago, donated 42,000 pounds of fruits and vegetables last year to the Rhode Island Community Food Bank through a network of gardens throughout the state that are maintained by volunteers with the assistance of master gardeners from the University of Rhode Island. Father Raymond Theroux, pastor of St. John Vianney, said the parish's 6,000-square-foot garden produced about 4,000 pounds of vegetables last year for the local food bank.

"Gardening is much more work than I realized," the priest added, but he credits the many volunteers from the parish and from the general community for making the garden such a success.



**Jubilee Celebration.** Nineteen Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph celebrated anniversaries in religious life at Mount Saint Joseph on July 10. The celebration began with Mass in the chapel followed by lunch and a reception in the dining room. The 2004 jubilarians are, front row, l. to r., Sister Jean Madeline Peake (70 years), Sister Ethelreda Hayden (70), Sister Ann Victoria Wasylina (50), Sister M. deChantal Whelan (70), Sister Elizabeth Ann Ray (75). Second row, Sister Rebecca White (25), Sister Diane Marie Payne (40), Sister Susan Mary Mudd (50), Sister Lorraine Anne Lauter (25), Sister Mary Timothy Bland (40), Sister Melissa Tipmore (40). Back row, Sister Joan Mary Riedley (40), Sister Laurita Spalding (40), Sister Karla Marie Kaelin (40), Sister Mary Matthias Ward (50), Sister Alicia Cecil (25), Sister Lisa Marie Cecil (40), Sister Marie Montgomery (60), Sister Mary McDermott (25).

## Center to Offer Spiritual Direction Ministry Program

MAPLE MOUNT, Ky. - Persons wishing to enter or enrich themselves in the ministry of spiritual direction will have this opportunity within the diocese beginning this fall.

Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center has designed a two-year program based on the spiritual tradition of Saint Angela Merici, founder of the Ursuline Sisters. In all, there will be eight sessions of one week each, beginning October 2004 and continuing through July 2006.

Topics for the sessions will include "Spiritual Direction," "The Inner Journey," "Prayer and Scripture," "Theology Update," "Methods of Spiritual Direction," "Ethics of Spiritual Direction," and "Case Studies."

Speaker for the initial session, on the topic of "Spirituality," will be Father Ed Farrell, a spiritual director, pastor, educator, writer, and priest for more than 40 years. Father Farrell's books include *Prayer Is a Hunger*, *Surprised by the Spirit*, *Disciples and Other Strangers*, *The Father Is Very Fond of Me*, and many others. The initial session will be offered October 4-8, 2004.

Ursuline Sisters and Center staff will be joined in presenting this program by Dr. Michele Thomas, who comes with a rich educational and experiential background in spiritual direction. Dr. Thomas is currently completing an internship program in Ignatian spiritual direction in a program sponsored by the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

Spiritual direction is an art of listening and supporting a person while creating an atmosphere of openness, honesty, and prayer. The director helps the directee to discern the movement of the Spirit in his or her life. Spiritual direction is an experience of guiding a person to a deeper relationship with God through prayer, meditation, and discernment.

A brochure with details about the program is available from the Center. For further information, contact Sister Amelia Stenger at [msjcenter@maplemount.org](mailto:msjcenter@maplemount.org), or telephone (270) 229-0200.

## Betty Medley Elected Alumnae President At Mount Saint Joseph

MAPLE MOUNT, Ky. - Betty Cecil Medley is the new president of the Mount Saint Joseph Academy and College Alumnae Association. She was elected to this post during the 2004 Alumnae Weekend, held May 14-16 at Maple Mount.

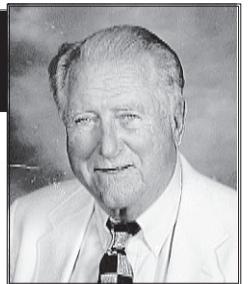
Betty, who serves as Director of the Family Life Office of the Diocese of Owensboro, is a 1981 graduate of Mount Saint Joseph Academy. She earned an Associates degree from Owensboro Junior College of Business in 1989 and attended Brescia University. She is certified in bereavement ministry through the Archdiocese of New York. Betty is married to Curtis Medley and they have two children, Michael (20) and Jennifer (19). She is the daughter of Marion and Maxine Cecil of rural Daviess County.

Also elected to Alumnae positions were vice president/president elect Betty Reardon Greaves, a 1966 Academy graduate, of Louisville, and secretary/treasurer Phyllis Thomas Troutman, a 1963 Academy graduate, of Raywick.

Founded in 1874, Mount Saint Joseph Academy graduated over 1300 women and 28 men before its closing in 1983. The ministry of the Academy continues at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center in the renovated Academy complex.

### *Carrico's Reflections*

By G. E. (Jerry) Carrico



Here are some startling statistics I recently ran across in an outdated Readers Digest article. Yet, for sure, they are startling news to me about some trends today.

The article says that in the year 1900, one in ten adults could not read or write, and that only six percent of Americans graduated from High School, and, get this, only 14 percent of American homes had a bathtub. More startling news about American ladies: almost all only washed their hair once a month! In doing so, they either used borax or egg yolks as shampoo. In the year 1900, the maximum speed limit in most American towns and cities was ten miles a hour, with no traffic jams, of course. Much less surprising news was that insulin, antibiotics, Scotch tape, and Crossword puzzles had not yet been discovered. With all of these backward trends in mind, I'm now wondering just what was happening, if anything, during my own birth year, 1916. For one thing, I know that Saturday night baths were taken in galvanized wash tubs with very little privacy, maybe an unlocked kitchen door, using homemade soap with a little warm water heated in an old iron tea kettle on a wood-burning stove.

Now about a hundred years later, things sure are different!

Here's a sketchy review: radios, tape recorders, electricity, automobiles by the millions, two and three car garages, two and maybe three bathrooms, telephone answering machines, airplanes, space crafts, computers, and many more luxuries. Now, even the Rich and Famous are not alone in their ways of luxuries. Even the not-so-poor Americans are enjoying many of these luxuries. Now even some common Americans are enjoying heated toilet seats, automatic heating systems, ceiling fans that operate as needed according to room temperatures, light fixtures that come on as we enter a room and off as we leave the room., no more cold floors in the bathroom or kitchen, all because of radiant heat on frosty-cold mornings. What's more, many of these luxuries are energy-saving devices by lowering electric bills,

At this point in time, you are probably wondering about the cost of such things. Well, you've probably already guessed. They are not cheap! Before considering building a new home featuring many of these luxury items it might be well to check your savings account or even check with your banker to see if you can afford them. Do people still do this today – use good stewardship of their resources before making purchases? I think God expects us to.

Looking at life as it is today honestly though, why shouldn't we afford and enjoy some of these new things if we are living according to our temporal means?

# Ursuline Sisters Install New Leadership

MAPLE MOUNT, Ky. - During a festive liturgy on Sunday, July 11, the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph formally installed Sister Michele Morek as congregational leader, 2004-2010. Installed with Sister Michele were the members of her council: assistant congregational leader Sister Cheryl Clemons, and councilors Sisters Barbara Jean Head, Maureen Griner, and Ann McGrew. Elections of this new leadership team took place in December 2003.

Bishop John J. McRaith, presider at the installation liturgy, focused his homily on the Psalm Response of the day: "Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live." He spoke also of Moses' message to the Chosen People in the reading from Deuteronomy: "Heed the voice of the Lord, your God, keep God's commandments that are written in this book of the Law, returning to the Lord God with all your heart and soul." And referring to the story of the Good Samaritan in the Gospel reading, he emphasized God's message of love — not only for those in faraway places, but "for the person we are sitting next to...for the sisters in this community!" He pointed out that Ursuline founder Saint Angela Merici wrote often of the bond of charity that would assure them of God's presence among them.

Bishop McRaith told the new Ursuline leaders that they would "bring life to this community in a very special and unique way if you live by the message from Deuteronomy and from the Gospel." He went on to speak to all the Ursuline Sisters present, saying that "all of you here today are in leadership roles — from the youngest to the oldest," from those most active to those who can no longer be active and who lead "by your prayers, your resignation to the assignment that God has given you — that of aging and suffering."

All living former Ursuline superiors participated in the installation liturgy. Lectors were Sisters Rose Marita O'Bryan (1996-2004) and Annalita Lancaster (1972-90). Gift bearers were Sisters Mary Irene Cecil (1980-88) and Mary Matthias Ward (1988-96). In this way the Sisters symbolized the continuity of religious governance among them, "a service of love that establishes patterns of relationship that facilitate and guide our congregation in mission" (from *The Ursuline Way of Life*, Constitutions of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph).

In her opening address to the Ursuline community on Sunday morning, Sister Michele spoke of new beginnings in the context of



**New leaders of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, from left, are: councilors Sisters Barbara Jean Head and Maureen Griner; congregational leader Sister Michele Morek; assistant congregational leader Sister Cheryl Clemons, and councilor Sister Ann McGrew.**

Pentecost, when all those gathered "began to express themselves in foreign tongues and make bold proclamations, as the Spirit prompted them." She reflected on the combination of excitement and fear that the apostles must have felt on that first Pentecost. She encouraged her Ursuline Sisters to concentrate less on the past and the future, and more on what is here and now. "If we focus on what is past — our mistakes or even our successes — or if we worry excessively about what is to come, we miss God's word to us in the present, we miss seeing and hearing the signs of the times."

After sharing many ways in which she sees the community moving forward, Sister Michele challenged the Sisters to study the writings of Saint Angela in order to "rediscover the truth of what she envisioned." Remembering Saint Angela's words, "I am now more alive than when I was on this earth; I see more clearly and hold more dear the good which I see you constantly doing...and am able to help you...in all sorts of ways," she concluded. "We, your community leadership for 2004-2010, believe Angela's promise, and we promise you we will act on that belief. Thank you for allowing us to serve you. May the blessing of Mother Angela and of God the Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier be

## What is a Spiritual Bouquet?

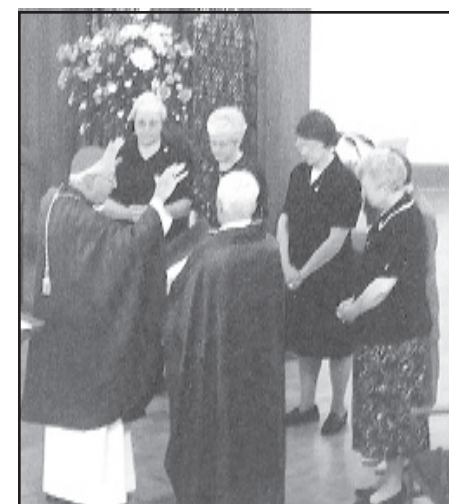
WHITESVILLE, Ky. - Those who grew up in the Catholic schools in the 50's and 60's probably have already thought of the Sisters who taught them how to compose a spiritual bouquet by tallying the prayers said in honor of their mothers, fathers, or friends. In late January, Jamie Clark of St. Mary's School in Whitesville, was diagnosed with Cardiomyopathy resulting in Congestive Heart Failure. In thinking of what the students and staff could do to help Jamie and his family, the Cheer-Up committee decided to collect prayers for a spiritual bouquet. It was to be a secret! From Ash Wednesday until the week of April 1, students walked the halls interacting in various ways throughout the day with Mr. Clark, seemingly the regular routine. He did not realize while quiet on the outside, they were whispering prayers on the inside.

The great day came on April 1, 2004. As the last act of the Talent Show, Pat Basinger sang "A Song of Blessing," Mr. Clark sat on stage holding a huge Easter basket. Amid lyrics of "The Lord let his face shine down upon you..." one student representative from each class came forward and laid a ribbon tied bundle in the basket. As Mr. Clark's tears flowed, the basket was filled with spiritual bouquets, one from each student in K-8.

Spring Break followed the next week, and there was ample time for reading every card. The amazement continued. How had the students managed not to let the secret slip? There was also time for the total thought to sink in and for a total tallying of prayers. At the next school Mass, Mr. Clark tearfully thanked everyone. He announced a total: Hail Mary 3,123, Our Father 2,017, Glory Be 2,048, Angel of God 1,072, Saint Michael Prayer 682, Masses 682, Other Prayers 995, Good Works 757, Sacrifices 11,420, for a GRAND TOTAL OF 12,796. What is a spiritual bouquet? It can be an unbelievable collection of prayers, an awesome display of faith, a remarkable group effort in hopes of a miracle of continued health improvements.



**Sister Rose Marita O'Bryan, Ursuline congregational leader, 1996-2004, proclaimed the first reading during the installation liturgy.**



**Bishop McRaith blesses the new Ursuline leadership group.**

with each of us as we begin speaking anew our own language of love, and 'making bold proclamations' to our world."

*Submitted by Pat Basinger, Whitesville, Ky.*

## Lourdes Foundation brings Jews, Christians together for Holocaust

### Mark Your

### Lourdes Calendar!

**Monday, August 30, 2004** - Lourdes Drive for Foundation Golf Tournament Country Club of Paducah. Registration 10 a.m.; Shotgun Start 11:30 a.m.; Corporate sponsorships and teams available. Call (270) 444-2353 for information

**Tuesday, August 24, 2004** - Lourdes Lunch and Learn, 11:30 a.m., Broadway Methodist Church. Topic: Estate Planning Made Easy. Free lunch, give-aways, and door prizes. Sponsored by Lourdes Foundation and Lourdes Premier Choice. Call (270) 444-2733 to register.

**Saturday, October 2, 2004** - Lourdes Great Pumpkin Race to benefit Lourdes Foundation 5K Run / Fun Walk. \$200 cash prize to top male, female; 8 a.m. - 5K race 10:15 a.m. - Little Pumpkin Classic (Ages 5-11). Register at Active.com or print form

PADUCAH, Ky. - On Sunday, April 18, Lourdes Foundation presented its Second Annual Concert for the Remembrance of the Holocaust at St. Thomas More Church in Paducah. Jews and Christians joined together to listen to an arrangement of classical music and spiritual readings reflecting on the tragedy of the Holocaust. The event was held in observance of the national Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Special remarks and traditional Jewish folk music were presented by Rabbi Joel Simon, with readings from Frances Cooper, president of Temple Israel, and Rev. Patrick Reynolds, pastor of St. Thomas More. Murray State University students and faculty member Frederick Ripley presented a performance of classical music including selections from Bach, Schubert and Tartini.

Guests browsed through images and stories of Holocaust survivors during the reception following the concert. World



**Josh Coffey performs *Sarabanda*, a violin solo from Bach's *Partita in D minor* at Lourdes Foundation's annual Concert for the Remembrance of the Holocaust. Lourdes Hospital photo**

War II veteran Harold Conner was present to share poignant photographs he took during the liberation of the Buchenwald concentration camp.

"With the recent vandalism of Temple Israel, this annual Holocaust Remembrance Concert is more important than ever," said Missy Hendley, director of Lourdes Foundation. "We wanted to extend a hand to our friends at Temple Israel and stand by them to reflect on the tragic history of the Holocaust."

"The annual Holocaust concert is part of our commitment at Lourdes to serve people of all faiths, both medically and spiritually," said Dr. Bill Wheeler, Lourdes president/CEO. "This event is inspired by Marshall Nemer, who built bridges between Jews and Christians through his many years of service and volunteerism at Lourdes."

## Foundation's In-kind Donation Nets Petting Zoo for Lourdes Employees

PADUCAH, Ky. - Fur and feathers made for family fun at the Lourdes employee picnic. A petting zoo complete with pony rides was an entertaining feature of the annual hospital event. Younger guests especially liked seeing bunnies, goats, a turkey, and even a llama! The petting zoo was made possible, thanks to an in-kind contribution from Cedar Junction Concessions to the Lourdes Foundation.



**A young guest at the Lourdes Employee Picnic greets the animals in the petting zoo. Lourdes Foundation was able to provide the animal entertainment thanks to an in-kind contribution from Cedar Junction Concessions.**

## St. Martin Rosary Club Passes On Church's Devotion To Mary and Her Rosary

**Submitted by Eloise and John Chandler**

ROME, Ky. - The Saint Martin parish Rosary Club posed here with Father Andy Garner before departing for the Rosary Club in Louisville, Ky. With Fr. Andy in the picture at near right, are John Chandler, Theresa Hardesty, and Eloise Chandler, holding the Rosaries to be distributed to the missions.

In the photo at far right, St. Martin Parish shared a Blessing of a Statue of Mary in May, 2004. Some of our parish's eighth grade girls, Stephanie Lossie, center, and Casey Berry, crowned the Statue of Mary, attended by McKala House, at left in veil, our parish's First Communion class, and Religious Education students.

## Lourdes Leaders Get Slimed for Lourdes

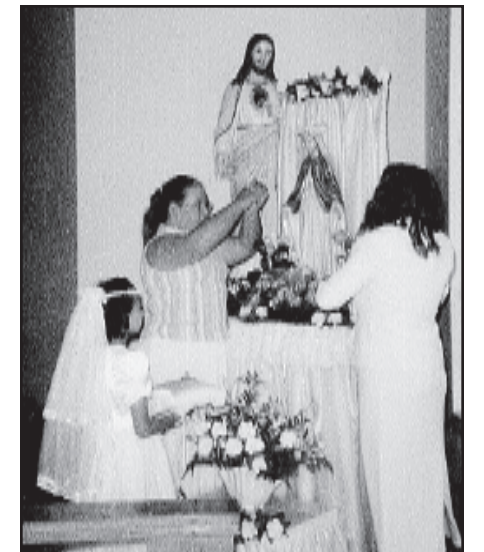
PADUCAH, Ky. - The annual Lourdes Employee Picnic got a unique twist with the addition of a Slime Booth and an arsenal of water balloons. To support the Lourdes Foundation, picnic guests purchased water balloons or balloons filled with slime to douse Lourdes leaders. CEO Dr. Bill Wheeler was joined by a number of Lourdes Vice Presidents, Directors, and Managers serving as human targets. The messy but good-humored fun raised several hundred dollars for the Foundation's Clinical Mission Fund.



**Eleven-month-old Joshua King gets a little help from Dad to slime his Mom, Lynn King, Lourdes VP of Business Development. Proceeds from the Slime Booth benefited patients in need.**



**Photos by Eloise Chandler**



## Comfort & Hope.... a message about grief

By Jeannie Boone



It is understood, I hope, that on birthdays, anniversaries, major holidays... at times of significant personal events and/or hardships, intense grief reaction may occur even after several years of losing your loved one. But sometimes a person gets "stuck" in the grieving process, becomes profoundly depressed, and may not be able to function in their normal daily routine over a prolonged period of time. When this happens family and friends often tire in their support role, believing that a reasonable

amount of time has passed since the loss and the mourner should be, at the least, beginning to adjust to the loss, if not "over it."

In Complicated Mourning there is a delayed or incomplete adaptation to the loss, or a breakdown in the process of mourning.

Prolonged Grief, sometimes referred to as Chronic Mourning or Protracted Mourning, is acute mourning that persists interminably. All mourning process that fails to draw to its natural conclusion; in which intense reactions do not abate over time. Unresolved Grief is when the grief process basically stops without resolution and this becomes chronic.

Therese A. Rando, Ph.D. (*Treatment of Complicated Mourning, 1993*), a noted expert in the field stated, "It is well documented that complicated bereavement can lead to serious psychological, behavioral, social, and physical dysfunction." How does a person get "stuck" in grief, or halt a process of such profound proportion?

The experts have signs and symptoms to help professionals diagnose complicated or prolonged grief though few offer answers as to why it happens. Most believe that it is a failure (on the part of the survivor) to accept the loss; an unwillingness to let go of the loved one and adjust to a new reality without that person. Rando defines it thus: "an attempt by the mourner to deny, repress, or avoid aspects of the loss, its pain, or its implications in the mourner's life, as well as the mourner's holding onto the deceased."

This implies that the mourner has control of their emotions, which is seldom true, and fuels the frustration of all concerned. I believe there are aspects of our personality and life, some perhaps beyond our conscious mind, that literally set a person up for complicated or prolonged grief; and one of those is unresolved grief from previous loss. The age of the deceased and the mourner can be contributing factors, sudden and violent deaths certainly are, and our "history" with the deceased is critical to resolving grief issues. The prior relationship between the mourner and those who now form their support network has to be considered, as well as the overall health of the mourner. There are people who become entrenched in the role of victim, addicted to the attention and sympathy. Whatever the causes, when the grief process is stuck, or stalled, therapy is needed to help the mourner move beyond this point. It is not realistic or even fair to think a friend or family member can assume the awesome responsibility for this care; it's unfair for the grieving person, too, denying them the freedom to express feelings and emotions which are essential to recovery and found in confidential counseling. But it's also true that people in deep mourning often lack the emotional energy to even pick up the phone and ask for help.

As Christians, family, friends and co-workers this is where we just can't give up and turn a deaf ear no matter how tired we may be. Listen for the "cry for help." You might be the only one that hears it.

People in deep depression are desperate for understanding and compassion though they'd likely be the loudest in denial. You can speak gently, and yet with conviction, of your love, concern, fear, and belief that it's time to seek professional help. Don't back down. Offer to research available resources in your community, find a therapist certified in bereavement counseling, perhaps going so far as to make the initial appointment. And don't give up; be patient, prayerful, and watchful.

## A Scout is Reverent

The diocesan committee on Scouting is sponsoring a retreat at St. Meinrad Archabbey September 24<sup>th</sup> through the 26<sup>th</sup> for all second year Webelos and Boy Scouts. Come and experience:

- Prayer and Spiritual talks
- Tour of St. Meinrad Archabbey
- Bonfire and Cracker Barrel

The cost is \$25.00. To register contact Jeff Hedges at (270) 926-1784. Fr. Ken Mikulcik, Rt. 3, Box 150, Hardinsburg, KY 40143 (270) 257-2132



## St. John the Evangelist Family News



By Richard Durbin

Hello all you readers of the "Western Kentucky Catholic" monthly news paper, which brings to you news from all parishes in the Diocese. Have you missed getting the paper the last two months ? Well, I did miss it. I hope everyone enjoyed the vacation.

Our week end of July 11 started with Father Benjamin subbing for Fr. Bruce who is on vacation. Fr. Benjamin said he was a class mate of Fr. Bruce and is stationed in Chicago. It seemed to me he was comfortable and much at home, and delivered a very good homily.

Thanks Fr. Benjamin. Our St. John Knights of Columbus (Monsignor Anthony G. Higdon Council # 10962) and the St. John the Evangelist Church hosted the Kentucky State Knights of Columbus Installation of Officers July 17. All District Deputies throughout the State were installed. This is the first time in the history of the St. John Parish that we have had the honor of a State Officer Installation Mass. The St. John Knights meet each 2nd & 4th Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. with potluck prior to meeting.

St. John the Evangelist Church will have its 44th Annual Picnic & Barbecue on Saturday, September 11, 2004. We claim it to be "THE BIGGEST LITTLE PICNIC IN WESTERN Ky." An all-you-can-eat dinner, featuring Bar-B-Q pork, mutton, & chicken, all the country vegetables with desert and drink, starting at 11 AM continues until 9PM. Barbecue by the pound and sandwiches, carry outs & drive through starting at 8AM. Political speeches, games & prizes, entertainment and Country Store. The First Prize drawing is for \$ 10,000.00 and 2nd Prize drawing will be for \$5,000.00 You do not need to be present to win. This drawing (RAFFLE) will take place as the picnic activities come to a close. Every one is welcome. To have a chance to win these big bucks, you can buy your raffle tickets from any parish member.

Prayers are requested for the sick: Joe Corbit, Melvin Hobbs, Joe Reed, Carolyn DeGroot, Les Manning, Barbara Rutherford, James Weitlauf, Don Hall, Matthew Goode, James Boyett, Gene Nesler, Amanda Mifflin. And the shut-ins are— Edwina Dunaway, Kathleen Hayden, Hilda & Leonard Grief, Benita Smith, Mary Thomas, Pearl Toon, Ruth Weitlauf, Helen Wurth, Anita Vessels, Harold Wurth, Lavera Wurtz, Elnora Neihoff, and Dorothy Webb & Roy Weitlauf. In your kindness, please remember the sick and shut-ins in your prayers. We offer condolences to the family of Don Hall who passed this life July 7th and was buried in Detroit, Michigan. He was a Brother of Judy Settles a member of St. John.

School News — "500" Club winners are St. John School Fund, Philip Pryor, George McMinn, Russ Edwards, Keith Murt, Bill Taylor. The 500 club is financially beneficial to the school.

On the weekend of June 19-20, parishioners of St. John were given the opportunity to express their views on the proposals for renovations to our church. The results of the survey were shared with the parish. The committee was happy to find that most of the members are happy with and support the proposals. In the next few weeks, our comments to the changes will be answered by the committee. If you have any comments for or against, please contact any one of the renovation committee members: Fr. Bruce McCarty, Geraldine Durbin, Chairperson, Marietta Haas, John Kaler, Michael Kaufman, Gerald Roof, Marvin Willett, Dottie Wurth, or John Durbin, Finance Committee representative. We've had some changes in times for the weekend Masses, Saturday evening time remains unchanged, 5:00pm. Sunday morning, the 8:00am Mass time is changed to 7:30am, the 10:00am time is moved to 9:00am. St. Mary at LaCenter, Ky. is 10:45am

St. John parishioners interested in forming an adult co-ed soft ball team at St. John, please call Brandon Langston (554-8111). The lucky winner of the Daughters of Isabella Quilt raffle is Charles Nichols. Thanks to all who bought tickets for the raffle. Reminder to turn in your "Stewardship" envelope if you haven't done so. Only 184 have been returned in as of 7/4/04. Those who haven't responded (136) will be contacted soon. If you would like to play Free Bingo each Wednesday, the doors open at 6:30am; there is also a Bingo from 8am to 9.00am for Seniors ages 55 and up at the St. John Knights of Columbus Hall. Great prizes, free doughnuts, & coffee.

Congratulations to Kirston Sturm, a 4th place winner in the talent show at the County Fair. She sang "Once upon a December" from "Anastasia." She will now compete in August at the State Fair in Louisville, Ky.

## Lebanese Immigrants Find A Home At St. Frances de Sales Church

By Edie Keeney

PADUCAH, Ky. - Joe and Marie Masabini are natives of Lebanon. Joe has been living in the U.S.A. for 20 years and Marie for 10. They have two children, Johnny, 4, and Julianna, 7. Joe met Marie when he returned to his home to attend the baptism of his best friend's two children. Marie was the godmother of one of the children. Joe was only home for 3 weeks but after 3 dates he knew he wanted to marry Marie. He proposed to her in her church under the statue of Mary. Joe was raised in the Orthodox Church and Marie was raised in the Maronite Catholic Church. The Maronite Church belongs to the western Catholic Church but with unique eastern rites. It is their culture that Joe had to be accepted by Marie's family; mother, aunts, uncles, and grandparents, which quickly happened. They were married 6 months later when Joe returned to Lebanon.

Lebanon has been caught up in many conflicts between the Arabs and the Israelis since the end of World War II. There was a large influx of Palestinian refugees after the 1948 and 1967 wars. Traditionally, Christians and Muslims had lived and worked together but during the early 1970's political divisions occurred that led to the 1975-1990 civil war that started between the Palestinians and Christian militias. Marie's father was killed by Palestinian militants during that war. As a child, Marie remembers hiding in the bathroom, as many as 10 people in the tiny room, to escape the shelling. Joe was returning home from college during one such time when he took a wrong turn and found himself at a high security Muslim checkpoint. He was questioned and detained overnight until it was determined that he was not a threat. His ID was taken from him but he was not hurt. Joe was a student in the American University of Beirut and wanted to continue his studies but his family decided that he should come to the United States where it is safer.

Lebanon is a small country of only 4000 square miles with a population that includes many cultures and languages. It is a very cosmopolitan country with high mountains, a beautiful sea, fine restaurants and fashionable houses. Lebanon, with its capital of Beirut, was regarded as the region's most attractive country. The population is 75% Muslim and 25% Christian. Joe remarked that he knows a lot about Islam and there are more similarities than differences between it and Christianity. He says that Judaism,



Joe and Marie Masabini

Christianity, and Islam trace their roots back to Abraham and the belief in one God. A major difference between Islam and Christianity is that while Christians believe Jesus is the Son of God, Muslims believe he is only a prophet of God, since God was not borne and did not bear children. The word Islam means "submit your will to God;" not different from what Christians believe.

Joe is fluent in English, French, and Arabic, and can read Spanish and Italian. Marie is also fluent in English, French, and Arabic. Joe and Marie did not find the move to the U.S. to be a difficult adjustment. There is a lot of interaction with things western in Lebanon. The biggest culture shock was the lack of interest in the U.S. to know about the rest of the world. Joe and Marie visited several churches in the area and found the Renaissance architecture of the St. Francis de Sales church to be more like that of the churches of Lebanon. There are many similarities between the Orthodox and the Roman Catholic services such as the organization of the mass that allowed them to feel comfortable.

Joe is a University of Kentucky Extension Horticulturist specializing in fruit and vegetable crops. They have brought a bit of Lebanon to their home. Joe grows many Lebanese varieties of herbs and vegetables that Marie uses these in cooking. Joe built a grape arbor for shade, fruit, and grape leaves that they use in making grape leaf rolls. Their lovely home is an eclectic mixture of cultures, as is the family.

## LIVING OUR MOTTO: "UNITY, FRIENDSHIP, AND CHARITY"

The Daughters of Isabella International Convention will be held at the Rosen Center Hotel in Orlando, Florida, August 8 to 11, 2004

This convention will be presided by our Worthy International Regent, Mrs. Joan Breton, member of the St. Agnes Circle # 713, of the Maine State Circle. The 4 days of the convention will gather 850 members from Canada and the United States.

Mrs. Cynthia d'Amour from "People Power Unlimited," will present a workshop on the theme, "How to Turn 'Generation Me' into Active Members."

Delegates attending from Kentucky are State Regent Ann Newby, and Regent Sheila Thompson, Owensboro, Regent Cindy Tilden,

## Healing Prayer Ministry at St. Pius Tenth Parish

By Doris-Ann Millay

OWENSBORO, Ky. - For several years now, parishioners at St. Pius X parish here have had the opportunity to raise their hand before each Mass and ask for any special prayer need they may want their fellow parishioners to pray for. But during their Parish Mission in October 2002, their Pastor, Fr. Richard Meredith, was asked if the parish could have a Ministry where people could come and have hands laid on them and be prayed *with* as well as *for* any special needs or requests they may have. The answer was, "YES," and with the help of our Spiritual Life committee and Fr. Richard's guidance, this ministry started slowly growing.

Up until recently, for lack of a proper title, this ministry has been called by several different names in the parish. But, a few months ago, Fr. Richard asked the Spiritual Life committee of the parish to come up with an official title, as well as a pamphlet of information on this ministry. After a lot of thought and prayer, suggestions for a title were presented to Fr. Richard for a definite decision.

Since some of the people being prayed with have felt a warm sensation of *light* coming from the Tabernacle, several of the title suggestions had the word in them. Also, some of the people being prayed with have experienced a healing in their lives, which they believe to be a small *miracle*. Others have either had a prayer answered or an improvement in their health or lives. Should we be surprised by this? No; this is why the ministry was started!

As far as we know at this time, St. Pius X is the only parish in our Diocese that has this ministry. We have even had people from other parishes come to St. Plus X to take advantage of this personal prayer ministry. There may be other parishes and dioceses across the country that offer this, but the only other one we know of for sure, at this time, is the Diocese of Toledo, Ohio. They have also had this ministry for a while. They entitle their ministry "*The Afterglow of the Eucharist*."

As for the title of this ministry at St. Plus X? With Fr. Richard's approval, keeping the words, "light" and "miracles" in mind, the official title of our ministry is "Miracles of Light" Prayer Ministry.

You do not have to be a member of St. Plus X Parish to ask for prayer; everyone is welcome. You also may like to know that your request is strictly confidential, but you don't have to voice your request if you'd rather not; Jesus knows what is in your heart and mind, as well as your needs. We will still pray with you whether you voice your request or not. Simply go before Jesus in the Tabernacle in the Chapel area, *after Mass*, and let them lay hands on you and pray a simple blessing prayer with you, personally, with the *one - on - one* human touch of our Risen Lord. Scripture tells us to *knock, ask, and receive*; it also tells that *where two or more are gathered in His name, He is with us*. Therefore, if you, a family member or a friend have a special prayer need or request, *Miracles of Light* is waiting for you at St. Plus X.

Our Mass schedule & prayer ministers after each Mass are as follows: 5:30 P.M. Saturday — Karen & Bob Wells; 8:00 A.M. Sunday — Pat & Will Storm; 11:00 A.M. Sunday — Doris & Vince Millay, and Norma & Wayne Tipton. If you have already been blessed or helped in any way by this ministry, St. Pius X Parish would like to hear from you so that we may spread the word about how God is working in our parish. Call Doris Millay @ 264-1969 to tell your story or to learn more information.

St. Plus X Parish will also be having our *Parish Mission* on October 2nd through 6th, as well as hosting a *Life in the Spirit Seminar* to be held on October 23rd & 24th, 2004. You may call Doris Millay at the above phone number to register or for more informa-



## Every Word of Humanae Vitae Helps Couples Pray About Natural Family Planning

By Martha Winn

"Natural Family Planning is a safe and effective method of spacing children. It is a method of fertility awareness that can also help couples trying to achieve pregnancy. Couples who use NFP draw closer to one another." This was the information we read about this practice many years ago.

My name is Martha Winn. I would like to introduce myself as an instructor of the Billings method of NFP. My husband, Earl, and I have four children, ages 22, 20, 17, and 4. Our earliest use of NFP in marriage was because of the first reasons listed above. It was safe and effective. Fertility is a wonderfully healthy condition and this seemed to make a lot of sense. I can tell you after 23 years of marriage that one of the greatest benefits is the last one listed. Couples learn to communicate with each other in a way that brings them closer to one another, more importantly, closer to God. This really is the good news! I am sure this was in the literature that we read; however, I do not know if we were capable of understanding its meaning until we tried it. How thankful I am for a church with these teachings. Taking the time to learn about them convicted us.

As a loving parent, the Church guides and directs our actions and provides real answers to our questions. In 1968, (after Vatican II) there was an encyclical written entitled *Humanae Vitae*, which clarified issues of human life. This may sound like a long time ago, but for a church over 2,000 years old, it is very recent. Every word of this short document is worth reading together as a couple as you pray about this matter.

Our marriages are so precious to the Lord. He loves us so much. We have found that the grace received from the sacraments can really help along your journey as a family. The Mass is so beautiful. Surely the words we ask our Lord at the Eucharist, "protect us from all anxiety," will mean different things to us during our life and marriage. During our childbearing years God really does want that for us. Realizing this as a couple helped us to clearly see the blessings and graces the Lord has given us. If you would like to know more about this good news, please contact the Family Life office at the Catholic Pastoral Center (270) 683-1545, ext 105.

## Sts. Peter & Paul parishioners say "Farewell" to Fr. Carl McCarthy

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. - For the past year Fr. Carl has served as co-pastor, with Fr. John Thomas, of Sts. Peter & Paul Church in Hopkinsville Ky. As of June 1, he will take on a new assignment as pastor of St. Stephen in Cadiz and St. Henry in Aurora. In the short time that he has been in Hopkinsville, Fr. Carl has been instrumental in establishing a local branch of the St. Vincent de Paul Conference, initiating a Ministry of Praise and Mercy, and a Ministry to the Homebound in which extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist carry the sacrament to homebound parishioners each Sunday after Mass. He has served as spiritual director for the St. Vincent de Paul Conference and extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist. He has made many friends here and will be very much missed. It is comforting to know that he is just down the road! Thank you so much, Fr. Carl, for all that you have taught us, and shown us by your example.



Fr. Carl says goodbye to parishioner Kay Kane. SP&P Photo



Jerry Brockman, the official guide for Sts. Peter and Paul "Church Search," answered questions from the parish's 29 First Communicants May 9. Here he spoke with Adison and Quentin Buss. SP&P Photo

## Spreading the Word In Prague

By Sharre Cinnamond

In 1989, a group of students at the University of Prague sparked a rebellion that led to the eventual revolution that toppled the Communist regime in the Czech Republic. Today, a group of students from the University are leading a different kind of revolution. As young leaders, they are well educated, articulate, and sincere in their love of the Lord. They are active in the Church and in TEC (Teens Encounter Christ). They are helping to bring the Church alive again in their country.

At the end of April, I had the opportunity to travel to Prague with several other team members for a *Renewing the Vision of TEC* workshop. Twenty-seven participants listened to us as we shared with them the revised TEC manual. Most of them spoke some English - nevertheless, it was necessary to have simultaneous translations with the help of several excellent young women.

We played, sang, celebrated and prayed together. Their enthusiasm was contagious, their questions thoughtful, their responses promising. While they do things somewhat differently, they have been including the essential elements of the TEC weekend. They have had 10 weekends in the past few years and have built a great community of young adults who are seeking to reach out to others.

Petr Pavlik, one of the participants, wrote: "We thank our American TEC sisters and brothers for the new revised and enhanced manual. We are pleased that the Czech TEC is very close to the original ideas of the TEC founders. The real balance between Christian humility and natural self-esteem is critical in Czech. Watching the style of your presentations and the flow of your dialog has said much to us on this issue. The discussion times are a great moment for our teenagers to express their views and to be listened to."

"The Czech TEC will never be a mass movement as in the USA. The proportion of active Catholics is rather low in our country. We are looking forward to learning more about the program and the Wheat team. All the new dramatic elements of the weekend (like the introduction of saints) have been positively accepted by all. This is probably the expected direction of the renewal of the Church in Czech - to live the Paschal mystery in both our personal life and as Church."

The city of Prague is truly beautiful, particularly at night when the old buildings (church spires, steeples) are lit up. One of the participants showed us where she worked - a Capuchin monastery begun in the 1300's. It was badly destroyed during WWII and is slowly being rebuilt (as is most of the old city). We also visited the Carmelite church where the Infant of Prague is on display. We were reminded of how much we take for granted in the United States.

The Czech people are struggling to rebuild their country financially, politically, and spiritually. In the States, we have always had the freedom to worship as we wish. The Czech people spent many years afraid to publicly proclaim their faith. The oppression of the past has carried over into feelings of low self-esteem and strained family relationships. I left feeling blessed to have had the opportunity to witness the faith of these young adults and feel very sure that the Church is in good hands.



Sts. Peter and Paul Parish congratulated Jonny Blondin seated at left front, who was recognized for her work with the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Shop since 1978. The volunteers at the Thrift Shop, who are gathered here posing with Jonny, enjoyed with her the lunch provided in their honour on May 14. SP&P Photo

# WISDOM

By Ginny Knight-Simon

## Anna Frances Brown, St. Romuald Hardinsburg, KY

"I stay busy all of the time! I'm not sure exactly what all I do, but it seems I'm always busy," said Anna Brown when asked what she does to fill her time.

I have a small vegetable garden with a few tomatoes, potatoes and beans, and I love to do yard work. I'm really an outdoor person. I am also able to be busy with my 7 children, 27 living grandchildren and 32 great-grandchildren. They all live fairly close so we see each other often.

My husband, Joy David, and I grew up together in the same area and we got married. He worked at Murray Tile Company and farmed also. We were married 47 years when he died 13 years ago. He wasn't Catholic but he made sure the children got a Catholic education and that we all got to church. Just before he died he was baptized. He was born on Christmas Eve in 1919 and died on Holy Saturday in 1991. I thought that was unusual.

I grew up Catholic and have always been a member of St. Romuald as were my parents. I remember riding to church on Sunday in a wagon or buggy. We lived about six miles out. In the winter Momma would put large rocks on the stove on Saturday night and get them hot. Then on Sunday morning she would wrap them in cloth and put them in the wagon and we put on feet on them to stay warm on the way to church.

I think it will be a good thing for the parish to have a senior group. There are many widows here and it's good to get together and play cards or bingo or just socialize with others. I think our parish community is great - we are pretty close. I enjoy our parish and we've been lucky to get good priests.

I help on the bereavement meals and I set up for Mass every Thursday.



## St. Michael, Oak Grove, Celebrates Commitment to God, Country

OAK GROVE, Ky. - On May 2nd, 2004, the parishioners of St. Michael's had a double reason to celebrate and to shout "Thanks be to God!" All of our military members finally returned home, after serving up to a year of duty in Iraq. A Mass of Thanksgiving was planned by the St. Joan's Squadron and their mentors. Our prayers for their safe return were answered, and Fr. Carl McCarthy celebrated the Eucharist with over 300 members of the parish.

Active duty soldiers filled the ministries of lector, Eucharistic Ministers, servers, ushers, and color guards. A unit crest of each soldier's unit was presented during the offering. Seeing these men in uniform, as they participated in this celebration, was a reminder of their commitment to God as well as their country.

After the closing prayer, there was a renewal of marriage vows for all married couples. This was fitting for all the military couples, who had just been through a lengthy separation. Other couples joined them as they recalled similar separations in their own lives.

Following Mass there was the "Burning of the Mortgage", celebrating our debt free status TWO YEARS ahead of schedule. Fr. Carl McCarthy, with an audience of church members, took the liberty of burning mortgage papers marked "paid in full".



Father Carl McCarthy "Burning Our Mortgage" at St. Michael the Archangel Church in Oak Grove, Ky. Stephanie Vendl photo

As with all celebrations a feast was in order. Parish member Patrick Coffin, a native Samoan, roasted a pig for the occasion. Other members brought homemade dishes to share. The members of St. Michael's were filled with smiles, food, and the God's unending Grace.

Submitted by Stephanie Vendl

## OCHS Earns FFA Charter

OWENSBORO, Ky. - On Tuesday, June 8, 2004, the Owensboro Catholic High School (OCHS) Chapter of the Kentucky FFA (Future Farmers of America) Association received its charter. Owensboro Catholic is 1 of only 2 "nonpublic" school chapters in the United States!!

The students in the Agriculture Department at OCHS had to go through many hours of certification and compliance to get the program to this point!

Students had to show marked involvement and cooperation among the local "public" schools, while holding on to the values kept at Catholic High.

The program at OCHS also had to show marked growth, which they did. In 2001 they had 33 students participating, for this coming year they have a pre-enrollment of 64 students. FFA is part of an inter-curricular program. It represents the student leadership portion of the full program that includes classroom instruction, and Student Supervised Agriculture Experiences (SAE).

SAE is done on the students "own time," is directly related to their classroom studies, and is documented by the instructor/advisor.

Congratulations to all who put in the long hours and hard work to make this happen!



From left to right, Rick and Monica Farrall, Richard and Stephanie Vendl, Bill and Jennifer Jones, Adam and Laura Grejalba, and Dustin and April Bower. Stephane Vendl photo

# Sts. Joseph and Paul Parish Welcomes Liberian Refugees

By Suzanne Rose, Sts. Joseph and Paul Parish

**OWENSBORO, Ky.** - Sts. Joseph and Paul Parish truly celebrated the Risen Christ this Easter by welcoming the Sehkar family to Owensboro. The Sehkars had been living in refugee camps for the last 10 years during the civil war in Liberia. Sts. Joseph and Paul Parish filed with Catholic Charities to sponsor the Sehkar family in mid-July, 2003. After a wait of nine long months, and many anxious moments for the safety and health of the family, God rewarded the faith of parishioners and the Sehkar family.

Fr. Brian Roby, pastor of Sts. Joseph and Paul, blessed the house, where the family now makes their home in Owensboro — a home provided by the Owensboro Diocese and renovated by parishioners. Parishioners welcomed the family with housewarming gifts at the reception following the house blessing (pictured at right).

The family is adjusting quickly to life in America. The family attends ESL classes regularly at Precious Blood to help them in their transition. Many people throughout the community have befriended the family; parish volunteers tutor family members everyday, accelerating the family's preparations for school and jobs. Women of Ruth's generation in Africa did not attend school; Ruth, who could not read or write her own name a few short weeks ago, now proudly "goes to school" and shows off the penmanship of her name, thanks to the dedication of these volunteers. Alvin has been accepted at Kentucky Wesleyan College as a biology major; Joel will begin studying auto mechanics at Kentucky Technical College in the fall. Dahn, who never had the opportunity to attend school during his life in the refugee camps, has recently been promoted to a third grade reader. If he continues to learn at this rate, this 14-year-old will be ready for high school by the end of the summer!

Dahn, Wawon, and Benjamin experienced a movie theater, complete with popcorn and Coke, for the first time at the opening of *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*. The three oldest boys — Chester, Joel, and Alvin — recently began work at Field Packing. Benjamin and Mahnbuah have part-time employment. And watch out on the roads because Alvin now has a driver's license, and Chester, and Joel have learner's permits!

The Sehkar family is devoted to parish life, as well. In addition to attending parish functions, Chester and Joel sing in the church choir, and Chester plays on the church softball team. But the desire of family members to join us in full communion with the Catholic Church has provoked the greatest excitement within the parish. The family will continue their discernment in the RCIA program this summer; we look forward to welcoming them into the Catholic Church at the Feast of the Assumption in August. After his confirmation into the Catholic Church, Chester plans to enroll at Brescia University, where he will live in the House of Discernment as he begins a faith journey towards priesthood.

While we enjoy the blessings of the Sehkar family with us at Sts. Joseph and Paul, we are aware that many suffering people remain behind in the Sehkars' homeland of Monrovia, Liberia. Fr. Boniface Florkiah, pastor of Christ the King Parish, assisted us in bringing the Sehkars to Owensboro. Fr. Boniface is a young man who was ordained one year ago. He has risked his life to protect and minister to the people of his parish during the days of war, and he faces many obstacles in helping the people of his parish rebuild their lives. Food for the Poor does not go into Africa, and similar relief agencies do not go into Liberia, so Fr. Boniface faces these challenges with little material or financial support. 11 million Catholics live on the continent of Africa,



From left to right: Alvin Sehkar, Joel Sehkar, Benjamin Sehkar, Wawon Sehkar, Mahnbuah Sehkar, Fr. Brian Roby, Chester Sehkar, Suzanne Rose, Ruth Sehkar, Mary Danhauer, Emily Rose, Camille Zoe. Kneeling in front: Dahn Sehkar. SJP Photo.

many of them suffering in poverty. The Social Justice Committee at Sts. Joseph and Paul requests donations to assist the people of Christ the King Parish in Monrovia, Liberia. We ask for your prayers for our brothers and sisters in Christ the King Parish and for your help with financial or material donations from the following list. Donations to defray the cost of shipping would also be appreciated. Please bring or mail your donations to the Parish Office at 609 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Owensboro, Ky., 42303.

#### Sts. Joseph and Paul Parish Mission Collection for Christ the King Parish, Monrovia, Liberia:

**Material Goods:** • A portable generator for office use; • Computer; • Used clothing; • School supplies; • Office supplies; • Food: particularly rice, beans, and cooking oil (Please include a manual, hand-held can opener if you donate canned goods); • Medicine and first aid supplies: over-the-counter medicines and medicine samples, in addition to first aid supplies. Anti-biotic creams, anti-bacterial soaps, anti-diarrheals, and Tylenol are needed, in particular.

#### Financial donations will be used for the following projects:

- Feeding program, house cleaning, clothes laundering, and medical assistance for the elderly of the parish. 27 people have been identified as requiring this assistance. The use of these funds will provide employment for the youth of the parish to assist the elderly with feeding, cleaning, and laundering. Nurses will provide medical care.
- Scholarships to attend school. 86 students have been identified for scholarship aid. These funds would assist orphans and discourage young girls without financial means from practicing prostitution.

- Replace the zinc roofs on very old houses to provide habitable homes during the rainy season.

- To provide loan money for a credit union designed on the Catholic Relief Services Microfinance Model. This program provides small entrepreneurial loans to women in Third World countries to enable them to become self-supporting. This has proven to be a successful program. Christ the King Parish has identified 115 women, mostly widows, for this program.

- A vehicle to provide transportation for Fr. Boniface Florkiah. Rebel soldiers stole Fr. Boniface's vehicle in November 2003, during the last days of the civil war, while he was attempting to move the children of the parish to safety.

## Diocesan Mandeville Pilgrims Return Humbled, Blessed, Strengthened in Faith

Nine people from the Owensboro Diocese gathered at the Nashville Airport at 5:30 am on Monday, May 10 to begin the 7-day Mission Immersion Trip from the Owensboro Diocese to our Sister Diocese of Mandeville, Jamaica. Those who went are: Frank and Kathy Jones from St. Anthony Parish, Axtel; Fr. Ken Mikulcik, pastor of St. Anthony and St. Mary of the Woods parishes in Axtel and McQuady; Sr. Lucy Bonifas, OSF, nurse and supervisor from Lourdes Hospital, Paducah; Suzanne Rose, Director of the English Department at KWC and member of Saints Joseph and Paul Parish, Owensboro; Jeannette Ward teaches Math at OCC and is a member of Blessed Mother Parish, Owensboro; Kenny Phelps, farmer from Quality, KY and member of Holy Spirit Parish, Bowling Green; Patty DeJarnette, nurse and member of Holy Spirit Parish, Bowling Green and Sr. Pat Froning, OSF from the Catholic Pastoral Center and member of Blessed Mother Parish, Owensboro.

Approximately 20 people expressed an interest in the May trip. We were asked by the Diocese of Mandeville to limit this first trip to 10 persons. So, the participants were selected by the order in which they applied.

The total cost was approximately \$800.00 plus travel to and from the airport in Nashville (The \$800 included airfare, room, board, meals, and gratuities). Each person paid their own way, although some money was available from two designated fund-raisers (golf scrambles) to assist with travel for the mission efforts.

Why did they go? For a variety of reasons: to know more about what a sister diocese is and how we can work together; to organize details for an eyeglass clinic later in the month of May; to reach out to others; to possibly be a future volunteer for a year or longer; to experience the church in another culture; to meet our brothers



**Suzanne and Sister Manjulika on the roof of Mary Help of Christians Home (the green fields in the background are sugar cane).**



**Kaye Castlen helping at the glasses' frames table. Photo by Suzanne Rose**

and sister in Jamaica; to share what we have and to receive what we are given; to find possible future projects in which people from the Owensboro Diocese might participate; to meet with Bishop Boyle and learn his priority of need for the Diocese of Mandeville

All wore tee shirts that the Office of Youth Ministry gave us when the office closet was cleaned, and, then, after laundering them, all the Owensboro diocesan pilgrims left them there. (THANKS TO THE YOUTH MINISTRY OFFICE!!!) All took along many things that were left behind (shoes, suitcases, toys, clothing, belts, laundry detergents, peanut butter, candy, etc.) Sr. Pat reports that she went with two suitcases, a backpack and a personal carry-on. She wore clothes she had begged. She says she came home with only the clothes she was wearing, some laundry, her collapsible suitcase and the backpack. "That was a great experience of humility and freedom," she says.

What is it like in Mandeville? The country is beautiful, lush, and green. There is very little business and industry in the three civil parishes (St. Elizabeth, Manchester and Clarendon) that constitute the Diocese of Mandeville. There is one large bauxite mining operation. The area is mountainous, literally not one mile of straight, flat road. There is a lot of British influence - Jamaica gained its independence from Great Britain in 1962, so the country is very young as a nation. The Diocese is just 10 years old. The



**L to R Frank Jones, Kenny Phelps, Jeannette Ward, Sr. Lucy, Sr. Pat Group and House - Home in the bush before Food for the Poor - L to R Sr. Pat, Ronnie (our driver for the week), Sr. Lucy, family member, Patty DeJarnette. Notice the Youth Ministry Tee shirts!**

Church of England (Anglican Church) and the Seventh Day Adventists are predominate. The Pentecostal Churches are growing. The Catholic Population is very small. When Bishop Boyle was ordained for Mandeville and went to the city of Mandeville, he had no house and no office, so he literally had to begin from scratch.

What did the visitors actually do? Sr/Pat said, "We saw the dire poverty of so many of the people and we saw the 'success' stories of this young Diocese. We experienced a wonderful community among ourselves as we ate, prayed, worked and traveled together for seven days.

"We met Bishop Paul M. Boyle, C.P., Sister Connie Ostrander, OSB (Development director for the diocese) and Sr. Naomi Rosenberger, OSB (Chancellor) and had dinner with them. These three people have been the pioneers and builders of the infrastructure of the diocese. There are not native clergy in the diocese. All the priests, brothers, sisters, and consecrated persons are missionaries to the diocese.

"While in Jamaica we were introduced to a culture very different from our own. We saw with wonder the influence of the Catholic church in the ten years of its presence. There are now 20 parishes in the Diocese that has a total population of approximately 800,000 with about 8,500 Catholics. There is very little access to education beyond the equivalent of our grade school or even sixth grade.

"We were part of the building of Food for the Poor houses on four occasions. We assisted at Bacalava in a small way with work at Mary Help of Christians Home (for the abandoned elderly) staffed and managed by the Missionaries of Charity (Mother Teresa's Sisters)

*Continued on page 37*



**Dining area in Gallitzen House (supper catered by St. John Bosco Boys Home Catering School) L to R around the table Sr. Pat, Frank Jones, Kathy Jones, Fr. Ken Mikulcik, Sr. Lucy (hidden), Patty De Jarnette and Jeannette Ward**

# Diocesan Mandeville Pilgrims Return

(Continued from page 36)

We spent one day at Black River assisting as we could at Our Lady of Hope Orphanage (Assumption Sisters). We visited several basic schools (ages 3-6). We witnessed the miracle of St. John Bosco Children's Home managed by the Sisters of Mercy (Cincinnati Province - same as the Sisters of Mercy here) with its Catering School and Butcher School. We went to the market, accompanied by several of the children from the orphanage on a Crocodile Safari. We visited St. John Strombi High School and Brother Brad Smith (from West Louisville, Ky.) who teaches math there.

The Owensboro ministers learned Bishop Boyle's priorities that we in Western Kentucky can set as goals for helping the Mandeville Diocese. The first priority is money. Almost anything can be purchased if there is money for it. Our own diocesan Ash Wednesday Collection in Western Kentucky is wonderful. Since there is very little income for the people, the Diocesan collection has to subsidize all the parishes and works of the Diocese.

The second priority is long-term (at least one year) volunteers/missionaries/medical personnel (lay persons, brothers, sister, priests)  
The third priority is the donation of materials, supplies, furniture, etc., short-term volunteers working on some specific projects

What did the visitors receive from the people in Mandeville? Sr. Pat said, "It may be too early to answer that question adequately, but certainly these:

- A strength of faith that is not dependent on earthly possessions.



Kathy Jones (in front of a Food for the Poor House) and



Laundry in the Bush - Just that. Note the chickens. Many have chickens and a goat. Also notice the lush foliage.

- A tremendous appreciation for the beauty and joy of the people who have so little.
- A desire to assist in some way.
- A desire to go back.
- A humility in knowing that the people of the Mandeville diocese pray for us in the Owensboro Diocese everyday.
- A gratitude to God who loves all indiscriminately



Sr. Lucy, Suzanne, and the goat - a funny story - the goat had hanged herself over the wall. The heroines rescued her!



Fr. Ken Mikulcik and Mr. Richards - in the bush Mr. Richards has no legs, He made his "shoes" from plastic. He works his garden.



Fr. Ken and Myrie - carrying water for mixing concrete for the Food for the Poor Home in progress (this will be Myrie's home)



Gallitzen House, Spur Tree, Jamaica (not far from Mandeville) was built by the Altoona-Johnson Diocese. This is where we stayed.



Chapel - On the grounds of Gallitzen House

## Pope John Paul II's Message for World Mission Sunday 2004

My dearest Brothers and Sisters!

1. The Church's missionary activity is an urgency also at the beginning of the third millennium, as I have often said. Mission, as I stated in the Encyclical *Redemptoris missio*, is still only beginning and we must commit ourselves wholeheartedly to its service (cfr n. 1). The entire people of God at every moment of its pilgrimage through history is called to share the Redeemer's "thirst" (cfr *Jn* 19,28). This thirst to save souls has always been strongly experienced by the Saints: it suffices to think for example of Saint Therese of Lisieux, patroness of the missions and of Bishop Comboni, great apostle of Africa whom recently I had the joy of raising to the honour of the altars.

The social and religious challenges facing humanity in our day call believers to renew their missionary fervour. Yes! It is necessary to re-launch mission "ad gentes" with courage, starting with the proclamation of Christ, Redeemer of every human person. The International Eucharistic Congress which will be celebrated at Guadalajara in Mexico in the coming month of October, the missionary month, will be an extraordinary opportunity to grow in choral missionary awareness around the Table of the Body and Blood of Christ.

Gathered around the altar, the Church understands better her origin and her missionary mandate. As the theme of World Mission Sunday this year clearly emphasises "Eucharist and Mission" are inseparable. In addition to reflection on the bond that exists between the Eucharistic mystery and the mystery of the Church, this year there will be an eloquent reference to the Blessed Virgin Mary, because of the occurrence of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the definition of the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception (1854-2004). Let us contemplate the Eucharist with the eyes of Mary. Confiding in the intercession of the Blessed Virgin, the Church offers Christ, the Bread of Salvation, to all peoples that they may recognise Him and accept Him as the only Saviour of mankind.

2. Returning ideally to the Upper Room, last year, precisely on Holy Thursday, I signed the Encyclical *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, from which I would like to take some passages which will help us, dearest Brothers and Sisters, to live World Mission Sunday this year with a Eucharistic spirit. "The Eucharist builds the Church and the Church makes the Eucharist" (n. 26), I wrote, observing how the mission of the Church is a continuity of the mission of Christ (cfr *Jn* 20,21), and draws spiritual energy from communion with his Body and Blood. The goal of the Eucharist is precisely "communion of mankind with Christ and in him with the Father and the Holy Spirit" (*Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, 22). When we take part in the Eucharistic Sacrifice we understand more profoundly the universality of redemption and, consequently, the urgency of the Church's mission with its programme which "has its centre in Christ himself, who is to be known, loved and imitated, so that in him we may live the life of the Trinity and with him transform history until its fulfilment in the heavenly Jerusalem" (*ibid.*, 60).

Around Christ in the Eucharist the Church grows as the people, temple, and family of God: one, holy, Catholic, and apostolic. At the same time she understands better her character of universal sacrament of salvation and visible reality with a hierarchical structure. Certainly "no Christian community can be built up unless it has its basis and centre in the celebration of the most Holy Eucharist" (*ibid.*, 33; cfr *Presbyterorum Ordinis*, 6). At the end of every Mass, when the celebrant takes leave of the assembly with the words "Ite, Missa est," all should feel they are sent as "missionaries of the Eucharist" to carry to every environment the great gift received. In fact anyone who encounters Christ in the Eucharist cannot fail to proclaim through his or her life the merciful love of the Redeemer.

3. To live the Eucharist it is necessary, as well, to spend much time in adoration in front of the Blessed Sacrament, something which I myself experience every day drawing from it strength, consolation and assistance (cfr *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, 25). The Eucharist, the Second Vatican Council affirms, "is the source and summit of all Christian life" (*Lumen gentium*, 11), "the source and summit of all evangelisation" (*Presbyterorum Ordinis*, 5).

The bread and wine, fruit of human hands, transformed through the power of the Holy Spirit

into the Body and Blood of Christ, become a pledge of the "new heaven and new earth" (*Rev* 21,1), announced by the Church in her daily mission. In Christ, whom we adore present in the mystery of the Eucharist, the Father uttered his final word with regard to humanity and human history.

How could the Church fulfil her vocation without cultivating a constant relationship with the Eucharist, without nourishing herself with this food which sanctifies, without founding her missionary activity on this indispensable support? **To evangelise the world there is need of apostles who are "experts" in the celebration, adoration, and contemplation of the Eucharist.**

4. In the Eucharist we relive the mystery of the Redemption culminating in the Lord's sacrifice, as it is said in the words of consecration: "my body which will be given for you...;...my blood which will be poured out for you" (*Lk* 22,19-20). Christ died for all; and for all is the gift of salvation which the Eucharist renders sacramentally present in the course of history: "Do this in memory of me" (*Lk* 22,19). This mandate is entrusted to ordained ministers through the Sacrament of Holy Orders. To this banquet and sacrifice all men and women are invited so they may share in the very life of Christ: "He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him. As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me" (*Jn* 6,56-57). Nourished by Him, believers come to understand that the missionary task means being "acceptable as an offering, made holy by the Holy Spirit" (*Rom* 15,16), in order to be more and more "one, in heart and mind" (*Acts* 4,32) and to be witnesses of his love to the ends of the earth.

Journeying through the centuries, reliving every day the Sacrifice of the altar, the Church, the People of God, awaits Christ's coming in glory. This is proclaimed after the consecration by the Eucharistic assembly gathered around the altar. Time after time with renewed faith the Church repeats her desire for the final encounter with the One who comes to bring his plan of universal salvation to completion.

### First Eucharist at St. Joseph, Leitchfield

St. Joseph Church in Leitchfield, Ky. held its First Holy Communion for second grade students on Saturday, April 17 with new pastor Father Randy Howard. Seven children received the sacrament. Pictured at far right with Father Randy are Samantha Green, Karlie Blain, Leah Draland, Micah Spears, Kelsey Embry, Ashley Ezzo, and Kaylan Shull.

In the picture at near right, Karlie Blain is pictured in a classic Holy Communion pose, focused on the occasion while her younger sister is focused on the camera. Photos for the Leitchfield Record by DeAnna J. Lasley [news@the-record.net]



## Celebrating Cinco de Mayo

OWENSBORO, Ky. - On May 2, 2004 Sts. Joseph & Paul church enjoyed a Cinco de Mayo Celebration & potluck put on by the Hispanic community of their church. There was food, dancing, singing, and even a pinata for the kids. A great time was had by all. Submitted by Lavida Matthews.



The Centro Latino dancers showed many Spanish dances, here a Mexican Hat Dance.



Fr. Brian Roby & the children enjoy the dancing



## Counting Down The Days

OCHS freshmen Elaura Hoesli, left, and Kaylen Rhodes were sitting on the front steps of Owensboro Catholic High School on April 29, 2004 waiting for their rides home. Elaura said she had a song in her head all day long, "Looks Like We Made It," by Barry Manilou as she played with a cell phone, changing its ringing tones. Staff Photo



Sr. Fran leads everyone in song

## CHRISTIAN LEADER-

**SHIP INSTITUTE** - Twenty teenagers from the Diocese of Owensboro participated in the Christian Leadership Institute, June 27-July 2, at the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center at Maple Mount. The weeklong experience provided an opportunity for the young people to develop skills for leadership and Christian ministry. Sister Pam Mueller, OSU, right, front row, one of 14 team members for the institute, is shown with her



small group consisting of, l. to r., Jordan Hagan, Megan Rhodes, Lisa Bormann, Kendra Riley, Stephen Murphy, Amy Motheral. MSJ Photo



Dahn Sehkar from Liberia also joins in the fun and finally broke open the pinata

## Who Won The SLIM Awards?

The Diocesan Office of Youth Ministry sponsors an annual Servant Leaders in Ministry or SLIM Award. The Office recognizes high school Juniors and Seniors who have made an outstanding contribution to their Parish, Deanery, and/or the Diocese through their leadership and involvement in youth ministry. Up to sixteen young people receive an award in the form of a plaque while all other youth nominated receive a Certificate of Recognition. This year, twelve youth from the Diocese of Owensboro were awarded plaques in recognition of their Servant Leadership In Ministry. They are: **Kim Russelburg**, St. Joseph Parish - Mayfield; **Crissy Stevenson**, St. Paul Parish - Princeton; **Amber Conkright**, St. Pius Tenth Calvert City; **Suzie Wallace**, Resurrection Parish - Dawson Springs; **Murf Adams**, St. Joseph Parish, Central City; **Chris Missig**, Christ the King Parish - Madisonville; **Nathan Patterson**, St. Ann - Morganfield; **Katie Jurkiewicz**, Immaculate Parish - Owensboro; **Jessica Mills**, St. Mary of the Woods Parish - Whitesville; **Sarah Chapman**, Immaculate Parish - Owensboro; **Ben Rasp**, Immaculate Parish - Owensboro; **Jeremy Zimmerman**, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish - Owensboro; **Sarah Clark**, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish - Owensboro

Eight youth from the Diocese of Owensboro were awarded Certificates of Recognition for their Servant Leadership In Ministry (SLIM). They are: **Sarah Child**, St. Thomas More - Paducah; **Morgan Day**, St. Joseph - Central City; **Amy Haire**, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish - Owensboro; **Andrew Murphy**, Precious Blood Parish - Owensboro; **Jessica Greenwell**, St. Stephen Cathedral - Owensboro; **Pete Jones**, St. Stephen Cathedral - Owensboro; **Maggie McKay**, St. Pius X - Owensboro; **Audrey Higdon**, St. Pius X - Owensboro

Nomination forms are mailed out to Youth Ministry Contacts in all parishes in the spring of the year. They may be nominated by Youth Ministers, Pastors, Catechists... someone from the parish that knows about their involvement in the church. There is an effort to have equal representation from the different deaneries, however, sometimes no nominations come from some deaneries. Young people may be nominated more than once, but they may not receive a plaque more than once in order to recognize more young people from throughout the diocese. We ask that the awards and certificates be presented to the recipients at a special Mass or youth gathering.

Congratulations to all of this year's recipients!! Keep up the good work and keep growing in your faith!!

## 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. Rumage, Jr.

### "Church Signs"

In traveling around the area it is interesting to note the different announcement signs in front of some churches. Many contain a slogan or a catchy phrase that pertains to man's relationship, or lack thereof, with God. I have listed some of the ones that I think are worthy of notation.

"Instead of counting sheep, try talking to the shepherd!"

"God is always on line!"

"Ch--ch! What's missing? u r!"

"If you give Satan an inch, he'll want to be a ruler!"

"If you let the devil in the car, within 5 minutes he'll want to drive!"

"WWJD-What would Jesus do!"

"Experts built the Titanic, amateurs built the Ark."

"The best thing a father can give his son is his time, not his money."

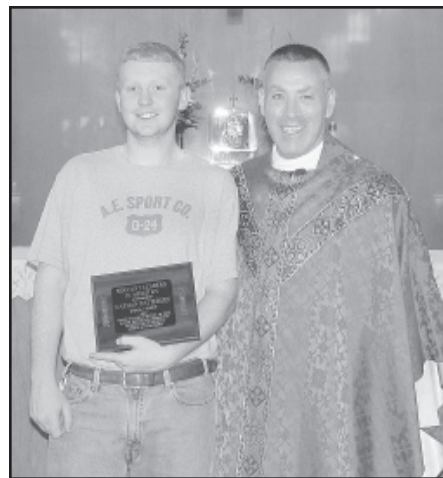
"We serve soul food here"

"Seven days without the bible makes one weak"

"God sends no one away empty except, those who are full of themselves."

"If you're low on faith, step inside for a fill-up."

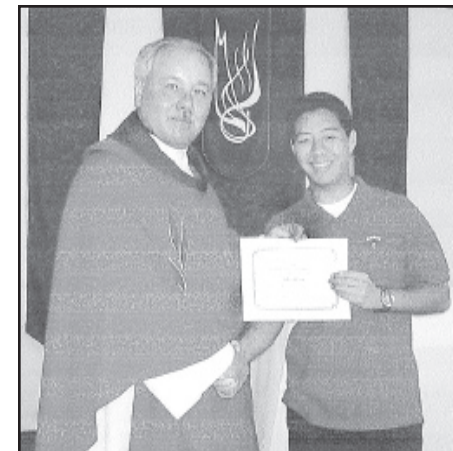
While we may find all these little messages amusing, they contain a lot of truth and wisdom. The subtle messages that they contain are a image of real life conditions, not only in our relationship with God, but also with each other.



Nathan Patterson was awarded the 2004 Servant Leader in Ministry Award from the Diocese of Owensboro. Nathan is a 2004 graduate of Union County High School and attends St. Ann Catholic Church. Nathan is very active in his church and school. He sings in the Youth Choir and is very involved in our high school youth group. He has served on the planning committee for Youth 2000, has attended the retreat for several years, has attended CLI and TEC. Nathan is the son of Todd and Carla Patterson of Morganfield. Nathan is a very spirit filled young man and we are proud to have him as our SLIM award winner! Nathan Patterson is pictured with Fr. Gerald Baker, pastor St. Ann Catholic Church



Fr. Pat Bittell recognized SLIM Award winner Jessica Mills, St. Mary of the Woods Parish - Whitesville



Fr. Brad Whistle gives a Certification of Recognition for Servant Leadership in Ministry to Andrew Murphy, Precious Blood Parish -

## Immaculate Celebrates 50 Years

The Immaculate Parish at 2516 Christie Place, Owensboro, will be holding its 50th anniversary celebration September 19, 2004 beginning with a Mass at 2:00 p.m. with a meal following in the parish hall. The emcee for the event will be Ron Rhoades, a former parishioner and presently a meteorologist for Fox 7 in Evansville, In. The day will be filled with story telling, looking at old photos, watching a video of the history of the church and school, seeing old friends, and making new ones. Anyone especially former parishioners, interested in attending please contact the parish at 683-0689.



St. Paul, Leitchfield, celebrated the 20th anniversary of ordination of Fr. Marty Hayes. Gifts were presented at a potluck meal. He has been pastor at St. Paul/St. Elizabeth for three years. Submitted photo



## Getting Their School's Name On Radio

WHITESVILLE, Ky. - Thanks to a promotion package donation from a Trinity parent

some time at Trinity High School. Working with the journalism class and other student volunteers, the radio station broadcast from THS for two hours Monday, May 10. At six different times during the promotion, students from THS talked on air to Steve about many positive aspects of Trinity High School. Students mentioned that they appreciate Trinity's size, the concerned staff, the ability to attend mass, religion classes, & retreats, and the comfortable atmosphere in which they learn. the close friendships, the friendly &



At left, Michael Morris, Aaron Nash, and Michelle Roberts review possible interview questions. At right in the group picture (L to R): Aaron Nash, Ashley Hagan, Steve Horn, Tuesdee Richards, Melissa Mills, Cassie Merritt, Michael Morris, & Michelle Roberts. Submitted by Christina Rhodes for THS.



concerned staff, the ability to attend mass, religion classes, & retreats, and the comfortable atmosphere in which they learn.

## St. Anthony of Padua May, 2004, Parish Cookout

Pictures submitted by e-mail by Tom and Betty Fusco for St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Grand Rivers, Ky.



We at Saint Anthony of Padua Parish are small in numbers, but have a great time with all parish events at St. Anthony's. These are pictures from our parish cookout back in the early summer, 2004.

- Thank you, Tom Fusco



What's a cookout without charcoal smoke from the grill?





**SHARING INFORMATION** - Teachers from across the Commonwealth attended a workshop at the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center, June 8-10, sponsored by Kentucky Agriculture and Environment in the Classroom. KAEC is part of the Kentucky Department of Education. The teachers spent three days getting new ideas for curriculum they can incorporate into their classrooms. Michael Judge, executive director of marketing for the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, Rayetta Boone, director of Kentucky Agriculture and Environment in the Classroom, Dr. Jack Morgan, professor of economics at the University of Louisville, and Sister Amelia Stenger, OSU, director of the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center, shared information with the teach-

## OCHS Has 122 Named Academic All-State

OWENSBORO, Ky. - The Kentucky High School Athletic Association has named 122 students from Owensboro Catholic High School as Academic All-State by the Kentucky High School Athletic Association.

Fifty-four athletes were named First Team Academic All-State, which requires an athlete to maintain a minimum of 3.75 cumulative grade point average up to and including their sports season.

These students are: Haleigh Ashworth – softball, Tim Barnoud – tennis, Thomas Bartlett – tennis, Megan Blandford-soccer, Angela Connor-golf, Dirk Dooper-soccer & track, Elisa Graham-tennis, Paul Mattingly-cross country, Joseph Polio-cross country & swim, Jacob Randolph-baseball & football, Megan Thompson-track, Lauren Barna-golf & track, Courtney Castlen-volleyball & track, Amanda Clark-softball & Acettes, Laura Clark-soccer & track, Jennifer Dooper-soccer & track, Erin Ebelhar-volleyball, Kristen Gerteisen-basketball, Caitlin Glaser-tennis, Emily Goedde-volleyball, Sarah Hardesty-volleyball, Christopher Hodgkins-soccer, Kirk McCarty-soccer, Chase McNulty-tennis & soccer, Brittney Owens-volleyball, Alex Payne-baseball, Erin Rasp-basketball & track, Jennifer Renshaw-golf & Acettes, Jordan Taliaferro-football, Jason Whitehouse-track, John Wilson-tennis, Katie Wright-volleyball, Meagan Aull-softball, Michelle Beyke-basketball, Eric Biscopink-soccer, Emily Brown-cheerleader, Alex Castlen-track, Shelby Dotsey-track, Corey Edge-football, Hannah Flaherty-track, Jessica Fogle-basketball, Charles Helms-football, Sara Johnson-cheerleader, Kimberly Kauffeld-soccer & basketball, Nicholas Norcia-football & basketball, Adam Powers-golf & basketball, Patrick Powers-soccer & basketball, Charles Riccio-soccer & track, Nicholas Searcy-cross country & track, Brittany Stark-cheerleader, Wesley Taul-golf & basketball, Ben Thompson-cross country, Kathleen Thompson-track, Matthew Wills-cross country & track.

Sixty-eight of the athletes representing Catholic High were named Honorable Mention Academic All-State, which requires an athlete to maintain a minimum of 3.25 cumulative

## Contemporary Woman Continuing Education Calendar, July - December, 2004

All classes are held in room 221 of the science building unless otherwise stated. Brescia students may participate in any of these classes by registering in advance with Sister Marita.

July 22, **Celebrating the Feast of Saint Mary Magdalen** – Join us in celebrating this feast at 7 pm – Contemporary Woman Room, **Presenter: Cheryl Clemons, OSU**, No cost. Please call 686-4275.

August 25, September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 – **From Age-ing to Sage-ing: A Profound New Vision of Growing Older**, Zalman Schraacter-Shalom, 10 – 12 noon. **Both women and men are welcome.**

September 28, October 12, 26, November 9, 23, December 7 – **Sacred Contracts: Awakening Your Divine Potential**, by Caroline Myss, 6-8 pm. **Both men and women are welcome.**

September 9, 16, 23, 30, October 7, 14 - **Radical Forgiveness: Making Room for the Miracle**, by Colin Tipping, 10 – 12 noon

August 26, September 9, 23, October 7, 21, November 4, 18, **Ways of the Mystic: Seven Paths to God**, by Joan Borysenko, 7 – 9 pm.

August 27, September 3, 10, 17, 24, October 1, 8, 22, 29, November 5, 12, 19, December 3, 10, **The Cantic Group**, Joseph Campbell's video *Transformations of Myth Through Time* and Joan Chittister's book, *Scarred by Struggle, Transformed by Hope*, 10 – 12 noon.

October 19, 26, November 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, December 7, **Hatha Yoga, Advanced**, 7:15 – 8:15 pm. **Both women and men are welcome.**

October 21, 28, November 4, 11, 18, December 2, 9, 16, **Hatha Yoga, Beginners**, 7:15 – 8:15 pm. **Both women and men are welcome.**

November 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, **Shadow Dance**, by David Rico, 10-12 noon.

September 8, October 13, November 10, December 8, **Partnership Group**, will study and discuss the book, *Power of Intention: Learning to Co-Create Your World Your Way* by Wayne W. Dyer, 7 – 9 pm. **The group is composed of both men and women.**

September 17, October 22, November 19, **International Women's Issues** on Fridays, 12 noon – 1 pm in the Campus Center Dining Room Annex. **Women and men are welcome.**

## “CALLING FROM LUBBOCK, TEXAS”

By Sr. Martha Molohon

Having officially retired after sixty-two years as a member of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters, twenty-one of those spent in Lubbock, west Texas, at St. Joseph's Parish, imagine my surprise when I received a telephone call from a young married woman, formerly a student in the Parish School of Religion. This call was an invitation to return to the parish to present the first annual *Sister Martha Molohon Scholarship* of \$1,000 toward the future education of a deserving graduating senior. The originators of the project were the members of a Social Action Group calling themselves P.U.S.H. (Pray Until Something Happens)

I spent an enjoyable weekend with many friends, missing some who were no longer there and astounded at the changes that had taken place.

For me, this was a touching gift of appreciation from the people of the parish, not only for me, but also for all of the eighty plus Victory Noll Sisters who have ministered there between the years of 1928 until 2002 when we could no longer provide Sisters. The School of Religion was left in the very capable hands of a co-worker, Yolanda Gutierrez.

It was with gratitude and joy that I went back for a delightful weekend to experience again the family I lived and worked among for so long.

Quoting my sister Magdalen Kaelin, “If you received so much appreciation from the people in Lubbock, imagine what heaven will be like.” Yes, I believe that God is generous with surprises. Thank you, St. Joseph's Parish for the honor you have given me, and to the young woman who received the scholarship, Erin Nicole Bonnett. I pray that you will be supported and enriched by the example of faith and generosity of the parishioners at St. Joseph's.

I am now enjoying another, though much smaller family, in Columbia, Kentucky as a volunteer at Good Shepherd Parish.

*Editor's Note: Sr. Martha is the daughter of the late Loyola and Mamie Molohon of St. Elizabeth Parish in Curdsville, Kentucky. Sr. Martha has four sisters, Margaret Mat-*

*Continued on page 45*

## 30th Annual Music at Maple Mount



The 30th annual Music at Maple Mount Summer Institute for Young Musicians was held June 13-26 at Mount Saint Joseph. Seventy-seven youths from throughout the Midwest attended the two-week camp. Nine free concerts, open to the public, were presented at the Mount during the institute.



## MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER Calendar of Events, August 2004-March 2005

### August 2004

- 6-8 Family Reunion
- 13-14 Directors of Youth Ministry
- 13-15 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 15-22 Directed Retreatant
- 16-23 Directed Retreatant
- 20-22 Retrouvaille
- 27-29 Catholic Marriage Encounter

### September 2004

- 3-5 Sisters Workshop (not Ursulines)
- 12 MSJ Picnic
- 12 Catholic Marriage Encounter Follow-Up
- 14-17 Runaway Quilters
- 24-26 Catholic Engaged Encounter

### October 2004

- 1 Hospice of Owensboro
- 1-2 Women's Retreat, Grace Fellowship
- 2 Girl Scouts Under the Big Top
- 4-8 Spiritual Direction Institute
- 7 Harvest Time, Prayer and Reflection Day
- 9-10 Alanon
- 10-15 TOPS
- 15-17 Mount Hope Weekend, Kentucky Breast Cancer Survivors
- 16 Wedding Reception
- 22-24 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 25-29 Priests Retreat
- 29-31 Regional Cursillo Encounter
- 30 Ministry Formation Program

### November 2004

- 2-4 Mount Saint Joseph Quilting Friends
- 4 Gift Giving, Prayer and Reflection Day
- 5-7 Teen Leadership Conference
- 8-10 Glenmary Priest Retreat
- 11-12 Journey Into Faith: The Spirituality of Thomas Merton
- 12-14 Catholic Marriage Encounter
- 19-21 Marian Retreat

### December 2004

- 2 Advent, Prayer and Reflection Day
- 11 MSJ Employee Christmas Party

### January 2005

- 7-8 Music Program, Mike Bogden
- 7-14 St. Meinrad Seminarian Retreat
- 14-16 Retrouvaille
- 17-21 Spiritual Direction Institute

### February 2005

- 4-6 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 11-13 Catholic Marriage Encounter
- 18-20 Charismatic Conference
- 24-26 Basket Weavers
- 26 Ministry Formation Program

### March 2005

- 4-6 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 10-13 Men's Cursillo
- 10-13 Teens Encounter Christ
- 15-16 Spirituality of a Catechist

*Center-sponsored programs in bold letters are open to the public. For information about scheduling a program or event for your organization, contact: Kathy McCarty, Facilities Director, (270) 229-0200, ext. 413 or kmccarty@maplemount.org.*



## JOURNEY INTO FAITH THE SPIRITUALITY OF THOMAS MERTON

Directed by Father Anthony Shonis

November 11-12, 2004

Trappist Thomas Merton, who wrote on a vast range of topics, is today regarded as a spiritual master, a brilliant religious writer, and a man who embodied the quest for God and human solidarity in the modern world.

Father Shonis, a priest of the Diocese of Owensboro for 33 years, has taught at Owensboro Catholic High School, the Pontifical College Josephinum, and Brescia College/University. He has recently been appointed associate pastor of St. Francis de Sales Church in Paducah, Kentucky. Father Shonis, a dedicated Merton scholar, believes that "Merton's teachings are never out of date."



For more information, contact Kathy McCarty, (270) 229-0200, ext. 413, or kmccarty@maplemount.org.



Mount Saint Joseph  
Conference and Retreat Center

## Court rules against funding trainees in Catholic schools

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A new federal court ruling prohibits the national service program AmeriCorps from providing educational vouchers for college tuition or student loans to its teacher trainees who volunteer in Catholic schools, saying it is a violation of the constitutional separation of church and state. U.S. District Court Judge Gladys Kessler ruled July 2 that the Corporation for National and Community Service, which oversees the AmeriCorps program, had "completely blurred" the line between secular and nonsecular activities by providing tuition vouchers to volunteers in religious schools. She sided with the American Jewish Congress, which brought the suit against the federal agency two years ago, charging that federal funds were being used to teach Christian values. "Such direct government involvement with religion crosses the vague but palpable line between permissible and impermissible government action under the First Amendment," Kessler said. The lawsuit against the Corporation for National and Community Service singled out three AmeriCorps grantees, including the University of Notre Dame's Alliance for Catholic Education, known as ACE; the Catholic Network of Volunteer Service; and the Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission. The federal agency was given 60 days to file an appeal against the ruling.

## Sunday's For The Family

**Eighteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time, August 1, 2004, Luke 12: 13-21**

**Theme:** TAKE STOCK OF YOUR VALUES

**Family Life:** Imagine you're at the beach with your family and have just finished a game of Frisbee or volleyball in the blazing sun. Everyone has really worked up a thirst. "What's there to drink, mom?" becomes a popular refrain. Do you send the kids to the cooler for a soda...maybe grab a Gatorade? Is there a homemade pitcher of frosty lemonade or just plain H2O? What's the thirst quencher your family prefers? One thing is certain, you don't respond, "Go drink some sea water, honey. You can have all you want!" There is an old proverb that says, "money is like sea water. The more people drink it, the thirstier they get."

**Nineteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time, August 8, 2004, Luke 12: 32-48**

**Theme:** THE JOURNEY OF LIFE AND PREPAREDNESS

**Family Life:** The journey of marriage and family living is a leap in faith. It's a great challenge keeping one's confidence up through grueling times year after year. "You dragged your husband here to me to change him, but only can change himself," said the marriage counselor to Sandra after three disappointing sessions. In the same way that the master's servants must be prepared for his return at any time, day or night, living quality family life calls for healthy patterns for communication and conflict resolution. And these skills are called upon literally day or night, with only a moment's notice.

**Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time, August 15, 2004, Luke 12:49-53**

**Theme:** FAITH THAT IS TRUE AND GENUINE

**Family Life:** Today's Gospel is troubling for parents and families. "From now on, a household will be divided...father will be split against son...mother against daughter..." Some may jokingly conclude that they are taking Jesus' message to heart, for their house is just as he described. Yet, in all seriousness, why would Jesus say such things? Families are troubled enough; why must his message divide them?

**Twenty-first Sunday of Ordinary Time, August 22, 2004, Luke 12:22-30**

**Theme:** IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO ENTER THE KINGDOM

**Family Life:** Someone once said, "You may not get to heaven based on all the good deeds you do, but you might make it based on who you hang out with." The point: do we welcome the stranger, reach out to the lonely, include the less fortunate? Sometimes these are folks right in your own home - the lonely, downhearted, troubled, or just plain ornery. How do you "hang-out" with those loved ones (sometimes n'er-do-wells) you live with?

**Twenty-second Sunday of Ordinary Time, August 29, 2004, Luke 14:1, 7-14**

**Theme:** HOSPITALITY TO THE DEPRIVED AND THE ESTRANGED

**Family Life:** Just as prejudice is first learned in the context of families that are biased, so too sensitivity and openness to the neglected and the scorned are taught within the environment of families that reach out with Christ-like love to "the least" of this world. The attitudes of children are shaped by how parents talk about people of other races and of diverse socio-economic groups. A spirit of understanding and generosity toward the poor is "caught" from parents who feed the hungry and provide shelter for the homeless. Tolerance of people of diverse life-styles is inspired by the way parents relate to the divorced, to gays and lesbians, and to those with Aids. When is the last time we invited "an outcast" to dinner?

## A HEALING & INFORMATION PROCESS:

### For People With Divorce & Marital Invalidity Questions

On **Thursday, October 21, 2004 at 6:30 pm** the Family Life Office of the Diocese, will sponsor an evening for those people who would like to learn more about the marital invalidity (annulment process).

Fr. Mike Clark and Donna Sauer from the Tribunal Office for the Diocese of Owensboro will speak to those who want to know more about the marital invalidity (annulment process): the difference between divorce and annulments. There will be time for questions afterwards. This is open to anyone that may be going through this process.

This will be held at the **Catholic Pastoral Center 600 Locust Street**. For further information you may contact Betty Medley at (270) 683-1545 ext. 105 or email [betty.medley@pastoral.org](mailto:betty.medley@pastoral.org).

## WISDOM

By Ginny Knight-Simon

**Lucille Wheatley, St. Romuald Parish, Hardinsburg, KY**

Lucille Wheatley is famous for her cinnamon rolls. "I've probably made a million in my life!" she said while attending a senior gathering at the St. Romuald parish hall in June.

"I've been lunchroom manager at St. Romuald's for about 37 years. Many people ask me when I'm going to retire, but you know, I really don't see a reason to retire as long as I am able to work. I really like the work and I like the kids. They let you know right quick if they don't like what you are serving that day! I enjoy working as cashier because the kids say some funny things sometimes. My specialty is the cinnamon rolls. I have made them for every event I can think of; from weddings to something for the Methodist church," said Lucille

"My husband Charles died 9 years ago - we would have been married 50 years this year. We have one foster son, Steve Embry. He came to spend the night with us when he was in the 4th grade and never went home! He still lives with me."

My sister, Linda Greenwood, and I do a lot together. We like to go fishing, and I



like to fish for Blue Gill and Bass. I also enjoy playing bingo every Sunday night. I help out on the bereavement meals and the parish picnic. I like to stay busy." Lucille said with a smile.

Lucille was gracious enough to provide her cinnamon rolls for the annual Day of Wisdom held each May at the Catholic Pastoral Center. Thank you Lucille...they

## Children Do Grieve: The Importance of Providing Bereavement Support

By Betty Medley, Diocesan Family Life Office

Research shows that very young children do experience loss and grief. If not allowed to express their grief, they will learn to bury their feelings. Some adults tell of not being allowed to grieve when they were very young. It still affects them today.

Young children are often sheltered from adult displays of mourning. They are sent to a relative or a neighbor with the rationale that "they wouldn't understand." Well-meaning adults think that they are protecting young children when they do not include them in any of the funeral rituals and do not talk about the person who died. Even young children should be free, **but not pressured**, to discuss their feelings and to participate.

Many efforts are being made in our community to assure that children by age six attain the necessary mental, physical, social, and emotional development to successfully embrace educational and social opportunities for growth and learning. However, if young children are not helped to grieve the death of a loved one or the other major loss, it may negatively affect their mental and physical health, behavior, relationships with family, adults and other children, self-esteem, and ability to learn.

According to studies, we must help kids because they are not mature enough psychologically to acquire adequate coping skills on their own, and because they look to us, their caregivers, for help during each developmental stage of childhood.

Children learn behavior from parents and others who care for them. As role models, for good or bad, adults mold the way in which children mourn. If children, even young children, are not helped, unresolved grief may continue to cause problems throughout childhood and even in their adult life.

# Hospice 8th Annual Daystar



**Daystar Campers: back row: Katy Cecil Zuerner, Amy Durbin, Erin Harden, Margaret Blair, Jeremiah November, Katie Brown; second row: Dalton November, Joshua Melton, Drake November, Karissa Miller, Greg Harden, Johnathan Howard; front row, Miranda Miller and Emily Wink. Submitted photo**

OWENSBORO, Ky. - The Family Life Office of the Diocese of Owensboro along with Hospice & Palliative Care of the Ohio Valley, Inc sponsored their 8th annual Daystar camp for children ages 6-13 who had experienced the death of a relative or close friend.

This event was held Saturday-July 10, 2004 at Century Christian Church.

The goals of the day camp were to offer an opportunity for these young people to commemorate and remember the loved ones they had lost and to better understand the feelings associated with loss and grief.

## OCHS Has 122 Named Academic All-State

*(Continued from page 42)*

grade point average up to and including their sports season. These students are: Zachary Barnard-basketball & football, Daniel Blandford-soccer, Nicholas Blanford-baseball & football, Robby Boardman-football, Ryan Bowlds-football, Gregory Buntin-tennis & football, Christy Dixon-swim & track, Lindsey Durbin-softball & basketball, Travis Flaim-soccer & track, Kathryn Hamlet-basketball, Amy Hayden-basketball, Kathryn Howard-soccer & basketball, Peter Hurley-cross country, Matthew Johnson-cross country, Kassie Kauffeld-tennis, Laura McBride-volleyball, Dana McFarland-volleyball, Rachel Mills-softball, Timothy Mudd-football, Jake Murphy-baseball, Ashtin Riney-track, Sarah Scherm-tennis, Keira Settles-soccer, Luke Thompson-football, Marc Thomson-soccer, Sarah Valentine-volleyball, Jessica Velotta-soccer, Jacob Aull-football, Jonathon Brand-baseball, Blake Buck-track, Chanda Burcham-swim & softball, Sarah Castlen-track, Kyle Clayton-tennis, Allison Dorth-volleyball, Kevin Gregory-soccer, Danielle Hayden-volleyball, Wayne Howard-basketball, David Jarboe-football, Stephen Kamuf-baseball & football, John McBride-football, Adam McCarthy-football, Julie O'Bryan-soccer, Brittany Rumage-basketball, Jacqueline Stogsdill-tennis, Keith Storm-track, Margaret Tichenor-softball, Matthew Valentine-basketball, Franklin Wathen-basketball, Michael Windle-golf, David Woodward-basketball & football, Amy Rives-basketball, Ryan Crowe-track, Joseph Devine-baseball & basketball, Christopher Dueker-track & cross country, Casey Edge-football & track, Brandon Elder-golf & basketball, Tyler Frey-football, Neil Holland-baseball, basketball & football, Rachael King-cheerleader, Gretchen Koett-cheerleader, Eric Mahoney-soccer, Robbi Payne-cheerleader, Olivia Randolph-softball, Matthew Stallings-track, Blake Sterling-football & basketball, T.J.

## MSJ Associates of Grayson County Welcome Pastor Fr. Brian Johnson as New Member



On Saturday evening, June 26, Erv and Coreen Moore hosted an outdoor dinner party at their beautiful home in Clarkson, in honor of the Mount Saint Joseph Ursuline Sisters and the Ursuline Associates of Grayson County. The evening started with an outdoor Mass celebrated by Fr. Marty Hayes, St. Paul/St. Elizabeth, and Fr. Brian Johnson, St. Anthony/Augustine/Benedict. There was live music provided by the McKinney Family Band, and a wonderful meal served afterward. Fr. Brian was awarded his membership certificate and welcomed into the Ursuline Associates by Sr. Mary Louise Knott, and Sr. Clarence Marie Luckett. Lots of good fun and conversations followed into the evening. Submitted by Jody Ziegler



Live music was provided by the McKinney Family Band for the Mount Saint Joseph Associates meeting in Grayson County at Erv and Coreen Moore's home, and a wonderful meal served afterward. Jody Zeigler photo

Stinnett-soccer, Andrew Tipmore-football & basketball, Geoffrey Williams-basketball. We are extremely proud of these award winners!!! Owensboro Catholic Schools - Faith In Education!

## Ursuline Sisters' Flatboat Ready to Set Sail

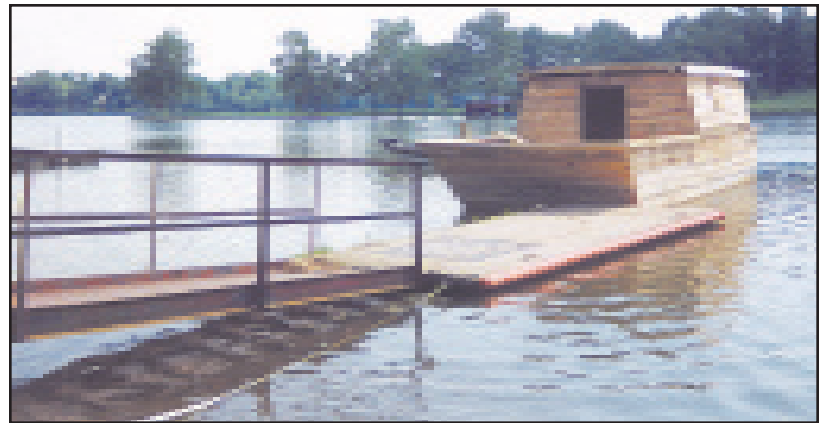
The 1874-era flatboat has been built and water-tested, the 1874-era habits have been fitted, and the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph's *Ursuline Flatboat Adventure*, a 155-nautical-mile journey down the Ohio River from Louisville to Owensboro, will take place August 11-15. It's a re-enactment of an August 1874 journey by five Ursuline Sisters of Louisville who ventured to Owensboro to establish a Catholic school for young girls in western Daviess County.

During its 109-year history, Mount Saint Joseph Academy served hundreds of young women from across the United States and several foreign countries. With the closing of the Academy in 1983, the buildings reopened as the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center, which continues to be a sponsored ministry of the Ursuline Sisters.

The journey will begin at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, August 11, with a Mass at St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church, 639 South Shelby Street, Louisville. At 9:30 the flatboat, with five Ursuline Sisters aboard, will depart from George Rogers Clark Park in Clarksville, Indiana, across the river from Louisville, near the Falls of the Ohio State Park. Original plans for departure from downtown Louisville had to be changed because of the recent closing of the McAlpine Locks for repair.

People living in Brandenburg and Cloverport, Kentucky, Tell City and Grandview, Indiana, and Owensboro, Kentucky - and the surrounding areas - will have an opportunity to take part in pioneer activities with the Sisters when the flatboat docks at these ports during its journey. The Sisters will be able to talk with visitors, share a meal, and spend the night. All of these activities are listed on the website: [www.ursulineflatboatadventure.org](http://www.ursulineflatboatadventure.org).

The flatboat will arrive in Owensboro shortly after noon on Sunday, August 15, where the Sisters will board a horse-drawn wagon to begin the journey to Maple Mount. A tractor-drawn wagon will take them the rest of the way to the Mount, where a special prayer service and celebration will welcome the Sisters and honor the pioneers and all the Ursuline Sisters who have given their lives in service to the people of God over the past 130 years. A reception will follow. Guests will be served watermelon and buttermilk cookies, which were served to the pioneering Sisters when they arrived at the Mount in 1874. The public is invited to the reception at the Owensboro riverfront and to the



**MAKING A HABIT** - Ursuline Sisters Susan Mary Mudd (l.) and Elaine Burke (r.), left photo, adjust the lapel on the 1874-era habit being made for Sister Lorraine Lauter (seated) to be worn on the Ursuline Sisters' *Flatboat Adventure* down the Ohio River August 11-15. Right photo: Sister Pam Mueller (l.) and Sister Sharon Sullivan (r.) join Sister Susan Mary as they place the veil on Sister Lorraine to complete the investment.



## Cheerful Givers

During Lent, 2004, St. Mary Elementary students in Paducah, Ky. collected \$56 for the St. Nicholas Clinic. Pictured above, St. Mary Elementary Principal Genie Lasoski, presents the check to St. Nicholas Director Anita Spurlock. Pictured left to right: First Row: Catherine Campbell, Emily Meredith, Caroline Crider, Olivia Ellison, Meredith Bruce; 2nd Row: Maggie Swift, Leslie Shockley, Hannah Mitchell, Wes Averill, Hunter Dickens; 3rd Row: Griffin Watson, Julia Zaninovich, Mrs. Lasoski, Mrs. Spurlock, George Smith. SME Photo



## Engaged Encounter Couples

The March, 2004 Engaged Encounter Couples are Paul Howard and Holly Morris, Andy Owen & Jean Calhoun, Matthew Mehling & Audrey Taylor, John Tignor & Dawn Cecil, Justin Harrington & Tricia Mayfield, Scott Emerson & Heather Payne, Michael Cannon & Carrie Thornton, Mark Pollard & Kimberly Blair, Phillip Thompson & Amber French. Submitted photo

## Glenmary Returns Administration of 2 Parishes, and 1 Mission To Diocese

By Jean Bach, jbach [jbach@glenmary.org]

In 1940, Glenmary Home Missioners accepted Edmonson County, Ky., as its first mission territory. Two years later, Glenmary Father Clem Borchers was assigned to Sunfish as pastor of St. John Church. Over the years Glenmary priests, brothers, and coworkers have maintained a presence in this area of Western Kentucky, establishing missions in Butler and Ohio counties.

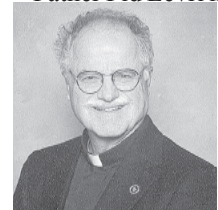
But on June 8, Glenmary returned to the Diocese of Owensboro the established parishes of Holy Redeemer in Beaver Dam and Holy Trinity in Morgantown, as well as a mission station at Horse Branch. A potluck was held May 23 as a way to thank Glenmary, to say goodbye to Glenmary Father Fid Levri who pastored the missions since 1997, and most especially to reminisce about the past. The reminiscing took place around photo boards and through the stories swapped.

Glenmary, founded in 1939 and headquartered in Cincinnati, works to establish the Catholic Church in rural areas of the South, Southwest, and Appalachia where there has been no official Catholic presence. Missioners start church communities from scratch and nurture them until they can be returned to the local diocese. Missioners then move on to areas of greater mission need.

These Western Kentucky missions hold a special place in Glenmary history. They, along with other related missions already returned to the diocese, trace their beginnings to that first Glenmary mission in Sunfish, which was turned back to the Diocese of Owensboro in 1971.

Holy Trinity was established as a mission out of Sunfish in 1942. From Holy Trinity, St. John mission in Dundee (later moved to Fordsville and returned to the diocese in 1990s) and Holy Redeemer mission in Beaver Dam were created. Eventually, in 1966, Beaver Dam became the base mission with Morgantown as its satellite and Horse Branch as its mission station.

Father Fid Levri has retired from parish administration and is currently living in Reed, Ky. Through the summer he plans to continue filling in for vacationing priests of the diocese as well as giving several mission appeals for Glenmary. "I'm also discerning where I need to be after the summer is over," he says. He has several options available, including moving to Abington, Va., or staying in Owensboro.



If he should choose to stay in Owensboro, he would like to continue his work at La Plaza which offers assistance to immigrants. "We help them help themselves," he says. "For example, we have a list of job opportunities, and we help them prepare to apply, but they have to get the job themselves."

Whatever his plans for the future, he wants to continue to work in an effective way. "I'll just have to see where the Spirit leads me."



**Father Joe O'Donnell welcomes folks to a trailer chapel in Fordsville after the mission in Dundee was moved there in 1967. Father Joe was the longest-serving pastor of Morgantown, Beaver Dam and Fordsville (1965-76; 82-87). Glenmary photo**

Franciscan Sister Collette Gerry will remain as the pastoral associate of Holy Trinity in Morgantown, working with Father Eric Riley, the new diocesan pastor assigned to Beaver Dam and Morgantown. Ursuline Sister Luisa Bickett will also continue her ministry as the parish worker in Horse Branch. She has worked in the mission station to Beaver Dam for the past 17 years.

When the missions in Beaver Dam and Morgantown were founded over 50 years ago, the communities were very small. Today, there are approximately 75 registered families in Beaver Dam and 32 in Morgantown. The missions have grown and, most importantly, have become firmly rooted in their respective counties.

"These are true success stories," says Father Dan Dorsey, president of Glenmary. "We have ministered in this area of Western Kentucky for half a century, and now it's time for us to move on to new areas in need," he says. "Our prayers remain with these missions and we ask for continued prayers for our new endeavors, including the new missions we are opening in North Carolina."

## Cursillo Changes Lives

By Cecelia Hamilton

How many times during our lives do we make a decision that affects our life? Some of these decisions concern where we live, what kind of employment we have, how much spare time there is, and other physical things. When was the last time your decision involved something spiritual?

In December 1997 I made the decision to participate in a Cursillo weekend. As it turned out this was the best decision I have ever made. A year earlier I had joined a prayer group and began my spiritual journey with some special ladies. Several made the Cursillo weekend with me.

I won't attempt to explain this weekend; however I will share some of the things that changed in my life. **Focus on Christ** - I started reading the Bible, and many other religious books. I was like a sponge absorbing all that I read, and constantly seeking more. **Sharing with family** - I am fortunate to have a wonderful caring family. Now I share many good books about our faith, instead of novels. **Sharing with others** - The early Christians shared community with each other, and I



have found that having a small group to share my life with in good times and in bad increases my compassion and also puts things in perspective. **Stepping out in faith** - I am more comfortable behind the scenes helping out; however the Holy Spirit has asked me to step out and lead at times. During these times; I have grown more confident and have become more of an apostle for Christ. **Lead others to Christ** - Through our Baptism we were commissioned to lead others to Christ. Now I am better equipped due to the Cursillo method and my commitment to persevere in all that I have learned and continue to learn.

For those who have made a Cursillo, I ask that you continue to pray for God's grace on our movement as it continues to draw others closer to Christ. For those who would like to learn more, please contact one of the secretariat members listed here:

**Cadiz:** John Cuttoff 924-9491; **Eddyville:** Paul Bachi 388-2973; **Hawesville:** Denis & Martha Wheatley 927-6540; **Henderson:** Charlie & Theresa Krampe 546-7773; **Hopkinsville:** Bill & Norma Folz 885-0167; **Mount St. Joseph:** Sr. Elaine Burke 229-4103; **Owensboro:** Kim Haire 785-0383 or Cecelia Hamilton 926-4176; **Paducah:** Sharon Brumlow 442-2636

## 34<sup>th</sup> Annual MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH PICNIC

Sunday, September 12  
Maple Mount

Featuring: *Barbara's* Station,  
Park and Children  
11:00 am - 3 pm



**GRAND RAFFLE PRIZE \$2,500**

Plus \$2,000 - \$500 - Handcrafted quilt

One Week Day Florida Cruise - 3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths  
and More

For the benefit  
of Mount Saint  
Joseph's Shrine



**You are invited to pray** vespers with the Ursuline Sisters in our Motherhouse Chapel at Mount St. Joseph, Mape Mount, KY. Vespers are prayed at 6:30 Saturday and Sunday evenings, Your presence would be a blessing!

### What Are You Looking For?

Sister Pam Mueller  
vocations@maplemount.org  
270-229-4103, ext. 448  
http://www.ursulinesmsj.org

Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph  
8001 Cummings Road  
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356



Is it...  
to make a difference...  
to share yourself with others...  
to proclaim Jesus...

**We invite you to explore life with us.**

## Diocesan marriage celebration

Any married couple wanting to celebrate their marriage vows are invited to attend the annual diocesan marriage celebration with Bishop John McRaith at St. Stephen Cathedral on October 31, 2004 at 2:00 pm with a reception following.

Please r.s.v.p. To Betty Medley by October 15th at (270) 683-1545 ext 105.

## Opportunities To Defend Life

Opportunities for Life, the Kentucky Catholic Church's pro-life ministry to women and families dealing with untimely pregnancies, is recruiting helpers and will offer a volunteer training program beginning **September 15, 2004**. The training is a seven-week correspondence course that concludes with a workshop weekend on November 5, 6 and 7 at the Catherine Spalding Center in Nazareth, KY.

Helpers are needed in various areas. Telephone Helpline Attendants answer calls forwarded to their homes during certain hours. Parish Mentors minister locally in their community and parish. Prayer Warriors organize prayer groups to support the pro-life ministry. Public Speakers and Advisors are also needed.

Topics in the training program include Christian caregiving, prenatal information, contraception issues, sexually transmitted disease, abstinence education, abortion, adoption, and post-abortion counseling.

Please call (888) 496-3638 for more information and/or an application. The application deadline is September 7.

## Nothing Says Love Like Bricks

**"St. Francis de Sales, the first Catholic Church in the Paducah Area and with 155 years of history would like to invite everyone to be a part of that history and tradition. We are selling bricks for \$50 to have engraved. So parents, grandparents, children, etc. buy a brick to commemorate a special occasion.**

**Contact St. Francis Church Office at 442-1923 or visit our web site: [www.stfrancisdesales.org](http://www.stfrancisdesales.org) for a form."**

## Serra Continues Adopt-A-Priest Program

The Serra Club of Owensboro is sponsoring a program to support the priests in our diocese. Serra Club is an international organization that promotes vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Members of the local club are seeking a prayerful way to express our support and love for our priests. Serra is calling this new program "ADOPT A PRIEST." It is open to all members of the Catholic Diocese of Owensboro.

A lapel pin has been designed showing a Roman collar surrounded by the words, Serra for Vocations and Adopt a Priest. The initials of the priest and his year of ordination will be engraved on the back of each pin. Along with each pin, a card and envelope will be included, designed especially to be sent by the wearer to the adopted priest, so that the priest knows who will be praying for him. The Serra Club is asking nothing more than daily prayer for each priest, and that the adoptive person will wear the pin proudly. These pins can be worn on jackets, sweaters, blouses, or coats.

To order a pin and the card and envelope, send a check for \$15.00 to Serra Club of Owensboro, 4213 Spring Bank Drive, Owensboro, KY 42303. Please note that requests for the name of a specific priest will not be honored. All priests will be included but listed randomly. When all of the priests have been adopted a new list will be made so that more people can participate in this program. All money above the cost of materials and mailing will be placed

