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# Western Kentucky CATHOLIC

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Owensboro, Kentucky

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## Todd County Churches Work Together

TODD COUNTY, Ky. - Whenever possible, Sts. Mary and James Church in Guthrie and St. Susan Church in Elkton do mission together. It is only natural that they do so because both churches are in Todd County and the Mission Statement of both churches commit them to serve the larger community in cooperation with other Christian churches in the county. Both have been pastored by Glenmary Missioners from their beginning. Because both are small, it also makes good sense for them to work together so they can accomplish more. They symbolize their unity with a common, bright red T-shirt proclaiming, "We are One in the Spirit." On the back of the shirt they identify themselves as the "Catholic Churches of Todd County."

Because they know that many people in Todd County do not understand the faith and life of Catholics, for almost five years they have together sponsored a weekly article in the newspaper titled, "What do Catholics Believe? - Honest Answers to Real Questions". The article sometimes initiates conversation with friends and coworkers and it helps them explain their faith.

Together, again this summer, they formed a team for the community Relay for Life event to raise money to fight cancer. Their goal was \$2,000.00, but they raised \$2,674.00. In the process, they also built stronger bonds with each other, with other churches in the community, and with the Todd County community. They demonstrated that our stance toward the community is not to withdraw from the community, nor to take from the community, but with other churches, to care for the community. On Saturday, October 1, the two churches again sponsored a booth at

## Buddy Walk Promotes A Celebration of Down Syndrome

OWENSBORO, Ky. - The Green River Area Down Syndrome Association (GRADSA) recently hosted its 7th Annual Owensboro Buddy Walk in Moreland Park here to promote awareness and inclusion for individuals with Down syndrome. The Buddy Walk was established by the National Down Syndrome Society in 1995 to celebrate National Down Syndrome Awareness month in October. More than 200 walks will take place across the nation this fall.

It was a record setting year, with over 800 people in attendance and nearly \$32,000 raised, which included 36 corporate sponsors, pledges, and auction proceeds. There were 53 individuals with Down syndrome present, ranging in age from 8 months to 50 years old. These individuals brought plenty of buddies to support them - family, friends, co-workers, service providers, educators, and employers. Dollars raised from the Owensboro Buddy Walk go toward helping GRADSA serve more than 100 families in a seven-county radius. Services include a new parent outreach program, hospital outreach, educational workshops, a bi-monthly newsletter, website, and social activities. David Fogle and Chris Hagan served as the Goodwill Ambassa-



**Ann Switzer loved a group hug with her Mom and sister during the 2005 Buddy Walk. Bill Meserve Photo**



**Paul Witte, pastoral associate for Hispanics in Todd County is an active member of the Laity and Ministers Alliance of Todd County and when he is not selling food to raise money for HOLA, he stepped next door to give out free literature for the Laity and Ministers Alliance. With him are Rev. Mr. David Leavell and Bishop Gary Cumbee, current bishop of the Mormon Ward. Submitted by Fr. Frank Ruff.**

HarvestFest. They gave away free cookies, baked by Sister Bernadette, free information about the Catholic Church, holy cards, and free chances on an

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dors for this year's walk. They arrived at the walk in a white limo to a cheering crowd of supporters. During the Opening Ceremony, the ambassadors greeted each person with Down syndrome as they were introduced and presented them with a special memento. The pair then led the walkers around the park proudly carrying the Buddy Walk banner.

The Buddy Walk has grown tremendously over the years, reflecting the ever-growing community support. The first walk was held in 1999 at Chauqua Park. About 35 people, mostly parents and their children, gathered to meet each other and share experiences. The event has grown in popularity every year since.

Down syndrome is the most common chromosome abnormality, occurring once in every 800 births. Either prior to, or at conception, the cell division results in an extra copy of the 21st chromosome. Individuals with Down syndrome benefit from loving homes, appropriate medical care, early intervention, inclusive education, and positive public attitudes. They have a wide range of abilities and can be active participants in the community.

*For more information about the services GRADSA offers the community, please contact Cindy Huston, Executive Director, at (270) 771-4945, or info@gradsa.org. Deanna Isbill and Cindy Huston contributed to this story.*

**Turn now to page 39 to see Deanna's testimony for life and some insights about raising a child with Down Syndrome.**

## All Saints and All Souls days are special days in our lives

Dear Friends in Christ,

In this month of November, we will celebrate two great feast days.

On November 1<sup>st</sup>, we celebrate the feast of All Saints. Since it falls on a Tuesday, this is a holy day of obligation, and all Catholics have the obligation to attend Mass. All Saints Day is such a special time for all of us "to remember our brothers and sisters who have gone to their eternal reward" (Eucharistic Prayer II). This is a day when we pray to those who are now truly saints. Those now enjoying the reward of eternal life live in the presence of God for all eternity. The Church has declared some few saints, but there are many more who enjoy the same reward. The feast of All Saints not only reminds us to pray to all the saints in heaven, but also reminds us that our ultimate goal in this life is to one day join them in eternal happiness. It is a day that reminds us of our loved ones who have gone before us who are among that list of All Saints. While the Church sets this day aside for us to pray to all saints, we are reminded that we should pray to them *every day*. We believe that the saints are still one with us – the pilgrim Church – and that they continue to care for us and intercede for us from their heavenly home.

Concerning the communion with the saints, *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* states, "It is not merely by the title of example that we cherish the memory of those in heaven: we seek, rather, that by this devotion to the exercise of fraternal charity, the union of the whole Church in the Spirit may be strengthened. Exactly as Christian communion among our fellow pilgrims brings us closer to Christ, so our communion with the saints joins us to Christ from whom as from its fountain and head issues all grace and the life of the People of God itself."

Then on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, we celebrate the commemoration of All The Faithful Departed (All Souls). On this day, we pray for those who are departed from the pilgrim Church but are still purified as they wait for their ultimate reward of joining the communion of saints in heaven. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches us that "In full consciousness of this communion of the whole Mystical Body of Christ, the Church in its pilgrim members, from the very earliest days of the Christian

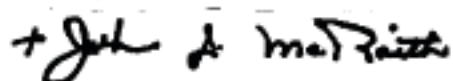
religion, has honored with great respect the memory of the dead; and because it is a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins, she offers her suffrages for them." Our prayer for them is capable not only of healing them but also of making their intercessions for us effective. *The Catechism* sums up the reasons for us to make these two days very special in our lives by teaching the following about the one family of God: "For if we continue to love one another and to join in praising the Most Holy Trinity – all of us who are sons of God and form one family in Christ – we will be faithful to the deepest vocation (call) of the Church."

These are just a few thoughts for us to consider on these two important days in the faith life of the Church – in our faith lives as individuals. The lives of those who have gone before us have not ended, only changed. We are still one with them; they are one with us. And it is important that we remember them in our prayers, as we pray for them and to them – not just on these special days but every day. We live with the joy of knowing that they continue to care about us, pray for us, and are there to help us on our journey from this life to eternal life.

Let us all remember our own family members, friends, and all who have died. They are waiting for us to join them

and for that one day when all of us will be together again – not for just a little while but for all eternity. All Saints and All Souls days are special days in our lives. We live with the joy of our faith knowing that together we are the Mystical Body of Christ.

Sincerely in Christ,



+Most Reverend John J. McRaith, D.D.  
Bishop Of Owensboro, Ky.



+Most Reverend  
John J. McRaith, D.D.  
Bishop of  
Owensboro, Ky

## We Remember Those Who "Have Not," We Thank God For What We Have

My Dear Friends,

As we approach Thanksgiving this year, we cannot help but think of those who do not have the very necessities of life – even in our own country. The Hurricanes caused so much damage and left many, many people homeless, often penniless, and in some cases, grieving the death of loved ones. The magnitude of this disaster gives us reason to be more thankful than ever for what we do have and to realize better than ever that everything belongs to God. Our challenge is to always remain faithful to God's call for us to reach out to others who are part of His Mystical Body that are hurting in some way.

At Thanksgiving, we are also mindful of our sisters and brothers who are fighting in the name of our country. With so many hurting people, we continue to pray for those whose lives have been interrupted or even lost. We pray for a just resolution to our battles in Afghanistan, and we continue to pray for a quick end to the war in Iraq. As we remember those who "have not," we thank God for what we have and we share what we can of our time, talents, and resources. The following statement issued by the Administrative Board of the United Conference of Catholic Bishops will hopefully help us to fully realize the extent of our obligations in the aftermath of the storms. I share this with you as my own.

**Continued on page 5**

### Diocese Of Owensboro Priest Assignments For 2006

#### PASTORS

Buckman, Rev. Tom: Pastor of St. Anthony Parish, Axtel, Kentucky, and St. Mary Parish, McQuady, Kentucky, effective January 4, 2006.

Cash, Rev. Richard: St. Denis Parish, Fancy Farm, Kentucky, and St. Charles Parish, Bardwell, Kentucky, effective January 4, 2006.

Jones, Rev. Tony: Pastor of Immaculate Parish, Owensboro, Kentucky, effective January 4, 2006.

McCarthy, Rev. Bruce: Pastor of St. Mary of the Fields, Parish, LaCenter, Kentucky, effective January 4, 2006. (Continue as Pastor of St. John Evangelist Parish, Paducah.)

Mikuleik, Rev. Ken: Pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Mayfield, Kentucky, effective January 4, 2006.

Willett, Rev. David: Pastor of St. Francis de Sales Parish, Paducah, and Rosary Chapel, Paducah, Kentucky, effective January 4, 2006.

### Bishop McRaith's November, 2005 Schedule

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 ALL SAINTS DAY, Holy Day of Obligation, CPC closed                           | 17 USCCB Mtgs., Washington DC                                      |
| 3 Staff Mtg., CPC, 9am   | 21 Priests' Personnel Mtg., CPC, 9:30am                            |
| 3 Age Group One Mtg., St. Raphael, 11:30am                                     | 21 Priests' Council Mtg., CPC, 1:30pm                              |
| 7 Religious Educators Conference, Lake Barkley                                 | 21 DPC Mtg., CTK, Madisonville, 6pm                                |
| 8 Religious Educators Conference, Lake Barkley                                 | 22 Presbyteral Day (Marriage Tribunal Presentation), CPC           |
| 9 Religious Educators Conference, Lake Barkley                                 | 24 Thanksgiving Day Mass, St. Stephen Cathedral, 8am               |
| 10 Paducah Office Day  | 28 Bishops' Provincial Mtg., Lexington, 12pm                       |
| 10 Rural Life Cmte. Mtg., CPC, 6pm   | 29 Bishops' Provincial Mtg., Lexington, until 12pm                 |
| 12 Mass, 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniv. of Eucharistic Adoration, Carmel Home, 9:30am | 29 Mtg. with Provincial Priests' Councils, Lexington, 2pm          |
| 13 USCCB Mtgs., Washington DC  | 30 Mtg. with Provincial Priests' Councils, Lexington, ends at 12pm |
| 14 USCCB Mtgs., Washington DC  |  |
| 15 USCCB Mtgs., Washington DC  |  |
| 16 USCCB Mtgs., Washington DC  |  |



**By Brandon Williams**

Antigua, Guatemala was home for me this past summer. I had the blessing and privilege of studying the Spanish language at Probigua Institute for about 10

weeks. My experience there was outstanding ... so much so that I want to share part of it with you, the people of the Diocese of Owensboro. I hope to give you just a glimpse into the rich and beautiful world of Guatemalan culture, faith, and popular piety.

As I begin, let me tell you a little about myself. I am a seminarian studying to become a priest for the Diocese of Owensboro. I grew up in the little town of Philpot on the eastern side of Daviess County just outside of Owensboro. My family and I attend Saints Joseph and Paul parish – a place I still call home – in downtown Owensboro. For as long as I can remember I have felt a call to the Priesthood. Some priests of our diocese, namely Fr. Kevin Karl, Fr. Brian Roby, and Fr. Andy Garner, our current Vocation Director, fostered my call.

After graduating from Owensboro Catholic High School, I attended college seminary at The Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio. Presently, I attend Saint Meinrad School of Theology in St. Meinrad, Indiana. This fall semester I started my eighth year of priestly formation. By the grace of God, I shall be ordained to the Priesthood of Jesus Christ in May 2007.

One aspect of seminary formation is learning how to be of service to the People of God as a whole. This means that priests today shepherd a broad range of people from a variety of cultural backgrounds and languages. The Latino culture is by far one of the largest ethnic groups present in the Church today. And their numbers are increasing every year. According to the 2003-2005 Regional Directory, Hispanics make up approximately 50% of Roman Catholics in the Southeastern Region of the United States.

The Diocese of Owensboro is no exception. At present, more than 25% of Roman Catholics in the diocese are Hispanic. Such a large number of Catholic Latinos requires priests with cultural and language skills who can help them with their spiritual growth. In order to minister to this ever-growing population, most seminaries today include

## Bendiciones en Guatemala, Blessings in Guatemala



learning Spanish and Latin American culture as part of the curriculum. This enables our priests to serve as many people as possible in the Church, including those of Latino heritage. Fortunately our diocese, in cooperation with Saint Meinrad Seminary, requires its seminarians to complete a Spanish immersion program as part of the formation process. My immersion took place this past summer in the scenic town of Antigua, Guatemala.

My first trip outside of the United States took me to a picturesque setting deep in the heart of Guatemala in Central America. The Mayan civilization prospered in 2000 B.C. in Guatemala, Mexico, Honduras, Belize, and El Salvador. In 1524 A.D., Spaniards conquered the Mayan majesties that were in transition. Two years later, Antigua became the capital city for all of Central America from Yucatan to Panama. During this time a union between the native Mayan culture and Spanish culture was produced, establishing the base of the actual Guatemalan culture. Today, the cobblestone streets and old style architecture immediately allow the traveler to step deep into the past. Surrounded by volcanoes and lush palm trees, Antigua definitely made me feel as though I was studying in paradise.

While the city of Antigua, as well as Guatemala in general, was beautiful, the Guatemalan people were the highlight of



my stay. Never before had I experienced a culture so proud of their ancestry and so alive in their Catholic faith. Most people in Guatemala profess the Catholic faith, and this is evident no matter where you travel in the country. The faith is still the central focus of the people in their daily lives. A Catholic Church dotted every other street corner I passed! Or so it seemed! Some of these churches were built more than 400 years ago. It was an awesome sight to see the doors of the churches wide open all day, every day. People would come and go from the churches at all hours of the day.

Much to my surprise, the parish I attended on a regular basis (Nuestra Señora de la Merced/Our Lady of Mercy ... or La Merced for short) celebrated 7 Masses everyday, and close to 100 people attended each Mass! Sunday Masses were absolutely overflowing, and lines for Confession seemed to stretch for a mile! Most astonishing, however, was the love people have for the Holy Eucharist.

Never in my life had I seen such joy, reverence, love, and devotion for the Holy Eucharist until I attended Corpus Christi services in Antigua. The Latino culture is noted for its particular devotion for the Eucharist. This year, however, is exceptionally special due to the late Pope John Paul II proclaiming this as the Year of the Eucharist. Each year the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Corpus

Christi (Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ). In Guatemala, they celebrate this beautiful solemnity on the proper Sunday ... and then practically stretch the celebration out over the entire month of June! Throughout the whole month there were special Masses, Holy Hours, concerts, lectures, picnics, and many other celebrations focused entirely around this solemnity of Our Lord.

The high point of the celebrating came with a solemn Eucharistic procession around the city of Antigua. What a sight to behold! We processed with the Eucharist more than 35 city blocks over the course of three hours! Literally hundreds and hundreds of people processed with their Lord through the streets of Antigua. Flowers in intricate designs carpeted the streets. Fireworks exploded overhead. Hymns of praise and adoration to our Lord in the Eucharist rang throughout in the streets. The procession traveled so far and lasted so long that many seminarians, myself included, were asked to assist the priests in carrying the Eucharist through the streets of Antigua! I was both humbled and privileged to be part of this magnificent celebration in honor of Our Lord.

Witnessing such love and devotion for the Church and for the faith definitely affirmed and strengthened my call to the Priesthood. These people devote their entire lives to the faith, and they encouraged me to further devote my life and my vocation to the Lord and His people even more. By learning their language and culture, I am able to continue to foster that love and devotion that many Latinos bring with them to the United States and especially to our diocese. As Americans, we can learn a great deal from the vibrant faith, practices, and spirituality of the Latino culture. Their witness of faith, their deep love for the Holy Eucharist and Our Blessed Mother, has touched my life in such a way that it will never be the same. ¡Gracias Antigua!

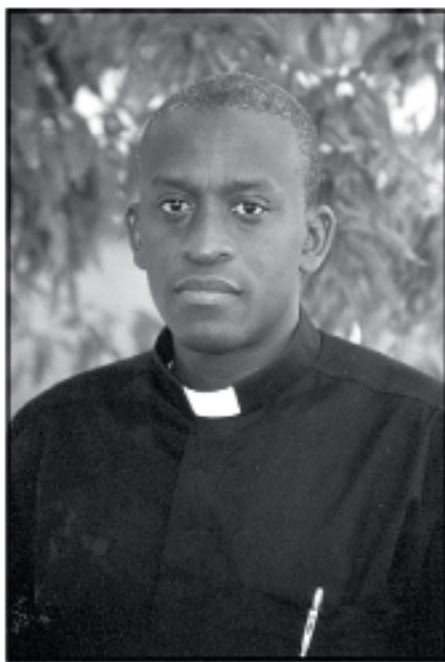
*Editor's note: Mr. Brandon Williams will be admitted to Candidacy for the Sacrament of Holy Orders during the 4:30 P.M. Mass at Saints Joseph and Paul Church on December 3, 2005.*

# Introducing Father Titus Ahabyona

By Larena Lawson

OWENSBORO, Ky. -There is a new priest in town, Father Titus Ahabyona. He comes all the way from Uganda, located in the eastern part of Africa. Uganda is about half the size of Texas with approximately 27 million people, 45% of whom are Catholic, roughly 30% Protestant and about 3% Muslim. How does a Catholic priest from so far away end up serving in the Owensboro Ky. Diocese? His connection is a former classmate who now resides in Owensboro.

Donna Sauer, a canon lawyer working in the Diocesan Tribunal Office, is the former classmate of Father Titus. She was a couple of years ahead of him at St. Paul University in Ottawa, Canada where they both were working on their canonical degrees. Father Titus told Donna back then that he would like to visit the United States someday and maybe work here and when it came time for him to complete his six week internship back in June he was invited to do it in the Tribunal Office in Owensboro under the supervision of Father Mike Clark, the Judicial Vicar. His six



Father Titus Ahabyona

week visit has been prolonged and he now works in the Tribunal Office and hopes to get permission from his bishop to stay another year or two. Our diocese has been

blessed by his presence as he also fills in as needed in local parishes. He is currently residing at St. Stephens Cathedral rectory where he says that he is sincerely welcomed and taken good care of by Father John Vaughn, who even cooks for him and makes him feel at home.

Father Titus is the oldest of 12 children in his family. He first thought of becoming a priest when he was only about four years old. There was a visiting American missionary priest who came to his Church to give a mission during the Lenten season and this priest greatly impressed a very young Titus. He was inspired by this young priest as he walked from station to station in his beautiful priestly vestments, so much so that he told his mother afterwards that that is what he wanted to do someday. He fulfilled that desire by entering the seminary in the seventh grade. He was ordained to the priesthood on June 27, 1997. He was one in a class of 32 which encompassed all of Uganda.

Father Titus was given the assignment by his bishop to study canon law. The Code of Canon Law consists of 1752 canons and Father Titus finds it very interesting as it embraces all causes, so many day to day issues and relationships. For example, the Canon covers tribunal, religious, sacramental, liturgical, and penal laws, temporal goods, sacred places, Catholic education, and the right to the faithful, just to name a few. Father Titus now works with some of these issues as the Owensboro Diocese's newest canon lawyer in the Tribunal Office.

When he first came here he had a fear of being accepted. He thought of America in relation to dollars, was more familiar with a "big city" atmosphere, and did not know what to expect or do in a smaller town. Father Titus has been quickly impressed by the friendliness of the people here, has made new friends playing basketball with some of the guys in the neighborhood, by attending "Friday After Five" in downtown Owensboro and in learning to drive from place to place on the right hand side of the road. He is now very comfortable driving around the diocese, meeting new people in the process, offering his time, talent and treasure as a priest wherever he is needed, his expertise as a canon lawyer, and his warm and friendly smile as a visitor. We all have benefited from his temporary, but very welcomed presence in our community.

## Culture Shock

By Fr. Titus Winyi Ahabyona

In my Mother tongue we have an expression: Akaana tagabunga kagamba ngu Maama acumba Obunura. Literally translated it means: "A child who does not visit believes that its Mother cooks best." The three months I have spent here in Owensboro, Kentucky, have made an impact in my life. This is brought about by many things which shock me, and on top on the list is the spirit of friendliness. In my home country of Uganda, when one hears of America, what comes to mind are the American dollars, tough immigration rules, excessive wealth of its people, war-mongering, and individualism of its people to mention but a few.

In Africa, we think that we are the most social beings on this planet. This is confirmed by professor Mbiti's philosophical description of the African sense of togetherness as "I am because we are, and since we are therefore I am."

That is why I am surprised by what I have experienced so far in the United States. I landed in America, at the Nashville Airport, I came with all the fears as to whether I would be accepted and loved. Fr. Darrell Venters, the Bishop's Vicar for Clergy, picked me up at the airport. I heard someone calling me "Titus," and when I looked around, I saw a small man with a broad smile on the face. "I am Fr. Darrell," he said. We hugged and greeted each other, and he pushed the cart carrying my bags to his car. I immediately noted love and simplicity in him. I was overjoyed by the first encounter, and my heart started to open up as we drove two hours from Nashville to Owensboro.

While on the road my mind crossed over to the Cathedral where I was to stay. I was wondering as to where and with whom I was going to stay. The only person I knew was my friend Donna Sauer who was my classmate in Canada at St. Paul University. Upon arriving in Owensboro, I was surprised by the hospitality and warm welcome accorded to me by the Cathedral's Pastor, Fr. John Vaughn, the Judicial Vicar, Fr. Mike Clark, and Donna who had set a welcoming party for me. We ate pizza and drank sodas, and although I felt at home, I left room for any possible eventuality.

I met Bishop John McRaith the next day, and can only describe him as a humble and loving Angel of God in human skin. I tried to keep a respectful distance from him, as the case back home where there is always a gap between a leader and the subjects.

But here it didn't work! Everyone likes to hug so much!

Well, what brought me here to the USA is my desire to study, to serve, to make friends, and to enjoy life. So far I have not only learned the practical side of Canon Law in the Tribunal but what I have experienced has enhanced my faith. I have changed the wrong concept I had of America. I have seen with my own eyes people living a life of the Gospel. I work near the bishop, and regardless of his status and position he holds in the diocese, he is simple and a very humble human being. He is able to joke, laugh and play with everyone as if they are equals. In his country home, he is the cook, the gardener, tractor driver, and horse boy. I was shocked by his simplicity.

I stay at the Cathedral rectory with Fr. John Vaughn, the Pastor. Regardless of his academic successes, he is our cook and the flower attendant. We play as brothers and he really acts as both Father and Mother of the house. He always asks if you have eaten or if you are starving. His common words are, "You are welcome to use my ... computer, TV, CD, etc."

I now work in the Diocesan Marriage Tribunal. The Judicial Vicar, Fr. Mike Clark, is another good brother. He greets everybody in the morning, before he gets in his office. He makes sure that everybody had lunch and bids farewell to everyone in the evening.

In the Catholic Pastoral Center, whenever I feel tired of sitting, I normally move around in different offices in the building. Whichever office I visit, I am always welcome and the occupants request me to prolong my stay - an amazing signal of how people are friendly. The staff is very friendly to me, they miss me when I am off and I miss whoever goes on vacation.

During the summer I got an opportunity to fill in at different parishes when pastors were away. Conscious of my accent being different from your American accent, I expected strong criticisms, belittling or to be ignored. But to my surprise, wherever I went, whether understood or not, I always received a friendly and positive response.

Much as we believe that Paradise is in heaven, it seems to me that I have tasted that Paradise in Kentucky. The only words I can say at the moment are God bless Owensboro, Kentucky, and America.

## Hurricane Katrina: Reaching Out, Renewal and Recovery in Faith and Solidarity: A Statement of the Administrative Committee of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, September 14, 2005

### The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

A terrible storm and its horrible aftermath have destroyed lives and homes, torn apart families and communities, damaged our nation and God's creation. Katrina wounded and devastated millions of our sisters and brothers along the Gulf Coast and in and around New Orleans and Biloxi. This hurricane has also touched and now tests the rest of us. It tests our faith, our capacity to help and our vision of what kind of nation we are and wish to be.

Our hearts and prayers go out once again to all those whose lives, homes and families have been damaged or destroyed by Katrina. Within the Catholic community, many of our people have lost everything and our Church has lost parishes and schools, hospitals and charitable ministries, and many of the structures, which help us preach the Gospel, educate the young and serve the vulnerable. The loss of these institutions affects not only our Church, but is a significant loss for the entire community.

In a particular way, we extend our personal and ecclesial support to our brother bishops called to lead the Church on the Gulf Coast in these trying days. We also express our gratitude, respect and admiration to all the bishops, priests, deacons, religious and lay leaders who are bringing the helping hand and sustaining words of Jesus Christ to those who have lost so much.

As powerful as the winds and water of Katrina have been, our ongoing care and help, our practice of charity and search for justice must become more powerful. The hurricane and the flood came and went in a matter of hours and days. Our support, compassion, and commitment to help make things right must last far longer – not days, but months and years.

In light of the overwhelming extent of the damage and loss, the enormous generosity of the Catholic community and the enduring, long-term requirements for recovery, we are establishing a new Task Force to Coordinate the Catholic Response to Katrina. This unprecedented Task Force of bishops and leaders of the Catholic organizations already deeply involved in the ongoing effort will work under the leadership of Archbishop Joseph Fiorenza of Galveston-Houston. It will build on what is already being done and seek to:

- Support the many efforts of the affected dioceses.
- Encourage a sustained response from the Catholic community.
- Coordinate the many diverse efforts in order to increase effectiveness, assure accountability and eliminate duplication.
- Examine the future moral and policy implications of this disaster for the Church and society.

### The Catholic Community's Response

Beyond the heroic efforts of the local Church in the region to respond to the human needs of all those suffering after Hurricane Katrina, the Catholic community nationwide has already responded in so many ways to the horror and heartbreak we have seen.

\* We are praying every day for those who have died and who are struggling to live in the aftermath of the hurricane.

\* Pope Benedict XVI immediately offered special prayers for the victims and relief workers and sent a personal envoy to visit the people struggling to rebuild their lives. Catholic leaders from around the world have also expressed concern and solidarity.

\* Millions of Catholics nationwide have responded with generous donations.

\* Catholic Charities USA and other national Catholic groups have mobilized to collect donations, respond to critical needs, and help relocate those displaced by Hurricane Katrina.

\* Dioceses throughout the country have mobilized thousands of volunteers, held countless collections of money and goods, and provided extensive relocation assistance.

\* United States Conference of Catholic Bishops offices, religious communities and many other groups have offered help with relief and relocation assistance.

\* Catholic Extension will help reconstruct parishes, schools and other Church facilities damaged or destroyed by the disaster.

\* Catholic colleges, seminaries, high schools, and elementary schools nationwide have generously opened their doors to students and teachers who have been displaced by the storm.

As we care for and stand with our sisters and brothers along the Gulf Coast, we cannot forget that the lives and dignity of many others are threatened around our world by the powerful winds of hunger and disease and the flood of deprivation and despair. Responding to this catastrophe should open our eyes and hearts to other human calamities which haunt our world. When observers say in amazement “it looks like a Third World country,” they are saying something profound not only about New Orleans, but also something important about how most of the world lives.

### A Way Forward: Catholic Social Teaching

Beyond the stunning outpouring of money, food and water, volunteers and welcome to thousands upon thousands of displaced persons, the Catholic community has something more to contribute to the ongoing response and recovery. This is a set of principles, a moral framework to assess what has happened and to guide what must be done. Along with others of every faith and background, we offer our Catholic tradition of teaching about the challenges we now must face together. These principles offer moral direction and guidance for continuing response, recovery and rebuilding:

**The Life and Dignity of Every Human Person:** Human lives have been destroyed and human dignity has been assaulted. At times respect for life and dignity was lost in the midst of this disaster. Our faith and what we have seen call us to insist that every aspect of recovery, every plan for rebuilding should be measured by how it protects human life and how it threatens or enhances the dignity of all those touched by this catastrophe, especially the weakest and most vulnerable.

**The Option for the Poor and Vulnerable:** Our faith insists that the poor and vulnerable should have first claim on our common efforts. They cannot be left behind once again. We should assess this disaster, the response, and the future recovery for how it touches the lives of the least among us (Mt. 25). In light of what we have seen and heard, this is a time for constructive dialogue to address how poverty and race divide our society and challenge our nation.

**Subsidiarity:** Katrina demonstrates the wisdom of this traditional principle, which specifies the appropriate responsibilities and limitations of institutions in their common duty to protect human life and dignity. It warns against larger institutions overwhelming smaller ones but calls on larger institutions to act when smaller ones are unable or unwilling. Where families cannot meet their own needs, the larger community is called to assist them. When community institutions cannot or will not act, local and state governments have obligations. Where they cannot respond adequately, the national government must act to safeguard human life, dignity and rights. The continuing and future response should reflect these realities so the challenges ahead do not once again overwhelm the institutions of our society.

**Solidarity:** Katrina is teaching us we are all members of one human family. “Loving our neighbor” has new meaning in the aftermath of Katrina. Wherever we live, what ever we have or don't have, whatever our race or background, we are all God's children and are worthy of respect and care.

**Family, Community and Participation:** The storm has torn apart families and communities. The recovery and renewal must unite families and restore communities, not just as physical realities, but as fundamental moral building blocks for the future. “Participation” of those most affected must be at the center of the recovery and planning for the future.

**Human Rights and Responsibilities:** Our social tradition begins with the right to life and extends to those rights that make life truly human – faith and family, work and education, housing and health care. Restoring institutions of faith, work, education and health care and providing shelter and decent housing are not just signs of generosity; they are required by justice.

**Care for Creation:** The renewal and recovery, which is to come, must seek to acknowledge and repair the damage the storm and the floods have done to God's creation along the Gulf Coast. The recovery efforts to come should seek to protect and safeguard

Continued on page 6

# The Centro del Inmigrante Community Outreach Service in Paducah

By Edie Keeney

PADUCAH, Ky. - Members of the St. Thomas More Parish and others are concerned about many Hispanic and other immigrants who are coming to Western Kentucky and are being served by many other churches in the area but not by the Catholic community. Approximately 150 persons attend the Sunday Spanish Mass each week at St. Thomas More and some 275 attend the Spanish Mass in Mayfield but there is a need for much more to assist these individuals and families. The committee members spoke with several of the Hispanic members of St. Thomas More and were told that not knowing the English language is a huge barrier to education, jobs, health care and housing and the things others take for granted that improve their lives. They were very concerned that their children have opportunities to learn English well and receive a good education that will help them in the future. The group collaborated with the 5 Catholic churches in the area and many other social service and educational institutions and The Centro del Inmigrante (CID) came into being.

A small house located at 1359 South 6th Street on the city bus line has been rented where English as a second language, computer skills, GED preparation, updating immigration information, and preparation for the citizenship test will be available. In addition individuals will receive help in connecting with resources such as health services, the Rape Crisis Center, employment, citizenship application, alcoholism counseling, and help to find safe and affordable housing. Companies and entrepreneurs will provide opportunities mainly in agriculture, industrial and domestic employment. Contacts with attorneys will provide information with the current upgrades about immigration status. Social workers will be available to help with domestic violence problems. 17 children have been invited to be students in the St. Mary School System. A caretaker will be living at the house for a minimal rent to help pay for the insurance and utilities and to provide a constant presence there.

The house was in need of many repairs to bring it up to code. This was accomplished through donations of materials and labor. Donations of large and small appli-



**A picture taken on the front porch of the Centro del Inmigrante (DCI). From left to right, Rosa Ramirez, Larry McCoy, Leticia Martinis, Dora Klepsis, John Klepsis; Children: Brenda and baby Miriam Ramirez. Submitted by Edie Keeney**

ances, furniture, tables and chairs for the classrooms, kitchen furnishings, small items needed to furnish a home are needed. Sister Marie is the chair of the parish outreach committee and can be contacted at Lourdes in Paducah by calling 444-2115 to donate items or to volunteer to help.

Dora Klepsis, a long time member of St. Thomas More, is from Colombia and

has been very involved with helping many area Hispanic individuals. "A lot of doors are closed to foreigners so they don't have a lot of opportunities to get jobs, find adequate affordable housing, receive needed health care and they don't know where to go to get help to get these things," Dora explained. She continued, "I support this Center all the way. I have been doing

many of these things for a long time by myself but I feel having one place to go for help with so many services available will be a very good thing. I am blessed because I have a family that is very supportive of what I am doing and they have helped so much here. We are in the cleaning phase now; the major work is done that was needed to bring the building up to code. We hope to have the blessing of the house sometime in the middle of October."

Rosa Ramirez was there helping with the cleaning and with the help of Dora to translate for her, she commented, "I am very happy to have a place that all the Hispanic people can come to learn English and many other things that will lead to a brighter future for all of us."

John Klepsis, Dora's 25-year-old son, added, "The biggest things that are needed are education and access to health care. There is so much negativism towards the Hispanic community. These people deserve respect and opportunities to better themselves the same as anyone else. Many are being taken advantage of by employers and they are afraid to complain because they will be fired and won't be able to care for their families. They just want the things everyone else wants; to be able to care for themselves and their families. As the Hispanic population increases it will

*(Continued on page 14)*

## Hurricane Katrina: Reaching Out *(Continued from page 5)*

that environment in the future.

**Dignity of Work and Rights of Workers:** In the aftermath of the storm, people not only lost their homes, they lost their work and their ability to support their families. Recovery requires more than food, water, and a place to live, but also a chance to make a contribution, to have decent work, wages, and working conditions.

**Common Good:** The storm brought out the best and worst—heroic efforts of service and abandonment of duty, sacrifice for others, and evil acts of opportunism. Renewal and recovery should not become a battle over blame, or a contest of interests, or an opportunity for the well connected to overwhelm the weak. After Katrina, we have all learned once again that we are in this together and a chain is

only as strong as its weakest link.

### Conclusion

For Christians, this is not just a work of humanitarian outreach. When we help those whom this storm has ripped from their homes and livelihoods, we are helping Jesus in our midst. We cannot be the Church of Jesus Christ unless we reach out in persistent and powerful ways to serve "the least of these." (Matt. 25) Feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, bringing drink to the thirsty, welcoming the stranger are not simply acts of generosity, but acts of faith. These traditional works of mercy are not options, but obligations for each of us and the entire Catholic community.

For us as Catholic Bishops, Katrina is more than a terrible natural disaster and human catastrophe. It is a test of our faith, our hope, and our love. Faith in Jesus

Christ insists life conquers death, resurrection follows crucifixion, recovery comes from suffering, and hope overcomes despair. This is a time to live out the Gospel, turn our love into care for others, move our words into action, and practice the solidarity we proclaim.

We take comfort in the courage and strength of those who have lived through these terrible days. We take strength from the remarkable and ongoing response of the Catholic community. We take hope from knowing the Lord is with us in this time of trial and challenge: "Had not the LORD been with us... [t]he waters would have engulfed us, the torrent overwhelmed us; seething water would have drowned us. Blessed be the LORD, who did not leave us..." (Psalm 124:2-6)

## Sts. Joseph and Paul Parish Builds on Refugee Ministry with Permanent Housing

By John Little

OWENSBORO, Ky. - We recently witnessed the terrible destruction from Hurricane Katrina in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. News reports showed scenes reminiscent of war-torn countries throughout the world, with people going without the basic necessities of food, water, shelter and medicine.

It reminded us that millions of people worldwide live in these types of conditions on a daily basis with little hope for improvement. In 2001, the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops issued a document titled, "Welcoming the Stranger Among Us," which challenged all Catholics to make a difference to those who suffer throughout the world.

"Issues like war and poverty are such large problems that we often don't know how we can help in a practical way," said Fr. Brian Roby, Pastor of Sts. Joseph and Paul parish in Owensboro. "I think it is helpful if we focus on reaching out to just one family at a time and making a dramatic difference in their lives."

A special opportunity to do just that presented itself to the parish in 2003, said Fr. Brian. "Two college-age residents from Liberia were brought to Owensboro by Catholic Charities in Louisville as exchange students to Brescia University and Kentucky Wesleyan College. After a couple of chance meetings, which I believe were the hand of God, we came to know these students and learned how their father and other family members had been killed, and others were living in horrible conditions in Liberia, which had been in civil war for 15 years. We thought that helping get this family to Owensboro and into safe conditions would be a great ministry for our parish. With the help of Catholic Charities, we were able to bring the entire Sekhar family here in 2003."

Now that the Sekhar family has transitioned into the community, Fr. Brian said that Sts. Joseph and Paul is looking to make the refugee ministry permanent. "Because of the good experience and fulfillment we had in ministering to this family, we felt like

we wanted to continue our relationship with Catholic Charities in Louisville so that we can help other families."

Suzanne Rose, a member of Sts. Joseph and Paul parish and Chairperson of its Social Concerns Committee, said she became involved in the refugee ministry because of the Sekhar family. "I met the student who arrived at Wesleyan (where Suzanne serves as Dean of the English Department) and was so touched by his story. I had just joined the Catholic Church, and in RCIA we were taught to see Christ in others. When I looked into this student's face and saw the suffering and grief the civil war had caused him, I cried. I truly saw the face of Christ in him and I want to help others. I find Christ in these suffering people.

On Oct. 8, Sts. Joseph and Paul had a groundbreaking ceremony for a new refugee house on Pearl Street. This property was originally willed to the Diocese of Owensboro and was purchased at a nominal fee by Sts. Joseph and Paul for the refugee ministry. All work on the house is being performed by volunteer labor and is being supervised by Ron Greene and Tom Hagan, professional contractors and members of Sts. Joseph and Paul. Fr. Brian said the total cost for the house should be approximately \$40,000 and they expect completion by late November or early December.

Fr. Brian said the house will have four bedrooms, three bathrooms, a large kitchen, and family room. "Many of the refugee families are close-knit, extended families. The new house should be large enough to meet all of their needs."

Catholic Charities will handle the background work and bring the families to Owensboro. They will also help the family members get drivers licenses, Social Security numbers and help get the kids in schools. They will also provide financial support for the first seven months. After that time, the parish will help with additional needs the family might have.

*Continued on page 20*

## Sts. Joseph & Paul Parish Holds Men's Retreat

By John Little

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Seventeen men from Sts. Joseph & Paul parish in Owensboro recently took part in a Men's Retreat, which was held at Mount Saint Joseph Retreat Center on September 23-24. The theme of the retreat was - "Being a Godly Man in an Ungodly World."

The weekend featured four topics of prayer and discussion: 1) Service, Mentoring and Witnessing (presented by Kevin Tignor, parishioner), 2) Prayer (presented by Tony Krause, parishioner), 3) Bible (presented by Fr. Richard Meredith (pastor of St. Pius Tenth parish in Owensboro), and 4) Secular View of Men versus God's View of Men (presented by Gary Trogden, parishioner).

"The weekend was beneficial to all of us because it is difficult to live a Godly life in today's society," said retreat member Tom Rose. "This was a wonderful opportunity to come together as a group of men and discuss how we can be better fathers, husbands, friends, and workers. It also reminded us how we need to let go of desire to control life and to turn over everything to God's power."

In addition to the presentations, the retreat members also celebrated Mass and were led in the Stations of the Cross by Fr. Brian Roby, pastor of Sts. Joseph & Paul. Music throughout the weekend was provided by Dennis Mayfield, parishioner, and two members of Our Lady of Lourdes parish in Owensboro - Danny May and Mike Houtchen.

"The weekend was so successful that we plan on doing a men's retreat every year," said Rick Rhodes, a member of the planning team. "There was a lot of positive feedback and we hope that even more parishioners will partake of the event next year."

Rick added that those who made the retreat this year will continue to gather twice a month for support, community, and prayer.

Retreat participants were: Gary Aud, Mike Hagan, Jason Harberson, Jason Hayden, Doug Hood, Mike Houtchen, Tony Kraus, Brad Kuchenreuther, John Little, Danny May, Dennis Mayfield, Kenny McCarty, Wayne Naylor, Rick Rhodes, Tom Rose, Kevin Tignor, Gary Trogden, Jim Vinson, and John Wells.



**Sts. Joseph & Paul Men's retreat: Front row (L to R): Mike Houtchen, Danny May, Rick Rhodes, Jason Hayden; second row: Tom Rose, Brad Kuchenreuther, Dennis Mayfield, Tony Krause, Gary Aud; third row: Wayne Naylor, Kenny McCarty, Jim Vinson; fourth row: Kevin Tignor, Doug Hood, Mike Hagan, John Little. Not pictured: Jason Harberson, John Wells.**

# Thank You, Father

Sr. Teresa Riley, O.S.U., presented a print of Mary, the Mother of God, on behalf of the people of Saint Mary parish to Father David Willett in thanksgiving for his service to the people of St. Mary of the Fields Parish, La Center, Ky. On Sunday, Sept. 25, 2005, Father Willett celebrated his last Mass as pastor of St. Mary parish. A special blessing was prepared and offered by the



people to thank Father Willett for his caring, his comfort to the sick, and his energy with which he served the parish. Submitted by John Wood.



Sonny and Helen Anselm place theb handmade corporal and purificators on the altar as the parish prepares to celebrate the Feast of Faith, the Eucharist.

## Celebrate Ten Years of Perpetual Adoration at a Eucharistic Mission

Carmel Home, 2501 Old Hartford Road, Owensboro, Ky.

Guest Speaker: Rev. Denis Blais, CPM  
Nov. 12, 9:30 a.m. Opening Mass with Bishop McRaith, reception following in Activity Hall

Nov. 14, 10:00 a.m. Talk #1; 6:00 p.m. Confession; 7:00 p.m. Talk #2

Nov. 15, 10:00 a.m. Talk #3; 6:00 p.m. Confession; 7:00 p.m. Talk #4

Nov. 16, 10:00 a.m. Talk #5; 6:00 p.m. Confession; 7:00 p.m. Talk #6

For additional information, contact Lisa Bivins, 270-613-6769

## What A Cursillo Weekend Meant to Me

By Mary Lee  
St. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

In 1997, a friend of mine suggested I attend a Cursillo weekend. I had been on retreats before and thought it might be "fun". What I experienced was not a retreat, but a closer look at my life and purpose as a Christian.

Cursillo is a "short course in Christianity". I now have a much closer relationship to Jesus. The weekend helped me enrich my prayer life. Since the weekend, I look more closely at how my words and actions affect my family, friends, and students. It also brought me closer to an ever-changing group of women that support and strengthen me in my walk with God.

This group is called a "reunion" group. Reunion groups meet weekly for 30 minutes to an hour. Members encourage each other in the areas of prayer, study, and action. My reunion group is currently making a weekly adoration hour. We also have been making rosaries for the prison ministry and other groups. Cursillo helps me remember daily that my purpose as a Christian is to make a friend, be a friend, and bring a friend to Christ.



# ARISE - A Weekend Catholic Faith Experience

Arise is a Weekend Catholic Faith Experience, sponsored by the Cursillo Movement of the Owensboro Diocese. Whereas Cursillo is limited to Catholics, Arise is actually designed with the non-Catholic in mind. Arise is designed primarily for those groups of persons who would like to receive additional information about the Catholic Faith in a short period of time (one weekend). 1) Non-Catholic spouses of practicing Catholics; 2) Catholics who have been away from the Church for a while; 3) Those without a current church/religion who are "Searching" for a new or more meaningful Faith experience; 4) Those taking instruction in the Catholic Faith. Arise weekends are open to all. The Weekends may be attended by practicing or inactive Catholics (as a "refresher" course), those searching for a different faith experience, as well as those who simply want to learn a little more about the faith of their spouse, of other relatives, or friends.

This is a low key, enjoyable, thought provoking weekend "away from it all". The weekend is conducted by a Team of laypersons, assisted by members of the clergy. Time for informal discussion is made available after each presentation. Dress is very casual, and particle, pants will be fed three meals on Saturday and two on Sunday.

The Cursillo community makes the Weekend possible from the generosity of those interested in perpetuating the Catholic Faith. Since there is no cost to the participants, we would like to encourage the Cursillo community to please be generous with your donations.

Anyone interested in working on the Men or Women's Arise weekends, please call or email one of the names below.

We are in the process of developing the Arise weekend, so keep an eye on the Post and the Western Kentucky Catholic for dates and time of the first weekends. Contributions should be mailed to Catholic Cursillo, 7520 Old Highway 81, Owensboro, KY 42301

For additional information you may call: Barbara Hertel (270-788-6165, angelbach@bellsouth.net), Ed or Marcella Wethington (270-927-8159), Denis or Martha Wheatley (270-927-6540) or Cecelia Hamilton (270-926-4176, kyach@owensboro.net). ARISE website at [http://Hcursillomovementofsouth@mississippi.org/arise-home\\_page.html](http://Hcursillomovementofsouth@mississippi.org/arise-home_page.html) Reprinted from *The Cursillo Post*, September, 2005

## Do you have questions

about Declarations of Invalidity (annulments)?

Call the Tribunal at the Catholic Pastoral Center at (270) 683-1545

**By Ashley Denton**

Brescia University, Owensboro, KY

The core values of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount St. Joseph are community, leadership, justice and service. No one embodies these values more than Ursuline Sister and President of Brescia University, Dr. Vivian Bowles. For the past 33 years, Sister Vivian has helped shape the lives of countless people both in and outside of the classroom. She has been a community servant, an innovative leader, and for the past ten years she has been at the helm of an ever-growing Brescia University.

As President of Brescia, Sister Vivian has worked diligently to "read the signs of the times and adapt." This Ursuline principle has driven the growth and expansion of the former Mount St. Joseph Junior College for Women into the flourishing Brescia University of today. Through hard work and solid leadership, Sister Vivian has forged partnerships and created relationships that enabled the university to create digital language labs, multi-media classrooms and even an "academic mall." She has accommodated a significant increase in the number of residential students through the purchase of 22 pieces of property surrounding Brescia's main campus and the construction of a pair of two million-dollar apartment complexes.

When Sister Vivian joined the Brescia faculty 1972 it was to teach education and



**Sister Vivian Bowles, O.S.U., celebrates with former mayor, Waymond Morris (left), Bishop John McRaith (right) and Chairman of Brescia's Board of Trustees, Emie Taliaferro (far right).**

psychology. In the years to come, she helped open the first counseling center at Brescia, The Human Growth and Development Center. She left the education department in order to create the university's first undergraduate psychology major, served as chair of the social and behavioral science division and directed the counseling center. In 1992, Sister Vivian was elected to the Ursuline Sisters leadership team and spent the next couple of years traveling all over the world visiting other groups of Ursulines and facilitating discussions regarding women and religion in the United States. While serving on the leadership team, Sister Vivian was selected as one of the top three candidates for the position of president of Brescia. Before she knew it, she had been chosen as president and would have to spend the next year juggling her new role at the university and still find time to fulfill her duties to the Ursulines' leadership team.

During her tenure as president, Sister Vivian has tirelessly given her time, energy and spirit in order to create an environment that fosters education, growth and personal development. She has worked diligently to promote Brescia and its Catholic identity, serving on numerous civic and religious boards and committees. Sister Vivian has made a name for herself at Brescia, in Owensboro and beyond as a caring, intelligent and dedicated educator. We celebrate her and her vision of a strong, diverse academic community that seeks to educate for a lifetime.

Brescia University has had the great honor and privilege to grow and flourish under the nurturing eye of a gifted

leader and the prospects for the future of Brescia University have never appeared brighter. In the words of William E. Matthews, writer for Back Home in Kentucky, "If ever one single person has made the difference in a college's drive toward fulfilling its mission statement and commitment to students, faculty, alumni, and community, it would have to be Dr. Vivian Bowles." Congratulations on your 10-year anniversary!

## MSJ Picnic Winners

Several parishes have asked about the capital prize winners from the 35th Annual Mount Saint Joseph Picnic held Sept. 11th

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>\$2,500</b>             | <b>Abe Hatfield, Cloverport, KY</b>       |
| <b>Oak Bookcases</b>       | <b>Roswitha Perilloux, Vine Grove, KY</b> |
| <b>\$1,000</b>             | <b>David Hall, Loretto, KY</b>            |
| <b>Quilt</b>               | <b>Ruth Ann Halicks, Paducah, KY</b>      |
| <b>\$500</b>               | <b>Mike Horn, Owensboro, KY</b>           |
| <b>Jukebox</b>             | <b>Beverly Drumb, Booneville, IN</b>      |
| <b>Stack O Matic Radio</b> | <b>Mike Horn, Owensboro</b>               |
| <b>Wall Mirror</b>         | <b>Faye Yaste, Loretto, KY</b>            |
| <b>\$100</b>               | <b>Joe Tarantino, Paducah, KY</b>         |
| <b>BBQ Ham</b>             | <b>Lisa West, Utica, KY</b>               |

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

Opinions expressed in columns and letters to the editor submitted for publication in the Western Kentucky Catholic are not necessarily those of the publisher or editor of The Western Kentucky Catholic.

## Help us help her and her baby

### Opportunities For Life

Call to find out more about how you can help...  
**(502) 223-5330**

[www.opportunitiesforlife.org](http://www.opportunitiesforlife.org)

**(800 822-5824)**

**A Pro-Life Ministry of the Catholic Bishops**



# Owensboro Catholic Middle School honoring Mary and the 7 Sorrows



Leah Lewis (left) is holding a picture of Mary. Danielle Carrico (right) is holding a poster representing the first Sorrow. The first was when she took Baby Jesus to the temple. There the prophet Simeon told her that a sword of suffering would pierce her heart. This would be when Jesus would be put to death.

In photo at right, Emily Krampe (left) is holding a drawing of Mary representing Sorrow #2. Her second sorrow was when she and St. Joseph had to flee to Egypt with Jesus. Herod's soldiers were trying to kill him. Melanie Millay (right) is holding a drawing of Mary representing Sorrow #3. The third suffering came when Mary searched three days in Jerusalem for Jesus. She finally found him in the temple.

Mary is celebrated many times during the year at OCMS. On September 15, 2005 students honored 'Our Lady of Sorrows.'

The first of Our Lady's Sorrows was when she took Baby Jesus to the temple. There the prophet Simeon told her that a sword of suffering would pierce her heart. This would be when Jesus would be put to death.

Her second sorrow was when she and St. Joseph had to flee to Egypt with Jesus. Herod's soldiers were trying to kill him.

The third suffering came when Mary searched three days in Jerusalem for Jesus. She finally found him in the temple.

Our Lady's fourth sorrow was when Jesus was whipped and crowned with thorns and He met His mother on the road to Calvary.

Her fifth great pain was caused by his being lifted on the cross, where he died after three hours of agony.



Alex Dotsey (left) holds a drawing of Mary representing Sorrow #4. Our Lady's fourth sorrow was when Jesus was whipped and crowned with thorns and He met His mother on the road to Calvary. Aaron Alvey (right) is holding a drawing of Mary representing Sorrow #5 Her fifth great pain was caused by his being lifted on the cross, where he died after three hours of agony.

Mary's sixth sorrow was the moment when Our Lord's sacred body was placed in her arms.

Her seventh suffering came when he was buried in the tomb. Mary did not ever feel sorry for herself- or complain because she had to suffer so much during her life. Instead, she offered her sorrows to God for our sakes. She is our Mother. Throughout the day, tell her thank you and ask her to



Regina Powers (left) is holding a drawing of Mary representing sorrow #6. Mary's sixth sorrow was the moment when Our Lord's sacred body was placed in her arms. and Luke Bickett (right) is holding a drawing of Mary representing sorrow #7; her seventh suffering came when He was buried in the tomb. Mary did not ever feel sorry for herself- or complain because she had to suffer so much during her life. The students learned that Mary offered her sorrows to God for our sakes. She is our Mother. Throughout the day, tell her thank you and ask her to help you when you are feeling sad or sorrowful.

help you when you are feeling sad or sorrowful.

Article and photos submitted by Karen Gross.

## All Win When We Support Catholic Schools

Holy Name's Fall Festival was a huge success again this year. It was held September 30 - October 2 at the school. The festival provides an opportunity for our parish and school community to share their time and talent. The money raised from the festival goes to support our Catholic school that provides a quality education based on the Gospel message. Pictured: Sailor Williams placed a dime on a number at the Country Store Booth.

### St. Stephen Cathedral

#### "Keeping The Faith Afloat"

##### Western Caribbean Cruise

June 24-July 1, 2006 - 7 days. From \$1,462 from Louisville. For information and reservations, contact St. Stephen Cathedral, 610 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY 42301. Call 270-683-6525.

Father John Vaughan, Pastor and Cruise Chaplain, Michael Conley, Music Minister on board. Mass provided daily; other opportunities to share Faith and Fellowship; AM scripture study/mini retreat at sea.

\$400 deposit saves a cabin on this adventure! Don't be left behind.



By Christina Best

If you attended the Walk for Life in Owensboro, or drove past the group on Frederica Street, chances are a group of young girls in pink shirts caught your attention. In fact, there is a good chance that you've seen them at several events in the Owensboro area, but never knew who they were. Well, to answer that question, they are a group of seventh grade girls known as the Sisters In Faith.

The idea for Sisters In Faith came from Lindsey Whitehouse, then a sixth grader, after attending a Youth 2000 Retreat at Brescia University. With real enthusiasm, she created brochures for her club and handed them out to members of her class. It was evident that the "Spirit was a-movin'" when twenty-one young ladies attended the first meeting. The group continued to grow as the girls moved to Ow-

ensboro Catholic Middle School, and Myra McCormick agreed to act their school sponsor.

Sisters in Faith built their group on three main principles: 1) To share our faith with friends, pray for each other, and learn from the teachings in the Bible. 2) To do good for others through the giving of our time and talents. 3) To have FUN and develop a special bond of friendship that will last a lifetime. They took it a step further by selecting Sirach 6:5-17, a verse focusing on the purpose of a faithful friend, as their "verse to live by." And their pink shirts, with green lettering, bear their mission, "Taking Our Candle, and Lighting Up Our World."

So far, the Sisters in Faith have been involved in several projects including: visiting the Passionist Monastery to participate in noon prayers, going on a scav-

enger hunt to collect items for the Pitino Shelter, washing dishes for the Mount St. Joseph picnic, holding a special birthday party for the Blessed Mother on her birthday, putting on a skating party for students at the Owensboro Catholic 4-6 Campus with free face painting, and raising \$225 for and participating in the Walk for Life.

These young ladies are a shining example for all of us. They bring optimism and enthusiasm to their endeavors, and they remind us that everyone has the power to change the world. Seeing them in action reminds everyone that the greatest lessons in faith can be taught to us by our youngest members. They are taking their candle and lighting up their world. With groups like the Sisters in Faith going strong, we can be assured that the future of our Church is in good hands.



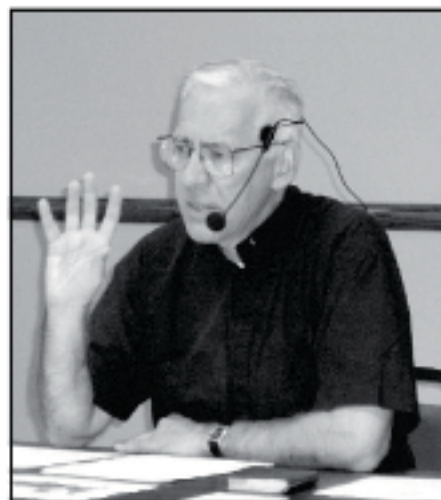
**The 'Sisters in Faith' Group marched in the Right to Life March on Saturday, September 17th, and collectively raised over \$225.00 in donations. Four members from The Fellowship of Christian Athletes also marched. Mallory Richardson and Rachel O'Nan displayed their belief in ending legalized abortion and defending all life. OCS Photo**

## Bible Study With R. Anthony Shonis Celebrating The Catholic Journey

By Edie Keeney

PADUCAH, Ky. - Father Anthony Shonis is taping a weekly radio program "Celebrating the Catholic Journey to begin with "The Book of Revelation: Our Road Map on the Journey to Eternity". The program is recorded on Monday mornings at 11:00 AM at St. Francis de Sales in the parish hall followed by Mass at 12:05 PM and is broadcast on Sundays at 10:00 AM on 95.7 WCKK FM from Benton, KY.

It came to the attention of Father Tony that there were several radio stations broadcasting numerous Christian worship services and radio talk programs with religious themes. These programs were mostly of a fundamental orientation especially where the Bible was concerned. Father thought about having a radio program would reinforce Catholic teachings of the Bible for Catholics and introduce to non-Catholics how the Catholic Church interprets in Bible. Also it would offer an insight into the similarities among the mainline Christian dominations. He approached Joe and Paula Weitlauf. Joe is a radio engineer and Paula has 25 years of experience working in radio and TV. After much discussion, learning and planning, and working out a schedule with the WCKK radio station "Celebrating the Catholic Journey" came to life. Father Tony chose the Book of Revelation to be the topic for the first several months. How-



**Father Tony Shonis on the air during a recent radio show. Edie Keeney Photo**

ever, during Advent he will focus on the infancy narratives. The program is recorded in an informal format with Father reading passages from the Book, commenting on the message, and answering questions from the 20 or so individuals who are attending the sessions. CDs of each session are being made and will be available for \$1 or if mailed \$2 shortly after each session. CDs will also be available at the Good Book Store in Paducah.

Celebrating the Catholic Journey is not the first radio program to be recorded at St. Francis. In October 1949 a small addition to the church was built that housed

the Catholic Information Center. The following Jan. through May, Father Albert Thompson recorded several programs from the Center. These were broadcast each week on a rotating basis. These programs included among others the Rosary, sermons followed by Benediction, services honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary, and Good Friday services.

Father Tony explained why he felt it was important to do this radio program. "I like the idea of a radio ministry as a way not only to introduce non-Catholics to our religion but to also offer an insight to the similarities among all mainline Christian dominations. Basically, I want to get the message out about how the Catholic Church interprets the Bible. We haven't been very good at this especially in this part of our country where a more fundamental interpretation is common. The way to overcome this fundamental viewing of the Bible is by making available good Bible study programs ourselves. I hope this radio program will do that in a positive way.

The Book of Revelation is the most misunderstood book of the Bible, especially to those who are not Bible Scholars. In the minds of some readers, it is frequently taken as a revealing of the future and only needs to be read and interpreted to get a glimpse of that future. The writer of this book did not know about the future

anymore than we do. He knew of the struggles that were happening in their time and that future generations would also experience similar struggles. The Book of Revelation reveals the tremendous hope that no power on earth can stand between us and the Risen Christ, who is the ultimate power guiding the world."

Paula Weitlauf commented, "This is the first time I have heard the Book of Revelation explained in that way. Not explained in the frightening way generally heard. It is comforting to know that Christ will always be with us. That he conquered death for that reason and that if we allow Christ into our lives everything will always be better."

Marty Hill remarked, "I think it is wonderful for us to have the gift of Father Tony and for him to offer this program to the community as well as the parishioners of St. Francis. Many of us are starving to learn more about Scripture." And Gloria Bennett added, "I think the radio program is a marvelous idea because you don't hear about the Book of Revelation very much and it is something every Catholic should be familiar with."

## A Day Nature Added To The Beauty of Living A Rosary With Mary Carrico Memorial School

By Larena Lawson

On this Monday evening, October 3, 2005, there are golden wildflowers gracing my counter with the rich hues of autumn and weary, aching legs and feet reminding me of this day, all remnants of a mission unaccomplished... or was it just another mission that I needed to accomplish?

What in the world am I talking about?

I had this big, bright idea this morning that I would get some exercise, enjoy the beautiful fall day and go on a pilgrimage walk to Mary Carrico to join them in saying the living rosary and take the pictures that you asked me to take, all at the same time. Unfortunately, I miscalculated how long it would take me to walk the six or so miles to get there. I thought it would take about an hour and a half but... it took two hours... so I missed the whole thing. I arrived shortly after it was over. I took a couple of shots of the rosary colored in chalk on the parking lot, but that was about it.

Maybe I should have driven after all or even rode my bike and I would have made better time, but, would I have gotten to experience what I did along the way? NO!

I loaded up my WYD backpack with water bottles, my camera and my wallet. I was briefly reminded of the long journey that we walked in Germany, but I thought that if I could walk four and a half hours straight over there, I could surely walk an hour and a half to Knottsville and another on the way back. I took my cell phone too, just in case I wanted to phone a friend on the way to pass the time... and off I energetically went.

I remembered Father Andy telling me in Germany, when we had been walking awhile and I was getting tired, to offer each step for vocations, so I began this walk with that special intention.

Walking slowly along country roads allows one to see and hear many things that you don't get to see and listen to while speedily driving down the road. Oh the things those cars wizzing past me were missing! They couldn't see all of the beautiful wildflowers speckling the fields and along the side of the roads. They couldn't hear all of the birds singing and the insects chirping. They couldn't see the cattails over in the lake or the glistening reflection



**Golden wildflowers gracing a counter with the rich hues of autumn. LL Photo**

of the trees in the rippling water. Oh what one misses if they don't take the time to experience the wonderful gift of God's glorious nature!

I continued walking and watching my watch to see how I was doing on time. I did phone my daughter and a friend and each thought I was crazy to walk to Knottsville on such a hot day.

The mailman said to me, "You sure picked the hot part of the day to take a walk." I told him I was trying to save on gas.

When I was talking to my daughter a beat-up old truck passed me with some guys in it. It suddenly stopped up ahead and turned around. I got a bit nervous and told Beth that they had turned around. She told me that I should turn around. I just kept walking. As I got closer to the truck I noticed another car behind it. They had stopped to help someone who had car trouble. They were towing him home. All my fear seemed stupid when these young men were just doing a good deed. How foolish I felt!

As I rounded the corner I spooked a deer. He came toward me and just looked right in my eyes. If only I had had my camera in hand, I could have gotten an awesome shot! I stopped and admired his beauty. I thought to myself, "Like a deer searching for running streams, so I long for you my God." I was walking right beside a water-filled stream.

As I walked a bit further I could hear the roar of a combine and saw the dust rising in the sky behind it. It reminded me of my Daddy and how he spent many a fall day harvesting his crops in the field. Oh how I miss him! I remembered when I was younger and when we were having a very hot summer and were in the middle of a drought, my Mama would round up us kids and we would do a pilgrimage walk to St. Lawrence Church from our farm to go and pray for rain. Sometimes we would cut through the woods and other times we would walk the roads. It seemed always to work, with the rains coming shortly thereafter. That's why we did it more than one summer I guess.

It became very apparent to me that I was not going to get to Knottsville by 1:30 so I started walking faster and praying harder. I called my Godmother to see if she was going to the rosary to see if she could maybe come and get me. Then I prayed for an angel, somebody to come by that I knew whom I could jump in the car with. Neither of these things happened. It was too late to turn around and go get my car, so I just continued on. Right before you get to Knottsville there is this huge, long hill to climb. I knew that this was going to slow me down. I continued to walk as fast as I could in the hot, blazing sun.

I figured that they were probably in the fourth mystery by now, the Carrying of the Cross, if they were doing the Sorrowful mysteries. Climbing this hill made me really think of what Jesus must of felt like, being so tired and exhausted, with a heavy cross on His back and beaten nearly to death. I was struggling climbing the hill, with sweat beading on my face. I was thirsty and took a drink of water. Jesus didn't have any water. It wasn't until He was hanging on the cross that He said, "I thirst." He had to have been thirsty the whole way up Calvary Hill! I continued to pray as I walked. The thoughts running through my mind placed me close to Jesus.

I finally reached my destination and not to my surprise, it was finished. I caught the glimpse of Father Tony riding away on his motorcycle. I had missed the whole thing.

I went in the school and talked to the principal, Mike Clark and got me another



**A Rosary drawn on the parking lot of St. William Church. LL photo**

bottle of water. Then I went over to Doodlebug's and bought me a sandwich for lunch. I went across the street and sat down in the shade in front of the rectory. As I sat there eating my lunch my mind was filled with memories of my school days at Mary Carrico. I remembered that I had sat near this very tree and sketched it for art class. This weeping cherry tree is much larger now, with a strong trunk and sturdy limbs, just as I hoped I was stronger too... in faith. I looked across the street and observed the uniformed children being let out of school at the sound of a bell. Memories... thirty or so years ago, I had done the same... many times. There were many more of us students then. I couldn't recall ever doing a living rosary but I do remember many May processions and bringing flowers from home to adorn our Blessed Mother. I remember many school masses. Back then, we went every day. Our Catholic traditions are still being taught today, being handed down to another generation. That makes me feel a bit old, especially watching the younger parents picking up their kids from school.

After a hardy lunch I made my way into the Church to make a visit to the Blessed Sacrament before I headed home. Just me, myself and I... and Jesus. I thanked Him for the blessings of this day, even if I did not make it there on time. I was feeling

**Continued on page 13**

## Praying A Living Rosary at Mary Carrico Memorial School

KNOTTSTVILLE, Ky. - The student body, under the direction of our teachers, has drawn out, with chalk, a giant Rosary on the St. Williams Parish parking lot so that we can kick off our celebration of the Month of the Holy Rosary with special emphasis. Parents, other family members and community members are joining us as we pray the Rosary for: World Peace, An End to Abortion, Victims of the recent Hurricanes, for the students and staff of Mary Carrico School, and all Families of St. William's and St. Lawrence Parishes.

This revered traditional prayer of the Church enables us to ponder the life of Jesus through the eyes of Mary. Mary is the mother of Christ and the model of discipleship. We turn to her through this 'Living Rosary' knowing that she is more intimate with Jesus than any of the great Saints of the Church. We trust deeply in her intercession on our behalf.



The kindergarten class prays the Rosary as they walk along the beads. MCE Photo



Max Bickett, Caleb Hester, and Jesse Rhinerson work on drawing a bead of the Rosary. MCE Photo

## A Day Nature Added To The Beauty

*(Continued from page 12)*

like it was better that I got to experience all that I did instead. I picked up a bulletin on the way out so that I could have the intentions of the rosary that were printed in it with me, so I could pray it on the way home.

Maybe I didn't get to say the rosary with the school children, but I said it on the way home using their special intentions. I joined them in prayer after all, only slightly delayed.

As I made my way home, my legs and feet grew tired but it was a good kind of tired. I got my camera out, just in case God let the deer pass my way again. I didn't get graced with that joy again. I'll have to just keep that one impressed in my mind and heart, but I still got to enjoy the sights and sounds of the wonder of God's mighty hand.

As I finally made my way in the lane and opened my door, I was jubilantly welcomed home by our dog, Macee. She excitedly licked my tired and weary feet and was ready... for her walk.

This roving reporter was so blessed by the workings of this day. I learned a valuable lesson today: Even if things may not always go as planned, all is not lost, God may have other things in mind for us to do and to experience.

*"Let the world be silent and listen to Jesus Christ!" - Cardinal Theodore McCarrick*



On September 14, 2005, Mary Carrico Memorial School celebrated Grandparent's Day. Pictured is Zachary Boerman with his grandmother, Patty Johnson, his mother Michelle Rhinerson, and his twin sisters. MCE Photo by Erin Kamuf

# Happy Anniversary

## Marriage Celebrations for November 2005

### Blessed Mother, Owensboro

Robert & Lynne Pope, 25  
Pat & Kathleen Buntin, 25  
David & Monica Calhoun, 25  
James & Jane Sosh, 61  
William & Margaret Ratliff, 51  
James & Nancy Byrum, 51

### Christ the King, Madisonville

Emilio & Virginia Suarez, 51  
Eddie & Rachel Ballard, 52

### Holy Guardian Angel, Irvington

Louis & Anne Vogt, 54  
Alvin & Loretta Heck, 54  
Joseph & Catherine Crews, 55

### Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson

Andre' & Louise Trawick, 50  
Billy & Betty Gatten, 56  
Boynton & Marian Merrill, 53

### David & Suzanne Gentry, 25

Joseph & Carrie Beck, 25  
William & Pam Crawford, 40  
James E. & Bettye Summers, 40

### Holy Spirit, Bowling Green

Don & Judy Dobernic, 40  
Howard & Dorothy Naberhaus, 55  
Bill & Alberta Metzger, 59

### Holy Redeemer, Beaver Dam

Richard & Terri Whittaker, 25  
Stephen & Blanca Beatty, 25

### Immaculate, Owensboro

Joseph & Rosita Blandford, 58  
Donald & Mary Blanford, 52  
Charles & Mary Jane Bowlds, 53

### Thomas & Mary Louise Cecil, 55

Joseph & Mary Ruth Cilia, 62  
Stewart & Barbara Coomes, 51  
Mark & Jean Howard, 57

### William & Wanda Libs, 59

William & Carolyn Mulligan, 59  
Tom & Rosella Whitsett, 55

### Immaculate Conception, Hawesville

David & Ellen Gibson, 25  
Mike & Sheila Ogle, 40  
J. Rodney & Loretta Wheatley, 40

### Cleo & Myrl Bickett, 64

### Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

Arch & Ramonda Bamberger, 65  
George & Irene Beierlein, 68  
Samuel & Louise Berry, 53

### Herbert Earl & Ann Crabtree, 55

James Wallace & Clara Marie Simon, 54  
James F. & Raphael Marie Hill, 25

### Precious Blood, Owensboro

Louis & Liz Cecil, 51  
James & Doris Schrecker, 50

### Resurrection, Dawson Springs

Joe & Carol Keller, 25

### Sacred Heart, Russellville

William & Jean Dunhauer, 55

### St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph

Pat & Sheila Murphy, 25  
Ken & Yvonne Woosnam, 25  
Maurice & Margaret Drury, 58  
William & Elizabeth Mattingly, 59

Joe Paul & Joyce Warren, 57

### St. Ann, Morganfield

Eddie & Mary Jo Steward, 40  
Larry & Sharon Cissell, 50  
James & Betty Hancock, 61  
Gordon & Marietta Clements, 58

J. R. & Geraldine Sheffer, 57

### St. Anthony, Axtel

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Baurle, 40

### St. Anthony, Peonia

Lawrence & Ruth Powell, 58

### St. Anthony of Padua, Grand Rivers

Donald & Eleanor Crayne, 52

### St. Augustine, Grayson Springs

Robert & Patricia Young, 55

St. Charles, Bardwell

Joe & Rosie Hayden, 59

Maurice & Josetta Cain, 56

### St. Edward, Fulton

Steve & Ann Lindsey, 51

Bill & Jean Fenwick, 53

### St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

Ralph & Carol Klatt, 25

### St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

Mr. & Mrs. Leon Carter, 70

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph L. Wilson, 57

Mr. & Mrs. Bernard B. Hobbs, 56

Mr. & Mrs. James L. O'Guinn, 56

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Cash, 55

Mr. & Mrs. Bill Ellegood, 52

Mr. & Mrs. Charles W. Elliott, Jr., 25

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Miller, 25

### St. John the Evangelist, Paducah

Leroy & June Kaufman, 53

Francis & Dorothy Scheer, 51

Louis & Emma Bourgois, 51

Johnny & Louise Kaufman, 52

Ambrose & Mary Denise Willett, 59

Bennie & Doris Durbin, 55

### St. Joseph, Bowling Green

Russell & Elizabeth Below, 57

### St. Joseph, Mayfield

Roy & Jean Dublin, 40

Douglas & Hilda Webb, 57

Samuel & Ann Cash, 59

Randal & Louise Carrico, 60

### Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro

Jim & Dina Lindow, 25  
Charles & Florence Howard, 50

Richard & Rita Stiff, 50

Marvin & Emma Blincoe, 59

Vince & Flo Mattingly, 64

Gordon & Mary Whitehouse, 57

### St. Leo, Murray

Robert & Donna Holmes, 40

### St. Martin, Rome

Wayne & Betty Hamilton, 40

George & Patti Osborne, 50

Paul & Mary Schrecker, 59

### St. Mary of the Woods, McQuady

Henry & Mary Catherine Payne, 58

### St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho

Roger & Pearl O'Bryan, 40

### St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Richard W. & Mary Rose Howard, 25

Arthur & Genevieve Boarman, 40

James Louis & Martine Boarman, 56

William & Mary Brey, 59

James A. & Rose Ann Cecil, 62

William & Lillie Mae Hagan, 64

Gordon & Evelyn Millay, 51

J. W. & Mary P. Morris, 53

### St. Paul, Leitchfield

Dean & Carla Waterman, 25

Patrick J. & Anna Johnson, 57

### St. Peter, Stanley

Hugh & Betty Cecil, 53

Delbert & Shirley Fulkerson, 53

### St. Peter, Waverly

George & Regina Vogel, 57

### St. Pius X, Owensboro

Robert L. & Rosa Johnson, 40

Jerry & Audrey Mezur, 40

Marvin & Millie Morris, 64

Joseph & Dorothy Raley, 51

### St. Romuald, Hardinsburg

George & Nancy Walz, 40

Barry & Barbara Masterson, 40

Paul & Pauline Henning, 58

Harold & Dorothy Burnette, 53

### St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

Patrick & Ruth Helen Wright, 50

Charles & Mary Ruth Danhauer, 56

Bill & Jean Dunhauer, 55

Jack & Marybelle Darnell, 59

Henry & Mary O'Bryan, 57

Royce & Dottie Vinson, 54

### St. Thomas More, Paducah

John & Helen Farrell, 50

### St. William, Philpot

James & Julie Jackson, 25

John & Edna Lanham, 59

### St. William, Marion

George and Diane Sutton, 42 years

### Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

John & Vanessa Kranz, 25

Arnold & Julia Borders, 50

## Centro del Inmigrante Community

*(Continued from page 6)*

be even more important to provide education, adequate health care, and opportunities to learn job skills so that these people can succeed and become contributing members of their communities; it will be a win win situation for everyone.

Larry McCoy has been involved in helping the Hispanic community for many years and has been involved in getting the center ready. He mentioned that transportation after school at St. Mary for the Hispanic students is badly needed. Larry said, "They have ways to get to school in the mornings but need transportation to get home after school." If anyone can help with this please contact the principles at the elementary, middle and high schools. Perhaps some parents who pick up their children could provide transportation for other students.

Sister Marie Moore commented, "I'm really excited about having a central location available for the Hispanic community and other immigrants; a place where they can come for so many services. So many need help to learn English so that they can get jobs and improve their lives and the lives of their children. It has been wonderful that so many people are helping to make this center happen." Father Pat Reynolds, Pastor of St. Thomas More, added, "Also it will be more convenient for those in our Catholic community who want to help to have a place to go to be a part of this ministry."

## Do you have questions

about Declarations of Invalidity (annulments)?  
Call the Tribunal at the Catholic Pastoral Center  
at (270) 683-1545

# Go Lady Aces!

By Haleigh Ashworth

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Starting out the season with a record of 1-5, our chances of winning a state championship were looking slim. But about three months later we, on June 11th, the 2005 Owensboro Catholic Lady Aces fastpitch softball team, could call ourselves state champions. Instead of letting our early failures get us down we used them as motivation to succeed. We heard what everyone was saying; this was going to be our down year, we lost three talented seniors. This was someone else's year to go to state and win. Well they were all wrong. It was tough, and it took a lot of hard work and dedication, but in the end we accomplished each team goal we had set at the beginning of the year.

Winning state this year was sweet in its own unique way. The last time we won everyone expected it. We were at the top of the rankings the whole season. This year we weren't. We had an extremely rough start. We



**Haleigh Ashworth was named the Tournament Most Valuable Player.**

had to come through as the underdogs. In the State Tournament we got off to a great start, winning three straight games. Then the next day we lost, but we didn't get down on ourselves. We knew we had it in us and we were ready to prove it. And we did. Three victories later we were crowned State Champions.

## Spokane bankruptcy plan would separately incorporate each parish

SPOKANE, Wash. (CNS) -- The Spokane Diocese proposes to have each of its parishes separately incorporated under a reorganization plan it submitted Oct. 10 to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Spokane. As an alternative, it proposes trust agreements declaring that while legal title to parish properties belongs to the diocese "beneficial interest" in those properties belongs to the parishes. In August Judge Patricia Williams ruled that under the current legal structure of the diocese parish properties belong to the diocese itself, for its own beneficial interest, and they are part of the assets subject to the bankruptcy proceedings. The diocese has appealed that ruling and some legal observers believe the case is likely to end up in the U.S. Supreme Court because the stakes -- constitutional and financial -- are so high. The Spokane Diocese, facing millions of dollars in claims from childhood victims of clergy sexual abuse, filed for bankruptcy protection last December.



**2005 Lady Aces and Coaches: Emily McCarty, Emily Jolly, Amy Winstead, Haleigh Ashworth, Meagan Aull, Amanda Woodward, Britney Alexander, Kaley Wethington, Hadley Clark, Lindsey Durbin, Margaret Tichenor, Amanda Clark, Tiffany Mattingly, Stephanie Kaelin, Amy McManaway, Olivia Randolph, Megan Dickinson, Jessica Fogle, Chanda Burcham, Holly Jones, Haley Woodward. At left back is Head Coach George Randolph; at right rear is Assistant Coach Ray Zuberer. OCHS Photo**

November 22 - Tuesday  
**SAINT CECILIA SING**  
 Chris Leeper | Neal Biggers | Tracy Day

*Part of an international festival of sacred song co-sponsored by the National Association of Pastoral Musicians, this event will give all a chance to celebrate the wonder of music. This event will feature Evening Prayer in the style of Taizé.*

Location: Mount Saint Joseph Motherhouse Chapel  
 7:30 p.m., Free and open to all

For more information contact the  
 Office of Music, Diocese of Owensboro,  
 270-683-1545

Send this postcard and invite a friend.

**Sr. Ann Miriam Mills, C.P. : "I wanted to spend my life with someone special, and found that it was Jesus Christ."**

"Mother, I know you are praying for me to be a nun, but I want you to stop!" At that very young age, Ann Mills already had dreams of marrying a farmer and living in the country. Little did she know the hot-line her mother had to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary! Fifty-two years later, Sr. Ann Miriam is celebrating her Golden Jubilee of her Passionist consecration.

The third oldest child of L.K. and Helen Mills, Ann grew up in a loving Catholic family, where prayer was just as much a part of life as was wholesome fun. Her parents set the



**Sr. Ann Miriam of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary**



**One of the last family photos taken before Helen "Mother Mills" left time to join her faithful husband L.K. and to enter into her eternal reward. l - r: Fr. Joe Mills, Kay Rhodes, Jack Mills, Molly Bissmeyer, Mrs. Helen Mills, Sr. Ann Miriam, Bill Mills, Randall Mills**



**A family embracing all vocations. Here is the future priest Fr. Joe Mills and Passionist Nun Sr. Ann Miriam**



**Ann Mills - lab technician**

When it came time for Ann to take her national exams in order to become a medical technologist, her mother spent the entire day in our chapel, praying that her daughter would pass her tests, which she did. She worked in Louisville for six years before entering our community shortly after her brother, Fr. Joseph Mills, was ordained to the priesthood for the Owensboro Diocese. Remembering the day her mother had spent praying in our chapel that she would pass her exams, Sr. Ann Miriam teased, "Mother, you really overdid it that day praying for me! Look where I've ended."

Entering our community only seven years after our Owensboro monastery was founded, Sr. Ann Miriam became part of the "legend" of those early years, along with Sisters Rose Mary and Rita Marie Boteler, Sr. Marie Michael Aull, and Sr. Margaret Mary Mattingly. To persevere through the countless hardships of those years was a feat in itself. Sr. Ann Miriam's refectory (monastery dining room)

seat was six inches from the basement furnace. If she didn't sit up straight, her back was roasted against the hot furnace.

Along with other new members, Sr. Ann Miriam slept in the tiny cottage that housed the novitiate and the altar bread department. Once she was so sleepy when the 2 a.m. wooden clapper rang for Matins, she tried to get up out of bed, but couldn't move her feet. She thought to herself as she slumped back down on her straw mattress, "Glory be...My feet worked when I went to bed. I wonder what's wrong." Gazing down at her feet with only one eye open, she saw the right strap buckled to the left sandal and the left strap to the right sandal. No wonder she couldn't walk! These amusing anecdotes are the very human side of a deeply prayerful heart.

Having artistic talent, Sr. Ann Miriam excelled in hand-crafted pictorial rugs made with wool she herself had dyed into 45 to 50 shades of color. She would take a small print, such as a Courier & Ives winter scene, and freehand



**Sr. Ann Miriam on her day of First Profession of Passionist Vows November 21, 1955**

magnify it into a 3' x 4' throw rug, hooked on bur-lap. Looking at the merging of shades of color on



**Sr. Ann Miriam with one of her many afghans completed**



**Going Fishing!**

the rug, one got the impression of an oil painting.

Over the years, Sr. Ann Miriam has given an example of contemplative prayer, devotion to the Hearts of Jesus and Mary, love for sacred scripture, and a "vocation within a vocation" to pray for priests. Having a priest brother has made her deeply aware of the need to support our priests with prayer and sacrifice. Fr. Joe Mills attributes much of the joy and fulfillment he has experienced in his priesthood to the prayers Sr. Ann Miriam has offered for him in her life as a Passionist.

Since 2001, Sister has experienced failing health. In March Sister had a pacemaker installed, so her health has improved. However, she chose to mark her Golden Jubilee, by a small family celebration rather than having a large public event. Her brother, Fr. Joe Mills, along with several other priests, celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday, August 21.

Asked for "a word of wisdom" in her 50th year in religious vows, Sister responded:

"I am so grateful to my parents, family and friends for their loving support, expressed in many ways through the years, and for the many priests, religious and our community who shaped and enriched my spiritual journey during these 50 years. My call before I entered was a search for the eternal meaning of my life. This was so strong each day and I kept thinking, 'What am I doing for eternity?' I wanted to spend my life with someone special, and found that it was Jesus Christ. He called me to live in close companionship with him through a life of prayer at the foot of the cross. It's not all about what we do for him, but what he does for us. Looking back I realize that he was always there, and it was only because of his love and fidelity that I have made it to this point. I thank him for this precious gift. I wouldn't exchange it for anything!"

## Brescia's Night of the Round Table Benefits Scholarship Funds And Academics



**Guests wait in anticipation to see the winning bids from Brescia's Night of the Round Table fundraising auction. Submitted photo**

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Brescia University's 9th Annual Night of the Round Table took place on Saturday, October 8th at the Campus Center. This year's theme was "All That Jazz" and transformed the gymnasium into a 1920's era ballroom. The live auction featured an electric scooter, sporting event tickets, diamond slide and a 52" flat screen television. The three silent auctions contained 185 assorted items ranging from car care kits to gift certificates and even some dining room chairs. The attendees enjoyed social-

izing and appetizers upon arrival, an elegant sit down dinner and participating in the night's activities. The evening came to a close as we announced our raffle winners for a hand-made quilt, half-pot and \$500 cash. The fundraiser brought in approximately \$45,000 which will benefit the university's scholarship funds and academic development.

We extend a special thank you to all those who attended and sponsored our annual fundraiser.

## 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, Chair, Mr. William Craig, Jr., Ms. Louanne Gelarden, Dr. Carroll Howard, Fr. Pat Reynolds, Dr. Durrell French, 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.

You may also contact the Board via email at [reviewboard@pastoral.org](mailto:reviewboard@pastoral.org). However, due to confidentiality no direct response will be given by email. Confidentiality is never guaranteed when using email.

## Hispanic Ministries Director Raises Serra Club's Awareness of Hispanic Gifts, Presence

By Larena Lawson

The Owensboro Serra Club members did not come prepared to take a pop quiz at their Friday luncheon meeting at Ryan's Steakhouse on Sept. 23rd, but to their surprise, were given one by their guest, Patti Murphy, the Director of Hispanic Ministry for the Diocese of Owensboro. As the scheduled program guest speaker for the day, Patti tested them on their awareness and knowledge of the Hispanic population in the United States and in the Diocese of Owensboro, what their needs might be and asked if their needs were being met?

Patti, originally migrating herself to the state of Kentucky from the state of Maine 13 years ago, shared with them how she came to be involved in Hispanic ministry, after graduating from St. Louis University with a degree in aviation science. Her love for Hispanic ministry has grown out of her missionary work and immersion experiences in Venezuela, Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico and Ecuador.

It all began for Patti as a young high school student going on a mission trip to Venezuela for three and a half weeks with her family, her first of several mission trips out of the country. As part of the journey they flew from one remote village in Venezuela to the next on a tiny plane that at times was too overloaded with supplies and people that it made it difficult to land.



**Hispanic Ministries Director Patti Murphy spoke to the Owensboro Serra Club about her work for the diocese Sept. 23. Lois Rutigliano photo**

This adventure sparked in her a desire to learn how to fly and serve as a missionary. She went on to become a pilot herself and after college, she spent a year in Ecuador as a volunteer. It was there that she learned more of the Spanish language and was

exposed to the wonderful customs and culture of the Latin American people. She became involved in the Church there and the Youth Group and learned their spirituality. Eventually, she came home to work to pay off student loans and to be with her family who were now living in Owensboro.

For the past year, Patti has served as the Director of Hispanic Ministry and one of the aspects of her job is to raise awareness of the need to minister to the heavy influx of Hispanic people in the diocese which numbers 24,000 people. Hispanic Catholics are 25.4% of the total Catholic population in the Diocese and have a projected growth of reaching 32.6% by the year 2010. In the United States, the Hispanic population has reached 45 million and grows rapidly each year. According to the US Census Bureau the Hispanic community is now the nation's largest minority population with half of the country's Catholics being Hispanic. As the ever-growing numbers escalate rapidly, the need for ministry to them grows with it.

Patti continued quizzing the Serrans asking them, "How do we go about ministering to the Hispanic community?" She presented possible short term and long term solutions, emphasizing the great need to expose more Anglo people to their culture and language that would enable them to take pastoral action in serving their needs, especially the priests who would serve them.

In focusing on the Serra Club's mission to foster and encourage vocations to the priesthood and religious life, Patti challenged the Serrans to create programs specifically geared to the wants and needs

of the Hispanic community. She explained that there are many Hispanic religious vocations; it's just a matter of fostering those vocations in a way that truly fits the reality of young Hispanics. These young Hispanics need to help plan the programs for them to be successful. She suggested asking them what they would like to see and have because even though they want to "inculturate themselves" into the American culture and learn its ways, they still want to "remain themselves." Patti has found that meeting them where they are and trying to meet their wants and needs helps them in their immersion process and gives them a sense of belonging. She highlighted the recent Encuentro celebration in Hopkinsville as being a successful way that they were able to truly listen to their priorities and provide them with something they enjoyed and also was a way for the Anglos to experience their culture.

When asked whether the United States was no longer a melting pot, Patti said it never really was. That insinuates that people came and "melted" into one type of person. But every group of immigrants brought and continues to bring gifts which add to the culture. So, really, the United States is more like a tapestry of many colors all working together to make a beautiful picture, where each color adds to the beauty.

The Hispanic awareness quiz compiled by the USCCB and Patti Murphy's presentation to the Serra Club proved to shed light on the fact that there is a tremendous need for more involvement in Hispanic ministry as the population in the Diocese of Owensboro continues to grow with an increasing presence of the Hispanics in its community of faith.

## Three West Kentucky Parishes Open Home For Special Needs Adults

By Sherry Jones, for St. Jerome Church

FANCY FARM, Ky. - On April 24, 2005, the Christopher House had their open house here. The Christopher House will be a home for three special-needs adults from our local area. The location of the Christopher House will allow the residents to have convenient access to several amenities in Fancy Farm such as the church, school, picnic grounds, Villa Madonna apartments, and the Senior Citizens building.

It is sponsored by St. Jerome Catholic Church in partnership with St. Charles, St. Denis, and St. Joseph Catholic Church as well as the local Knights of Columbus #1418. The local board of directors will be comprised from these partners and individuals with an interest in the special-needs population.

Four Rivers Mental Health of Paducah will provide total management, including maintenance, hiring of staff, screening of potential clients, and coordination of transportation to J.U. Kevill, Easter Seals Center, doctor's offices/hospitals, and other places of necessity for the clients.

In the near future, a foundation will be established to manage the private donations, goods, and services that will be accepted for the home. The donations will be spent on personal items such as blinds, drapes, TV's, telephones and any other items or services to provide a comfortable atmosphere for the residents. The foundation will also provide information to individuals, families, estates, or trusts that may be interested in making tax-free donations on behalf of the Christopher House.

## Paducah 7th Graders Get Jump on Taking ACT, SAT Tests

PADUCAH, Ky. - 25 St Mary 7th-graders have qualified for Duke University's Talent Identification Program (TIP) by scoring at or above the 95th percentile on the McGraw-Hill CAT-6 test, a nationally normed, standardized achievement and aptitude test. Through the TIP program, Duke identifies academically talented students who then are offered the opportunity to take the SAT reasoning test or the ACT college entrance examination. The ACT and SAT testing will take place later in the school year, with awards ceremonies honoring the higher scoring students, who may also qualify for summer studies programs based on the test results. St Mary students selected for the program are: Mary Ballard, Ashley Brantley, Joey Bray, Carli Cummins, Danielle Dome, Ellen Ebelhar, Sydney Edwards, Kalie Harbison, Sarah Hendley, Jessica Jones, Kathryn Keiler, Morgan Kirkpatrick, Hannan Kreutzer, Ryan Lutz, Alessand Mayo, Shawn Megowan, Taylor Mudd, Jordan Osman, Julia Ross, George Smith, Peyton Vaughan, Madison Webster, Taylor Weitlauf, Samuel Whittaker, And Julia Zaninovich.

# Carrico's Reflections

## Let's Slice Our Way Into The Core Of An Apple To Understand The Holy Trinity

By G.E. (Jerry) Carrico

Undoubtedly, many of us, maybe all of us, have had difficulty understanding the real meaning of the Holy Trinity, our Triune God, three distinct Persons in One God who are God The Father, God The Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Quite a few of us Catholics might think that the doctrine is unreal, even surreal, except that our own God-given Faith, and only our Faith makes the doctrine believable.

Lately, a Baptist friend of mine has made the meaning of this doctrine of the Trinity simple and understandable just by using an apple - any apple, red, yellow, or green. Here's how: first of all, imagine a whole apple as being God in an ordinary sense. Now, slice the apple into three distinct parts. Let slice one be God the Father, the second as God the Son, and the third as God the Holy Spirit. Put the three slices back together. Now you have an apple again complete in its parts. And, similarly, now you have the Holy Trinity symbolized as three distinct parts of an apple, the three representing the Holy Trinity.

My, my, hasn't my friend made the doctrine of the Holy Trinity simple for understanding just by slicing an apple into three sections? I'm wondering why I hadn't thought of that simple process. But be sure I've given my friend full credit for this explanation.



## Comfort & Hope... a message about grief: "Reach out and be Thanksgiving to someone."



By Jeannie Boone

We were using a study guide to prepare for an upcoming science test and as we read over the last question Claire and I were both puzzled; neither one of us remembered the topic being covered in the chapter. As I searched through the pages for the answer, she was anxious to get back outside and play. "Look in the back, Granny. The answers are all in the back," she said.

It occurred to me that we are like this in our grief work: we're sure there must be an easy way out... a quick and simple solution to our sadness and confusion so we can get back to the way life was before. But life cannot be as it was before, and just as we had to dig into Claire's book to find the answer to the science question, we have to dig into our pain and do the work that comes with loss. There are no easy answers and to quote Peanuts' Charlie Brown, "In the book of life, the answers are not in the back."

There really aren't answers at all, but an understanding that comes with the passing of days and devotion to our feelings. The work of grief is not only in recognizing what we are feeling but also in exploring the whys of that feeling and putting it to rest, as much as possible at the time. It sounds easy enough but anyone who has experienced profound loss knows that's not the reality. Like a scene in a snow globe, our world has been turned upside down and shook. As the change and confusion float down around us it's hard to know what is real and what is not... what do we hang onto and what do we allow to settle untouched?

**As the holidays approach,** I ask you to be especially mindful of the family, friends, neighbors... all those around you who suffer... from illness, loss of freedom, shattered dreams, the death of a loved one. And I ask you, too, not to assume to know how someone feels, or to rely on hearsay for facts. Try to see the need, cultivate a heart that serves, and you will be blessed. Take just a few moments of your time to give a hug or write a note of encouragement. If you remember someone in prayer pick up the phone and tell that person, "I said a prayer for you today. I care about you." Go have a cup of tea with a shut-in. These small acts of caring and kindness are the very things that must sing in eternity with their ability to lift a human heart. The darkest day can be made light with the touch of a caring hand and I tell you this from a heart that knows.

I remember the first time I allowed my heart to hear the words of the hymn, "How Great Thou Art." It was a favorite of the man who was my father and I had never allowed myself to hear it until he was dead. It was the closing hymn at Mass and as I stood

# Sharing Holiday Tips

By Betty Medley

The holidays are upon us again, and they can leave us incredibly sad and sick at heart. It seems hard to believe they cannot be somehow suspended. Couldn't we just go into a trance or a coma for a couple of months and wake up in January to find they are past?

I guess that's not an option, but since it isn't, how about hearing ideas of what other survivors have been doing to get through these hard days? But before I start to share them, can I ask you to help ME out when January comes? When you think of something special to honor your special person, would you take time to write and let me know what you've done? It would be terrific next year at this time to give you an article stuffed full of the ideas of others. I really would appreciate it. Here are some wonderful suggestions some bereaved parents have shared with me.

Jane said that every year since Scott's death, they have gathered gifts of poinsettias or monetary gifts to Boys Town or other healing ministries, all given in Scott's memory. She says, "There was pain in the realization that we could not longer shop for and with him or give to him... subsequent occasions have been prayed through and warmed with bittersweet memories." Jane added that getting to read writings from other parents who have "walked where we are walking" was really helpful, too.

Michelle shared some encouraging thoughts, "As our first holiday season without Wade approached, I found that the anticipation was far worse than the actual event." (Isn't that reassuring to hear?) "I have some special ornaments that were given to me after Wade's death, and as I carefully place them on the tree, I think of him and know he is with me. As we approach the holidays, I try to focus on the happy times when he was well and out of pain. I am fortunate to have many family and friends who understand the pain I feel. Having the opportunity to talk about Wade is a way for me to keep his spirit alive."

Finally, here is a wonderful thought from Bob and Lois. "About three years after Bill died, we were traveling one holiday season and stopped in a drugstore. There, we spotted a wonderful tent ornament with Christmas lights on it as well as a picnic chest inside and a lantern you could put a light through for illumination. We bought it and thus began our Memory Christmas Tree. We sent a letter to several friends and family members asking them to send us an ornament that reminded them of Bill, and we explained why we wanted it. Every one of them sent something, and now, each December, this three-foot high, artificial tree pays silent tribute and includes our dear son in our holiday. It is a great comfort."

What an outstanding idea! Usually, our family and friends want to help over these difficult times, but they have no ideas what to try. What a way to get everyone involved! Ornament makers are becoming so creative that there is certainly an abundance of shopping choices out there.

Above all, please be assured you're not the Lone Ranger in feeling some despair around the holidays. But with a little planning and thinking ahead, this difficult time of year won't catch you off guard. I'm thinking of you in these tough days.

*P.S. Please don't forget to write and share with me your own holiday memory ideas! Thanks in advance. Betty Medley, Director, Family Life Office, 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY 42301*

in that pew I heard the words and felt the power of that song. The horror and pain of 30 years was churning in my soul; as I struggled to deny it, Mary Ruth Stamper reached from the pew behind to put her arms around me. That touch opened a gate. Like a broken dam, the tears denied for a lifetime were let loose... I remember collapsing in her arms, a child clinging to a real person offering comfort... and hope. It was dawn for me, my first day.

So listen to your heart and take the time to act. Reach out and be Thanksgiving to someone else and make the heavens glad! *"And shall it be said that my eye was in truth my dawn?" Kahlil Gibran, The Prophet*



Betty Medley

# A History of St. Peter Parish, Waverly, Ky.



Bob Cinnamond

**By Bob Cinnamond**

I had never seen Mom so happy. She and Dad had just removed me from the public school and enrolled me at St. Peter Elementary. St. Peter had a lot of memories for me. I was now a big boy in the fifth grade and remembered my First Communion a few years before.

We had ridden the large Greyhound bus to Waverly, Ky. I remember that I had fallen on a brick as we walked the several blocks from the Bus Station to Church and skinned my knee. My

little white suit was now stained in blood, and dirty, but I got in line anyway. It was still a very special day.

Waverly began as an area called "Crossroads" in the 1800's. When the railroad also planned a station in the area, it attracted enough attention that Bishop O'Donoghue, Diocese of Louisville, purchased four acres of choice land about three blocks east of the crossroads. He assigned the Rev. Peter J. McNeil to be the pastor and form the new church.

Fr. McNeil arrived on the morning of February 8, 1909 with one suitcase, his chalice, and lots of good will and God's grace. Masses were held in the old Pike store on Main Street until the church was complete. An old piano crate was used for an altar.

The first Mass in the new Church was offered on Easter Sunday, March 27, 1910, and the building was dedicated on October 12, 1910. Ten railroad cars were needed to bring priests and parishioners to the dedication ceremony. Two other buildings were also constructed, one on each side of the church. The rectory was constructed on the south side and a Sisters' home on the north side.

Fr. McNeil was quite a leader and challenged each family to construct their own pew. Every family did construct their own pew and some would arrive very early before Mass to make sure that no one got their pew. It is a shame that no one remembers his psychology for arranging the pews in church.

Mother Aloysius, being from Waverly, quickly sent Ursuline Sisters from Mount St. Joseph to staff the new school. The school operated continuously from 1910 until 1973, and included a high school from 1918 until 1947. By 1918, the school had grown to 147 students.

Also by 1918, the parish was debt free and had established an excellent steam heating system, running water, and a generator to provide electricity for the buildings. Disaster struck on February 8, 1923 when fire destroyed the church building, but heroic efforts by the parishioners saved the rectory and convent.

The parishioners responded immediately to build a beautiful new and larger Church, and it was completed and dedicated on August 5, 1924. The new church seated 624 people and remains intact today. After navigating the brick sidewalk, we had to walk up several flights of steps to reach the front doors of the church. Mom used to say: "Say a Hail Mary for each step; then you will be ready for Mass!"

The parishioners have always reached out to the community and taken care of their church buildings. During the '37 flood, twelve families were housed in the St. Peter's School for several weeks. New pews, altar table, and fixtures were added in the 1980's. A ramp and



an elevator were installed for those that could not navigate those stairs.

In 2001, Fr. Bob Willett presented the idea of replacing the old church windows with new stained glass windows. At first, the cost seemed insurmountable, but a committee was formed and money began to flow in from many sources. Themes for the windows were chosen to be the seven sacraments, faith, hope, love, the Trinity, and music.

The windows became very personal to the parishioners and each has a story. For example: "faith" was dedicated by a family who had a member with cancer. "Hope" came from a family whose mother had been adopted as a small child. "Love" was portrayed by a mother with her children. The St. Peters community invites everyone to come see the new windows that were dedicated by Bishop John McRaith on Sunday, October 9.

The deep faith of the parishioners of St. Peter's has been blessed with many religious vocations. Some of them are Sr. Mary Cleophas Greenwell, Sr. Ophelia Raley, Sr. Mary Pierre Brady, Sr. Blanche Bickett, Sr. Mary Boniface Speaks, Sr. Margaret Louise Yates, Sr. Agnes Irene Bickett, Sr. Walburga Simpson, Honora Dillon (died before receiving orders), Sr. Germaine Buckman, Sr. Joseph Raymond Shaffer, Rev. Joseph L. Wheatley, Sr. Florence Rita Chapman, Rev. Isadore Snyder, Sr. Mary Felix Pritchett, Sr. Vincentia Spalding, Sr. Mary Emily Pike, Sr. Mary Emma Hamilton, Sr. Mary Samuel Hamilton, Sr. Mary Sebastian Brady, Sr. Agnes Vincent Chapman, and Sr. Clare Benedict Austin.

The small rural church of St. Peter of Antioch in Waverly, Ky. is indeed a very special place.

## Sts. Joseph and Paul Parish Builds on Refugee Ministry

*(Continued from page 7)*

"Over 40 parish volunteers, St. Vincent DePaul, and the Owensboro Catholic school system pitched in from day one with the Sekhar family and gave tremendous assistance to them," said Fr. Brian. "I cannot thank them enough and I know that they will continue to help with future families."

"We are called to accept the challenge of the bishops, which is to welcome the stranger and to be in solidarity with the world," said Fr. Brian. "We are also challenged to stewardship and to share what we have with those who are less fortunate. The great part about it all is that while we do bless these families, they also bless us in so many ways."

Volunteers are needed to help with construction of the house and to help the families' transition into our community in a variety of ways. If you wish to help, or would like to make a financial contribution to this ministry, call the office of Sts. Joseph and Paul at 270-683-4714.

## MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS, NOVEMBER-MAY 2006

**November 2005**

- 4-5 Bellevue Baptist Church  
Choir Retreat  
5-6 Academy for Young Leaders  
11-12 First Christian Church  
Women's Retreat  
17 Jesu Caritas  
17 Watershed Watch Workshop  
18-19 **Thomas Merton Retreat**  
19 Immaculate Confirmation  
Retreat

**December 2005**

- 1 Hopkins County Gardeners Tour  
2-4 Fort Knox Women's Retreat

**January 2006**

- 13-20 St. Meinrad Seminarians  
Retreat  
20-22 Retrouvaille  
23-27 Spiritual Direction Institute  
27-28 First Christian Church  
Retreat  
27-29 Brescia University Ministry  
Formation Program

**February 2006**

- 3-5 Catholic Engaged Encounter  
9-11 Basket Weavers  
16-19 Men's Cursillo  
23-26 Women's Cursillo  
25 Brescia University Ministry  
Formation Program

**March 2006**

- 3-5 Catholic Engaged Encounter  
10-12 **Charismatic Conference**  
24-25 First Church of God Retreat  
24-25 **Spirituality at the Workplace**  
24-26 **Women's Retreat**  
24-26 Immaculate Conception  
LaGrange Confirmation Retreat  
31-02 Catholic Engaged Encounter

**April 2006**

- 2 Our Lady of Lourdes RCIA  
4-9 Christian Women's Retreat  
21-22 Grace Fellowship  
22 Our Lady of Lourdes  
Confirmation Retreat  
24-28 Spiritual Direction Institute

**May 2006**

- 12-14 Catholic Engaged Encounter  
17-18 St. Gabriel Senior Retreat  
19-21 Alumnae Weekend  
31-4 Youth Group



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

**The Spirituality of Work:**

**How can I make meaning in the marketplace?**

*Directed by Vinal Von Benthem*

**Friday and Saturday**

**March 24-25, 2006**

**Mount Saint Joseph  
Conference and Retreat Center**



Most of us spend Monday through Saturday working, often outside our homes. What does it mean to be a Catholic Christian in the workplace? Do we work differently because of what we profess to believe? What do we believe about "work?" During this program we will take the time to look at the question many people are asking:

How can I make meaning in the marketplace?

- Vinal Von Benthem

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

**Sister Martin Gertrude Mattingly, 97, Died Sept. 18**

Maple Mount – Sister Martin Gertrude Mattingly, 97, an Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph, died September 18, at Mount Saint Joseph, in her 77th year of religious life.

A native of Knottsville, she was born Stella Mae Mattingly, the daughter of Martin Spalding and Sarah Gertrude Bowlds Mattingly.

An educator for over 50 years, Sister Martin Gertrude taught at St. Charles, Bardwell (1930-31), St. Romuald, Hardinsburg (1931-32), Immaculate Conception, Earlington (1932-33), St. Martin, Rome (principal and teacher, 1970-71). She served as librarian at Immaculate (1979-81) and Cathedral (1981-82) schools, Owensboro, and at Mary Carrico School, Knottsville (1982-83).

She was also principal and teacher in many schools in the Archdiocese of Louisville. She retired to the Motherhouse in 1984.

Survivors include two sisters, Merici Millay, and Margaret Payne; a brother, Vincent E. Mattingly all of Owensboro; nieces and nephews, and the members of her religious community.

The funeral Mass was Thursday, September 22, at Mount Saint Joseph, with burial in the convent cemetery.

Glenn Funeral Home, Owensboro, was in charge of arrangements.

Gifts in memory of Sister Martin Gertrude Mattingly may take the form of donations to the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, 8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, KY 42356.

**DEVELOPING OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE**

**With Emphasis on the Life and Writings of Thomas Merton**

**Directed by Rev. Dan Kenneth Phillips**

**November 18-19, 2004**

This retreat is for persons who want to discover why we need to begin anew our spiritual journeys. How do we start? You will spend time learning how to develop your own spiritual journal with special emphasis on the journals of Thomas Merton. This retreat will help you travel the road of spirituality to a more meaningful life.

Rev. Dan Kenneth Phillips, with over 20 years of pastoral experience, is a frequent retreat leader and writer on issues of spiritual development. He has studied Merton's life and work for more than 30 years. His website, *Thomas Merton: Monk and Poet* (<http://go.to/merton>), is a primary target for persons interested in Merton's spiritual life. Phillips, who holds a master's of divinity degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, is chaplain at Centennial Medical Center in Nashville. He and Janet, his wife of 37 years, have one grown daughter.

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



**Mount Saint Joseph**  
Conference and Retreat Center

## Office of Music November 2005 Events

November 6 | Sunday | SARAH HART IN CONCERT

Sarah Hart is an internationally known contemporary Christian singer/songwriter. She has performed for Pope John Paul II, World Youth Day, and the National Catholic Youth convention. She has three best-selling CDs to her credit.

Location: St. Stephen Church, Cadiz, 2:30 p.m., Tickets: \$5

November 12 | Saturday | CANTOR WORKSHOP

Sr. Mary Henning, OSU - Sr. Mary will present a workshop focused on vocal pedagogy, exploring the proper techniques for singing. Choir members as well as cantors would benefit from this workshop. Lunch is included in the workshop fee.

Location: Brescia University, Owensboro, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Fee: \$30 (\$35 after November 7)

November 17 | Thursday | PLANNING APPROPRIATE LITURGICAL MUSIC: The art of making good choices

All major Catholic music publishers offer guides and websites to assist musicians in planning music for liturgies. However, as publishers tend to promote their own music, musicians need to be trained to plan from the primary sources: The Graduale Romanum, the Graduale Simplex, the Lectionary, and the Sacramentary. At this workshop, Mike Bogdan will explore these resources in detail.

Location: St. Pius Tenth Church, Calvert City, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Fee: \$15 (\$20 after November 13)

November 22 | Tuesday | SAINT CECILIA SING

Chris Leeper | Neal Biggers | Tracy Day

Part of an international festival of sacred song co-sponsored by the National Association of Pastoral Musicians, this event will give all a chance to celebrate the wonder of music. This event will feature Evening Prayer in the style of Taizé.

Location: Mount Saint Joseph Motherhouse Chapel, 7:30 p.m., Free and open to all

For more information regarding any of the listed events, contact the Office of Music, Diocese of Owensboro, 270 | 683-1545

## Immigration & the Church

**"We speak as two Episcopal conferences but as one Church, united in the view that migration is necessary and beneficial. At the same time, some aspects of the migrant experience are far from the vision of the Kingdom of God that Jesus proclaimed: many persons who seek to migrate are suffering, and, in some cases, dying; human rights are abused; families are kept apart; and racist and xenophobic attitudes remain. (Pg. 1, no.2)"**

**- Strangers No Longer: Together on the Journey of Hope, a joint statement from the Catholic Bishops of Mexico and the United States. To learn about the USCCB's Campaign for Immigration Reform visit: [www.justiceforimmigrants.org](http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org)**



Mrs. Ann Vaughan, Carol Shoulta, RoseAnn Payne looked over "Kids Care," a coloring book featuring the stained glass windows of St. Stephen Cathedral. The book is available through the Cathedral Parish offices.



Parish picnics are a time when parish leaders can see many members of a parish working together toward a common goal for a day, to host the picnic for parishioners and the public. Father John O'Koro, left, Greg Labyak, St. Stephen pastor Father John Vaughan, and Jennifer Fullenwider, all members of the Pastoral Council for the parish, enjoyed the picnic and the visiting with parishioners. Pastoral Council members find the picnics a good time to hear parishioners' concerns, ideas, and likes, as well as get to know the ones who work the picnic or just stop by for a visit. Lois Rutigliano photo

## Working For The Church



Jill Leigh looked over the "Kids Care" coloring book with her son, Christian near the Cotton Candy booth. Lois Rutigliano photo



Paolo Martins, a Brescia University student from Sao Paulo, Brazil, chatted with a former BU teacher Edna Murphy at the St. Stephen Parish Picnic Oct. 1. The Tom and Amy Payne are the host family with whom Martin lives while here in Kentucky. Lois Rutigliano photo

Sister Anne Michelle Mudd, OSU, helps kindergartners Zachary and Jarrett recognize letter sounds at St. Paul School in near Leitchfield. Head teacher Sister Anne Michelle teaches kindergarten and grades 1 and 2 at this small, thriving school that serves four Grayson County parishes. St. Paul students, who score above state and national averages in religion, math, science, and reading, participate in local spelling bees, essay contests, and 4-H activities. St. Paul School receives generous support from the parishes, parents, and many friends. It recently received an Angela's Ark grant from the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph.



## Hospice Receives Angela's Ark Grant

Sister Diane Marie Payne, OSU, and Stacey Cowan, MSW, show their appreciation for the Care Notes booklets recently purchased by Hospice and Palliative Care of the Ohio Valley through an Angela's Ark grant from the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph. The grant — from donations to the Ursuline Flatboat Adventure in August 2004 — assisted Hospice in acquiring various materials to assist families, particularly children, in the grieving process. Sister Diane Marie is Hospice chaplain, and Stacey Cowan is bereavement coordinator. Care Notes are published by Abbey Press at Saint Meinrad, Indiana.



## Girls Visit The Mount

A number of girls from Girls, Incorporated visited Mount Saint Joseph October 13 for an Educational and Environmental Field Trip. The girls visited the sisters' craft room where Sister Mary Cabrini Foushee gave some of the girls a quick lesson in quilting. Looking on are, l. to r., Aleah Halbrook, Natalie Higgs, Morgan Herzog, Hayli Casebier, and Tiffany Clark.



A tour of the Mount farm always includes a visit to the resident pigs. Shown with the pigs are, in front, Hayli Casebier, and, clockwise from Hayli, Natalie Higgs, Samantha Epling, Brittany Clark, and Tiffany Clark.

## When Does The Hurting Stop?

The journey through grief is difficult...and painful. We are forever changed by a major loss experience. Clearly, we will never be the same person we were before this loss became part of our lives. The real struggle occurs when we consciously or subconsciously resist the change that must take place if we are to survive and learn to live with our loss. (It is difficult to get to know and accept this new person who is emerging.) Grief is a complex process, unique to each individual, based on personality type, circumstances of death, and our relationship with the person who died. There are, however, emotions common to almost all bereaved persons. Understanding is the KEY to the tolerance and patience necessary to accept and integrate loss into our lives.

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

### **Bereavement Program-six Weeks Sessions**

**WHERE:** St. Joseph Parish Hall, Leitchfield, KY **TIME:** 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

**CONTACT PERSON:** Betty Medley (270) 683-1545 ext. 105 or Charlotte Hedges (270) 683-1545 ext. 146

- Nov. 8 - What Grief is Really Like: Some common reactions to a situation no one is ever prepared to handle. Why we feel the way we do, and why no one seems to understand.
- Nov. 15 - Depression: Sadness, loss, and feeling that nothing will ever be the same. Physical symptoms; healing can happen.
- Nov. 22 - Anger: Nice people DO get angry. Recognizing our anger, coping with it, and getting over it. (Address suicide and our feelings of outrage and shame.)
- Nov. 29 - Guilt: Blaming ourselves for what has happened, handling the "what ifs..." and "if onlys..." (touch on suicide, and our responsibility or lack of it.)
- Dec. 6 - From Grief to Living Again: Putting grief in perspective, learning to share our lives with the living, and realizing that we will never "get over" our grief, but we can learn to live with it.
- Dec. 13. Memorial Service

## Why Do We Bypass Each Other?

Why is it that we keep that great gift of care so deeply hidden? Why is it that we keep giving dimes without daring to look into the face of the beggar? ... Maybe simply because we ourselves are so concerned to be different from the others that we do not even allow ourselves to lay down our heavy armor and come together in a mutual vulnerability. Maybe we are so full of our own opinions, ideas, and convictions that we have no space left to listen to the other and learn from him or her. — from *Mornings with Henri J.M. Nouwen*



## 2005 Sophia Award Winners

Blessed Mother – Owensboro, Dennis & Betty Keller;  
 Blessed Sacrament – Owensboro, Jean Higgs  
 Christ The King – Madisonville, SuzAnne Wilson  
 Holy Name of Jesus – Henderson, Mary Ann Thrasher  
 Holy Spirit –Bowling Green, Patricia Shanahan  
 Immaculate Parish-Owensboro, Mary Carol Hanekamp  
 Immaculate Conception – Hawesville, Mary Maxine Vitoe Beavin  
 Our Lady of Lourdes – Owensboro, Ray Haragan & Doris Haragan  
 Precious Blood – Owensboro, Ruth T. Conkright  
 Rosary Chapel – Paducah, Clifford & Pat Robinson  
 Sacred Heart – Hickman -TIE - Glenda Cochrum and Katie Lattus McNeil,  
 posthumously  
 Sacred Heart –Waverly, Donald & Ellen Buckman  
 St. Agnes – Uniontown, Joseph L. & Betty Lou Nally  
 St. Ann – Morganfield, Tommy & Rose Danhauer  
 St. Anthony- Browns Valley –Utica, Ruth M. Alvey  
 St. Anthony of Padua –Grand Rivers - TIE - Lois Tashjian  
 and Maurice & Alice Hustedde  
 St. Augustine – Reed, Martha Miller  
 St. Charles – Bardwell, Mary Teresine Thompson  
 St. Columba – Lewisport, Jack & Imogene Allard  
 St. Denis – Fancy Farm, Paul (posthumously) and Elnora Carter  
 St. Edward – Fulton, Jack & Theresa Haddad  
 St. Elizabeth – Curdsville, Alan & Ruth Ann Thompson  
 St. Francis Borgia – Sturgis, Bob & Faye Greenwell  
 St. Henry – Aurora, Clement Szymanski  
 St. Jerome – Fancy Farm, Joe F. & Gert Hayden  
 Sts. Joseph & Paul Owensboro, Paul & Jean McCarty



**A Sister Act: Sister Helen Leo Ebelhar and Miss Beverly Ebelhar, St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho, posed with their awards.**

St. John The Baptist – Fordsville - TIE -Sr. Marie Michael  
 Hayden and Victoria Bennett  
 St. Joseph – Central City, Jim & Mary Beyke  
 St. Joseph – Bowling Green, Patty Day  
 St. Joseph – Mayfield, Randal Carrico  
 St. Lawrence – Philpot, Harold & Bridget Higdon  
 St. Leo – Murray, Don Burke  
 St. Mark – Eddyville, Bill Terry  
 St. Martin – Rome, "Horse" & Joan Johnson  
 St. Mary of the Fields – La Center, Billy Don & Shirley Marshall



**The face of William Brant, St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville, shows how all of the Sophia Award winners felt as they received their award from Bishop John McRaith.**

St. Mary Magdalene – Sorgho, Sister Helen Leo Ebelhar and Miss Beverly Ebelhar

**Continued on page 25**

On Sunday September 25, 2005 over 400 friends, family and parish community filled the St. Stephen Cathedral in Owensboro with Bishop McRaith and seven other priests from the diocese to celebrate the Sophia Award Mass.

The Sophia Award, which has been presented annually since 1999, is given to an outstanding senior citizen in each parish across the Diocese. This year there were 54 recipients.

Entire families gathered together, some traveling from Maryland, Atlanta, Charleston and Indiana, to name a few.

Gert Hayden and her late husband, Joe, who passed away on January 30, 2005 -their 62nd wedding anniversary- were the winners of the Sophia Award from St. Jerome in Fancy Farm. Gert is in a nursing home and was unable to attend, instead nine of their children came forward to accept the trophy on behalf of their parents.

"This is such wonderful celebration" said Betty Nally. She and her husband Joe were the recipients of the Award from St. Agnes in Uniontown. They along with their children filled the aisle as they presented the gifts at the Offertory during Mass.

In Bishop McRaith's homily he said "We thank each of you, the award winners and the other wisdom people, for being a Christian witness for us all. Your lives bear witness that God in His mercy offers many opportunities for us all. Your witness offers hope that we too may survive the rough patches on the journey to eternal life. Thank you for your faithful witness...."



Fr. John Okoro, Veronica Wilhite, posed with Sophia Award winner Jean Higgs, Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro, and pastor Fr. John Vaughan.



Madisonville Christ The King Pastor and Vicar General Father Gerald Calhoun proclaimed the Gospel for the Mass.



Eddie Simon congratulates Bettie Wagner, 2005 Sophia Award Winner from St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro, at the reception Sept. 25, 2005.



Clement Szymanski, St. Henry, Aurora, Sophia Award Winner, proclaimed the first readings at the Sept. 25 Mass with Sophia Award winners in St. Stephen Cathedral. All photos of Sophia Awards by Lois Rutigliano



Doris Haragan with Ray photo and Bishop John McRaith

## 2005 Sophia Award Winners

(Continued from page 24)

- St. Mary of the Woods - Whitesville, William Brant
- St. Mary of The Woods - Franklin, Rosemary Estep
- St. Michael The Archangel - Oak Grove, Kenneth & Norma Guillory
- St. Peter of Alcantara - Stanley, John J. Young
- St. Peter of Antioch - Waverly, Eddie & Rose French
- Sts. Peter & Paul - Hopkinsville, Ernestina Tuggle
- St. Pius X - Calvert City, Frank & Flo Tomsic
- St. Pius X - Owensboro, Bettie Wagner
- St. Romuald - Hardinsburg, Anna Frances Brown
- St. Sebastian - Calhoun, Betty Bickett
- St. Stephen - Cadiz, Irene Jaso
- St. Stephen Cathedral - Owensboro, Alice Bagot
- St. Thomas More - Paducah, Jim Tidwell
- St. William - Knottsville, Joseph & Mary Catherine Mills



Pat and Clifford Robinson, Sophia Award winners from Rosary Chapel, Paducah.

## OCHS Excellence Rally Highlights Devotion

Owensboro Catholic High School held an Excellence Rally on September 16th. Part of the Excellence Rally was to recognize those who have shown excellence and devotion in their parishes.

Here are those students who were honored from each parish: St. Martin's Parish, Kevin Thomas, son of Rick and Tammie Thomas; St. Joe and Paul Parish, Alex Tignor, son of Kevin and Kim Tignor; Immaculate Parish, Rebecca Spurlock, daughter of Philip Spurlock; St. Pius Parish, Amanda Jones, daughter of Jeff and Michelle Jones; St. Peter of Alcantara Parish, Jessica Fogle, daughter of Phil and Beth Fogle; St. Augustine Parish, Margaret Blair, daughter of Ben and Stanette Blair; St. Stephen's Parish, John Gruenwald, son of Richard and Joyce Gruenwald, and Kristen Gerteisen, daughter of Michael and Rita Gerteisen; St. Mary Magdalene Parish, Alexa Ebelhar, daughter of Terry



and Sabrina Ebelhar; Precious Blood Parish, John Lanham, son of George and WaNell Lanham; Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Ryan Hayden, son of Jeff and Tracy Hayden; St. Anthony's Parish, Lauren Barna, daughter of Mary Raley; and Holy Name Parish, Henderson, Kimmie Kauffeld, daughter of Kevin and Ann Kauffeld.

## “Our Family Feast of Faith”

ST. MARY CHURCH, LACENTER - What better way to celebrate than with 60 years of marriage, times two!

On September 24, 1945 Sonny and Helen Anselm and Bud and Bonnie Brunderman shared a joint marriage ceremony in St. Henry Catholic Church in Charleston, Missouri. The Brundermans moved to Oregon and raised 10 children and the Anselms moved to LaCenter, Kentucky and raised 6 children.

The Anselm children planned a large family reunion for the 60th wedding anniversary on September 24th and spent the day with relatives and friends at the home of their son, Kenny in LaCenter. On the following day, Sunday, September 25th, the Anselm family was joined by the Brundermans to celebrate Mass with the parishioners of St. Mary Church in LaCenter. Approximately 40 family members of the two couples were present along with the parish family of St. Mary to celebrate mass and witness the blessing of these two couples.

An interesting part of this event occurred when Fr. David Willett had asked for new corporals and purificators for the altar a few weeks before the ceremony.

Helen Anselm, an excellent seamstress, and state blue ribbon winner at the state fair for her hand sewing, was asked to make corporals and purificators for the altar. At the offertory Sonny and Helen brought forth the new altar linens to be blessed by Father David Willett and then Sonny and Helen placed them on the altar in preparation for the vessels that were being brought up by their children. The Brundermans brought forth the gifts of bread and wine received by Fr. Willett and placed on the corporal to be consecrated and given to us in the Family Feast of Faith, the Eucharist.

Following the Eucharist, everyone gathered for a brunch prepared by the families of the parish to continue celebrating this Family Feast of Faith.

Sonny and Helen have been members of St. Mary Parish for 31 years. They are the parents of Mary, Giny, Patty, Barbara, Kenny and Benny. They are blessed with 15 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Bud and Bonnie now live in Wilsonville, Oregon. They are the parents of Steven, David, Martha, Theresa, Phillip, Mary Helen, Larry and Timothy. They

## Class Spiritually Adopts Diocesan Seminarians



As a class project for this school year, the Fourth Grade PREP Class at St. William/St. Lawrence parishes, Knottsville, have spiritually adopted the seminarians studying for the Diocese of Owensboro. The class writes to them and prays for them each week during class. In the back room from left, is Brittany Stone. Teacher Larena Lawson said that in this picture the students were posing for their picture at the same time as they were reciting a prayer on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross with Mary Helen Rhodes, Director of Religious Education for the St. William and St. Lawrence parishes. Submitted photo

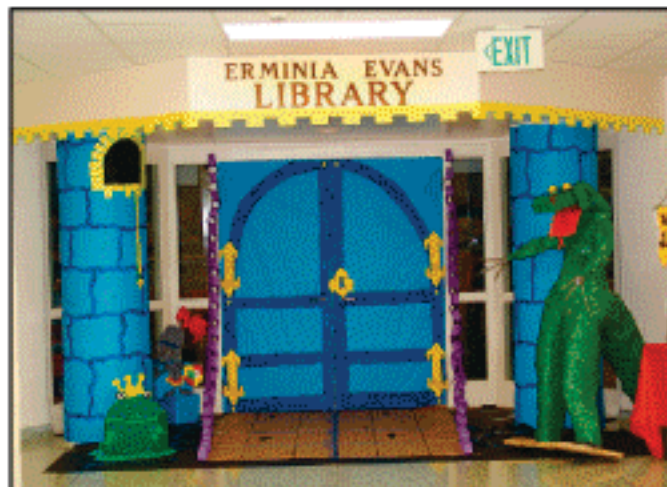


Sonny and Helen Anselm, couple at left, celebrated 60 years of marriage with their close friends Bud and Bonnie Brunderman. Both were married in a joint wedding ceremony on September 24, 1945. Submitted photo

have been blessed with 43 grandchildren and 38 great-grandchildren.

The parish family of St. Mary congratulates both couples and thanks them for their witness to family devotion. We thank them for their gift of faith and love in each other. In living out their wedding vows, they are a visible sign of Christ's love for his Church on earth.

HENDERSON, Ky. - Every year Holy Name School library hosts a Scholastic Book Fair. Our theme this year was "Welcome to the Kingdom of Reading." This library fundraiser allows us to put great new books in the hands of our students and families. Anytime you're reading, you're learning. Reading boosts test scores and self-esteem. We've already added about 150 books to the library from the fair and over 40 AR tests. It is so exciting to be able to add to our extensive library. At right, find pictures of how we decorated for the fair as well as the fair mascot, Geronimo Stilton.



The front entrance of Holy Name Library decorated for the Kingdom of Reading Book Fair.



Malissa Crafton as Geronimo Stilton and the little girl is Lauren Boze.

## Todd County Churches Work Together

(Continued from page 1)

free chances on an afghan and a Catholic Bible. Their presence proclaimed their desire to minister to the community.

Todd County is a rich agricultural community, but has been losing jobs for the past six years. The two Catholic Churches joined six Protestant Churches this summer to conduct a Job Fair. They called it "Faith Works Job Fair," because they wanted the community to know that together we can help people find jobs and that faith is not separated from community issues.

Each summer, St. Susan Church and St. Mary and James Church come together for a cookout and a day of fun and games. Eating and playing together is also a way for the English speaking part of the community to connect with the large Spanish speaking part of the community.

For many years, the two churches have conducted a Summer Vacation Bible School together, aided by the St. Pius X youth mission group from Owensboro. Not only does this connect Spanish speaking and English speaking children, but it also brings together black and white young people. As one participant proclaimed, "You can almost feel the Kingdom of God being built when you see adults and young people, black and white and Hispanic singing and praying and working together and all of them having fun."

At the end of September, four predominately black churches and five predominately white churches of Guthrie sponsor a Block Party with free food, games, and music for the community. The purpose is to help build racial unity in a community which has known the destructive forces of racism. This year the Hispanic music group from Elkton was part of the musical entertainment. Though the people did not understand the words, they were able to feel the spirit. The Mexican men felt privileged to be able to contribute to the American celebration.

At the present time, the two Catholic churches are trying to develop a Todd County Respect Life Committee. Because of their experience, they know they will be more effective than if they work sepa-



The Guthrie Block Party began as an effort to bring churches together across racial lines. The youth group of Guildfields Baptist Church were popular with the children of all racial and ethnic groups wanting their faces painted.

rately or if they work in isolation from other Christian churches who are committed to life.

The two Todd County Catholic Churches also joined hands with the Catholic Church in Clarksville, Tennessee. They know the benefits of twinning because Holy Name Church in Henderson and St. Thomas More Church in Paducah have twinned with them for many years. Having received so much from other churches, they wanted to help a church which has even less than they do. As a result of the twinning, a priest from Chiapas, Padre Carmelo, has visited the Diocese of Owensboro and has permission from his Bishop to work here. Sometimes joining hands brings surprising results!

At right, Sister Bernadette, who has been in Guthrie for 18 years, recently celebrated her 60th anniversary as a Glenmary Sister. Parishioners Ina Lambert and Sadie Wilson put finishing touches on the buffet meal in her honor. The celebration began with a prayer service thanking God for the gift of religious life. Submitted photo



Father Carmelo who served in the parish twinned with St. Susan, Elkton, and St. Mary and James, Guthrie, lays out a Mayan reconciliation prayer circle at a Reconciliation Conference in Louisville, Ky. on Oct. 8, 2005. He is dressed as an indigenous Mayan and spoke about the effectiveness of the community coming together across racial, social, and political lines for a half day at a time. At the end of three days, they were more open to live and work together.



## Shelter of Love Hosts Baby Safety Shower



Some of the Shelter of Love clients; nearly 200 clients use the Shelter in a year's time.

By Kathy Hancock

MORGANFIELD, Ky. - The Shelter of Love Pregnancy Care Center had a great crowd at its 8th Annual Baby Safety Shower on July 29, 2005. 42 children attended and 25 clients.

The clients learned many helpful tips about safety. The Guest Speakers were Dr. Terry Harmon, on Health Safety and Proper Nutrition; Mr. Earl Woods, on Fire Safety; Ms. Margaret Hibbs, from New Beginnings on Personal Safety; and Mrs. Melanie Beatmear presented a program on Food Safety.

Fr. Gerald Baker, Pastor at St. Ann Catholic Church, visited the Shelter that day and gave the children a Blessing. Fr. Baker is also the Chairman of the Board of Direc-



Pregnancy Care Center



Mrs. Johnson proudly holding her twin daughters.



Kathy Hancock, left, with Carleen McKinley, Director of The Shelter of Love. All photos courtesy of the Shelter of Love



Father Gerald Baker holding twins.

tors at the Shelter of Love Pregnancy Care Center.

Each client received a First Aid Kit, gift bags, and many door prizes. The clients received many safety items, from smoke alarms to fire extinguishers. Our special volunteers served refreshments and babysat the children.

We at the Shelter of Love see Christ's hands and feet at work among the needy, poor, neglected, confused, hungry for love, lonely, and pregnant women with not many friends or family. We continue to ask for your support. You can help by prayers, or monetary donations, or as always by volunteering.

*Kathy Hancock is Client Services Director for The Shelter of Love Pregnancy Care Center in Morganfield, Ky.*

## Owensboro Serra Club Invites You To Adopt A Priest



The Serra Club of Owensboro has launched a program to provide prayerful support for the priests of our Diocese called ADOPT A PRIEST. It is open to all members of the Catholic Diocese of Owensboro.

A lapel pin has been designed as shown below.

The initials of the priest and his date of ordination have been 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. The Serra Club is asking that you pray daily for your adopted priest.

To order a pin, send a check or money order for \$15.00 to: Serra Club of Owensboro, 4213 Spring Bank Drive, Owensboro, KY 422303

Please note that requests for the name of a specific priest cannot be honored. All priests have been included and are listed randomly.

## Sorgho 4th Graders Visit The Mount

Fourth graders from Sorgho Elementary School took an environmental and educational field trip to Mount Saint Joseph October 7. The youths, shown posing with Sister Amelia Stenger on the courtyard steps at the Conference and Retreat center, spent the day visiting the farm and Angela's Ark (the flatboat used by the Ursulines on their 2004 journey from Louisville to Owensboro), and learned about pioneer life in Kentucky for their fourth grade Kentucky history projects.

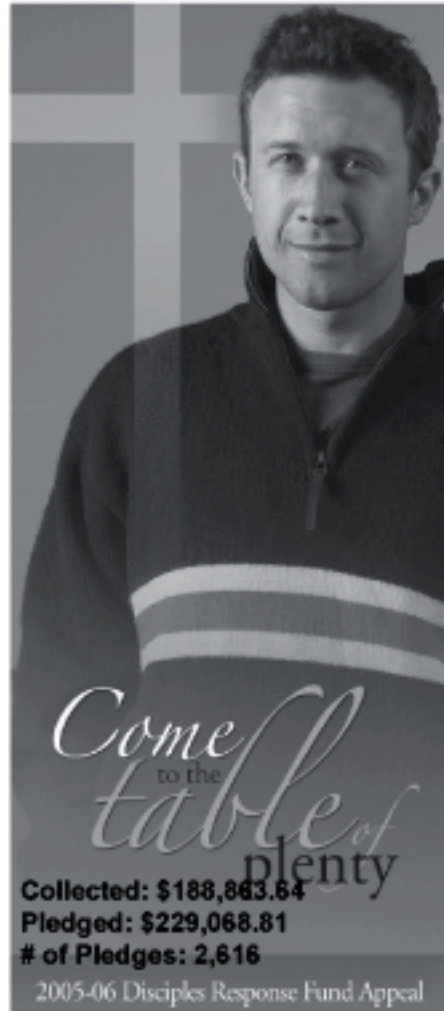


## Diocese Announces Fall, 2005 DRF Grants

OWENSBORO, Ky. - On September 28, 2005 the Disciples Response Fund grant committee met to discuss the 2005 fall grant requests. The grant monies comes from taking 15% from the annual DRF appeal effort. The following grant requests were awarded.

### Grant Requests Fall 2005

1. Saint Edward, Fulton; Saint Jude, Clinton; Sacred Heart, Hickman - Echoes of Faith Video Series. Granted: \$539.00
2. Saint Sebastian, Calhoun - Echoes of Faith Video Series. Granted: \$539.00
3. Saint Mary, Franklin - Echoes of Faith Video Series. Granted: \$539.00
4. Saint Anthony, Axtel; St. Mary, McQuady - Echoes of Faith Video Series. Granted: \$539.00
5. Christ the King Parish, Madisonville - Reapplying - 50 copies of "Christ's Passion: The Way of the Cross" @ \$10.00 each. Granted: \$500.00
6. Faith and Light - Craft supplies, food, field trip. Granted: \$1,000.007.
7. Retrouvaille of Owensboro - Send couples to International Conference; team formation workshop; Mid-East Conference and cover cost for 4 low income couples. Granted: \$2,900 (to cover cost of Mid-East Conference \$2,500 and \$400 for 4 low income couples



to make a Retrouvaille.)

8. Saint Columba, Lewisport; Immaculate Conception, Hawesville - Purchase additional materials due to the expansion of youth and adult religious ed programs. Granted: \$4,000.00

9. Catholics in Action - roundtrip airline tickets for a group of 10 to participate in mission experience in Mandeville. Granted: \$2,000.00

10. MISAS & Immigrant Shelter, Owensboro - Educational services-primarily English as a Second Language. Also, will be used for the design, creation and installation of an attractive permanent signage/display that highlights the local Catholic Church. Granted: \$2,500.00

11. Billboards for Life - Money used to display 12x24 pro-life billboard at \$300 for each month. Granted: \$3,600 (12x300)

12. Diocesan Chastity/Abstinence Committee - Help to purchase programs for review, then purchase for sites; sponsor a gathering; stipend for trainers. Granted: \$5,000.00 (encourage parent education)

13. Saint Mary Magdalene, Sorgho - Building portable dividers for parish hall to make religious education classrooms. Granted: \$1,000.00 (Apply for more if needed.)

**Total Granted: \$24,656.00**

## St. Mary Receives Grant for Special Needs Program

PADUCAH, Ky. - St Mary School System has received a \$500 grant from the Exxon/Mobil Educational Alliance Program to help support the school's special needs program for students with learning challenges. Bruce Akin of Exxon's local office, and Tony Banham, owner-manager of Paducah's Exit 11 Exxon station on Puryear Drive, worked with St Mary officials to secure the grant. The St Mary grant is one of 4,000 available to schools across the nation through funding from the Exxon/Mobil Corporation. "This type of gift helps us to deliver a higher quality of service to our students and parents. We know that the Exit 11 Exxon dealership is likewise committed to a high level of service to their customers and, obviously, to their community as well," said Cairney.

## 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. Ramage, Jr.

### "The Process of Freedom"

At this writing, many people are watching to see if Iraq will adopt the proposed constitution. If this should come about, this will be the first Arabic country to live within a government of the people by the people.

Americans often grow impatient for processes to be finalized, and I'm sure we all would like for Iraq to be stabilized and able to deal with their internal security. It is important to remember that in our own country it took nearly twelve years from the Declaration of Independence signing to the final acceptance of our Constitution. If you factor in the age of modern communications, they are at least equal to, if not ahead of, the time table which our nation encountered in 1787.

Exactly what their constitution will look like when completed we don't know at this time. Early reports show that at least sixty percent of the Iraqis voted. That is equal to or better than our presidential elections. The people of that nation have been oppressed for so long that when the chance came to change their lifestyles they jumped at that chance.

We also need to keep in mind that we would not have won our independence without help from other nations. While it is true that we have been the arsenal democracy for many countries, we have and still are, repaying the world society for the confidence that was placed in us over two-hundred years ago. The best way to ensure our freedom is to promote freedom throughout the world.

During the Continental Congress that hot summer of 1787, as Ben Franklin looked at a carving of a sun and horizon on the back of the President's chair, he wondered if it was a rising or a setting sun. When the document was adopted, he then knew it was a rising sun. Hopefully there will be a rising sun for the Iraqi people.



H.J. Ramage, Jr.

### The Diocesan Office of Wisdom Presents

## "A New Vision of Aging"

A workshop Presented by Dr. Jane Marie Thibault, PhD, MD, and Clinical Gerontologist and Assistant Professor of Family and Community Medicine at the School of Medicine at the University of Louisville in Kentucky. Dr. Thibault is the author of 2 spiritual books: *A Deepening Love Affair* and *10 Gospel Promises for Later Life*. Dr. Thibault is a much sought after presenter on issues of spirituality and aging.



Dr. Jane Marie Thibault

Please accept this invitation to attend the First Annual Fall Day of Wisdom which will be held on Monday November 14th at St. Thomas More Catholic Church at 5645 Blandville Rd, Paducah, Kentucky The day is offered to those aged 55 or better, and is free with lunch included

For reservation call Ginny Knight Simon at 270-683-1545 or Email: [ginnyn.knight-simon@pastoral.org](mailto:ginnyn.knight-simon@pastoral.org)

# Brescia MFP Holds Annual Fall Gathering Day

Brescia University held its annual "Fall Gathering Day" for its Ministry Formation Program (MFP) students at Mount St. Joseph Retreat Center on Saturday Sept. 24. In attendance were several MFP students, some of their Spiritual Directors, the Coordinator of the spiritual component of the program, Sister Elaine Burke, OSU, and program director, Father Joe Merkt

The day consisted of prayer, reflections on spiritual direction and the personal and spiritual goals of MFP students, small and large group discussions, lunch, and a business meeting covering the program's calendar, curriculum, and handbook. A presentation was also enthusiastically given about Brescia's first mission trip to Jamaica by MFP students, Terri Higdon and Shelley Weiss, who were a part of that trip earlier this year, describing it as, "an amazing... amazing experience!!" The day concluded with the celebration of Holy Mass in the chapel.

The mission of the Brescia Ministry Formation Program, according to its catalog, is to, "provide the Catholic faithful with a quality education that integrates the personal, spiritual, theological, pastoral and professional competencies and skills recognized nationally as needed for effective lay ecclesial ministry in the contemporary Roman Catholic Church. Upon successful completion of the program, the student will have acquired a solid ministerial identity and is acknowledged to have satisfied the requirements of the undergraduate program which is accredited by the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops' Commission on Certification and Accreditation."

There is diversity in the ages of the MFP students who are discerning their call to serve the Church in various ministries, at different stages in their lives, having their own reasons for their studies and following various course outlines in order to achieve their individual goals, whatever they may be.

Some participants are traditional students coming straight from high school, while others want to further their Catholic education, some are religious seeking to specialize, some are professionals seeking to change the direction of, or to enhance their career choices, and others may already be serving as volunteers in Parishes and wish to be certified or go on to get a degree. One such volunteer is Rose Sandy Wheeler, from Holy Name Parish in Henderson, who says that she wishes to turn her "volunteerism into professionalism."



From left, Christina Best, Rose Wheeler, Chrissy Stevenson, and Cathy Ashby look over the handouts for a MFP activity. LL Photo



Father Joe Merkt, MFP Director, elaborates on the benefits of spiritual direction as Sister Pam Mueller, OSU, listens attentively. LL Photo.



Moore, MFP student, left, joins some of the spiritual directors for the MFP, Sister Rita Lechner, S.P., Sister Ann McGrew, OSU, and Sister Pat Froning, OSF. LL Photo.

Rose also believes that, "Our gifts are found in the challenges that we take," and she is accepting the challenge.

The Ministry Formation Program offers various degrees and certifications. A student could pursue a certificate, an Associate or Bachelor's degree in Pastoral Ministry, or a certificate or an Associate degree in Catechetical Leadership. Students may also choose to specialize in those degrees with a focus on Youth Ministry.

Sister Pat Froning OSF, Spiritual Director for the MFP, says that, "We are all rooted in Baptism and our mission is to serve the Church and if we are in the mission, we are in the Church." Fellow Spiritual Director Sister Rita Lechner SP counters that thought with, "We don't have a mission, the mission has us," and her question is, because of our Baptism, "How do we respond to the mission?" Sister Ann McGrew OSU, former director of the spiritual component of the MFP and the women's discernment program at Brescia,

In photo below, Terri Higdon, left, and Shelley Weiss preparing a presentation about a Jamaica mission trip. LL Photo



From left, Marion Hite, Fr. Joe Merkt, Sister Verlorina Gervais, SSM, and David Morris preparing for a small group discussion. LL Photo



says that, "Discerning where the Spirit is calling us and where God is calling us in the bigger picture of the world, in the Church, is very important." MFP students are all seeking to respond to God's call in their lives and are discerning, with the help of the MFP at Brescia University.

Father Joe Merkt, who is in his final year as MFP director, passionately believes that, "Brescia's program is one of the strongest ministry programs out there in the country." He, regretfully, is being

called back to his home diocese in Louisville, at the end of this school year, but not before the big 20th Anniversary Celebration of the MFP. On February 23, 2006, a touching celebration is being planned, calling back all former graduates, faculty, and directors of the program. A Mass with Bishop John McRaith is on the agenda along with a reception, a Special Recognitions ceremony, and a presentation by guest speaker Sister Amy Hoey, R.S.M. from the U.S. Bishops Office on Lay Ministry.

Brescia's longstanding Ministry Formation Program has provided its students with the means to fulfill their desire to answer God's call in their lives. Sister Elaine Burke began the day with the saying, "God does not call the equipped, but equips the called." The MFP provides the equipment necessary to begin.

By Fr. Brian Johnson

GRAYSON, Co., Ky. - On Sunday, October 9, the parishes of Sts Augustine, Anthony, and Benedict in Grayson County gathered with animal friends to celebrate the life and example of St Francis of Assisi. Having gathered to remember St Francis, parishioners and their pets offered thanks to God in prayer and song for the beauty of creation.

Three sheep, several dogs, a cat, a couple of rabbits, a bird, and a hamster were present to receive a blessing at the conclusion of the service. One of the students, Tony Clemons, mentioned that he hoped the animals would be accepting of each other and keep peace with one another (which they did). Tony and his brother Billy brought their rabbits to be blessed.

Jody Ziegler commented after the ceremony, "I love my church and traditions, and how we celebrate so many things of life with prayer and blessings, like these animals."

St Francis, whose feast day is October 4, is known best for his life's example of gospel simplicity, poverty, and living close to the earth. Recognized as a patron saint for those who work with animals and all admirers of creation, St Francis found God the Creator's hand at work in any experience of nature. Chirping birds, scrambling rabbits, or simply a blowing breeze revealed the love and grace of God to Francis. Much could be said of St Francis' interests and gifts to the Church. One interesting detail was St Francis' introduction of the custom of having a Christmas Crib as part of the feast observing Christ's birth.

Such a tradition emphasizes the humble beginning of the Lord, born poor and close to the earth. St. Francis patterned his life upon this, and sought to live a simple existence dependent upon the



**In the picture above, a group of Grayson County Catholics gathered in front of St. Anthony Church in Peonia, Ky. for a St Francis Tri-Parish pet blessing of Animals on October 9, 2005. Submitted photo**

Creator. He celebrated the natural balance of seasons and cycles within the created world as well as its diverse forms of beauty and wonder. An advocate for peace and good, St Francis' life is a testimony of simplicity and joy lived in the service of others and respectful of all creation. Loving care of animals, as pets, workers, or companions, is part of simple and balanced living with the created order of the world.

*St Francis, pray for us.*

**At right, Tori Braun and friend with Smiley the Hamster ask for a blessing not to be overlooked! At left, Vance and Debbie Webb from Shepherd's Crossing introduce their sheep to Andrew Haycraft. Submitted photos**



## Council of Religious Hosts Picnic To Welcome Men and Women Religious



**Sister Monica Seaton, OSU, and Bishop John McRaith**

Each year in August or September, the Diocese of Owensboro Council of Religious organizes a picnic for all religious men and women of the Diocese. The main purpose of the picnic is to welcome any newly arrived in the Diocese religious men and women. Often, men and women religious have moved far from their congregation's motherhouse in order to minister in a rural setting and to work among the poor. Sister, Brother, or Father may be the only one of their congregation in the entire region. The Council of Religious offers support and a network of friendship that reaches out to them. Friendships are begun; news of Diocesan functions may be shared, and a place for relaxation, entertainment, and prayer is provided.



**Sisters Monica, Judith Riney, and Joseph Angela Boone, OSU**



**Sister Judith Nell Riney, OSU**



**Sister Mary Catherine DeRhonde, A.D., and Father Timothy Sweeney, O.S.B.**



**Sisters Monica, Judith, and Julia Head, OSU**



**Sisters Rita Lechner, S.P. and Sister Joseph Angela.**

### Annual appeal for elderly Catholic religious December 10-11

The 18th national annual appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious will be conducted in Catholic parishes on December 10-11. Coordinated by the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in Washington, the appeal benefits the projected \$8.1 billion retirement liability of the nation's religious orders.

More than 38,000 Catholic religious are now past age 70 and the cost of skilled nursing care and assisted living for almost 12,000 Catholic religious women and men currently exceeds \$1 million each day. While the average cost of skilled nursing care in the U.S. averages \$145 per day, religious institutes have kept the cost of skilled care for frail elderly to \$126 per day.

As autonomous organizations, Catholic religious institutes are not covered by Church or diocesan retirement plans. Of the 696 institutes that provide data to the NRRO, 24 percent can pay less than 20 percent of projected costs. Religious traditionally worked for small stipends and re-

turned their earnings to the mission of the institute. The average Social Security benefit for religious women and men is approximately one-third that paid to the average U.S. beneficiary.

Featured in this year's campaign are contemplative religious. Members of contemplative institutes live in solitude and dedicate their lives to prayer. Their earnings from crafts, breads, cheese making, and the distribution of altar breads cover less than 50 percent of operational expenses. In 2004, NRRO awarded grants to 91 of these institutes in 39 states.

"Especially for the contemplative, there is no divide between prayer and ministry," says Sister Andree Fries, a Sister of the Most Precious Blood of O'Fallon, Missouri, and executive director of the National Religious Retirement Office. "We desperately need their prayers of supplication, praise, and thanksgiving. Unfortunately, their needs are like their gifts—usually hidden; and I am profoundly grateful that the generosity of American Catholics enables us to assist contemplatives and all religious women and men who are frail and in need."

More than 95 percent of donations are awarded to religious institutes through basic grants. Administrative and promotional costs absorb less than five percent of the amount collected.

Last year the fund collected more than \$28 million, with the Arch-

diocese of Chicago collecting more than \$1 million. Since 1988, donations have totaled more than \$460 million; however, the cost of living for all elderly religious exceeded \$910 million in 2004 alone. Escalating health care costs along with lowered return on investments have dramatically affected religious' capacity to fund retirement.



Under the direction of music teacher, Janet Barkley, students at Holy Name School are provided many opportunities to learn about various kinds of instruments, songs, and dance. Pictured are students in Mrs. Barkley's girls seventh grade music class performing a liturgical dance before Mass. At right, Katie Faupel, seventh grader uses a dial rod in the dance.

## Union County Parishes Award Dedicated Servers

By Linda Gough

UNION COUNTY, Ky. - Three parishes, Sacred Heart, St. Agnes and St. Peter in Union County held a picnic for their servers on the grounds of Sacred Heart Parish on Sunday evening, October 2, 2005. Around 30 boys and girls, along with a good many parents enjoyed grilled hot dogs, chips and cookies. Volleyball, horseshoes, football, Hoosier golf egg toss and water balloons were games the boys and girls enjoyed with a lot of friendly competition. The picnic was an award for the servers dedication for the previous year.



Egg Toss: Tyler Buckman, Alyssa Greenwell, Dillon Floyd, and Duncan Thomas.



Horse Shoes: Chelsea Hagan



Mrs. Barkely also teaches the students how to play the Yamaha Music Keyboard Lab. Pictured are Hannah Fritz and Meredith Stumph playing in their recital piece.



Simon Chevalier played the violin at the end of the keyboard recital.



### CONCERT

Internationally known Catholic singer/songwriter SARAH HART will present a concert on Sunday, November 6 at 2:00 p.m. at St. Stephen Church in Cadiz (1698 Canton Road). Sarah has performed for Pope John Paul II, World Youth Day, and the National Catholic Youth Convention. She has three best-selling CDs to her credit. For more information about Sarah, visit her website at [sarahhartmusic.com](http://sarahhartmusic.com).

Tickets are \$5. For tickets, contact the Office of Music, Diocese of Owensboro, 270/683-1545.



At left, Volleyball: Daman Simmons, Isaac Gough, Duncan Thomas, Fr. Terry Devine, and Braden Lindsey. Photos by Connie Simmons

At right, Egg Toss: Jacob Mackey, Morgan Clements, Sarah Mills, Ian Wolfe, and Tyler Buckman.



## “The One Who Keeps His Commitments”

For his picnic weekend homily, one popular for its brevity, St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville, pastor Fr. Pat Bittel, in the white hat in photo at right, summarized the readings for the 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time with this sentence, “The person the devil fears the most is the one who keeps God’s will by keeping their commitments.” In the picture at far right, Bill Hagan, 85, left, and Louis Edge, 85, members of Saint Mary of the Woods Parish, Whitesville, KY., have been working at parish picnics for a total of 156 years between them. Bill said that he began helping to cook for parish picnics at age 9; Louis said he started working at parish picnics at age 5. This year makes Louis’ 80th St. Mary’s picnic he’s worked. Bill said that he started out as a member of a western Daviess County cooking team who made a summertime circuit cooking for parish barbecues:



St. Elizabeth, Curdsville; St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho; St. Peter, Stanley; St. Raphael, near Sorgho. Since moving to Philpot, he has helped do



whatever was needed for the St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville picnics. Here, Bill and Louis were packaging barbecued chickens for the meat sales booth. At back is J. B. Montgomery, also a longtime picnic worker for St. Mary’s. Staff Photos

## Saying Good-Bye To A Friend Of All The Parish Families



Submitted by Diane Beeckler, Photos by Bob Blencoe

SCOTTSVILLE, Ky. - Sr. Davida Loosbrock’s nine-year stay as Pastoral Associate at Christ the King Parish came to an end. June 30. Before she left, parishioners and friends gathered for a potluck luncheon and reception to say thank you and farewell. Both smiles and tears were evident at Christ the King on the afternoon of June 12. The church ladies group, The King’s Angels, decorated the fellowship room in Sr. Davida’s favorite colors with lots of fresh flowers, and parishioners brought their favorite potluck dishes to help make the sad occasion into a celebration of all she had done for the parish.

Sr. Davida was much more than a Pastoral Associate for the parish. She was a valued volunteer in the community serving on many local committees and being involved

in many local organizations. She was a friend to all the parish families and she was a hard worker in the many activities held at Christ the King to benefit the church and many other causes in the Scottsville community.

Friends and parishioners will miss Sr. Davida. Her new responsibility will be in Greenville, South Carolina – training volunteers to help the elderly. Members of Christ the King will have big shoes to fill because Sr. Davida will not have a replacement. We will have to step up and take on the many roles she played in our parish.

*Editor’s Note: This article and photos somehow was lost in cyberspace; maybe there is some truth that radio programs (and e-mail messages!) whirl around in space til the end of time! Thanks to Christ The King*



parish music minister Diane Beeckler for catching it and re-sending this along.

# “Whirled” Peace Prayers

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. - International World Peace Day, September 21st, was marked at St. Joseph in Bowling Green with participation in the pinwheels for peace project. This is an idea promoted by two Florida art teachers to give students an opportunity to express their thoughts, feelings, hopes, and prayers for peace/ tolerance/ cooperation / harmony and unity. In their art classes all the Kindergarten through 8th grade students constructed pinwheels on which they had written words, poems, prayers for peace in their hearts, in their families and communities and across the world. The pin wheels were “planted.”

In front of the school and for morning prayers the school community gathered to be led by our principal Mrs. Lange in praying the peace prayer of St. Francis



**St. Joseph School Sixth Graders planting pin wheels Sept 21 for International Peace Day.**

as the pinwheels whirled and their messages were carried by the wind across the earth.



**Students gathering in front of St. Joseph School to pray the peace prayer of St. Francis as the pinwheels whirled and their messages were carried by the wind across the earth.**

## Lighted Replica Of St Stephen Cathedral Available

The non-profit organization Arc of Owensboro, is taking orders for anyone who is interested in owning a lighted replica of the St Stephens Cathedral here in Owensboro. The replica is scaled to fit other Christmas villages, such as the popular Dickens Department 56 collections. This beautiful piece is the second in the series “Remembering Daviess County.” Last year’s replica was the old Daviess County Courthouse from 1868-1963. The Arc of Owensboro is a vocational center that has served people who have disabilities for almost 50 years. They provide not only vocational training but job placement services as well. All proceeds will go directly to provide continued programs at the Center.



There are only a limited number of pieces available. Each piece will be numbered, initialed, and packaged by individuals who receive services at the Arc. For more information, please call 1-270-685-2976. orders are taken on a first come first serve basis. Great for Christmas .....Unique wedding anniversary gifts!

## Testimony On Behalf Of These Special Unborn Babies *(Continued from page 39)*

publicly making a stand on several issues at once. They had the courage to speak out in a proactive, assertive but nonaggressive, manner saying, “I am proud to be Catholic and proud to be pro-life because I am a Catholic.” Jesus Christ also courageously defended the weak and oppressed, and through Him, God instructed us to do the same.

We may ask, how can one person, one bumper sticker, one testimony, change anything? We can only affect change in ourselves, in our attitudes, and thereby affect change in our small corner of the world. But if more of us took a stronger stand, there would be no corners where the evil shadow of abortion could hide.

Here’s an interesting statistic..... Today, there are over a billion Catholics worldwide, making it the largest denomination in the world. I bet the majority of those have a vehicle they could attach a sticker to. I think bumper sticker proclamations should be as common to the Catholic household as the family crucifix and the rosary. And the next step could be joining a pro-life organization or forming your own local chapter in your parish or community.

Remember, God does not make trash. Everyone he creates is His special, individual, unique child with purpose and talents and gifts all their own. God, through the person of Jesus, did not promise the kingdom of Heaven to those with the highest I.Q.s, or those who were more physically gifted or artistically talented. He did promise the reward of Heaven to those who believe in and follow His Son’s teachings, which can be summed up in one word – LOVE.

## A Catholic mom’s testimony *(Continued from page 39)*

bike riding. But it is all more than worth the extra effort. We have learned so much from this little boy, who is just a typical 7 year old boy - plus a little extra more.

In 1992, Bruce Carroll, Christian pop music artist, wrote and recorded a song about some friends of his and their journey through a very difficult time in their lives. He states, “Their courage and compassion was the inspiration behind the song.” Carroll’s refrain says a lot: “Sometimes miracles hide. God will wrap some blessings in disguise. You may have to wait this lifetime to see the reasons with your eyes, Cause sometimes miracles hide.” The miracle in this song is a child with Down syndrome.

pray that the Western Ky Catholic readers of this testimony and article may be stirred out of their comfort zone like I was by the Holy Spirit to share this with those who may be in need of hearing this message.

**Text and Photos by Colonel Edward F. Pickett, Sr. (US Army, Retired), Lay Member of the Glenmary Guild**

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Kids having fun, Parents having fun with their children, Families having fun together is the goal of the Glenmary Sisters' as they present a wholesome entertainment atmosphere for families. That is just what they have been providing here these past four years. Approximately 3,000 people joined with the Sisters during October 6 - 9, 2005. No one could miss the love and affection that the Glenmary Sisters showered on the children and their families. The happiness, enthusiasm, and contentment displayed by the participants certainly gladdened the hearts of the Sisters. This is only one of the many ministries that the Glenmary Sisters have been called to do and are so dedicated to perform.

Many readers may not know the Glenmary Sisters. There are several communities in Kentucky, Georgia, and Missouri that do. The Sisters quietly moved into these communities and sought out their greatest needs. They especially provide food, clothing and most of all prayers for the poor and destitute people of the region. They organize and train groups to take over this mission and then move on, where ever the Holy Spirit moves them. Ask the people where they are serving God's work and you will find out how deeply they are loved and appreciated.

The idea of the PumpkinFest sprang from a project of selling pumpkins undertaken by the Glenmary Guild. The Guild was founded in October, 1992 by a group of lay people from Owensboro and the surrounding counties. Members come from many of the Parishes in the area. The main purpose of the Guild is to support the work and ministry of the Glenmary Home Mission Sisters of America. The Glenmary Sisters relocated their home mission from Cincinnati, Ohio to Owensboro in 1991. The support given the Sisters by the Guild is by prayer, public relations, education, fund raising and direct work from time to time with the outlying missions. The association is so rewarding, and so much of God's work goes unfulfilled that there is room for more members in the Guild, for those that might be so inclined. If interested just call the Glenmary Sisters' home office (270) 686-8401 and a representative of the Guild will be glad to discuss membership with you.

The Guild sells pumpkins and other decorative items at the PumpkinFest. It also provides an outlet for the parishioners to get these items at St. Stephen, Blessed Mother, and Precious Blood. Announcement of the sales schedule is given in time for you to make your plans to get your pumpkins from the Guild. Look for them first next year! Funds derived are used in support of the Glenmary Sisters' missions.

National Honor Society Catholic High students and students from the Art Class at Catholic High assist the Guild at the Fest. The JROTC also assist with parking and traffic direction at the Sportscenter. Next year, if you want to meet some good, clean cut and 'with it' young people, come to the Fest, and stop by the Guild's pumpkin sales tent.



**Halloween is Coming!  
The Glenmary Guild  
had its Annual sale of  
pumpkins & accessories!**



**On the Carnival Midway  
Children & Parents together  
having fun!**

There are so many wholesome activities at the PumpkinFest that it would be hard not to find something to spark your family interest. A major activity taking up the largest space is a carnival. The rides and other amusements are mostly designed for children but the parents join in and have just as much fun, either participating or enjoying the happy faces their children are flashing.

For the fourth year the Scrapheap Challenge has sparked the interest of those that have the courage and creativity to enter. The teams are provided with a variety of material from which they must create, build, test and compete for prizes. This year the younger group was directed to build a craft carrying a small pumpkin down a channel of water. The excitement comes during the testing and competition, bringing great enjoyment to the spectators.



**ScrapHeap Challenge!  
Ready to Sail?**

**The WINNER is  
Zone Boyz!**

The Teams for the 4th Annual Scrapheap Challenge: Grades 3-5 - Team 1: Zone Boys-Rafe Martin, Matt Eaton, Trey Baker, Justin Tudor; Team 2: Pumpkings - Kevin Thompson, Neil Mattingly, Mason Miller, Michael Goedde; Team 3: UES-1 - Daniel Yeiser, Jesse Thompson, Summer Goodall, Rachel Turner; Team 4: The Handy Girls - Brittany Clouse, Hannah Baird, Madison Mattingly, Morgan Mattingly; Team 5: UES-2 - William James Thomas, Tristan Durbin, Mason Ross, Hunter Lee; Team 6: The Sabers - Seth Manley, Austin Kimmell, Easton Ford, Marshall McKinley; Team 7: Muggles Doing Magic - A.J. O'Connor, Sarah Warren, Ashton Cribbs, Jaycee Cribbs; Grades 6-8 Winner: Twix - Team 1: Twix - Chris Abell, Jacob Billings, Joshua Billings, Brennen Brasher.

*Continued on page 37*

Great fun was had by all as the kids huffed, puffed, waved placards and signs to stir the air and try to make their craft move down the channel. They could not touch the craft with their hands or any other implement. Several did not make it but all were good sports as they watched some of their crafts sink in the channel.

The adult group was given a different project to design and build: a contraption to fish 'point numbered' pumpkins from a large tub of water and place them in a container without touching the pumpkins with their hands or body and staying outside a 6' circle drawn around the tub. Some very interesting and unique pumpkin 'fishers' were tried. Some successfully!

Grade 9-Adult Winner: Juggalo. Team 1: Spooky Racing Team - David Chandler, John Berry, Jason Koger, Bobby Chandler; Team 2: Juggalo - Mike McFadden, Shane Richards, Don Brandon, Nick Miles; Team 3: Renegades - Scott Martin, Ronny Brown, Bill Vickery, Josh Cook

Walking the grounds, one might have encountered two young ladies with funny hats. You could have been directed by them to a new activity this year inside the Sportscenter, where you would find the Creative Express' airbrush booth, run by local artist Rodney Roberts. Rodney's wife Sheila and two of his three daughters



were there the whole time to help him out. Talk about a "family" festival!

Also inside the Sports Center were several activities, including Crafts displayed by the Glenmary Sisters and a Twisted Raffle. Sharrie Cinamond, a Guild member, organized the raffle with a twist. Other raffles usually permit the purchase of chances on one item. In the

'Twist' you can buy a set of chances and distribute them to the item or items you hope to win. There were 48 items to choose from this year. The major winners in this years raffle are: Rick Pitino Autographed Basketball - Linda Taylor; Large Wooden Shelf w/ rod & Green & White Afghan - Jason Shuler; Large Tool Box - Josephine Rowen; Tennis Racket, Ball and BackBack - Steve Payne; HP Scanjet - Dorman Holland; Stainless Steel Bar-b-Que Set - Bishop John McRaith; Super Racing Track - Doug Borders; 10 Piece Nativity Set w/ Wooden Stable - Sandy Langdon; Electric Hot Ait Corn Popper - Amanda Peay; Holy Family Statue - Joe & Kristie Hagan.

You will note that our own Bishop John McRaith was a winner. We understand he was in hopes of winning another item but bet you he will enjoy his win. Just shows you how up & up this raffle is. Bishop McRaith is a wonderful and dedicated supporter of the Glenmary Sisters and their missions. You can't ask for better support than that.

The crafts area had a great array of items that pleased the purchasers. A couple of them found their way to our house. Sister Bernadette Hengstebeck, at one of the sites, has been knitting lap robes for years. Many, many prayers accompany the purchase of one of her lap robes. The lap robe she finished knitting the last day of the Fest, sold immediately. Besides her knitting the picture of her on this page



Glenmary Sister Bernadette Hengstebeck cuddles a baby while mother works kids games!

shows the deep love she has and all the Glenmary Sisters have for children and why they are so determined to bring families together and pray that they will stay together.

Now doesn't that look like a happy family? There were hundreds of such happy families seen throughout the four days of this great event.



Scavenger Hunt Bound

There were so many activities each day and some new ones that it was hard to cover them all. On Thursday there were Pumpkin Relay Races for different age groups, four members per team. Also there was a Hacky-Sak Competition that the writer did not get to and hasn't figured out yet what actually it does.

The Owensboro Fire Department with Fire truck and Ambulance were at the fest. Many red fire helmets were seen sported by proud children throughout the grounds. The Owensboro Police Department was there with its Dare Car and hundreds of children went through the fingerprinting and child identification program to the thankfulness of their parents. The Bloodmobile was on site as was the Owensboro Municipal Utilities bucket equipment giving a lift to daring kids. There is no real connection in the lumping of these two organizations together. Just the way it came out. The National Guard

displayed equipment and gave rides. Please support our national guard and all of our armed forces. And let's not forget to support our Fire Department and Police Department. They are supporting us!

Despite the sounds of the carnival the sounds of great music wafted through the air, calling people to the stage where Original Rock, Country, Southern Rock, Classics, Bluegrass, Party Rock, Variety and Gospel was presented by the groups, Downside, Fat Finger, Ambiance, Randy & Wildman, Nite Life, Sundown, Bad Kitty Farewell Show, Firm Foundation and Deserter Creek.

And, yes, there were food booths with BBQ, Chicago Style Hotdogs, Polish Sausage, hot fudge cakes, walking tacos and many other goodies. Coming from the State of Vermont we had never heard of

## THE LAND OF COTTON - Reflections on the life of the founding Bishop of Owensboro, Francis R. Cotton, and the beginning days of the Owensboro Diocese (Part 2)

By Father Ben Luther

Francis Ridgely Cotton was the son of Mary Collins (nee Moore) Cotton and Charles Robertson Cotton, both of Bardstown, Kentucky. Mary Moore matriculated at Nazareth College under the Sisters of Charity, in Bardstown, in 1890-93. The records of that school tell us she was an outstanding student. The same year as graduation from Nazareth she married Charles Cotton at St. Joseph's Proto-Cathedral in Bardstown. The marriage was in the rectory, by church law then, because it was a mixed marriage - Charles Cotton was non-Catholic; he seems to have had only a loose "Baptist" affiliation, if any religion at all. The priest-witness to the marriage was the pastor, Father C.J. O'Connell, priest of the Louisville Diocese.

Three children were born of their marriage - Francis, Mildred, and Louise. Owensboro's future bishop was born in Bardstown on September 19, 1895, and baptized in the old St. Joseph's Proto-Cathedral on October 4, 1895, by the pastor, Fr. O'Connell, the same priest who witnessed his parents' marriage. Francis Cotton made his first Confession/Communion there in 1906, and was confirmed by Bishop McCloskey of Louisville in 1907.

The Cotton family came to Kentucky from England in pre-Revolutionary days and migrated to central Kentucky and the "Holy Land" of Nelson and Marion Counties with their substantial English Catholic populations, but they were Protestant. A source tells us that that Francis Cotton's family lived in "relative opulence," i.e., likely upper middle class. Charles R. Cotton once operated a funeral home and also a clothing store, and he had several employees. The Cotton residence still stands today in Bardstown.

Mary Cotton died on May 24, 1901, after just 8 years of marriage. As the Cotton children were small, and Charles Cotton remained unmarried for some years (though he did eventually remarry in Seattle), he gave the three children over to the care of their maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas and Jemy Moore, and paid for their upkeep.

Some years later, Charles Cotton assisted at the deathbed of Jenny Moore, and an interesting conversation took place there.

The record of this conversation appeared in a 1938 interview in *The Catholic Northwest Progress*, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Seattle (Charles Cotton had moved to Seattle after the grandmother's death, for business reasons). He reported, "It happened like this. Francis Cotton's grandmother, Jenny, was a convert to the Catholic Religion after her marriage to Tom Moore." She became a strict Catholic.

The dying grandmother - called for Charles and said, "I'm going to die. There is one thing I want you to do for me." He responded, "I said to her, 'I'll do anything you want me to do, Aunt Jenny.' She replied, 'Take this boy (Francis R.) and educate him and we (i.e., she and husband Thomas) want you to give your two daughters a good Catholic education, also.'" Charles Cotton responded, "so, I did it. I sent my two daughters to the convent in Nazareth, Ky., and then to St. Catherine's in Springfield, Ky., where they graduated." As for Francis Cotton, he was educated at the Bethlehem Academy in Bardstown, but at age 13, something happened, a turn in his young life in the plan of divine providence, the beginning of a long journey which was destined to end in the new Diocese of Owensboro.

He was sent to study in Canada in 1908. He aspired to the priesthood. He was enrolled in the Valleyfield Seminary located in the Diocese of Salaberry-de-Valleyfield in the Province of Quebec, which had opened its doors to students for the priesthood in 1893. In 1896, a new seminary building was completed and was blessed by the Apostolic Delegate to Canada, Msgr. Merry du Val (later, Cardinal Secretary of State of Pope St. Pius X, and himself a candidate for canonization today). Francis Cotton



Most Rev. Francis R. Cotton

was a "pre-seminary" student to the priesthood in the newly formed institution

Among surviving bits of history about the future bishop in the archives of the Diocese of Salaberry-de-Valleyfield, we find that the Cotton boy had "light colored hair and an angelic countenance." We also discovered that he had a private tutor (paid for by his father - an indication of his wealth), for the language of that seminary in Quebec was French. After a time, he began to attend classes with the other boys. Bishop Cotton spoke French and had friends in France. We can also add - the archives of the defunct seminary also record Francis Cotton's love of baseball. He had a lifelong attachment to the sport and that possibly played a minor role in his death, but that is far ahead of our story.

By the way, two bishops were destined to come from the alumni of the Valleyfield Seminary - Rev. Oscar Julien of the "White Fathers" (missionaries in Africa) was appointed Bishop of Nyssa in 1934, and Rev. Francis Cotton was appointed Bishop of Owensboro in 1937, both by Pope Pius XI.

After studies in Canada, young Francis Cotton was transferred to St. Meinrad's College by Bishop Denis O'Donoghue of Louisville, for the continuation of seminary education. The same Bishop then transferred him to St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, Maryland, for the study of philosophy to gain an A.B. degree; he remained there until 1916.

For theological studies, Bishop O'Donoghue sent Francis Cotton to the Sulpician Seminary in Washington, D.C.. He received Tonsure and so entered the ranks of the clergy in 1917, Minor Orders of Porter, Lector, Exorcist and Acolyte, in 1918, Subdiaconate on May 23, 1919, and Diaconate on May 24, 1920.

Ordination to the priesthood was on June 17, 1920, in the Sulpician seminary chapel. The ordaining prelate for the priesthood was the Bishop of Duluth, later Archbishop of Cincinnati, John T. McNicholas, O.P. It is interesting that none of his family attended, likely due to distance, but they did assemble for his First Solemn Mass in the old Cathedral in Bardstown.

The archives of the Sulpician Seminary tell us that Father Francis Cotton graduated with an M.A. degree in theology Summa Cum Laude, at the top of his class. Through his education, he was "all A's." Father Thomas O'Connor, O.S.B., of the former St. Maur's Priory at South Union, Kentucky, tells of his conversation with Bishop Cotton while he was visiting the monastery. He recalled his seminary days and said that his favorite subjects were philosophy, moral theology, and canon law, "because I loved making distinctions."

In our installment #3, we will discuss the five appointments in Fr. Cotton's priestly life, the ladder of his ascent in the Church to the new Diocese of Owensboro.

## Glenmary Sisters Score BIG Hit

(Continued from page 36)

Funnel cake. Now we know. They are delicious! My spouse has a bug-lix sucker with a cricket. Haven't seen her licking it yet!

Outside the main door of the Sportscenter were games for the kids, Sandy Candy, and pumpkin painting. The kids really took to this in a big way. It was also the site where the kids could enter a scavenger hunt that sent them throughout the grounds looking for little treats and goodies. This event got a lot of attention and was well received by both the children and their parents.

Have I forgotten something? I am sure I have! Our thanks and prayers go to Sister Pat Leighton, the Glenmary Sisters' President, all the Glenmary Sisters and Co-Workers, Members of the Glenmary Guild, the volunteers and organizations that made this such a special event. If you missed out, we are sorry. Suggest you already mark early October 2006 on your calendar so you will have your family present at the next exciting PumpkinFest. Don't miss it!

Thank you for reading and God Bless our families, each and everyone.

# October: Advocating for Life and Down syndrome

## Testimony On Behalf Of These Special Unborn Babies

By Deanna Isbill, member St. Mary of the Woods Catholic Church, Whitesville, Ky., Mom to 7 year old son, Leland.

October is National Down Syndrome Awareness month and National Right to Life Month, so being the Catholic mom of Leland, our delightful son with Down syndrome, the Holy Spirit has prodded me out of my usual comfort zone to write an article in testimony on behalf of these special unborn babies everywhere.

I have a very hard time with the utter and complete ugliness of that word, especially with writing this article where I discuss this heinous act in regard to precious babies with Down syndrome; babies who are ripped from their mother's womb simply because they have Down syndrome.

Since Down Syndrome is the most common chromosomal abnormality; it is the prenatally diagnosed disorder that results in the greatest number of elective pregnancy terminations - abortion. According to the National Right to Life Committee website, "Although not considered a severe disability, 92 % of babies diagnosed prenatally with Down syndrome have their lives ended by abortion." We also know that babies are aborted simply because of..... convenience....., regardless of whether or not the baby has a disorder. The reasons for abortion are as numerous as the excuses people use for committing any murder, but in the U.S. it is totally legal to kill (i.e. abort) unborn babies for any reason at all. Regarding Down syndrome, or any of the hundreds of other

prenatally diagnosed disorders (see the National Organization for Rare Disorders, or NORD, website), I am outraged that some people devalue the lives of special needs babies and children to the extent that they have them torn from their mother's body and thrown away.

If you or someone you know has been informed your unborn baby has Down syndrome, the first thing to do is to seek out a local support group. Your OB/GYN or any Pediatrician office will have this information for your area. Talk to other parents of children with Down syndrome and meet their child for yourself; you will probably be pleasantly surprised, if not totally charmed. Next, search for up-to-date literature and information; stay away from information published prior to 1990 because children with Down syndrome are constantly achieving more than previous generations and literature older than 1990 is sometimes skewed toward statistics from the old days (prior to 1975) when families were advised to institutionalize their children with disabilities. Third, if you are not sure you are ready to be the parent of a child with special needs who will require more time and help in many areas, then please, for God's sake, consider adoption.

There really are lots of families out there who are on waiting lists for children with Down syndrome. In fact, our family's favorite hero and athlete, Albert Pujols, of the St. Louis Cardinals baseball team, and his wife, recently became the proud adoptive parents of a baby girl with Down syndrome, and they are very active in their local St. Louis Down syndrome support association.

I recently saw a bumper sticker on a car in Owensboro stating, "U cannot B Catholic & B 4 pro-choice." That's a powerful testimony! This person was

Continued on page 35

Mark Vollman, son of Bob and Mary Vollman of Owensboro, goes down a line of Buddy Walk supporters giving high-fives. Bill Meserve Photo



## A Catholic mom's testimony on the PROs of Life with a child with Down syndrome

By Deanna Isbill

I am blessed to be "MOM!" or "mommy," to a very fine 7 year old boy named Leland who is a typical boy in most every way, except he has a little something extra special about him that brings sunshine into every day. With Leland around, every day of our lives is special. With every new day, he becomes a little more accomplished or masters some milestone or skill, some new site word, reading or math concept. But more importantly, we have learned from this small boy that every day is a day to be cherished and celebrated with love and enthusiasm....for any reason or no reason at all, just because life itself is to be cherished and celebrated and loved!

Every day, his father, Mike, and I are treated to a dozen or more "I love you," usually accompanied by hugs and kisses. Every day that he sees them, his teenage brother and sister, Lorne and Alysha, are treated to his unconditional love and charming, mischievous antics to get even more of their time and attention. He loves without limits all his grandparents, aunts and uncles, cousins, friends, teachers, therapists, his doctors, our priest Fr. Pat Bittle, and our church community.

Leland never misses a chance to be a comedian and loves to make people laugh. He is quick and thinks on his feet; he



Chris Hagan from Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Owensboro, and David Fogle were Goodwill Ambassadors for this year's Buddy Walk in Owensboro. Bill Meserve Photo

problem solves to achieve goals, even when we would rather he didn't. Oh, did I mention that he is sometimes mischievous? But he always loves, without fail. He seems to bring out the best in people everywhere we go. He only avoids someone if they have not acted nice, but he is also quick to forgive if they act nicely again. He rarely forgets a person's name or where they live. He always wants us to take him visiting, which is something our hectic lives need more of. He loves to go anywhere there are lots of people. He loves people even more than toys or movies or 4-wheelers or pizza, which he also loves a lot. He also loves his little dog, KC and his old buddy boy doll, both of whom both sleep with him. He even loves going shopping with his mom for up to 2 or 3 hours. This kid greets life everyday with enthusiasm. He enriches our lives so much. We thank God every day for all our children and all our blessings big and small, but especially the small ones. Leland has taught us to appreciate the small things, and every day of our lives there is something to celebrate, something and someone to give thanks to Our Father God for, and someone in our circle of friends and family who we say special prayers for, like cousin Jesse Turner who just left for Iraq.

OK, so maybe it takes Leland longer to master academic skills and learn to speak clearly. Yes, we spend more time on homework, on teaching him safety issues, on teaching him skills like shoe tying

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Buddies walking, Sam Winstead son of Jeff and Lori Winstead of Immaculate Parish and Matthew Huston son of David and Cindy Huston, Director of GRADSA. Bill Meserve Photo



# Celebrating Adoption

*November is National Adoption Awareness Month -- a month to celebrate adoptive families and to remember that thousands of children still need permanent, loving parents. If you've ever wanted to be a mom or dad -- to help children grow and develop to their fullest potential -- consider adoption. Children of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities are waiting for parents to make a difference in their lives. To make a difference, call Rita Heinz at Catholic Charities Adoptions for the Diocese of Owensboro at 270-683-1545 or 1-877-803-5064; rita.heinz@pastoral.org*

## Catholic Charities to Expand Adoption Program

*Will begin providing services to families adopting internationally*

Catholic Charities Pregnancy Counseling and Adoption Program began in the Diocese of Owensboro in 2001. This program was launched to assist birthparents who find themselves facing a crisis pregnancy. They are offered supportive counseling to assess the best plan for themselves and their child. Birthparents are assisted in evaluating their future goals, support system, living situation and parenting preparation to help them in making the best decision for themselves and their child.

When adoption is the option chosen by the birthparents, Catholic Charities assists them in placing their child with a family who has been thoroughly prepared for the lifelong issues unique to adoption and who has been screened and approved to adopt. Most of the time, a strong bond is formed between the parties involved and contact is maintained through pictures, letters, phone calls or even personal contact. This process is known as "open adoption" and is advocated by Catholic Charities agencies throughout the United States.



**Terry & Lisa Ward with their children, Tanner, Tyler, Molly (born in Korea), Maggie (born in China), and Macy (born in Korea).**

Beginning in December 2005, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Owensboro will expand their mission to include home studies and adoption preparation for families who choose to adopt a child from a foreign country. Catholic Charities will also follow up with these families after returning to the U.S. with their child to assist with any adjustment issues or concerns that may arise. Catholic Charities has developed a special working relationship with Catholic Charities in North Carolina and with Families Through International Adoption in Evansville, Indiana – both of which are accredited placement agencies. They have trained all four of the Catholic adoption agencies in

Kentucky to begin their work in International Adoptions.

The number of children adopted internationally has grown significantly over the past few years. There were 22,884 children brought to the U.S through international adoption in 2004, the highest number ever. The highest number of placements were from China, 7,044; Russia, 5,865; Guatemala, 3,264; and Korea, 1,716.

There are a variety of reasons people choose to adopt internationally. One reason is that birthparents in the U.S. often select the adoptive parents for their children. They usually have their own dreams for their children, which seldom includes older parents or couples who already have several children. In international adoption, there are usually few barriers to adoptions by parents over age 40 or to couples who already have children.

Another reason that families may choose to adopt internationally is that the waiting time for an intercountry adoption is often more predictable than for the adoption of a child born in the U.S. Also,



**Richard & Donna Flaherty with their children, Erin, Jade (born in China) and Delaney (born in China).**

families who pursue an intercountry adoption often speak of their desire to parent an orphaned child who really needs a family. There are many varied reasons why children become available for adoption internationally. At the top of the list are poverty and neglect. In China, of course, the primary reason is the "one-child-per-family" law. Most Chinese couples need a son who will care for his parents in their old age, and so orphanages in China are full of baby girls.

Given the needs of children in orphanages around the world and the growing desire of U.S. couples to adopt internationally, Catholic Charities is very excited to be able to begin providing services in this area. Two requirements that are common to adoptions from all countries are that adoptive parents complete a home study process prior to adoption and that they complete post-placement reports after they return home with their new child. These are the services that Catholic Charities is prepared to provide for adoptive families.

If you have questions about Catholic Charities domestic or international adoption services, please contact Rita Heinz at 270-683-1545, 1-877-803-5064 or [rita.heinz@pastoral.org](mailto:rita.heinz@pastoral.org)



**Mike & Rhonda Jones with their son, David Michael (born in Guatemala).**

# Adoption is a Beautiful Option!

Adoption is a pro-life choice and demonstrates responsibility and deep love for a child. Birthparents who make the decision to place their child in an adoptive home are placing the best interest of their child before their own. Too often, single women choose to parent because they want to avoid the pain of separation. The reality is that no matter which option is chosen – making an adoption plan or choosing to parent – there will certainly be sacrifice involved. Adoption, like most responsible decisions, does require sacrifice.

As Brenda Destro, an adjunct professor at St John Paul Institute, points out, adoption is a miracle. It is about a girl and her family facing the pain that goes along with an untimely pregnancy and an adoptive couple facing their infertility and their fears about adoption... A covenant is made where the child's best interests are at the very center.



The National Adoption Clearinghouse reports that currently only 2% of unmarried women make an adoption plan for their child. This declining trend is influenced by many factors, the most significant being abortion and the declining stigma of unwed motherhood.

Perhaps you know someone; a daughter, a sister, or a friend who is experiencing a crisis pregnancy. Is adoption an option that should be explored? Don't be surprised if she initially refuses to consider this option. Below are typical responses that are given along with possible replies that you may want to offer:

- "I could never give my baby away."*
- With adoption you are making a plan for the child's future, not abandoning or giving away the child.
- Adoption is a very unselfish and mature decision. It is putting the needs of a child first.
- "My child will hate me."*
- What if your child knew the reasons you chose adoption?
- Perhaps we can arrange for you to talk to someone who was adopted and find out their feelings about being adopted.
- "Placing my child for adoption would hurt too much."*
- Do you think that adoption is the only option that will hurt you?
- Just because something hurts you does not mean it is not the right thing to do.
- "Others will look down on me."*
- Will those people help you care for your child the next 18 years?
- Do they have information about adoption? If they under-

stood your reasons, do you think they may feel differently?  
*"What if my baby ends up in a bad home?"*

- Did you know that you can choose the family that will parent your child?
- Open adoption will allow you to maintain some type of contact with the child and their family so you can know how he/she is doing.
- Adoptive parents are closely evaluated and educated on adoption and child rearing issues during the home study process.
- Adopted children are truly wanted and cherished by their parents. Why else would they adopt?



Catholic Charities is available to assist women in the option of adoption as well as single parenting. If parenting is the option chosen, counselors will assist by providing parenting information, referrals to community resources, and ongoing support. Catholic Charities has no quota of adoptive placements to make but strives



to help women through a difficult pregnancy regardless of their decision. Pregnancy Counseling and Adoption services are offered to birthparents of any race or creed within the state of Kentucky. For more information call Catholic Charities at 1-877-803-5064 or email [rita.heinz@pastoral.org](mailto:rita.heinz@pastoral.org)

*All photos on this page were taken by Birgit Jones on August 14, 2005 at a Mass with Bishop McRaith celebrating adoptive families from around the Diocese of Owensboro.*

## Resurrection Parishioners Recognized for Service



Fr. Bruce Fogle administers the sacrament of First Holy Communion to young candidates at Resurrection Parish Dawson Springs: from left, server Joseph Amundson; Katie Moore, First Communicant; Fr. Fogle; Victoria Solomon, First Communicant; and Chelsea Mills, server. Submitted by Rosa Lee Coffey



In the spring of 2005, these Resurrection parishioners helped plant a memorial garden around the church walkway: from left, Dave Zaparanick, Beri Zaparanick, Jim Solomon, Callie Coffey, Peg Coffey, and Eddie Coffey. In photo at right, 2005 high school graduates from Resurrection Parish - Zach Coffey, Joseph Amundsen, Anna Marsilli, and Rachel Gogel. In photo at top right, a special reception was held for Fletcher Holeman (center) for his years of service and dedication to the parish family. Submitted by Rosa Lee Coffey.



## A Family Who Believes in Keeping Commitments Celebrates 64th Wedding Anniversary

Lillie and Bill Hagan of St. Mary's of the Woods in Whitesville, Kentucky celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary with five generations of their family in attendance. Bill and Lillie raised nine children of their own and Bill's youngest brother, Joe. They have 24 grandchildren, 27 great grandchildren and 1 great-great grandchild.

Lillie Mae was raised near West Louisville, Ky., and graduated eighth grade in 1936. She later took classes and became a Labuch tutor. She also did nursing to the elders and mothers, and new babies.

Bill was raised around Stanley. He graduated from eighth grade at Wilson school in 1936. He was in the Army from 1942 to 1945. Later, Bill graduated from Agriculture College in 1950. Bill and his family were farmers. Lillie Mae Simon and Bill Hagan were married November 18, 1941.

Bill and Lillie lived at Sorgho for several years before moving to their present home in Whitesville in January, 1959. They have been involved in St. Marys of the Woods parish since moving there, have been active in the Cursillo Movement also retired Palanca chair person for several years. Both were very active in the St. Vincent De Paul Society, Bill as president, and Lillie as Secretary before their retirement. Bill still has his cows to keep him busy, and Lillie cooks and cleans as they continue to love and care for each other.

In the picture at right, are from left, Elizabeth Majors; Tara Windbigler, Lillie Mae Hagan, Bill Hagan, and Cindy Majors; back row, Linda Mulligan. Submitted by Linda M. Milligan, daughter of Bill and Lillie Hagan.



## World Youth Day Correspondent An Excellent Writer

Dear Editor,

I read last night the article, "A Journey of Joy," by Larena Lawson. I was very touched by the author's view of the youth's trip to Germany. I was very sorry when the article ended. This was a clear view of what young people can do when united for a cause for the Church. I would like another copy to send my granddaughter who lives in another state. My granddaughter is also an excellent writer and would enjoy reading about this pilgrimage.

If you don't have Larena Lawson as a writer for your publication, you should consider her as a regular writer of articles. - Gayle Whitley, Henderson, Ky.

## Mayfield Celebra Las "Fiestas Patrias"

El día 17 de Septiembre fue un día especial para toda la comunidad Latina ya que por segundo año consecutivo celebramos las "Fiestas Patrias" donde tuvimos la oportunidad de compartir Mexicanos y Guatemaltecos nuestra celebración de Independencia.

Hablar del día 16 de Septiembre es recordar con respeto tantas personas que han luchado y hasta dado su vida por el bienestar de una nación que desde 1810 hasta hoy quiere hacer presente esa sangre derramada por causa de las cadenas de la esclavitud y que Mexico sigue aun viviendo la pobreza, la corrupción y tantos problemas políticos que impiden vivir en plenitud la libertad.

Esta celebración me hace sentir mas unido a mis hermanos, mas solidarios unos con otros ya que en este acontecimiento han colaborado muchas personas. Me siento orgulloso de portar mi bandera en este País y tener un día y un espacio para mostrar la cultura, las danzas folklóricas que fueron muy bonitas donde yo tuve la oportunidad de participar; ver la variedad de vestuarios, tipos de música y también disfrutar de antojitos que en esta ocasión fueron vendidos para ayudar a nuestros hermanos damnificados por

el huracán Katrina. Ojalá y podamos mejorar esta celebración familiar para los años venideros.

Isidro Sánchez.

Las fiesta de Independencia tiene un significado especial para mí, ya que esta celebración nos ayuda a conservar nuestras raíces, conocer mejor la historia de nuestro México lindo y querido y al mismo tiempo compartir con otras personas de otros países la riqueza de nuestra cultura. También pienso que es una oportunidad para que las nuevas generaciones especialmente los niños que ya han nacido o crecido aquí conozcan un poco mejor quienes fueron los héroes que nos dieron libertad como fué el cura Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla quien fué el que dio el "Grito de Dolores" al iniciar la batalla de independencia en contra de los españoles. Me siento orgullosa de ser mexicana y de poder mostrar con los bailables la variedad de música y vestuarios de varias regiones del país. También tuve la oportunidad de aprender y respetar otras culturas como la de Guatemala que también participaron en este evento.

Gabriela Hurtado.

Para mí participar en esta cele-

bración me hace sentir muy feliz porque aunque no estoy en mi país no quiero que se pierdan nuestras raíces mexicanas. Al participar en la escolta enseñando a los demás como honramos a nuestro Lábaro Patrio, el cantar nuestro Himno Nacional y hacer el Juramento a la Bandera me hace sentir

## En Guatemala de Bendiciones Bendiciones en Guatemala por Brandon Williams

Antigua Guatemala fue para mí este pasado verano como mi hogar. Tuve el privilegio y la bendición de estudiar español en el Instituto de Probigua por cerca de 10 semanas. Mi experiencia por allá fue excepcional... tanto que deseo compartir parte de ella con ustedes, gente de la diócesis de Owensboro. Espero poder darles apenas, una ojeada del rico y hermoso mundo de la cultura guatemalteca, de su fe, y de la religiosidad popular.

Un aspecto de la formación en el seminario está en aprender cómo servir al pueblo de Dios en su totalidad. Esto significa que el servicio de los sacerdotes de hoy, abarca una amplia gama de personas de diversas culturas e idiomas. La cultura latina es en gran medida, uno de los grupos étnicos más extensos presentes hoy en la iglesia. Y cada año los números aumentan. Según el directorio regional 2003-2005, los Hispanos Católicos ascienden a un 50% aproximadamente en la región sureste de los Estados Unidos.

La Diócesis de Owensboro no es la excepción. Actualmente, más del 25% de los Católicos en la diócesis son hispanos. Tal gran cantidad de latinos católicos, requiere de sacerdotes con las habilidades de la lengua y conocimiento de la cultura para poder ayudarles en su crecimiento espiritual. Para servir a esta población cada vez mayor, la mayoría de los seminarios incluye en su plan de estudios el aprender español y sobre la cultura latinoamericana como parte de su programa. Esto permite a nuestros

orgullosa de compartir nuestros valores patrios.

También participé en los bailables representando al Estado de Jalisco y de esta manera comparto nuestra cultura a través de la danza y me siento feliz de que las nuevas generaciones no pierdan su identidad mexicana.

Josefina Arellano Muñiz

*Sigue en la pagina 3*



**Bendiciones en Guatemala**

sacerdotes, servir a tanta gente como sea posible en la iglesia, incluyendo a los de herencia latina. Afortunadamente nuestra diócesis, en colaboración con el seminario de "Saint Meinrad" pide de sus seminaristas completar un programa profundización en el español como parte del proceso de formación. Yo profundice este último verano en la ciudad escénica de Antigua Guatemala.

Mi primer viaje fuera de los Estados Unidos me llevó a un profundo y pintoresco poblado del corazón de Guatemala en América central. Rodeado por volcanes y árboles palmeras. Antigua definitivamente me hizo sentir como si estuviese estudiando en un paraíso. Mientras que la ciudad de Antigua, así como Guatemala en general eran hermosas, la gente guatemalteca era la admiración de mi estancia. Nunca antes había

*Sigue en la pagina 6*



## Todos los santos y todos los días de almas son días especiales en nuestras vidas

Amigos queridos en Cristo,

En este mes de noviembre celebraremos dos grandes días de fiestas.

El primero de Noviembre celebramos la fiesta de todos los Santos. Aunque cae en un martes, éste es un día Santo y de precepto. Todos los católicos tienen la obligación de asistir a misa. El día de todos los Santos es un tiempo muy especial para todos nosotros "para recordar a nuestros hermanos y hermanas que han partido a gozar del premio eterno" (plegaria eucarística II). Este es un día en que oramos a aquellos que ahora son ya Santos. Esos ahora gozando del premio de la vida eterna viven en la presencia de Dios por toda la eternidad. La iglesia ha declarado a algunos ya santos, pero hay muchos más que gozan del mismo premio. La fiesta del día de todos los santos no solo nos recuerda rogar por todos esos santos en el cielo, pero también nos recuerda que nuestra meta final en esta vida, es un día participar con ellos de la felicidad eterna. Es un día que nos recuerda a todos nuestros seres queridos que han partido antes que nosotros, a formar parte de esa lista de todos los santos. Aunque la Iglesia fija este día para que roguemos a todos los santos, nos recuerda también que debemos rogar a ellos diariamente. Nosotros creemos que los santos siguen siendo uno con nosotros - la iglesia peregrina - y que continúan cuidándonos e intercediendo por nosotros desde el cielo.

Concerniente a la comunión de los santos. El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica cita: "No veneramos el recuerdo de los del cielo tan sólo como modelos nuestros, sino, sobre todo, para que la unión de toda la Iglesia en el Espíritu se vea reforzada por la práctica del amor fraterno. En efecto, así como la unión entre los cristianos todavía en camino nos lleva más cerca de Cristo, así la comunión con los santos nos une a Cristo, del que mana, como de Fuente y Cabeza, toda la gracia y la vida del Pueblo de Dios"

Enseguida, el dos de noviembre, celebramos el día de muertos. En este día, pedimos por aquellos que han dejado ya la iglesia peregrina, pero aún siguen purificándose mientras aguardan el premio final junto con todos los Santos en el cielo. El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica nos enseña que "La Iglesia peregrina, perfectamente consciente de esta comunión de todo el Cuerpo místico de Jesucristo, desde los primeros tiempos del cristianismo honró con gran piedad el recuerdo de los difuntos y también ofreció por ellos oraciones pues es una idea santa y provechosa orar por los difuntos para que se vean libres de sus pecados". Nuestra oración por ellos puede no solamente ayudarles sino también hacer eficaz su intercesión en nuestro favor." Nuestra oración por ellos, no solo cura, pero también hace más efectiva su intercesión por nosotros. El Catecismo suma las razones para reconocer estos dos días como muy especiales en nuestras vidas enseñando lo siguiente sobre la familia de Dios: "Todos los hijos de Dios y miembros de una misma familia en Cristo, al unírnos en el amor mutuo y en la misma alabanza a la Santísima Trinidad, estamos respondiendo a la íntima vocación de la Iglesia."

Estas son sólo algunas ideas para que consideremos la importancia de estos dos días en la vida de fe de la Iglesia y de nuestra propia vida de fe como individuos. La vida de aquellos que se han ido no ha terminado, sólo transformado. Seguimos siendo uno con ellos; son uno con nosotros. Y es importante que los recordamos en nuestras oraciones al rogar por ellos y a ellos - no solamente en estos días especiales pero todos los días. Vivimos en la alegría de saber que continúan cuidando de nosotros, ruegan por nosotros, y están allí asistiéndonos en nuestro viaje de esta vida a la vida eterna.

Recordemos todos a nuestros propios familiares, amigos, y todos los que han muerto. Ellos nos esperan para unírnos todos en ese día en que todos nosotros estaremos juntos de nuevo - no solo por un rato, sino por toda la eternidad. El día de todos los santos y el día de muertos son días especiales en nuestras vidas. Vivimos en la alegría de nuestra fe sabiendo que juntos somos el cuerpo Místico de Cristo.



*John J. McRaith*

+Most Reverend John J. McRaith, D.D.  
Bishop of Owensboro, Ky

## Recordamos A Los Que "No Tienen," Agradecemos a Dios por lo que Tenemos

Mis Amigos Queridos,

Ahora que se acerca el Día de Acción de Gracias este año, no podemos dejar de pensar en los que no tienen las mismas necesidades de la vida - incluso en nuestro propio país. Los huracanes estropearon tanto y ha dejado a muchas, muchas personas sin hogar, a menudo sin ningún centavo, y en algunos casos, con mucha pena por la muerte de sus seres queridos. La magnitud de este desastre nos da razón de ser más agradecidos que nunca por lo que tenemos y darnos cuenta más que nunca que todo pertenece a Dios. Nuestro desafío es seguir siendo siempre fiel a la llamada de Dios de extender la mano a otros que forman parte de su Cuerpo Místico que están heridos de una cierta manera.

En el Día de Acción de Gracias, estamos también atentos de nuestros hermanos y hermanas que están luchando en el nombre de nuestro país. Con tanta gente herida, continuamos rogando por los con vidas interrumpidas o aún perdidas. Rogamos para una resolución justa a nuestras batallas en Afganistán, y continuamos rogando para un fin rápido a la guerra en Irak.

Mientras recordamos a los que "no tienen," agradecemos a Dios por lo que tenemos y compartimos lo que podemos de nuestro tiempo, talentos, y recursos. Ojalá la declaración siguiente publicada por la junta administrativa de la Conferencia Obispos Católicos de los EEUU nos ayude a darnos cuenta completamente de nuestras obligaciones en las consecuencias de las tormentas. Comparto esto con usted como mío.

### Huracán Katrina: Extendiendo la Mano, Renovación y Recuperación en la Fe y la Solidaridad

Una declaración del Comité Administrativo de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de Estados Unidos, del 14 septiembre 2005, en la Fiesta de la Exaltación de la Santa Cruz

Una tormenta terrible y sus consecuencias horribles han destruido las vidas y los hogares, han roto familias y comunidades, han dañado nuestra nación y la creación de Dios. Katrina hirió y devastó a millones de nuestras hermanas y hermanos a lo largo de la costa del golfo y alrededor de Nuevo Orleans y de Biloxi. Este huracán también ha tocado y ahora prueba el resto de nosotros. Prueba nuestra fe, nuestra capacidad de ayudar y nuestra visión de qué clase de nación somos y deseamos ser.

Nuestros corazones y oraciones van de nuevo a todos ellos cuyos vidas, hogares y familias han sido dañados o destruidos por Katrina. Dentro de la comunidad católica, mucha de nuestra gente ha perdido todo y nuestra Iglesia ha perdido parroquias y escuelas, hospitales y ministerios caritativos, y muchas de las estructuras, que nos ayudan a predicar el Evangelio, a educar los jóvenes y a servir los vulnerables. La pérdida de estas instituciones afecta no solamente nuestra Iglesia, pero es una pérdida significativa para la comunidad entera.

De una manera particular, extendemos nuestro apoyo personal y eclesial a nuestros obispos hermanos llamados para conducir la Iglesia en la costa del golfo en estos días difíciles. También expresamos nuestra gratitud, respeto y admiración a todos los obispos, sacerdotes, diáconos, religiosos y líderes laicos que están trayendo la mano que ayuda y las palabras de Jesús Cristo que sostienen a los que han perdido tanto.

Como fueron tan poderosos los vientos y el agua de Katrina, nuestro cuidado continuo y la ayuda, nuestra práctica de la caridad y la búsqueda para la justicia deben llegar a ser más poderosos. El huracán y la inundación vinieron y salieron en una cuestión de horas y de días. Nuestra ayuda, compasión, y compromiso a ayudar a arreglar las cosas tiene que durar mucho más - no días, sino meses y años.

A la luz del grado abrumador del daño y de la pérdida, de la generosidad enorme de la comunidad católica y los requisitos constantes y a largo plazo para la recuperación, estamos estableciendo un nuevo Destacamento de Fuerzas para Coordinar la Respuesta Católica a Katrina. Este destacamento de fuerzas sin precedente de obispos y de líderes de las organizaciones católicas ya implicadas profundamente en el esfuerzo actual trabajará bajo la dirección del Arzobispo José Fiorenza de Galveston-Houston. Contando con qué se está haciendo ya y

*Sigue en la pagina 4*

# Mayfield Celebra Las "Fiestas Patrias"

(Sigue de la pagina 1)

Yo como mexicano me siento feliz y orgulloso de poder participar en este gran acontecimiento de la "Fiesta de Independencia." Mi participación fue cerrar con broche de oro el programa civico-social en una estampa folklorica llamada "México en la piel" portando la Bandera de México en un recorrido a caballo donde participaron también varios estados de la república mexicana.

Este evento fue muy importante ya que hubo muchisima gente y siento que este acontecimiento nos unió mas como hermanos y como comunidad latinoamericana.  
Homero Arellano Muñiz.

La celebración de las Fiestas patrias ha sido un acontecimiento muy importante para la comunidad de Guatemala ya que tuvimos la oportunidad de compartir un poquito de lo mucho que tenemos en un país tan pequeño y que ha sufrido tanto.

Yo como guatemalteca me siento orgullosa de poder representar a mi bello pais y no olvidar nuestras costumbres. Ha sido un placer mostrar nuestra cultura y que los demás puedan apreciar la diversidad de tradiciones.

Los bailables que presentamos tienen un significado especial porque abarcan dos regiones o estados de donde pertenecemos la mayoría de los que radicamos en Mayfield que es Quiché y Totonicapán. Los vestuarios los usaban nuestros antepasados y actualmente solo la mujer los porta. La música que nos identifica en todo el país y en el mundo entero es la "marimba" También me sentí muy feliz de poder ver pasar mi Bandera en el recorrido del pabellón. La decoración alegraba todo el parque ya que nos unimos con los mexicanos y logramos un acontecimiento de unidad y hermandad. Yo doy las gracias de tomarnos en cuenta y poder darnos en espacio y un lugar para sentir a Guatemala en los Estados Unidos. Sra. Micaela Hernández.



Juramento de la Bandera de México, Mayfield.



Las Fiestas Patrias de Hopkinsville



Baile de las Guarecitas gracias a Hortencia y sus niñas



El Comité Hispano de San Pedro y San Pablo en Hopkinsville visitando las Oficinas de nuestra Curia Diocesana luego de su retiro de formación en el Monte San José/ Saints Peter and Paul (Hopkinsville) Hispanic Committee visiting the Catholic Pastoral Center after their formation retreat at Mt. Saint Joseph.



El Comité Hispano de San Pedro y San Pablo en Hopkinsville durante su retiro de formación en el Monte San José/ Saints Peter and Paul's (Hopkinsville) Hispanic Committee during their formation retreat at Mt. Saint Joseph.

## Recordamos A Los Que “No Tienen,” Agradecemos a Dios por lo que Tenemos *(Sigue de la pagina 2)*

pretende:

- Apoyar los muchos esfuerzos de las diócesis afectadas.
- Animar una respuesta sostenida de la comunidad católica.
- Coordinar los muchos esfuerzos diversos para aumentar eficacia, asegurar la responsabilidad y eliminar la duplicación.
- Examinar las implicaciones morales y políticas futuras de este desastre para la Iglesia y la sociedad.

### La Respuesta De la Comunidad Católica

Más allá de los esfuerzos heroicos de la Iglesia local en la región de responder a las necesidades humanas de todos los que sufrían después del huracán Katrina, la comunidad católica por toda la nación ha respondido ya en muchas maneras al horror y a la angustia que hemos visto.

\* Estamos rogando cada día para los que han muerto y que están luchando para vivir en las consecuencias del huracán.

\* el papa Benedicto XVI ofreció rezos especiales inmediatamente para las víctimas y los trabajadores de alivio y envió un mensajero personal para visitar a la gente que lucha para reconstruir sus vidas. Los líderes católicos alrededor del mundo también han expresado su preocupación y su solidaridad.

\* Millones de católicos por toda la nación han respondido con donaciones abundantes.

\* Las Caridades Católicas de los E.E.U.U. y otros grupos Católicos nacionales han movilizado para recoger donaciones, para responder a las necesidades críticas, y para ayudar a encontrar hogares para los desplazados por el Huracán Katrina.

\* Las diócesis a través del país han movilizado millares de voluntarios, han hecho colectas incontables de dinero y mercancías, y han ayudado extensivamente con la relocalización.

\* Las oficinas, comunidades religiosas y muchos otros grupos de La Conferencia de los Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos, han ofrecido ayuda con el alivio y la relocalización.

\* La Extensión Católica ayudará a reconstruir las parroquias, las escuelas y otras instalaciones de la Iglesia dañadas o destruidas por el desastre.

\* Las universidades católicas, los seminarios, las escuelas secundarias, y las escuelas primarias por toda la nación han abierto generosamente sus puertas a los estudiantes y los profesores que han sido desplazados por la tormenta.

Mientras que cuidamos a y estamos al lado de nuestras hermanas y hermanos a lo largo de la costa del golfo, no podemos olvidarnos de que las vidas y la dignidad de muchos otros son amenazadas alrededor de nuestro mundo por los vientos poderosos del hambre y de la enfermedad y la inundación de la privación y de la desesperación. El responder a esta catástrofe debe abrir nuestros ojos y corazones a las otras calamidades humanas que frecuenten nuestro mundo. Cuando los observadores dicen con asombro “parece un país del Tercer Mundo,” están diciendo algo profundo no solamente sobre Nuevo Orleans, pero también algo importante sobre cómo vive la mayoría del mundo.

### Una Manera Delantera: Enseñanza Social Católica

Más allá de la dispersión imponente del dinero, alimento y agua, los voluntarios y la bienvenida a los millares sobre millares de personas desplazadas, la comunidad Católica tiene algo más que contribuir a la respuesta y a la recuperación actual. Éste es un sistema de principios, un marco moral para determinar qué ha sucedido y dirigir lo que debe ser hecho. Junto con otros de cada fe y origen, ofrecemos nuestra tradición católica de la enseñanza sobre los desafíos que ahora debemos enfrentar juntos. Estos principios ofrecen la dirección moral para continuar la respuesta, la recuperación y la reconstrucción:

**La vida y la dignidad de cada persona humana:** Se ha destruido vidas humanas y se ha asaltado la dignidad humana. Ocasionalmente el respeto a la vida y la dignidad fue perdido en medio de este desastre. Nuestra fe y qué hemos visto nos llaman a insistir que cada aspecto de la recuperación, cada plan para reconstruir debe ser evaluado por la medida a que protege la vida humana y cómo amenaza o realce la dignidad de todos los tocados por esta catástrofe, especialmente los más débiles y los más vulnerables.

**La Opción para los pobre y vulnerables:** Nuestra fe insiste que el pobre y el vulnerable deben tener primera demanda en nuestros esfuerzos comunes. No pueden ser dejados detrás de nuevo. Debemos determinar este desastre, la

respuesta, y la recuperación futura en cómo toca las vidas de los más pequeños entre nosotros (Mt. 25). A la luz de lo que hemos visto y oído, esto es una época para el diálogo constructivo para tratar cómo la pobreza y la raza dividen a nuestra sociedad y desafían nuestra nación.

**Subsidiaridad:** Katrina demuestra la sabiduría de este principio tradicional, que especifica las responsabilidades y las limitaciones apropiadas de instituciones en su deber común de proteger vida y la dignidad humana. Advierte contra instituciones más grandes que abrumen los más pequeños pero invita a instituciones más grandes a actuar cuando los pequeños no son capaces o están poco dispuestos. Donde las familias no pueden resolver sus propias necesidades, la comunidad más grande es llamada para auxiliarles. Cuando las instituciones de la comunidad no pueden actuar, los gobiernos locales y estatales tienen obligaciones. Donde no pueden responder adecuadamente, el gobierno nacional debe actuar para salvaguardar la vida, la dignidad y los derechos humanos. La continuación y la respuesta futura deben reflejar estas realidades así que los desafíos a continuación no abrumen de nuevo a instituciones de nuestra sociedad.

**Solidaridad:** Katrina nos está enseñando que somos todos los miembros de una familia humana. “Amar a nuestro prójimo” tiene nuevo significado en las consecuencias de Katrina. Dondequiera que vivamos, sea lo que tenemos o no tenemos, como sea nuestra raza o origen, somos todos niños de Dios y somos dignos de respeto y de cuidado.

**Familia, comunidad y participación:** La tormenta ha separado a las familias y a comunidades. La recuperación y la renovación deben unir a familias y restaurar a comunidades, no apenas como realidades físicas, sino como los bloques morales fundamentales para construir el futuro. La “participación” de los más afectados debe estar en el centro de la recuperación y del planeamiento para el futuro.

**Derechos humanos y responsabilidades:** Nuestra tradición social comienza con el derecho de la vida y lo extiende a los derechos que hacen la vida verdaderamente humana – la fe y la familia, el trabajo y la educación, la vivienda y el cuidado médico. Restaurando a las instituciones de la fe, del trabajo, de la educación y del cuidado médico y proveyendo la vivienda decente no son solamente muestras justas de la generosidad; son requeridos por la justicia.

**Cuidado para la creación:** La renovación y la recuperación, que es por venir, deben intentar reconocer y reparar el daño que la tormenta y las inundaciones han hecho a la creación de Dios a lo largo de la costa del golfo. Los esfuerzos de la recuperación que comienzan deben intentar proteger y salvaguardar ese ambiente en el futuro.

**La Dignidad de trabajos y de los derechos de trabajadores:** En las consecuencias de la tormenta, las personas no solamente han perdido sus hogares, sino también perdieron su trabajo y su capacidad de apoyar a sus familias. La recuperación requiere más que el alimento, el agua, y un lugar para vivir, pero también una ocasión para hacer una contribución, para tener trabajo, salarios y condiciones de trabajo decentes.

**Bueno Común:** La tormenta trajo los esfuerzos mejores y peores heroicos del servicio y del abandono del deber, del sacrificio para otros y de actos malvados del oportunismo. La renovación y la recuperación no deben convertirse en una batalla de echar culpa, o una competencia de intereses, o una oportunidad para los mejor conectados para abrumar los débiles. Después de Katrina, todos hemos aprendido de nuevo que estamos juntos en esto y una cadena es solamente tan fuerte como su eslabón más débil.

### Conclusión

Para los cristianos, esto no es solamente un trabajo de ayuda humanitaria. Cuando ayudamos a los que esta tormenta ha rasgado de sus hogares y sustentos, estamos ayudando a Jesús en medio de nosotros. No podemos ser la Iglesia de Jesucristo a menos que extendemos las manos de maneras persistentes y de gran alcance de servir “a los más pequeños.” (Mat. 25) Alimentar al hambriero no son simplemente actos de generosidad, sino actos de la fe. Estos trabajos tradicionales de la misericordia no son opciones, sino obligaciones para cada uno de nosotros y la comunidad Católica entera. Para nosotros como obispos Católicos, Katrina es más que un desastre natural terrible y una catástrofe hu-

*Sigue en la pagina 5*

Miembros de la Parroquia de San Tomas More y otros están preocupados por varios hispanos y otros inmigrantes que están llegando al oeste de Kentucky y han sido acogidos con muchos servicios por otras iglesias en esta área pero no la comunidad católica. Aproximadamente 150 personas asisten a la misa en español cada domingo en San Tomas More otros 275 asisten a la misa en español en Mayfield, pero hay una necesidad más grande para ayudar a estos individuos y familias. Los miembros del comité hablaron con varios de los miembros hispanos de San Tomas More y les dijeron que el no saber el idioma inglés es una gran barrera para la educación, trabajo, cuidado médico y vivienda; y las cosas que otros no le toman mucha importancia aunque les ayude a mejorar sus vidas. Estuvieron muy preocupados que sus hijos tienen oportunidades de aprender muy bien el inglés y recibir una buena educación que los ayudara en el futuro. El grupo colaboró con las cinco Iglesias Católicas en el área y muchos otros servicios sociales e instituciones educacionales y el Centro del Inmigrante (CDI) fue fundado.

Una casa pequeña localizada en 1359 Sur Calle 6ta. en la línea del camión de la ciudad ha sido rentada donde inglés como segundo idioma, computación, preparación para el GED, información actualizada de migración y preparación para exámenes de ciudadanía serán disponibles. En adición, individuos recibirán ayuda para contactar recursos tal como servicios de salud, el Centro de Crisis de Violación, trabajo, aplicaciones de ciudadanía, asesoramiento para alcoholismo y ayuda en encontrar vivienda segura y a precio acorde al capital del individuo. Compañías y dueños de negocios proveerán oportunidades principalmente agrícolas, industriales y trabajo doméstico. Conexiones con abogados proveerán información con las actualizaciones en casos migratorios. Trabajadores sociales estarán disponibles para asistir con problemas con respecto a violencia doméstica. Diecisiete niños han sido invitados a ser estudiantes en el sistema de la escuela de San Mary. Un velador vivirá en esta casa por una mínima renta que ayudara a pagar por seguro y utilidades y proveerá su presencia constante.

La casa tuvo necesidades de reparación para tenerla al pie de regla. Todo esto fue realizado por medio de donaciones materiales y labor. Donaciones de grandes y pequeños aparatos domésticos, muebles, mesas y sillas para los salones, muebles de cocina, pequeñas cosas para amueblar una casa son necesarias. Hermana Marie More es la presidenta del comité y puede ser contactada en Lourdes llamando al 444-2115 para donar artículos o para ayuda voluntaria.

Dora Klepeis, miembro de Santo Tomas Moro por un largo tiempo, es de Colombia y ha estado involucrada ayudando en varias áreas de individuos hispanos. "Muchas puertas se cierran para los extranjeros, de esta manera, ellos no tienen muchas oportunidades para obtener trabajos, encontrar vivienda adecuada y a precio acorde al capital del individuo, recibir ayuda médica y no saber a donde ir para obtener ayuda para conseguir estas necesidades," Dora explica. Ella continúa, "Yo apoyo a este centro todo lo posible. He estado trabajando con muchos de estos aspectos desde hace tiempo personalmente, pero siento que tener un lugar para asistir con diferentes servicios que van a ser disponibles será algo muy bueno. Soy bendecida porque tengo una familia que me apoya con lo que estoy haciendo y me han ayudado mucho. Estamos en el término de limpieza; la mayor parte esta terminada, fue el tener la casa al pie de regla. Esperamos tener la bendición de esta casa a mediados de octubre."

Rosa Ramírez y Leticia Martínez estuvieron ahí ayudando con la limpieza y con la ayuda de Dora para traducir, comentaron, "Estamos muy contentas en tener un lugar en donde los hispanos puedan venir y aprender inglés y muchas otras cosas que nos llevarán a un mejor futuro para nosotros."

John Klepeis, hijo de Dora de 25 años de edad, anidó, "Lo que más se necesita es educación y acceso en cuidado médico. Hay mucho negativismo con respecto a la comunidad hispana. Esta gente merece respeto y oportunidades para mejorar sus vidas al igual que los demás. Muchos patronos se han aprovechado de ellos y han tenido miedo de reclamar por el hecho de ser despedidos y no poder mantener a sus familias. Solamente quieren lo que los demás quieren; poder mantenerse ellos mismos y a sus familias. Entre mas crezca la población hispana, será mucho más importante proveer educación, cuidado médico adecuado, y oportunidades en aprender habilidades para el trabajo para que estas personas puedan tener éxito y ser miembros contribuyentes de sus



**En frente del Centro del Inmigrante (DCI). From left to right, Rosa Ramirez, Larry McCoy, Leticia Martinis, Dora Klepsis, John Klepsis; Children: Brenda and baby Miriam Ramirez. Submitted by Edie Keeney**

comunidades, será una situación donde todos ganaran.

Larry McCoy ha estado involucrado en ayudar a la comunidad hispana desde hace varios años en tener el centro listo. Mencionó que la transportación después de clases en San Mary para los estudiantes hispanos es muy necesitada. Larry dijo, "Tienen forma de llegar a la escuela por la mañana, pero necesitan transportación después de clases para llevarlos a sus casas." Si alguien puede ayudarnos con transportación, comuníquense con los directores en la primaria, secundaria y preparatoria. Tal vez algún padre de familia que recoja a sus hijos por la tarde pueda proveer transportación para otros estudiantes.

Hermana Marie Moore comentó, "Estoy muy contenta en tener un local central disponible para la comunidad hispana y otros inmigrantes; un lugar a donde puedan venir y aprovechar los servicios. Hay muchos que necesitan ayuda para aprender inglés y obtener trabajos para mejorar sus vidas y las vidas de sus hijos. Ha sido increíble que hay mucha gente que esta ayudando para abrir este centro." Padre Pat Reynolds, Pastor de Santo Tomas Moro, añadió, "También será conveniente para los que están en nuestra comunidad católica que quieran ayudar para tener un lugar a donde ir y ser parte de este ministerio."

## **Recordamos A Los Que "No Tienen," Agradecemos a Dios por lo que Tenemos (Sigue de la pagina 4)**

mana. Es una prueba de nuestra fe, de nuestra esperanza y de nuestro amor. La fe en Jesucristo insiste que la vida conquista la muerte, la resurrección sigue la crucifixión, la recuperación viene del sufrimiento y la esperanza supera la desesperación. Esto es un tiempo para vivir el Evangelio, convertir a nuestro amor en cuidado para otros, mover nuestras palabras hacia la acción, y practicar la solidaridad que proclamamos. El valor y la fuerza de los que han vivido con estos días terribles no consuelan. Tomamos fuerza de la respuesta notable y continua de la comunidad católica. Tomamos esperanza del conocimiento que el Señor está con nosotros en esta época de prueba y de desafío: "si el Señor no hubiera estado con nosotros... las aguas nos hubieran anegado, un torrente hubiera pasado sobre nuestra alma, hubieran pasado entonces sobre nuestra alma las aguas impetuosas. Bendito sea el SEÑOR, que no nos ha entregado..." (Salmos 124:2-6)

## Justicia para los Inmigrantes: Una Jornada de Esperanza. La Campaña Católica para la Reforma Migratoria

En Junio de 2004, el Comité de Migración de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de Los Estados Unidos junto con el Consejo Directivo de la Red Católica Legal de Inmigración, Inc. (CLINIC por sus siglas en inglés) decidieron hacer de una exhaustiva reforma migratoria, con especial énfasis en legalización, una prioridad importante de política pública dentro de la iglesia. De igual manera, muchas otras instituciones nacionales católicas han hecho de la legalización una política prioritaria.

Como parte de la respuesta de la iglesia, un grupo diverso de organizaciones católicas con redes nacionales han decidido unirse a la campaña "Justicia para los Inmigrantes: Una Jornada de Esperanza" de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de Los Estados Unidos, la cual fue diseñada para unir y movilizar una red cada vez mayor de instituciones católicas, individuos, y otras personas de buena fe en apoyo a un programa extenso de legalización y de una exhaustiva reforma migratoria. Su meta será maximizar la influencia de la iglesia en este tema, en acuerdo con los principios de la reforma migratoria declarados en la carta pastoral de los Obispos.

Los objetivos principales de la campaña son:

- Educar al público, especialmente la comunidad católica, incluyendo funcionarios católicos, sobre la enseñanza de la iglesia en migración e inmigrantes;
- Crear voluntad política positiva para una reforma migratoria;
- Decretar las reformas legislativas y administrativas basadas en los principios expresados por los obispos; y
- Organizar redes católicas para apoyar a inmigrantes calificados a que obtengan los beneficios de dichas reformas.

En Enero de 2003, los Obispos católicos de México y Estados Unidos publicaron una carta pastoral en conjunto titulada "Juntos en el camino de la esperanza: Ya no somos extranjeros". A través de ésta, hicieron un llamado para la "globalización de la solidaridad" y para una revisión del sistema migratorio de Los Estados Unidos. En dicha carta, los Obispos de ambos países subrayaron varios criterios para la reforma del sistema migratorio de Los Estados Unidos, incluyendo lo siguiente:

- Una amplia legalización (residencia permanente) de los indocumentados de todas nacionalidades;
- Reforma de nuestro sistema migratorio basado en peticiones familiares que permita que los miembros de la familia se reúnan con sus seres queridos en Los Estados Unidos;
- Reforma del sistema de inmigración basado en el empleo para proporcionar vías legales para que los inmigrantes vengán y trabajen de manera ordenada, segura y humana, y;
- Abandono de la estrategia de aplicación del "bloqueo" de la frontera.
- Restauración del debido proceso legal justo para inmigrantes.

Adicionalmente, los Obispos reconocen que las condiciones que obligan a las personas a abandonar sus hogares por la desesperación y carencia de oportunidades para ellos y sus familias debe ser tratado si se quiere lograr una respuesta eficaz y exhaustiva a la migración. Por lo tanto, la Campaña Católica para la Reforma Migratoria trabajará estrechamente con la Campaña Católica contra la Pobreza Mundial, iniciada por la Oficina de Justicia y Paz Internacional y Servicios Católicos de Apoyo de la USCCB. Esa Campaña busca reducir la pobreza a través de reformas comerciales, de ayuda y de reducción de deuda. Las Campañas de Reforma Migratoria y Pobreza Mundial están relacionadas íntegramente, una de ellas se enfoca a los derechos y las necesidades de los inmigrantes en Los Estados Unidos, mientras que la otra trabaja con los derechos y necesidades de las personas que viven en sus propios países.

La Campaña espera llegar más allá de las redes de las agencias nacionales que participan, y contar con el apoyo de individuos e instituciones Católicas de las Diócesis en todo el país.

9 de Junio de 2005

Nota: Para más información - [www.justiciaparalosinmigrantes.org](http://www.justiciaparalosinmigrantes.org)

## En Guatemala de Bendiciones Bendiciones en Guatemala

*Sigue de la página 1*

yo experimentado una cultura tan orgullosa de su ascendencia y tan viva en su fe católica. La mayoría de la gente de Guatemala profesa la fe católica, y es tan evidente sin importar a dónde viaje usted en el país. La fe sigue siendo el foco central en la vida diaria de las personas.

¡Un templo católico destacaba en cada una y otra esquina por la calle que pasé! ¡O tal parecían! Algunas de estos templos, fueron construidos hace ya más de 400 años. La vista era impresionante. Admirar las puertas de los templos abiertas de par en par, todo el día, y todos los días. La gente iba y venía de los templos a todas horas del día.

¡Mucho fue mi sorpresa, saber que la parroquia a la que yo asistía regularmente de (Nuestra Señora de la Merced/ o Nuestra Señora de la misericordia) celebraba 7 misas diarias, y cerca de 100 personas atendían a cada una de estas misas! ¡Las misas del domingo en absoluto desbordaban, y las filas para la confesión parecían extenderse hasta por una milla! Lo más asombroso, sin embargo, era el amor que la gente tenía por la Sagrada Eucaristía.

Nunca en mi vida había yo visto tal alegría, reverencia, devoción y amor por la Sagrada Eucaristía hasta que asistí a la celebración del "Corpus Cristi". Cada año la iglesia celebra la solemnidad del "Corpus Cristi" ( del cuerpo y de la sangre de Cristo.) Este año es excepcionalmente especial debido a la última proclama del Papa Juan Pablo II como el año de la Eucaristía. En el curso del mes entero, habo misas especiales, horas santas, conciertos, conferencias, comidas campestres, y muchas otras celebraciones enfocadas enteramente entorno a la solemnidad de Nuestro Señor. El punto culmen de la celebración llegó con la solemne procesión de la Eucaristía alrededor de la Ciudad de Antigua. ¡Que experiencia a recordar! ¡Fuimos en procesión con la Eucaristía por más de 35 cuadras de la Ciudad en un curso de tres horas! Literalmente; centenares y centenares de gente iban en procesión con el Señor a través de las calles de Antigua. Diseños de flores entrelazadas alfombraban las calles. Cohetes estallaban por encima. Los himnos de la alabanza y de adoración a Nuestro Señor en la Eucaristía resonaban por en las calles. ¡La procesión fue tan lejos, y duró tanto, que a muchos seminaristas incluyéndome a mí, nos pidieron asistir a los sacerdotes en llevar la Eucaristía a través de las calles de Antigua! Me sentí honrado y privilegiado de haber podido ser parte de esta magnífica celebración en honor de Nuestro Señor.

Siendo testigo de tal amor y devoción por la iglesia y de esa fe, definitivamente se reafirma y consolida mi llamada al sacerdocio. Estas personas dedican sus vidas enteras a la fe, y ello me anima a dedicarme más de lleno a mi vida y vocación al Señor y a su gente aún más. Aprendiendo su lengua y de su cultura, puedo continuar fomentando ese amor y devoción que mucho latinos traen consigo a los Estados Unidos y en especial a nuestra diócesis. Como norteamericanos, podemos aprender mucho de la fe, de las prácticas, y de la vibrante espiritualidad de la cultura de latina. Su testimonio de fe, su profundo amor por la Sagrada Eucaristía y por Nuestra Madre Santísima, ha tocado mi vida de manera tal, que nunca será igual. ¡Gracias Antigua!

*Nota: El Sr. Brandon Williams será admitido a candidato para el sacramento del orden en la Misa de las 4:30 P.M., en la parroquia de San José y San Pablo el 3 de diciembre del 2005.*

**"Un programa amplio de legalización de indocumentados beneficiaría, no solamente a los inmigrantes, sino que también a ambas naciones. La legalización representa una política pública sensata y debería ser considerada en cualquier acuerdo migratorio entre México y Los Estados Unidos. Con el propósito de asegurar la equidad de todas nacionalidades, el Congreso de Estados Unidos debería promulgar una programa de legalización para inmigrantes sin importar su país de origen." (Juntos en el camino de la esperanza, Ya no Somos Extranjeros, P. 35, #69-70).**