

Western Kentucky CATHOLIC

Western Kentucky Catholic, 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, Kentucky 42301

Volume 35, Number 8, October, 2008

Good Stewards Promote Respect For All Life

Dear Faithful of the Diocese of Owensboro,

The "Respect Life Program" of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has been in existence since 1972 and has been the centerpiece of the Conference's efforts to educate Catholics on "life issues." This program traditionally starts the first Sunday in October.

Once again, the USCCB Committee for Pro-Life Activities has sent out a program for this year, and again it starts with "RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY - OCTOBER 5, 2008" and is written to be used in 2008 and 2009.

Disrespect for life is not something new in this nation that was founded on the belief that God had granted an inalienable right to life to every human being. We, as a nation, set out to also bring liberty and justice to all, which to me would mean from the moment of conception to a natural death. From its very founding, this nation has struggled to make these basic human rights a reality for all those living in the United States, and the benchmark in all our interactions with other nations over the years. We are all too well aware that in the over 200 years we have failed to stay true to our original ideals that founded this great nation.

First and foremost is our failure to grant the inalienable right to life to every human being, beginning with the unborn. But also, you have only to visit any Native American community, African American community, the millions of poor and hungry in our country, the homeless, the unemployed, women, people of some religions (Catholics being one), and many others to know that there have been many other unbelievable failures.

As a nation, we have tremendous challenges that face us. We face everything from the injustice of abortion to the unbelievable call for euthanasia. We have made some gains in many areas, but we have taken many steps back in other areas.

We now face issues of life that have turned us, as we were reminded by our late beloved Holy Father, into a world with a culture of death rather than a culture of life. We face such issues as the two already mentioned, abortion and euthanasia, but also the violence of war, a world with around a billion hungry and malnourished people living extreme poverty, with nations where torture and killing is almost a way of life. This sad list could go on and on.

Over the years, the Catholic Church and her leaders have seen this disrespect for life as a seamless garment, one that always starts with abortion. If not being allowed to be born is the law of the United States and many other nations, common sense says we must start there to promote respect for life. However, if we overturn Roe v. Wade yet fail to respect life after birth, we would ultimately return to the point where we are today in the struggle

Continued on page 2

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Eating Standing Up: A First Experience of the Mount St. Joseph Annual Picnic

By Tami Schneider

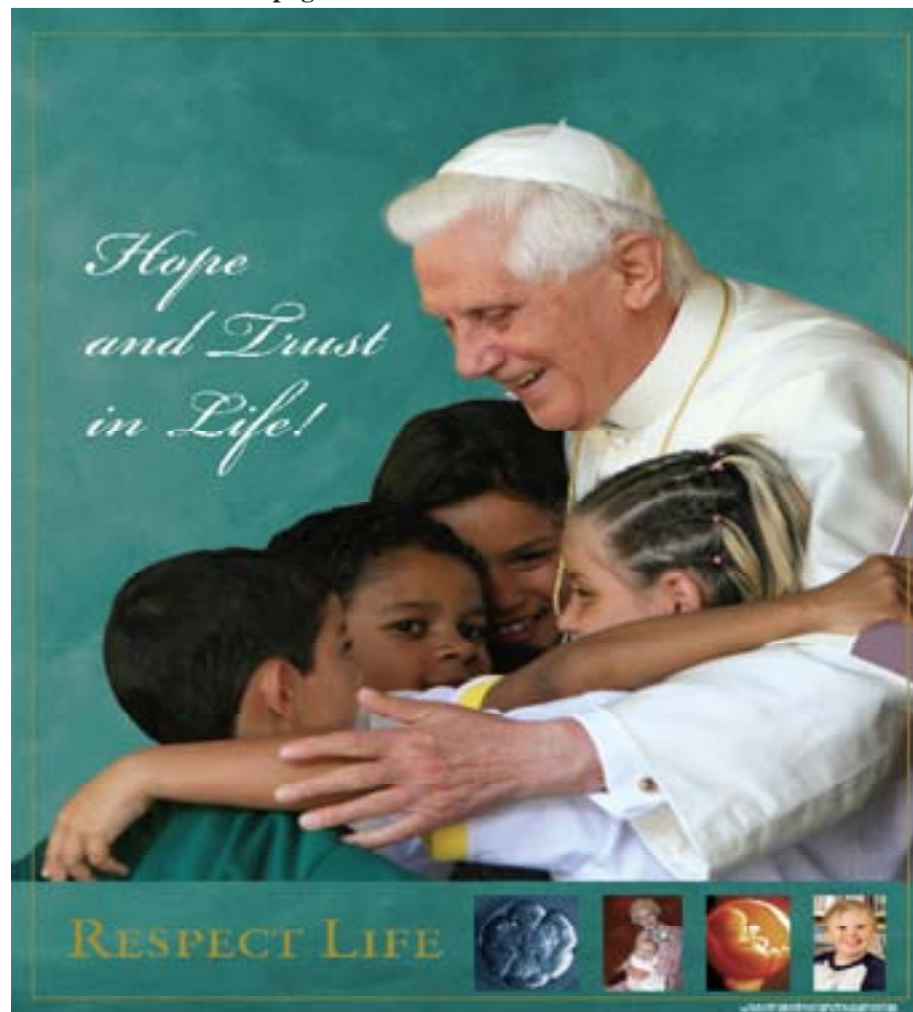
MAPLE MOUNT, Ky. - Blue skies and inviting temperatures made September 7th a perfect day for a picnic. But not just any picnic. Each year, the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph host a grand event to raise funds for their retired Sisters. As a newcomer from the northern state of Michigan, for me, it was really a sight to see.

Hundreds of volunteers buzzed around in their royal blue T-shirts, ready to serve up some burgoo, mutton, chicken, pork, coleslaw, or potato salad. Others stood at stands selling ice cream cones, numbers for the cake wheel or prizes, or to let loose the toy pigs at the pig race booth. Even Fr. Larry Hostetter, President of Brescia University, crawled behind a table to sell beautifully arranged fruit baskets. Teams



Sr. Jane Miriam Hancock selling tickets to MSJ Picnic guests, Nancy Mills and Ashley Williams. Tami Schneider photo

Continued on page 37



Respect Life Sunday is October 5, 2008.

Hope and Trust in Life!

The Church ... is called to proclaim the gift of life, to serve life, and to promote a culture of life. ... This is the message of hope we are called to proclaim and embody in a world where self-centeredness, greed, violence, and cynicism so often seem to choke the fragile growth of grace in people's hearts.

- Pope Benedict XVI, homily, Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral (April 19, 2008)

Good Stewards Promote Respect For All Life

(Continued from page 1)

for the unborn. If we allow the taking of human life simply because of age or serious illness or a handicap, we will not make progress in transforming this culture of death to a culture of life.

Our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, has placed great emphasis on the need for hope. He has written extensively and talks at length on the need for the virtue of hope. Thus, the theme of this year's "Respect Life Program" is "HOPE AND TRUST IN LIFE." Pope Benedict, in addressing the Bishops of the United States in April, said the following: "The subtle influence of secularism can...color the way people allow their faith to influence their behavior.

Is it consistent to profess our beliefs in church on Sunday and then during the week to promote business practices or medical procedures contrary to those beliefs? Is it consistent for practicing Catholics to ignore or exploit the poor and the marginalized, to promote sexual behavior contrary to Catholic moral teaching, or to adopt positions that contradict the right to life of every human being from conception to natural death?"



Many men grieve the loss of their child after an abortion. Respect Life Sunday is October 5, 2008. Photo from USCCB Respect Life Program 2008-2009

So, have we really considered the consequences of this gap between our profession of faith and our living it out? The Holy Father went on to say that under the "American brand of secularism faith becomes a passive acceptance that certain things 'out there' are true, but without practical relevance to everyday life. The

result is a growing separation of faith from life: living as if God did not exist."

Pope Benedict encourages us to be clear in our beliefs, to act consistently with them and be animated in our efforts to transform our culture. The Holy Father, in a talk in New York during his historic visit to the United States, said, "For true life — our salvation — can only be found in the reconciliation, freedom and love which are God's gracious gift."

This "false dichotomy between faith and how we live our lives" did not start in January 1973, but it did hit a new low on that fateful day of Roe v. Wade. I can only echo the Holy Father's plea to us all: "The Church is called to proclaim the gift of life, to serve life and to promote a culture of life. This is a message of hope we are called to proclaim and embody in a world where self-centeredness, greed, violence and cynicism often seem to choke the fragile growth of grace in people hearts."

I end this by asking everyone to consider all the issues raised here in light of being a good steward. God has given us everything that we have, and we are called

to steward God's gifts for the good of others and for the honor and glory of God. If we think we own everything (rather than being grateful for our gifts from God), nothing will change. If we can make good stewardship of God's gifts a part of our faith life, as disciples of Jesus Christ, there is nothing we cannot change.

It is up to us. We are in fact stewards — are we going to be good stewards or poor stewards? Each of us must answer that question for ourselves. Poor stewardship of our faith and other gifts will allow the culture of death to grow; good stewardship will transform the Diocese, the country and the world into a culture of life.

Promoting respect for all life is good stewardship. So it follows, if we wish to be good stewards, we will each of us promote respect for all life.

Sincerely in Christ,

John J. McRaith

Most Reverend John J. McRaith, D.D.

Bishop of Owensboro



Bishop John McRaith's October 2008 Calendar

- 3 CPC Fall Staff Day
- 5 Diocesan Marriage Anniversary Celebration, St. Stephen Cathedral, 2pm
- 9 Kentucky Catholic Citizens' Forum, CPC, 1:30pm
- 11 Mass for bicyclists, Gasper River Youth Camp & Retreat Center, 4pm
- 12 Mass, 101st Anniversary. St. Mary Parish, LaCenter, 3pm
- 14 Paducah Office Day (located at Lourdes Hospital, across from Chapel)
- 14 Diocesan Wisdom Day, St. Thomas More Parish, Paducah,
- 15 Sexual Abuse Review Board Mtg., CPC, 5:30
- 16 Staff Meeting., CPC, 9am
- 18 Deacon Ordination - Daniel Dillard, Holy Name Parish, Henderson, 10am
- 18 Confirmation, St. John Parish, Paducah, 5pm
- 19 Candidacy - Steve Hohman, St. Anthony Parish, Browns Valley, 9:30am
- 19 Marian Congress, St. Joseph Parish, Bowling Green, 2pm
- 20 Priests' Personnel Mtg., CPC, 9:45am
- 20 Priests' Council Mtg., CPC, 1:30pm
- 26 Confirmation, St. Mary Parish, LaCenter, 8:30am
- 26 Mass, 75th Anniv. St. Leo Parish & Candidacy of Uwem Enoch, Murray, 2pm
- 28 Catholic Foundation Board Mtg., CPC, 12noon
- 29 Mass, Priests' Retreat, Mount Saint Joseph Conference & Retreat Center, 11am
- 30 Brescia University Board Mtg.
- 31 Brescia University Board Mtg.

You're Invited To A New Church Dedication

Christ the King, Catholic Church, 298 Bluegrass Drive, Scottsville, KY 42164 cordially invites you to the Dedication of our new church on the 23rd day of November, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. followed by reception.
RSVP (270)237-4404



October 24 - 26, 2008

Flaget Center, 1935 Lewiston, Louisville, KY

• **Keynote Speaker:** Arlene Apone is the Liaison for the Archdiocese of Detroit, MI, and the director of the Detroit Catholic Charismatic Renewal Center. Arlene is a frequent speaker at retreats, conferences, days of prayer, as well as an author and/or co-author of many books.

Catholic Charismatic Conference

Other Speakers:

- Fr. Bernie Weber, C.P. currently at the Passionist Community in Louisville and as been involved in the charismatic renewal for many years. He brings his life experiences as teacher, lay minister, pastor and missionary into his preaching and teaching. He is particularly gifted in the ministries of preaching, reconciliation, healing, and intercessory prayer.
- Most Reverend Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D., Archbishop of Louisville, Celebrant.
- **Music:** Bill Richart of Bay City, MI— Bill's greatest joy is to bring the people of God through worship, to that place of Presence where the Lord moves with power!

• **Sunday Liturgy 11:00 a.m.— (no registration required— everyone invited)**

Sponsored by The Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Louisville

• **Information:** Pat Sloan (502)550-5157 Mail: P O Box 26 Harned, KY 40144-9998 EMAIL: psloan43@bellsouth.net

• **REGISTRATION :** \$60.00 full weekend (Lodging & meals optional) make check payable to Archdiocese of Louisville—CCR and mail to Pat Sloan at address listed below.

Download brochure at: www.ccrloouisville.org

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*to the many
volunteers who helped
in any way
to make our 38th
annual picnic
a great success!
We appreciate all who
attended.*

*All proceeds go to
the Ursuline Sisters'
retirement fund.*

*May God bless
each of you
for your kindness
and generosity!*




Ursuline Sisters
of Mount Saint Joseph
1000 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999
270-229-4103
www.ursulinismtj.org
info@maplemount.org

ONCE MORE WITH LOVE

A Marriage Preparation Program for couples preparing for marriage after one or both persons have experienced a divorce or death of a former spouse. Saturday, November 1, 2008 Catholic Pastoral Center, 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY 42301 Telephone: (270) 683-1545 ext 357 or betty.medley@pastoral.org



Sister Alicia Coomes smiles as she serves a funnel cake at the annual Mount Saint Joseph picnic.

CCK Seeks Executive Director - Full-time position

The Catholic Conference of Kentucky (CCK), located in Frankfort, is the official public policy agency of Kentucky's four Roman Catholic Dioceses. Its mission is to represent the Church and the state's Catholic Bishops to elected officials and government agencies at the local, state and national levels.

The executive director: provides overall administration and leadership for the agency; represents the Bishops of Kentucky before all branches of government; organizes and coordinates the work of the Conference; and develops and maintains relationships with government agencies.

Applicants for the position must be an active and committed Catholic, possess a working knowledge of Church doctrine, familiarity with the legislative process and government; ability to work with diverse groups and possession of excellent speaking and writing skills. A Masters level degree in relevant areas or Juris Doctorate degree is preferred.

Send resumes to Most Rev. Ronald Gainer, Diocese of Lexington, 1310 West Main Street, Lexington, KY 40508-2048

Bishops Intensify Efforts To Communicate With Catholic Voters; Use Youtube, Facebook, Ipod Giveaway

WASHINGTON—As the nation moves closer to the presidential election, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) is intensifying efforts to communicate to U.S. Catholics the messages in the bishops' statement on Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship.

The Bishops' statement is on the Web at www.faithfulcitizenship.org.

First, to encourage Catholics to visit and explore the Web site, the USCCB will give an iPod to a person randomly selected from those who register between now and November 4, to be notified about new Faithful Citizenship resources at www.faithfulcitizenship.org.

Second, Faithful Citizenship: A Matter of Conscience and the Video Quiz with Steve Angrisano, both from the Faithful Citizenship Web site, have been uploaded to YouTube for viewing by the

general public. Angrisano is a dynamic singer, songwriter and storyteller popular with Christian youth.

Third, a Faithful Citizenship page has been created on the popular social networking site, Facebook.

"We hope these efforts will encourage Catholics to respond to the call by the bishops of the United States to bring the values of their faith to public life," Joan Rosenhauer, Associate Director for the USCCB's Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development, said.

The initiatives build upon previous efforts to make this year's statement more accessible to Catholics in the pews. For example, the Faithful Citizenship Web site at www.faithfulcitizenship.org highlights interactive features such as videos and downloadable podcasts, including the recently produced Novena for Faithful Citizenship. A youth Web site at www.faithfulcitizenship.org/youth features quizzes and a discussion guide and was developed to reach younger audiences.

Celebrate Your Marriage

Married couples wishing to celebrate their marriage are invited to attend the annual Diocesan Marriage Celebration with Bishop John J. McRaith at St. Stephen Cathedral on Sunday, October 5 at 2:00 p.m. A reception will follow the mass.

Please RSVP to Betty Medley at 683-1545. Families Welcome!

The Western Kentucky Catholic

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

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. Please let us know politely if you find proofing or factual errors in items of this publication.

Love Crosses the Border

Learning from the Mexican culture

By Larena Lawson

I had the great blessing and pleasure to travel to Mexico on August 5, at the invitation of our seminarian, Julio Barrera, to meet his family. Julio has become very special to me and my own family and it was an absolute joy to be able to meet his family after corresponding with them for over a year. The visit was more than I could have ever asked for, a real gift to me. I was welcomed like a Queen by most of his family, who presented me with a beautiful bouquet of fresh roses and lilies and some threw confetti from the balcony upstairs. Putting me on the spot, they wanted me to guess who was who. I could pick out most of them and when I did, their "Bravos!" could be heard along with their applause. This was just the beginning of what would await me in the 9 days to come; only a fraction of what God wanted to show and teach me and what came to be memories that I will always treasure.

What kinds of things did I learn, you might ask?

When I saw how much Julio's family was going out of their way to make me feel at home, I could easily understand where Julio gets his warm and loving personality. He was raised in a home where the family genuinely loves one another. They always greet one another with a hug and kiss and a friendly "Hola or Buenos dias" or the greeting proper for the time of day. They even take the babies around to greet everyone. They eat meals together around the table and take time to enjoy one another's conversation. Even though they spoke Spanish and I had trouble understanding what was said, I understood, loud and clear, the love that they shared with one another, and with me. It was beautiful to behold!

More than once, Julio's father apologized to me for not being able to offer me more, saying that they are poor, but they give all they can out of respect for me and my husband and family. I had to tell him, after spending some time with his family, with the help of Julio to translate, that "you might think or feel that you are poor, but really, you are so rich; in love, in faith and in family." My



Julio Barrera, third from left, here at home with his family for a family celebration: "You might think or feel that you are poor, but really you are so rich; in love, in faith and in family." Larena Lawson Photo

lesson was that it is not about the material things of this world, but it is all about love and giving that love to others. They showered me with their happiness and love.

Julio took me to see The Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, to the top of Tepeyac Hill where Our Lady appeared, to the ancient Teotihuacan Pyramids, to the Mexico City Cathedral and an emperor's castle. I saw many things that tell some history of the largest city of the world.

The people of Mexico are very pious and devout. Their faith is strong. Their churches are beautiful and adorned with many fresh flowers. They have shrines to Our Lady of Guadalupe everywhere. I was deeply impressed by their faith and their traditions of honor and praise to God and to Our Lady. It was an honor to worship and celebrate with them.

Julio spoke a lot about his vocation and its development. Being able to see the place where it all began, the first seminary that he attended, atop picturesque Sacromonte, the "Holy Hill," which overlooks the city of Amecameca, that is graced with the grandeur of the volcanoes, Popocatepeb and Iztacchihuatl, helped me to better grasp the glory of God's work in his life. I also visited the Seminario Hispano de Santa Maria de Guadalupe, where Julio has attended, and where our Guatemalan Seminarian, Basilio

Az, now attends. Seeing these places gives me a clearer picture of where they're coming from.

As we prepared to leave Julio's home in Amecameca, I was moved to tears by the sadness of his family to see him go. As he knelt in front of their Marian altar to receive his father's blessing, I came to realize just what a huge sacrifice he and his family are making for him to be a priest in our diocese. He is giving his all to do God's will, even if it takes him away from his home and family. He may be apart from them physically, but they remain close to him with all their love and support. I will always admire their devotedness to one another and seek to imitate it, welcoming Julio with love.

Love has crossed the border indeed and may we accept it with as much love as it is given to us.

Julio Barrera crosses the Mexican border, bringing with him his long-standing faith and traditions, the undaunting love and support of his family and his fervent desire to follow God's call to the priesthood, which ultimately led him here. He also brings his love; a love that has already been recognized as a gift from God by many who have met him and a love that he seeks to share with the people of the Diocese of Owensboro through his vocational call.

We not only have Julio crossing a faraway border to come and minister here in Western Kentucky, but there are also three other seminarians who come from distant lands. Uwem Enoh comes from Nigeria, Byron Macias from Ecuador, and Basilio Az from Guatemala.

All of these young men are studying to be priests for the Diocese of Owensboro and all of them bring with them many gifts to share with us that have been nurtured by strong Catholic families and the rich cultures and traditions of their homelands and they will undoubtedly share them with us along the way as God continues to lead them in their vocations to serve His people as His future priests.

Annual Diocesan Marian Congress

Sunday Oct. 19 2:00-5:00 PM

Diocesan Marian Shrine

"Mary, Mother of the Church and Model of All Christians"

St. Joseph Catholic Church, 434 Church St., Bowling Green, Ky. • **Theme: Mary, Mother Of Mercy**

• **Parish Center:** Address by Bishop McRaith, Crowning of Statue of Mary; Speaker, Rev. Wade Menezes, Fathers of Mercy Chaplet of Divine Mercy; Music; Refreshments; Display of Religious Articles

• **Outdoor Procession:** Our Lady of Fatima Statue; Porters, Knights of Columbus; Rosary; Hymn

• **Church:** Exposition of Blessed Sacrament; Homily; Eucharistic Procession with Blessing of Sick; Benediction

• **Confessions:** Heard throughout

Every One Welcome!! Visit The Beautiful Shrine. For Info, call Joann Bradford 270-586-5926



Two Ursuline Sisters to begin full-time ministry in Jamaica

The Western Kentucky Catholic, October, 2008 **5**

Two Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph will start a new ministry in the impoverished Mandeville Diocese of Jamaica this fall.

Six Ursuline Sisters and one Ursuline Associate embarked on a fact-finding mission to Jamaica from March 27-April 2 to determine if a full-time Ursuline presence was needed. After a presentation to the Leadership Council on their findings, two of those sisters, Sister Betsy Moyer and Sister Jacinta Powers, asked the council if they could serve in Jamaica.

The council announced the decision in May. The sisters will leave for Jamaica in mid-September.

"The inner beauty of these people spiritually is transcendent," said Sister Betsy, a licensed practical nurse and former teacher who has been administrator of the Saint Joseph Villa health care center at the Mount Saint Joseph Motherhouse since 2004. "I was moved by the people, because God is very present in them."

Sister Jacinta has been working with the Bridge to Health program through the Owensboro Diocese since 2006, helping seniors navigate the changes in the Medicare system. She is a registered nurse, administrator, and former teacher, and has made four trips to Jamaica.



Ursuline Sister Jacinta Powers, right, visits with Danielle Roberts, a resident of an orphanage in Jamaica, during a trip in March.

Sister Betsy has accepted a position in collaboration with the Mercy Sisters to work in their grade school of 400 students in the city of Mandeville. It's a fitting match — the name of the school is Mount Saint Joseph. Sister Jacinta will not learn her ministry until she arrives in Jamaica and speaks with the new bishop, but she hopes to use her nursing skills coupled



Ursuline Sister Betsy Moyer, right, reads to children while visiting the Diocese of Mandeville, Jamaica, in March. MSJ Photos

with education.

The Diocese of Owensboro first began discussing a sister diocese relationship with Mandeville in 2001, with the first diocesan collection taken up on Ash Wednesday 2003. Sisters from Mount

Saint Joseph have been going to Jamaica for about four years, and Ursuline Associate Mary Danhauer worked as a nurse in Jamaica for three years. She returned to Owensboro this summer.

Mount Saint Joseph welcomes new Ursuline Sisters of Paola, Kansas

The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph will have more to love later this year.

The 40 chapter delegates voted unanimously July 17 to approve a merger with the Ursuline Sisters of Paola, Kansas, and welcome them to continue in the journey they both began with Saint Angela Merici in 1535.

The official canonical merger of the two communities will not occur until likely late this year, when approval comes from the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life in Rome, Italy. At that point, the 23 Ursuline Sisters in Paola will join the 164 Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, bringing the total to 187.

The small number of Ursulines in Paola wanted to free their sisters involved in active ministry from their roles as administrators, said Sister Kathleen Condry, president of the congregation. There are 12 Paola sisters involved in active ministry, and that includes four on the leadership team.

The Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph are energized by the decision, and say they can't wait for the Paola sisters to arrive.



The leadership team from the Ursuline Sisters of Paola, Kan., met with the Leadership Council at Mount Saint Joseph in Maple Mount in January. Pictured in front, far right, is Sister Michele Morek, OSU, congregational leader at Mount Saint Joseph. The leadership team from Kansas is, front row, left to right, Sister Pat Lynch and Sister Kathleen Dueber. Back row, Sister Helen Smith, Sister Jane Falke, and Paola Congregational Leader Sister Kathleen Condry. Some of the Ursulines from Kansas will be moving to Mount Saint Joseph once the merger process is complete. MSJ Photo

Sister Annalita Lancaster, a former superior and a sister for 65 years, said, "I've never seen anything like their openness to the spirit. When I got their letter saying why they wanted to do this, I had never had anything touch me so deeply. Their spirit and their trust in the future is overwhelming."

Sister Alicia Coomes, director of vocations, said she's excited. "I think they have lots of gifts to share with us. They are such talented women. It's great to know we are getting more folks who are deeply in love with God and Angela."

The two communities are members of the Ursuline Society, a group of autonomous congregations that share fellowship, prayer, and similar interests. One of those groups, the Ursuline Sisters of Belleville, Ill., merged with Mount Saint Joseph in 2005.

"One day, Sister Michele (Morek, congregational leader at Mount Saint Joseph) said, 'If you ever want to talk about it, we're open'" Sister Kathleen said. So in August 2004, the leadership team in Paola began discussing the possibility of a merger with Mount Saint Joseph, and sent a letter to begin such a conversation in January 2006.

In the ensuing months, gatherings increased between the two congregations' leadership teams, and the relationship developed. Over the July 4th weekend in 2006, nearly the entire Paola community came to visit the Mount Saint Joseph Motherhouse for three

Continued on page 11

Body Language:

Commentary on the Intersection of Faith, Sex, & Culture

By Christopher West



What Is Marriage? Part I

It is clear, based on our culture's rampant rates of sexual promiscuity, divorce, cohabitation, out of wed-lock births, and the ease with which the homosexual lifestyle is being embraced in the media, school systems, and legislation that our nation is in desperate need of re-education in the nature, meaning, and purpose of marriage. What is marriage? This column marks the first of a series in which we will explore this crucial question.

What happens to a society when it fails to understand what marriage is? Songs often pop into my head when I'm trying to make a point, and right now I'm hearing R.E.M.: "It's the end of the world as we know it . . ." (together, everyone shout: "Leonard Bernstein!").

Okay, I've returned from my '80's flashback. In all seriousness, redefine marriage and you redefine civilization at its root. What is the root of civilization? Pope John Paul II put it this way: "[The] shared life of men and women . . . makes up the pure and simple guiding thread of existence. Human life is by its nature 'co-educational' and its dignity as well as its balance depend at every moment of history and in every place of geographical longitude and latitude on 'who' she shall be for him and he for her" (TOB 43:7).

The sexual relationship — and by that I mean the relationship of man to woman and woman to man, the relationship between the sexes — is the foundation stone of life itself. All human relationships are the fruit of this root. This is why John Paul wrote elsewhere that it's "an illusion to think we can build a true culture of human life if we do not . . . accept and experience sexuality and love and the whole of life according to their true meaning and their close inter-connection" (Evangelium Vitae, 97).

Let's try to bring this into sharper focus. To put it more bluntly, at the root of civilization is the civilize-ation of the sexual urge. The sexual urge is one of the most potent forces on the planet. When properly oriented, it builds up and edifies. When disoriented, it tears down and destroys. In other words, when this root is "civilized," the fruit

is "civilization" — well ordered human relationships working together for the common good. But when this root (the sexual urge) is not properly civilized, well . . . I'm hearing R.E.M. again in my head.

What does it mean to "civilize" the sexual urge? Among other definitions of the word, Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary (11th edition) says that one is civil who shows "high-minded and self-sacrificing behavior." One is civil who shows "courteous attentiveness, especially to women." And — I'm not making this up — one is civil who observes "the forms required by good breeding."

Throughout the ages, in virtually every culture known to man, the relationship that results from the proper civilize-ation of the sexual urge has been called marriage. So, when we ask the question "what is marriage?" we should ask ourselves: What form of human relationship most civil-izes the sexual urge? In other words, what kind of sexually active relationships show "high-minded and self-sacrificing behavior"? What kind of sexually active relationships show "courteous attentiveness, especially to women"? What kind of sexually active relationships observe "the forms required by good breeding"?

I offer the following not to scandalize nor offend, but some things must be said in times of great crisis: Does sodomy civilize the sexual urge? Does it build up or destroy? Does it serve the common good? These are questions that must be asked. Can a man marry a man? Can a woman marry a woman? Can a man simultaneously marry several women, or a woman several men? Can a man simultaneously marry several men, or a woman several women? Can a man marry his sister or his mother? His brother or his father? Can humans marry animals? (Does anyone remember my column on the woman who reportedly "married" a dolphin?)

All of these questions are now on the table in our culture. They cannot be properly answered unless we first know what marriage is. As Catholics, we have an incredibly rich body of teaching to draw from in order to understand the nature, meaning, and purpose of marriage. We'll begin unfolding that teaching in the next column.

Teens Encounter Christ:

The Paschal Mystery in the Year of Saint Paul (First Corinthians)

By Father Eric D Riley, W.KY TEC Spiritual Director, wkytec.org



Father Eric D. Riley

Paschal Mystery through the letters of St. Paul continues to be enriched.

In about the year 51 AD St. Paul, on his second missionary journey, established the Church in the Greek city of Corinth. As the "Apostle to the Gentiles," St. Paul continued to have contact with the infant Church through letters written to the Christian community.

In his First Letter to the Corinthians, written about 56 AD, Saint Paul reminds the young Church in Corinth and us that we depend upon the death and the resurrection of Christ for our own resurrection after death:

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures; that He was buried; that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures. But if Christ is preached as raised from the dead, how can some among you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then neither has Christ been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then empty (too) is our preaching; empty, too, your faith (15:3, 12-14).

This assertion of fact, that Christ rose from the grave that we might have life, is something that we are very familiar with in the TEC movement; it is an essential element of the Paschal Mystery. Yet, do we truly grasp what it means to be raised to new Life with Christ?

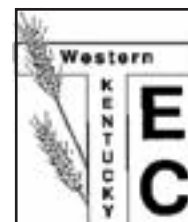
With God's help through the grace of the Holy Spirit dwelling in us and renewed through the Sacramental life of the Church, to have life in Christ is to grow in holiness. One way of growing in holiness is to be attentive to our relationships in this world. St. Paul reminds us "Do not be led astray: 'Bad company corrupts good morals.' Become sober as you ought and stop sinning" (1 Cor 15:33-34). That we might live our lives fully in the Lord, St. Paul tells us "Therefore, my beloved brothers, be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain" (1 Cor 15:58).

In his First Letter to the Corinthians St. Paul also writes some of his most memorable words. He reminds us of the theological virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity. He reminds us that we must allow love, the greatest of the theological virtues, to be our guiding force in all that we say and do. He reminds us that the baptized are members of the one Mystical Body of Christ, each one of us having our own place in the Church and our own work to do for the glorification of God and the salvation of the world. He reminds us to work together so that Christ may be brought to every living creature, and that all might be offered the salvation we have received in Baptism.

St. Paul gives us clear direction as the Christian community early in his Letter to the Corinthians: "I urge you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree in what you say, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and in the same purpose. For it has been reported to me about you that there are rivalries among you" (1 Cor 1:10-11).

In this age of conflict and division, let us rise as the community of Christian disciples and seek the will of God together united with our Bishop and our Holy Father, so that by sheer numbers we may, with God's grace, overcome the destruction of the fallen world and lead the world through justice to peace and security. Let us learn from the folly of the people of Corinth; let us learn from the instruction of St. Paul; let us live our life committed to the Way, the Truth and the Life; let us live the Paschal Mystery in word and in fact. We do not change the world by leaving everything behind and going "over there," although some are called to be foreign missionaries; we change the world by living our God-given Faith "over here," "in here," "around here," right in the midst of where we are at the present. Together let us pray for that grace to live in the resurrection of Christ in the here and now.

Stop and spend some time with Christ in the Most Blessed Sacrament this week. You'll be amazed at what He will share with you, and what He will give you to share! Upcoming TEC Weekend: Christ the King in Madisonville, 11 - 13 October. Mass at 5 PM. All are encouraged to offer wheat.



Grandparents were honored with celebration

By Dawn C. Ligibel

"Wonderful" was the word most commonly used on the morning of Friday, September 5, 2008, as the students of Sts. Peter and Paul School in Hopkinsville honored their grandparents.

With Grandparents Day falling on a Sunday, the school chose to honor the students' grandparents during their Friday all-school Mass followed by donuts and juice in the classrooms.

"It was a very special day," said Norma Folz, fourth-grade teacher at the school who has two of her three grandchildren attending the school. "To be here and to know my grandchildren will leave here with an appreciation of their faith means a lot to me," said Folz, who has been teaching at Sts. Peter and Paul for more than 25 years.

One pair of grandparents, who normally wouldn't have been able to attend, were able to share in the celebration. "We are here avoiding Gustav," said Frank Downs, who lives in Slidell, Louisiana. They had been staying with their daughter's family for more than a week to escape the danger presented by the hurricane. Anxious to get home after hearing their home was spared any damage, they were nevertheless grateful to have been able to attend the grandparents day celebration. "I got a little teary (during the Mass), admitted Antoinette Downs. "It reminded me of when I went to Catholic school," she added.

Of all the grandparents in attendance, which numbered more than 100, many are parishioners of Sts. Peter and Paul and attend mass on a daily basis. Although she attends daily Mass, Mary Langhi, with nine grandchildren enrolled in the school, felt this Mass held special significance. "They were honoring me today," she pointed out.

Honoring the grandparents of the school children



Bill Folz, parishioner of Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville, sits with his grandson Will Groves (first grade) during an all-school Mass on Friday, September 5. Grandparents were honored during the Mass in recognition of Grandparents Day. Photo taken by Dawn C. Ligibel.

is important to Fr. John Thomas, Pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul. "I know many of our grandparents sacrifice so their grandchildren can attend Catholic school," he acknowledged. "We want to recognize that," he added.

In addition, Fr. Thomas also sees the celebration as an opportunity to evangelize. "One of the most beautiful things about this day to me is that typically some segment of the grandparents who attend are not Catholic. This celebration breaks down barriers and is non-threatening," he explained.

Biological grandparents were not the only people who felt honored on that day. In a few instances, "adopted" grandparents attended Mass. Gertrude Flood, a parishioner who sat with her good friend's granddaughter, Kolleen Degenhardt, felt honored to be included. "I have adopted her as one of my own," Flood explained.

In one case, two siblings initiated the adoption. Shyana (fourth grade) and Shane Austin (second grade) Ethridge have grandparents who live in California. But last year, they decided that they wanted a grandmother who lived closer. They chose fellow parishioner June Mahoney. "We found out where she lived and we went to her house and told her that we adopted her as our grandmother," explained Shyana. In addition to



Knights of Columbus members in Hopkinsville grilled hot dogs and hamburgers for their social event on August 27, 2008. Pictured from left to right are Chuck Puckett, Grand Knight Bart Hulsmeyer and Fr. Shijo Vadakkumkara, Associate Pastor. Photo taken by Jim Creighton.

Knights Share Franks with the Fathers

By Dawn C. Ligibel

Members of the Monsignor Willett Knights of Columbus Council #7847 of Hopkinsville held their monthly social event in the backyard of the Sts. Peter and Paul rectory on Wednesday, August 27. The social event was dubbed "Franks with the Fathers" during which the priests of the parish were honored.

Several council members arrived early to prepare hot dogs and hamburgers while all other members contributed side dishes for the meal. According to Grand Knight Bart Hulsmeyer, there was good attendance for the event.

During the evening, the members of the council presented Fr. John Thomas, Pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul, and Fr. Shijo Vadakkumkara, Associate Pastor, with Knights of Columbus jackets. Fr. Carmelo Jimenez, also an Associate Pastor, was unable to attend the event because he was celebrating Mass in another location, but was also given a new jacket.



Fr. Shijo Vadakkumkara, Associate Pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville, models his newly received Knights of Columbus jacket which was given to him during the Knights' monthly social event on August 27, 2008. Photo taken by Jim Creighton.

attending Mass with the children, Mahoney also acts grandmotherly in other ways. "We get to go to her house and do things. Sometimes we make stuff together," said Shyana.

Principal Scott Marks is pleased with the "adopted" status of several of his students. "With our parish community, it doesn't surprise me at all," he admitted. "We have so many parishioners, without blood-related ties, who are very supportive of our school," he said.

In The picture at left, Gertrude Flood, parishioner of Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville, enjoys her status as "adopted" grandmother to her friend's granddaughter Kolleen Degenhardt who is in the sixth grade at the school. Photo taken by Dawn C. Ligibel.

Living the Sacraments: The Catholic Role

"Empowering Yourself Through Reconciliation"

By Pat S. Smith

"To live life to the full in freedom we must overcome the test that this freedom entails, that is, temptation. Only if he is freed from the slavery of falsehood and sin can the human person, through the obedience of faith that opens him to the truth, find the full meaning of his life and attain peace, love, and joy." Pope Benedict XVI, Holy Week, 2008

"What's wrong, Pat? You are shaking. Are you afraid of going into the confessional?" Janine asked me. We were in line and it was almost my turn.

"Not really," I answered. "A situation has arisen at work and I just need to talk to Father and confess my part in it."

"Well," she answered, "there's certainly nothing to be afraid of." I nodded my head trying not to cry.

Now it was my turn. I entered the confessional and knelt gingerly on my sore knees, "aging old things," I thought to myself.

Father welcomed me and I spoke quietly, "Forgive me, Father, for I have sinned. It's been about two months since my last confession."

"Yes. Go on please."

"Well, I've been sick in the hospital, as you know (he had anointed me two weeks before). When I went back to work it seemed like the other three girls in my department had turned against me! I later learned that our supervisor had told them NOT to talk to me. I don't know exactly why, but they were following her orders. I sat down at my station and began typing. I asked a few questions, made a few comments, trying to open up to them, but they just kept their heads down."

Now I am starting to cry silently, tears sliding down my face, licking their salty taste away. I have not brought a tissue.

I proceed with my part in all of this and that I couldn't understand that Donna, who had been my best friend for three years, would take part in this silent treatment. After all, we had lunched together at least twice a week and she and I had confided a lot of things to each other about work. She had also supported me and listened to me for at least an hour in the car after work about my sister's long illness and eventual death. Now she wouldn't even speak to me and so I had started to harbor some feelings of resentment and almost hate in my heart.

I finished all I had to say and expecting to receive my penance and absolution, I was a bit surprised when Father began to

counsel me on what and WHO should be most important and FIRST in my life.

"Do you think these women's friendship really matters that much? You know, you will only have one or two true friends in this lifetime. Earthly friends will come and go, turn against you, hurt you and sometimes you will never know why. I realize how badly you are hurt, but you know you should put your best friend first in your life and that is the one who really matters."

"Who?" I asked, still crying.

"Well, Jesus Christ, of course. He will never leave you, never forsake you, regardless of what you have said or done, or what ill you hold in your heart. Do you understand? Jesus will never leave you, never abandon you!"

I was sobbing openly now, "But Father, I don't know what I have done to deserve this."

"What did Jesus DO to deserve to be beaten and die on the cross on that forsaken hill at Calvary? Have HIS friends turn away from Him? Can you ask yourself that?" My penance was to pray a decade of the Rosary for these women at work and I was nodding, leaning forward to receive absolution, as this question burned in my heart.

I returned to my seat beside my husband. It was the anniversary of my sister's death, which probably did not help my depression. I was crying so hard a gentleman behind me patted me on the shoulder and handed me a clean handkerchief. (I still have it, tear and mascara stained, three years later).

It took me a while for this message to sink in, but after a few nights in prayer for the women who had mistreated me, I began to feel better. Since the iciness of the three women in our department continued, I finally decided that I must quit my job, and start over somewhere new, which I did a week later. (...a little like leaving the confessional, a new start, peace in my life, etc.)

That incident happened several years ago, and slowly over the months that followed, I came to understand what Father had said and this confession empowered me in several ways. First of all I came to believe that what other people said or thought about me, real or perceived, did not matter. What God, through Jesus Christ, thought about me has become first now in my life. What a relief!

This message in the confessional was so powerful that I decided I would take

it to other Catholics and ask about their experiences (in general, of course). I first spoke to an older cradle Catholic woman who said that she really didn't think much about going to "confession" and that she doesn't go any more. I told her how I had learned that Father can empower you and how he had given me that message.

Next I spoke to a 49-year-old Catholic man, whom I will call Joe. First Joe and I discussed how often we should go to confession. "Well, it is only required that we go once a year." Now I thought aloud, "...it's twice a year, isn't it?" (Later I would look in the Catechism and learn that he was correct ... the actual requirement is once a year). "But," he said, "I go as often as I feel the need and that is usually several times a year."

"And how does going to reconciliation empower you, exactly?" I asked. He asked me to explain what I meant by empowerment and I told him my story.

"Confession empowers me by giving me a 'clean slate' and I can start over forgiven and at peace with myself," he said. "But the hard part," he laughed, "is trying NOT to repeat that particular sin."

Seventy-nine-year-old Martha, another parishioner had this to say: "This is a very good message we can carry to our young people. I told my grandson, who has not gone for a long time, that's sure, 'It will be hard at first and you will be afraid; but it will be good for you. Once you start talking, you'll be fine and you will experience such a relief from your guilt.'" She also added, "I don't go often enough, myself. You know that confession is not really my thing. I can talk directly to God and feel forgiven and loved, but I do go some, not as much as I should, though."

What is this empowerment all about? you may be asking. How can I make reconciliation more powerful for myself and grow in my faith. To answer these questions from the viewpoint of the confessor I asked Fr. Jerry Calhoun, Vicar General of the Diocese of Western Ky, and former pastor of Holy Spirit Parish, Bowling Green, to help.

I know sometimes it is just a get-in, get-out situation and maybe the rottenness of confession has caused us to NOT get the full benefit of this sacrament. Does the penitent have to listen to what the priest says in the confessional. According to Fr. Calhoun, "In prudence, the penitent needs to take into consideration what he says, especially in a moral issue. If it is just advice, then he or she can listen to the advice and judge it for what it is worth."

Sometimes we may feel that we can't "negotiate" with the priest, especially on

"The First Purification, Namely, From Mortal Sin."

"The first purification to be made is from sin;--the means whereby to make it, the sacrament of penance. Seek the best confessor within your reach, use one of the many little books written in order to help the examination of conscience. Read some such book carefully, examining point by point wherein you have sinned, from the first use of your reason to the present time. And if you mistrust your memory, write down the result of your examination. Having thus sought out the evil spots in your conscience, strive to detest them, and to reject them with the greatest abhorrence and contrition of which your heart is capable;--bearing in mind these four things:--that by sin you have lost God's Grace, rejected your share in Paradise, accepted the pains of Hell, and renounced God's Eternal Love. You see, my child, that I am now speaking of a general confession of your whole life, which, while I grant it is not always necessary, I yet believe will be found most helpful in the beginning of your pursuit after holiness, and therefore I earnestly advise you to make it. Not infrequently the ordinary confessions of persons leading an everyday life are full of great faults, and that because they make little or no preparation, and have not the needful contrition. Owing to this deficiency such people go to confession with a tacit intention of returning to their old sins, inasmuch as they will not avoid the occasions of sin, or take the necessary measures for amendment of life, and in all such cases a general confession is required to steady and fix the soul. But, furthermore, a general confession forces us to a clearer self-knowledge, kindles a wholesome shame for our past life, and rouses gratitude for God's Mercy, Which has so long waited patiently for us;--it comforts the heart, refreshes the spirit, excites good resolutions, affords opportunity to our spiritual Father for giving the most suitable advice, and opens our hearts so as to make future confessions more effectual. Therefore I cannot enter into the subject of a general change of life and entire turning to God, by means of a devout life, without urging upon you to begin with a general confession."

Source: *Saint Francis de Sales, Introduction to the Devout Life, Part I, "Attaining a Firm Resolution to the Devout Life," Chapter 6, "The First Purification, Namely, From Mortal Sin."*

The Mass

This is the last in a seven-part series on the Mass by Father Tom Margevicius

The Communion procession is over, the remaining Eucharist is reserved in the tabernacle, the vessels are put away and the Communion music is finished.

What next?

Let's not allow this precious moment to pass too swiftly. And for God's sake, don't head for the parking lot early!

After receiving holy Communion the General Instruction of the Roman Missal invites us to observe "sacred silence."

Earlier this year, Pope Benedict XVI encouraged the same: "The precious time of thanksgiving after Communion should not be neglected: besides the singing of an appropriate hymn, it can also be most helpful to remain recollected in silence."

I once attended a St. Paul Chamber Orchestra concert directed by Bobby McFerrin, and he quipped that between movements of great symphonies, when the audience was not supposed to applaud, people were uncomfortable with the silence, so they invented the cough.

Nowadays, everyone rushes from one intense activity to another. Visual and audible noise fills every empty space: TVs drone in the background at our homes, radios in cars, iPods when we exercise and cell phones when we scamper between meetings.

It's as though everything conspires to drown out the still, small voice of God (1 Kings 19:12).

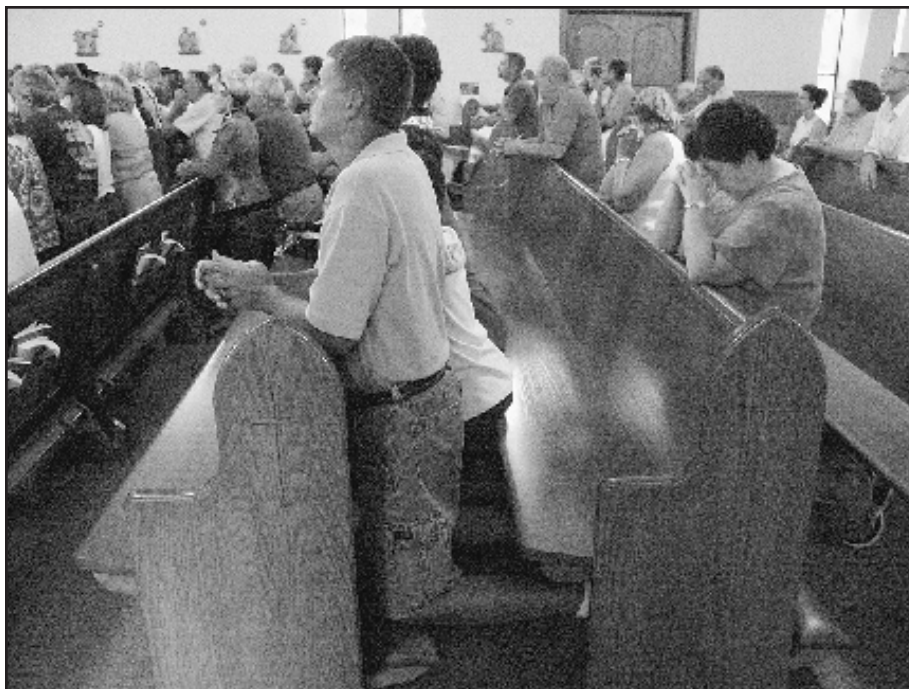
We priests also get bombarded with a hundred thoughts: Have I preached well? Have the other ministers served admirably? What must I remember at announcements? Whom must I be sure to catch after Mass?

Even if all the prayers, gestures and symbols have been done well — the bread and wine, the prayers and songs, the processions and head bows — only one thing matters: Have we encountered the Beloved? He has given himself to us, and how have we responded? Has it changed us? Are we ready to bring him to others?

As St. Thomas Aquinas said, "Nemo dat quod non habet" — "No one gives what she or he does not have."

This is the point of the closing rites: Because we've been changed, we are sent to bring Christ to the world.

After the silence, the priest prays that the Communion we have received will make a difference in our lives. Even in Mass, the silence does not last forever: Our parish is very much a part of the world. So we make announcements —



Thanksgiving After Communion: with reverential respect, Catholics at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Axtel prayed after Communion August 2, 2008.

how can our eucharistic faith be lived in our parish, our community, our world?

That's why the priest finally calls down God's blessing: to help us accomplish God's will in the world. Thus we are dismissed.

"The Mass never ends; it must be lived." If you recognize this phrase, you have been to a LifeTeen Mass. This movement has done a marvelous job of getting young people involved in their faith, and their energetic Masses used to say those words at the end of Eucharist.

But a few years ago the U.S. bishops, at the Vatican's request, told LifeTeen not to use unapproved words, but instead to use only the standard formulas. What's the big deal?

On one hand, LifeTeen gets it right: the Eucharist must be lived, and the eternal sacrifice of Jesus Christ does not end when Mass ends.

But, on the other hand, no celebration of the Eucharist should isolate one group of Christians from another. Greater uniformity in how we celebrate Mass is not ecclesial interference but safeguards the church's common vision. We're all in this together: young and old, rich and poor.

Further, the Latin words for the dismissal — "Ite, missa est" — literally mean not "The Mass is ended," but "Go, you are sent."

The dismissal is not so much a signal that something is ending (as the English might suggest), but something is beginning: our mission in the world. If we rush

out of the church doors, it should not be because we want to beat other cars out of the parking lot, but because we can't wait to tell others about Jesus.

When the two on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24) finally recognized Jesus in the

The Western Kentucky Catholic, October, 2008 **9**

burning Word of God and the breaking of the bread, they ran seven miles back to Jerusalem to tell the others how Jesus had changed them. The closing rites are short, so we can get to evangelizing right away. We've got work to do.

But not on Sunday — this is the Lord's Day. The whole day should be a kind of divine afterglow: We spend it in holy leisure to give ample time for the Eucharist to change our families and our parish.

Even for those who have to work on Sunday, making room for Saturday evening or Sunday Mass reminds them that their lives don't revolve around work, but work must make room for God.

And thus, this series of articles ends where it began: bringing Jesus to the world.

The purpose of Mass is to call us out of our busy worlds for an hour or so every Sunday to worship the Father through Christ in the Spirit, so that this Spirit empowers us to bring people back to the Father through Jesus Christ, whom we have encountered in the Eucharist.

"Ite, missa est."

Father Tom Margevicius is instructor of liturgical theology at St. Paul Seminary School of Divinity in St. Paul.



Father Maxwell Okello, right, Pastor of St. Anthony, Axtel and St. Mary, McQuady, Ky., and Father Franco Mirri, an Italian missionary priest who gave a Mission Appeal at the Aug. 2 Mass at St. Anthony Church, Axtel, Ky, greeted people leaving the church after Mass. Staff Photo

"Go, you are sent."

9th Annual Lourdes Foundation Golf Tournament Generates Record Proceeds

By Stacy L. Puckett,
Lourdes Foundation

PADUCAH, Ky.—Forty-one teams turned out to support the 9th annual Lourdes Foundation Golf Tournament on Monday, August 25 at the Country Club of Paducah. Sponsors and participants came together to raise over \$47,000 in net proceeds to aid Lourdes Foundation, the best total in the event's nine-year history. Funds raised for the Foundation are critical in supporting renovations and building projects, the

latest technology and advancements in patient care to benefit Lourdes patients and the health of our entire community.

"A generous presenting sponsorship provided by James Marine, Inc. set the stage for a new level of community support for our event," commented Tara Miller, executive director of Lourdes Foundation. "We are so pleased and overwhelmed by the increases in both the proceeds and number of participants this year. Their contributions will



The Utilities Dynamics team members are Jason Cates, Gary Zakutney, Kevin Baer and David Mast.



Team members from United Motor club are Kelly Cromwell, Ryan Cochran, Ric Webster and John Eckstein.

have a significant impact in our healing ministry of care provided at Lourdes."

United Motor Club of Paducah took first

prize in the morning flight, while the team from Utilities Dynamics received first prize in the afternoon.

High School Seniors: Life getting hectic? Why not take a weekend away to help focus on what's most important? Teens Encounter Christ weekend at Christ the King in Madisonville, 11- 13 Oct. For applications or more info email wkytcspdir@bellsouth.net

St. Benedict School Reunion

Sunday October 19, 2008,

After 10:00 am Mass

Basement of St. Benedict Church, Wax,
Kentucky

Pot luck lunch. Everyone invited.

Thank you, Betty Miller

Nobel winners talk to 3,000 youths about peacemaking in violent world

LOS ANGELES (CNS) -- PeaceJam Foundation likes to prove that young adults do care about what older people think, particularly adult activists who have taken great risks to change oppressive systems. So when the foundation brought together six Nobel Peace Prize laureates to share their experiences, some 3,000 youths worldwide showed up to listen and to be mentored by the laureates Sept. 11-13 at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. The conference at the Catholic university featured retired Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa, Rigoberta Menchu of Guatemala, anti-land-mine activist Jody Williams of the U.S., Betty Williams of Northern Ireland, Adolfo Perez Esquivel of Argentina, and human rights activist Shirin Ebadi of Iran. When Ebadi called on the U.S. to reduce its military budget by 10 percent and to spend that money on education, the youths erupted with cheers and applause. Earlier she told the press that the U.S. would have better results dealing with terrorism if it built schools in places like Afghanistan.



Going for the Gold

By Stephanie Morgan – Preschool Teacher – St. Joseph School Bowling Green

On your mark.....Get set.....Go! And the racers are off. Who will be the winner of the gold, silver and bronze medal?

These are the words our four year old Preschool students at St. Joseph Preschool heard as we began our first study of the Olympic Games. This year, as a school wide theme, our faculty chose to focus on the Summer Olympics held in Beijing. Each class within our school chose to do their own hands-on activities to give the students their own experience of what it would be like to be in the Olympics.

Preparing for the real life experiences is always a job, but nothing is more rewarding than seeing the joy and fun each child experiences. With real gold, silver, and bronze medals to win with each race, each student was very determined to go for the gold.

The main concept we chose to focus on with our Olympic study was the importance of good sportsmanship, getting along, and supporting other teammates. The Olympic Games bring countries, athletes, and families together from all over the world and we wanted to make sure our future athletes understand the importance of working together and supporting each other.

Hurting from abortion? Know someone who is? Rachel's Vineyard is here to help

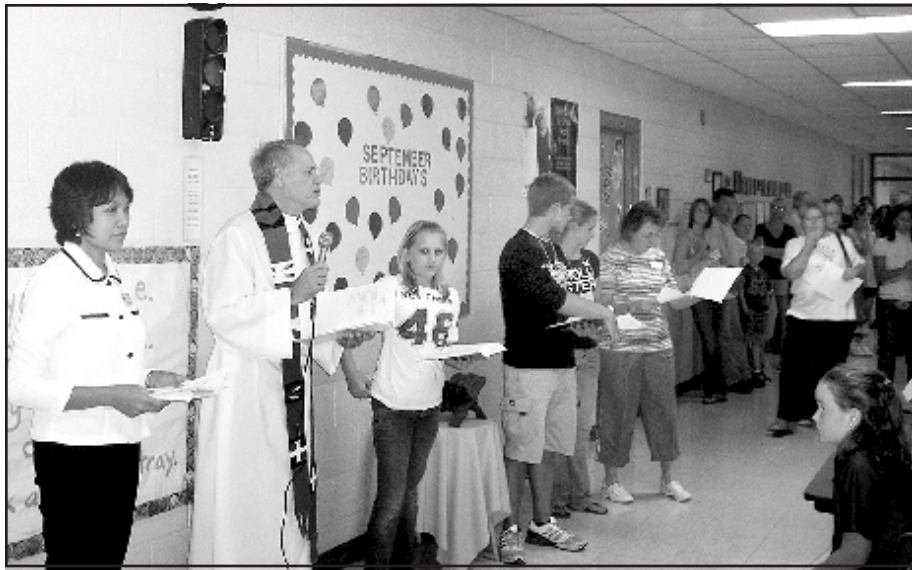
Rachel's Vineyard of Nashville



Rachel's Vineyard of Nashville offers post-abortion healing weekend retreats for women and men who are suffering from the effects of abortion.

Next Retreat:
November 14-16, 2008

Retreat Location:
Sisters of Mercy Convent
2629 Pennington Bend Road
Nashville, TN
Contact:
info@hopeafterabortiontn.com
www.hopeafterabortiontn.com
Phil Trevathan 615-525-8239



Passing On The Faith To New Generations

On September 3, 2008 Father Tom Buckman, Ging Smith, and several Saint Thomas More parish catechists and students in Paducah shared an opening day prayer service. Prayers and blessings were said for all catechists, students and their families for the new school year. Submitted by Missy Eckenberg

Living the Sacraments *(Continued from page 8)*

our penance. But Fr. Calhoun says, "Yes, the penance is negotiable. If I ask someone to pray the Rosary and he doesn't know how, or if the person is already praying the Rosary on a daily basis, then it would be fine to ask for a different penance." Fr. Calhoun says he doesn't see a problem with that.

It is also possible for the penitent to tell a priest if he is being out of line in any way. "In the sense of charity," says Fr. Calhoun, "the penitent certainly has the right to say something like 'this is not really why I came, I wanted to talk about this particular sin.'" There! There is empowerment right there. It is okay to tell the priest that you do not want to discuss a certain issue, instead of listening, making no comment and just walking off in a huff.

On the other hand, the priest also has certain rights. In such cases, as the penitent being too general with his confession, ... "I didn't do right," "I cheated." Then the priest asking more questions becomes a good thing. If the penitent is really seeking forgiveness, more details will probably be necessary. This can help the priest to better

understand the situation and able to give better counsel.

Also it can be a good thing for the confessor to be a little more assertive, and ask questions, such as "Is there some other way to accomplish what I need to accomplish? Is this penance necessary? Maybe there is another way I can solve this problem?"

Through the above suggestions, we as Catholics living the sacraments can come to Jesus in the confessional for forgiveness, but also receive more benefit by opening ourselves to suggestions, talking more, listening better, negotiating with the priest and then, after having received absolution, walk away with a better understanding of ourselves and why we committed the sin in the first place ... and empowered to avoid these situations in the future. A return to the sacrament of reconciliation is a must in these difficult times we are presently facing. Go ahead, go. Just do it! Do not be afraid. The priest will be warm and welcoming and remember, you are there to be set free from sins and empowered to live life, through better understanding of yourself...and to live it more fully.

Attention High School Juniors, Seniors:

Stop and spend some time with Christ in the Most Blessed Sacrament this week. You'll be amazed at what He will share with you, and what He will give you to share! Upcoming TEC Weekend: Christ the King in Madisonville, 11 - 13 October. Mass at 5 PM. All are encouraged to offer wheat. - See Father Eric Riley's column about Teens Encounter Christ on page 6

Mount Saint Joseph welcomes new Ursuline Sisters *(Continued from page 5)*

days, further convincing sisters from both communities that they shared much in common, Sister Michele said.

In February 2007, the Paola congregation officially requested to merge with Mount Saint Joseph. A due diligence study was begun, culminating in the vote held July 17 at Maple Mount.

Sister Marie Carol Cecil, a sister for 58 years, said she's "thrilled to death," about the merger. "We've met them and they seem like one of us. They're extremely friendly."

Sister Frances Miriam Spalding, a sister for 68 years, said, "I think it's a wonderful thing, I think they are great people. We're so happy they're coming. We talk about how hard it must be for them, but they are taking it as the grace of God."

It's a sense of happiness and relief for the Sisters of Paola, Sister Kathleen said. Since the Motherhouse property went up for sale in March, lots of old friends have been visiting the sisters.

"We keep using the word 'homecoming,'" said Bridget Fitzwater, Mission Advancement director in Paola. The Ursulines of Paola and the Ursulines of Mount Saint Joseph were both offshoots of the Ursulines of Louisville. Sisters ar-

rived at Maple Mount in 1874, and became an autonomous community in 1912. Sisters arrived in Paola in 1895.

The Sisters of Paola are stressing to their supporters that this is not an ending, but a chance to continue their mission of serving God with more resources that Mount Saint Joseph can offer, Fitzwater said.

There are 16 Ursuline Sisters living in the 64,000-square-foot convent in Paola, a small city near the Missouri border, slightly southwest of Kansas City, Mo. The remaining seven sisters live within two hours of Paola. How many sisters will be moving to Maple Mount has yet to be determined.

There will be celebrations in Paola and at Maple Mount to officially welcome the sisters, Sister Michele said. "We want to celebrate their life and have memory sharing," she said.

Sister Mary Cabrini Foushee, a sister for 58 years, said everyone is pleased about the decision. "We've certainly been pleased with the Belleville Sisters, they've been a real asset to our community. We're as anxious for the Paola Sisters to join us as they are to come."

Attention High School Juniors, Seniors: TEC Weekend at Christ the King in Madisonville, 11 - 13 October. Cost: \$50, scholarships available. Deadline to Apply: 26 September 2008. Applications and more information available at wktyec.org. Mass at 5 PM. All are encouraged to offer wheat and attend.

Brescia Named As One Of The Best Colleges In The South

Brescia University ranks again in the top as one of "America's Best Colleges."

Brescia was chosen by U.S. News & World Report for ranking in its 2009 edition of "America's Best Colleges" in the category "Baccalaureate Colleges in the South." Brescia received this ranking

The U.S. News & World Report's website says they collect most of their data from the colleges themselves. The data gathered is broken down into 15 different areas of academic excellence. Each area is given a weight that reflects the U.S. News' judgment on how each area matters. Then the colleges are ranked against their peers, based on the tally of the weighted scores. In the category Brescia was ranked in, the focus is on undergraduate education, granting fewer than 50 percent of their degrees in liberal arts.



Brescia also ranked as one of the "Best Southeastern Colleges" by The Princeton Review. The Princeton Review's 2009 Best Colleges: Region by Region identifies colleges and universities that they feel stand out within each region.



St. Paul Catholic School has not had an active 4-H Club for at least 6 years, but we are proud to say that we are starting it up again this year. The 4-H officers are President Katie Clark, Vice President Jessica Robinson, Secretary Maggie Lush, and Treasurer Rebecca Higdon. They took their oath of office on Friday, August 15, 2008. We are beginning leadership training that will be incorporated into this year's theme of Catholic Schools Week.



St. Paul School started the school off on just the right note with a Little Caesar's Pizza fundraiser. The students raised just over \$1000. The top students were: 1st Ashley McKinney, 2nd Lincoln Scott & Kaylie Westphal, 3rd Isaac DePoyster.

Daughters of Isabela "Celebrate our history, keep the flame ablaze"

Submitted by Sheila Thomson

The Daughters of Isabella met in Convention at the Millennium Hotel in St. Louis, Missouri from August 3-6, 2008. The Organization of Catholic Women who are 16 years of age and older has been active for over 100 years. It has local Circles in the United States and Canada, and one in Japan.

The International Regent, Mrs. Elaine Leger, conducted the International Convention. Mass at the St. Louis Cathedral Basilica on Sunday, August 3, opened the Convention. Members had the opportunity to discuss the future direction of the organization during presentations on leadership and the business meeting at which bylaws were discussed, officers elected, and awards given for outstanding works. The Convention ended with Mass, the Installation of the newly elected In-

ternational Officers, and the Closing Banquet.

The convention theme "Celebrate our history, keep the flame ablaze" was chosen by the International Officers and State Regents when they met in St. Louis in July 2007. The Order's history book written by Dr. Carol Clement was released at the Convention. There was much excitement about the book's release since it took many years to realize its accomplishment. It is a valued item for the present members and a tribute to the founding and following sister members who gave their time and talents to the Order.

The Order was founded on the Motto of Unity, Friendship and Charity to promote Catholic womanhood. Through Local, State and International efforts it has and continues to contribute to numerous charities. Presently the International Circle's



Attending the Daughters of Isabella Convention from Kentucky were, from left. State Regent Ann Newby, Regent Martha Floyd from Paducah, member Glynda Turner, and Regent Sheila Thomson, from Owensboro.

efforts have focused on raising money for Breast Cancer awareness and prolife efforts. At this International Convention the members participated in a walkathon for Breast Cancer Awareness. There was also a Baby Shower with members giving

donations and bringing articles of infant clothing. The clothing will be donated to crisis pregnancy groups in the St. Louis area to assist mothers who have chosen to have their babies and not an abortion.

Sts. Joseph & Paul Church is Hosting a Bus Trip

**Christmas at the Opryland Hotel,
December 4-5, 2008 —Cost: \$299 per person**

Includes: Transportation (from Owensboro), 1 night lodging at the Opryland Hotel, Louise Mandrell Christmas Dinner Show, "ICE" with How the Grinch Stole Christmas, Treasures for the holidays crafts and arts, Hall of trees, lots more. There are a limited number of tickets for the Rockettes Christmas Spectacular at \$60.41 extra. Call Faith-n-Travel for more info: 270-389-1002.

Memories of the Early Days at Carmel Home

The Western Kentucky Catholic, October, 2008 **13**

By Mary Rose Shoemaker

It was great news to the people of Owensboro when they learned of the opening of Carmel Home in 1952. I was working at Our Lady of Mercy Hospital in Medical Records Department as Chairman. My mother, Margaret Lee Shoemaker, was a patient there and had made arrangements to enter Carmel Home. After much thought and prayer, she decided to postpone this important step until 1953. I returned from work one evening and she announced to me she was entering Carmel Home on Sunday afternoon about 1:30 p.m. She said my father's great nephew, Father Anthony Higdon, helped her make the arrangements and she would like for me to shop for her - several Sunday dresses, a new coat and hat. I obeyed, but doubted if she would use the coat and hat.

On Sunday afternoon we arrived at Carmel Home. The Superior, Sister Waltrudis, greeted us and told us Mother would be on the 2nd floor. There was no elevator and my brother, Charles, and a nephew, carried her upstairs in a chair. Sister Bernadette, a petite Carmelite Sister with an angelic smile, greeted us. The Sister Superior recognized Mother's eyesight was very poor and said, "We really don't take blind residents." My mother insisted everything would be all right. Sister Bernadette, with her gracious smile said, "We will arrange the room as though she were at home, and all will be fine." From that moment I loved and knew Sister Bernadette had a love for God and understood the problems of the aged. We put mother's bed in a position as it was at home, and the chair near the bed, and she adjusted to her new environment very well. Sister Bernadette was so good and easy to know, but kept busy with the ladies.

I came after work and helped with Mother, and in a short time I learned to do little jobs with Sister Bernadette as she had no assistants, but she moved around like an angel, understanding each lady according to their needs. I spent the week ends at the Home helping Sister. I helped the elderly ladies write and address their letters, combed their hair—just small chores.

I was serving as President of our Ladies Sodality at St. Stephen Cathedral and Fr. Lucian Hayden was the Spiritual Director. He insisted that we go in groups to the Home and have little programs, like singing songs, and also wear costumes for St. Patrick's Day and different feasts. The ladies enjoyed this and would sing



Sister Bernadette Niehaus, D.C.J. And Mary Rose Shoemaker. Photo by Sr. Andrea Niehaus, D.C.J.

along. There was no Activity Office at that time. So from time to time we would come from St. Stephen's for programs. I can remember, before dinner every day, we would wheel the ladies in wheelchairs to a section, and sit in a circle and pray the Rosary. I have so many good memories with Sr. Bernadette and the dear ladies on the 2nd floor.

My mother was at Carmel Home until she became very ill on the Feast of St. Patrick and went to bed to stay, on the Feast of St. Joseph. Mother always prayed, asking St. Joseph for a happy death. Her condition became worse and Sr. Bernadette was so kind to let me sleep on a mattress all night and watch mother. As her condition got worse, Sr. Bernadette had Father Henry O'Bryan, first Chaplain at Carmel Home, to anoint her. Mother never wanted to leave Carmel Home, but the doctor advised sending her to the hospital. Father O'Bryan advised me not to worry as she was not aware of leaving Carmel Home. The Carmelite Sisters visited my mother, and Priests from St. Stephen came daily.

My brother stayed with Mother in the day time and I stayed at night. My Mother was in the dying stage, and my brother and I prayed the Rosary with her. When she died, the Carmelite Sisters were the first to visit her at the funeral home, and attended the funeral at St. Stephens.

I went to St. Louis University to get my Masters degree in Education and Anthropology. As the years passed, I returned to Kentucky and taught at Owensboro Catholic High School. Father Gerald Calhoun was the Principal and also served as Chaplain of Carmel Home. Some of the students' grandmothers were residents and it proved a joyful experience.

A few years passed and Sr. Bernadette was assigned as Local Superior of Carmel Home. Sr. Andrea, her blood sister, asked me to compile a little welcoming program for her, and invite some of the adults who visited Carmel Home in 1952. Among them were many who had card parties, money raisers to help the Sisters in their very meager beginning. Among those participating were Louis Edge and his band, long time friends of Carmel Home. It was a pleasant surprise for Sister Bernadette to see many of her old friends.

Years passed and Sister Bernadette was on other assignments, but managed to get to Carmel Home for picnics, and

to see us again, her old friends. Finally in May 31, 2001, I became a resident of Carmel Home. So many, many improvements with the leadership of God, Sr. M. Andrea and Sr. M. Francis Teresa had accomplished.

Since I had been an Adorer of the Blessed Sacrament, I felt very much at home, again to live happily at Carmel Home with the Sisters and many friends and relatives, praying, and happy to meet Jesus and my dear Mother, Father and family in heaven. Sr. M. Bernadette leads the Rosary, and is busy working as Sacristan and Organist. Sr. M. Bernadette has loved and touched the lives of many people by her religious example.

God keep you with us, Sister, for years to come.

Editor's Note: Mary Rose Shoemaker, 86, wrote these memories in honor of Sister Bernadette who recently celebrated her 60th anniversary of profession of final vows as a Carmelite Nun.

Murray couple visits sponsored child in Honduras



Joyce and Darryl Rezac from St. Leo Parish just returned from a mission awareness trip with CFCA (Christian Foundation For the Children and Aged) to visit Marcos David, their sponsored child in Honduras; Marcos's Mother. Sarvia, is at left in above picture. "Not only did we see poverty at it's worst, we did witness how our \$30/mo has improved the life of Marcos and his entire family over the eight years that we have been sponsoring him. We were more impressed on how our investment gets the families involved in helping themselves and others in the

program."

"Our sponsorship provides basic necessities such as food, clothing, medical and dental care, spiritual guidance and much more. It gives the family an opportunity to live a dignified life, become self-sustaining and break the cycle of poverty.

We are suggesting every family pray and consider sponsoring a child or aged person." Visit www.cfcausa.org to see how CFCA is helping children and the aged in over 25 countries.

Mass Times for Western Kentucky Catholic Parishes, Fall, 2008

AXTEL, St. Anthony
Vigil 5:00pm Winter, 6:00pm summer;
Sunday 6:30am (Mem-Lab Day only)
& 10:00 am

BARDWELL, St. Charles
Sunday: 9:30 am

BEAVER DAM, Holy Redeemer
Vigil 4:00 pm & 5:00 pm (Spanish)
Sunday 9:30 am

BOWLING GREEN, Holy Spirit
Vigil 4:30 pm;
Sunday 8:00, 9:30 & 11:30 am

BOWLING GREEN, St. Joseph
Vigil 5:00 pm & 7:00 pm (Spanish),
Sunday 8:00 am, 10:30 am,
12:30 pm (Spanish)

BROWNS VALLEY, St. Anthony
Vigil 6:00 pm; Sunday, 9:30 am

CALHOUN, St. Sebastian
Vigil 5:00 pm; Sunday: 8:00 am

CENTRAL CITY, St. Joseph
Vigil 4:30 pm; Sunday 9:30 am

CLINTON, St. Jude
Sunday: 10:30 am

CLOVERPORT, St. Rose of Lima
Vigil 6:00 pm; Sunday: 8:00 am

CURDSVILLE, St. Elizabeth
Sunday: 10:00 am

DAWSON SPRINGS, Resurrection
Sunday: 10:00 am

EARLINGTON, Immac. Conception
Sunday: 8:00 am

ELKTON, St. Susan
Sunday: 10:00 am, 12:30 pm (Spanish)

FANCY FARM, St. Denis
Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:30 am

FORDSVILLE, St. John the Baptist
Sunday: 8:00 am

FRANKLIN, St. Mary
Vigil 5:00 pm;
Sunday 9:00 am, 12:00 pm (Spanish)

FULTON, St. Edward
Sunday: 8:30 am

GUTHRIE, Sts. Mary and James
Sunday: 8:00 am

HARDINSBURG, St. Romuald
Vigil 5:00 pm; Sunday 7:00 & 10:00 am

HAWESVILLE, Immac. Conception
Vigil 5:00 pm (April-September);
Sunday 10:30 am

HENDERSON, Holy Name
Vigil 4:00 pm;
Sunday 7:30, 9:30, & 11:30 am,
1:00 pm (Spanish), 5:30 pm (Youth)

HENSHAW, St. Ambrose
Vigil 5:30 pm Saturday

HICKMAN, Sacred Heart
Vigil 5:00 pm Saturday

HOPKINSVILLE, Sts. Peter & Paul
Vigil 5:00 pm; Sunday 8:00 am,
10:30am, 1:30 & 10:30pm (Spanish)

IRVINGTON, Holy Guardian Angels
Vigil 5:00 pm; Sunday 11:00 am EST

KNOTTSVILLE, St. William Church
Vigil 4:00 pm;
Sunday 6:30 am, 10:00 am

LACENTER, St. Mary
Sunday: 8:30 am

GRAYSON COUNTY

- **Clarkson, St. Elizabeth**
Sunday: 11:00 am
- **Grayson Sprgs., St. Augustine**
Vigil 4:00 pm winter, 5:00 pm
summer (changes with
Daylight Savings time)
- **Leitchfield, St. Joseph**
Vigil 5:00 pm; Sunday 10:00 am
- **Peonia, St. Anthony**
Sunday-8:00 am
- **St. Paul**
Vigil 5:00 pm; Sunday 9:00 am
- **Wax, St. Benedict**
Sunday: 10:00 am

LEWISPORT, St. Columba
Vigil 5:00 pm (October-March);
Sunday 8:30 am

LIVERMORE, St. Charles Borromeo
Sunday, 10:00 am

MADISONVILLE, Christ the King
Vigil 5:30 pm; Sunday 8:00 am,
10:30 am, 10:00 pm (Spanish)

MARION, St. William of Vercelli
Sunday: 11:00 am

MAYFIELD, St. Joseph
Vigil 5:00 pm; Sunday 8:00 am,
10:30 am, 2:00 pm (in Spanish)

MCQUADY, St. Mary of the Woods
Sunday: 8:00 am

MORGANFIELD, St. Ann
Vigil 5:00pm; Sunday 8:00 & 10:30am

OWENSBORO:

Blessed Mother
Vigil 4:00 pm, Sunday 7:00 am &
10:00 am, 5:30 pm (LifeTeen)

Blessed Sacrament Chapel
Sunday: 10:00 am

Brescia University
Sunday: 10:00 am, 8:00 pm

Immaculate Parish
Vigil 4:30 pm; Sunday 8:00 am and
10:00 am

Our Lady of Lourdes
Vigil 4:30 pm; Sunday 8:00am and
11:00 am

Precious Blood
Vigil 5:00 pm; Sunday 8:00 am and
10:00 am

Sts. Joseph and Paul
Vigil 4:30 pm; Sunday 7:30 am,
9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 pm
(Spanish)

St. Pius Tenth
Vigil 5:00 pm; Sunday 8:00 am,
11:00 am, 8:00 pm

St. Stephen Cathedral
Vigil 5:00 pm; Sunday 7:00 am,
9:00 am, 11:00 am

PADUCAH:

Rosary Chapel
Sunday: 9:30 am

St. Francis de Sales
Vigil 5:00 pm; Sunday 8:30 am,
11:00 am, 5:00 pm

St. John the Evangelist
Vigil 5:00 pm; Sunday 7:30 am
and 9:30 am

St. Thomas More
Vigil 5:30 pm; Sunday 9:00 am &
11:00 am, 3:00 pm (Spanish)

MORGANTOWN, Holy Trinity
Sunday: 11:15 am, 12:30pm (Spanish)

MURRAY, St. Leo
Vigil 6:00 pm & 8:00 pm (Spanish),
Sunday 8:00 am, 11:00 am
(6:00 pm MSU Newman Center
Mass Fall and Spring semesters)

OAK GROVE, St. Michael Archangel
Vigil 5:30 pm; Sunday 8:30 and
11:30 am

PHILPOT, St. Lawrence Church
Sunday: 8:00 am

PRINCETON, St. Paul
Sunday: 10:00 am

PROVIDENCE, Holy Cross
Vigil 5:30 pm

REED, St. Augustine
Vigil 5:30 pm (Feb, April, June, Aug,
Oct, Dec), Sunday 8:00 am

ROME, St. Martin
Vigil 4:00 pm (Nov-Mar), 5:00 pm
(Apr-Oct), Sunday 7:00 am

RUSSELVILLE, Sacred Heart
Vigil 5:00 pm; Sunday 10:00 am

SCOTTSVILLE, Christ the King
Sunday: 11:00 am

SEBREE, St. Michael
Sunday 10:30 am, 12:00pm (Spanish)

SORGHO, St. Mary Magdalene
Vigil 5:00 pm; Sunday 8:00 &
10:30 am

STANLEY, St. Peter of Alcantara
Vigil 5:30 pm (Jan, Mar, May, July,
Sept, Nov) Sunday 9:30 am

ST. JOSEPH, St. Alphonsus
Vigil 5:00 pm; Sunday 8:30 am

ST. JOSEPH, Mount St. Joseph
Sunday: 10:30 am

STURGIS, St. Francis Borgia
Sunday: 9:00 am

SUNFISH, St. John the Evangelist
Sunday: 8:00 am

UNIONTOWN, St. Agnes
Vigil 5:30 pm; Sunday 11:00 am

WARREN, St. Thomas Aquinas
Sunday: 10:00 am
(8:00 pm WKU Newman Center
Mass Fall and Spring semesters)

WAVERLY, Sacred Heart
Sunday: 8:00 am

WAVERLY, St. Peter of Antioch
Vigil 4:00 pm; Sunday: 10:00 am

WHITESVILLE,
St. Mary of the Woods
Vigil: 5:00 pm, Sunday 7:00 am, 8:30
am, & 10:00 am

Passionist Nuns Monastery
Sunday: 8:00 am

THE LAKES:

Aurora, St. Henry
Vigil 4:00 pm; Sunday 10:30 am

Cadiz, St. Stephen
Vigil 6:30 pm; Sunday 8:00 am

Calvert City, St. Pius X
Vigil 4:30 pm; Sunday 9:30 am

Eddyville, St. Mark
Sunday: Vigil 6:00 pm, 8:00 am

Grand Rivers, St. Anthony
Vigil 6:00 pm (Memorial Day thru
Labor Day Weekends)
Sunday 7:30 am

Sugarplum Christmas Bazaar

St. Sebastian Church, Calhoun Sugarplum Christmas Bazaar, Saturday, December 6, 2008 - Booths Available - \$25. Contact Betty Abrams 270-273-3262 or email babrams142@aol.com or Elaine Fulkerson 270-273-5441. Handmade items, Famous baked goods, homemade candy, Christmas decorations and other great gift items!





A Family History of Working Catholic Picnics

GINNA THORNSBERRY from St. Romuald parish in Hardinsburg took this picture of generous souls - from left, Sue Roberts, Rose Mary Thompson, and Marie Wedding; not pictured here but working at the picnic was Lou O'Bryan, all siblings of Sr. Martha Keller, OSU. The Keller family has a long history of working at the St. Mary of the Woods parish picnics in Whitesville. Here, the Keller sisters posed with Sister Martha, second from left above, as they helped out in the coke stand to support the retired Ursuline Sisters of Mount St. Joseph. Submitted photo

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish SLIM awards

At right, Danny May posed with SLIM Award winner Hadley Jagoe and Our Lady of Lourdes pastor Fr. Brad Whistle.

Myles Miller and Lauren Hayden were also recognized with certificates.



At left, Danny May posed with SLIM Award winner Lindsey Barnard and Our Lady of Lourdes pastor Fr. Brad Whistle.



A Commonwealth of Kentucky Catholic tradition ...

Families Working Together for the Church: Sister Mimi Ballard's sisters pitch in at the MSJ Picnic Holiday Decor booth Sept 7: Ottie Ballard, Patty Fox, Susie Walker, Mary Wimpsett, Sally Goben, Dee Clark, Orline Briney. Tami Schneider photo

Vatican official says Catholic families lead by example

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Italian Cardinal Ennio Antonelli said his first priority as president of the Pontifical Council for the Family is to help faithful Catholic couples and their children proclaim by their example the church's teaching on marriage and family life. "The first priority is to build up Christian families," said the cardinal, who was named president of the council in June. Cardinal Antonelli said he does not think the church and its leaders speak only about problems and attacks on the family, but the media seems to pay attention only when the church expresses its concerns. "We must care for normal families first so that they become a sign for others," he said. "Without examples, how can we persuade others?" The cardinal met Sept. 18 with reporters, partly to introduce himself as the new council president and partly to present plans for the Jan. 14-18 theological and pastoral congress on family life and the World Meeting of Families in Mexico City.



Volunteer Kristy Williams helps student Kendall Winfield with a class project at St. Margaret of Scotland School in Chicago earlier this year. As U.S. families prepare to send children back to school, they can expect to spend about \$600 on school supplies, clothing and electronics. (CNS file photo/Karen Callaway, Catholic New World) (Aug. 8, 2008)



Giving Their Hours of Service To The Community

Four Owensboro Catholic High School students, from left, Ben Helms, Adam Haynes, David Hardy, and Michael Renglein answered a call from Birthright in Owensboro to help unload a moving truck, (below) whose use was donated by Pat Hayden. The load of home furnishings was for the renovated home on West Seventh Street in Owensboro. Photos by Ernie T.

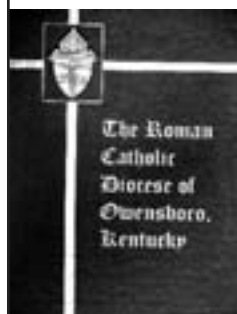


Bishop ordained for New Ulm accepts his role with humility, gratitude

NEW ULM, Minn. (CNS) -- At an unusual venue, Bishop John M. LeVoor, a former parish pastor in Stillwater, was ordained and installed Sept. 15 as the fourth bishop of the Diocese of New Ulm by his predecessor, Archbishop John C. Nienstedt, now head of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Sports enthusiasts recognized the place of the bishop's ordination as a hockey arena partially disassembled and converted into a liturgical space. Between two long rows of Knights of Columbus members, Bishop LeVoor, 62, processed to the stage at roughly center ice of the arena. The new bishop was applauded by an estimated 2,300 well-wishers packed into the New Ulm Civic Center. Hundreds of people formed a long receiving line to congratulate Bishop LeVoor after the ordination. "What an honor for the diocese of New Ulm to have him," said Shelly Regep of Holy Trinity in South St. Paul, where Bishop LeVoor served as pastor from 1992 to 2004. "He's just a very humble and holy man. He truly knows the faith. He'll be a good shepherd."

Diocesan History Books For Sale At Catholic Pastoral Center

\$20.00



Contact
Diocesan Chancellor Sister
Joseph Angela Boone, OSU,
at 270-683-1545
for information.
Or e-mail Joseph.Boone@
pastoral.org

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5:30 Holy Mass
– Fr. Crotty
6:30 Break
7:00 Talk – Fr. Lou
8:00 Talk \– Fr.
Crotty
8:45 Break
9:00 Adoration
Benediction

Saturday

9:00 Registration
9:30 Rosary
10:00 Holy Mass – Fr. Lou
11:30 Lunch
12:30 Talk – Fr. Sears
1:15 Break
1:30 Talk – Fr. Crotty
2:30 Break
3:00 Divine Mercy Chaplet
3:30 Talk – Fr. Lou
4:30 Dinner
6:30 Confessions
7:30 Talk – Fr. Crotty
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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: Larry Abel, Ms. June Bell, Chair, Mr. Ken Bennett, Dr. Charles Bohle, Ms. Susan Clark, Rev. Pat Connell, Mr. William Craig, Jr., Mr. Jeff Ebelhar, Mr. Nicholas Goetz, Ms. Teresa Henry, Vice-Chair, Dr. Carroll Howard, Mr. Dan Howard, Sr. Eula Johnson, SCN, Rev. Pat Reynolds, and Dr. Michele Thomas. Ms. Louanne Gelarden serves as the Bishop's liaison to the Review Board.

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 the member of the Review Board for follow-up. Callers may choose to remain anonymous for the initial call to the Catholic Pastoral Center receptionist. The phone numbers of the members of this Board will not be made public.

You may also contact the Board via email at reviewboard@pastoral.org. Be sure to include your contact information. No direct response will be given by email because confidentiality is never guaranteed when using email. Follow-up will be made by telephone.



XXIX Summer Olympics Inspire “Wacky Olympics” at St. Joseph School

Written by Betty Anne Watt

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. - Students and teachers from St. Joseph School in Bowling Green, KY loved watching the XXIX Summer Olympics in Beijing and learning about them. The Intermediate Grades teams from St. Joe, which includes Ms. Jennifer Quinlan's and Ms. Katie Williams third grade classes; Mrs. Terri Thornton and Ms. Betty Anne Watt's 4th grade classes; and Mrs. Rita Larimore and Mrs. Connie Simpson's 5th grade classes, decided to hold an event for student participation. Teachers called this fun event “Wacky Olympics.”

The students were divided into 6 teams allowing for a mix of students from each grade level. This afforded the opportunity for students in the three grade levels to get to know each other. Each team member was asked to participate in at least two events.

The students had a lot of fun and really enjoyed these friendly, wacky competitions. The events included the Cotton Ball Hot Put, the Paper Discus, Straw Javelin Throw, Left Handed Sponge Squeeze, Relay of six, and the Basketball Toss.

Students were able to gain a better understanding of the Olympic competitions in Beijing, and the value of working together as a team, as well as performing individual best at each competition. We all had a marvelous time at the Intermediate Grades “Wacky Olympics”!



Brescia University Ministry Formation Classes

Introduction to Ministry: Th 109--Online



“God calls and we respond.” But how does one identify a desire to serve the Church, what does it mean to be a Lay Ecclesial Minister and how can a person be properly trained to minister within the Roman Catholic Church?

Th 109, Introduction to Ministry will attempt to answer these and many other questions. This online class will be taught by Diana Matthews, M.A. in Pastoral Ministry, and certified Lay Ecclesial Minister. The class begins on Tuesday, October 21 and will meet online each Tuesday evening for nine weeks. This introductory class in Brescia University's Ministry Formation Program has been underwritten by the Diocese of Owensboro and can be offered to students for only \$90.00.

For more info or to register please call Diana Matthews at: (270) 215-1357 or email: diana.matthews@brescia.edu

Sisters of St. Benedict — Ferdinand, Indiana

Discover God in the everyday. With us.

Benedictine Life Weekend

Are you searching for God's direction in life? Do you wonder if monastic life could be the right fit? Would you like the chance to check it out? If so, we invite you to visit our community for a Benedictine Life Week, October 17-19, 2008, at Monastery Immaculate Conception, Ferdinand, Indiana. Open to single, Catholic women, ages 19-40, discerning religious life. Contact Sister Agnes Marie Dauby or Sister Michelle Sinkhorn at 802 E. 10th Street, Ferdinand, IN, 475632 or call 800-738-9999, or email vocation@thedome.org.

The 5th Annual National Black Catholic Men's Conference will be held in Atlanta, GA, October 10-12, 2008. Connect with over one thousand men, young and old who seek to grow in their Catholic faith and desire a deeper union with Jesus Christ. Sponsored by the Bowman-Francis Ministries/Fr. Chester P. Smith. Please contact Veronica Wilhite, Office of Black Catholic Ministry (270) 926-4741. if you are interested in attending this conference. Financial Assistance may be available.

Brescia University



STARS
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Success Tracks for Adults Returning School

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WHOLE AGAIN SUPPORT GROUP

A Support Group for Separated & Divorced People meets the First and Third Thursday of each month. The group meets at 7:00pm at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 600 Locust St.

For more information call 270-683-1545 ext. 357.

St. Ann Catholic School enjoyed retreat at Gasper River



Middle school students from St. Ann Catholic School enjoyed a retreat day on August 8th at Gasper River. Four houses were created at St. Ann School which will consist of middle school students. Each house will have a saint name, motto, color, and mascot. The "Houses" will each

represent the core value behind the school's decision to group students together to achieve goals and cheer each other on along the way. The students enjoyed activities, fun, and fellowship during the day. Students learned the importance of communication and cooperation through the activities. Pictured are students tak-

ing instructions from Ben Warrell, the camp leader at right; Mrs. Vowels "St. Catherine House" is preparing for the games at left; while Sam Greenwell is listening to his "House" buddy for directions, top left. St. Ann School Photos



Young Catholic Leaders

Middle school 8th grade students from St. Ann Catholic School received special 8th grade shirts on August 8th while attending the retreat at Gasper River. The shirts were presented to the 8th grade students to honor them as they step into their leadership role at St. Ann School. 8th grade students include: Front row: Brian French, Sean Michael Hargrove, Michaela Sherman, Maggie Stenger, Hannah Maloney, and Lauren Rust. Middle row: Maggie Hancock, Bailee Henderson, Megan Greenwell, Dara Ricketts, Alex Edwards, and Jennifer Watson. Back row: Sam Greenwell, Gabe Ervin, Sarah Bickett, Matthew Loxley, Emma Davis, Jeffrey Wurth, and Danielle Duckworth. Students can be recognized by their black polo shirts with St. Ann emblem and a gold cross. St Ann School Photo

Help Persevering

By Cecelia Hamilton

During one's life, we have many choices. If I pick up the newspaper, watch television, or listen to the radio, you constantly hear about people making choices – oftentimes wrong ones. Are our choices driven by our beliefs or by what is easy or what the world tells us? Commitment and perseverance are words easier said than lived.

When I made my Cursillo weekend in the late 1990's, I found help living my Catholic faith. In the past I attended Mass on holy days and Sunday; however there is more to Christianity than that. I learned the importance of knowing God through reading Scripture and other books on our faith (Study). Attending an adult bible study opened my eyes to the meaning of passages I had heard for years – I think everyone in our study group was surprised at the richness we overlooked.

We mustn't forget our prayer life (Piety). Sitting time aside everyday is often a struggle for me. If I start skipping saying my morning prayers here and there, it makes it easier to skip the rosary I say that day. I made a commitment earlier this year to ex-

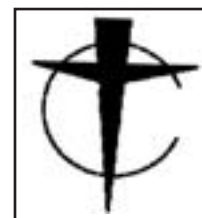
ercise and to eat healthier in order to take better care of my body. Of much more importance is taking care of my soul.

Knowing and loving God leads us to serving Him (Action). I belong to a small group, which meets several

times a month. They supported me by words and prayer, when a new complicated computer system at my workplace was implemented and I found myself working 60 hours or more a week. They have encouraged me to work with the ARISE and Cursillo movements in leadership roles.

Sure, it is easier to follow what the world wants us to believe. My commitment to live my Christian faith is blessed with help persevering. It may not be easy, but heaven will assuredly be worth the trouble.

For information about the Cursillo movement, please call me at (270) 926-4176 or e-mail hamilton106@bellsouth.net.



Hello, I'm new here. I'm Ernie Mitchell.

By Edie Keeney

PADUCAH, Ky. - Ernie Mitchell is a cradle Catholic. He was an altar boy and was educated in the Catholic school system. He married, later divorced and has 2 wonderful daughters aged 23 and 25. He retired after 34 years of reporting the news on WPSD TV in Paducah.

Talking about his years as a TV reporter Ernie commented, "My faith influenced my career. Reporting controversial stories, I always tried to be fair, it is always important to do what is right. Two of the most interesting people I ever interviewed were priests. On June 6, 1994 at the 50th anniversary of Fort Campbell 101st Airborne Division, the guest speaker was Fr. Francis Sampson. During World War II he was the top chaplain of the 101st and jumped with them onto Normandy Beach. He shared several stories that were very touching. The other interview was with Fr. Joe Martin. He was brought to Paducah to speak to a huge gathering of individuals who had gone through an alcoholic rehabilitation program. He was a leading figure in alco-



Ernie Mitchell

holic recovery. I interviewed him and hid the fact that I was an active alcoholic."

Ernie went on to explain, "I have been sober for 12 years. I'm glad to be free of it; with that freedom has come a reblooming of my faith. I have always believed in my faith and the teaching of the Church. However I went through a time of not being regular at Mass and for several years

I didn't go to Confession. I had a spiritual dry spell; I think that is probably true of many people of my generation. I was a nominal Catholic for about 10 years. Something drew me back to the Church.

During the time I was drinking I feel and believe that God drew me closer to him, like a father draws a prodigal son closer. I now go to Mass, receive Communion everyday and go to Confession once a week. I am a Sunday lector at St. Thomas More, once a week I am the lector at Mass at St. Francis de Sales, and I also lector some at the Lourdes Chapel. I think what I learned as a person speaking on TV is a gift that I can give back to the Church and back to God. I always go over the readings at home so I am familiar with them. I try to read with expression so that the words will mean something to the people hearing them. That is something that my career has given me but I don't really miss it. Retirement allows me to devote more time to other interests."

The Western Kentucky Catholic, October, 2008 19

Ernie remarked that, "I had not had a strong devotion to Mary but I had a habit of getting up at 2:45 A.M. and I would walk about 2½ miles with a flashlight and the rosary. I would walk along praying and picking trash off of the street. I knew many people had a strong devotion to Mary and I would talk to God about my not having any real devotion to His mother. I would ask Him to forgive me.

"One day I was reading the story of the Annunciation and I thought about her faith in God and the spiritual courage it took to say yes to becoming an unwed mother. At that time such women were stoned to death. I suddenly realized that Mary believed in God the Father but she also believed that the child she was to carry was the Son of God, Jesus. She completely accepted Jesus and she was really the first Christian. That drew me to have a strong devotion to Mary and I have prayed many rosaries since then."

MARIAN RETREAT

Oct. 31-Nov. 2, 2008

Led by Msgr. Bernard Powers

In light of Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI's call for Christians to become more distinguished in the art of prayer, our Marian Retreat will take us to "Mary, a genuine school of prayer." We will go to Mary to learn prayer in a better way and to pray in a deeper way.

Msgr. Bernard Powers has served God and God's people as teacher, pastor, retreat director, and spiritual director. From 1985-2001, he was associate director of Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center. He has a master's degree in spirituality from Duquesne University.



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www.mscenter.org

Cost: \$45 includes retreat, materials, meals, snacks, socials, overnight accommodations.
Commuter: \$115 includes retreat, material, meals, snacks and socials.

To register for events, contact
Kathy McCarty
270-229-0200 ext. 413
kmccarty@maplemount.org

A flyer can be found at
www.mscenter.org

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Maple Mount, Ky.



MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2008

October 2008

- 3-5 Pickin' up the Pieces Retreat
- 7-9 Theological Reflection Retreat
- 9-11 Saint Luke Regional Conference
- 10-11 Grace Fellowship
- 13-17 Spiritual Direction Institute Week 1
- 17-19 Spiritual Accompaniment: Studies of Henri Nouwen
- 17-19 Saint Mary's of LaCenter Confirmation Retreat
- 24-26 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 27-31 Diocese Priest Retreat
- 30 Senior Citizen Retreat Day
- 31-2 Marian Retreat led by Msgr. Bernard Powers

November 2008

- 1 Yarn Spinning
- 1 Private Wedding Reception
- 8-9 Academy for Young Leaders
- 14-16 Mount Hope Weekend
- 14-16 Scrapbook Swap
- 21-23 Thomas Merton Retreat: Bridges to Contemplative Living
- 22 Choir Festival

December 2008

- 5-7 Biblical Families: Their Stories, Our Stories



Center-sponsored programs in bold.

To register or to schedule your event, call Kathy McCarty
270-229-0200, ext. 413 or e-mail kmccarty@maplemount.org
The Center is located 15 miles west of Owensboro on Highway 56 at
8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, Ky. 42356



2008-2009 TIP Qualifiers (7th Graders) from Holy Name School

HENDERSON, Ky. - The following Holy Name School seventh graders have qualified for Duke University's Talent Identification Program (TIP) by scoring at or above the 95th National Percentile on specific subtests of their CAT6 tests. Through the TIP program, these students have been offered the opportunity to take either the SAT or the ACT as seventh graders. In addition, they receive educational journals and academic camp guides, as well as recognition for their outstanding performance.

Front Row, left to right: Mason Fritz, Katie Vickers, Taylor Warren, Nick Faupel, Carson Thomas; Middle Row, left to right: Tara Prasad, Savannah Vowels, Emily Mitchell, Jo Carver, Hannah Hodge, Jack Wheatley; Back Row, left to right: Michael Massoth, Cameron Sartore, Chase Pritchett, Hunter Morton, Ryan Johnson, and Kevin Zamora. HNE Photos

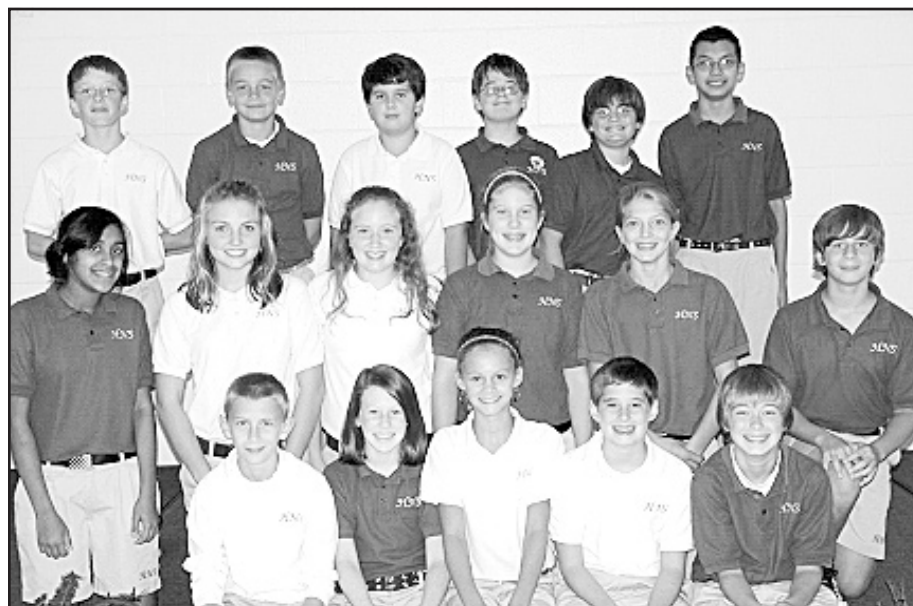


Front Row, Left to Right: Jacob Deep, Quint McGowan, Mitchell Long, Tanner Wilkerson, Will Angermeier, Justin McCormick; Middle Row, Left to Right: Mary Horter, Rachel Tigue, Danielle Hancock, Jordan Delano, Brianna Hengen, Logan Fleming; Back Row, Left to Right: Elle Floyd, Amanda Royer, Henry Wang, Evan Partenheimer, Nicholas Krampe, and Jackson Howell.

Politicians, Community Gather For Annual St. Charles Catholic Church Picnic

Article by Michael Toon, Mississippi River Journal; submitted by Judy Willett

Scorching hot temperatures couldn't keep the crowds away at the annual St. Charles Catholic Church Picnic on July 19. People from Carlisle County and surrounding areas all gathered to enjoy a delicious meal and take home some of the top notch barbeque that was for sale. Children of all ages enjoyed carnival type games and adults enjoyed playing bingo and winning prizes. Those in attendance in the afternoon enjoyed the musical stylings of Edging Kelli (formerly



Pie and cake cutters for the meal at St. Charles Picnic, from left, Anna Mae Pace, Wanda Hayden, Elaine Oliver, Belinda Turner, and Annette Wilson. Photo by Judy Willett

known as Hard 2 Handle) as they rocked the night away.

The St. Charles Picnic was also a platform for candidates in the upcoming election to get out and meet and greet the voters of their district. Since it's important for elected officials to attend events such as the St. Charles Picnic to get a real sense of what the community is about. These events make up the fabric of our community.

The evening concluded with the drawing for the John Deere LA 125 Hydrostat Lawnmower and the drawing for the Lane rocker recliner donated by Gilliam Thompson of Mayfield. Mert Collins of Mayfield won the lawn mower and Mike Young of Paducah won the Lane rocker recliner. The St. Charles Catholic Church Community would like to thank everyone in the area for coming out and supporting the 2008 St. Charles Picnic.

Official door greeters for the meals of the St. Charles Picnic, from left, LaVerne Elliott, Joe and Rosie Hayden. Judy Willett photo

Book Fair Safari

Leann Scott, Libbie Dockemeyer, Ethan Hundley, Dylan Payne, Sabrina Farley) Mrs. Scott and Mrs. Farley guided this year's Book Fair Safari. Our families were able to purchase many educational books and activities for their family's enjoyment. In the above photo, Dylan was the grand prize contest winner, Ethan finished second, and Libbie completed our winners. This fundraiser provides the self-supporting Erminia Evans Library at Holy Name School, Henderson, KY with funds to purchase new library books, AR tests, various teacher resource media, etc. This year's sale netted the library approximately \$3600. Holy Name School photo



Sr Michele, Ursuline Memorial Up Close

Sister Michele Morek, congregational leader of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, poses Sept. 10 with a sculpture of the Pieta in the St. Teresa Parish cemetery in Glennonville, Mo.

The sculpture honors the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph who taught in Glennonville from 1930 until 2001. MSJ Photo

Bridges to Contemplative Living with Thomas Merton

Thomas Merton Retreat – Nov. 21-23, 2008

Based on key principals from Merton's thoughts

Retreat Director – Sister Mary Matthias Ward, OSU

Retreat begins
6:30 p.m. Friday and ends
1 p.m. Sunday.



Fee is \$175
for residents
or \$120 for
commuters.

To register, contact
Kathy McCarty
270-229-0200 ext. 413



Mount Saint Joseph
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Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999
270-229-0200
www.msjcenter.org
msjcenter@maplemount.org

A Scout is Reverent

Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts: Our upcoming Diocesan Scout retreat will be December 5-7, 2008 at the Gasper River Retreat Center. The cost will be \$35.00 per person, and a schedule of the weekend can be found on our Diocesan web page under "offices" and "youth ministry." Our Religious Emblems mass with Bishop McRaith will be March 8, 2009 at 2:30PM at St. Pius X in Owensboro. You can email us at scouts@pastoral.org and you can contact Fr. Ken at 247-2843.



Your Invitation to the Bar-B-Q Dinner and Christmas Auction at St. Josephs Catholic School in Mayfield

Mark your calendars for a special Sunday, November 23, 2008. Beginning at 11 A.M. we will be serving a Bar-B-Q dinner.

The annual Christmas Auction will begin at 1:00 p.m. Some items to be auctioned off are; a weed eater, stone bird bath, a car battery, new outdoor grill, 2007 United States Mint Proof set, utility trailer, \$200 shopping spree from Kings flower shop, handmade quilt and more to come. Along with these local donations will be tickets, admissions and packages from theme parks, sporting events and resorts from around the country.

A raffle will also be held that day with a first prize of \$1000.00 cash and a second prize of \$200 gas gift card. Raffle tickets will be offered and sold for 1.00 each starting in October.

Our invitation extends to all who would like to come and celebrate with us. To find out more or for sponsorship information contact St. Joseph Catholic School, Mayfield at (270) 247-4420. Submitted by Dana Collie



Brescia University students' intramural sports program scheduled a Corn Hole Tournament on August 22 in the Quad. Organizers said they had 20 two-per-

son teams signed up before the 1:00 p.m. starting time; more were coming in as these pictures were taken about 12:45 a.m. In the photo at left, Bres-

cia Admission counselors Terri Higdon (Brescia '07), from Knottsville, and James Dennison (Brescia



'05), from Owensboro, practiced before the tournament. Staff Photos

Moments in the 38th Annual Mount Saint Joseph Picnic Sept. 7



Left, a teen volunteer smiles as a little "fisherman" gets his prize at the fish pond booth at the picnic. Right, Several parishes signed up to help at the Mount Saint Joseph picnic, including a large number of volunteers who grilled the barbecue chicken, pork and mutton and made burgoo. Below, Sister Mary Henning, chair of the flowers and plants booth, prepares items that will be sold in her picnic booth. MSJ Photos



Volunteers Needed in October 2008 to Help Sort, Inventory, Load Items for Mandeville Shipment of Goods

By Richard Murphy

OWENSBORO, Ky. - A collection of needed items requested by parishes and institutions in the Diocese of Mandeville, Jamaica, is underway by our Diocese. It began on August 1 and goes through October 10, 2008, the tentative date to load. The needed items will be collected at the former site of the old St. Vincent DePaul Store at 1001 West 7th Street in Owensboro Ky.

The Diocese is partnering with Food for the Poor in this process to cover the transportation costs of the container. Food for the Poor works with groups and organizations around the United States to supply shipping containers to get cargo to those countries in the Caribbean Basin with which it works. The date of our loading is subject to change depending on Food for the Poor's access to shipping containers in the USA, and its rules governing this process.

Here are the packing instructions needed: clearly label the inventory of the contents in the boxes with the name of the item(s) and quantity of each item on a slip on the outside of the box. Also, please label where these items are destined to go on the box; probably a generic type label that would be self adhesive would do. Note: please place the inventory label and the notation about the destination on the width side of a rectangular box, and not on the length side, top or bottom. This consistent method makes it easier to determine where things need to go that way and the label has less of a chance of tearing off in shipment.

The date to bring collected goods in for the collection was September 30, 2008, but an arrangement can be made for a necessary later date.

Individuals and groups will be needed to complete the detailed work required to assure that the items are ready to go.

Here is a scheduled list of dates and times of work opportunities for potential volunteers who may wish to assist in the project. Please note that the site of the work will be at 1001 West 7th Street in Owensboro.

Wednesday, October 1 from 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM

Thursday, October 2 from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Saturday October 4 from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM

Tuesday, October 7 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Wednesday, October 8 from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Friday, October 10 from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM (Note: the tentative Loading Day)

The Western Kentucky Catholic, October, 2008 23

Many Hands Make Light Work

All are welcome to participate in this project. It was truly a labor of love for our Diocese to ship the items that were sent in both November 2004 and October 2006. Countless people throughout the Diocese collected a wide range of goods for our Sister Diocese, and nearly 100 people were involved with processing and loading the trailer. Once again your generosity is counted on to meet the needs of a great people that seek assistance in carrying out the mission of the gospel. Please consider answering this call.

For more information call Richard Murphy at 270/ 683-1545 or email him at Richard.Murphy@pastoral.org.

A BEAUTIFUL DEATH

By Betty Medley



I had heard some people in my bereavement support group talk about experiencing a "beautiful death" with their loved ones. Others challenged them on this, especially if they had lost their loved one

through a car accident, suicide, cancer or some other cause. I honestly couldn't believe there could possibly be such a thing as a "beautiful death" until Friday, July 4, 2008.

My mother had suffered from Alzheimer's for almost eight years. My dad had been her caregiver until a little over two years ago. He did everything he could for her until it became too difficult and dangerous for her to remain at home. My mom was placed in a rest home in which she received excellent care. She remained there until her death July 4, 2008.

The phone rang around 5:00am that morning and on the other end was my sister telling me I needed to come to the rest home. My mom was not doing well and they had called the family to come. It doesn't matter how old or sick the person may be this is not something a person is

ever ready for.

I remember getting dressed and praying the entire time. I can't recall driving from my home to the rest home but I got there as quickly as possible. I remember saying one of the prayers my mom would always say when driving, "Jesus, Mary & Joseph be with me on my way." They helped me arrive safely!

From the time I left my home until I got to the rest home I can't recall anything. The only thing I do remember was walking into the room seeing my mom laying in the bed with oxygen on and looking much worse than she had the day before. I remember sitting on the side of the bed holding her hand, talking to her letting her know we were all going to be there by her side, and that I loved her.

Before long my dad, brothers, sisters, aunt & uncle, priest and nuns were all standing over my mom's bed praying and watching while my mom moved her lips as she was praying along with us.

My mom was the most faithful woman I had ever known. I can honestly say I know my mom is in heaven and is with me everyday. You see, she would pray everyday when we would finish the rosary that she would die a beautiful death. She truly did have exactly what she had prayed for. Her faith was such an inspiration to all of us. It was a true testimony that we must have faith and believe that God will take care of us.

101st Anniversary Of St. Mary Parish In Lacer, Kentucky

LaCENTER, Ky. - The parish of St. Mary's, LaCenter, will kick off its second century with a special Mass on Oct. 12 at 3:00 p.m. (CST), celebrated by Bishop John J. McRaith. A program will follow.

Everyone is invited to the Mass, especially former parish members and priests and religious who have served at the Ballard County church. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Sr. Teresa Reilly at 270-665-5551 or email stmcc@brtc.net. Please note that the time of the celebration is 3:00 p. m. (CST), not 2:00 p. m. as stated in the August issue of Western Kentucky Catholic.

A very large number of priests have served as pastors or associate pastors during the parish's 101 years. Listed below are the names of priests that were inadvertently omitted from the article in the August, 2008 Western Kentucky Catholic. These names came from the Archives at the Catholic Pastoral Center in Owensboro and/or from records at St. Mary Church - Albert Thompson (1939-48); Louis F. Millard (1940); Charles DeNardi (1958-61); Benedict Huff (1958-59); William Fields (1960-61, 63-65); Robert Whelan (1961); Martin Nahstall (1962); Leonard Alvey (1962); William McAtee (1963); Robert Wilson ((1965, 67-69); Francis Mastrovito (1967-69); Thomas Murphy (1973); Paul Pike Powell (1980-82); Martin Mattingly (1984); Patrick Bittel (1984); W. Jerry Riney (1996); Henry Wieder (1997-2001); Eric Riley (1998-99); Ken Mikulcik (2000-2001); Dan Kreutzer (2002-2003); David Willett (2005 (3 months).

When we lose our mothers, we lose much that can't be replaced. There is an intimacy between mother and child that makes human touch both natural and comforting and cannot be replicated. The death of my mother meant I had lost her hug and caress. I had lost the complete physical acceptance that my mother or any mother can give. Just because she had Alzheimer's didn't mean that she couldn't hug, touch, or kiss us. She would always say, "I love you and be careful." This was something she did all the time.

I have been left with much to cherish - memories, unique personality traits and strengths, wisdom and hopefully an example that can inspire me to offer nurturing love to those who remain in my life. A mother's love, after all, is never lost if it is passed on.

As painful and difficult as it was to let her go and not have her with us, but knowing she is wrapped in the arms of God and we will see her again someday gives us all peace and consolation.

The Saint Paul Pilgrimage

Pope Benedict XVI asked the whole church to draw inspiration from the jubilee year dedicated to St. Paul and to imitate the apostle's courageous missionary efforts. To join our diocese of Owensboro celebrations with the nine Rome pilgrimage sites linked to the life of St. Paul during the jubilee year, the Offices of Wisdom and Lay Ministry and Formation sponsored two bus trips to four western Kentucky Catholic churches named for Saint Paul as well as St. Stephen Cathedral. The day trips stopped at Sts Joseph and Paul, Owensboro, St. Paul, Grayson Co., Sts Peter and Paul, Hopkinsville, and St. Paul in Princeton. During each pilgrimage the Sacrament of Reconciliation was offered as well as Mass so pilgrims could gain a plenary indulgence. They learned histories of each parish at each stop as well as the story of Saint Paul's conversion and ministries.

All Photos of St. Paul Pilgrimage take by Ginny Knight-Simon



Patty Blair, Brenda Kelly and Mary Helen Nash smile at the camera on August 21 while waiting in line for at Sts. Peter and Paul parish in Hopkinsville.



In picture at left, Frs. Shaiju Thomas and Marty Hayes lead the lunch line at St. Paul in Princeton. Fr. Shaiju and Fr. Buckman were available for confessions at lunch. Many of the ladies were interested in the beautiful altar linens Fr. Shaiju brought with him from India.



Friends Margaret Mills and Sharlene Hatfield pause for a moment while strolling the grounds at St. Paul church in Princeton, KY

In the picture at right, Fr. Mark Buckman and Harold Crisp have a conversation during lunch on August 27, 2008 at St. Paul's in Princeton.



Fr. Marty Hayes accompanied his parish group from St. Paul in Grayson County on a St. Paul pilgrimage. They all come together at Sts. Joseph and Paul church for a group photo on August 27, 2008. In the above inset, Ken Caselden, welcomes the pilgrims to Sts. Joseph and Paul in Owensboro.



Fr. John Thomas welcomes the St. Paul Pilgrims to Sts. Peter & Paul in Hopkinsville on August 27, 2008.



The Saint Paul Pilgrimage

Wisdom by Ginny Knight-Simon

The Western Kentucky Catholic, October, 2008 **25**



At left, Libby Downs, Pastoral Associate at Sts. Peter & Paul Parish in Hopkinsville, joins a pilgrim group for the welcoming at the church. Libby was always the first person from the parish the bus group saw when they arrived. She was there with outstretched arms welcoming the bus to the church.

In Center, Renee Milner, secretary at St. Paul in Grayson, listens as the group tours Sts. Peter and Paul



At right, Ola Higdon listens as the group tours the Scracity at Sts. Peter and Paul.



Friends Diddy Hagman and Nancy Greenwell give us big smiles on August 21, 2008



Martha Stewart, of St. Paul's in Princeton, explains Market Days to the group from St. Paul, in Grayson County. Market Day is a special day for the youth in the parish along with youth from other churches in the community..



Jerry Brockman, group tour director from Sts. Peter and Paul describes some of the beautiful statues and artwork in the church. All Photos of St. Paul Pilgrimage take by Ginny Knight-Simon

St. Paul's Annual Car Show raised over \$3,700



Sister Anne Michelle Mudd (Principal and K-2 Grade teacher wearing an Elvis apron) presenting Sister's Pick Trophy to A. D. Elmore. That's a picture of his 1967 GTO on his shirt.



St. Paul's 7th Grade student Zackery Robinson got a rare chance to sit in this beautiful Red Mustang convertible owned by Jerry Lindsey of Leitchfield.



Showcase of the wonderful selection of tractors that were entered.



Not only are the car & trucks fascinating, but the company is cool too.

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE

By Edie Keeney

PADUCAH, Ky. - Pearl Welch was received into the Catholic Church in May 2008. That in its self is not exceptional; lots of people join the Catholic Church. What is unusual is that Pearl was 94 years old. This all came about when her niece mentioned to Fr. Brian Roby who mentioned to the pastor of St. Leo in Murray, Fr. Mike Williams, that Pearl wanted to join the Church. Fr. Mike passed the word to Sr. Georgia Acker, OP and Sr. Jerri Hoye, OP. The nuns visited with Pearl and brought her some literature to read. "Pearl was really ready. She has been a religious person all of her life, even before we met her she has been reading and preparing for the Sacraments," Sr. Georgia commented, "Pearl was way ahead of the game. She is an absolutely delightful person, I really enjoyed the times we spent with her."

Pearl was eager to talk about her life and how she came to this point in her life. She grew up in Van Lear in Eastern Kentucky; the same small coal mining town where Loretta Lynn grew up. The family belonged to the Methodist Church but all of Pearl's friends were Catholic. Pearl recounted the early years of her life, "There was a small Catholic Church in Van Lear and I would go with my friends to church quite often. I mar-

ried when I was 18 and had one daughter. I was divorced and was single about 25 years. I worked in the post office in Van Lear and later I worked for the telephone company in Louisville, Kentucky. I was transferred to West Virginia and retired after working for the company for 32 years. During that time I remarried. My second husband was born and raised a Catholic but didn't practice his faith. My father was in a nursing home in West Virginia and after he died my husband and I moved to Murray to be close to my daughter."

Pearl's daughter and her family are all practicing Catholics. Pearl has 1 granddaughter and 2 grandsons, and the niece who mentioned to Fr. Roby that her husband's grandmother wanted to join the Catholic Church, is the wife of one of the grandsons. Pearl explained, "She (Julie McCourt) was the instigator in this. She wouldn't stop talking about it until I said 'yes'. I feel wonderful about it; I'm only sorry it didn't happen sooner. I can't walk now and I can't get to Mass anymore but I watch the Mass on TV every Sunday and there is also a daily Catholic TV program I watch. I did get to go to my great grandson's First Communion at St. Francis de Sales in Paducah. I think it is such a beautiful



Pearl Welch posed with her great-grandson, James McCoart, at the time of his First Eucharist. He is the son of Pearl's daughter Julie McCoart and William McCoart. Julie McCoart photo

church and I just love it. Fr. Mike, Sr. Jerri and Sr. Georgia came to my house and my family was there. I felt very fortunate to be able to receive the Sacraments and Communion for the first time. It was very touching and moving experience for me. It made me feel mighty good to be received into the Church."

Along with other family members, Julie and her family and the nuns attended the ceremony at Pearl's house. Julie explained, "After Pearl said 'yes' she was really eager and could hardly wait for it to happen. She read all the books that the nuns gave her and talked a lot about coming into the Church. I honestly had thought she was Catholic. She always gave her family rosaries for

Fall Day of Wisdom

Presented by the Diocesan Office of Wisdom

You are invited to join us for the Fall Day of Wisdom on Tuesday October 14, 2008 at St. Thomas Parish Hall in Paducah, KY. The day begins with coffee at 9 a.m. and program starting at 9:30 a.m. The day includes topics of motivation from Phyllis McElwain, PhD, Behavioral Health, Author, and national speaker: Stewardship: A way of life for Today's Disciple from Jose De Jesus, President Millenium Consulting.

The day includes lunch, door prizes, fun, and fellowship. Make your reservation now by contacting: Ginny Knight-Simon at 270-683-1545 or email at ginny.knight-simon@pastoral.org Reservation deadline October 10, 2008

Christmas and she went to Mass when she was able and also watched Mass on TV and I really did think she was Catholic. She is such a wonderful person; I am so happy for her."

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Strongly Supports World Priest Day This October

San Bernardino, CA - Strong support for the Catholic Church's Priesthood Sunday, set for October 26, 2008, was announced today by the National Secretariat of Worldwide Marriage Encounter.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter has for many years held a World Priest Day to honor and acknowledge all priests who lead the Catholic Church. This year's event coincides with a similar event observed by the Serra Club.

"The mission and purpose of World Priest Day is to celebrate and affirm the men who commit their lives to the Lord and the Church via the Sacrament of Holy Orders. It is an opportunity for Catholic parishioners to thank, affirm and share their love and support for priests," said Tony and Cathy Witzak, the WWME National Secretariat Team. They serve in that role with Fr. Emile Frishe, who forms the ecclesial team for WWME.

The national ecclesial team further explained World Priest Day by saying, "It is designed to be a day or several days to rejoice in the Sacrament of Holy Orders. On this day, or during the week preced-

ing or following it, Catholics across the country are encouraged to develop one or several experiences to affirm priests. This will be a unique occasion for reaching out to priests."

In its eight-year history World Priest Day has grown all over the country. With parishioners, and many Worldwide Marriage Encounter couples, taking priests from their parishes out to dinner or having a special celebration acknowledging their service to the Catholic Church.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends start on a Friday evening and end on Sunday afternoon. Couples hear a presentation by a couple and priest and are asked to write down their thoughts and feelings, then go to share in the privacy of their room. There is no group discussion. Weekends are held in various locations, including hotels and retreat centers.

To learn more about the Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends you can call 1-800-795-LOVE or go online to www.wwme.org or call the national office at (909) 863-9963.



Marriage Encounter at Maple Mount

The Worldwide Marriage Encounter held its 1st weekend at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center in four years. The renewing, life-giving weekend was experienced by 14 married couples from the Owensboro area. "I've rediscovered my best friend," and "Our busy lives had distanced us -- we feel in love again," were common. Worldwide Marriage Encounter is hoping to bring another weekend to Maple Mount in 2009. MSJ Photo

Fathers of Mercy Celebrate 200 Years

By Galen and Pat S. Smith

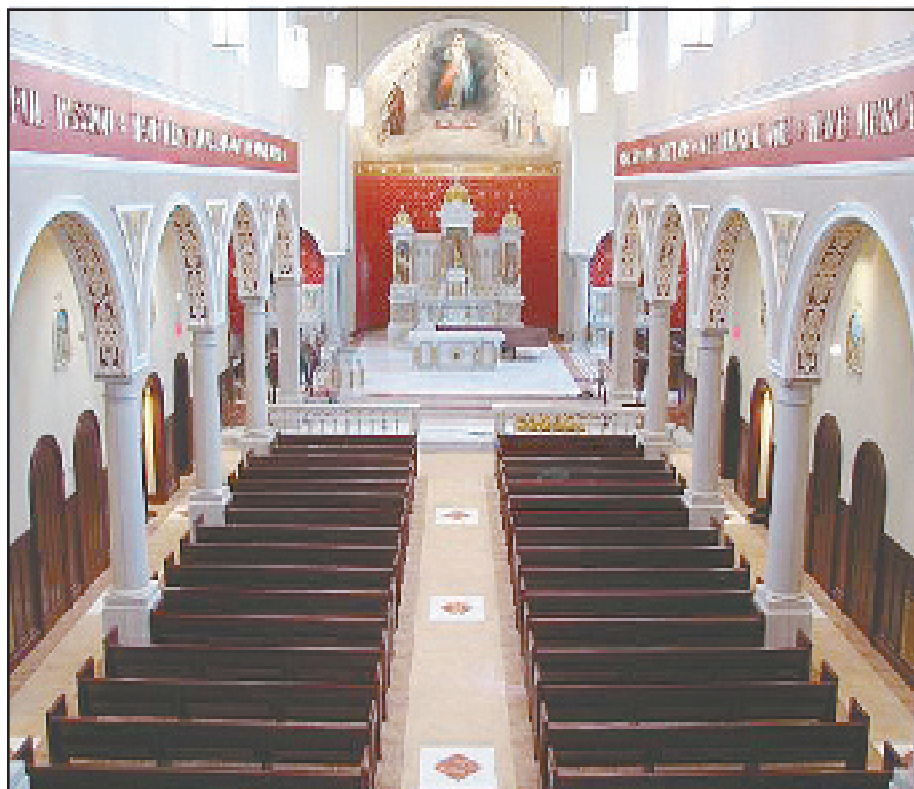
SOUTH UNION, Ky. — The Fathers of Mercy held a three day conference September 5-7, celebrating 200 years of formation from 1808-2008 at their new “The Chapel of Divine Mercy” which was dedicated on Aug. 23 by Bishop John McRaith in South Union, just 12 miles west of Bowling Green.

Friday night activities began in the new chapel which can seat up to 350 with the processional of the Fathers, with Fr. Bill Casey, Superior General who was wearing the 200 year-old vestment of Fr. John Baptiste Rauzan, born December 5, 1757, and died on September 5, 1847.

Fr. Louis Capporizzo of the Fathers of Mercy was the evening Mass homilist and presented a history of their Founding Father Rauzan. Fr. Lou spoke on the attitude of trust which was a major precept of Fr. Rauzan. He said that trust is not



The new Chapel of Divine Mercy at South Union. Pat Smith photo

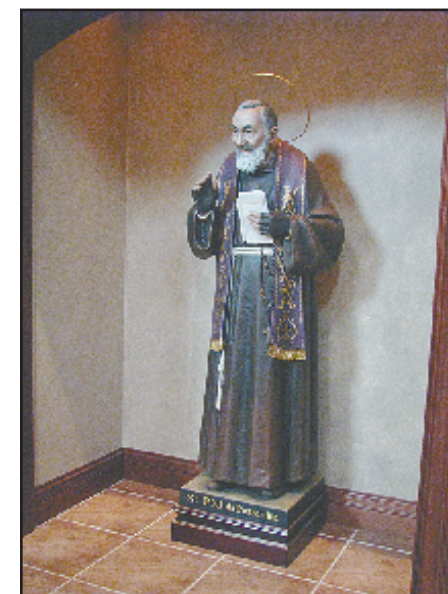


A view of the sanctuary and nave from the choir loft in the Chapel of Divine Mercy near the end of construction. In the spring of 2006 the Fathers of Mercy began construction on the Chapel of Divine Mercy. This chapel took over 2 years to construct and in August of 2008 was consecrated. It is open to the general public, people of all faiths are welcome, from approximately 7am-7pm CST daily. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is celebrated in the Chapel daily at 8am and on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation at 10am CST. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fathers_of_Mercy

In the picture at right, the interior ceiling of the Chapel of Divine Mercy at South Union shows the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Angels adorn each side of the Sacred Heart and the inscription underneath reads “Jesus I Trust in You.”

an abstract concept; it is very concrete proven by doing God’s will, consenting to the upsetting of our own human will. He said that we should not just do God’s will when it feels good, but even when it does not. “Carrying out our duties shows we are faithful, ... and trusting God,” he added, “is the highest degree of trust.” Abandonment to God’s will, letting God do with us as He will is the highest trust we can have, showing complete self abandonment. After Mass, there was a music concert with Catholic Christian recording artist Marie Bellet of Nashville, Tennessee.

On Saturday, Sept. 6, Fr. David Wil-



Saint Pio of Pietrelcina statue in The Chapel of Divine Mercy. Tami Schneider photo

ton, CPM, of the Fathers of Mercy was the main celebrant and homilist during Holy Mass. There was a breakfast break afterwards. One of the highlights during the conference was Fr. Peter Austin, PP, of Sanhurst Diocese, Australia, who presented a talk “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you will be my witnesses.” Afterwards, there was a blessing with Lourdes water and children’s activities taking place outside.

After a lunch break, there was music with Marie Bellet. From 2:30 p.m.-3 p.m., there was Holy Hour with chanting of the Divine Chaplet of Mercy led by Marie Bellet. Then, Fr. Casey gave a talk during the conference called, “What Do You Know About Marriage?” Afterwards there was a blessing of all married couples.

A children’s program also took place in the new Rauzan Hall. After the dinner break, Fr. Tom Sullivan, CPM, of the Fathers of Mercy presented a talk, “Padre Pio: No Greater Love,” along with a dedication of the St. Padre Pio statue and the blessing with St. Padre Pio oils. Afterwards, a music concert was provided by Tatiana.

On Sunday, Sept. 7, the Rosary was prayed and Holy Mass was with Main Celebrant and Homilist Bishop David R. Choby of Nashville, Tenn. Afterwards, the Fathers of Mercy and guests enjoyed a picnic on the grounds. Confessions were also heard on Saturday and on Sunday.

If you would like more information about the Fathers of Mercy go to their web-site at www.fathersofmercy.com.

By Missy Eckenberg

PADUCAH, Ky. - Last year's parish survey challenged St. Thomas More to respond to the needs identified by parishioners for the positive growth of our faith community. Responses pointed to the need for a Daily Chapel, a dedicated Youth Ministry space, meeting rooms for various ministries, organ replacement, and growth of the Endowment Fund that will build for the future.

The need to begin a strategic path of planning for our parish was being realized when St. Thomas More was also asked to provide our "fair share" to the Diocese of Owensboro's Capital Campaign. With both parish and diocesan need identified, it became apparent to the Pastoral Council and Finance Committee that the efforts could most effectively be addressed under the umbrella of one leadership entity.

As in the past, when large scale strategic planning was necessary and successful outcomes a must, a parish leadership committee was formed to prayerfully discern the best course of action. Nancy Sturgis, who assisted with the building process of our current worship space, graciously accepted the call again as Chairperson of the process known as "Envision the Future." Joining her in this very important undertaking as Assistant Chairpersons are husband and wife team David and Melisa Mast.

Under the leadership of Nancy Sturgis and the Masts, a Core Committee was formed consisting of the Chairs of the subcommittees. Parish members who have answered the call for these roles include: Pastor, Fr. J. Patrick Reynolds; Chair – Nancy Sturgis; Vice Chairs – David & Melisa Mast; Arts & Furnishing – Karen Edwards and Julie Duperrieu; Building – Bill and Marie Petrites Murphy; Development Director – Missy Eckenberg; Finance – Mark Edwards; Hospitality – Phyllis Stovesand; Liturgy – Tim and Barb Harris; Parish Administrator – Marisa Cooper; Pastoral Council Liaison – Sam McNeill; Publicity – Patrick Kerr; Youth – Cindy Butterbaugh

Each of these individuals and committees will be working in various roles to fulfill the needs of the parish and build a stronger community of faith. When specific information is available regarding possible campus development, the committee will also be working with Kirby-Smith to implement a feasibility study to gauge parish support for both the diocesan and parish need.

The feasibility study will help the parish in several ways. It will assess the awareness and commitment of parishioners, as well as determine the level of financial support for the proposed project. Finally, it will present objective and unbiased recommendations to the Core Committee based on the information gathered.

This is a wonderful and exciting time to be

St. Thomas More Parish's "Envision the Future" Begins

part of St. Thomas More Catholic Church. We are about to embark on a new chapter in our parish history which will equip us to provide new and better ministries and services.

Assistant Chairpersons of the process known as "Envision the Future" are husband and wife team David and Melisa Mast. Submitted Photo

St. Thomas More Pastoral Council 2008 – 2009: Back row – L to R - Mike Mazzone, Tim Bray, Sam McNeill, Fr. J. Patrick Reynolds, Buzz LaGessee, Vernon Arboleda, Terry Larbes; Front row – L to R – Kitty Anderson, Cathy Elliott, Judy Milford, Brenda Greenwell, Vicki Woods, Beth Haas. Photo by Bob Dotson.



Invitation to the Bar-B-Q Dinner and Christmas Auction at St. Joseph Catholic School in Mayfield

By Dana Collie

Mark your calendars for a special Sunday, November 23, 2008. Beginning at 11 A.M. we will be serving a Bar-B-Q dinner. The annual Christmas Auction will begin at 1:00 p.m. Some items to be auctioned off are; a weed eater, stone bird bath, a car battery, new outdoor grill, 2007 United States Mint Proof set, utility trailer, \$200 shopping spree from Kings flower shop, handmade quilt and more to come. Along with these local donations will be tickets, admissions and packages from theme parks, sporting events and resorts from around the country.

A raffle will also be held that day with a first prize of \$1000.00 cash and a second prize of \$200 gas gift card. Raffle tickets will be offered and sold for 1.00 each starting in October.

Our invitation extends to all who would like to come and celebrate with us. To find out more or for sponsorship information contact St. Joseph Catholic School, Mayfield at (270) 247-4420.

Women and Men, Holy Together

Spreading God's Message Through Their Music



Julie Murphy

By Julie Murphy

Let me tell you one thing I have learned about the Internet. "It's simply the best in my opinion." I know that it can be abused to a degree where it is very harmful in the eyes of children and adults. But once again, even the devil is involved in the Internet, but he isn't the BOSS. I personally love to research history and biographies. When I want to look up devotions for a particular cause it is just a few clicks away. If I want to catch up on EWTN it is there for me. For instance, I was wanting to look up Christopher West's website and I found myself completely caught up in an article about the rock band U2 and its lead singer, Bono. Let me just say it got my attention right away because I love their music.

For those of you who don't know Christopher West he is a world renowned author of books regarding the late Pope John Paul II writing of Theology of The Body. He has successfully broken down for us the Pope's teachings where we can all grasp its meaning.

I was reading an article on his website about the singer/songwriter Bono of U2

and how all of his music has bible passages in them. As I continued reading on, I learned that Bono is an activist for the poor in Africa and those suffering from AIDS. He has devoted his life for this cause. As I was reading on, I researched his music and looked up the lyrics and found that they were in fact biblical. U2's music is very sensual, not in a dirty way, but in a way that love was meant to be. Of course when the media found out his Christian values, they tried to twist it all up. The media just couldn't quite get that a rock & roller like Bono stood for something decent. He wasn't the typical drugs, sex, & rock & roll kinda guy that fits the typical stereotype. Bono was a man who wore his leather, sang around the world in concerts, and yet this man was still married to his high school sweetheart for over twenty years. Bono was a man on a mission. He wanted to open up the whole world's eyes to the suffering of the poor.

There is a mother dying, a father dying, a sister, a brother dying because of their poverty and their sickness due to AIDS

As I began to read more, and went a step further and got on YouTube to watch videos of speeches he gave on behalf of his cause, and saw a side of this mega star I've never seen before. You can see the pain on his face when he describes what he saw in Africa and how it changed his



whole life. Because of his message, my husband Keith and I want to give 1% of our tithing to their cause. If the whole world would just give 1%, the results would be unimaginable.

I would like to share with our WKC readers some of Bono's very inspiring thoughts.

"Those who read scripture and don't come away with God's preferential concern for the poor are 'just blind.' There are 2,103 verses in scripture are about the Poor." -Bono

The Western Kentucky Catholic, October, 2008 **29**

"I love the idea of the sacrificial lamb. I love the idea that God says, Look you cretins, there are certain results to the way we are, to selfishness, and there's morality as part of your sinful nature ... There are consequences to actions."

-Bono

"Belief and confusion are not mutually exclusive. I think belief gives you a direction in the confusion. But you

Continued on page 40

A Letter To The Editor

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.

Is There Another Choice for Parents of Homosexual Children?

Dear Editor,

Sexuality is a gift from God. It is that part of ourselves that draws us into relationships with others and with God.

In our culture, we tend to categorize people with regard to their sexual orientation. We call some heterosexual, some homosexual, some bisexual. And there are people who don't fall neatly into any of these categories. Still, by God's design, we are all sexual beings.

I have many questions after reading the article, "What Is a Catholic Parent to Do When Faced with Child Living Homosexual Lifestyle?" (WKC, August 2008), and am glad the article takes the issue out of the closet, opening the topic for discussion.

The family mentioned in the article noted above made a very painful choice, and it is costing them dearly. No doubt, they made the most loving choice they could. But I ask, is there another choice that could be made?

I wonder, could other conscientious Catholic parents make different but equally valid decisions in similar circumstances? I look to the Gospels and ask, as many people do today, "What would Jesus do?" I know that he warns us not to judge others, and he tells us that the most important commandment is to love.

In "Always Our Children: A Pastoral Message to Parents of Homosexual Children and Suggestions for Pastoral Ministers," the Bishops' Committee on Marriage and Family states that "God does not love someone any less simply because he or she is homosexual. God's love is always and everywhere offered to those who are open to receiving it." *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* (no. 2358) says that homosexual persons "must be accepted with respect, compassion, and sensitivity."

The first thing "Always Our Children" tells parents of homosexual children to do is, "Don't break off contact; don't reject your child." Again, it says, "Do everything possible to continue demonstrating love for your child." In "Ministry to Persons with a Homosexual Inclination: Guidelines for Pastoral Care," the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops states that the Church must reach out to families with homosexual children to "help ensure that the bonds of love among the family members remain intact."

"Always Our Children" suggests learning "how to relate to your [homosexual] son's or daughter's friends in a Christian way." Jesus ate with people whom church authorities considered sinners, though it doesn't mean that he approved of what they did. Are we called to eat with those whose behavior we consider sinful?

These questions must be pondered in light of the Gospels and Church teaching. There are no easy answers.

[Author's note: "Ministry to Persons with a Homosexual Inclination" states that "it can be helpful for persons who find themselves with homosexual attractions to gather together in mutual understanding and support." If you wish to participate in a Catholic GLBT group, contact me at Mount Saint Joseph.]

- Rebecca White, OSU

Church Leaders Urge That Marriage Remain Defined As Between Man And Woman

WASHINGTON—Orthodox Jewish and Catholic leaders decried the promotion of same-sex unions as "marriage" and said the tradition understanding of marriage is "of critical importance to the furtherance of a fundamental societal interest."

The statement can be found at <http://www.usccb.org/seia/jewish.shtml>.

"While others may claim the right to establish private relationships between persons of the same gender that simulate marriage, the legal classification of such relationships as marriage dilutes the special standing of marriage between a man and a woman," the leaders said. "Since the future of every society depends upon its ability to reproduce itself according to this natural order and to have its young people reared in a stable environment, it is the duty of the state to protect the traditional place of marriage and the family for the good of society."

The leaders urged those outside their faith traditions to recognize that they speak "from the truth of human nature itself which is consistent with both reason and the moral life." They asked "local faith communities to consider carefully the long held traditions of Jews and Christians on the nature of marriage as built upon the commitment of a man and a woman desirous of establishing a family for contributing to the common good of humanity."

The statement was signed by Rabbi Fabian Schonfeld of Young Israel Synagogue, Kew Gardens Hills, New York; Bishop William Murphy of Rockville Centre, New York and members of the Consultation of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Orthodox Union and the Rabbinical Council of America.

Source: USCCB 9/4/2008 Release

Cardinals say immigration at 'dark moment' in US but call for hope

By Patricia Zapor, Catholic News Service
WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Two Catholic cardinals called the current U.S. immigration situation "a terrible crisis" and "a dark moment in our nation's history" in remarks they made July 28 at the opening Mass and plenary session of the 2008 National Migration Conference.

Both Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick, retired archbishop of Washington, and Cardinal Roger M. Mahony of Los Angeles urged participants to hold on to hope in their work with immigrants for local and national church agencies.

The July 28-31 conference attended by more than 850 people was co-sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Catholic Charities USA and Catholic Relief Services.

Much of the agenda, built around the theme "Renewing Hope, Seeking Justice," reflected the struggles faced by those who work with immigrants.

Workshops were scheduled on topics such as "How to respond to federal raids," "Identifying and supporting survivors of traumatic events," "A Catholic response to human trafficking" and "Parenting challenges from an African immigrant perspective."

Another two dozen workshop sessions dealt with legal issues including "Filing waivers of inadmissibility" and "Immigration law and crimes"; strategies for fundraising; and getting out the church's message on immigration.

"I see our challenge as one of shouting out the message of the Gospel, the words of the holy fathers, the unchanging teaching of the church, and in the profound conviction of our nation's history that the real heart of America has not changed, that its willingness to right a wrong has not faulted, that it needs only continuous courage, unwavering confidence in the goodness of people and a trust in God's love for the poor and the stranger," said Cardinal McCarrick in his homily July 28.

Drawing from the Gospel reading of the parable of the mustard seed, Cardinal McCarrick said the story is full of optimism "that the kingdom of heaven itself can be sown in men's hearts like a seed."

The sowing of seeds is a theme in many of Jesus' parables, he noted, with one important lesson that the seed is the word of God.

He said that lesson "is often lost because of the hardness of men's hearts, the timidity of their belief and the temptations of the world, which sometimes allure them into political positions which

they know in their hearts are wrong, since they do not conform to the loving providence of God."

He said the parable also has a message "to keep sowing the seed, no matter what the likelihood of success ... no matter how hard the sowing may be, no matter how challenging the prospects of success, keep sowing, keep sowing in confidence that God's providence will provide the good soil. Do not give up; your seed will reach it yet; keep sowing, because if you stop the people will perish."

Cardinal Mahony more directly took on the failure of Congress to pass comprehensive immigration reform legislation and the federal enforcement policies that have led to "the separation of families, the harassment and profiling of U.S. citizens and legal residents, the expanded use of detention against those who are not a flight risk or a danger and, tragically, deaths in the United States desert."

The recent national policy described as "deportation by attrition" has a goal of creating "such a dangerous and unwelcoming atmosphere that immigrants and their families leave the United States because they have no other choice," said Cardinal Mahony.

It has led to fear among immigrant communities and a hostile atmosphere, "fanning the flames of intolerance, xenophobia and, at times, bigotry," he continued.

"Such a national policy is doomed to fail because it underestimates the human spirit, the spirit of hope that we celebrate in this gathering," the cardinal said.

The very act of migration is a hopeful one, he said, because it is based in the belief that a better life is possible for the migrant and his family.

He encouraged conference attendees to consider the call to hope expressed by Pope Benedict XVI in the encyclical "Spe Salvi" ("Saved by Hope").

Hope "gives us the courage to place ourselves on the side of the good even in seemingly hopeless situations, aware that, as far as the external course of history is concerned, the power of sin will continue to be a terrible presence," the encyclical said.

Cardinal Mahony said that, "despite the attacks on our position and on those we serve, we must not lose faith as to the rightness of our cause and of our service to our immigrant brothers and sisters. The church must remain a prophetic voice in an increasingly hostile wilderness, defending her mandate, given by Christ, to welcome the stranger."

He outlined some suggestions for the church to work to change the current situation, including continuing to reach out and support immigrants; holding elected officials accountable by insisting on a human approach to immigrants; changing attitudes toward migrants through education; and working to reform immigration laws.

"While we are bound to respect our laws and not violate them, we also are bound to correct unjust laws," Cardinal Mahony said. "The terms 'rule of law' and 'national security' should no longer be used to justify the harsh and inhumane treatment of immigrants, refugees or asylum seekers. While we acknowledge the right and the need for our government to enforce the law, we must remind our fellow Americans that man-made law does not permit the violation of God's law."

A letter of greeting to the conferees from Cardinal Renato Martino, as president of the Pontifical Council for Migrants and Travelers, was read by Archbishop Agostino Marchetto, the council secretary.

Cardinal Martino said an approach to the difficulties of



Franciscan Sister Mary Jane Spanjers and Norbertine Father Peter Renard lead more than 400 people in a 2.5-mile walk in support of immigrants Sept. 7 in Green Bay, Wis. The event, co-sponsored by the Green Bay Diocese and four religious communities, was held to raise awareness of immigration issues and show the church's support for immigrants and refugees. (CNS photo /Sam Lucero, The Compass) (Sept. 8, 2008)

migration should be intercultural, ecumenical and interreligious.

He said political action on migration should be comprehensive and "not turn the immigrant into the scapegoat for other crucial social issues, nor a threat to security and stability."

The basis for church action on behalf of immigrants is "the affirmation that all persons are equal, well beyond the differences deriving from origin, language and culture," Cardinal Martino said.

The church's approach "affirms the central role and sacred character of the human being independently from his/her regular or irregular legal status. ... The church is more and more convinced that making the most of the ethical-religious dimension of migration is the surest way to reach also other goals of high human and cultural value."

Other prelates attending the conference included New York Cardinal Edward M. Egan; Guatemalan Bishop Alvaro Ramazzini Imeri of San Marcos; Bishop John C. Wester of Salt Lake City, chairman of the bishops' migration committee; Bishops Jaime Soto of Sacramento, Calif., Thomas G. Wenski of Orlando, Fla., Frank J. DeWane of Venice, Fla., and Nicholas DiMarzio of Brooklyn, N.Y.; and Auxiliary Bishop Rutilio J. del Riego of San Bernardino, Calif.

By Tami Schneider

So often our magazines, newspapers and newscasts are full of tragedy, sadness or troublesome occurrences. Every once in a while, a spark of goodness and hope shines through in the good works of others. Such a story can be told about Matthew Thomas, son of David and Trudy Thomas and brother to 4 siblings. He worked during the whole of 2007, bringing forth benefactors and volunteers alike to put in a brazier at St. Anthony's Church.

Matthew joined the Cub Scouts as a grade schooler and continued with Boy Scouts in the 6th grade, when he joined Owensboro Troop 77. Since the very beginning, he got a lot out of participating in Scouts. He learned many skills in camping, sailing, survival, knot-tying, orientation and compasses. He also enjoyed the social aspect, which allowed him to meet many different people.

As a high school student, Matthew participated in an exchange program in Europe. Owensboro is a sister city to Olomouc, Czech Republic and every two years scouts rotate either coming to the U.S. from Olomouc or going to Europe from Owensboro. Matthew spent a month in Europe with a group of 15 scouts in the summer of 2006. He spent a week in Switzerland, a week in Germany and two

weeks in the Czech Republic. During his one-week stay with a host family in the Czech Republic, he witnessed first hand how different their culture was, even in the little things of daily life.

As he saw his high school years coming to a close, Matthew began to think about an Eagle Scout project. To be an Eagle Scout is the highest rank possible in Boy Scouts. The project must involve the community and offer some sort of service to the community. A life-long member of St. Anthony's Parish in Brown's Valley, Matthew approached pastor, Fr. Mike Clark, for an idea. Fr. Clark explained to him that parishioner, Danny Ross, had had the idea to have a fire pit on the parish grounds for Easter Vigil liturgies. Since Mr. Ross had not been able to fulfill this dream because of a recent accident and other extenuating circumstances, Father suggested Matthew get in touch with him to help him with this project.

Numerous parishioners and benefactors came forth from the community. Since Mr. Ross has worked in the construction business, he had many contacts who were able to lend equipment and donate concrete and other materials. Matthew brought people together for fundraisers, in the form of a spaghetti dinner and a chicken/burger cook. After 216 vol-



unteer hours, lent equipment and donated materials, the brazier project cost \$940, with construction completed on January 12th, 2008.

Matthew is now a first year college at the University of Louisville, studying

computer engineering and computer science. His Eagle Scout project continues to benefit St. Anthony's parish and the community, serving as a place for the Easter Vigil fire, youth group bonfires or simply a serene place to sit on a nice day.

Kentucky doctor to receive nation's top Catholic missionary honor

By Chaz Muth

Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- A Kentucky pediatric cardiologist who lost her own young daughter to heart disease became the 31st recipient of the Catholic Church Extension Society's Lumen Christi Award in Chicago Sept. 27.

Dr. Carol Cottrill, 71, of Lexington, Ky., was selected to receive the nation's top Catholic missionary honor ("lumen Christi" means "light of Christ") for her "lifesaving ministry in the mission areas of Appalachia and her generous presence in caring for poor families in desperate need of medical care," said Mark Andel, a spokesman for Catholic Extension in Chicago.

Cottrill has saved the lives of hundreds of children facing life-threatening illnesses during the past 30 years, Andel said.

"Cottrill's fourth child, Crystal, was born with a serious heart condition and died at the age of 6," he said of the veteran cardiologist, who has worked from a wheelchair for the past two years as a result of rheumatoid arthritis. "Dr. Cottrill and her husband

Tom have served as foster parents to more than 24 children, 19 of (whom) had heart disease."

As an active member of the Newman Center at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, she is committed to the health of the needy in eastern Kentucky, where she runs two monthly cardiac care clinics, which never turn away a family in need, Andel said.

Cottrill told Catholic News Service Sept. 3 that she is humbled by the award, especially since her work provides her with rewarding experiences every day.

Her daughter's illness drove her research in pediatric heart disease, Cottrill said.

"This was in the early '60s when heart surgery was in its infancy and new procedures and inventions were happening," she said. "This gave me hope that things would someday work out for my child. Losing that child was the single most profound event of my life. I sometimes wonder if I see her in many of my patients."

"Dr. Cottrill exemplifies how the light of Christ shines in so many ways," said Lexington Bishop Ronald W. Gainer, who



Dr. Carol Cottrill of Lexington, Ky., poses with Micah Hutchinson of Eu bank, Ky., whom she has been treating since he was an infant. The pediatric cardiologist became the 31st recipient of the Catholic Church Extension Society's Lumen Christi Award in Chicago Sept. 27. (CNS photo/courtesy Catholic Church Extension Society) (Sept. 3, 2008)

nominated the Catholic cardiologist for the award. She has done this "through her thorough and professional care of the youngest and most vulnerable cardiac patients, through her understanding and compassion for their families, through her role as

a teacher and mentor to medical students, and through her tireless service to the wider community."

Nominations for the Lumen Christi Award are forwarded to Catholic Extension by home mission bishops and then judged by a selected panel.

The 2008 panel included actor Bob Newhart, Chicago Bears owner Virginia McCaskey, radio and television personality Father Albert Cutie of Miami, Mercy Sister Maria Elena Gonzalez, Our Sunday Visitor associate publisher Msgr. Owen Campion, and retired Bishop Joseph L. Howze of Biloxi, Miss.

Catholic Extension is the leading supporter of Catholic missions in the U.S. and has distributed more than \$450 million in the past 100 years.

"We at Catholic Extension are privileged to recognize and honor missionaries like Dr. Cottrill," said Father John J. Wall, the organization's president. "Having lost a child to heart disease herself, she feels deeply and compassionately what is in the hearts of the families she serves and is a real gift to them."

In addition to presenting Cottrill with the award, Catholic Extension will also give her \$25,000 and will provide the Diocese of Lexington with a \$25,000 gift, Andel said.

Cottrill told CNS she plans to use some of the money to establish a foundation at the Children's Hospital of Kentucky for the care of foreign children.



Directors of Religious Education from the Diocese of Owensboro share a light moment during a retreat day on Aug. 5 at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center, Maple Mount. MSJ Photos



Holy Name of Jesus Church in Henderson, Ky., held a staff day July 15 at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center. Pastor Rev. J. Edward Bradley is seated at right.



In the picture at left, Sister Kate Pierce, IHM, talks to participants at an Acculturation Workshop held Aug. 5-7 at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center. Sister Kate, who travels all over the world to give workshops and to study cultures, was discussing different cultures and beliefs.

At lower left, Sister Amelia Stenger, director of Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center, left, and Aloma Dew, representing the Sierra Club, discuss future ideas during the GREENing Western Ky. Expo. The Expo featured booths and workshops focusing on "Getting Renewable Energy Education Now."

Below, Several ladies enjoyed a day of spinning wool Aug. 2 at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center.





Lifetime Ursuline Associates – The 10 people who made their lifetime commitment to the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph as Ursuline Associates on July 19, along with their contact sisters: (Front row, l-r) Barbara Boatner, Mary Teder, Ruth Metschuleit, Gloria Adams, and Sister Marietta Wethington; (Second row) Sister Maureen Griner, Debbie Walker, Sister Amelia Stenger, Elenita McConnell, and Jean Simpson; (Back row) Don Adams, Sister Rose Karen Johnson, Sister Ann McGrew, Sister Michael Ann Monaghan, Wanda Rickard, Carolyn Butler, and Sister Rose Theresa Johnson.

Codes of Conduct? Why?

By Molly Thompson, Safe Environment Coordinator,

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Our diocese is blessed by adults who want to share their time and energy to help our youngest members feel Christ's love for them. These individuals are employees or volunteers working as coaches, catechists, chaperones, and all kinds of other jobs that bring them into ministry with minors. The Diocese of Owensboro has had policies for many years to help manage the activities of these adults and has used Codes of Conduct to help adults understand the responsibility they are undertaking.

Occasionally someone will express frustration with the Codes of Conduct, wondering why so many expectations must be in writing. Why not rely on "common sense"? While legal liability requires that we clearly express some expectations, we have also found that individuals bring their own background and experience into their personal definitions of com-

mon sense. The Codes make it clear what the diocese accepts when working with our children and teens. The Codes help eliminate that gray area and let adults know where the line of acceptable behavior lies, even when an adult does not personally see the need for a safety requirement.

Minors and adults working with them must sign an appropriate Code of Conduct, outlining what is expected of them as Christians from a moral and safety standpoint. If someone sees behavior that violates that Code, quick notification can protect the children and teens and keep all adults appropriately interacting with our young people.

Following are a few excerpts from the Supervisory Adult Code of Conduct. To see a full list of all Codes of Conduct, go to: http://www.owensborodio.org/safe/SafeEnvDocuments_Forms.html

- I will treat everyone with respect, courtesy, and consideration, perform-



First Commitments as Ursuline Associates – The eight people who made their first commitments July 19, along with their contact sisters: (Front row, l-r) Jean Murphy, Sister Catherine Barber, Jerry Birge, Sister Amelia Stenger, Mag Birge, Sister Pam Mueller; (Second row) Sister Rose Karen Johnson, Paul Parker, Betty Stone, Sister Rosemary Keough, Nancy Mills; (Back row) Sister Rose Marita O'Bryan, Helen Kanter, Karen Siciliano, Sister Mary Celine Weidenbenner, and Sister Clarence Marie Luckett. The mission of the Ursuline Associates is to commit to living the charism of Saint Angela Merici in union with and in support of the Ursuline community. MSJ Photos

ing my work in a manner consistent with the mission of the Catholic Church and the Diocese of Owensboro.

- I will avoid situations where I am alone with a minor or vulnerable adult.
- I will maintain appropriate physical and emotional boundaries.
- I will always report any suspected abuse according to Kentucky law.
- I will cooperate fully in any investigation of abuse.
- I will not use, possess, or be under the influence of, any alcoholic beverage or any illegal drugs when working with minors.
- I will use positive reinforcement. I will never speak to minors or vulnerable adults in a way that is or could be construed by an observer as derogatory, demeaning, or humiliating.
- I will never touch anyone in my care in a sexual or other inappropriate manner.
- I will not use corporal punishment for the behavior man-

agement of minors or vulnerable adults.

For information about Safe Environment expectations (training and background checks), go to www.owensborodio.org/safe, or call Molly Thompson, Safe Environment Coordinator, or Patty Blair, Director of Lay Ministry and Formation, at 270-683-1545.



Welcoming A New Catholic: Fr. Shaiju Thomas and the St. Paul Parish welcomed little Marielle Grace Ybanez with a parish potluck and gifts after her baptism at mass on the 14th of September. Pictured holding Marielle is her mother Rexel.

Black Catholics

By Bob Cinnamon

Imagine, one morning, you rise, eat a big breakfast, then move outside to work in the garden or flower bed. Suddenly you are approached by men with chains. They chain your arms behind your back, your legs together so that you cannot run, then lead you to a run down building and place you in a small 8x8 foot box.

Day after day you lay in your hot pen, eating one meal a day and receiving only one cup of water. You hear your friend in the next pen plan to break out; he makes a hole in his box; then is shot dead as he climbs from his box. After two weeks you are drug from your box and placed on a boat in another box with many others, and sent out to sea.

Who are these people that are doing these things to me? Am I in Iraq? NO! These are my ancestors, if I was White, I would be heading for America, the land of the free. But I'm not white; I'm black! Almost two months later I am led from my box, and get my first glimpse of this new world. I'm in Virginia, many miles from home. I am led to a stage where people bid on me. A big white man makes a bid for me and I am sold.

Soon I am traveling over the mountains to Kentucky where I will work for this big white man on his farm. My friends are gone, my family lost, I fear for my life! My job is to hoe tobacco, twelve

hours every day, then, I eat and sleep. My dreams are gone, my hope is lost. Life is misery; I wish that I were dead.

My new name is George "Pap" Johnson and my new home is on a big farm south of Fairfield, KY. I learn that my old home is called Badagr, Nigeria, and I am one of twelve million African's that have been stolen from our homes by White people between 1450 and 1850.

I am told to take a woman because my master wants Black babies so he can sell them for money or use them on the farm. They won't belong to me; I may never be able to teach them as their father. We had thirteen children during my lifetime.

One day, my master calls a meeting of all of the Blacks. The Catholic Priest says that we need to go to church on Sundays and be baptized. He teaches us how to act in church and where to sit (the back pew), and he selects two of my sons to be the bell ringers at St. Michaels in Fairfield, KY. I was very proud of them. When I was old I was given a special distinction for working hard all of my life. I was named a "free" slave and allowed to live in peace. Many of my friends were not given that privilege.

The story of George Johnson was repeated many times. One such story was about George Hayden and his "wife" Clare. They were free slaves and were allowed to get married in their later years. They also had thirteen children and traveled with their owners William and Elizabeth (Mattingly) Hayden and William's

for the horses.

Reason and Mary Ann had many children and a very strong Catholic faith. It is remarkable how many of the Black Catholics in western Kentucky are their descendents. The family names of their descendents include Hayden, Johnson, Griffith, Higgs, Rapier, Bates, Talbott, Davis, Moorman, Payne, Thompson, Rowan, Davidson, Thompkins, Thurman, Landers, Lawson, Taylor, Huff, McNary, Dorsey, Owens, Thomas, Wim-

Invitation to the Bar-B-Q Dinner and Christmas Auction at St. Joseph Catholic School in Mayfield

Mark your calendars for a special Sunday, November 23, 2008. Beginning at 11 A.M. we will be serving a Bar-B-Q dinner.

The annual Christmas Auction will begin at 1:00 p.m. Some items to be auctioned off are; a weed eater, stone bird bath, a car battery, new outdoor grill, 2007 United States Mint Proof set, utility trailer, \$200 shopping spree from Kings flower shop, handmade quilt and more to come. Along with these local donations will be tickets, admissions and packages from theme parks, sporting events and resorts from around the country.

A raffle will also be held that day with a first prize of \$1000.00 cash and a second prize of \$200 gas gift card. Raffle tickets will be offered and sold for 1.00 each starting in October.

Our invitation extends to all who would like to come and celebrate with us. To find out more or for sponsorship information contact St. Joseph Catholic School, Mayfield at (270) 247-4420.

You're Invited To A New Church Dedication

Christ the King, Catholic Church, 298 Bluegrass Drive, Scottsville, KY 42164 cordially invites you to the Dedication of our new church on the 23rd day of November, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. followed by reception.

RSVP (270)237-4404

brother Basil and Henrietta (Cole) Hayden to KY in about 1783. William and Basil died in the early 1800's and their deeds list the descendants of George and Clare Hayden.

Two of the descendants of George and Clare were Reason "Ruse" and Mary Ann Hayden who lived together on the Hayden farm in Marion County, and migrated to western Daviess County along with the White Haydens, and settled near St. Raphael Catholic Church. Reason worked on the Hayden and Mullican farms caring

stead, Washington, Brown, Hunter, White, Gaither, Roberts, Black, Watson, Adams, Grundy, Shauntee, Madison, Daniels, Tapp, Wimsatt, Mayes, Bass, Williams, Rump, Pope, Richardson, and Downs.

Surviving the wilderness was a great challenge for all Kentucky Catholics but the community of Black Catholics must be specially recognized for their accomplishments. Many of the descendants of Reason and Mary Ann Hayden are college graduates, DRE's, medical doctors, lawyers, and have made special contributions to their community and their church. Black Catholics have made tremendous strides during the last two centuries and are an integral part of the Church of Western Kentucky.

I wish to especially thank Judith Owens, MA. and Jewell (Hayden) Brown for their contributions to this article.

New healthcare administrator brings 17 years of experience

Randy Shelby is the new healthcare administrator for the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph. Shelby, who began his duties Aug. 11, spent 17 years as administrator of the Residential Care Center in his native Paducah. Shelby is responsible for all facets of the St. Joseph Villa long-term care facility, the roughly 30 employees who work there, and the health care needs of all Ursuline Sisters who live at the Motherhouse.

His previous work experience includes the American Red Cross blood services in Paducah, and the Paducah Housing Authority, where he was certified as a public housing manager.

Shelby is a recent graduate of the Spiritual Direction Institute at the Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center. He replaces Sister Betsy Moyer, OSU, who is starting a new ministry with the poor in Jamaica.



Randy Shelby

ADVENT —

Preparing To Welcome God into Family Life

Dec. 5-7, 2008
(or Saturday, Dec. 6 only)

Residents: \$175
(includes retreat, materials, meals, snacks, social, and overnight accommodations)

Commuters: \$110 Saturday Only: \$75
(includes retreat, materials, meals, snacks, and social)

During this weekend, retreatants will:

- Pray with Holy family stories to bring them closer to God.
- Discover through Bible family stories universal experiences of love, longing, rejection, suffering, jealousy, misunderstanding, loyalty, and spiritual growth.
- Reflect on their own family experiences in the light of God's Word.
- Look for the God-Who-Comes through presentations, times of quiet, small group sharing, liturgical prayer, and the sacraments of Penance and the Eucharist.

Sister Cheryl Clements, OSU
Retreat Director

A \$50 nonrefundable deposit is due with registration for residents and commuters (a \$20 deposit is due for Saturday registration). Partial scholarships, based on need, are available from the Magt. Bernard Powers Retreat fund.

To register or for more information:
Contact Kathy McCarty at (270) 228-0200 Ext. 413
or email lmccarty@majoenter.org

Visit us at www.majoenter.org.

Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

1001 S. 10th St. • Evansville, IN 47712 • (317) 425-1000
www.msjc.org

Friends Share a Common Bond

By Lela Hale

Editor's Note: This article was submitted by Libby Downs for Sts Peter and Paul Church in Hopkinsville, and is reprinted from Heart Strings, July/August, 2008, page 2, A GRADSA bi-monthly publication for families and friends enriched with the Down syndrome connection.

Have you ever met someone and they became such a big part of your life that it seems like they were always there? That's the way it felt with my friends, "The Big Guns." I call them that because I think a few years ago, God felt He had to call in the "Big Guns" to reel me in and help make me a better person. There is one woman in the "BG's" whom I have connected with in such a way that I know she is truly an angel sent from heaven, not only for me and my family, but for a host of other people as well. Her name is Angie Pace.

I met Angie in the summer of 2000 when we were both volunteering with Vacation Bible School at our church. We became involved with the moms' group at church and our kids attended the parochial school. Before long we were part of a group of families that shared holidays, births, cookouts, and other special occasions.

Angie and I have shared many things over the past 8 years. She has listened to me, laughed with me, cried with me, advised me, fussed at me, and shared my daughter's birth with me. She was a friend I could call on anytime for help. Angie is the kind of person who is always thinking of what she can do for others and never expects anything in return. She is very matter of fact and has her "act together." The only time I recall seeing her upset was when she was pregnant with her youngest child, Ben. The doctors told her there were serious medical problems and Ben may not survive. My heart broke for her and her family when she cried and told me she didn't care what was wrong with him, she just wanted him to live. She had always been the strong one in the group and to see her break down reminded me how serious the situation was.

Through a strong faith and many prayers, Ben did survive and was born by emergency C-section on November 18, 2005, with Down syndrome. The diagnosis of Down syndrome was not the defining moment of Ben's birth. He was alive and absolutely beautiful! I remember being in awe of Angie during the first year of Ben's life. He had numerous health issues and was hospitalized frequently. Angie educated herself about Down syndrome



so that she could take care of Ben and meet his needs. She also continued to care for her other children, her husband, and her friends. God knew what He was doing when He gave Ben to the Pace family. The "oddest" thing about our friendship is that 2 years later, I became pregnant and also had complications. Although mine were not as serious as Angie's, I was told that my son likely had Achondroplasia, a form of dwarfism. Angie was there for ultrasounds, consults, tears, etc. She was also there when I was admitted to the hospital 5 weeks before my due date because of low amniotic fluid. On November 10, 2007, Elijah was born, also by emergency C-section, and was immediately taken to the NICU. While in recovery, the doctor came in and told us that he did not have Achondroplasia, but appeared to have Down syndrome. My husband and I cried for our son, but again, God knew what He was doing. After all, He had sent Ben 2 years earlier.

Elijah was very tiny but so very beautiful! The days since his birth have been filled with many hours of joy and gratitude for his life and for Ben's life. God knows what He is doing when He creates all children, but in our case, He knew who to send first. I could not have made it without Angie's knowledge, wisdom, and support. Angie and I have the same feelings of love, pain, sometimes despair, much hope, and tremendous joy in the time after our boys were born. We don't know what the future holds for Elijah and Ben, but we do know how even more special our friendship is because of the gifts God gave us in the form of these two little guys.



Living Stones

To visualize the belief that the Church is built of people who are the "living stones," parishioners of Holy Spirit in Bowling Green lined up around the perimeter of their new church building for the ground breaking on Wednesday, September 10, 2008. While the representative officials were in the middle, everyone had the opportunity to "break ground"!

Mexican Fiesta at Christ the King

By Patricia Pfeiffer

SCOTTSVILLE, Ky. - Festivities filled the air at the 3rd Annual Mexican Fiesta held at Christ the King Catholic Church here on Saturday, August 16. We had a big crowd of hungry guests waiting for dinner to be served and the meal was worth our wait. Many thanks go to our head cooks, Veronica Lopez, Tina Moser and Maria Gonzalez, who put together a delicious menu of Carne' Asado, Chicken Mole', tortillas, beans and rice, together with authentic Mexican drinks of Orchata and Jamaica. The hall was colorfully decorated with Mexican flowers and streamers and our church members graciously donated an abundance of wonderful desserts to top off the dinner. Special guests included Padre Rafael Alvarez of Degollado, Jalisco, Mexico as well as our own Fr. Dennis Holly.

After dinner the festivities moved outside where the children were blindfolded and took turns at the piñata. After many unsuccessful attempts, much laughter and a few tears, the final blow sent candies and treasures flying everywhere to the delight of the children. Thanks to Mike Kiene and Vera Gothard for their help with this fun-filled event.

Many thanks also go to singer/guitarist Juan Manual Martinez of Clarksville, Tennessee who supplied the entertainment for the evening.

The fiesta was a huge success and, as with all of our fundraisers, helped us get closer to the dream of our new church. Hopefully next year our 4th Annual Mexican Fiesta will be held in our new parish hall.

Sugarplum Christmas Bazaar

St. Sebastian Church, Calhoun Sugarplum Christmas Bazaar, Saturday, December 6, 2008 - Booths Available - \$25. Contact Betty Abrams 270-273-3262 or email babrams142@aol.com or Elaine Fulkerson 270-273-5441. Handmade items, Famous baked goods, home-made candy, Christmas decorations and other great gift items!





Helping Fr. Marty Celebrate His 50th Birthday!

St. Paul Catholic Elementary School helped Father Marty Hayes celebrate his 50th Birthday on Tuesday, September 16, 2008. Photo submitted by St. Paul School

2ND ANNUAL MEN WHO COOK
Gala, Live Music & Auction
The Nines Center
October 18, 2008 • 7-10 PM
Sample Great Food!
Enjoy the Casual Atmosphere!
Get Tickets Now!
www.glenmaryaleaders.org



Florence Henderson Concert

to benefit Brescia University

Performance will also benefit the RiverPark Center and Owensboro Symphony Orchestra.

Saturday, October 25, 2008

7pm

RiverPark Center
Owensboro, KY

Tickets: \$29.50 and 39.50 which includes after-party with Ma Henderson

Order tickets at (270) 687-2787 or
www.riverparkcenter.org/tickets

Making a Difference

In the lives of our students • our community • our Church



October Events at Camp Ondessonk

Camp Ondessonk has several events this October that will let you enjoy the great outdoors: Mother/Daughter Weekend, October 10-12; and a FREE Fall Festival, October 25th. For more information about these events please visit www.ondessonk.com, or call 618-695-2489.

Sts. Joseph & Paul Church is Hosting a Bus Trip

Christmas at the Opryland Hotel, December 4-5, 2008 —Cost: \$299 per person
Includes: Transportation (from Owensboro), 1 night lodging at the Opryland Hotel, Louise Mandrell Christmas Dinner Show, "ICE" with How the Grinch Stole Christmas, Treasures for the holidays crafts and arts, Hall of trees, lots more. There are a limited number of tickets for the Rockettes Christmas Spectacular at \$60.41 extra. Call Faith-n-Travel for more info: 270-389-1002.

Catholics Returning Home Find Welcome Mat Out At The Immaculate Church

By Joanie Wathen

Owensboro's Immaculate Catholic Church will begin the program entitled, "Catholics Returning Home." This is a program designed for inactive Catholics who may be longing to return to their faith, but may be unsure of what steps to take. This small group, faith-sharing process will run six alternating weeks beginning Monday October 6, 2008. We will meet every other Monday evening beginning at 6:30 P.M. in the Immaculate Family Center. The last meeting will conclude on December 15, 2008.

The first two weeks will cover story-sharing, and getting comfortable with the

group. Following weeks will address updates on the basics of Catholicism involving the Church today, the Mass, and an explanation of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, (Penance.)

Members of the committee are: Lucy Adams, Jamie Hutchinson, Joy Keller, Jim and Dot Schartung, Lori Baker, Jeanie Clark, Henry Hodskins, Sue Weaver, Cheryl Brown, Betty Gail Armendarez and Joanie Wathen. Father Tony Jones and Sister Julia Head O.S.U. also serve on the committee.

For information you may contact Lucy Adams at 270-683-8116 between the hours of 8:00A.M. and 8:00 P.M.

(Continued from page 1)



Parishes from across the diocese help put on the Mount Picnic. Here Owensboro's St. Pius Tenth Cooking Team set up the Burgoo To Go booth. Tami Schneider Photo

of faithful from different parishes lent a helping hand by heading up booths or serving up the BBQ dinner.

I experienced for the first time what it meant to stand up around a table to eat, with volunteers coming around again and again to ask if we wanted more. I guess once a year, gluttony is ok, right? I'd tasted barbequed chicken and pork before, but had never even heard of mutton before I moved to Kentucky. An acquired taste for sure! The flavor and tenderness of the meats was exquisite! Surely a recipe tested by time and talent. I'd never tasted anything like it!

The ever-popular wagon ride, with Bishop John McRaith at the wheel was

a great success this year. The John Deer tractor took us off the beaten path along the spacious grounds to overlook the farm and the fields. Volunteer, Mike Bogdan, Diocesan Director of Music said the ride made twice as much as last year in donations. Two honks for the Bishop!

It was a pleasant surprise to see so many young people working the picnic. Young adults and youth alike helped to make the picnic a success. Josh Clary,

Continued on page 43

Picture at right - Eating standing up at a church picnic: a Western Kentucky Catholic tradition. Tami Schneider photo



Two honks for the Bishop John! His wagon rides during the MSJ Picnic draw crowds even in hot weather. Tami Schneider photo



Speaking On Vocations

In September St. Thomas More parish high school students were privileged to hear Father Andy Garner, Director of Vocations and Seminarians speak on vocations. As Father Andy explained true peace, love and joy come from finding, following, and fulfilling God's will in your life. Thank you Father Andy for such an enriching discussion! Submitted by Missy Eckenberg

2008-09 Quilt Club Memberships



Sister Mary Cabrini Foushee

The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph are busy making beautiful quilts.

A new quilt is raffled each month.

You can get 12 chances to win a quilt with our "Quilt Club" annual memberships.

It's not too late to purchase your Quilt Club membership for only \$20, call 270-229-4103, ext. 278

Annual Quilt Club drawings begin Oct. 1, 2008.



Ursuline Sisters
of Mount Saint Joseph

Ursuline No. 0100

Ursuline Way of Life Weekend in November at Mount Saint Joseph

Have you ever wondered just what it is those sisters do out in that little community called Maple Mount? The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph invite single women ages 18-30 to learn about the sisters and what they do during an Ursuline Way of Life Weekend Nov. 21-23. Ursuline Way of Life Weekends introduce women to aspects of living a consecrated life, following the Rule of Ursuline founder Saint Angela Merici, Ursuline ministries, and the traditions of the Mount Saint Joseph congregation.

Those interested are invited to be the guest of the Ursuline Sisters and be inspired by Saint Angela's life, her spirituality, and her vision for her followers. For those even slightly interested in the possibility of becoming a sister, or just curious about religious life, please consider gifting the sisters with your presence. There is no charge.

The Way of Life Weekend is from 7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21, until 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 23. Overnight accommodations and meals will be provided. Please bring your own personal toiletries.

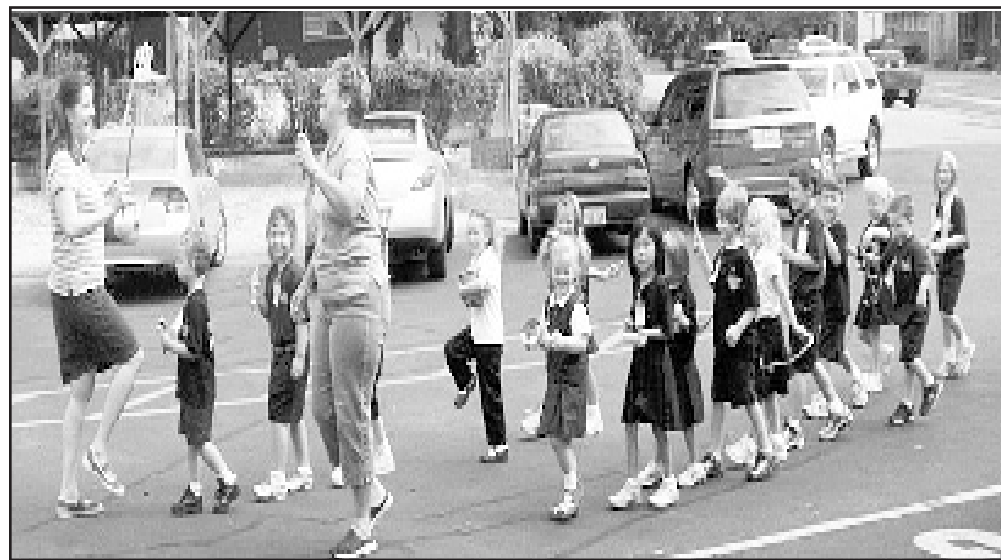
For more information, contact Sister Alicia Coomes at (270) 229-4103, ext. 214, or at vocations@maplemount.org. The Mount Saint Joseph Motherhouse is 12 miles southwest of Owensboro, just off Kentucky 56.

A brochure can be found online at www.ursulinesmsj.org

At right, the past and present directors of Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center in Maple Mount pose for a photo on the front lawn after the Rededication Ceremony for the 25th Anniversary Celebration on Aug 10. L-R: Sister Marie Goretti Browning (director from 1988-1994), Sister Darlene Denton (1994-1997), Sister Mary Matthias Ward (1983-1988), and Sister Amelia Stenger (1997-present). MSJ Photo



OCS K-3 Campus Kindergarten Class on Parade



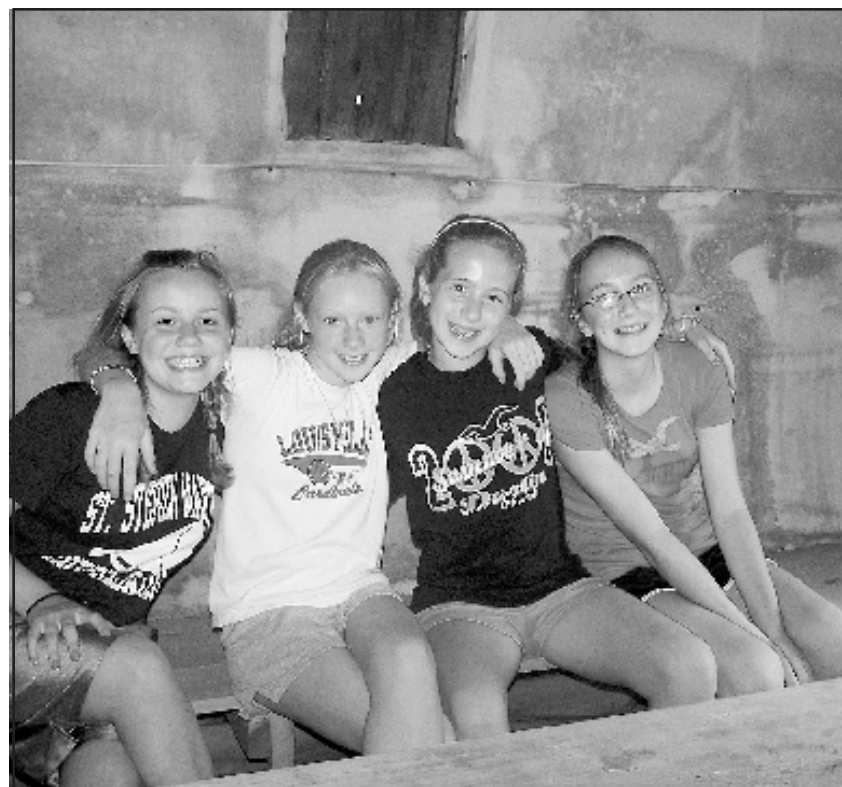
Kindergartners at the OCS Elementary K-3 Campus with music teacher, Heather Hayden, had a parade August 23 to celebrate their first week of school while practicing music skills. OCS Photo

Notable Quotes

"I swore never to be silent whenever and wherever human beings endure suffering and humiliation. We must always take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormenter, never the tormented."

- Elie Wiesel, Holocaust survivor and investigator and author

Source: Rev. Charlie Dittmeier, a Maryknoll associate priest, still incardinated in the Archdiocese of Louisville, <http://parish-without-borders.net/cditt/quote/sub-quot08.htm>



Sleep-Over At The Mount

A group of Girl Scouts from Louisville, Ky., came to Mount Saint Joseph for an overnight retreat Aug. 2-3. They visited the flatboat (used to recreate the Ursuline Sisters' first journey down the Ohio River from Louisville to Owensboro), picked blackberries with some of the sisters, made crafts, and sat by a campfire during their stay. MSJ Photo



Mission, as a witness of divine love, becomes particularly effective when it is shared in a communitarian way, so that the world may believe.



Fr. Andy Garner speaks to the seminarians and their families at the annual Serra Club Picnic at St. Martin's Parish on August 16th. Photo by Larena Lawson.



With Praise and Thanksgiving to Almighty God
The Diocese of Owensboro in Kentucky together with the family of Joshua Allen McCarty invite you to the Ordination to the Diaconate through the laying on of hands and the invocation of the Holy Spirit by
The Most Reverend John J. McRaith, Bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro in Kentucky on the Solemnity of All Saints,
Saturday, the First Day of November,
in the Year of Our Lord 2008
at ten o'clock in the morning.
Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church
902 East Ninth Street
Hopkinsville, Kentucky 42240
A reception will follow at the parish.



Uwem Enoh will celebrate the Rite of Candidacy on Sunday, October 26th at the 2:00 pm mass, at St. Leo's Parish in Murray, KY, during the parish's 75th Anniversary Mass. Please join us as we celebrate this next step in his priestly formation.



Stephen Hohman will celebrate the Rite of Candidacy on Sunday, October 19, 2008, at the 9:30 am mass, at St. Anthony's Parish in Browns Valley. A chili supper will follow. Please join us as we celebrate this next step in his priestly formation.

The Diocese of Owensboro Announces with Great Joy
The Ordination of
Daniel Christian Dillard
Called by the Church to the Order of Deacon
Through the imposition of hands and the Invocation of the Holy Spirit
by
The Most Reverend John J. McRaith
Bishop of Owensboro
on
Saturday the eighteenth of October
Two thousand and eight
at
Holy Name of Jesus Church
in Henderson, Kentucky



Fr. Andy Garner and the Seminarians of the Diocese of Owensboro enjoy a time of fun and fellowship over dinner at Patti's Place in Land Between the Lakes. The meal they shared was part of their annual Brotherhood Retreat before returning to different seminaries at the end of August. Photo submitted by Julio Barrera.

Summer Mission 2008: Let us not forget about our brothers and sisters who have fallen away

By Erick Vázquez, Translated by Tami Schneider

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. - During the month of July, the Hispanic Community here took part in a summer mission. Our goal was to invite people to return to Mass.

As we visited the homes of some of our brothers and sisters that used to attend Mass before, we shared many experiences and stories. We evangelized in a very simple way.

Fr. Carmelo Jiménez, who was in charge of the mission, began with the sign of the cross and continued with a reading from God's Word. Then we began to talk about our personal experiences in reference to the reading. We all had different stories to tell about how we had come closer to the Lord. I remember that we repeated often during the mission the fact that each and every one of us is an important part of the community. Because we are baptized in the faith, we are all truly children of God. Since we are His people, we are necessary members of our communities.

I believe the Holy Spirit was present among us because they listened attentively to our words and I think we touched their hearts. At the end of each visit, we handed out our parish newspaper, rosaries and a pamphlet on how to pray the rosary. At the end of each day, we returned to our Church, Sts. Peter and Paul, and ended with a prayer.

On a personal note, I wanted to comment that I didn't talk very much during the mission, but even though it was very hot outside, I went. Whether in car or on foot, I think it's good to participate in these types of activities that our Hispanic Community needs. I have noticed that many of those that used to be Catholic have fallen away, and for many of them, they only do it to fulfill material and personal needs. In those cases, they are only satisfying physical needs, but not spiritual ones, and they are falling farther and farther away from the Lord. Maybe our presence as young people helped our brothers and sisters to seek God always. Let us not forget about our brothers and sisters who have fallen away; let's reach out to all of them.

One day I was reading an article and I learned that you lose more hav-

Spreading God's Message *(Continued from page 29)*

direction in the confusion. But you don't see the full picture. That's the point. That's what faith is..."

-Bono

"Words and music did for me what solid, even rigorous religious argument could ever do, they introduced me to God. As a result the book of Psalms always felt open to me and led me to the Poetry of Ecclesiastes, the song of Solomon, the book of John..."

-Bono

My husband and I have always enjoyed U2's music. We would grab that CD every time we travel and listen to it. It's one of Keith's all time favorite rock bands. It is just so nice to know that one of the bands we truly love to listen to, stand for something that is so pleasing in the eyes of God. I can say to my son Ben, "Hey did you know that Bono from U2 is a Christian?" "That he has talked to Christopher West, who writes about the-

ology of the body."

You know what I would like for more kids to do? I know that many get on the Internet everyday. I would like to see more teens look up their role models and see what they stand for. See if the people they look up to have a Christian belief. Read about their humanitarian efforts.

When I do ask Ben to come into the computer room, I usually say, "Hey check this out and listen to this." I get lucky most of the time and he will listen or read what I want him to see. Ben loves music. He really listens to a variety, except he told me he doesn't care for country music.

Don't give up, parents, keep on introducing your children to music that kinda fits their taste. Once Keith and I took Ben to his first Christian concert, and that was when we noticed a change in Ben's music of interest. He loves Rock music so we invited him to go with us to a Christian rock concert Casting Crowns, and we all had a great time and he really did enjoy it.

Remember good can come from the Internet. It's what WE put in front of our teens that can make a difference.

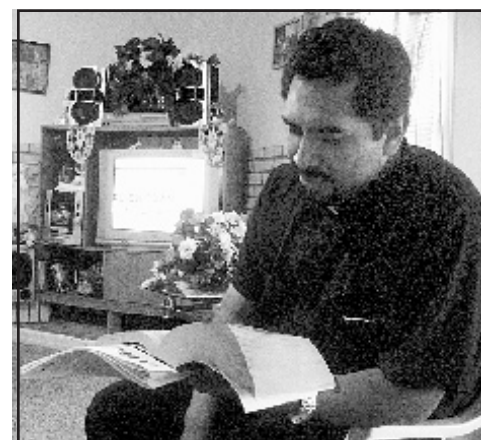
+JMJ+

Julie Murphy



In the photo above, Erick Vaquez with a young woman and Father Carmelo in front of the Baptistry of Saints Pater and Paul Church, Hopkinsville. At right, Father Carmelo with The Word; below, Father Carmelo visiting in people's homes. Byron Macias photos

ing been Catholic and later falling away than you do having been born Protestant and being Protestant your whole life. One of the most valuable assets lost is the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary. That's why I believe that there's nothing we can seek in any other religion that we can't find in our Catholic faith.



Happy Anniversary

Marriage Celebrations for October Anniversaries of 25, 40, 50 and over 50 years of marriage

Blessed Mother, Owensboro

Dan & Carol Goedde, 25
Leo & Angela Thompson, 62
George & Mary Virginia Ballard, 65
Cliff & Margaret Mills, 59
Jack & Lilly Wilson, 61

Christ the King, Madisonville

Rob & Sarah Whittington, 25
Maurice & Patty Jolley, 56

Christ the King, Scottsville

Ken & Mary Mattingly, 52
Samuel A. & Annette Harris, 54

Holy Guardian Angel, Irvington

Kenny & Martha Barger, 60

Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson

Rudy & Agnes Gibson, 57
Tom & Sue Hagan, 53
Leslie & Sarah Jennings, 64
Clarence & Margaret Kaminski, 59

Ray & Evelyn Shoemaker, 61

Herman & Mary Ruth Thomas, 55
Bernard & Patsy Thomas, 52
William & Virginia Tomas, 62

Holy Trinity, Morgantown

Melvin & Mary Anne Bowles, 40

Holy Spirit, Bowling Green

Morris & Tammy Jackson, 25
Jerry & Kathy Lacy, 25
Leon & Sherry Volkert, 40
Alan & Judith Tourville, 50
Steve & Mary Jane Swigonski, 57
Camille & Margaret Picciano, 65

Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

Charles & Linda Kamuf, 40
Joseph & Marilou Blanford, 56
Elwood & Joanne Castlen, 59
Jack & Margie Clark, 59

David & Patricia Hamilton, 56

Harry & Doris McCrary, 52

Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro

Joseph W. & Vicki Mills, 25
Gerald & Lucy Goetz, 40
Francis Vincent & Brenda Joy Keller, 40
Hubert & Margie Terry, 50

Joseph C. & Mildred Higdon, 54

George D. & Jennie Howard, 62

Billy & Anna C. King, 58

Andrew A. & Charlotte Reynolds, 55

Lester & Helen Schaick, 59

Melvin & Mary Eleanor Wathen, 56

George L. & Anna Weldon, 52

Precious Blood, Owensboro

Bob & Sandy Devine, 25
Steve & Kaye Johnson, 25
E.C. & Reba Goldsmith, 51

Sacred Heart, Waverly

Donald & Ellen Buckman, 54

St. Agnes, Uniontown

Wesley & Marie Spaulding, 40

St. Ann, Morganfield

Michael Harold & Rebecca Green, 40
Bobby & Mary Jane Watson, 40
Eddie & Peggy Slayers, 57

St. Anthony, Axtel

Herman & Thelma Howard, 54
John & Shirley Coffey, 57

St. Anthony, Peonia

Eugene & Georgetta Smith, 50

St. Benedict, Wax

Russell & Rudell Higdon, 52

St. Charles, Bardwell

Gerald & Susan Hayden, 40

St. Charles, Livermore

Mark & Tonya Logsdon, 25

St. Columba, Lewisport

Clyde & Anita Cambron, 40

St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

Dent & Nancy Doyle, 40
Siro & Marcella Pandolfi, 60

St. Henry, Aurora

Herschel & Polly Underwood, 60

St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

Jack & Mary Ann Purcell, 50

St. John the Evangelist, Paducah

Ray & Martha Levesque, 25
Charles & Rosella Shoulta, 54
Ray & Martha Levesque, 50

St. Joseph, Bowling Green

James & Janice Renusch, 50

St. Joseph, Central City

Victor & Rose Rogier, 61

St. Joseph, Leitchfield

James P. & Nellie Alvey, 59

St. Joseph, Mayfield

Harold & Barbara Hayden, 53
Joseph & June Elliott, 61

St. Lawrence, Philpot

Bernard & Kathleen Wright, 51

St. Leo, Murray

Bruno & Helen Zubko, 64
Ralph & Beatrice Barrera, 52
Alfred & Patricia Koehler, 51

St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho

David & Sandi Boswell, 40
Larry & Ruth Oller, 40
Bobby & Faye Millay, 50

St. Martin, Rome

Tony & Thomasine Weise, 52
James & Margaret Bickett, 53
John & Eloise Chandler, 53
Bill & Patti Wink, 53

St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Don & Karen Vessels, 25
J. Wendell & Mary Ann Aud, 40
Earl & Carolyn Howard, 40
J. Donald & Paula Ward, 40
William & Opal Boarman, 63
Audry & Martha Hagan, 62

St. Michael, Oak Grove

Orin & Virginia Koch, 52

St. Paul, Princeton

George & Carmen Richardville, 57

St. Peter, Waverly

Anthony & Betty Wolfe, 64
Louie & Rita Mills, 53

St. Pius X, Calvert City

Joe Bob & Kathy Canup, 25
Andy & Lori Williams, 25

St. Pius X, Owensboro

Tracy & Cindy Christian, 25
William A. & Dorothy Mattingly, 25
Michael & Donna Richard, 25

St. Romuald, Hardinsburg

Merl & Marty Kannapel, 62
Charles & Louise Roach, 60
Harold & Libby Osborne, 55

St. Rose, Cloverport

John & Libby Popham, 51
Richard & Dorothy Carter, 58
James & Mary Jo Carter, 59

St. Sebastian, Calhoun

Mark & Tonya Logsdon, 25

St. Stephen, Cadiz

Joseph & Joan Halbleib, 40
Charles & Betty Head, 59
Rich & Lolita Krusinski, 59

St. Thomas More, Paducah

Tom & Cindy Butterbaugh, 25
Kelly & Barbara Robinson, 50
Edward & Pat Kortz, 56

St. Mary & St. James, Guthrie

Norbert & Helen Hock, 53

Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro

James & Doris Mills, 50
Eugene & Mary Bickwermer, 61

Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

Phillip & Ruby Carsone, 54
Eugene & Marcella Simmons, 51
Bill & Kathryn Whittinghill, 60

SPIRITUAL ACCOMPANIMENT STUDIES OF HENRI NOUWEN



Coming to Maple Mount
OCT. 17-19, 2008

This retreat weekend is for anyone in ministry who would like to learn from the late Henri Nouwen's courage to confront imperfections, in the light of the Gospel, in order to pursue a journey of perfection.

The presenter is Wil Hernandez, Ph.D., of the Leadership Institute in California.

Dr. Hernandez teaches and lectures widely on the spirituality of Nouwen, a Dutch Catholic priest who authored over 40 books on spiritual life. Dr. Hernandez has written two books about Nouwen, including, "Henri Nouwen and Soul Care: A Ministry of Integration."



Wil Hernandez

During the retreat, Dr. Hernandez will help participants uncover the spirituality of Nouwen and bring us courage and hope so that we, too, can care for our soul and reach out to others within the embrace of God's love.

Cost is \$175 for residents and \$125 for commuters. To register, contact

Kathy McCarty

270-229-0200, ext. 413

kmcarty@maplemount.org

www.msjcenter.org

Pictured above: An illustration from Henri Nouwen's book, "A Cry for Mercy"



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42355-3999
270-259-0200

A Letter To The Editor

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.

Greed in the Economy: It's the Morality, Sinner

By Jim Wallis, Sojourners Magazine

Everyone has heard the famous phrase, attributed to James Carville, which supposedly won the 1992 presidential election for Bill Clinton: "It's the economy, stupid!" It's still good advice, especially as the shocking collapse of the financial markets has turned the election campaign into a much more serious and somber discussion than lipstick on pigs.

But the issue is deeper than just the economy. I would now rephrase Carville and say, "It's the morality, sinner!" And I would direct it to the people who have been making the decisions about the direction of this economy from Wall Street to Washington. Here is the morality play:

Aggressive lending to potential homebuyers using subprime and adjustable rate mortgages led to "mortgage-backed securities" being sold to investors at high returns. As housing prices dropped and interest rates rose, homeowners got caught, fell behind on payments, and millions of foreclosures followed. That resulted in the mortgage-backed assets losing value with banks unable to sell the securities. So the subprime lenders began to fail. Asset declines then spread to investment banks. We have now seen the sale of Bear Stearns brokered by the government, and last week the government took over Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac as mortgage defaults threatened them. Then Lehman Brothers fell into bankruptcy and Merrill Lynch was sold. Now another bailout, this time of AIG, the largest insurance company in the country -- whose potential demise threatened the whole financial system even further.

During the height of the lending frenzy, many people got very rich, as they did during the previous technology bubble. Now with the collapse, experts say the most likely result will be further tightening of credit and lending standards for consumers and businesses. Home, retail, and business loans will become more expensive and harder to secure. And the consequences of that will spread to most of America.

In the accounts and interpretation of these events, a word is slowly entering

the discussion and analysis — greed. It's an old concept, and one with deep moral roots. Even venerable establishment economists such as Robert Samuelson now say, "Greed and fear, which routinely govern financial markets, have seeded this global crisis ... short-term rewards blinded them to the long-term dangers."

The people on top of the American economy get rich whether they make good or bad decisions, while workers and consumers are the ones who suffer from all their bad ones. Prudent investment has been replaced with reckless financial gambling in what some have called a "casino economy." And the benefits accruing to top CEOs and financial managers, especially as compared to the declining wages of average workers, has become one of the greatest moral travesties of our time.

In the search for blame, some say greed and some say deregulation. Both are right. The financial collapse of Wall Street is the fiscal consequence of the economic philosophy that now governs America — that markets are always good and government is always bad. But it is also the moral consequence of greed, where private profit prevails over the concept of the common good. The American economy is often rooted in unbridled materialism, a culture that continues to extol greed, a false standard of values that puts short-term profits over societal health, and a distorted calculus that measures human worth by personal income instead of character, integrity, and generosity.

Americans have a love-hate relationship with government and business. The climate seems to shift between an "anything goes" mentality and stricter government regulation. The excesses of the 1920s, leading to the Great Depression, were followed by the reforms of Franklin Roosevelt.

The entrepreneurial spirit and social innovation fostered by a market economy has benefited many and should not be overly encumbered by unnecessary or stifling regulations. But left to its own devices and human weakness (let's call it sin), the market too often disintegrates into greed and corruption, as the Wall Street financial collapse painfully reveals. Capitalism needs rules, or it easily becomes destructive. A healthy, balanced relationship between free enterprise on

the one hand, and public accountability and regulation, on the other, is morally and practically essential. Government should encourage innovation, but it must also limit greed.

The behavior of too many on Wall Street is a violation of biblical ethics. The teachings of Christianity, Judaism, and other faiths condemn the greed, selfishness, and cheating that have been revealed in corporate behavior over decades now, and denounce their callous mistreatment of employees. Read your Bible.

The strongest critics of the Wall Street gamblers call it putting self-interest above the public interest; the Bible would call it a sin. I don't know about the church- or synagogue-going habits of the nation's top financial managers, but if they do attend services, I wonder if they ever hear a religious word about the practices of arranging huge personal bonuses and escape hatches while destroying the lives of people who work for them. We now need wisdom from the economists, prudence from the business community, and renewal courses on the common good from the nation's religious leaders. It's time for

the pulpit to speak — for the religious community to bring the Word of God to bear on the moral issues of the American economy. The Bible speaks of such things from beginning to end, so why not our pastors and preachers?

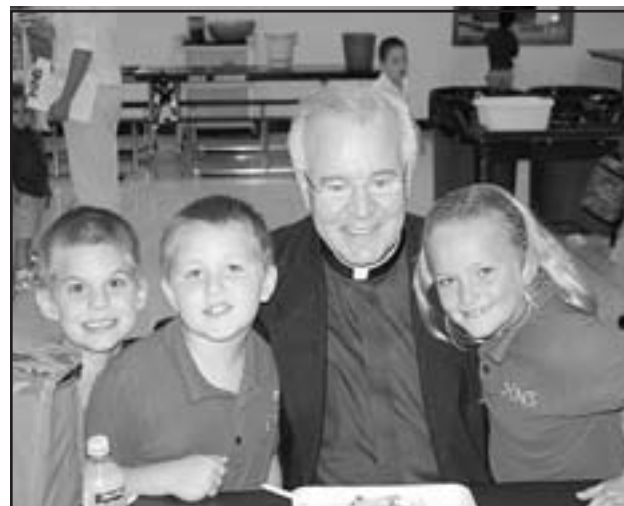
Editor's Note: I've heard several Western Kentucky Catholic pastors preach on the topic of bringing your problems and pains to the Cross of Jesus. Many speak of the greed pervasive in our society and especially in the national media markets. Every Lent and Advent, we hear Western Kentucky Catholic priests deliver homilies about the need to change one's life, to turn to Jesus for forgiveness, to make a complete turning around of one's life direction toward doing the will of God alone - a "metanoia," (from the Merriam Webster Online Dictionary: Greek, from metanoiein to change one's mind, repent, from meta- + noein to think, from nous mind. Date: 1577) some call it. Our pastors and preachers speak with us many times of avoiding greed and evil and turning our lives around to do only the good, only the Father's will.

Blessings For New School Year

At the opening Mass on Fri. Aug. 8, Father John Thomas read a special blessing for the school to the congregation. After Mass, Fr. John Thomas, Fr. Shijo Vadakkumkara, and Fr. Carmelo Jimenez who concelebrated Mass went into each classroom and blessed the room for the year. He also recognized two



teachers who have taught many years at the school. Above, Father Shijo sprinkled Holy Water in Norma Folz' 4th grade classroom at Sts. Peter and Paul. Photo by Jim Mattingly, Diocesan Superintendent of Schools



Lunch With Father

Father Edward Bradley, pastor of Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Henderson, stops by Holy Name School to eat lunch with the students and see first hand how school is going. Eating with Father Bradley is Cole Fogle, Alex Wolfe, and Emma Arnold. HNE Photo

Council of Religious Enrichment Day

The Council Of Religious is sponsoring a day of enrichment for all religious of the diocese at The Catholic Pastoral Center, Owensboro, on Saturday, November 8. Registration starts at 9:30 am; the day concludes at 3 pm. Topic: Consider Conscious, Its Ongoing Formation in Light of the Church's Teaching: Aspects of the habit and act of conscious, the need for discernment, the value of community and the knowledge of Church Documents.



The day will be presented by Marlene Lehmkuhl, Sister of Charity of Nazareth. Marlene has been the Pastoral Administrator of St. Charles Church in Marion County, KY for the past 4 1/2 years. Prior to that Marlene was director of the SCN Associates for 6 years. Sister taught at Mercyhurst College and was director of Mercy Institute for Religious Education and Lay Ministry in Erie, PA. She also taught Catholic Social Teaching at the Josephinum in Columbus, OH, while serving in parish and soup kitchen ministry.

Eating Standing Up *(Continued from page 37)*

tions. Two honks for the Bishop!

It was a pleasant surprise to see so many young people working the picnic. Young adults and youth alike helped to make the picnic a success. Josh Clary, who works in Admissions at Brescia, tried to tempt bystanders into purchasing a fruit basket. Stephanie Thomas, a senior at Brescia, invited children and adults to race a pig, while sporting a fashionable pig hat. Middle schoolers Sidney Riney and Allie Payne worked the family burgoon booth.

Of course I can't fail to mention the young at heart. Sr. Jane Miriam, OSU tirelessly sold raffle tickets to those feeling especially lucky. And in my case, she decided to help Sr. Alicia

Coomes, Vocations Director for the Ursuline Sisters and ask me to consider a vocation with the Ursulines. Many such sweet little sisters peppered the grounds. Sr. Eva Marie sat on the lawn all afternoon, calmly working a spinning wheel and speaking to curious passers-by.

The picnic attracted such a crowd that even walking down the main path was difficult. Adults with a sweet tooth would see someone walk past with an ice cream cone and ask where they could get one. Children showed off the little toys and prizes they had won playing games. Toddlers bounced around on the large inflatable. The day proved enjoyable and revitalizing, surely an experience to share with Yankee family and friends up north!

Real presence in Eucharist makes people like Christ, says pope

By Catholic News Service

ALBANO, Italy (CNS) -- The real presence of Christ in the Eucharist has a dynamism that draws people in and makes them more like Christ, Pope Benedict XVI said.

At a Sept. 21 Mass in Albano, a small town in the hills south of Rome, Pope Benedict consecrated the new altar in the town's cathedral.

The pope told those gathered for the morning Mass that they should be filled with joy knowing that "each day the sacrifice of Christ" will be offered on the new altar.

"On this altar, he will continue to sacrifice himself in the sacrament of the Eucharist for our salvation and that of the whole world," he said.

"In the eucharistic mystery, renewed on every altar, Jesus makes himself truly present," the pope said.

His presence has power, he added.

"It draws us in to make us his own, to

make us similar to him; it attracts us with the strength of his love, leading us out of ourselves in order to unite us to him, making us one with him," the pope said.

Through baptism, religious education and preaching, Christians are shaped and molded into the living stones that make up the church, he said, but the result is complete "only when they are joined together by love."

"Therefore, the love of Christ, the love that will never end, is the spiritual energy that unites those who participate in the same sacrifice and are nourished by the one bread broken for the salvation of the world," the pope said.

Pope Benedict told the people of Albano that they must be in communion with one another in order to be in communion with the Lord. They must approach the altar ready to forgive one another and to ask God's forgiveness.

Brescia University Announces President's Award for Teaching Innovation

Owensboro, KY – Fr. Larry Hostetter, Brescia University president, presented this year the first annual President's Award for Teaching Innovation to Conrad Toepfer, Ph.D.

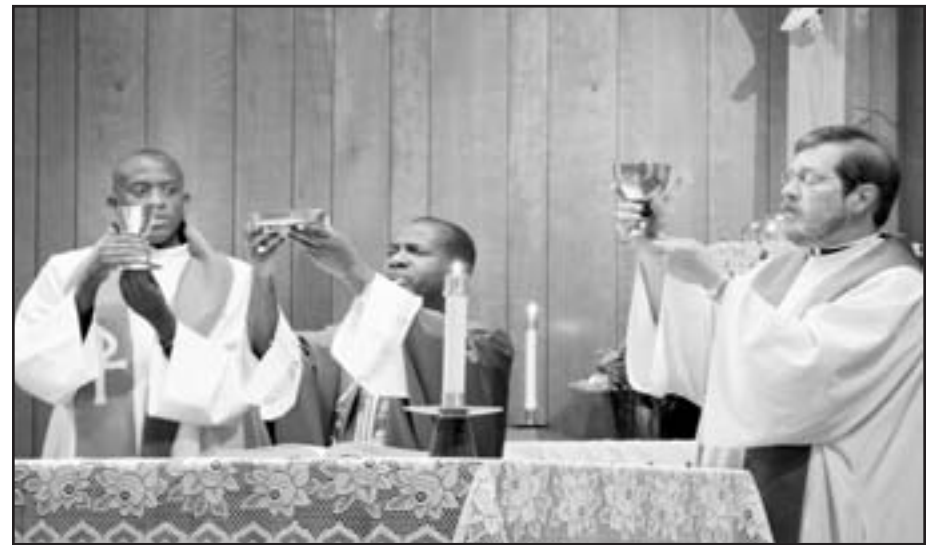
The award was created by President Hostetter to recognize outstanding teachers at Brescia who support the University's mission of teaching of learning, and as a way to offer a development opportunity for the entire faculty. Hostetter said that the faculty are "at the heart of what we do and have the greatest potential to influence our students as they chose their life's path. It is our faculty together with our students who are most directly involved in teaching and learning."

Faculty were able to nominate either themselves or others for the award. Seven nominees were narrowed down by the Dean's Council to three finalists: John Marvin, Ph.D., Edna Murphey, and Conrad Toepfer, Ph.D. Three outside evaluators, Jim Mattingly, superintendent for Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Owensboro; Joan Perry, science faculty at Owensboro Catholic High School; and Jeff Fritz, math faculty at Owensboro Catholic High School, made the decision as to who should receive the award this year.

Edna Murphey was recognized for innovative use of technology in teaching English as a Second Language, which included writing journals, informal chat sessions and teaching vocabulary with the use of comic strips. In her Advanced Reading course she used debate to help the students hone their listening and communication skills.

John Marvin was recognized for a "Guided Inquiry" procedure he used in his labs. He had attended a course in 2006 describing "Process Oriented Guided Inquiry Learning" and applied that to his own classes.

Conrad Toepfer was selected for his "Teaching Without a Net" practice. This method was first used in the spring of 2006 during a new course, Applied Environmental Science, an upper-level elective in the biology major at Brescia. Most of the students in his class had already taken a four-semester biology core, but had no previous exposure to environmental biology. Toepfer designed the course to center around discussion and research of case studies versus lectures. Students were evaluated on participation in discussion, coordination of research, and a journal they produced. Toepfer says the students, through taking this course, "developed a greater level of skepticism and were more willing to question the validity of statements from different sides of controversial issues." Toepfer was given \$300 toward professional development and a plaque naming him the 2008 recipient for the President's Award for Teaching Innovation.



At St. Paul Church Sept 21, 2008, Bishop Robert K. Muhiirwa elevated the hosts as Fr Titus Ahabyona, left, and pastor Fr. Marty Hayes elevated the chalices at the Sunday Mass. **NEXT MONTH**, the Western Kentucky Catholic will carry a full story about Bishop Roberts visit to St. Paul, and St. Elizabeth, Clarkson parishes, both in Grayson County, Sept 21. Staff Photo

El Amor Cruza La Frontera: *Aprendiendo de la Cultura Mexicana*

Por Larena Lawson, Traducido por Tami Schneider

Tuve la gran bendición y el placer de viajar a México el 5 de agosto, en respuesta a la invitación de nuestro seminarista, Julio Barrera, para conocer a su familia. Julio es una persona muy especial para mí y para toda mi familia y era un gozo increíble poder conocer a su familia después de comunicarme con ellos por correo por más de un año. La visita era mucho más de lo que pudiera haber pedido, realmente un regalo. La mayoría de su familia era presente cuando llegué y me dieron la bienvenida de una reina, presentándose con un ramo de rosas y azucenas frescas, y tiraron confeti desde el balcón de arriba. Me sentí como en un callejón sin salida cuando quisieron que adivinara los nombres de todos. Conocía a la mayoría por sus fotos y cuando identificaba alguien correctamente, gritaron “¡Bravo!” y todos aplaudieron. Eso era nada más el inicio de lo que me esperaba en los próximos 9 días; solamente una fracción de lo que Dios quiso demostrarme y enseñarme, y llegaron a ser memorias que siempre atesoraré.

Quizá preguntas ¿que tipo de cosas aprendiste?

Cuando vi cuanto la familia estaba haciendo para hacerme sentir en casa, fácilmente entendí porque Julio tiene una personalidad tan cálida y cariñosa. Se crió dentro de un hogar donde la familia se quiere genuinamente. Siempre se saludan con abrazo y beso y un “Hola” o “Buenos días” amigable, o el saludo apropiado a la hora del día. Incluso llevan los bebés a saludarles a todos. Comparten las comidas alrededor de la mesa y toman el tiempo de disfrutar la buena conversación. Aunque hablaron en español y se me hizo difícil entender de qué platicaban, sí entendía muy claramente el amor que compartieron entre ellos y conmigo. ¡Era realmente bello ver!

Más de una vez, el papá de Julio se disculpó por no poder ofrecerme más, diciendo que son pobres, pero que iban a dar todo lo que podrían por respeto a mí, a mi esposo, y mi familia. Después de pasar un tiempo con su familia, le tenía que decir, con la ayuda de Julio para traducir, que

“A lo mejor creen o sienten que son pobres, pero en verdad son tan ricos; por el amor, la fe y la familia.”

La lección que aprendí era que no se trata de las cosas materiales de este mundo, pero todo se trata del amor y de dar ese amor a los demás. Me inundaron con su felicidad y su amor.

Julio me llevó a ver la Basílica de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, al punto del cerro de Tepeyac donde apareció Nuestra Señora, a las pirámides ancianas de Teotihuacan, al Catedral de la Ciudad de México y a un castillo de un emperador. Vi muchas cosas que me contaron algo de la historia de la ciudad más grande del mundo.

La gente de México es muy piadosa y devota. Su fe es fuerte. Sus iglesias son bellas y adornadas con muchas flores frescas. Tienen santuarios a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe en todas partes. Su fe y sus tradiciones de honor y alabanza a Dios y a Nuestra Señora me impresionaron profundamente. Era un honor poder alabar y celebrar con ellos.



Julio Barrera, (a la izquierda, con chaqueta negro), en su casa con su familia para una celebración familiar: “A lo mejor creen o sienten que son pobres, pero en verdad son tan ricos; por el amor, la fe y la familia.” Foto por Larena Lawson.

Julio habló mucho sobre la vocación y su desarrollo. Poder ver los lugares donde todo empezó, el primer seminario que asistió arriba del bello Sacromonte, con vista a la ciudad de Amecameca, que tiene la dicha del esplendor de los volcanes, Popocatepetl y Iztacchihuatl, me ayudó a captar mejor la gloria de Dios obrando en la vida de Julio. También visité al Seminario Hispano de Santa Maria de Guadalupe, donde Julio anteriormente asistió, y donde ahora asiste nuestro seminarista guatemalteco, Basilio Az. Ver a estos lugares me da una idea más clara de donde vienen.

Mientras nos preparábamos para salir de la casa de Julio en Amecameca, me conmoví con lágrimas al ver la tristeza de su familia al verlo salir. Cuando se hincó en frente de su altarcito en honor a la Virgen para recibir la bendición de su papá, me di cuenta del sacrificio enorme que está haciendo él y su familia para que él sea sacerdote en nuestra diócesis. Está entregando todo para hacer la voluntad de Dios, aunque lo lleva lejos de su hogar y su familia. Aunque se encuentra lejos de ellos físicamente, permanecen muy cercanos de él con todo su amor y su apoyo. Siempre admiraré y buscaré imitar la devoción que demuestran unos a otros, acogiendo a Julio con amor.

Ciertamente el amor ha cruzado la frontera y que lo aceptemos con el mismo amor que nos ha sido dado.



Larena Lawson, (arriba con la Sra. Sara, mamá de seminarista Julio Barrera) presentó a cada familiar de Julio con un regalo y/o una carta. Ellos también la dieron regalitos con mucho cariño junto con una bienvenida impresionante. Durante su viaje, pudo visitar a la Basílica de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, a otro seminarista, Basilio Az en el Seminario Hispano de Santa Maria de Guadalupe y los pirámides. Foto sometida por Larena Lawson.

Estimados Feligreses de la Diócesis de Owensboro,

El “Programa de Respetar la Vida” de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de Estados Unidos (USCCB) ha estado en existencia desde 1972 y ha sido la pieza central de los esfuerzos de la Conferencia para educar a los Católicos en los “asuntos de la vida.” Este programa tradicionalmente empieza el primer domingo de octubre.

De nuevo, el Comité del USCCB para Actividades Pro-Vida ha enviado un programa para este año, y de nuevo empieza con “EL DOMINGO DE RESPETO HACIA LA VIDA – el 5 DE OCTUBRE, 2008” y está escrito para uso en 2008 y 2009.

La falta de respeto hacia la vida no es algo nuevo en esta nación, la cual se estableció sobre la creencia que Dios nos había otorgado a cada ser humano un derecho inalienable a la vida. Nosotros, como nación, también tratamos de traer la *libertad y justicia a todos*, lo cual significaría en mi opinión desde el momento de la concepción hasta la muerte natural. Desde que se fundó, esta nación ha batallado por hacer estos derechos humanos básicos una realidad para aquellos que viven en los Estados Unidos, y ha sido nuestro punto de referencia en todas nuestras interacciones con otras naciones a través de los años. Todos somos muy concientes de que en los más de 200 años hemos fallado en mantenernos fieles a nuestros ideales originales que fundaron esta gran nación.

Ante todo es nuestra falta no otorgar el derecho inalienable de la vida a cada ser humano, empezando con los que aun no han nacido. Pero también, solamente tienen que visitar a cualquier comunidad de los Americanos Nativos, los Americanos Africanos, o los millones de pobres y hambrientos en nuestro país, los que no tienen hogar, los desempleados, las mujeres, los miembros de ciertas religiones (los católicos siendo una) y muchos otros para saber que ha habido muchos más fallos increíbles.

Como nación, nos enfrenta un gran desafío. Enfrentamos todo, desde la injusticia de un aborto al llamado increíble para la eutanasia. Hemos avanzado en muchas áreas, pero hemos tomado muchos pasos hacia atrás en otras áreas.

Ahora enfrentamos asuntos de vida que nos han vuelto, como nos recordaba nuestro querido Santo Padre anterior, en un mundo con una cultura de muerte en lugar de una cultura de vida. Enfrentamos tales asuntos como los dos que ya se mencionaron, el aborto y la eutanasia, pero también la violencia de la guerra, un mundo con alrededor de un billón de personas hambrientas y mal nutridas viviendo en la pobreza extrema, en naciones donde la tortura y la matanza es casi parte de la vida diaria. Esta lista tan triste podría seguir y seguir.

A través de los años, la Iglesia Católica y sus líderes han visto esta falta de respeto hacia la vida como una prenda sin costura, que siempre empieza con el aborto. Si no permitir que los bebés nazcan es la ley de Los Estados Unidos y muchas otras naciones, el sentido común nos dice que tenemos que empezar desde allí para promover el respeto hacia la vida. Sin embargo, si derrocamos Roe v. Wade y al mismo tiempo fallamos respetar la vida después del nacimiento, al final devolveríamos al punto donde estamos hoy en la lucha por los no nacidos. Si permitimos que quiten la vida humana simplemente a causa de la edad o una enfermedad seria o una discapacidad, no progresaremos en transformar esta cultura de muerte en una cultura de vida.

Nuestro Santo Padre, el Papa Benedicto XVI, ha puesto mucho énfasis en la necesidad de la esperanza. Ha escrito extensivamente y habla largo y detenido sobre la necesidad

de la virtud de la esperanza. Así que, el tema del “Programa de Respetar la Vida” de este año es “LA ESPERANZA Y LA CONFIANZA EN LA VIDA.” El Papa Benedicto, dirigiéndose a los Obispos de Los Estados Unidos en abril, dijo lo siguiente: “La influencia sutil del secularismo puede...colorear la manera en que la gente permite que su fe influya su comportamiento. ¿Es consistente profesar nuestras creencias en la iglesia los domingos y luego promover prácticas de comercio o procedimientos médicos contrarios a esa creencia durante la semana? ¿Es consistente que católicos practicantes ignoren o se aprovechan de los pobres y los marginalizados para promover comportamientos sexuales contrarios a la enseñanza moral católica, o adoptar posiciones que contradicen el derecho a la vida de cada ser humano desde la concepción hasta la muerte natural?”

Entonces, realmente ¿hemos considerado las consecuencias de este hueco entre la profesión de nuestra fe y el hecho de vivirla? El Santo Padre continuó diciendo que bajo la “marca Americana de secularismo, la fe se hace una aceptación pasiva de que ciertas cosas ‘allí afuera’ son verdaderos, pero sin relevancia práctica a la vida diaria. El resultado es una creciente separación entre la fe y la vida: viviendo como si Dios no existiera.”

El Papa Benedicto nos motiva a ser claros en nuestras creencias, a actuar consistentemente con ellas y ser animados en nuestros esfuerzos a transformar nuestra cultura. El Santo Padre, en una plática que dio en Nueva York durante su visita histórica a los Estados Unidos dijo, “Porque la vida verdadera — nuestra salvación — se puede encontrar solamente en la reconciliación, la libertad y el amor, las cuales son dones misericordiosos de Dios.”

Esta “dicotomía falsa entre la fe y como vivimos nuestras vidas” no empezó en enero del 1973, pero sí llegó al nivel más bajo en ese día trágico de Roe v. Wade. Solamente puedo repetir la súplica del Santo Padre para todos nosotros: “La Iglesia está llamada a proclamar el don de la vida, a servir la vida y promover la cultura de la vida. Somos llamados a proclamar y plasmar este mensaje de esperanza en un mundo donde el egoísmo, la avaricia, la violencia y el cinismo muchas veces parecen asfixiar el crecimiento frágil de la gracia en los corazones de las personas.”

Termino esto pidiéndoles a todos que consideren todos los asuntos mencionados aquí a la luz de ser administradores buenos. Dios nos ha dado todo lo que tenemos, y somos llamados a administrar los bienes de Dios por el bien de los demás y por el honor y la gloria de Dios. Si creemos que somos dueños de todo (en lugar de ser agradecidos por los dones que hemos recibido de Dios), nada va a cambiar. Si podemos hacer que siendo buenos administradores de los bienes de Dios sea parte de nuestra vida de fe, como discípulos de Jesucristo, no hay nada que no podremos cambiar.

Depende de nosotros. De hecho somos administradores – ¿vamos a ser administradores buenos o malos? Cada uno tiene que contestar la pregunta por sí mismo. Ser un administrador malo de nuestra fe y de otros dones permitirá que crezca la cultura de la muerte; ser buen administrador transformará a la Diócesis, al país y al mundo en una cultura de la vida.

Promover el respeto hacia la vida es ser buen administrador. Así que, si queremos ser administradores buenos, cada uno de nosotros promoveremos el respeto hacia la vida en todas sus formas.

+ *John J. McRaith*

+ John J. McRaith, Obispo de la Diócesis de Owensboro



Más Reverendo Obispo de Owensboro
Obispo John J. McRaith

Los Miembros del Comité de Revisión Diocesano Están Listos para Contestar Llamadas

Los miembros del Comité quienes tratan las alegaciones de abuso sexual abuse en la Diócesis de Owensboro son los siguientes: Larry Abel, Chair, Ms. June Bell, Vice-Chair, Dr. Charles Bohle, Sr. Vivian Bowles, OSU, Ms. Susan Clark, Rev. Pat Connell, Mr. William Craig, Jr., Dr. Carroll Howard, Sr. Eula Johnson, SCN, Sr. Jacinta Powers, OSU, y Rev. Pat Reynolds. Ms. Louanne Gelarden sirve como enlace entre el Obispo y el Comité de Revisión.

A cualquier persona que quiera comunicar con el Comité de Revisión Diocesano se le pide que llame al Centro Pastoral Católico al 1-270-683-1545 y pregunte por un miembro del Comité de Revisión. Si quiere hablar con un miembro particular del Comité, lo puede mencionar a la recepcionista. En cualquier caso, la recepcionista en el Centro Pastoral Católico entregará la información de la persona que llamó al Comité de Revisión para seguimiento. Los que llaman pueden escoger mantenerse anónimos para la primera llamada a la recepcionista del Centro Pastoral Católico. No se harán públicos los números telefónicos de los miembros del Comité.

También pueden comunicarse con el Comité por email al: reviewboard@pastoral.org. Asegúrense de incluir su información personal. No les contestaremos directamente por email porque nunca se puede garantizar la confidencialidad al usar email. Nos comunicaremos con ustedes por teléfono.



El Señor Cardenal Francis George, de Chicago, el Monseñor Scott Friend, de la Diócesis de Little Rock, Arkansas, y el Padre Jack Wall, presidente de "Catholic Extension" comparten un momento de fraternidad. Catholic Extension Society Foto sometido por Cristóbal Gutiérrez.

La Reforma Migratoria Ocupó Un Espacio Importante En La Conferencia Nacional Sobre Migración

WASHINGTON— La búsqueda de una reforma migratoria amplia fue uno de los temas principales de la Conferencia Nacional sobre Migración 2008 que tomó lugar del 28 al 31 de julio en el Hilton Washington Hotel de esta ciudad.

"El asunto de inmigración es una de las preocupaciones más controversiales a las que se enfrenta nuestro país", dijo Kevin Appleby, director de asuntos de política migratoria de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos (USCCB). "El Santo Padre habló del lado humano de este asunto en varias ocasiones durante su visita en abril. La conferencia examinará el asunto en profundidad con la esperanza de proporcionar a los participantes en la conferencia una mayor perspectiva sobre esto y sobre cómo la Iglesia puede hacer una contribución positiva al debate nacional".

En su discurso de apertura, la tarde del 28 de julio, el Cardenal Roger Mahony, de Los Ángeles, abordará el actual debate nacional sobre inmigración y ofreció a los participantes un proyecto para participar en el debate y crear la voluntad política para lograr una reforma migratoria amplia.

El profesor Marcelo Suárez-Orozco, experto sobre migración internacional de la Universidad de Nueva York, ofrecerá una presentación detallada sobre los patrones migratorios globales y sus causas, creando una vinculación entre estos y la situación actual en EE.UU.

El martes, 29 de julio, la Subsecretaria de Inmigración y Aduanas del Departamento de Seguridad Interna, Julie Myers, habló y respondió a preguntas de los participantes sobre las recientes redadas migratorias por todo el país.

Esa tarde, varios talleres se enfocaron sobre inmigración y necesidad de reforma. En dos talleres consecutivos—"Regreso al Futuro: Estrategias para una Reforma Migratoria Amplia" y "Regreso al Futuro: Reforma Migratoria y Mensaje"—revisaron lecciones aprendidas del fracaso de la reforma en 2007 y pasos necesarios a seguir para lograr nuevas reformas en 2009 y más allá. El segundo taller examinó los mensajes apropiados para influir en los católicos y en otros, y para contrarrestar la retórica anti-inmigrante usada a menudo por los oponentes a la reforma. La campaña Justicia Para Inmigrantes, la iniciativa de los obispos de EE.UU. para educar a los católicos sobre inmigración, ofreció una

Que bueno es cuando los hermanos conviven juntos. Hace 8 meses iniciamos el curso Liderazgo Latino. En su penúltimo nivel los mismos nuevos líderes iniciaron su tarea de dirigir a sus comunidades. A la izquierda, German comparte con los líderes unos ideas acerca de la recaudación de fondos. Foto por Carl Schmidt.



Católico de Kentucky Occidental, Octubre, 2008 **3**

La Comunidad Parroquial de Santos José y Pablo en Owensboro tiene el gusto de invitarle a usted y a toda su familia a disfrutar de un día de:

“ENCUENTRO EN INTIMIDAD CON JESUS”

Domingo, 2 de Noviembre 10:00am - 6:00pm.

“Nuevo Salon Parroquial”

609 East 4th Street

Owensboro, KY 42303

En esta ocasión tendremos la dicha, el honor y la oportunidad de ser guiados de la mano de Monseñor Scott Friend de la Diócesis de Little Rock, Arkansas.

*Iniciador y propulsor clave del Ministerio Hispano organizado en Arkansas hace ya casi veinte años.

*Respetado y admirado por su sencillez y por su testimonio vivo de vida misionera en la Iglesia.

* Recipiente del Premio Nacional “Luz de Cristo” 2007, por “*Catholic Extension*” (*La Sociedad Extensión Católica*).

**“TE ESPERAMOS...PERO SOBRE TODO;
CRISTO JESUS TE ESPERA”**

Para más información puede comunicarse con Cristóbal Gutiérrez en la Parroquia Santos José y Pablo al (270)683-5641 (oficina) (270)880-8018(cel)

recepción el martes por la noche.

Ese mismo día, otro taller titulado “Enseñanza Católica y Migración” se enfocó sobre las enseñanzas de la Iglesia Católica como base para la postura católica sobre la inmigración. “Todo nuestro trabajo en asuntos migratorios está basado en la enseñanza social católica. Esta enseñanza determina las causas que apoyamos, las personas a las que servimos y la forma en la que estructuramos nuestros programas”, afirmó Donald Kerwin, director ejecutivo de CLINIC (Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc.), organización copatrocinadora del evento.

Este taller incluyó charlas por parte del padre Daniel Groody, de la Universidad de Notre Dame, autor de varios libros y videos sobre inmigración y muerte en la frontera, sobre los principios fundamentales de la doctrina social de la Iglesia; Jill Gerschutz, de la Conferencia Jesuita de Estados Unidos, aplicará esos principios al debate político actual; y Kerwin habló sobre qué dice la enseñanza católica acerca de las visiones encontradas sobre el concepto de “nacionalidad” en las que se basa el debate migratorio.

La reforma migratoria fue también tema importante del “Día de Cabildeo”, el miércoles 30 de julio, cuando cientos de participantes visitaron a sus legisladores en el Capital.

Cerca de 700 personas de todas partes del país se registraron para participar. Migration and Refugee Services de la USCCB y CLINIC copatrocinan esta reunión a gran escala aproximadamente cada cinco años. El propósito es ayudar a sus redes de afiliados ganar más capacidad técnica, consolidar relaciones con sus colegas en este sector y traer una voz unificada y colectiva que tenga peso en el Capital. “Por encima de todo, sin embargo, estas reuniones intentan recordarnos a todos por qué hacemos el trabajo que hacemos”, añadió Kerwin.

La conferencia ofreció varias presentaciones sobre fe y migración, y el Secretariado de Diversidad Cultural en la Iglesia de la USCCB ofreció varios talleres sobre cómo dar la bienvenida y proporcionar cuidado pastoral a los recién llegados.

Tuve Hambre y Me Diste de Comer

Sometido por Tami Schneider

A lo mejor han visto en las noticias que muchos países y muchas personas están pasando por mucha hambre. Algunas familias están cocinando galletas de lodo para llenar sus estómagos vacíos. Otros han vuelto a la violencia, peleando por un plato de arroz o un pedazo de pan. Abajo pueden ver algunas estadísticas.

El estado del hambre y de la pobreza mundial en el 2008, USCCB:

Hoy nuestro mundo alberga a 6,55 mil millones □es de personas. *Population Reference Bureau (PRB)*

□Aproximadamente 5,1 mil millones de personas viven en países en desarrollo.

Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (PNUD)

□Más de mil millones de personas viven por debajo de la línea de pobreza internacional ya que ganan menos de \$1 por día. *Banco Mundial*

□La cantidad de crisis alimentarias en todo el mundo ha aumentado desde 1980, de un promedio de 15 por año a 30 por año. Desde 1992, las crisis alimentarias causadas por el hombre han ascendido a más del doble: de aproximadamente un 15 por ciento a más del 35 por ciento. *Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación (FAO)*

□Prácticamente la mitad de las muertes de niños menores de 5 años se presentan en el África subsahariana, en donde el ritmo del progreso ha disminuido considerablemente debido a los endeble sistemas de salud, los conflictos y el sida. *PNUD*

EL hambre

El hambre se manifiesta de diversas maneras además de la inanición y la hambruna. La mayoría de las personas pobres que luchan contra el hambre deben lidiar con la desnutrición crónica y deficiencias vitamínicas o de minerales, lo cual detiene el crecimiento, causa debilidad y mayor vulnerabilidad frente a las enfermedades. *Pan para el Mundo*

□Más de 850 millones de personas de todo el mundo padecen hambre: 815 millones de ellas se encuentran en países en desarrollo. *FAO*

□Cada día, casi 16.000 niños mueren de causas relacionadas con el hambre. *Pan para el Mundo*

□La mayoría de las personas que padecen hambre en el mundo vive en zonas rurales. *PNUD*

□La mala nutrición y las deficiencias calóricas provocan que casi una de cada tres personas muera prematuramente o quede minusválida. *OMS*

□El hambre es la forma más extrema de pobreza ya que los individuos o familias no tienen dinero para cubrir su necesidad básica de alimento. *Pan para el Mundo*

□A los pobres les resulta muy difícil obtener alimentos adecuados y nutritivos para sus familias y para ellos mismos. No llegan a consumir la cantidad mínima de calorías esenciales para gozar de buena salud y un crecimiento pleno. Un adulto necesita aproximadamente 2100 calorías por día y los niños necesitan aproximadamente 1500 calorías. *FAO*

El agua y la salud

□1,1 mil millones de personas no tienen acceso al agua potable, el 84% de estas personas vive en zonas rurales. *Fondo de las Naciones Unidas para la Infancia (UNICEF)*

□Cuatro de cada diez personas en el mundo (el 59% de la población mundial) no tiene acceso a servicios sanitarios. *UNICEF*

□Las enfermedades que son causadas por agua no potable y la falta de higiene cobran las vidas de 1,8 millones de niños por año y dañan seriamente la salud y el desarrollo de muchos otros millones. *UNICEF*

□Las cuatro enfermedades infantiles más comunes son: la diarrea, las enfermedades respiratorias agudas, la malaria y el sarampión. Todas estas enfermedades se pueden prevenir y tratar. Sin embargo, la pobreza obstaculiza la habilidad de los padres de acceder a la inmunización y los medicamentos. La desnutrición crónica combinada con un tratamiento insuficiente aumenta enormemente el riesgo de muerte de un niño. *FAO*

□Más de la mitad de las camas de los hospitales de los países desarrollados están ocupadas por personas que sufren enfermedades prevenibles y que son causadas por falta de agua potable y de higiene. *Década del Agua, Naciones Unidas.*

*Sabiendo que muchos pueblos están sufriendo hambre,
¿qué puedo hacer yo?*

Food Fast

Food Fast es el programa de Catholic Relief Services para despertar la conciencia de los jóvenes de EE. UU. sobre el problema del hambre. *Food Fast* se fundamenta en el llamado a la justicia y la solidaridad y ofrece la oportunidad para unirnos a nuestros hermanos y hermanas en el extranjero, para vivir nuestra fe y para colaborar con otros con el fin de lograr cambios duraderos en el mundo. Durante esta experiencia de 24 horas en que se vive el hambre, Food Fast busca:

- Vincular a los jóvenes con las dificultades a las que se enfrentan sus compañeros en el mundo en desarrollo a través del lente de la Doctrina Social de la Iglesia.
- Inspirar a los jóvenes católicos para que consideren cómo su participación en el mundo, su perspectiva y sus estilos de vida pueden marcar la diferencia para muchos.
- Dar a los jóvenes la posibilidad de actuar en base a los principios de la solidaridad y la justicia. Para mayor información y para pedir los materiales gratis para su grupo juvenil, visítenos en www.foodfast.org (*Materiales disponibles en español e inglés.*)

Varias organizaciones se dedican a aliviar el hambre y surtir materiales necesarios. Si usted quiere ayudar de alguna manera, puede ponerse en contacto con: Catholic Charities USA, Catholic Relief Services, Knights of Columbus, God's Outreach. Para más información, comuníquense con Tami Schneider al 270-683-1545 o tami.schneider@pastoral.org.

Calendario de Actividades del Ministerio Hispano

4 de octubre

Unidades 7 y 8 del curso Liderazgo Latino en la parroquia de Santa Susana en Elkton (10am-4pm)

5 de octubre

Reunión de Planificación del Encuentro Juvenil Diocesano, Hopkinsville (5-7pm)

18 de octubre

Encuentro Juvenil Diocesano en el Campamento de Gasper River (9am-4pm) Los jóvenes pueden llegar la noche anterior a partir de las 5:00pm para convivencia y fogata.

2 de noviembre

Encuentro en Intimidad con Jesús en la Parroquia de Stos. José y Pablo en Owensboro (10am-6pm)

8 de noviembre

Clausura del curso de Liderazgo Latino. Misa con el Obispo John McRaith y comida. (10am-4pm)

10 de noviembre

Reunión trimestral de los Agentes de la Pastoral Hispana en la Parroquia del Santo Redentor, Beaver Dam



Unos trabajadores Hispanos tiendan a un campo de lechugas cerca de Salinas, California. CNS foto.

Misiones de Puerta en Puerta: Buscando a las Ovejas Perdidas

Por Erick Vázquez

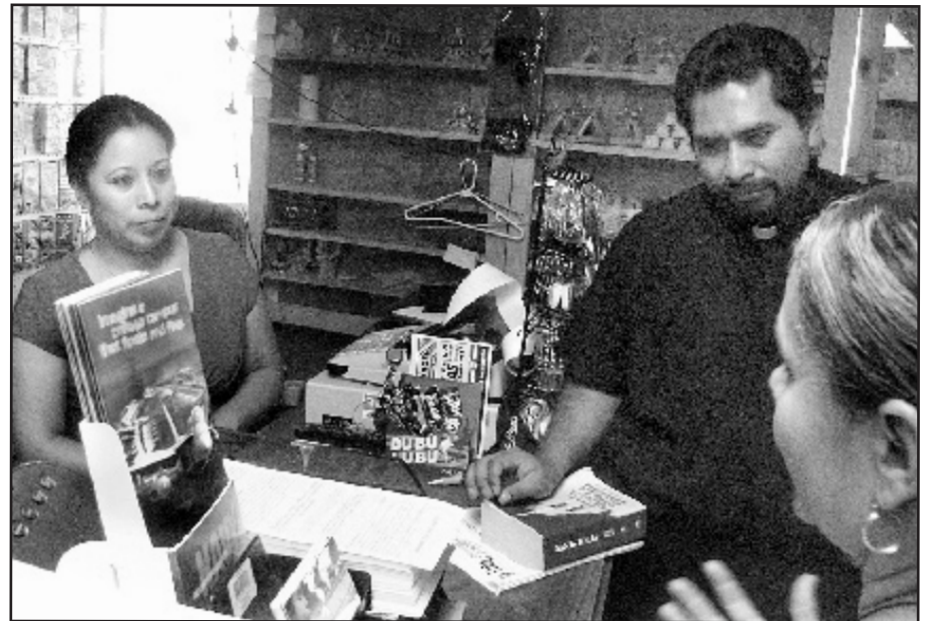
HOPKINSVILLE, KY. El pasado mes de Julio en la comunidad hispana de Hopkinsville KY se llevó a cabo la misión de verano, en la cual el objetivo de ésta era invitar a la gente a asistir a la celebración de la Santa Misa.

Durante la visita a las casas de algunos de los hermanos que anteriormente se habían visto en la misa, hubo varias experiencias e historias que contar, la forma de evangelización se realizó de una forma sencilla, el Padre Carmelo Jiménez quien estuvo al frente de esta misión, comenzaba con la señal de la cruz e inmediatamente proseguía a dar lectura a la Palabra del Señor, de acuerdo con la lectura comentábamos nuestras experiencias personales, todos teníamos una historia diferente que contar de como fue nuestro acercamiento hacia el Señor.

Recuerdo que algo de lo que más se dijo en esta misión fue que todos somos importantes en esta comunidad y que, por el hecho de ser bautizados en nuestra fe, todos nosotros somos verdaderos hijos de Dios y como tal hecho, somos parte del pueblo del Señor y somos necesarios en nuestra comunidad, creo que el Espíritu Santo estuvo ahí presente porque nuestras palabras fueron escuchadas con atención y también creo que logramos llegar a sus corazones, llevamos con nosotros nuestro periódico parroquial y unos cuantos Rosarios y folletos de cómo rezarlo y los repartimos al final de cada visita. Al final de cada día llegábamos a nuestra iglesia de San Pedro y San Pablo y terminábamos con una oración final,



Después de un día de misiones, el P. Carmelo regresa con su equipo a la iglesia de Santos Pedro y Pablo para una oración final. (a la izquierda, Erick Vasquez)

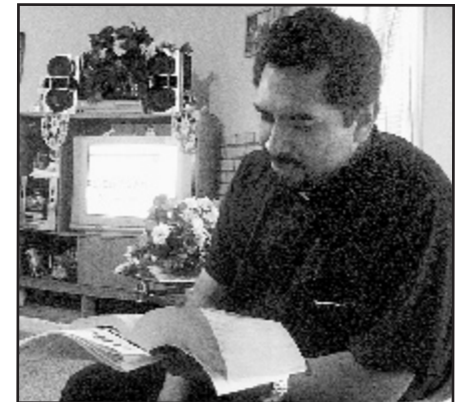


El Padre Carmelo Jiménez platica con una señoras adentro de una tienda durante las misiones de puerta a puerta en Hopkinsville. El objetivo era invitar a la gente a asistir a la celebración de la Santa Misa. Fotos sometidas por Paco Macias.

Como comentario personal, en esta misión yo no hablé mucho, y aunque el calor estaba fuerte yo fui, ya sea en carro o caminando creo que es bueno realizar este tipo de actividades que hacen falta a nuestra comunidad hispana, hoy en día veo que muchas de las personas que antes eran católicas se han estado cambiando, y muchos de ellos

solo lo hacen por necesidades materiales y personales, ante eso solo estamos satisfaciendo esas necesidades físicas, pero no espirituales y nos alejamos cada vez más del Señor, tal vez nuestra presencia joven ayude a nuestros hermanos a ir en busca de Dios siempre, no dejemos solos a esos hermanos y vayamos al rescate de todos ellos,

Un día, leyendo un artículo aprendí que más se pierde al ser católico y cambiarse, que el haber nacido protestante y seguir en esa religión y algo de lo más valioso es que perdemos esa intercesión de la Virgen María por nosotros, por esa razón creo que no hay que buscar en otra religión lo que supuestamente no podemos encontrar en nuestra fe católica.



El Padre Carmelo abre la Biblia para leer una lectura en la casa de unos vecinos durante las misiones de verano.

Rito Para Celebración De Quince Años Se Publicó En Septiembre

WASHINGTON, USCCB— El ritual para la Bendición al Cumplir Quince Años, el rito de la quinceañera aprobado por la Conferencia de Obispos, se publicó el 19 de septiembre. Este rito bilingüe puede celebrarse tanto dentro como fuera de la misa.

El Mexican American Cultural Center en San Antonio, Texas, desarrolló el texto original del rito en 1999. La oficina de publicaciones de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de Estados Unidos adquirió los derechos del texto en 2007 y ha colaborado con el Secretariado para el Culto Divino para completar el texto final.

El sacerdote jesuita, padre Allan Deck, director ejecutivo del Secretariado de Diversidad Cultural en la Iglesia, resaltó la importancia de desarrollar ritos que “ayudan a los católicos latinos a celebrar su herencia cultural y a construir nuevos puentes con otros católicos en sus comunidades”. El padre Deck hizo referencia a un estudio conjunto de Pew Hispanic Project y Pew Forum Religion and Public Life en abril de 2007 que dice que aproximadamente un tercio de todos los católicos en Estados Unidos en estos momentos son latinos y que el segmento de la población latina seguirá

creciendo. El padre Deck afirmó que el rito para la celebración de quinceañeras será uno entre “muchos recursos que los Latinos pueden usar para preservar su identidad católica y cultural”.

Monseñor Anthony Sherman, director ejecutivo del Secretariado para el Culto Divino de la Conferencia, dijo que el rito para quinceañeras puede ayudar a los jóvenes católicos “a aprender más sobre la importancia de mantener las promesas bautismales en un espíritu de acción de gracias”. El ritual de la quinceañera es una tradición de “presentación en sociedad” o paso a la adultez de las jóvenes adolescentes, pero la participación del clero, los padrinos y otras personas en esta celebración comunitaria “permite a éstos involucrarse también y realizar la misma clase de compromiso agradecido”, afirmó Mons. Sherman. El rito ofrece la oportunidad para que los padrinos de bautismo, u otras parejas que sirvan de padrinos para la ocasión, presenten artículos religiosos a la quinceañera.

El libro de la Bendición al Cumplir Quince Años se puede adquirir vía Internet en <http://www.usccbpublishing.org>.