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World Youth Day kicks off in Sydney with Mass, dancing, testimonies

SYDNEY, Australia (CNS) -- World Youth Day officially kicked off July 15 with an opening Mass celebrated by Sydney Cardinal George Pell before an estimated 140,000 people. Before the Mass, as the pilgrims gathered on the old docklands at Barangaroo, they heard testimonies of faith experiences at previous World Youth Days, watched dancing by a variety of Aboriginal Australian and South Pacific islander groups and cheered a procession of 160 national flags. While the official welcoming dances were taking place onstage, a group of six young men from Papua New Guinea offered their own choreographed blessing to the four directions of the compass from the place they found to stand in front of the estimated 4,000 concelebrating priests.

Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd welcomed the pilgrims in a dozen languages, ending by saying that he would speak in Australian, "G'day and have a great time Down Under." The Mass combined ancient chants, standard hymns, native singing and the anthem written specifically for World Youth Day, "Receive the Power." Women from Australia's Tiwi Islands sang as the Book of the Gospels was presented. In his homily, Cardinal Pell encouraged the young people to use the July 15-20 celebration as a time not simply to celebrate their faith with peers from around the world, but to strengthen their commitment to Christ and to open further their hearts and minds to God's will for their lives.

Youths raise the World Youth Day cross on the main stage before the opening Mass of the international Catholic festival July 15 in Sydney, Australia. (CNS photo/Daniel Munoz, Reuters) (July 16, 2008)



may be many miles apart, this Eucharist pulls us together as Church...we are one Body in Christ. No distance can separate us." He also invited to young people to live out the theme of this year's World Youth Day, Acts 1:8, and spread the word of God to the ends of the earth. He reminded us that we must be true missionaries of God's love and witnesses of Christ empowered by the Holy Spirit. "You are called to make a difference," he said.

Youth Participate in Local World Youth Day Event At Gasper River

By Tami Schneider

Over 250 young people from all over the Diocese of Owensboro, the state of Kentucky and even as far as Alabama gathered together at the Gasper River Catholic Retreat Center near Bowling Green, KY to participate in a local World Youth Day event July 18-19. A diocesan committee began planning the event almost a year ago, and their hard work paid off.

The young people were able to participate in an experience similar to a real World Youth Day, only at a much friendlier cost and much closer to home. Pilgrims parked their cars in a neighbor's field and hiked in the 2.5 miles to the camp. They carried back packs and sleeping bags, slept in an open field, endured humid 90 degree temperatures and had a great time through it all!

Participants joined in song with 3 different bands, in reflection with emcee, Cooper Ray, in catechesis with Fr. Norman Fischer, in holy hour with Fr. Eric Riley, in mass with Bishop John McRaith, and in skits and sharing with their fellow peers. The Blessed Sacrament was present all weekend, as well as the opportunity to go to Confession or to watch a movie about one of the Saints of the Church.

During his homily at the closing mass, Bishop John McRaith reminded the young people that they were truly united with those in Sydney, Australia; "While we



Above, Bishop John McRaith blesses the camp, the pilgrims, the staff and volunteers, including all of the grounds. He wished to use this much anticipated event to bless the camp since he knew he would be surrounded by people from all over the diocese. Photo by Tami Schneider

(At left) In order to simulate a real World Youth Day experience, the pilgrims hiked 2.5 miles into the Gasper River Catholic Retreat Center. Volunteers placed Stations of the Cross along the side of the road for those who wished to pray as they hiked. Photo by Larena Lawson.



Americans Called To Shape a Society More Respectful of the Life, Dignity, and Rights of the Human Person

My Dear Friends,

The following statement was prepared by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Since the 2008 elections will be upon us soon, I am sharing this with you to help form our consciences as we exercise our God-given right to vote. It is so important that we vote and that our voting is guided by a well-formed conscience. It is important



Most Rev. John J.
McRaith

that each of us acts out of a conscience that has been formed by prayer and by the teachings of the Church as they have been handed down to us with help and guidance of the Holy Spirit. I hope you take the time to carefully read the following statement.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. John J. McRaith

The Challenge of Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship

Our nation faces political challenges that demand urgent moral choices. We are a nation at war, with all of its human costs; a country often divided by race and ethnicity; a nation of immigrants struggling with immigration. We are an affluent society where too many live in poverty; part of a global community confronting terrorism and facing urgent threats to our environment; a culture built on families, where some now question the value of marriage and family life. We pride ourselves on supporting human rights, but we fail even to protect the fundamental right to life, especially for unborn children.

We bishops seek to help Catholics form their consciences in accordance with the truth, so they can make sound moral choices in addressing these challenges. We do not tell Catholics how to vote. The responsibility to make political choices rests with each person and his or her properly formed conscience.

Why Does the Church Teach About Issues Affecting Public Policy?

The Church's obligation to participate in shaping the moral character of society is a requirement of our faith, a part of the mission given to us by Jesus Christ. Faith helps us see more clearly the truth about human life and dignity that we also understand through human reason. As people of both faith and reason, Catholics are called to bring truth to political life and to practice Christ's commandment to "love one another" (Jn 13:34). According to Pope Benedict XVI, "charity must animate the entire lives of the lay faithful and therefore also their political activity, lived as 'social charity'" (Encyclical *Deus Caritas Est*, no. 29).

The United States Constitution protects the right of individual believers and religious bodies to participate and speak out without government interference, favoritism, or discrimination. Civil law should recognize and protect the Church's right and responsibility to

participate in society without abandoning our central moral convictions. Our nation's tradition of pluralism is enhanced, not threatened, when religious groups and people of faith bring their convictions into public life. The Catholic community brings to the political dialogue a consistent moral framework and broad experience serving those in need.

Who in the Church Should Participate in Political Life?

In the Catholic Tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation. As Catholics, we should be guided more by our moral convictions than by our attachment to a political party or interest group. In today's environment, Catholics may feel politically disenfranchised, sensing that no party and few candidates fully share our comprehensive commitment to human life and dignity. Catholic lay women and men need to act on the Church's moral principles and become more involved: running for office, working within political parties, and communicating concerns to elected officials. Even those who cannot vote should raise their voices on matters that affect their lives and the common good.

How Does the Church Help Catholics to Address Political and Social Questions?

A Well-Formed Conscience

The Church equips its members to address political questions by helping them develop well-formed consciences. "Conscience is a judgment of reason whereby the human person recognizes the moral quality of a concrete act. . . . [Every person] is obliged to follow faithfully what he [or she] knows to be just and right" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1778). We Catholics have a lifelong obligation to form our consciences in accord with human reason, enlightened by the teaching of Christ as it comes to us through the Church.

The Virtue of Prudence

The Church also encourages Catholics to develop the virtue of prudence, which enables us "to discern our true good in every circumstance and to choose the right means of achieving it" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1806). Prudence shapes and informs our ability to deliberate over available alternatives, to determine what is most fitting to a specific context, and to act. Prudence must be accompanied by courage which calls us to act. As Catholics seek to advance the common good, we must carefully discern which public policies are morally sound. A good end does not justify an immoral means. At times Catholics may choose different ways to respond to social problems, but we cannot differ on our obligation to protect human life and dignity and help build through moral means a more just and peaceful world.

Doing Good and Avoiding Evil

There are some things we must never do, as individuals or as a society, because they are always incompatible with love of God and neighbor. These intrinsically evil acts must always be rejected and never supported. A preeminent example is the intentional taking of human life through abortion. It is always morally wrong to destroy innocent human beings. A legal system that allows the right to life to be violated on the grounds of choice is fundamentally flawed. Similarly, direct threats to the dignity of human life such as euthanasia, human cloning, and destructive research on human embryos are also intrinsically evil and must be opposed. Other assaults on human life and dignity, such as genocide, torture, racism, and the targeting of noncombatants in acts of terror or war, can never be justified. Disrespect for any human life diminishes respect for all human life.

As Catholics we are not single-issue voters. A candidate's position on a single issue is not sufficient to guarantee a voter's support. Yet a candidate's position on a single issue that involves an intrinsic evil, such as support for legal abortion or the promotion of racism, may legitimately lead a voter to disqualify a candidate from receiving support.¹

Opposition to intrinsically evil acts also prompts us to recognize our positive duty to contribute to the common good and act in solidarity with those in need. Both opposing evil and doing good are essential. As

Pope John Paul II said, "the fact that only the negative commandments oblige always and under all circumstances does not mean that in the moral life prohibitions are more important than the obligation to do good indicated by the positive commandment" (Encyclical *Veritatis Splendor*, no. 52). The basic right to life implies and is linked to other human rights to the goods that every person needs to live and thrive—including food, shelter, health care, education, and meaningful work. The use of the death penalty, hunger, lack of health care or housing, human trafficking, the human and moral costs of war, and unjust immigration policies are some of the serious moral issues that challenge our consciences and require us to act.

Making Moral Choices

Difficult political decisions require the exercise of a well-formed conscience aided by prudence. This exercise of conscience begins with always opposing policies that violate human life or weaken its protection. "Those who formulate law therefore have an obligation in conscience to work toward correcting morally defective laws, lest they be guilty of cooperating in evil and in sinning against the common good" (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops [USCCB], *Catholics in Political Life*).

When morally flawed laws already exist, prudential judgment is needed to determine how to do what is possible to restore justice—even if partially or gradually—without ever abandoning a moral commitment to full protection for all human life from conception to natural death (see Pope John Paul II, *Encyclical Evangelium Vitae*, no. 73).

Prudential judgment is also needed to determine the best way to promote the common good in areas such as housing, health care, and immigration. When Church leaders make judgments about how to apply Catholic teaching to specific policies, this may not carry the same binding authority as universal moral principles but cannot be dismissed as one political opinion among others. These moral applications should inform the consciences and guide the actions of Catholics.

What Does the Church Say About Catholic Social Teaching in the Public Square?—Seven Key Themes

Continued on Page 14

A Prayer For Our Democracy

Gracious and loving God, let your Spirit be with us (me) today. Hear our (my) prayers, and increase in us (me) the will to follow your Son Jesus. Help us (me) to draw on the resources of our (my) faith as we (I) use the opportunities of our democracy to shape a society more respectful of the life, dignity, and rights of the human person, especially the poor and vulnerable. We (I) ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

St. Mary Catholic Church in LaCenter, KY marks 101st year with renovation; Bishop McRaith to celebrate Mass on Oct. 12

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LaCENTER, Ky. – The parish of St. Mary's, LaCenter, will kick off its second century with a special Mass on Oct. 12 at 2 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.

A \$400,000 renovation has just been completed on the nave, sanctuary and outside grounds of the 52-year-old building. A new altar, tabernacle stand, ambo, cantor stand, presiders chair, server benches and statue pedestals were all hand-crafted from solid mahogany by local woodworker Richard Overby. He also carved a cross upon which the Corpus from the church's original cross was mounted, and it is fixed above the new altar.

Doors, wainscoting and stained-glass windows all were made by regional busi-

nesses. A new granite baptismal font with continuously flowing water was designed by parishioner Bud Waltmon. Stations of the Cross and statues of St. Mary and St. Joseph were ordered from Italy. A large parking lot was added to the north side of the church, and an outdoor grotto with a statue of St. Mary was moved from the south to that side, also.

"It is just a beautiful, open space in which to worship," said building chair Bud Waltmon. "We are so proud that everything will be fresh and new for our next 100 years." Pictures of the renovation, parishioners and events of the parish can be seen at www.stmarylacenter.org

Local contractor Jerry Dunn began dismantling the interior on Jan. 7, 2008, and members attended Mass in the church's basement gathering space for about five months. Their first celebration in the new space was on June 8, with the baptism of Leah Kate O'Neill. It was Father Bruce McCarty's last Mass as pastor at St. Mary Parish before being assigned to Precious Blood parish in Owensboro.

Early history of the parish:

Ballard County Catholics celebrated Mass in homes in Wickliffe until a church could be built. The original wood-framed church was built in 1907, at the corner of Broadway and Sixth Street, LaCenter, where the south parking lot is today. Supervising priests were the Rev. Anthony O'Sullivan (out of St. Francis de Sales at the time) and the Rev. H.A. Connolly



(Paducah). Four lots comprising just over two acres were deeded on Dec. 17, 1906, to Bishop William George McCloskey and the Diocese of Louisville by The LaCenter Company for \$300. A second deed on Dec. 2, 1907, was for eight lots at \$445.

John T. Donovan's book, *The Catholic Church in Paducah, Kentucky* (Young Printing Co., 1934) states the church was blessed on Nov. 15, 1907, by Bishop McCloskey; other church and newspaper accounts put the date at Nov. 24.

Donovan said that parish members at that time included many members of the Gough, Poole, Harrison, Ballard, Slayden, Aubrey, Hayden, Mattingly, Cannon, Curtis and Church families. A newspaper account from 1912 states there were 12

families in the parish, and that Father O'Sullivan (then of Mayfield) attended the congregation once a month.

The Paulist Fathers, directed by the Rev. J. Clinton Allard and Father J.J. Devery, gave a mission at LaCenter in 1915. After a mission in 1927 by the Rev. Francis J. Martin (Brown's Valley), several Paducah women began coming to St. Mary's on alternate Sundays to teach catechism in November of that year.

That practice continued into at least 1934, and accounts state that 25 to 30 adults and children attended the classes. The Sisters of Charity from St. Mary's Academy in Paducah later came with the

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Celebrating a quarter century



Everyone is invited to
**Mount Saint Joseph Conference and
Retreat Center's
25th Anniversary Celebration
Sunday, Aug. 10, 2008**



2 p.m.
*Prayers • Free plantings
Gift Shop open
No reservations needed.*

For more information, call
270-229-0200

"Give peace, quiet, and prayer a chance"

The Western Kentucky Catholic

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Publisher: Most Rev. John J. McRaith, D. D.

Editor: Mel Howard, e-mail: mel.howard@pastoral.org

Adm. Assistant and Spanish Translator: Tami Schneider, Tami.schneider@pastoral.org

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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

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St. Mary Catholic Church in LaCenter, marks 101st year *(Continued from page 3)*

priests for catechism instruction.

For many years, priests came from St. Francis de Sales on the first Monday of the month to celebrate Mass. Around 1934, young missionary priests from St. Francis moved the Mass to Sundays. Annual fried chicken and barbecue suppers began in 1937 to start a building fund (and continued until 1974). They became so well-attended that they had to be moved to the nearby county fairgrounds, and people still speak fondly of the feasts the men and women of the church used to prepare.

A new building:

The church grew under the direction of the Rev. Joseph Rhodes from 1944-55, due in part to the economic boom associated with the new Atomic Energy Commission plant (now United States Enrichment Corp.). A new brick church – the present building – was built in 1955, under the direction of the Rev. Phillip Riney. It was dedicated in October 1956 by Bishop Francis R. Cotton. The Rt. Rev. Cotton was the first bishop of Owensboro, and had served as a priest at St. Mary's. The altar was built by Forest Gough, a long-time parish member who died in 1984. On completion of construction, a pipe organ was purchased by a separate fund-raiser and installed.

The St. Mary Altar Society was organized in 1955, with Mrs. Joseph Theobald as the first president. This group cleaned the church and prepared the altar for Mass. Mrs. Theobald also served as the first organist and choir director, a position she held until moving to Paducah in 1973. Other organists have been Betty Kubica, Mary Margaret Arington Doke, Scott Howard, Mary Wood and Susan Piper.

A parish canvass was held in 1960 to help make the parish self-supporting. Committee chairman Gross Hayden was assisted by Pat McGee, Ezra and Forrest Gough, Homer and Anna Rollins, and Mrs. Wayne O'Keefe in soliciting the necessary funds and pledges.

The parish once again grew in 1968, as Wickliffe landed the large Westvaco papermaking facility (now NewPage). Classrooms were constructed in the church basement to accommodate the increasing number of children. Church documents said that young girls from St. Mary's Academy came with the priests on Sunday to teach religion. Among them was Sally Nunnan Gough. Later, the Ursulines came for summer religion classes, with parents teaching on Sundays in the CCD program. John Wood served for 22 years, and Pat

Burt Rhyne still teaches.

The parish council was established in 1971 as a way of organizing parish activities. The 40th anniversary documents list Mike Kubica, John Wood, Bill Quarles, Ezra Gough, Gene Damron, Charles Martin, Mary V. Bumpous, Rebecca Evans and Rodney Watson among the first members.

The Rev. Richard Danhaur served as priest in 1971, but the first full-time pastor was the Rev. Hubert Wolf, who served in 1971-72. He lived in a mobile home on the church grounds. Daily Mass was a reality for the first time in the church's 64-year history. Father Wolf was known as a good cook, and also taught ceramics in the church basement.

The shortage of priests, however, was to make the full-time pastor impossible. The Rev. Bob Willett took over the parish and the mobile home in 1973, and shared his ministry with the parishes of St. Charles in Carlisle County and St. Dennis in Hickman County. He remained at St. Mary until 1980. Father Willett served a total of 12 years in his two assignments to St. Mary.

On Jan. 26, 1974, Bishop Henry J Soenneker appointed five men of the parish as Lay Ministers of the Eucharist: Ezra Gough, Forrest Gough, Bernard Anselm, John Wood and Bill Quarles. These men both served at Mass and took Holy Communion to the sick and elderly of the parish. Anselm and Wood continue in this ministry today.

In 1977, the Altar Society commissioned a brick grotto to be built on the north side the church to house a statue of St. Mary as a visible sign of the parish's faith. Coordinator for construction was Elaine Wood; construction director was Forrest Gough. The architect was Jerry Culp. The statue of Mary was donated by Gladys Fraser, and Mike Kubica added lights. Vic and son Steve Pierce from Cape Girardeau, Mo., laid the brick. The dedication and a May Day procession were held in 1978.

During the time of the Rev. Carroll Wheatley in 1983, the church purchased a small house and four acres adjoining existing property, to be used as a church residence. He was the first priest to stay part-time in the house.

According to a church account, Bishop McRaith held the first Rite of Election ceremony in the diocese at St. Mary on April 4, 1984. At about this time, approximately 100 households were members of

the parish. In 1991, Lena Quarles and Judy Poole helped coordinate an ecumenical Bible school, which brought children from all over LaCenter and the surrounding area during the summer.

The 40th anniversary and beyond:

In 1995, excavation for an elevator was begun which would provide access to three levels (parking lot, worship area and basement. Cost was \$30,000 – 100 times the cost of the original property purchase in 1907! The original cost of the present brick building was \$30,000! The project was completed on March 8, 1996, and dedicated by the Rev. Ray Goetz on June 2. Elevator construction chairman Elaine Wood and parish member Birdie Sue Talley cut the ribbon, and Mrs. Talley, 94, became the first person to use the new elevator.

Under the chairmanship of Lena Quarles, then president of the Altar Society, new oak kitchen cabinets and two new stoves were installed in the parish hall in the church basement in 1995. Other major building and grounds improvements during this time included a new furnace, parking lot paving and cemetery expansion, and a new roof.

The Altar Society grew into St. Mary Sodality, a group that not only supplies and cares for linens and vestments, but also does outreach to the sick and shut-in, organizes funeral dinners and other special meals, and takes care of other special outreach and charity projects. Each November, under the leadership of Ann Damron, Sodality organizes and invites other Ballard County churches to join in a Community Christmas Bazaar. The event has grown so large that it is now held at county Chamber of Commerce building. In 1997, pastoral associate Sister Alicia Coomes, Father Brian Roby and church member Gayle Waltmon searched the county for a place to set up a soup kitchen. Complex government regulations made that difficult, so they began delivering groceries to the poor in Ballard County. Two cabinets in the church basement held non-perishable food until it could be delivered.

Sister Sandy Compas, OSU, came to St. Mary as pastoral associate in 2000. She was very interested in serving the poor, and decided to open a food pantry in the church basement. Sister Compas began filling the shelves with donations from members of the parish. In the fall of 2001, parishioner Shirley Marshall took on the responsibility of organizing workers and food supplies.

Another member, former Wickliffe mayor Syl Mayolo, advised her to contact the Purchase Area Development District to get items from the agency's food bank.

Workers at the pantry served 45 families in May 2002; in May 2008, 183 families were helped. St. Mary's parishioners make offerings every month, but this outpouring of blessings is greatly helped by many other churches and individuals in the area. Scouts and school children regularly conduct drives to resupply the pantry's shelves.

The men of St. Mary's enlarged the food pantry room, with the help of LaCenter's First Christian Church. Currently, the pantry is open three mornings a week and is served by six volunteers from several churches in LaCenter. Its name truly reflects the attitude and spirit of Ballard County: St. Mary Community Food Pantry.

Due to changes of priests, Mass times have changed through the years, but the people of the parish have remained constant and faith-filled and the parish grows. The newest pastor is the Rev. Brian Robey, who has previously served as associate pastor at St. Mary. His associate is the Rev. Julian Ibemere. They also serve the parishes at St. Francis de Sales and Rosary Chapel in Paducah. St. Mary's also has been associated at other times with Lourdes Hospital, St. Thomas More and St. John's in Paducah. The pastoral associate is Sister Teresa Riley (1997 to the present).

Thanks to the decision of the present priests, Masses are now being said three times a week: on Sundays and Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m., and on Wednesdays 5:30 p.m. On July 27, five children received First Communion, and on Oct. 26, the Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated with Bishop McRaith and eight youth of the parish.

Additional priests and religious who have served St. Mary Catholic Church in LaCenter:

Fathers Gilbert Henninger, James Stammerman, John Hallahan, J.P. Hayden, Anthony Higdon, Thomas Libs, Clarence Pettit, Hugh Taylor, Charles Fischer, James Wathen, Francis Howard, Clark Fields, John Speaks (1980-83), Joseph Bomensatt (1985), William Hagman (1989), Dave Johnson (1990), Kevin Osborne (1992), Robert Drury (1993), Anthony (Tony) Stevenson (1994); Sisters Mary Catherine Vukmanic (1983-87, first pastoral associate), Suzanne Sims (1987-88) and Elaine Byrne (1988-94).

Writer Visits OCMS, Signs Books on “Not Exactly Normal” Day

Devin Brown visited Owensboro Catholic High School and Owensboro Catholic Middle School on Tuesday, April 22.

In the morning Mr. Brown talked to the OCHS Honors and AP senior classes. He talked about his own book, *Not Exactly Normal*, and *The Chronicles of Narnia* series. He also discussed *The Screwtape Letters*, a book that the Honors seniors read over the summer. He gave some background on the book and answered any questions the students had about it.

That afternoon Mr. Devin Brown visited the OCMS students and attended a book signing party for his award-winning book ‘Not Exactly Normal.’ A group of students who wrote essays about the novel attended a pizza party and read their essays for Mr. Brown.

The students, faculty, and staff read the book in preparation for his visit. Class
The 3 pictures with this article are from the visit and also the ‘not exactly normal’ day at OCMS.



Welcoming A New Catholic Into The Church

Fr. Masilamani Suvakkin, along with St. Charles parishioners, welcomes MADALYNNE BRADLEY the new member into the parish. L to R Jennifer Nicole Bradley the mother, Fr.Masi the pastor, Christina Bradley the godmother and Robert Bradley godfather (proxy).

time has been spent reading and discussing the book. The OCMS student body and faculty had a fun, ‘not exactly normal’

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Prince Caspian: a Guide to Exploring the Return to Narnia. He also wrote an award



winning middle school level book, *Not Exactly Normal*.

Not Exactly Normal “is a book about being different and about fitting in, about accepting the differences of others and seeing ways that everyone is alike.” The book is about the main character searching for a mystical experience. It is a very eucementical book with references to many religions.

At OCMS we prepared for his visit by everyone, including faculty, cafeteria workers, maintenance, etc. reading his novel *Not Exactly Normal*. Every student bought his book. Teachers discussed the book in the classroom. We had writing contests, drawings, “*Not Exactly Normal*” day etc. to build excitement.

On the day of his visit Dr. Brown spent 90 minutes having lunch and speaking to 20 students and answering their questions about writing.

day by dressing up and having a mixed up schedule, which was ‘not exactly normal’ in the week leading up to his visit.

Devin is an award winning author. He is currently the visiting writer in residence at Transy and is an English professor at Asbury College. He is a C.S. Lewis scholar. He has written the best seller *Inside Narnia a Guide to Exploring the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. He has just published *Inside*

You are invited to pray the rosary at the Rosary Walk on Sunday, Oct. 5

Celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary



Come at 2 p.m.
Everyone is welcome!

Help us celebrate the Month of the Rosary with a community gathering at the Memorial Rosary Walk on the grounds of Mount Saint Joseph in Maple Mount (15 miles west of Owensboro on Highway 56 at Cummings Road).



Mount Saint Joseph
 Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
 Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999
 270-229-0200
www.mscenter.org
msjcenter@maplemount.org

For more information, call
270-229-0200

Wisdom

by Ginny Knight-Simon



Pat Crowe, St. Mark Parish, Eddyville, KY

"I've been back in the Church for five years," Said Pat Crowe. Pat's husband, William Harvey Crowe, Jr., was Baptist when she met him. "I was working at a restaurant and delivered some chicken to him at his office. He later called and said the chicken was cooked improperly. I took care of the problem for him. The girls at work told me he was cute! I said I was too busy and I wasn't looking. Well, he called me and we went out. We dated 90 days and got married!! My mom thought we were kidding when I told her. My parents said it would not last and my whole family ostracized us because we weren't married in the Catholic Church. So far we've been married 23 years!

When my mom died and I was going through her things I found her rosary and put it in my pocket. I had forgotten how to say the rosary, so I just said the stations with it. Fr. Tiell, - what a wonderful man - brought a book to me with the Mysteries of Light in it. I started saying it about nine times per day. Five years ago on my husband's birthday we got married in the Church.

It's such a blessing to be able to come back to church and pick up where I left off. There are so many ways to get re-educated in my faith.

I am involved in the Light Weight faith based program for weight loss. It's more than just a way to lose weight. It's a way to get closer to the Catholic Faith. There are daily prayers and daily journaling. It becomes a way of life. The meetings are one time per week for 12 weeks and they have really been a help to me. The 12 weeks are just recycled over and over again. Food is everywhere and you can't live without it. Light Weight shows you how to let God take over and set you on the right path. It's wonderful.

I try to be involved in the parish and the community where I can be of service. I volunteer for AARP with doing free taxes for senior citizens and low income people. I am a Eucharistic Minister and am a member of the Ladies of St. Mark.

One of my great blessings is being able to come back to the Catholic Church. I realize the importance more of the Eucharist. Being a Eucharist Minister it has given me a depth of understanding that it really is Jesus Christ I am holding. My faith is such a gift to me.

Teens Encounter Christ: The Paschal Mystery in the Year of Saint Paul

Father Eric D Riley, WKYTEC Spiritual Director, wkytec.org

Pope Benedict XVI has given to the Church a jubilee Year of Saint Paul the Apostle, 28 June 2008 through 29 June 2009, in honor of the 2000th Anniversary of the birth of St Paul. Pope Benedict's hope for this Holy Year is that Saint Paul may "guide us and protect us in this bimillenary celebration, helping us to advance in the humble and sincere search for the full unity of all the members of the Mystical Body of Christ." This ecumenical call is of utmost importance in the world in which we live, especially here in western Kentucky. The Catechism of the Catholic Church defines Ecumenism as "promotion of the restoration of unity among all Christians, the unity which is a gift of Christ and to which the Church is called by the Holy Spirit" (816, 820-822). In order to call others to join us in the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Faith, we must know and live the Faith ourselves; this is definitely one aspect of the TEC movement.



Father Eric D. Riley

Saint Paul reminds us that the Paschal Mystery (Death, Resurrection, Glorification of Christ) is intimately part of the life of the Christian, and the Christian is an intimate part of the Paschal Mystery of Christ. As he says, "Consequently, brothers, we are not debtors to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according

to the flesh, you will die, but if by the spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, "Abba, Father!" The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us" (Romans 8:12-18).

As we move into this Year of Saint Paul, how have you died to the flesh? How have you overcome the temptations of the world that lead to selfishness and self-centeredness and given way to the life of the Spirit which produces fruit through the selfless and self-giving love Christ exemplifies? In order to have a Life in the the Spirit we are called to pray, give alms, and fast. These are the steps that Christ Himself gave us. As a spiritual movement, let us offer wheat, not only for the youth and adults who will encounter Christ through the TEC movement, but also for all Christians that we will have a deeper encounter with Christ during this Holy Year and be drawn together in the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Faith founded by Christ and centered in the Word and Sacramental life of the Church.

Upcoming TEC Weekends:

30 August - 1 September, Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp, Bowling Green, for High School Seniors. Cost: \$50, scholarships available. Deadline to Apply: 15 August 2008. Applications and more information available at wkytec.org. Mass at 5 PM. All are encouraged to offer wheat and attend.



THE HOLY EUCHARIST – THE LIVING CHRIST SENDER OF THE SPIRIT HEALING CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 24 - 25, 2008 St. Martins – Rome, KY

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Fr. Lou Guardiola C.P.M. of the Fathers of Mercy.

Fr. Chris Crotty C.P.M. of the Fathers of Mercy .

Fr. Michael Sears of the Los Angeles Diocese



Fr. Chris Crotty C.P.M

Friday

5:00 Registration
5:10 Rosary
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



Fr. Lou Guardiola C.P.M.

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
8:45 Holy Hour with
Benediction , Healing Service

REGISTRATION

Pre-registration - \$10.00 At the door - \$15.00

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Lunch – Saturday – Catered \$ 5.00 _____

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Contact:

Kelly Hedges: 270-689-9485 or 302-8976

Lisa Bivins: 270-683-6769 or 993-3393

Heather Clemens: 270-683-1570

Diocese Partners With Food for the Poor to Help Diocese of Mandeville in October 10, 2008 Goods Collection

A collection of needed items requested by parishes and institutions in the Diocese of Mandeville Jamaica has been initiated by the Diocese of Owensboro beginning August 1 through October 10, 2008. 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.

Obtaining List of Needed Items and Selecting a Partner

After a careful survey of the needs of the Parishes and Organizations of the Diocese of Mandeville Jamaica by their own Development Director Team, a number of them have been able to identify what they consider to be their three greatest needs, not wants, to assist their mission to the people they serve. Many of them have responded with their recognized needs and these are now ready to be shared with individuals, groups, and parishes in the Diocese of Owensboro that may wish to partner to meet these needs. Should you wish to be involved with this effort please contact Richard Murphy at 270/ 683-1545, or email him at richard.murphy@pastoral.org for a complete list of needs by item and/or organization.

Interested parties will be given a list of needs and/or organizations to choose from to partner with in the collection. Once a commitment is made to meet the need or needs of a given organization, then that need or organization will be taken off the list unless it is a more universal need such as school supplies for example.

Delivery of Collected Goods to Storage Area

Once the requested items have been collected, then call or email Richard Murphy at the number and email address listed above to arrange for delivery of the needs. If directions are needed to 1001 West 7th Street in Owensboro, then they can be shared, and a person can be assured of someone meeting them & safely storing the items.

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 is easier to determine where things need to go that way and the label has less of a chance of tearing off in shipment.

The current last date to bring collected goods in for the collection will be September 30, 2008, unless an arrangement is made for a necessary later date.

Volunteers Needed to Help Sort, Inventory and Load Items for Shipping

Preparations leading up to the loading date will go on through August, September and early October. The current tentative date to load is October 10, 2008. 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.

Given that we can count on our set date to load and ship, work days will be needed to sort, process and inventory the contents of the container. 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.

Monday, September 29 from 1:30 - 4:30
 Tuesday, September 30 from 9:30 - 12:30
 Wednesday, October 1 from 1:30 - 4:30
 Thursday, October 2 from 9:30 - 12:30
 Saturday October 4 from 9:30 - 2:30
 Tuesday, October 7 from 6:30-8:30 PM
 Wednesday, October 8 from 9:30 - 12:30
 Friday, October 10 from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM (Note: the tentative Loading Day)

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.

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

August 2008

- 1-2 Opportunity for Life Training
- 2-3 Girl Scouts
- 5 DRE - Retreat Day
- 5-7 Acculturation Workshop
- 8-10 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 10 Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center 25th Anniversary Celebration
- 15-17 Retrouvaille
- 21-23 Diocese Musicians Gathering
- 29-31 Marriage Encounter Weekend
- 30 Private 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration

September 2008

- 7 Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph 38th Annual **PICNIC** For the Benefit of the Retired Ursuline Sisters
- 8-12 Glenmary Retreat
- 12-13 Scrapbook and Consultants Weekend
- 12-14 Healing Retreat
- 18-21 **Building Contemplative Community: A Weekend Retreat for Spiritual Directors**
- 19-21 Meditation and Yoga Retreat
- 20 **Introduction to Centering Prayer**
- 23-26 Runaway Quilters
- 26-27 Leadership McLean County



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

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 Swarm
- 21-23 **Thomas Merton Retreat: Bridges to Contemplative Living**
- 22 Choir Festival

December 2008

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



Pro-life lawmakers urge end to federal funds to abortion providers

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- U.S. Rep. Chris Smith, R-N.J., led other pro-life lawmakers in the House in calling for Congress to end federal funds for Planned Parenthood and other family planning organizations that provide abortions. The lawmakers were allowed an hour on the House floor July 9 to make their comments. "Most Americans, I suspect, probably have no idea whatsoever that our tax dollars have enabled abortionists to establish and to run hundreds and hundreds of abortion mills throughout America," said Smith, a Catholic. "America's biggest abortion chain is Planned Parenthood," he said. "Each year, approximately 290,000 children are aborted in Planned Parenthood clinics. Each year, Planned Parenthood gets more than \$335 million in taxpayer funds, including huge amounts from the Department of Health and Human Services' Title X program." Last year Planned Parenthood received \$336.7 million in government funds, about one-third of its \$926.4 million budget. The federal grants and contracts included Title X family planning funds for low-income people. Federal regulations require abortion services be kept separate from Title X-funded family planning services, but critics of Planned Parenthood say that receiving funding for nonabortion services frees up its resources for providing abortions.

Sr. Marie Moore, RSM Retires From Lourdes Hospital After 12 Years

By Edie Keeney

PADUCAH, Ky. - Sunday, May 18 after the 11 am Mass at St. Thomas More, friends and co-workers gathered in the parish hall for a retirement celebration luncheon and reception for Sister Marie Moore as she retires from Lourdes. Sister has been a very active presence at Lourdes involving herself in many activities that reflect what she calls "Radical Loving Care" making Lourdes not only physical healing place but also a place where the spirit can find peace and healing. She is very involved in making life easier for the sick, the poor, the elderly, immigrants and anyone who needs help. She has initiated and/or been involved in providing Serenity Rooms at Lourdes for people seeking a peaceful quiet place, providing Compassionate Care Beds on the general floors to allow families to have more time with dying family members, worked to get a HUD grant to build low income independent living homes, presently there are 3 behind Lourdes, got funds for a health clinic in the housing projects, helped get a grant to build an affiliated dialysis center in Mayfield in conjunction with the Jackson Medical Center so dialysis patients from that area would not have to travel to Lourdes for their treatments, worked to bring the Parish Nurse program to the area and presently 25 to 30 churches in the area have Parish Nurses, established a foundation that has provided funds for hospital equipment, recently she worked to get a shuttle service at Lourdes and many more things that are too numerous to mention. To say that Sister Marie will be missed at Lourdes in a very big understatement. Sister Clara Schotzko a member of the Pastoral Care Department is one who will miss her, "She was so active and cared so much for the poor and underprivileged. We will really miss her." Therese Guess is a Parish Nurse and she said, "Sister Marie has been a mentor for me, I could go to her for encouragement, advice or even a hug. She has an excitement about this community and it is contagious." Eleanor Crayne, a gift shop volunteer, attended Sister's retirement celebration and said this about her, "I always knew she was a wonderful person but I never knew she did so much. She will really be missed around here." Jim Tidwell remembered, "One day Sister caught me in the parking lot and asked me if I ever thought about teaching. She wanted to bring the Dave Ramsey financial planning



classes to Lourdes employees. She is very persuasive; she could sell ice to Eskimos in the winter." The Dave Ramsey faculty has taught classes for the past 2 years at Lourdes.

Steven Grinnell, Lourdes President and CEO, spoke, "A patient described Sister Marie as a person who loves everyone. That is usually an overstatement but in Sister's case, it is the truth. She not only speaks the core values of Lourdes but she lives them." Doug Borders, and employee of Lourdes from 1984 through 1997 holding several executive positions, commented, "Everything she did was a living out of Lourdes core values. She had a desire to put together a Lourdes Foundation. She was very tenacious and it became a reality."

Sister Marie has also been very involved at St. Thomas More. She was very active in providing services for the Hispanic community. She obtained a grant to provide English as a second language classes and provide assistance with health care. Every Sunday afternoon there is a Spanish language Mass at St. Thomas More. She was involved in getting the Handy Helpers volunteers to provide services for the elderly, worked with many other service projects at St. Thomas More. When asked how she finds time for herself and still has the energy and time to do so much she said, "I enjoy the people and I read, do gardening and I like flowers. I like to walk and of course praying, I attend daily Mass and I try to pray 1 hour every day."

Father Pat Reynolds, Pastor of St. Thomas More, has been a neighbor of Sister Marie for the past 5 years. He spoke about her at the reception, "She has never been loud or raucous or pesky,

as some neighbors are, rather, she is kind and gentle. She loves to read and has a great mind that can solve the tangle of conundrums. She has a way of taking something messy and making it into something beautiful, complete and whole. In that sense, Sister Marie can always see the 'big picture'. Dear Sister, I hope that your proximity to family, a close-knit family I must add, will bring joy to your years of semi-retirement." Sister Lucy arranged for her 5 sisters and one brother to surprise her by coming from Tennessee to attend her celebration.

When asked how she feels about leaving Paducah Sister Marie replied, "I feel a little sad leaving so many friends. The people here are so loving, friendly and helpful. Living with Sister Lucy (Bonifas) and Sister Jeanette (Haas) has been a bless-

ing. One thing I will always remember is working to build the new chapel here at Lourdes, making it come to life, but you know that all of these things I do, I don't do by myself." Speaking at the reception she said, "This party should not be for me but for me to give a party for all of you for all the blessings you have been for me these past 12 years. Thank you for being who you are and for what you do." As for her future plans, "I will make a 30-day retreat in Ohio when I leave here. I will be free for 3 months, one week I will spend with my 5 sisters and I am looking forward to that. I will return to St. Mary hospital in Knoxville where I spent 12 years as the CEO and I will visit patients and work with the poor. I'll be living in a convent with 5 other sisters of Mercy." Good bye, Sister Marie and God bless you.

A Celebration of Priesthood in Paducah Brings Back Memories

By Edie Keeney

PADUCAH, Ky. - A Mass and luncheon in celebration of the 60th anniversary of the ordinations of Fr. Phil Riney, Fr. Paul Pike Powell and Fr. Aloysius was held at St. Francis de Sales in Paducah. Fr. Riney presided at the Mass and along with Fr. Powell and Fr. Powers eight priests from the area concelebrated. It was a beautiful Mass and the church was full.

Fr. Riney was pastor of St. Francis 1969 to 1976, Fr. Powell was pastor of St. Francis 1976 to 1983 and Fr. Powers was pastor at St. Thomas More 1976 1982. All three priests were well known in Paducah and many friends attended the Mass and luncheon to greet them and share fond memories.

Fr. Powell mentioned that the celebration was in their honor but, "We are really here today to celebrate the priesthood. All the ups and downs, the ups keeps us going and the downs hopefully made us stronger. It's good to see the "old" parishioners and meet some new ones.



Thanks and God bless you all."

Fr. Powers remembered his ordination, "The day was glorious. What a wonderful privilege to be able to change wine and bread into His precious body and blood. God bless you all and we will see each other again upstairs, that is heaven."

Fr. Riney commented, "Paducah is a special place for me. I have been really privileged as a priest. Thanks to you all, I appreciate being here today and for sharing all the memories. God bless you all."

Dr. Jim Shumaker, a member of the Serra organization, presented a plaque to each priest with a blessing from Pope Benedict XVI in recognition of each one's 60 years of service in the priesthood. The local Serrans requested this recognition from the Vatican some time ago to be able to present it to the three priests. Serra is an organization of Catholics whose mission is to foster and promote vocations to the ministerial priesthood and to support priests in their sacred ministry, to encourage and affirm vocations to consecrated religious life and to assist its members to recognize and respond in their own lives to God's call to holiness.

New Study of Diocesan Catholic Population A Wake-up Call

By Rev. Stan Puryear

Recently released studies regarding religion and population trends in the United States have been causes of concern for Christian religious groups. The Pew Forum's U.S. Religious Landscape Survey shows that "more than one-quarter of American adults (28%) have left the faith in which they were raised in favor of another religion - or no religion at all." The study shows a particularly unique situation among Catholicism in the United States, whose percentage of the population has remained relatively stable. That is not, however, means for celebration. Closer study reveals that the stability of numbers is not a stability of membership: an influx of converts to the Faith and disproportionately high number of Catholic immigrants entering the country are filling the seats left empty by those leaving the church. The Pew Forum report states: "Approximately one-third of the survey respondents who say they were raised Catholic no longer describe themselves as Catholic. This

of growth in the decade prior to the year 2000. During that ten-year period, the growth rate was 150%, while in this decade that rate should drop to around 50%. Even such a small number, however, will mean that the diocesan Catholic population will be as much as 30% Hispanic in the by the 2020 Census.

The number of registered Catholics and the number of Catholics attending Mass in our diocese has fallen. According to data reported to the diocese from individual parishes in the September/October Mass counts, from the year 2000 to 2007, the number of registered Catholics in our diocese decreased by 1,242 persons, representing a reduction of 2.5%. To further highlight the trend, the number of Catholics attending weekly Mass fell from 30,756

in the year 2000 to 29,837 in 2007, a decrease of 3% of our population, or 919 persons. County-by-county numbers are represented in the accompanying table.

Although this data and other need further study in order to make concrete recommendations, some preliminary observations follow:

- Daviess County once made up one-half of our diocese, but now accounts for only one-third. In the previous 7 years, the Catholic population in the county decreased by 800 persons. Yet the total population (Catholic and non-Catholic) of the county increased during that time, meaning that Catholics are becoming a smaller percentage in the county itself.

- Counties seeing the strongest Catholic growth are geographically located on the southern, western, and eastern edges of the diocese (Christian, Warren, Hancock, Breckenridge, and Calloway).

- The priest-to-laity ratio of the diocese ranges exorbitantly, from 1/1600 in Henderson County to less than 1/300 in seven other counties.

- Economic factors are having a huge impact on our parishes, especially where families are forced to relocate for employ-

ment. (Added note: these numbers were reported before the skyrocketing price of gas and most recent economic slowdown began. My personal experience is that some families are cutting down on Mass attendance to save money for gas, especially when they live a good distance from Church).

- The priest sex-abuse scandal hit hardest from 2002 to 2005. This scandal, no doubt, caused people to leave the Church, even though our diocese was one of the least rocked by suits and accusations.

- After the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, church attendance increased. Those gains have now been lost.

This information is only the beginning, and needs greater study. But in the meantime, these numbers should well serve as a call to all members of the diocese for greater efforts at evangelization in the life of our Church.

Registered W. KY Catholics by County Attending Mass

COUNTY	2000 Registered	2006 Registered	00-06 Var.	00-06 % Var.	2000 Attend	2007 Attend	Var.	% Var.
Allen	83	81	-2	-2.4%	68	72	4	5.9%
Ballard	230	190	-40	-17.4%	115	103	-12	-10.4%
Breckenridge	2,611	2,827	216	8.3%	1,558	1,542	-16	-1.0%
Butler	81	63	-18	-22.2%	48	83	35	72.9%
Caldwell	201	128	-73	-36.3%	160	82	-78	-48.8%
Calloway	793	998	205	25.9%	531	665	134	25.2%
Carlisle	213	225	12	5.6%	168	136	-32	-19.0%
Christian	1,770	2,714	944	53.3%	1,239	1,357	118	9.5%
Crittenden	167	129	-38	-22.8%	76	77	1	1.3%
Daviess	19,487	18,594	-893	-4.6%	11,500	10,709	-791	-6.9%
Edmondson	138	164	26	18.8%	80	56	-24	-30.0%
Fulton	302	252	-50	-16.6%	192	128	-64	-33.3%
Graves	2,642	2,386	-256	-9.7%	1,558	1,510	-48	-3.1%
Grayson	1,510	1,570	60	4.0%	1,169	1,039	-130	-11.1%
Hancock	630	888	258	41.0%	394	329	-65	-16.5%
Henderson	4,511	4,093	-418	-9.3%	2,236	2,294	58	2.6%
Hickman	305	276	-29	-9.5%	194	155	-39	-20.1%
Hopkins	1,263	935	-328	-26.0%	622	498	-124	-19.9%
Livingston	75	87	12	16.0%	110	119	9	8.2%
Logan	460	415	-45	-9.8%	245	166	-79	-32.2%
Lyon	189	134	-55	-29.1%	176	145	-31	-17.6%
Marshall	606	594	-12	-2.0%	564	491	-73	-12.9%
McCracken	4,981	4,854	-127	-2.5%	2,681	2,532	-149	-5.6%
McLean	209	284	75	35.9%	165	181	16	9.7%
Muhlenberg	240	252	12	5.0%	139	167	28	20.1%
Ohio	251	293	42	16.7%	184	276	92	50.0%
Simpson	238	388	150	63.0%	186	228	42	22.6%
Todd	152	322	170	111.8%	143	229	86	60.1%
Trigg	338	249	-89	-26.3%	244	217	-27	-11.1%
Union	3,593	3,031	-562	-15.6%	1,909	1,690	-219	-11.5%
Warren	3,603	4,155	552	15.3%	1,962	2,392	430	21.9%
Webster	173	250	77	44.5%	135	169	34	25.2%
TOTAL	52,063	50,821	-1,242	-2.4%	30,756	29,837	-919	-3.0%

Marriage Help –

Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi) has helped thousands of couples who are disillusioned or even experiencing misery in their marriage. This program can help you too. For confidential information about or to register for the August program beginning with a weekend on Aug. 15-17, 2008 call 270-683-1545 ext 357, or email: dpretrowens@aol.com or visit the web site at www.retrouvaille.org

The Western Kentucky Catholic, August, 2008 9

Reports on Catholic losses to evangelicals called 'exaggerated'

SAN ANTONIO (CNS) -- Large numbers of cradle Catholics in both the United States and Canada continue to identify with their Catholic roots even if they have become largely inactive in church life, Canadian sociologist Reginald Bibby told a San Antonio audience. And what's more, large numbers of them express openness to getting more deeply involved if parishes provide ministries that are meaningful to their family members, he said.

Bibby, professor of sociology at the University of Lethbridge in Alberta, shared those findings in a keynote address in late June at the Oblate Renewal Center in San Antonio in conjunction with the Oblate School of Theology's 2008 summer institute on "Megatrends in Church and Society." Bibby, a Baptist, said that Catholics by their sheer numbers occupy a privileged position. In the United States the Catholic population numbers 67 million, according to the 2008 Official Catholic Directory. That growth has roughly mirrored the rise in total U.S. population, from 218.6 million in 1979 to 232.4 million in 1999 and 305 million in 2008. Canada's Catholics number about 13 million out of a total population of 33.4 million.

Western Kentucky Catholics More Aware of Need To Participate at Mass

According to a recent survey by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Mass attendance in this country is at 26.7%.

Mass attendance in the Diocese of Owensboro in Western Kentucky was at 59% in October, 2007.

- Diocesan Office of Liturgy

means that roughly 10% of all Americans are former Catholics."

A preliminary study of the Catholic population of the Diocese of Owensboro should subsequently serve as a wake-up call for lay, religious, and clergy leadership. For the first time in its history, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Owensboro is losing Catholics at a measurable rate, and in our diocese, the empty seats are not being filled by newcomers.

In late 2007, the United States Census Bureau released mid-decade population statistics for the Commonwealth of Kentucky. As a whole, the population trends of Kentucky and of the Diocese of Owensboro showed very few surprises. The population in the geographical area of our diocese continues to grow. The population growth of Hispanics in the 32 counties comprising the Diocese of Owensboro continues at a rate higher than the general population, although not at the rate



Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp and Retreat Center Teambuilding Activities- Gasper River Catholic Retreat Center offers numerous and enjoyable teambuilding activities for groups to improve trust, team work, and communication skills. Sessions can last from one half hour up to three hours or more, and can be customized to meet your group's specific needs or requirements. These initiatives encourage the members of each group to share ideas, act on those ideas and then evaluate what needs to be done next. <http://www.gasperriverretreatcenter.org/activities.html> WKC Staff Photo

Getting To Know "Our New Summer Camp!"

By Ben Warrell, Camp Director

We have just completed our first ever summer camp season at the Diocese's new Camp and Retreat Center at Gasper River. It was an amazing experience! Over 145 campers came through the program this summer over five weeks of camp.

The theme for the summer was from the Holy Father's message for World Youth Day and the scripture was from Acts 1:8: "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Again, God never ceases to amaze me as this scripture tied in perfectly for our first summer of camp.

The camp's mission is to bring youth in, help them learn and grow in their faith and then take what they have learned back out into the world. You could tangibly feel the Holy Spirit's presence here this summer and some amazing things took place. Just listen to what the campers who were here had to say. "I've never felt closer to God in my whole life." "No matter what, God is with me always." "My faith is stronger." "This was a great experience." "I knew

no one when I got here. Now, I have a lot of friends." "I have seen the gifts that God has given me more clearly." "I felt the Holy Spirit for the first time in my life through the Eucharist." "I think we should have a mini camp in the fall and a camp reunion before next year." "Camp is so much fun and is an amazing experience."

What God does through the camp experience is incredible. Two young ladies in the Quest Camp (7th & 8th graders) shared that they have gone to school together all their lives but never knew how great the other was because they didn't hang out together at school. Now they have a new friend for the next school year. Each week brought more and more stories of how the Holy Spirit is continuously working in our lives. If you know of any campers at your parish, please ask them about their experience this summer.

So many people gave of themselves this summer to help make the experience the best it could be for the campers. Volunteer counselors, volunteer nurses, people who brought us food from the Cambridge Market (best camp food I've ever had a camper told me), the

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The mission of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph is *Freeing and Nurturing Women and Children.*

Learn how our ministries help change lives in seven states, Chile, and soon Jamaica. Contact Sister Alicia Coomes, OSU: 270-229-4103 ext. 214
acoomes@maplemount.org



WISDOM FEATURE



SOUL SEARCHING RETREAT

For Seniors (over 55)
 Oct. 30, 2008

Presented by:
 Ginny Knight-Simon & Patty Blair

One day bus trip

Leaving Owensboro, traveling to Mater Dolorosa, St. Alphonsus, St. Raphael, Mount Saint Joseph. Enjoy grounds, prayers and lunch at Mount.

Then to McLean County, Whitesville, Knottsville, Resurrection and back to Catholic Pastoral Center.

All Souls' Eve tour of local cemeteries, sharing the Catholic Tradition and Folk Lore.

Leaving from Catholic Pastoral Center Parking lot at 7:45 a.m. Lunch at approximately 12:00 Return to Owensboro 4:30

Cost: \$25 per person-includes lunch. Seating limited to 30.

To Register: Call Ginny Knight-Simon at 270-683-1545 or e-mail gabby.knight-simon@pastoral.org

Payment must be sent by Oct. 22 to: Office of Wisdom, 600 Locust St. Owensboro, KY 42301

Camp LIFE team, the board of directors and the volunteer lead counselors. These people gave so freely of themselves and were a wonderful witness for the campers of giving the gift of time.

I'd also like to thank the wonderful summer staff who gave so much of themselves for very little pay to serve God and the Catholic Church. The hours these young men and women put in and the amount of love they showed the campers was impressive. The summer staff was Nicole Long, Ashley Lorenzen, Chelsea Bland, Ann Marie Killingbeck, Margaret Tichenor, Laura Clark, Jessy Hagan, Megan Rhodes, Alex French, Shane Lorenz, Adam Ferguson and Nick Higdon.

If you'd like to be a volunteer or

summer staffer, please begin praying for your role here at Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp. To me, this is what church should be: people from all over giving of their talents to serve God and bring others and themselves closer to Him. We need you for next summer. If you volunteer as a nurse or lead counselor you will receive a free week at camp for a family member. Almost all of the volunteers felt they received more from God than they gave during the week. It is a very special and unique way to grow in your faith.

Please call our office at 270-781-2466 or contact us on our website www.gasperriverretreatcenter.org if you are interested in being a part of this wonderful, life changing ministry.



Story teller Jerry Abney told Saint Sebastian Parish Vacation Bible School students the story of Noah and the Ark. Submitted photo and text.

Sharing A Moment from Bible Times

June was vacation bible school month at St Sebastian Catholic Church along with the Rumsey Methodist Church, Calhoun Methodist Church and Glenville Baptist Church who joined together at St Sebastian for a three day bible school.

Over 100 children and 40 volunteers came each day. The bible school was held on the beautiful St. Sebastian church grounds. The theme was the twelve tribes of Israel and tents for each tribe was set up in the woods, each having a teacher. The children were given tokens for saying Bible verses and knowing their lessons. They were allowed to spend the money in the market place where things from Bible times were sold such as sandals, flowers, kites and many other interesting articles. Each tribe kneaded bread in their tent and it was baked in the church kitchen for lunch along with a lunch from the ladies in the kitchen

Contemporary Woman Program Announces Programs for 2008

Brescia University's Contemporary Woman Program, directed by Ursuline Sister

of Mount Saint Joseph Rose Marita O'Bryan, continues its 45th year with a variety of programs for the fall semester. The brochure lists new and continuing programs available to both women and men:

- Women Doctors of the Church, exploring the life and writings of the three women doctors of the Catholic Church, is presented on six Wednesday evenings in September, October, and November from 6:30-7:30.

- Powers of the Universe, using the video series by cosmologist Brian Swimme, leads participants on a journey into the powers that have been active since the beginning of time. Participants meet Wednesday mornings, 10-11:15, September through December.

- The Canticle Group, dialoging around the book Beauty: The Invisible Embrace, by John O'Donohue, meets

on Friday mornings from 10 till noon, beginning Sep. 5.

- The Partnership Group, in its 20th year, gathers to study and discuss The Transformation of Desire, a book by Missionary of the Sacred Heart priest Diarmuid O'Murchu, on the second Wednesday of each month, 7 to 9 p.m., beginning September 10.

- Soul Gardening with Thomas Merton, a special opportunity for four Tuesday mornings in November from 10:30-11:30, consists of guided reflections on the life and writings of Thomas Merton, journaling, and silence.

- The Marys in the New Testament, a series of four Tuesday mornings from 10:30 to 11:30, beginning on September 30, invites participants to open up the Scriptures and look at the Marys in the New Testament.

- Movement in Prayer, a

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION TRAINING PROGRAM

2008-2010

Registration is now open for the next program, which begins in October.

The mission of this program is to prepare people for the ministry of spiritual direction and to enhance the skills of experienced spiritual directors, in the spirit of Saint Angela Merici. Participants will meet for eight weekly sessions over a two-year period.



TOPICS AND DATES

Spirituality	Oct. 13-17, 2008
Spiritual Direction	Jan. 19-23, 2009
The Inner Journey	April 20-24, 2009
Prayer and Scripture	July 27-31, 2009
Theology Update.....	Oct. 12-16, 2009
Supervision	Jan. 18-22, 2010
Ethics of Spiritual Direction	April 19-23, 2010
Case Studies and Retreat	July 5-9, 2010

Each weekly session will be led by a team of trained spiritual directors.

Presence at all sessions is required to receive a certificate.

To register or for more information, contact Kathy McCarty at

270-229-0200, Ext. 413

or e-mail kmccarty@maplemount.org

A brochure can be found at www.msjcenter.org



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, KY 42356

program exploring spiritual expression through dance and play, is presented on the fourth Saturday of each month, 10:30-11:20 a.m., beginning in September.

- The Return of the Global Sex Trade and How We Can Fight It, which begins September 11, from 10-11, continues Thursday mornings through October.

For a brochure and/or more infor-

mation regarding programs, dates, and costs, contact Sister Rose Marita O'Bryan, OSU, at Brescia University, 717 Frederica Street, Owensboro, KY 42301; 270-686-4275; rosemarita.obryan@brescia.edu. Participants are asked to pre-register at least two weeks in advance for each program.

The Common Word

By Mel Howard

HENDERSON, Ky. - "Good Morning, Welcome to the Common Word." With these words, an inter-Christian radio program made its second appearance on WSON, 860 AM, Henderson April 20, 2008. For 30 minutes, listeners in range of WSON's signal are treated to a conversation among four Henderson ministers: a Catholic priest, Fr. Anthony Shonis Assoc. Pastor of Holy Name of Jesus; a Presbyterian pastor, Rev. John Guthrie; a United Methodist Church pastor, Pastor Freida Alexander; and the Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Rev. Dr. Beth A. Macke. An announcement about the program said, "These four Servants of The Word will share their reflections on the Sunday Gospel every Sunday Morning at 8:30 A.M. Tune in to Henderson Radio Station WSON 860 AM."

A listener tuning in to The Common Word will hear right away that these four people genuinely like and respect one another, as well as know a lot about each other's church's teachings. One does not find here automatic agreement, but these four speakers do share a common respect for spiritual insights and for being open to other churches' views. Listeners will not hear any put-downs during The Common Word. During each program one of the four will take a turn as moderator, introducing speakers throughout the program so listeners know who is speaking as well as keeping the discussion on the topic.

Father Shonis has been involved with radio ministries in Owensboro, Paducah, and Henderson. The idea of an inter-Christian radio program has a lot of appeal since this gathers ministers from different denominations and affords a chance to explain what each church teaches about issues as well as opens a time for the speakers to ask questions, respond to one another's ideas, and to find ways to reinforce agreements between Christians in the listening audience. The purpose of The Common Word, an inter-Christian radio program, is to provide a forum for sharing ideas and interpretations of the Word of God by discussing a common gospel reading which churches read during worship on the following



Common Word radio program speakers listen to a play-back of their April 27, 2008 program with Bill Stevens, Program Director for WSON-860 AM radio, Henderson, seated; from left, Dr. Beth Macke, Rector Of St. Paul's Episcopal Church; Pastor Freida Alexander Pastor Of Smith Mills United Methodist Church; Fr. Anthony Shonis, Assoc. Pastor Of Holy Name Of Jesus Catholic Church; and Rev. John Guthrie, Pastor Of Presbyterian Church Of Henderson .Photo shot trough a studio glass window. Staff Photo

OCHS Foreign Language Club Speakers Show Real Life in Other Lands

By Mel Howard

OWENSBORO, Ky. - The Foreign Language Club at Owensboro Catholic High School sponsored by Laurel Bozman and Rhonda Foster meets once a month to hear guest speakers and students talk about topics and their native countries. On April 24, 2008, a sophomore Chinese foreign exchange student, Angela Xiao, gave a Powerpoint presentaton with maps and photos she had "googled" about her native land and home city, Beijing. Angela spoke of how most things in the US are "just so different" from her homeland.

For example, she found it unbelievable how Americans will get into a car and drive across the street from their home to go to a store. "I don't know why they do it!" Angela said. People in Beijing walk to places. Also, Chinese speak different dialects of the same language, and one dialect has a hard time understanding the other. Chinese food in the US "is not the real thing," Angela said. The cuisine is "a lot different in China: rice every day, every meal, and spicy foods." Rachel described the Great Wall which stretches 6,400 km (4,000 miles) and is just north of Beijing. She talked about how conditions are very crowded in her home city where people live in apartments and there are many skyscrapers.

Very different from Western Kentucky. Angela spoke little English when she arrived at OCHS in 2007, but for this talk, she spoke clear English, well kinda sorta, like, you know?

Asked if her family has spoken to her of any rice shortage

weekend services. The ministers concentrate on ideas which churches hold in common from interpretations of the gospel reading.

A common question during The Common Word from any speaker is, "Is that true with your denomination?"

The program title came from Dr. Beth Macke's suggestion during an initial planning session for the program. "As soon as she said it," Fr. Shonis said, "We all knew it was the best title for what we wanted to talk about on the air. This program is something I've wanted to be a part of for a long time - bring people together from different denominations."

Are people listening to The Common Word on WSON 860 AM, Henderson, on Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m.? Fr. Shonis said, "I am hearing more comments from people about this show than any other radio program I've done." Rev. John Guthrie said that he has heard good comments from people who listened to the first airing of The Common Word over WSON-860 AM on April 20.

On the day they taped the second program of The Common Word, the four speakers discussed a reading from the

Continued on page 13

or hoarding going on in China, Angela said, "Well even CNN the largest news-gathering company in the world gets it wrong. Don't listen to what the news media tells you; you're better off figuring it out for yourselves."

Sponsor Laurel Bozman thanked Angela for her hard work preparing and giving her presentation, and said, "It is always so much more interesting to learn about the language and customs of people in another country from someone who actually lives there."



Angela Xiao spoke about her home in China at OCHS April 24 for the school's Foreign Language Club

By Mel Howard

Owensboro Catholic High School held an assembly in the school gym April 24, two days before prom, to hear the names of 16 students who were announced as missing from school. Their memories hovered in the gym like ghosts as Father Brad Whistle called out their names and police officers laid white sheets over their bodies on the floor. Just a few weeks before, the parents of these 16 OCHS juniors and seniors wrote the message any parent most fears, a child's obituary. Later, parents admitted that this pen and paper exercise was the hardest thing they had ever done.

It was only an exercise, thank goodness. Ghost Out 2008 at OCHS forced home the point to prom-going upperclassmen not to drink alcohol before or after prom, or ever to drink and drive. Sure, all of them are under the legal age for buying alcohol. A recent poll taken by the Owensboro area CHAPS student group found that over half of the residents of the area think that underage drinkers get alcohol from friends but kids actually get it more frequently from their own homes. So, Ghost Out delivered a strong message to prevent underage drinking to teens and adults alike.

Students were first informed that one teen dies every 30 minutes from an alcohol-related accident during prom season in the USA. Each was given a copy of their parent-written obituary to tape to their school locker; some could not read it. The 16 were taken from their different classrooms by OCHS Dean of Students Amy Lambert, by an OPD Officer and by an EMT portraying the Grim Reaper and escorted by SCRUBS students to "heaven," a conference room under the breezeway at OCHS. Later, all were taken to the parking lot of the Sportscenter to witness a crash scene involving alcohol in which one died and others were taken to the hospital or to jail. The 16 "Ghosts" got to see it all, the whole routine of being life-flighted to an emergency room, see the medical team valiantly try to save a dying girl, feel the fear and pain of it all.



Kathryn Dueker and Jason Kindrat as the Grim Reaper escorted Amy Winstead, OCHS senior, from the classroom as one of the "Ghost" students during the April 24 Ghost Out Day, Amy Lambert, OCHS Dean of Students supervising, Officer Troy Couch, OPD, and Cliff Russell of Gideon Productions taping the scene for a DVD. Staff Photo

The Common Word

(Continued from page 12)

Gospel of John 14:15-21 in which Jesus promised to send an Advocate - the Holy Spirit - who would always be with us. Secondly, Jesus promised in this gospel that he wouldn't leave us even though he was going away. Speakers talked about the Spirit "helping us to hear what we need to hear ..." and "a work of the Holy Spirit within him ..." and of "big sacramental moments and other smaller ones ...," "It's how we open ourselves to receive the Holy Spirit."

Among the four speakers, another common remark used as a segue was "I like your point about ..." They spoke about sanctification, justification, obeying Christ's commands, all equal at the Foot of the Cross; a statement that brought quick agreement is that "there are no super-Christians."

One benefit for the speakers could be a larger source of materials for sermon preparation. Dr. Beth Macke said, "The Common Word is a wonderful opportunity to discuss the Scriptures with colleagues. So often, our sermon preparation is done individually. This broadcast allows us to talk about not only our different backgrounds but different ideas as well as we get ready for Sunday morning."

Freida Alexander said, "It is refreshing to discuss the Scriptures with colleagues from different backgrounds and experiences. Each person has so much to offer, and besides the camaraderie of like minded folks is fun!"

During the April 24 taping, one speaker said in response to another's thought, "We perish for a lack of knowledge if we don't ask ..." That pretty much says it all about why listeners will set one button of their their car radios to WSON 860 AM radio Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m to catch what these four ministers are talking about on The Common Word radio program.

They then went to jail and saw the booking process and the tests the officers administer to the DUI suspect, felt the cell, and heard the steel doors slamming shut behind you. They felt a suspect's self-reproach, the shame, the fear, the anger at oneself for being so stupid as to drink and drive, the emotion of feeling like a loser, of being in jail, locked up.

While in the jail, each student had to write a good-bye letter to their parents to be read later in the assembly.

The Ghost Out took a whole school day out of the lives of the 16 "ghosts," and concluded with the assembly back at school in which each heard his or her name called and felt the sheet pulled over their faces as they lay on the cold floor. All the students could think what it would feel like to be a teen injured or killed in an alcohol-related accident.

The idea of a Ghost Out is to take selected students through the whole day's experience so they can take back to their homes and friends what they learned. Though a 30-minute video was made of the OCHS Ghost Out, students said that the experience was more effective. Seeing one of her friends lying under that sheet on the cold floor, a student said, "I would never want to see my friends treated like a body. They are a person, but once they've passed on, they are just a body."

The Ghost Out message: drinking and driving kills; take care of your friends and yourself while you still can. The emotions of the day drove home that message. OCHS students reported later to counselors that no one was drinking alcohol during the prom this year, and that OCHS students avoided field parties and alcohol parties after prom.



"Cooling her heels in heaven" at OCHS after being taken from her classroom during Ghost Out, Amy Winstead felt the message hit home in this quiet moment before the storm. Here Amy was reflecting on what had just happened to her. Staff Photo

Americans Called To Shape a Society ...

(Continued from page 2)

A consistent ethic of life should guide all Catholic engagement in political life. This Catholic ethic neither treats all issues as morally equivalent nor reduces Catholic teaching to one or two issues. It anchors the Catholic commitment to defend human life and other human rights, from conception until natural death, in the fundamental obligation to respect the dignity of every human being as a child of God. Catholic voters should use Catholic teaching to examine candidates' positions on issues and should consider candidates' integrity, philosophy, and performance. It is important for all citizens "to see beyond party politics, to analyze campaign rhetoric critically, and to choose their political leaders according to principle, not party affiliation or mere self-interest" (USCCB, *Living the Gospel of Life*, no. 33). The following themes of Catholic social teaching provide a moral framework for decisions in public life.²

The Right to Life and the Dignity of the Human Person

Human life is sacred. Direct attacks on innocent human beings are never morally acceptable. Within our society, life is under direct attack from abortion, euthanasia, human cloning, and destruction of human embryos for research. These intrinsic evils must always be opposed. This teaching also compels us as

Catholics to oppose genocide, torture, unjust war, and the use of the death penalty, as well as to pursue peace and help overcome poverty, racism, and other conditions that demean human life.

Call to Family, Community, and Participation

The family, based on marriage between a man and a woman, is the fundamental unit of society. This sanctuary for the creation and nurturing of children must not be redefined, undermined, or neglected. Supporting families should be a priority for economic and social policies. How our society is organized—in economics and politics, in law and public policy—affects the well-being of individuals and of society. Every person and association has a right and a duty to participate in shaping society to promote the well-being of individuals and the common good.

Rights and Responsibilities

Every human being has a right to life, the fundamental right that makes all other rights possible. Each of us has a right to religious freedom, which enables us to live and act in accord with our God-given dignity, as well as a right to access to those things required for human decency—food and shelter, education and employment, health care and housing. Corresponding to these rights are

duties and responsibilities—to one another, to our families, and to the larger society.

Option for the Poor and Vulnerable

While the common good embraces all, those who are in greatest need deserve preferential concern. A moral test for society is how we treat the weakest among us—the unborn, those dealing with disabilities or terminal illness, the poor and marginalized.

Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers

The economy must serve people, not the other way around. Economic justice calls for decent work at fair, living wages, opportunities for legal status for immigrant workers, and the opportunity for all people to work together for the common good through their work, ownership, enterprise, investment, participation in unions, and other forms of economic activity.

Solidarity

We are one human family, whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. Our Catholic commitment to solidarity requires that we pursue justice, eliminate racism, end human trafficking, protect human rights, seek peace, and avoid the use of force except as a necessary last resort.

Caring for God's Creation

Care for the earth is a duty of our Catholic faith. We all are called to be careful stewards of God's creation and to ensure a safe and hospitable environment for vulnerable human beings now and in the future.

Conclusion

In light of Catholic teaching, as bishops we vigorously repeat our call for a renewed politics that focuses on moral principles, the defense of life, the needs of the weak, and the pursuit of the common good. This kind of political participation reflects the social



Branson Show Extravaganza

Office of Wisdom Offering bus trip

to beautiful Branson, Missouri
September 22-26, 2008
(Monday - Friday)

Come join the fun for four nights lodging with admission to 7 fabulous Branson Shows! We will board the brand new luxury Motor coach at the parking lot behind the Catholic Pastoral center at 8 a.m. Then on to the "Live Music Show Capital of the World." You will enjoy the wonderful new show Noah - the Musical, with live animals, a 300 ft. surround stage and a 40 ft. high Ark. Other shows include: Russian Comedian - Yakov Smirnoff, The Dalena Ditto show, the famous Platters, The Jim Stafford show, the Tillis' Family Reunion and the wonderful Showboat Branson Belle.

Of course there will be time for shopping at the all new Branson Landing! This will be a wonderful trip all for only \$595 per person double occupancy in the room. You will get 4 night lodging and eight meals and a lot of fun and laughs.

Please call Ginny-Knight-Simon a 270-683-1545 or Faith In Travel at 270 389-1002 for reservations through August 31, 2008. You will be glad you did!

teaching of our Church and the best traditions of our nation.

Notes

1 For more on the moral challenge of voting, see *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, nos. 34-39. Visit www.faithfulcitizenship.org.

2 These themes are drawn from a rich tradition more fully described in the *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church* from the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace (Washington, DC: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2005). For more information on these seven themes, see www.faithfulcitizenship.org. For information on how we bishops of the United States have applied Catholic social teaching to policy issues, see www.faithfulcitizenship.org.

For a wide range of educational and other resources to help share Faithful Citizenship, go to www.faithfulcitizenship.org.

The *Challenge of Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship* was developed by the chairmen, in consultation with the membership, of the Committees on Domestic Policy, International Policy, Pro-Life Activities, Communications, Doctrine, Education, and Migration of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). It was approved for publication by the full body of bishops at its November 2007 General Meeting and has been authorized for publication by the undersigned.

Msgr. David J. Malloy, STD General Secretary, USCCB

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A Moment For Praising Students of the Month
Students of the Month for March 2008. They were treated with a lunch and ice cream sundae with Mary Carrico Elementary, Knottsville, principal, Mike Clark. Students were chosen for exhibiting these wonderful character traits: Helpfulness to others, readiness to work, mass participation. Mary Shupe from Mary Carrico Memorial School in Knottsville. sent us this picture. So can you! E-mail pictures your with a caption to mel.howard@pastoral.org



Mary: Mother of Mercy
Fr. Andrew Apostoli, CFR
Saturday, August 9th, 2008
Sts. Joseph & Paul Parish Hall
 (note location change)
 514 E. 4th Street
 Owensboro, Kentucky

Sponsored by the Marian Shrine Committee
www.marianshrineky.org
 For more information call
 Cathy Graham 270-683-4665

Fr. Andrew Apostoli, C.F.R.

is a member of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal and a frequent host on EWTN. He leads retreats nationally and is the vice-postulator for the cause for the canonization of Archbishop Fulton Sheen. Fr. Apostoli is the author of numerous books, including *Paraclete: The Spirit of Truth in the Church* (Servant).

Registration Fee \$20.00 each
 Lunch \$ 5.00 extra
 (Sandwich, side & drink)
 *Must be pre-ordered

SCHEDULE

8:00 Doors open/Registration
 8:45 Growing in Prayer & Virtues
 Through the Stages of
 Spiritual Life
 9:45 Break
 10:00 Our Lady & Today's Spiritual
 Warfare
 11:15 Mass
 12:30 Lunch
 1:45 Rosary
 2:00 Importance of Mercy: His
 Mercy Endures Forever
 Divine Mercy Chaplet,
 & Closing Prayers/End
 3:00

REGISTRATION FORM

Please Duplicate for each attendee.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State ____ Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Fr., Sr., Deacon., or Br., _____

Registration Fee \$20.00 per person
 *Does Not include lunch

Number of people attending _____
 Lunch provided for \$5.00 extra + _____
 (Sandwich, side & drink)
 Total amount enclosed = _____
 No charge for Priests or Religious.

Mail your tax deductible donation to:
 Marian Shrine Committee
 2638 Wood Haven
 Owensboro, KY 42303



Fr. Ron Knott receives Touchstone Award

Fr. J. Ronald Knott, a priest of the Archdiocese of Louisville and founding director of the Institute for Priests and Presbyterates at Saint Meinrad School of Theology, received the 2008 Touchstone Award from the National Federation of Priests' Councils on April 23.

Fr. Knott was ordained in 1970 after graduating with a Master of Divinity degree from Saint Meinrad. He later

earned a doctorate of ministry in the area of parish revitalization from McCormick (Presbyterian) Seminary in Chicago.

He has also authored several books, including *Intentional Presbyterates: Claiming Our Common Sense of Purpose as Diocesan Priests* and *From Seminarian to Diocesan Priest: Managing a Successful Transition*, both published by Sophronismos Press.

In 2007, Fr. Knott completed the monograph, *Spiritual Leadership of a Parish Priest: On Being Good and Good at It*, and a workbook to accompany *Intentional Presbyterates*, both published by Sophronismos Press. In addition, he has published three collections of homilies and two col-

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lections of his weekly columns for The Record, the newspaper of the Archdiocese of Louisville. He has written articles for America, Church and Seminary Journal.

The Touchstone Award is presented to a priest whose service in the Gospel of Jesus Christ exemplifies the purposes and goals of the NFPC. In particular, the recipient is one whose leadership enhances the ministry of others, and his words and deeds support the life and ministry of priests; thus he is, as it were, a "touchstone" for genuine, quality priesthood.

The award was presented to Fr. Knott at a banquet during the National Ministry Summit in Orlando, FL.

BRESCIA UNIVERSITY

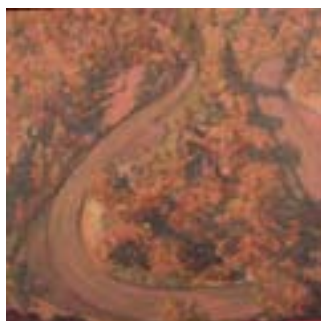
Annual Brescia Division of Fine Arts Faculty Art Exhibition Reception
 Anna Eaton Stout Gallery, Brescia Campus Center, Owensboro
 Thursday, August 21, 2008 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Featuring the art of:

John Dawson '73, BA – mixed media
 Stephen Driver, MFA – ceramics
 Louise Halsey – MFA integrated arts

Monty Helm, MFA – Painting
 David Stratton, MFA – mixed media
 Sr. Mary Diane Taylor '64, MA – stained glass

The art show runs August 13 - September 5.
 The gallery is open Monday - Friday from 8 - 4:30 p.m.



Body Language:

Commentary on the Intersection of Faith, Sex, & Culture By Christopher West
Contraception and Cultural Chaos



July 25 marked the 40th anniversary of one of the most controversial papal documents in history: Paul VI's encyclical *Humanae Vitae*, which reaffirmed the traditional Christian teaching on the immorality of contraception. If you have wrestled with this teaching, believe me, I can relate. Years ago I almost left the church over it. Forty years of perspective provide an opportunity to take another look. That's what I'll be doing in several columns between now and July 25.

You may have noticed above that I said "traditional Christian teaching" on contraception. Only in the last 50-70 years has this been viewed primarily as a "Catholic" issue. Until 1930, all Christian bodies stood together in their condemnation of any attempt to sterilize the marital act. That year, the Anglican Church broke with more than 1,900 years of uninterrupted Christian teaching. When the pill debuted in the early 1960s, the Catholic Church alone was retaining what in 30 short years had come to be seen as an archaic, even absurd, position.

One way to begin understanding the church's stance is by "judging the tree by its fruit." This is what first made me realize that



The encyclical "Humanae Vitae" ("Of Human Life") marked its 40th anniversary July 25. It was promulgated by Pope Paul VI in 1968. It begins by calling married couples "collaborators of God the creator" in the duty of creating human life and acknowledges the great joys and difficulties that come with it. (CNS photo/Karen Callaway, Catholic New World) (July 18, 2008)

Holy Name School Y-Club 5th Annual Chess/Checkers Tournament



Brian Massoth, 8th grade, won the Chess Tournament for the third year in a row. Ian McGowan, 3rd grade, was the Checkers winner. Thirty students participated in the tournament this year, which benefits Henderson County Relay for Life. The school made a donation of \$150. At right, from left: Jack Bach, Lily Krampe, Maddie Butler and Nathan Bach enjoy the checkers tournament. HNS Photo



contraception is a much more important issue than I had realized.

When Margaret Sanger and her followers started pushing contracep-

tion in the early 1900s, wise men and women – and certainly not just Catholics – predicted that severing sex from procreation would eventually led to sexual and societal chaos. Today's culture of adultery, divorce, premarital sex, sexually transmitted diseases, out-of-wedlock births, abortion, fatherless children, homosexuality, poverty, crime, drugs and violence was all foreseen.

What's the connection with contraception? While today's societal chaos is certainly complex, the following demonstrates the "inner logic" of contraception's contribution. People are often tempted to do things they shouldn't do. Deterrents within nature itself and within society help to curb these temptations and maintain order. For example, what would happen to the crime rate in a given society if jail terms suddenly ceased?

Apply the same logic to sex. People throughout history have been tempted to commit adultery. It's nothing new. However, one of the main deterrents from succumbing to the temptation has been the fear of pregnancy. What would happen if this natural deterrent were taken away? As history demonstrates, rates of adultery would skyrocket. What's one of the main causes of divorce? Adultery. Apply the same logic to premarital sex. Such behavior has, indeed, skyrocketed. Premarital sex, as a kind of "adultery in advance," is also a prime indicator of future marital breakdown.

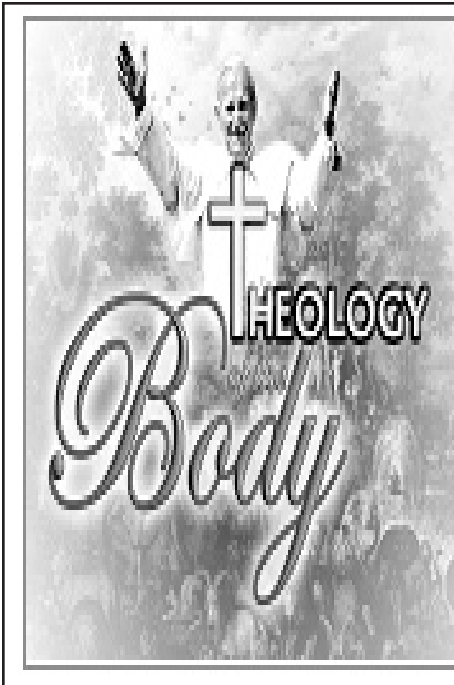
It gets worse. Since no method of contraception is 100 percent effective, an increase in adultery and pre-marital sex will inevitably lead to an increase in "unwanted pregnancies." What's next? So many people think contraception is the solution to the abortion problem. Take a deeper look and you'll see that that's like throwing gasoline on a fire to try

to put it out. In the final analysis, there is only one reason we have abortion – because men and women are having sex without being "open to life." If this mentality is at the root of abortion, contraception does nothing but foster and afford this mentality.

Not everyone will resort to abortion of course. Some will choose adoption. Other mothers (most) will raise these children by themselves. Hence the number of children who grow up without a father (which has already been increased by the rise in divorce) will be compounded. And a culture of "fatherless" children inevitably becomes a culture of poverty, crime, drugs, and violence. All of these social ills compound exponentially from generation to generation since "fatherless" children are also much more likely to have out-of-wedlock births and, if they marry at all, divorce.

What about homosexuality? Our culture is impotent to resist the "gay agenda" because we have already accepted its basic premise with contraception – the reduction of sex to the exchange of pleasure. When openness to life is no longer an intrinsic part of the sexual equation, why does sexual behavior have to be with the opposite sex?

Forty years after the release of *Humanae Vitae*, many people are beginning to see that the church might not be crazy after all.



“Created and Redeemed”

The Diocese of Owensboro Presents a Symposium on Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body through Christopher West's Program “Created and Redeemed”

At Brescia University Taylor Lecture Hall on September 19-20, 2008
Schedule: 6:30 -9:00 p.m. Fri.
8:30 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. Sat.

Cost: Pre-registration \$10 (on or before Sept. 3) \$15 after Sept. 3. Lunch is on your own. Check out the Christopher West web - <http://www.christopher-west.com/>

Sponsored by the Owensboro Diocesan Offices of Family Life, Social Concerns, Faith Formation, Ascension Press, and The Theology of the Body Institute. For information, contact Donna Biggs at 1-270-683-1545

CCK Joins Lawsuit About Charitable Gaming Funds

(July 22, 2008) The Louisville Soccer Alliance, the Catholic Conference of Kentucky, and the Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Henderson, Kentucky, filed a lawsuit seeking clarification of the law regarding the continued practice of transferring unused, excess funds collected from licensees for the operation of the department of charitable gaming into the general fund and the resulting increases in the charitable gaming fee, including the recent increase in the fee.

“We believe it is against the law for the State to use funds generated through private, charitable gaming for purposes other than paying the legitimate expenses of the Department of Charitable Gaming (DCG),” said Ed Monahan, executive director of the Catholic Conference. “Unspent, surplus funds designated to operate the DCG should lead to the reduction in the fees paid by charitable organizations to operate the DCG, and not be taken by the State and used as a general tax for other state purposes. Charities and their supporters expect the monies they raise and spend will be used for charitable purposes and not to balance the State's budget.”

There is significant harm caused by this unconstitutional and illegal conduct by the state. Charitable gaming provides significant funds that help Catholic ministries. There are 406,000 Catholics, 296 Catholic parishes, and 127 Catholic schools educating more than 48,000 students in Kentucky. Many of these Catholic churches and schools benefit from festivals and events that involve gaming. There are 219 Catholic charities with a charitable gaming license

representing 30% of all charitable gaming licenses issued in Kentucky. Thousands of volunteers staff these Catholic charitable gaming events. As a result of their hard work, the Catholic community throughout Kentucky is able to educate thousands of children and provide shelter, food, medicine, and utilities to thousands of low income individuals through its many outreach ministries.

The plaintiffs recognize that the Department of Charitable Gaming provides indispensable oversight and agrees that charitable gaming licensees have a responsibility to fund the oversight so no taxpayer money is used to regulate the gaming. The harm suffered by the plaintiffs is in the transfer of unspent funds which should be used to fund the DCG. Since 1998, Kentucky has transferred \$5,991,200 of these surplus funds from the DCG. In the most recent budget passed, the General Assembly took \$700,000. As a result of this transfer, effective July 1, 2008, the Department of Charitable Gaming has raised the fee to operate its office from 0.53% of gross receipts to 0.60% of gross receipts, resulting in a further direct loss to charitable organizations of funds needed for their charitable missions.

Patrons of charitable events, charitable organizations and their ministries have been given the wrong impression about how their contributions are being used. Plaintiffs are asking that funds transferred be returned to the DCG Trust and Agency Account and that the DCG fee be reduced to a percentage that does not result in the collection of an excess of funds needed to operate its department.

Jim Duffy Retirement Reception

OWESBORO, Ky. - A reception was held for Mr. Jim Duffy on May 15 at OCMS. Mr. Duffy retired from the Owensboro Catholic Schools after 39 years of service; 21 years teaching at OCHS and 19 years as principal at OCMS. Many past students, families and friends visited with Mr. Duffy. Mr. Duffy was also congratulated and presented with gift certificates to Lowe's so he can enjoy his woodworking hobby.



Ann Flaherty – Meet and Greet

A Meet and Greet Reception was held for Mrs. Flaherty on May 21 at OCMS. Mrs. Flaherty has recently been named the new principal for Owensboro Catholic Middle School. Many families and colleagues visited with her. Mrs. Flaherty also made a speech highlighting her vision and voiced enthusiasm about her new position. Photos and text submitted by OCS.



Simply The Best in Webster County That Day!

St. Michael's Catholic Church in Sebree raised the most money for Relay For Life in Webster County. They raised \$6,119.00. Father Jason McClure was such a trooper in all of this. The people in this photo: Carla Peyton and her son Eli, Linda Henry, Brenda Allinder, Daniel Edwards, Rosie Edwards, Father Jason McClure and Linda Frederick. Photo and text Submitted June 12, 2008 by Patti (Murphy) Gutiérrez.

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, Dr. Charles Bohle, Ms. Susan Clark, Rev. Pat Connell, Mr. William Craig, Jr., Mr. Jeff Ebelhar, Ms. Teresa Henry, Dr. Carroll Howard, Mr. Dan Howard, Sr. Eula Johnson, SCN, Sr. Jacinta Powers, OSU, 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.

GUARANTEED RETIREMENT INCOME

Give to your favorite Catholic charity...and receive up to 11.3% each year for the rest of your life

IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE to the Church but still need a regular income in your retirement, consider a Charitable Gift Annuity through the Catholic Foundation of Western Kentucky.

In return for your gift of cash, appreciated securities, real estate or other assets, you'll receive regular, fixed payments for the rest of your life.

YOU'LL RECEIVE A FIXED RATE OF 6.0% TO 11.3% depending on your age. (See sample rates at right.)

You'll also be eligible for a charitable tax deduction now and may even reduce your estate taxes.

Your parish or favorite Catholic charity will receive the remainder of your gift at the time of your death—you make the choice.

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY RATES

Rates effective July 1, 2007 - Based on One-Life

AGE AT TIME OF GIFT	WITH NO DEFERRAL; PAYMENTS START IMMEDIATELY
65	6.0%
70	6.5%
75	7.1%
80	8.0%

Requires a minimum \$5,000 gift

IT'S A BETTER WAY TO GIVE... AND TO RECEIVE.

Return the coupon below and we'll prepare a confidential, personalized proposal for you.



CATHOLIC FOUNDATION OF WESTERN KENTUCKY
DIOCESE OF OWENSBORO

To provide you with a confidential proposal, please fill out and return this coupon to the Catholic Foundation of Western Kentucky.

YES, Please send me a personalized proposal for the Charitable Gift Annuity so I can see how I can receive a guaranteed lifetime income, reduce my taxes and assist my favorite Catholic organizations—including my parish!

One-Life Proposal: Amount: \$ _____ (minimum \$5,000) My Birthday ____/____/____

Two-Lives Proposal: Amount: \$ _____ (minimum \$5,000) My Birthday ____/____/____ Birthday #2 ____/____/____

*If using stock, please provide fair market value and cost basis.

Name _____

Address _____ Phone (____) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Parish _____

600 LOCUST STREET • OWENSBORO, KENTUCKY 42301-2130 • (270) 683-1545 • FAX (270) 683-6883

NAZARETH PICNIC

Sisters of Charity of Nazareth
Motherhouse Campus
Saturday, August 23

2:00-8:00 p.m.

Capital Prize: 1st - \$2,000 • 2nd-\$1,000 • 3rd-\$500

and Handmade Quilt
To be given away at 8:00 p.m.
Ticket holders need not be present to win!

Chicken dinner available 2:00-7:00 p.m.

Menu includes: Fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, cole slaw, cucumbers/olive salad, homemade yeast rolls, choice of cherry or apple pie for dessert, iced tea, lemonade or water

Adults \$7.50

Children 12 and under \$5.00

Seating by ticket number

Air Conditioned Dining Area - Motherhouse Dining Room

Outdoor dining area also available

Booths • Cakes • Candy • Games • Children's Activities •
Entertainment • Grilled Hamburgers and Hotdogs
available on the grounds

Live entertainment throughout the day!

Gateway License #D80001740



Sister Evelyn Craig, IHM, director of spiritual programs for Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center, speaks with sixth graders from Owensboro Catholic Middle school about God's creations on May 19. MSJ Photo



Teaching Charitable Giving

Christ the King School recently completed their 25th annual St. Jude's Math-A-Thon. This year the children from the school raised almost \$3,500 for St. Jude's. Pictured above are members of CTK kindergarten class. Kindergarten was the class that raised the most money at \$830. CTK Photo



This year Mary Carrico Memorial School raised almost \$800 for the children of St. Jude's hospital. Eighteen students participated in the annual Math-a-Thon. Pictured are: Mikaelyn Aud, Zachary Boarman, Drew Brown, Matthew Dwyer, Emily Estes, Jacey Fulkerson, Emily Hamilton, Wesley Hamilton, Caleb Hester, Drake Higdon, Sami Jo Lanham, Olivia Millay, Ethan Payne, Haley Payne, Meredith Payne, Jesse Rhinerson, Jonah Robertson, and Hunter Wilke. Mary Carrico is a Catholic school of 87 students located on Highway 144 in Knottsville. MCMS Photo

MCMS Raises Money for St. Jude Hospital

By Amanda Beeler, 3/4 teacher and Math-a-thon co-sponsor.

Students at Mary Carrico School in Knottsville raised money by getting sponsors to pledge money for each Math problem they completed in the Mathathon booklet or on the CD ROM that St. Jude provides. The students had about 4 weeks to find sponsors, complete the math problems, and collect the money. The students were very excited about doing the math and raising the money for the kids at St. Jude. We watched a promotional DVD from St. Jude as a kickoff and the kids were very interested in helping these children who were so much like themselves and their families.

St. Jude uses the Mathathon to raise money each year and contacts schools to ask them to participate. They sent a thank you for participating.

The neatest part of it was that all this happened right around the time of the school's break-in on Good Friday morning, March 21, 2008. The kids were really concerned about the money that had been turned in and whether or not the children at St. Jude would still get the money. They were sick at the idea that the vandals might have gotten the money that they raised for children who could die if it weren't for St. Jude Children's hospital.

I think they were especially sensitive to this cause because we had a parent who had been fighting cancer pass away last school year. Because we are such a small school, all the students knew the family and knew the children. They really identified with the need to raise money to help find a cure.

Glenmary Sisters' Celebrations Coming This Fall, 2008

- Glenmary Sisters' 6th Annual Owensboro PumpkinFest 2008 (Free Family Festival) September 26-28, Sportscenter Complex, Owensboro, KY
www.owensboropumpkinfest.org
- Glenmary Sisters', 2nd Annual Men Who Cook (tickets \$35 each/\$60 couple) October 18, 2008, 7:00 p.m.- 10:00 p.m., The Hines Center, Philpot, KY
www.glenmarysisters.org

MARIAN RETREAT

Oct. 31-Nov. 2, 2008

Led by Msgr. Bernard Powers

*Our Lady of Prompt Succor
Maple Mount, Ky.*



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.

Cost: \$165 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.msjcenter.org



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Cummings Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 42356-9999
270-229-0200
www.msjcenter.org



Ben Hedges Earns Eagle Scout Award

Special to The Western Kentucky Catholic
OWENSBORO, Ky. - A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent. These are the words of the Scout Law, but they are not just words to Ben Hedges, but a code to live by. Ben recently became the 34th Eagle Scout in the forty-one year history of Boy Scout Troop 120, which is chartered to St. Pius Tenth Church in Owensboro, Kentucky. Ben's odyssey in Scouting began twelve years ago when he joined Cub Scout Pack 120 as a first grade student at Bishop Cotton Elementary School. He advanced through the ranks of Cub Scouting and joined Troop 120 in 2001. He passed his Eagle Scout Board of Review this past February to become a member of the Eagle Scout Class of 2008.

Scouting teaches boys self-reliance, outdoor skills, citizenship, and leadership skills. To become an Eagle Scout, a boy must have been a Life Scout for at least six months, have earned twenty-one merit badges, twelve of which are required, and complete a community service project. Eagle Scout service projects can be of the scout's choosing but must benefit his school, church, or community. The idea is not to do the work yourself, but to learn leadership skills by planning, fundraising, organizing, and delegating the work on the project.

Ben's project was to complete the landscaping around the rear of St. Pius Tenth and the existing daycare center, which was left unfinished as a result of the con-

struction of the new parish hall. The area landscaped totaled about 3,000 square feet. "My plan was to finish the project so the church wouldn't have to use any more of its funds," Ben said. Ben raised over \$2,800.00 and enlisted help from St. Pius Tenth parishioners, his fellow scouts, teammates and coaches from Owensboro Catholic High School's football and baseball teams to complete the work. The project took about five weeks to complete once work was started. He had over \$200.00 left after expenses, which he donated to the church.

In becoming an Eagle Scout, Ben joined an elite group of young men in the Boy Scouts of America. Less than 4 percent of all boys who join Scouting earn the Eagle Scout rank.

"What kept me going was I wanted to make Eagle," Ben said. "I have talked to Eagle Scouts who are adults now and they told me how much it would help me down the road." Being an Eagle Scout has its benefits. An Eagle Scout enters the Armed Forces at least one pay grade higher than other recruits. It also is a tremendous resume enhancement as it demonstrates to a potential employer one's ability to see a task through to its completion as well as leadership skills and the ability to work within a team concept.

Ben is the son of Charlotte and Jeff Hedges of St. Pius Tenth in Owensboro and is a 2008 graduate of Owensboro Catholic High School where he was a member of the football and baseball teams. Ben will enter Kentucky Wesleyan College this fall.

Photo at left - From left to right: Daryl McMaster, Al Johnson, Jared McMaster, Jeremy White, Ben Hedges, Eric Shively, Ben Knott, Charlotte Hedges

Photo at right- From left to right: Al Johnson and Ben Hedges. Submitted photos

Photo below: Ben with his Mom and Dad, Charlotte and Jeff Hedges



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."

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.



Wil Hernandez

Cost is \$175 for residents and \$120 for commuters. To register, contact
Kathy McCarty
270-229-0200, ext. 413
kmccarty@maplemount.org
www.mscenter.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 42356-9999
270-229-0200



Nancy Wolfe



Sidney Ebelhar



Sr. Elaine Burke



Cursillistas at the Grand Ultreya

Cursillo – Grand Ultreya

By Paul Bachi

Ultreya – the Spanish term means “Onward”. It developed when the Cursillo founders were going on the first pilgrimage to St. James the Apostle and while climbing the steep hills of Mallorca (Spain), they used to shout “Ultreya!” to encourage each other to continue onward. And so we use that term to mean that which encourages all who attend an Ultreya to continue to preserve in their lives as apostles for Jesus Christ.

So a Grand Ultreya must really be something special. Yes it is!

“IS” (and not “was”), is the proper term because the gifts of the Holy Spirit continue to nourish all who willingly commit to live up to their baptismal promises. The following list is a brief

summary of the gifts received and which continue to blossom:

“Fortitude” – a passionate witness to the history of the Cursillo Movement in the World, USA, and the Diocese of Owensboro, by Sidney Ebelhar.

“Wisdom” – the importance of Ultreya and our witness to it and through it, by Nancy Wolfe.

“Piety” – a prayerful meditation by Spiritual Director, Sr. Elaine Burke.

“Understanding” – the purpose and fruits of the School of Leaders, by Gerry Frey.

“Counsel” – ARISE, a beginners

program in knowing the Lord through the witness of the Catholic Church, by Barbara Hertel and Tina Powers.

“Knowledge” – the role of the Secretariat, the governing body of the Cursillo Movement in our Diocese, by Lay Director, Cecelia Hamilton.

“Fear of the Lord” – the Ultreya Group Reunion – Piety, Study, and Action lovingly shared by all.

The Ultreya fulfills the words of Pope Paul VI, when he stated: “Those who sincerely accept the Good News, through the power of their acceptance and shared faith therefore gather together in Jesus’ name in order to seek together the Kingdom, build it up and live it. They make up a community which is in its term evangelizing.” (Apostolic Exhortation, Evangelization in the Modern World, December 8, 1975)

If you are interested in knowing more about how the Cursillo Movement and its method of Piety, Study, and Action can give you the tools to spread the Good News, please talk to a Cursillista near you or Cecelia Hamilton at (270) 926-4176; e-mail, hamilton106@bellsouth.net.

INTRODUCTION TO CENTERING PRAYER FOR BEGINNERS



Saturday, Sept. 20

\$25 One Day Introduction fee (lunch included)

The risen Christ addresses us from without in order to teach us to listen inwardly to his spiritual impressions. The contemplative life is to live not only in God’s presence, but out of God’s presence. We become the word of God through the transformation effected by faith, hope, and divine love. Then we will be witnesses to Christ in our very being.

- Father Thomas Keating

2009 Centering Prayer Retreat Weekend
March 20-22

Retreat Directors:

Sister Mary Otho Ballard, OP and Jean Johnson, SL

Retreat fees: \$175 Residents, \$120 Commuters (meals included)

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

Visit us online at www.msjcenter.org.



Pilgrimage to Turkey & Greece

Celebrating 2000 Years of St. Paul’s Mission June 8-19, 2009

During the Jubilee Year dedicated to St. Paul by Pope Benedict XVI, you can join Fr. Anthony Shonis (of Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Henderson) in visiting highlights of St. Paul’s missionary journeys and the development of the early church. The Book of Acts and Letters of St. Paul and St. John will come alive as we visit sites in what are now Greece and Turkey, including Ephesus, Philippi, Thessalonika, Athens, Corinth, Sardis, Berea, Istanbul, Nicea, and more! The cost is around \$3,675 from Henderson. For more information contact trip coordinator Neal Biggers at Holy Name of Jesus Church: 270-827-2096 (ext. 307) or see our itinerary on our website: www.holynameparish.org.

“Night Out to Dinner” St. Sebastian Christmas Bazaar

December 6, 2008 --- Crafters Needed!

For information contact Betty Abrams @ 270-273-3262 or email her @ babrams142@aol.com <mailto:babrams142@aol.com> . Booths are limited, call or email now and reserve yours!

St. Sebastian Church, Calhoun, will be having “Night Out to Dinner” every first Friday of the month starting August 1, 2008. The menu is as follows: August/Spaghetti Dinner, September/O’Charley Night, October/Pork Chops, November/Turkey & Dressing. Dinner is from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. \$8.00 a plate for adults, \$4.00 for children under 10. Come out and enjoy the fellowship and a good affordable dinner. For more information you may contact Martin or Debra Hamilton at 270-273-3188/929-4877 or call the church office at 270-273-3185.

Diocesan Rural Life Celebration

Sunday August 10, 2008, 5:00 p.m.

Owensboro Sportscenter

An ecumenical celebration of rural life.
Meal starts at 5PMP with a short program and giving of Lifetime Achievement Award
Sponsored by the Diocesan Rural Life Committee

Q & A : Safe Environment Training for Children

By Patty Blair, Director, Office for Religious Education

Safe Environment training helps children learn to set appropriate relationship boundaries and to protect themselves from violators. That training has been available for those enrolled in Catholic schools and religious education programs in our diocese since 2003.

Below are commonly asked questions related to the training.

Q. Why is the Catholic Church doing this?

A. The Bishops, in their Charter for the Protection of Children and Youth, require the Church to train both adults and children in ways to prevent child sexual abuse. Protecting children is not something new to us as Church. The way we are doing it is new. We are now taking a more active role to create safe environments in our parishes and schools.

Q. I bring my child to learn the Catholic faith. Why is this program linked with religion classes?

A. First, the Catechism of the Catholic Church itself addresses (in paragraph 2389) "...any sexual abuse perpetrated by adults on children or adolescents entrusted to their care. The offense is compounded by the scandalous harm done to the physical and moral integrity of the young, who will remain scarred by it all their lives; and the violation of responsibility for their upbringing." So Church teaching acknowledges our need to protect. Secondly, the Church desires a safe setting for all those who come to pray and learn. Finally, Jesus himself reminded us in Matthew's gospel: "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea." Religion class is a very appropriate place to handle these safety issues.

Q. Isn't this just the Church involving itself in more sex education?

A. Actually, the Safe Environment Program is not sex education at all. Catholic sex education teaches children how to live as adults in loving, chaste sexual relationships with their marriage partner. Safe Environment training, on the other hand, focuses clearly on personal safety and boundaries. It teaches our children and youth how to recognize unsafe touches and people, how to resist them, and most importantly, how to report them.

Q. What is the best way to teach children how to be safe?

A. Current prevention research tells us good programs put child sexual abuse prevention in the framework of safety. It is more effective when it is taught by someone familiar to the children. The safety lessons should be taught at least once a year. Children should be taught to be assertive and to ask trusted adults for help in difficult or dangerous situations.

Q. Will teachers teach children the name of private body parts?

A. No. Teaching the proper names of body parts

is the job of the parent/guardian. The reinforcing lessons used by the schools and religious education classes cover the topics of safe adults, safe touches, and setting boundaries.

Q. Aren't you destroying the "innocent period" of these children's lives?

A. All lessons are age appropriate and relate to personal safety. Keeping children unaware of the dangers around them does not keep them safe. Predators count on children not knowing what to do.

Q. I believe morality should be taught in the home, not in school. Can I opt out of this program?

A. You are right; morality is best taught in the home. But this is personal safety training, not morality class, not sex education. Catholic moral theology compels us to keep children safe so if parents/guardians do not want their children to participate, they will be required to sign and turn in an official opt-out form to their school or parish.

WHEN DOES THE HURTING STOP?

By Betty Medley, Director, FamilyLife Office



Betty Medley

The journey through grief is difficult...and painful. We are forever changed by a major loss experience. Clearly, we will never be the same person we were before this loss became part of our lives. The real struggle occurs when we consciously or subconsciously resist the change that must take place if we are to survive and learn to live with our loss. (It is difficult to get to know and accept this new person who is emerging.)

Grief is a complex process, unique to each individual, based on personality type, circumstances of death, and our relationship with the person who died.

There are, however, emotions common to almost all bereaved persons.

Understanding is the KEY to the tolerance and patience necessary to accept and integrate loss into our lives. There will be a bereavement support group for anyone who has experienced a death at any time of his/her life. This group will run every Tuesday for four consecutive weeks and is open to all the public at no charge.

BEREAVEMENT PROGRAM -- FIVE SESSIONS

WHERE: Catholic Pastoral Center 600 Locust St, Owensboro

TIME 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

CONTACT: Betty Medley (270) 683-1545 ext. 357

• **Aug 26 - What Grief is Really Like:** Some common reactions to a situation no one is ever prepared to handle. Why we feel the way we do, and why no one seems to understand.

• **Sept 2 - Depression:** Sadness, loss, and the feeling that nothing will ever be the same. Physical symptoms; healing can happen. **Anger:** Nice people DO get angry. Recognizing our anger, coping with it and getting over it. (Address suicide and our feelings of outrage and shame.)

• **Sept 9 - Guilt:** Blaming ourselves for what has happened, handling the What If's... and If Only's - (touch on suicide, and our responsibility or lack of it) **From Grief to Living Again:** Putting grief in perspective, learning to share our lives with the living, and realizing that we will never get over our grief, but we can learn to live with it.

• **Sept 16**

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Building Contemplative Community

A weekend retreat for Spiritual Directors

Sept. 18-21, 2008

Rediscover what drew you to become a spiritual director.

Join others to strengthen your future participation in this ministry.

The retreat is directed toward anyone who currently ministers as a spiritual director. All faith backgrounds are welcomed.



The retreat includes:

- Professional sharing among colleagues
- Dream work opportunities
- Right-brained exercises
- Personal reflection and contemplation
- A rhythm of community workshop and sharing



Sister Evelyn Craig, IHM
Facilitator

"I firmly believe that our task as spiritual directors requires us to grow in skill and sensitivity in this ministry so that God's own Spirit might guide us."

Janet K. Ruffing
Spiritual Direction Beyond the Beginnings

Registration begins at 6 p.m., Thursday and the retreat begins at 7 p.m. Departure after lunch on Sunday. The retreat fee is \$200. Please provide \$50 registration 30 days in advance, and the balance at time of retreat.

To register or for more information:

Contact Kathy McCarty at (270) 229-0200 Ext. 413
or email kmccarty@maplemount.org



Mount Saint Joseph
Conference and Retreat Center

8001 Contemplative Road
Maple Mount, Kentucky 40354-0000
270-229-0200
www.mountstjoseph.org
maplemount@mountstjoseph.org

"Give peace, quiet, and prayer a chance."

Visit us at www.msjcenter.org.

BRESCIA UNIVERSITY HOSTS TRIP TO ITALY



Spend Christmas 2008 in Rome

December 16 - 26, 2008

Join Fr. Larry Hostetter as he leads a tour of alumni, friends, and students in exploring and experiencing elements of Brescia's Ursuline heritage and Catholic foundation. The trip includes visits to Brescia, Assisi, Florence and Rome, Italy and features Midnight Mass at the Vatican early Christmas morning.

Cost: \$2,995* + \$340 tax and fuel.

*Price based on a minimum of 30 participants.



For a brochure and registration form,
contact Karen Wells at
(270) 686-4265 or
karen.wells@brescia.edu

2008 Youth Slim Awards Named

By Melinda Prunty, Director, Office for Youth Ministry

The Diocesan Office of Youth Ministry is proud to announce the recipients of their annual Servant Leaders In Ministry or SLIM Awards. The Office recognizes high school juniors and seniors who have made outstanding contributions to their Parish, Deanery and/or the Diocese through their leadership and involvement in youth ministry. The rule of thumb for the total number of awards is eighteen, two per deanery, unless youth are not nominated from a deanery. However, this year we made an exception and have an extra honoree. Recipients receive an award in the form of a plaque while all other youth nominated receive a Certificate of Recognition. If a young person is nominated their junior year and do not receive an award, they can be re-nominated for an award their senior year.

We are proud to announce that for 2008, nineteen youth from around the Diocese of Owensboro representing 15 parishes and eight out of nine deaneries will be awarded plaques in recognition of their Servant Leadership In Ministry. They are listed by Youth's Name, Parish, and Deanery: Hannah Gilland, St. Thomas More, Paducah; Joey Marlin, Holy Name, Henderson, Central; Teresa Shoemaker, Holy Name, Henderson, Central; Katelyn Storm, St. Joseph, Central City, Hopkinsville; Thom Vendl, St. Michael the Archangel, Oak Grove, Hopkinsville; Matthew Martin, Holy Spirit, Bowling Green; Kolton Jones, Holy Spirit, Bowling Green; John Whitfill, St. Anthony, Axtel, Eastern; Audrey Redden, St. Jerome, Fancy Farm; William (Billy) Copeland, St. Stephen, Cadiz, Lakes; Kristen Renee' Mikulcik, St. Henry, Aurora, Lakes; Jessica Gerteisen, St. Pius X, Owensboro East; Jennifer Aud, Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro East; Lee Ann Wells, Sts. Joseph & Paul, Owensboro East; Logan Ross, St. Anthony, Browns Valley, Owensboro East; Kateri Rhodes, St. Lawrence, St. Lawrence, Owensboro East; Michael Thompson, St. Mary's, Whitesville, Owensboro East; Hadley Jagoe, Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro East; Lindsey Barnard, Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro East

Twenty-one youth from the Diocese of Owensboro representing twelve parishes and seven deaneries were awarded Certificates of Recognition for being nominated for their Servant Leadership In Ministry. They are: Ethan Dossett Bennett, St. Jerome, Fancy Farm; Scott Burch, St. Jerome, Fancy Farm; Rebekka Welch, St. Francis de Sales, Paducah; Derrick Anderson, St. Francis de Sales, Paducah; Andy Stevens, St. Thomas More, Paducah; Carly Dannenmueller, St. Thomas More, Paducah; Dawn Wientjes, St. Thomas More, Paducah; Maggie Langston, St. Thomas More, Paducah; Malorie Garrett, St. Thomas More, Paducah; Samantha Mills, Holy Spirit, Bowling Green; Tyler Long, Holy Name,

Henderson, Central; Meg Carver, Holy Name, Henderson, Central; Elizabeth Massoth, Holy Name, Henderson, Central; Bethany Doll, St. Joseph, Central City, Hopkinsville; Emily McCarty, St. Pius X, Owensboro East; Jamison Hughes, St. Anthony's, Browns Valley, Owensboro East; Lauren Hayden, Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro East; Myles Miller, Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro East; Annie Payne, St. Mary's, Whitesville, Owensboro East; Johnna Day, Immaculate, Owensboro West; Jack

At right, Jessica Gerteisen, St. Pius X Parish, Owensboro, with Matt Hunt.



St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville, Joe Bland presenting awards to SLIM Award winners Michael Thompson and Annie Payne. YM Photo

At right, Hannah Gilland, St. Thomas More; Presenting, Danny Thomas, youth minister. YM Photo



Father Pate Hughes and Jack Simmons, Saint Martin Parish, Rome.



Fr. Tom Buckman presenting SLIM Award to John Whitfill at Saint Anthony, AXTEL ON MAY 18, 2008.

Simmons, St. Martin, Rome, Owensboro West.

Nomination forms are mailed out to Youth Ministry Contacts in all parishes in the spring of the year. They may be nominated by Youth Ministers, Pastors, and Catechists...someone from the parish that knows about their involvement in the church. There is an effort to have equal representation from the different deaner-

ies; however, sometimes no nominations come from some deaneries. Young people may be nominated more than once, but they may not receive a plaque more than once in order to recognize more young people from throughout the diocese. We ask that the awards and certificates be presented to the recipients at a special Mass or youth gathering.

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

Lay Ecclesial Ministry A Developing and Growing Reality In Church

By Matt Weafer

The story is the same across the nation: the number of priests and nuns joining the clergy each year is slowly, steadily declining. Meanwhile the cost of living increases across the spectrum of a society that overall demands more time, energy and money to survive.

And with the extra strain, comes extra responsibility.

But in this paradigm shift a new breed of worker has evolved, the Lay Ecclesial Minister.

The term coined by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in their document, "Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord," refers generally to a lay person that has both thorough professional and religious education and takes a paid position in the diocese.

"Lay ecclesial minister' is not itself a specific position title," the document states. "We do not use the term in order to establish a new rank or order among the laity. Rather, we use the terminology as an adjective to identify a developing and growing reality, to describe it more fully, and to seek a deeper understanding of it under the guidance of the Holy Spirit."

Patty Blair, director of the Office for Lay Ministry and Formation, said the birth of the LEM was not the result of any one event or document but a result of a gradually evident need. "After the Second Vatican Council we became aware as lay people that we were called from Baptism to a role in the Church," she said. "Our role is to serve. But there is still a lot of ambiguity in what it is and who we are." Years ago, the role of the priest was to not only serve his parish through mass, sacraments and prayer, but to care for the Church as an organization, acting sometimes as a director, accountant and lawyer.

As society has become more complex, requiring specialized skills to manage certain duties like finances and legal issues, responsibilities have been spread out to be more manageable.

And over time, more and more laity became more involved in the Church in administrative contexts.

The picture of a parish is slightly different now. Veronica Wilhite, parish life coordinator at Blessed Sacrament said, "There is an underlying anxiety in small parishes like mine because there is a shortage of priests. We share priests."

For mass each Sunday, Wilhite said she has to search the diocese to find a priest available to say mass.

"The Church belongs to the people,"

she said. "Priests and Bishops lead us and we are here to do the work. You have to believe that it's in God's plan."

And the need of extra workers does not just stem from a declining number of religious; the number of volunteers has also decreased.

With the increase in the cost of living many families were seeing both parents join the workforce, leaving fewer people to volunteer in the church. "Everything has become more costly — salaries, upkeep," Blair said.

"Working for the church was part of my family tradition," Wilhite said. "There was a sense that if father needs something or sister needs something, we do it. But as more people leave to enter the workforce, you have fewer volunteers. Our pool of non-workers has shrunk."

But many LEMs and lay ministers still volunteer their time. There is a difference between a lay minister such as a Eucharistic Minister or church volunteer and an LEM. "Any lay person that works in the (Pastoral Center) is a lay minister," Blair said.

The Westboro Diocese defines an LEM as a lay person who is actively involved in the local church and has been called by the church to serve; is publicly commissioned; has responded to the call of the Holy Spirit through prayerful discernment; brings personal gifts to serve the mission of the church; has received

the necessary foundation and formation in theology, scripture, spirituality and liturgy as well as professional training; has responsibility for a particular area of ministry in the local church; and pursues personal and professional development and spiritual growth.

Some positions held by LEMs in the diocese are parish life coordinator, pastoral associate, music directors, director of youth ministry, director of diocesan office and business manager as well as many other positions.

"Co-Workers" reported that in 2005, more than 30,000 LEMs worked at least 20 hours a week in paid positions in the Catholic Church.

The laity has been involved in the operations of the Catholic Church since its inception, but only recently in this society dominated by bureaucracy, legal complexities and growing social needs has the laity's involvement required such specialized skills and matured spirituality.

"We just saw that somebody needed to do a job and we did it," Blair said. "But then we got in there and noticed we need to know more about scripture and prayer."

Many LEMs are retired professionals helping out the church, but as the trend of the Church employing laity evolved, younger generations are becoming more involved.

The 2007 Survey of The Next Genera-

tion of Pastoral Leaders by the National Association for Lay Ministry found that nearly half of young men surveyed and more than a third of young women had seriously considered a life as a priest or religious, "but alternate career paths or a desire for marriage are most often expressed as the primary reasons one would not follow this path."

Because of different life choices, many young Catholics are choosing work as an LEM over that of religious orders.

Locally, LEMs-in-training join Brescia University's Ministry Formation Program to further their theological education and spirituality.

Brescia's program is the first and one of the few Ministry Formation Programs accredited by the USCCB-Committee for Certification and Accreditation.

Todd Butler, assistant professor of pastoral ministry at Brescia University, said, "That's impressive for a little place like this. We work hard to maintain those high standards."

Currently 17 students study in the full-time program — half of which are between the ages 18 and 25 — and 27 students study online. With the online courses, the program reaches out across the nation. And Brescia just signed a contract with the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee in Florida to work with all lay ministers and diaconal candidates in a four-year program.

Butler expects more than 100 total students in the program next year.

Many of these students, Butler said already have their Bachelor's degree in another field or are studying full-time for their Bachelor's at the same time.

"This program is a standardized way of saying this is someone who's been professionally prepared and work either full-time or part-time side by side with the ordained," Burton said.

But change does not always come easily. Lane Rhodes, Director of Religious Education at St. Mary of the Woods in Whitesville said, "When it gets down to the parish level some of us simply aren't ready to change, to any great extent, what we do on a daily basis. And on the other side of that some clergy aren't ready to allow and nurture that involvement of the laity in their parishes. Like all difficulties and challenges the Church has experienced over the centuries it will overcome this bump in the road and flourish because God is bigger than all these things that concern us now. All we have to do (no simple task) is stay focused on what He asks of each of us everyday."

Blair said, "Lay Ecclesial Ministry is here to stay and it's not going to go away
Continued on page 30



Bishop John McRaith, front center, Fr. Larry Hostetter, Brescia President, rear center, and Sr. Pam Mueller, Brescia's Dir. Of The Women's Discernment Program, at left behind the Bishop, pose with Brescia staff and students in Ministry Formation. Matt Weafer Photo

Celebrating a New Beginning

Sister Rosemary Esterkamp



In a ceremony held on March 25, 2008, Aida Badilo entered the Novitiate of the Glenmary Sisters. Aida then celebrated this milestone in her journey with the Sisters, friends and coworkers at a luncheon in her honor.

In the novitiate of the Glenmary Sisters, Aida will have months of experience living in community and being instructed in the vows that are basic to all religious communities. She will have instruction on prayer with emphasis on participation in the daily celebration of Mass and the sacramental life of the Church, and other features of the community's spirituality. As she studies community documents and other resources, she will learn more about Glenmary's founder, Father William Howard Bishop, and some of the history of the community. She will study Catholic doctrine, Scripture, Church History, and Church Law, especially as it relates to religious life. To help her and the community in further discernment if God is really calling her to religious life and mission service in Glenmary, Aida will make a 30 day retreat based on the Exercise of St. Ignatius. If this brings confirmation, the next step for Aida will be to write to the president of the community asking if she may make profession of vows.



"HOPE ACROSS THE OCEAN"

SISTER DIOCESE'S AN OCEAN APART~TOGETHER AT HEART! Cruise with a Cause 09' : A MISSION TRIP TO OUR SISTER DIOCESE?

A "FUN" D RAISING CRUISE VACATION? OR BOTH... NO PROBLEM MON!

Come join Office for Social Concerns Director Richard Murphy, Mary Danhauer (currently working in Jamaica for the last three years) and Faith In Travel, for a 7 Night Western Caribbean Cruise From Galveston, Texas aboard Royal Caribbean Voyager Of The Seas. Cruise with a Cause will set sail February 1, 2009. We will have the opportunity to visit our Sister Diocese during part of call in Jamaica. We are so excited to be able to bring much needed supplies, AND \$125 will be donated for each cabin that is booked through Faith in Travel. For more information call Kenny Trowbridge at Faith In Travel 270-389-1002

or visit <http://www.cruisewithacause.makeswebsites.com/>

OWENSBORO

Pumpkin Fest

September 26-28

Owensboro SportsCenter
www.OwensboroPumpkinFest.org

Second Annual
Men Who Cook
Community Chefs' Gala

♦♦ Benefiting the Glenmary Sisters ♦♦

Saturday, October 18, 2008
 The Hines Center
 7:00pm - 10:00pm

2008 Chairman
 Deputy Chief David Thompson
 Owensboro Police Department



Food - Fun - Entertainment
 Music - Auction

Glenmary Sisters
 405 W. Flannan
 Owensboro, KY 42301
 270.666.6401 • Fax: 270.666.8759

Visit glenmarysisters.org and click on Men Who Cook
 for ticket information, nomination forms, etc.

or contact
Richard@glenmarysisters.org (270-666-5401)

St. Paul Parish Celebrates Mother's Day

The men of St. Paul Parish in Princeton Ky. recognized the mothers of the parish with a special breakfast on Mother's Day. Women were banned from the Parish Center kitchen and the men took over preparing a special breakfast for the ladies. Charlie Pratt prepared crepes for the mothers, Virgil Nauman made pancakes for everyone, and George Barber cooked bacon and sausage. Mrs. Margaret Osting was recognized as the oldest mother of the parish with a special cake. At the end of the meal Joe McEnaney took over kitchen cleanup duties and wouldn't let any of the ladies touch the sink. Submitted by George Barber, St. Paul Parish



Mrs. Margaret Osting receiving a cake in recognition of being the parish's oldest mother.

The Mass

“A Holy Uniting Calls for Reverent Behavior ...”

This is the sixth in a seven-part series on the Mass.

By Father Tom Margevicius

After the “Great Amen” everything looks the same: the appearance of bread and wine, a regular man in unusual garments and a gathering of common people of various ages, races, languages and states in life.

On the surface, it all seems ordinary. But our faith affirms that Jesus Christ is really present. The bread and wine have actually become his body and blood; the priest is acting in Christ’s person; and we, the assembly, are given God’s Spirit so we also become the body of Christ.

What happens next?

Obviously, we do what Jesus does. He said, “I always do what is pleasing to him [the Father]” (John 8:29), and that continues now in heaven where Jesus intercedes at the Father’s right hand. He’s still praying to his Father, and in the Eucharist — his real presence — we join our prayer to his and with Jesus we say, Our Father.

That’s what the Communion rite is all about: joining ourselves as intimately as possible to Jesus. How much closer can you get than having the same parents and actually sharing someone’s body and blood?

Just as husband and wife become one flesh in the sacrament of marriage, in the sacrament of the Eucharist we are joined in the wedding banquet of the Lamb of God, when he takes his bride — the church — to himself.

Notice that this is a communal experience. Receiving the Eucharist is not just about me and Jesus; it’s us and Jesus. I like the double meanings of both the terms body of Christ and Communion: They both simultaneously refer to the Eucharist and the church.

This is why the Catholic Church cannot offer the Eucharist to those not united with us. Only those in communion with the Catholic Church receive Communion in the Catholic Church.

While Protestants, Catholics not in full communion and others are welcome to join us in prayer, only Catholics in good standing receive the Eucharist, though rarely bishops — the overseers of Catholic communion — can make exceptions.

Truth be told, even Catholics in full communion and a state of grace are not always ready for intimacy with the body of Christ. We sin against God and neigh-



Intimacy with the Body of Christ

Father Suresh Bakka, HGN, Parochial Vicar, St. Stephen Cathedral, serving as Eucharistic Minister during the Chrism Mass March 18. Staff Photo

Hence, we must make peace with them. Jesus said, “If you bring your gift to the altar, and there recall that your brother or sister has anything against you, leave your gift there at the altar, go first and be reconciled with your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift” (Matthew 5:23-24). This is the purpose of the sign of peace.

Ritual behavior is restrained and modest. Just as in the Eucharist we don’t eat and drink until we’re full and drunk, so too the sign of peace should be sober and dignified, offered to a few persons immediately around us. It is not a free-for-all time to empty the pews for chatting with buddies; it’s a sacred moment. We symbolically do what our hearts intend: to be at peace with God and neighbor.

Neither is it a time to literally ask forgiveness for sin; that’s what the sacrament of reconciliation is for. Sometimes our offending God and/or neighbor are serious enough that we may not receive Communion with-

out first going to confession.

And even after ritually making peace, we dare not presume to be perfectly reconciled, which is why we next call out, “Lamb of God, have mercy on us.” As we behold the one who takes away the sins of the world, like the centurion we know we’re not worthy to have him come under the roof of our souls. But he speaks a word — he is the Word — and we are healed.

Receiving Communion is the symbolic consummation of wedding banquet, when the church-bride is so united to her divine groom that she becomes like him. St. Augustine observed that unlike ordinary eating, when the food becomes assimilated into our bodies, when we eat and drink at the Eucharist we are changed into what we receive: the body of Christ.

Such a holy uniting calls for reverent behavior and the General Instruction of the Roman Missal asks all communicants to make a sign of reverence before receiving communion. In the dioceses of the United States, our bishops have determined that to be a reverent bow of the head. While genuflecting, bowing profoundly and kneeling are worthy ways to show reverence, overly showy displays distract others’ attention from the Eucharist onto the recipient and thus can disrupt Communion.

Whether one receives on the tongue or in the hand (the choice is up to each communicant), the most important thing is to be dignified and reverent. Say “Amen” (not “Thanks Father!”), step aside and lovingly consume the eucharistic Lord.

Then, return to your place and spend silent moments in prayer with him who is now within you in the most intimate way. Now is not the time to rush out of the church to beat the crowd out of the parking lot!

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

Rosanna Vessels Wins April, 2008 CEF Teacher Award

The Catholic Education Foundation recognized Louisville, Ky. Saint Xavier High School Theology teacher Rosanna Vessels with the CEF Teacher Award In April, 2008 at a St. X school assembly. In 2004, Dan Ulmer and his family began funding awards to recognize excellent teachers for their hard work and dedication. Mrs. Vessels received \$1,000 for her own use and \$500 to use in her classroom for projects, field trips or special initiatives. The Catholic Education Foundation has provided over \$7 million for the advancement of Catholic education. Ms. Vessels is a member of the first graduating class of the Brescia University Ministry Formation Program. Submitted Photo



Rosanna Vessels


4 Stages of Marriage

– The 4 stages of marriage are: (1) Romance, (2) Disillusionment, (3) Misery, and (4) Awakening.

Quite a few marriages experience the first 3 Stages. Marriages that end in divorce never reach the resolution of the 4th Stage of Awakening. Don’t give up without learning about the 4th Stage of Awakening.

If your marriage suffers from disillusionment or misery, please

contact Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i). For confidential information or to register for the August program beginning with a weekend on August 15, 16, 17, 2008, call 270-683-1545 ext. 357 or email: dpretrowens@aol.com or visit the web site at www.retrouvaille.org.



TEC Weekend
30 August - 1 September, Gasper River Catholic Youth Camp, Bowling Green, for High School Seniors.
Cost: \$50, scholarships available.

Deadline to Apply: 15 August 2008. Applications and more information available at wkytec.org. Mass at 5 PM. All are encouraged to offer wheat and attend.





April 1-10, 2008, Fr. Anthony Shonis and music director Neal Biggers of Holy Name of Jesus parish in Henderson, led a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Pictured in front of a panoramic view of Jerusalem are the pilgrims from various parishes: Fr. Shonis, Neal Biggers, Marvin Hancock, Jr., Mary Anne McMurray, Daisy Posadas, Don Speaks, Lori Thomas, Teresa Thomas, Ludy Kirkpatrick, Ginny Speaks, Jim Biggers, Fred McMurray, Dan and Rose Ann Payne, Doug and Betty Howard, Mary Ann O'Bryan, Sr. Darlene Presley, Wilma Baird, Hannah Johnson, Lynn Steiden, Ann Wortham, Ellie Langston, Doug and Sue Borders, Lottie and Kris Miller, Gloria Adams, John and Jocelyn Knepler, Larry and Anita Willoughby, Tom and Mary Gaeitto, Carole Steen, Lisa Thomas, Troy Thomas, and Robert and Carolyn Panchyshyn. Submitted by Teresa Thomas



Fr. Larry McBride is shown in the photo at right at St. William's Parish in Marion, Ky., lighting the mortgage note on our parish hall. With the generous donations of our parishioners, the church made its last payment in May and the parishioners had a potluck and "note burning" ceremony on May 18, 2008 after Sunday Mass. We at St. William's are very proud of our accomplishments and want the diocesan area to know! Submitted by Melinda McKinney



Some of the students from the High School class of St. Mary Church, Franklin, KY made a pilgrimage May 17, 2008 to the Diocesan Shrine, "Mary, Mother of the Church and Model of All Christians," located in Bowling Green, KY. Pictured are: Back Row -Lucas Farley; Mark Pais, Teacher; Matthew Clark. Front Row — Robert Clark; Kate Doyle; Joann Bradford, Shrine Committee Member; Amanda Mohr; Fr. Ben Luther, Shrine Director of Programs; Kali Duncan. Submitted by Joann Bradford.



Father Anthony Shonis conducted the mass service at Holy Name Church on May 10, 2008. The mass honored the Henderson Council # 1320100's anniversary. The Henderson Council was chartered May 10, 1908. It currently has over 230 members. The group's charitable distributions are varied and include Marsha's Place, Riverview School, Holy Name Church, and school, the Parish Nurse Program, the Youth Group, and Seminarians from the Parish. After the mass, a dinner with Kentucky State Officers speaking during the program. Moments from the past 100 years were displayed and discussed. Submitted by Laddie Lankura

Fr. Peter Chiodo, C.P.P.S., Former Mayfield Pastor, Died May 19, 2008

Fr. Peter Chiodo, C.P.P.S., 78, died Thursday, May 15, 2008, in the infirmary of St. Charles Center, Carthagen, Ohio. He had been in failing health in recent weeks.

Fr. Chiodo was born April 10, 1930, in Homestead, Penn., to Pietro and Michelina Chiodo. He entered the Missionaries of the Precious Blood in 1945 and was ordained on May 28, 1960.

Fr. Chiodo served for many years in parish ministry and as a hospital chaplain. After his ordination, he served at St. Mary Church in Dayton, Ohio; St. Mary Church in Piqua, Ohio; and Holy Name Church in Cincinnati. He then served as a chaplain at St. Rita Hospital in Lima, Ohio, and as a chaplain to the Sisters of the Precious Blood in Dayton, Ohio from 1972-77; and at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Dayton before he returned to parish work in 1983 as the pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Bradford, Ohio.

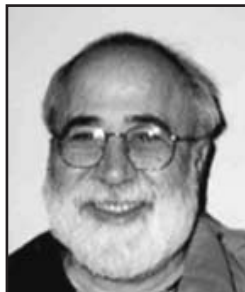
In 1988 he was named pastor of **St. Joseph Church in Mayfield, Ky.** In the following years he also served at parishes in East Chicago, Ind.; Cincinnati; and Sardinia, Ohio. Fr. Chiodo became pastor of Mount Carmel Church in Niles, Ohio, in 1996. He served as parochial vicar at St. Joseph Church in Wapakoneta, Ohio, in 1998.

In 2003, Fr. Chiodo retired to the Transfiguration Center for Spiritual Renewal in Ludlow Falls, Ohio, where he continued to serve in parish ministry as a substitute. One of his favorite ministries was the annual blessing of the bikes in Fairborn, Ohio, in which he would pray for the safety of motorcyclists of all kinds.

He is survived by two sisters, Claire Zuccarelli of Pittsburgh and Sr. Mary Peter Chiodo, ASC, of Columbia, Pa.; four nephews and two nieces; and numerous great-nephews and great-nieces. Two brothers, Joseph and Santo, are deceased.

Fr. Chiodo was "a happy, happy priest" who fully enjoyed the consecrated life, said his sister, Sr. Mary Peter Chiodo. "He always looked on the bright side of things. He had a very hospitable nature. He loved visitors, and he loved to visit, be around people." That welcoming spirit, she said, "made him a good pastor. But at the same time, he was willing to take a stand for the values he believed in."

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated May 19 at St. Charles Center, the Rev. Angelo Anthony, C.P.P.S., presiding. Burial followed in the Community cemetery.



Rev. Peter Chiodo, C.P.P.S.

Ladies Cool Off at Sts. Peter & Paul Gym Summer Tea Party

By Libby Downs

The gym at Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville was truly transformed on Sunday, June 8, 2008, for first ever "Ladies' Tea Party." There were 21 tables (eight seats at each table), which were beautifully decorated by gifted and talented parishioners.

This idea came from Hattie Potts and Patsy Whitmer. Hattie, a member of Immaculate Parish in Owensboro, is a long-time friend of Patsy Whitmer, a member of Saints Peter and Paul. Immaculate Parish began this "Ladies' Tea Party" two years ago as an opportunity to gather with other Christian women and to provide a fundraiser for their parish. Patsy attended the event with Hattie and felt that Sts. Peter and Paul could do the same.

Patsy then sought the help of Suzanne Cotthoff and together they organized and carried out this event. Many thanks go to Patsy Whitmer, Hattie Potts, Suzanne Cotthoff and the 21 ladies who hosted tables, those who decorated the tables, those who helped in the kitchen, the musicians and all those who attended. This truly was a beautiful and inspiring day to see so many ladies joined together in prayer, fellowship and food.

In the picture at right, More than 150 women gathered at Sts. Peter and Paul in Hopkinsville for their first "Ladies' Tea Party." The tea party gave many women in the parish an opportunity to gather and socialize while raising money for the parish. Pictured left to right are: Cheryle Dymek, Beverly Todd, Kim Coulombe, Helen Brown, Christine Mille, Thelma Budias. Photo taken by June Mahoney.

A large black and white advertisement for "Opportunities for Life". The top half features a close-up of a woman's face with long, wavy hair. The text "You had plans, getting pregnant wasn't one of them." is overlaid on the image. Below the image, the phone number "1-800-822-5824" is prominently displayed, followed by the slogan "We're here for you 24 hours a day." At the bottom, the website "www.opportunitiesforlife.org" and the organization's name "OPPORTUNITIES FOR LIFE" are listed.

You had plans,
getting pregnant
wasn't one of them.

1-800-822-5824

We're here for you 24 hours a day.

www.opportunitiesforlife.org OPPORTUNITIES
FOR LIFE



Homosexual Lifestyle?

By Julie Murphy

Homosexuality! There, I said it! This topic can cause tension and strong emotions, especially for a family dealing with a child who professes to be homosexual.

I cannot comprehend what my reaction would be if a child of mine told me he or she led an active homosexual lifestyle. I'd have so many feelings to deal with after the initial shock of such a disclosure. I'd be embarrassed because of the stigma associated with being gay, not to mention all of the gossip that would soon follow into a family's life. Just thinking about my family being subjected to such a situation causes me sadness.

Did you notice that I didn't mention the first and foremost thought that I should have considered if my child confronted me about his or her openly homosexual lifestyle? I should have first thought about the gravity of this offense in the sight of God. My child is committing a grave sin -- leading an actively homosexual lifestyle.

I think it is important to consider what the Bible says about homosexuality. The Bible says that the Church is the foundation and pillar of the truth. (1 Timothy 3:15) I suggest reading some scripture in the New Testament; Rom 1:24-27; 1 Cor 6:10; and Tim 1:10.

If someone has questions and needs answers to substantiate his or her beliefs, I recommend consulting paragraphs 2357, 2358, 2359 of *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*. The USCCB has published a 1997 pastoral message to the parents of homosexual children, *Always Our Children*, and a fine new booklet, *Ministry to Persons with a Homosexual Inclination* (2006).

If one is a committed Catholic and believes in the teachings of the Faith handed down to us from Jesus Christ and the Apostles, then one can't sugar coat this choice of life style. I thank God that I don't have the cross of that revelation to bear.

But I do know a family bearing such a cross. I have seen firsthand the suffering they endure because of their child's decision to be openly homosexual.

I am utterly amazed how the family I know has carried on with grace and dignity as this adversity hit their family. They did exactly the opposite of what the world tells us. They knew that the decision their child made put her soul in grave danger.

This family has told their child the truth. They have made it perfectly clear they can't approve her decision and that

it is offensive to God. They sought the Church's teaching and looked up everything they could from the Holy Bible. They found that, in no circumstance is there any shade of gray regarding active homosexuality since all are called to chastity.

There are more children at home, and the family doesn't want these children exposed to her lifestyle. One painful decision they made was telling their daughter not to bring her partner to family functions. Their daughter is hurt and angry because this family does not accept her new relationship, and she refuses to have any contact with the parents until they accept the relationship.

This family lost connection with a child because of their commitment to God. Their suffering, their sacrifice was huge. I have heard the Mom say that Jesus promises fruit from sacrifice, from perseverance and carrying the cross with hope. They are willing to forfeit a relationship with their daughter here on earth, hoping to be with Jesus and with her for eternity.

Do you stop loving your own flesh and blood? No, of course not! Do you say, "It's going to be OK, honey, the most important thing to us is your happiness." Let's hope we wouldn't fall into that worldly trap.

Our society tells us to embrace and accept homosexual unions; if you don't accept these, then you are labeled a judgmental person. In reality, what society calls judging and cold-hearted is truly the most amazing love a parent can have for a child. With suffering comes Joy; Christ's suffering on the Cross for our sins became our ultimate JOY.

It would be so easy to just cave in just so you can still have your relationship with your child. But in choosing to do what is morally right, the path this family now has is rough, rocky and thorny.

Life on earth is fleeting; if the example of this family helps souls reach heaven and eternal life, then their suffering for their children won't be in vain. All of their heartache they have faithfully given to our Merciful Lord.

Editor's Note: Our culture lacks safe spaces to talk about this type of loss, and many parents feel that their personal experiences may be judged, labeled, minimized or even ignored. A child's choosing a homosexual lifestyle is rarely a decision taken lightly. Every person moves through loss and grief differently, and can be ill-

Continued on page 30

Church Teaching On Homosexuality

The Catholic Church's teaching on homosexuality is often widely misunderstood by the general public, even though it has been clearly explained in the Pastoral Letter to Homosexuals, published in 1986 by the Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith, and in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, in paragraphs 2357 to 2359. This is due, it seems, to the interpretation given to the Church's statement that homosexual acts are "intrinsically disordered."

One must note that the Church's concern rests on freely consensual acts and not on a tendency or inclination. To have a tendency or inclination does not involve the moral order. It is neither morally good nor morally wrong.

As for the word disordered, which is borrowed from classical morality, it is used to describe a general behavior held to be deviant in relation to the moral norm. The norm considered here is that sexual relations are carried out by two people of opposite sex. Therefore when the Church speaks about homosexuality as an "objective disorder", it is speaking not of the tendency but of genital acts between people of the same sex.

The church recognizes the dignity of all persons and neither defines nor catalogues them according to their sexual orientation. As the Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith mentions, "every person has a fundamental identity: the creature of God, and by grace his child and heir to eternal life." All human beings are precious in God's eyes. The love that one person has for another is a gift from God and implies observance of his law by all people regardless of their sexual orientation. Everyone must move towards an ideal, even if it is only gradually attained. (*Cf. Familiaris Consortio, 34*).

The Church is consistent with its doctrine in affirming the dignity of homosexuals. The Church has always taught that the sexual (genital) expression of love is found, according to God's plan of creation, uniquely in marriage, that is, in the permanent union between a man and a woman. Consequently, the Church can in no way put a homosexual partnership on the same footing as a heterosexual marriage. Finally, the sexual (genital) expression of love must allow for the eventual creation of new life. For these reasons, the Church does not approve of homosexual genital acts.

By its mission, the Catholic Church is called to present in every age a demanding vision and ethic of marriage and sexuality. The Church is however conscious that its teaching can sometimes be difficult to put into practice. Also, when faced with failures, the Church must exercise its pastoral sense: it cannot reject those who are confronted with failures, but should help bring them to a better understanding and acceptance of the doctrine given to it by God.

The church recognizes and defends the human rights of each person. However, it cannot recognize as part of these rights the fulfillment of acts that are morally wrong. All persons have the basic human right to be treated by individuals and society with dignity, respect and justice regardless of their behavior. For sure, the homosexual community is not an exception to this; it has a particular right to pastoral care from the Church.

Source: *San Francisco Bay Catholic International Issues and Resource Site*, http://arcc-catholic-rights.org/church_teaching.html

Married Singles Lifestyle

The Married Singles Lifestyle describes couples that may have lost a sense of closeness they once had as marriage partners and are now living more like roommates. Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) teaches couples how to survive times like these in their marriages. This program has helped thousands of couples experiencing any level of difficulty in their marriage from disillusionment to deep misery. For confidential information or to register for the August program beginning on August 15, 16, and 17, 2008 call 270-683-1545 or email: dpretrowens@aol.com or visit the web site at www.retrouvaille.org.



Retrouvaille
Rediscovery

... A LIFELINE

Lay Ecclesial Ministry

(Continued from page 24)
even if the number of nuns and priests increases.”

Despite the newness of the term “Lay Ecclesial Minister,” the involvement of the laity was the natural result of an evolving society and Church, but the Church itself should only benefit from the extra hands.

“I like the Church because it’s traditional,” Wilhite said. “They accept change but the basic core of beliefs are never compromised.”

And though questions still surround the trend, they focus more on defining it simply to understand its progress.

“The bishops in their most recent document start off saying this is the movement of the Holy Spirit,” Burton said. “We don’t understand why this shortage is here but this is the work of the Holy Spirit. This is the work of the Hand of God.”

Focolare member sees ecclesial movements giving new life to church

SAN ANTONIO (CNS) -- New ecclesial movements are clear evidence that the Holy Spirit is breathing new life into the Catholic Church, said a member of the Focolare Movement. Mariam Adams, a former school-teacher who has been a member of the movement in San Antonio for 25 years, said Focolare’s charism, or special gift to the church, is its spirituality of communion, or living the Gospel in mutual love and unity. She made the comments during the Oblate School of Theology’s recent annual summer institute, which looked at “Megatrends in Church and Society.”

Founded in Trent, Italy, in 1943, the movement anticipated the Second Vatican Council’s call for the Catholic laity to become actively involved in evangelization. “Jesus continues to live in the incarnation of many religious orders. Each of these orders carries a special gift from God to put into practice one or another of the words of Jesus to answer some spiritual or physical need for humanity,” she said. In a keynote speech Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser, the institute’s president, talked about megatrends affecting today’s culture, such as global awareness and the spread of technology, saying these trends will require many new relationships.

“Everyone is everyone’s neighbor. We know where our coffee comes from. You watch the evening news and you know what’s happening around the world,” he said.

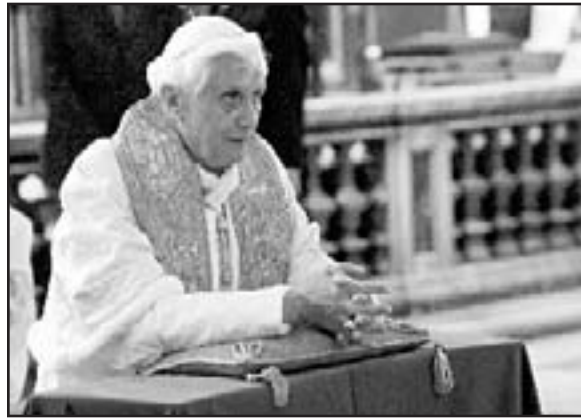
What Is A Catholic Parent To Do ...?

(Continued from page 29)

prepared for the emotional fallout. The grief and reactions that women, men, and families experience are similar. More families are experiencing a member choosing a homosexual lifestyle and parents are starting to ask “How can I be a safe place for my loved one, share Catholic teaching about actively living a homosexual lifestyle, and also be a starting point for our family members and friends, a safe place away from politics, labels, and debate?”

For information about grief counseling, contact our diocesan Bereavement Ministry Coordinator Betty Medley at The Catholic Pastoral Center, 1-270-683-1545.

Praying the rosary is experiencing a new revival, pope says



Pope Benedict XVI kneels to pray as he arrives to lead the recital of the rosary at St. Mary Major Basilica in Rome May 3. Praying the rosary is enjoying a revival among Catholics and can be a profound way to relive the events of Christ’s life, the pope said. (CNS photo/Dario Pignatelli, Reuters) (May 5, 2008)

private practice, with no relationship to others, he said.

“When it is prayed in an authentic way, not mechanically or superficially but in a profound way, it can in fact bring peace and reconciliation,” he said.

By John Thavis, Catholic News Service

ROME (CNS) -- Praying the rosary is enjoying a revival among Catholics and can be a profound way to relive the events of Christ’s life, Pope Benedict XVI said.

The pope led the recital of the rosary with hundreds of Catholics in Rome’s Basilica of St. Mary Major May 3. U.S. Cardinal Bernard F. Law, archpriest of the basilica, welcomed the pontiff and prayed with him.

Speaking at the end of the encounter, the pope said the rosary was “not a pious practice relegated to the past, like a prayer of former times to be remembered with nostalgia.”

“The rosary, on the contrary, is experiencing almost a new springtime. This is undoubtedly one of the most eloquent signs of the love that younger generations have for Jesus and for his mother, Mary,” he said.

The papal event took place on the first Saturday of May, the month the church dedicates to Mary, at Rome’s pre-eminent Marian basilica.

In his talk, the pope emphasized that devotion to Mary through the rosary always has Christ at its center.

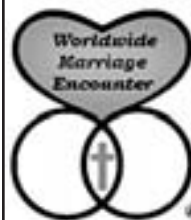
Nor should praying the rosary be considered a merely



For a Lenten Project, the students at the Owensboro Catholic Elementary 4-6 Campus participated in the “Zip the Penny” contest to raise money for the organization Food for the Poor. The students raised \$1,959.80. Ms. Branch’s class received the highest amount of points in the contest. OCS Photo

WANT TO GET CLOSER TO THE ONE YOU LOVE?

You can do that on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend! Marriage Encounter is 44 hours where married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phones—and focus only on each other. If you’d like greater depth, growth, and enrichment in your relationship, you’ll like the difference a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend can make! The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend in Owensboro is Aug 29 - 31, 2008 at Mount Saint Joseph Retreat Center. Weekends fill up quickly, so a quick response is encouraged. For more information or to register, contact Jack & Kathy Gotting at 502-895-8997 or email kgott@iglou.com. There are also upcoming weekends in Indianapolis, IN and Louisville, KY.



Submitted by Betty Anne Watt, St. Joseph School, Bowling Green, Ky.

When Jerry and Donna Martin's son, Patrick, was sent to Iraq, they thought of prayer; prayer for their son's safety. Patrick, who had just gotten married to Christina, didn't even have time for a honeymoon. He was sent to Baghdad.

Ms. Watt's 4th grade class adopted Patrick as a way to support our troops. The students prayed for Patrick and his regiment daily. They made cards, sent Christmas goodies, and drew pictures that were mailed to Patrick regularly. Patrick set up an email system, where the class could ask Patrick about his mission, the war, and about his daily life in the military.

Patrick is a naval pilot, flying over Iraq performing surveillance. Through Patrick's emails, the class learned of his mission, his plane, and were able to follow his travels through the use of maps and Internet resources, discovering new places and cultures. It was a great experience for the 4th grade class.

Patrick's parents, Jerry and Donna, along with his wife Christina, visited the class, bringing a photo cd depicting pictures from Patrick's mission. The class was able to see Patrick and his regiment in action, with pictures of daily and military life.

Through email, Patrick teased

A Visit To The KY State Capitol

Submitted by Betty Anne Watt, St. Joseph School, Bowling Green, Ky.

Ms. Betty Anne Watt and Mrs. Karen Stringer's 4th grade classes from St. Joseph School in Bowling Green, took a trip to visit the Ky History Center and the state capitol in Frankfort. At the History Center, the students were able to see exhibits from KY's past, viewing scenes from the different time periods of our history.

The class also visited the State Capitol, where the students toured the various rooms, including the rotunda, the House of Representatives, and the Senate. The 4th grade classes had a picnic on the lawn of the capitol. We had a wonderful time and it was a great way to end our study of KY history.

the class with a promise of sending us a gift. The class was excited, but had no idea what the gift could be. Jerry Martin, Patrick's father, came to the class, bringing Patrick's gift. Patrick had flown an American flag in our honor, on one of his missions. Jerry presented the class with the flag, along with a certificate of authenticity, signed by Patrick and his regiment. The class felt very honored to receive such a gift, and are very grateful.

Patrick finished his mission in Iraq in March, was able to finally come back to the states. Patrick and his wife Christina were able to take a long awaited honeymoon. Ms. Watt's class continues to pray for Patrick and Christina, thanking God that he arrived home safely. It was a privilege to be able to have this experience, and the class learned so much. Thank you Jerry, Donna, Patrick and Christina, for allowing us to participate in your life, if only for a little while. It was a very moving and educational experience!



Mrs. Watt's 4th grade class at St. Joseph School in Bowling Green adopted Patrick as a way to support our troops. His father Jerry Martin at left back here brought a flag signed by the regiment and flown over Patrick's base in Iraq.



Above: A picnic in the park ; below at the History Center



Above, St. Joseph School Fourth Grade classes in the Capitol Rotunda and just above, posing outside the KY State Capitol in Frankfort.

Happy Anniversary

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

Blessed Mother, Owensboro

Greg & Vicki Cash, 25
Louis & Beverly Beldotti, 25
Marvin & Martha Hayden, 40
Drew & Jeannette Ward, 40
Thomas & Julie Whitten, 56
James & Louise Hodskins, 62

Christ the King, Madisonville

Jim & Judy Donley, 40
Ed & Mary Hughes, 40
Doug & Patricia Pilson, 40
Frank & Barbara Schnapf, 40
Ron & Marsha Segebarth, 40
David & Betty Hart, 54

Holy Name of Jesus, Henderson

Stevin & Martha Houston, 25
Tony & Karen Liles, 25
Mark & Jamie Mattingly, 25
Michael & Teresa Nation, 25
Wayne & Rose Wheeler, 25
Thomas & Marie Keen, 40
Robert & Gayle Paff, 40
Glenn & Millie Royster, 40
James & Wanda Gibson, 51
Donald & Carolyn Whitmore, 51
Thomas & Dorothy Barron, 61
Paul & Sharon Hagan, 53
Preston & Suzanne Johnson, 55
Charles & Virginia Knight, 59
David & Diana O'Nan, 58

Holy Trinity, Morgantown

Robert & Shirley Hamilton, 56

Holy Spirit, Bowling Green

James & Dragica Yates, 25
Jeffrey & Kelly Lynn, 25
William & Linda Brian, 40
Robert & Christine Bowlds, 57
James & Sylvia Weis, 52

Immaculate Conception,

Earlington

M. C. & Patsy Barber, 50
Johnny & Elizabeth Wix, 40

Immaculate Conception,

Hawesville

Larry & Angela Miller, 25
J. Michael & Jean Mattingly, 40

Our Lady of Lourdes, Owensboro

Siebrand & Wanda Dooper, 25
Jerry & Amy Glahn, 25
Mark & Pamela Haan, 25
Timothy & Penny Michele Moss, 25
Paul & Tancy Payne, 40
Michael & Linda Todd, 40

Wm. & Martha Adell O'Bryan, 50
Donald & Mary Dundiff, 59
James Roy & Wilma Howard, 52
Joseph & Frances Lewis, 51

Parish of the Immaculate, Owensboro

Perry & Loretta Jean Higdon, 25
Francis H & Dolores Thomson, 40
David Lee & Mary Natalie Jones, 50
William Potts & Harriett L. Potts, 50
Marvin & Shirley Rushing, 50
J. Richard & Alma Gaw, 56
Paul & Juanita Kaelin, 52
Lester & Martha Reed, 62
John & Margie Wathen, 53

Precious Blood, Owensboro

David & Linda Sapp, 40
Billy & Lillian Taylor, 51
Jerry & Marge Birge, 50

Rosary Chapel, Paducah

Jack & Frances Pullen, 40

Sacred Heart, Russellville

Robert & Pheba E. Kerstiens, 56

Sacred Heart, Waverly

Walter & Jean Stockton, 52
Paul & Florence Clements, 68

St. Agnes, Uniontown

Bobby D. & Irene Jennings, 52

St. Alphonsus, St. Joseph

Wally & Kim Murphy, 25
Marvin & Shirlene Dant, 54

St. Ann, Morganfield

James E. & Dorothy Buckman, 51
Bill & Helen Ann Dixon, 52
H. E. & Marylyn Ervin, 52
Robert L. & Pansy French, 56
Thomas P. & Allegera Lockett, 68
John & Kay McShane, 55

St. Anthony, Browns Valley

Mike & Theresa McCarty, 58

St. Augustine, Grayson Springs

David & Mary Doris Simon, 50

St. Augustine, Reed

Ben & Stanette Blair, 40

St. Denis, Fancy Farm

John & Frances Vessells, 57
Carolyn & James Morgan, 41

St. Edward, Fulton

Ben & Joy Davis, 50

St. Francis Borgia, Sturgis

Bobby & Faye Greenwell, 50

St. Francis de Sales, Paducah

Glenn & Phyllis Munro, 50
Ray & Barbara Skinner, 52

St. Henry, Aurora

Walter & Wilma Bunner, 54
James & Ethel Cantrell, 53
Gary & LaVonne Hanlon, 50

St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

Elmer & Catherine Toon, 64
Raymond & Carole Ballard, 51
John & Rose Nell Pendel, 50
Billy & Bobbye, 25

St. John the Evangelist, Paducah

David & Elizabeth Goewert, 40

St. Joseph, Bowling Green

James & Margaret Chalmers, 40
David & Deborah Cherry, 25
Charles & Dorothy Shook, 63

St. Joseph, Leitchfield

Robert & Anna Kinkade, 52

St. Joseph, Mayfield

Brent & Laura Kibler, 25
Gerald & Pam Brooks, 40
James B. & Judith Hobbs, 40
Kenneth & Rosemary Clem, 51
Frank & Ursula Elliott, 51
Joseph & Linda Englert, 61

St. Leo, Murray

Alex & Mary Paluch, 62
Bertrand & Beatrice Bleemel, 60
Eldridge & Carolyn Hass, 51
Ronald & Dorothy Urbon, 50
Raymond & Kathleen Farrell, 40
Kevin & Debbra D'Angelo, 25

St. Mary, Franklin

William & Doris Andrew, 61

St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho

Chris & Kim Hagan, 25
Daryl & Janet McMaster, 25
Edward & Kathleen Leming, 51
Larry & Benita Riney, 53

St. Martin, Rome

Kenneth & Alice Drochter, 54
Otho & Mary Rose Durbin, 63

St. Mary, Franklin

Jerry & Julie Owsley, 40

St. Paul, Leitchfield

Terry & Donna Jane Jagers, 40

St. Paul, Princeton

Thomas & Kay Cotton, 40

St. Peter, Waverly

David & Janie Nixon, 40

St. Pius X, Calvert City

Joe & Barb Cirrito, 56
Jim & Sue Hanrahan, 52
Joe & Marilyn Hayden, 50
Bill & Noreen Patton, 25

St. Pius X, Owensboro

Tommie R. & Janet Hayden, 57
Herbert & Audeline Johnson, 68

St. Romuald, Hardinsburg

Tim & Shirley Payne, 25
P. J. & Martha Rose O'Donoghue
Joe & Irene O'Reilly, 52
J. W. & Lorena Bland, 62
Alton & Thelma Richards, 54
Harold & Mary Flood, 61

St. Rose, Cloverport

Thomas & Rose Rodgers, 58
St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro

Bernard J. & Juanita Clark, 58
Harold & Marilyn Clements, 58
Bill & Bonnie Drewer, 25
Robert & Joan Englert, 56
Edward & Jacqueline Jaskolski, 54

Paul & Sarah Jane Johnson, 53
Paul A. & Carol Ann Payne, 51
William Hugh & Helen Riney, 60
Raymond & Barbara Trogolo, 51

St. William, Knottsville

Gerald & Wanda Mattingly, 62

Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville

William & Mary Foor, 51
Calixto & Elena Roman, 25

REDISCOVER THE ONE YOU LOVE!

You can do that on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend! Marriage Encounter is 44 hours where married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phones—and focus only on each other. If you'd like greater depth, growth, and enrichment in your relationship, you'll like the difference a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend can make! The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend in Owensboro is Aug 29 - 31, 2008 at Mount Saint Joseph Retreat Center. Weekends fill up quickly, so a quick response is encouraged. For more information or to register, contact Jack & Kathy Gotting at 502-895-8997 or email kgott@iglou.com. There are also upcoming weekends in Indianapolis, IN and Louisville, KY.



Mothers Day at the abortion mill

By Kelly Hedges

LOUISVILLE, Ky. - Up at 2:00 on the road at 3:00, in view of the mill at 5:00 (our time), an hour earlier than usual. It's Mothers Day Saturday. Yes, they still murder babies on Mothers Day Saturday. But you will be glad to know that the mill closed on Derby day! (it sounds bazaar but thank God they did stop the killing). When we pulled onto Market Street the parking spots out in front of the mill were already taken by the escorts (known as deathscorts). They come early and are prepared. They know we are coming and they know there will be lots of us. We counted 75 deathscorts to our 200 to 250 prayer warriors. They were stationed in particular spots to make a human shield for the mother to enter the mill. They want nothing to stop her from entering. They try to drown out the sidewalk counselor's voice, who is encouraging her to have a change of heart. While one deathscort was patting the Mother on her back I heard her say "it will all be over soon".

I noticed this week that not one mother or father was smiling as they en-

tered the mill. Does it mean they know what they are doing? Are they scared or ashamed? We have often discussed this on the road home. What is going through their minds? Do they know they can get help? Do they know there are other alternatives? Sometimes I wonder if they really do. This killing mentality is so beyond me I can not come up with an answer. The deathscorts laugh continuously. You can hear them talking and laughing the whole time we are there. When we start to pray they become quiet. Before we began our rosary, Father prayed for the conversion of the doctors - nurses - deathscorts - etc. They hear all of this. Then when the rosary starts they become focused on their mission, it seems to be a fun game for them. Sometimes you hear them yell loudly, no touching! Private property!

There were two people on the roof of the mill. One part of the entrance has an overhang. They were up there filming with a camera and a very large microphone. Was it real? I don't know? They try different things to intimidate us. They also had a woman with a camcorder recording and also taking our pictures. Was it real we

don't know? When the police guards got there and saw them on top of the roof, they made them come down. Frisking them and putting them in the back seat of the squad car. We don't know exactly what that was about.

I saw a young boy maybe 9 or 10 holding a sign so the women entering could see, it read "Happy Mothers Day"

This whole experience with the abortion mill has brought me closer to God, and I have learned much.

I know that children are a gift from God. We cannot demand them. We don't deserve them. They are given to us as a gift to be held in wonder. Each one is unique and perfect, whether they come with a physical flaw, or a mental flaw. They are still perfect. God would not give a gift that was not perfect - perfect for you. Children are a part of our salvation. Our children can draw us closer to God. They can be a path to Heaven. We must take this gift and protect it at all cost. It must be cherished and adored. We must see Christ in the child's face. And allow the child to see Christ's face.

When we are blinded by Ourselves, we become confused by our feelings. We become the god. The child becomes a

thing to be discarded, a problem to be dealt with. Hence we enter the abortion mill. Now everything is changed. The plan God had for us has been altered. We have said no, I know better than you. I am denying your gift, and I don't want it.

What are we to do now? What do we do about this killing machine? If every Catholic would pray the rosary daily for the end to abortion, for the conversion of the doctors and nurses and deathscorts and the mothers and fathers this would end. It's that simple. Please start today - as a family every evening turn your TV's off and pray the rosary. Pray it on your way to work. Pray it when you're at the gym. Pray it while you're getting ready in the mornings. Pray it when you go to bed. Make it so important to your prayer life that you pray it all day long. It becomes a part of your life. We can do this together!

A brief note

from Kathy Dunlaney, a member of the Diocesan Gospel of Life Committee:

"Thanks for this reflection on your experience. It helps those who would read

Continued on page 35

Pope celebrates private Mass with Australian clergy sex abuse victims

By Dan McAloon Catholic News Service SYDNEY, Australia (CNS) -- Before he left Sydney to return to Rome, Pope Benedict XVI celebrated a private Mass with four Australian victims of clerical sexual abuse and their families.

"The pope listened to their stories and offered them consolation," said a statement issued by the Vatican after the July 21 meeting. "Assuring them of his spiritual closeness, he promised to continue to pray for them, their families and all victims. Through this paternal gesture, the Holy Father wished to demonstrate again his deep concern for all those who have suffered sexual abuse."

The Mass was held in a small chapel inside St. Mary's Cathedral and was celebrated by the pope and Sydney Cardinal George Pell.

The victims -- two men and two women -- were accompanied by family members and a priest in charge of pastoral support for victims, said the papal spokesman, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, in a written statement.

Father Lombardi said the Mass and the private encounter were held "in an atmosphere of respect, spirituality and intense emotion" in which everyone was deeply moved.

"The pope wanted to meet with victims, as he did in the United States, as a way to concretely express feelings he has already shown many times in his talks concerning



Pope Benedict XVI celebrated the final Mass of World Youth Day at Royal Randwick Racecourse in Sydney, Australia, July 20. Here, Pope Benedict XVI greeted World Youth Day volunteers during an event to thank them at the Domain in Sydney, Australia, July 21. (CNS photo/Daniel Munoz, Reuters) (July 21, 2008)

the tragedy of sexual abuse" within the church, the spokesman said.

Father Lombardi also explained that the pope wanted to meet with victims after World Youth Day celebrations had ended and that the World Youth Day events had been "the specific reason for his trip" to Australia.

In a separate statement, the communications director for the Sydney

Archdiocese, Jim Hanna, said he was "delighted that the Holy Father was able to spend time with victims of sexual abuse before his departure today."

"The pope talked with them for about 30 minutes, offering his consolation for their suffering," said Hanna.

He said the private meeting between the pope and the four victims had been organized in the late stages of preparations for World Youth Day. Organizers had consulted with the church's professional standards office -- the body that administers the church's sexual abuse forum, Toward Healing -- which had nominated the four victims.

"The Holy Father's meeting with victims reflects the continuing commitment of the whole church to bring healing and justice to those who have been so terribly hurt by sexual abuse," said Hanna.

Two of the victims who met with the pope said in a statement that he "was compassionate in his words of consolation to us," reported the Australian Broadcasting Corp.

"We were moved by the pope's compassionate response to us and his comment that he would continue to pray for all victims of sexual abuse," said the victims, who wished to remain anonymous. They added that it was clear the pope was aware of their experiences.

"He said he hoped the meeting would help us and others to move forward with our lives," they said.

Australian media also reported that victims' support group Broken Rites complained they were excluded from the Mass and that the meeting was a media event staged by the church.

Two days earlier, during a cathedral Mass with bishops, priests and seminarians, Pope Benedict said he was "deeply sorry for the pain and suffering" endured by Australian victims of clerical sexual abuse, which he described as "so grave a betrayal of trust" that deserves "unequivocal condemnation."

"I am deeply sorry for the pain and suffering the victims have endured, and I assure them that as their pastor, I, too, share in their suffering," he said.

Retired Sydney Auxiliary Bishop Geoffrey Robinson, former head of a church panel for dealing with the crisis, has estimated the number of Australian victims at more than 1,000.

Contributing to this story were Cindy Wooden in Sydney and Carol Glatz at the Vatican.

St. Thomas More Parish Appreciates Seminarian Steve



Steve Hohman standing at right rear, assisting with the Parish Retreat

Submitted by Missy Eckenberg

PADUCAH, Ky. - St. Thomas More would like to express its sincere appreciation to Seminarian Steve Hohman for his hard work during his year with our parish.

Whether assisting pastor, Fr. Patrick Reynolds, with parish ministries, teaching religion at St. Mary Middle School, coaching varsity and junior varsity boys soccer at St. Mary High School, assisting with the Lifeteen and Edge youth groups, helping with adult or youth retreats, or visiting the elderly, Steve Hohman



Raising Funds for those in need

worked to serve Christ through his many gifts.

We pray that what he learned while here will bear fruit in his future ministry and will bring him closer to being the priest that God wants him to be.



Kurt Osborne



Advocating religious vocations at the Youth Retreat to St. Meinrad. Youth Group members on the steps of St. Meinrad: L to R - back row - Youth Minister, Danny Thomas, Brian Clark, Sarah Hendley, Matt Gilland, Chris Kight; L to R - middle row - Lauren Kupper, Sally Thompson, Maggie Langston, Taylor Mudd, Adam Jones, Seminarian, Steve Hohman; L to R - front row - Katie Carrigan, Emily Potts, Andee Shannon, Isabelle LaBarge, Julia Colgan. STM photos

Kurt Osborne Named Owensboro Catholic High School Assistant Principal

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Kurt Osborne has been chosen as the new Assistant Principal at Owensboro Catholic High School. Osborne will be replacing Ann Flaherty, who was recently named the Principal at Owensboro Catholic Middle School.

Osborne, a 1988 OCHS graduate, has been a teacher at OCHS since 1993 and has taught Religion, Science, Social Studies, and AP History. He also has served as Senior Guidance Counselor and Head Academic Counselor. Osborne has held a variety of coaching positions including: Head Volleyball coach, Head boys and girls Tennis coach, and Academic team coach.

Osborne received his Bachelor's Degree from Brescia University in 1993 and his Masters in Secondary School Counseling from WKU in 2004.

Kurt and his wife Melissa have two boys and are members of Immaculate Parish.



Bearing the Cross on Holy Friday

St. Lawrence and Knottsville Pay Tribute To Veterans



During a Memorial Day Mass at Saint Lawrence Church in eastern Daviess County, pastor Father Tony Stevenson sang and played a tribute song to our American veterans after the Communion of the Mass. Also after Mass, the Knottsville Lions Club had a flag service. Lori Mattingly played "Taps" on a trumpet during the flag service. Photos and text submitted by Kitty Howe.



Through The Cross Our Brokenness Becomes Our Place Of Healing

By Father Ray Clark

"Because Jesus ascends into glory in his crucified humanity, his wounds become our wounds, and our wounds become the doors to divine love" --Crucified Love, Iliia Delio, pg xvi.

Each of us experiences brokenness. Yet through the cross our brokenness becomes our place of healing.

The Family Life Office of the Diocese of Owensboro is sponsoring a Healing Retreat, an opportunity to experience healing through our brokenness. The retreat is for anyone who experiences brokenness physically, emotionally or spiritually.

Dr. Richard Johnson, a Catholic psychologist, will lead the retreat. The retreat begins Friday evening, September 12 and ends on Sunday morning, September 14 with a healing Mass presided by Bishop McRaith.

There is a registration fee of \$25. Owensboro Medical Health System, St. Mary's Hospital in Evansville, and Lourdes Hospital of Paducah have provided grants to subsidize the cost of the weekend. Donations will be accepted at the end of the weekend.

Caregivers are encouraged to attend. A certificate of Continuing Education is available.

For more information call the Family Life Office at (270) 683-1545.

Healings Still A Part of Church Life

By Gary Trogden

Last November, I went to a healing retreat at Mount Saint Joseph Retreat Center; the retreat was conducted by Richard Johnson, Ph. D. I Father Ray Clark asked me to write for you about some of my experiences of that weekend. Here goes.



Dr. Richard Johnson presents Virtues for Healing in Christ

September 12 - 14, 2008

Mt. St. Joseph Retreat Center
Maple Mount, KY

Sponsored by Family Life Office,
Diocese of Owensboro

Dr. Johnson is nationally recognized for his pioneering work in Maturing Adult Faith Formation and Spiritual Gerontology. He is invited into many parishes, dioceses, and religious communities for consultation, workshops, retreats, and other educational work. His latest book: *Parish Ministry for Maturing Adults: Principles, Plans, and Bold Proposals* (23rd Publications, 2007) charts a refreshing and compelling new course for faith formation for maturing adults.

Dr. Johnson is a practicing Roman Catholic; he and his wife Sandra live in St. Louis; they have three grown children and three grandchildren.

I was off from work at the time due to knee surgery. One of the more important concepts for me that weekend is how healing can be attitudinal. How we view pain and discomfort has an effect on how intense our discomfort level becomes. If one gets alarmed about pain, the body becomes tense which usually increases the discomfort level. If we view the discomfort objectively, it tends not to spread or increase. Our perception or thought process is an important way one can minimize pain. Attach danger to the pain and it increases; talk lovingly to the body and pain decreases.

Another important concept in the retreat for me is how healing begins with a divine idea. The body has within it a perfect blueprint for our perfect health and the body is always trying to pull back to that blueprint if the body gets out of balance.

Instant healings can and do happen, but most healing is slow and steady. Continually holding up a vision of good health in the mind greatly helps the body respond to it. This divine idea of health is so important. Jesus uses it many times: "Do you want to be healed? Jesus would ask. "Do you believe you can be healed?" Jesus wanted the person to have no mental blocks to his healing. Jesus knew heal-

Celebration Of 60 Years As A Carmelite Sister, D.C.J.

OWENSBORO, Ky. - Sister M. Bernadette of Our Lady of Lourdes (Nelda Niehaus), of Carmel Home in Owensboro, Kentucky celebrated the 60th Anniversary of her Religious Vows as a Carmelite Sisters of the Divine Heart of Jesus on July 1, 2008 at the Provincial House in St. Louis, Missouri. Bishop John R. Gaydos of the Diocese of Jefferson City, Missouri was the Principle Celebrant at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

Born in Cincinnati, Ohio, Sister entered the convent in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. As a nurse she served the needs of the elderly in St. Joseph's Homes in West Allis Wisconsin; Detroit, Michigan; Grand Rapids, Michigan; and Carmel Home in Owensboro, Kentucky. She was also the organist at these facilities.

She served as Local Superior of her Communities at St. Joseph's Home in Jefferson City, Missouri and at Carmel Home in Owensboro, Kentucky.

Sister was a member of the first Community of Carmelite Sisters, DCJ at Carmel Home at its opening in 1952, at 2501 Old Hartford Road. She is currently missioned at Carmel Home where she serves as the Sacristan at the Perpetual Adoration Chapel, and is also the Organist. Sister enjoys the outdoors, where she is close to God, as she showers T.L.C. upon His bird's and flowers in the convent garden.

The Carmel Home Family in Owensboro celebrated Sister M. Bernadette's 60th Anniversary with her on the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, July 16, 2008. Bishop John J. McRaith, Bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro, officiated at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Following Holy Mass, an old-fashioned, BBQ picnic-reception was held in the Carmel Home Park.

Mothers Day at the abortion mill *(Continued from page 33)*

it to "be there". I loved your paragraph about children being a gift. In this day of rights & choices, many forget that. I hope you are submitting this to the Western Ky Catholic.

"When we began the Gospel of Life committee, Fr. Richard Meredith warned us that the devil would involve himself in these life issues because they are so serious and so evil. I know you see that evil when you stand at the abortion mill. Thank you for being with these babies as their short lives on this earth are violently ended.

ing involved cooperation between the human and the divine. Sometimes, we humans are our own worst enemy when we won't allow that perfect health pattern to emerge.

Healings were a great part of the early Church. Not only Jesus, but many of the Apostles healed people. The same healing spirit exists today for God is the same "today, yesterday, and forever." We as a church need to remove fear and doubt so that the Spirit and true beliefs can have their full healthy effect in our spirits, minds, and bodies.

Serving the Marginalized in Western Kentucky

Father Fid used his bike to travel through the backside of Ellis Park Race Track in Western Kentucky where he ministered to the workers.

Father Fid Levri works in a variety of outreach ministries and all have a common denominator: people in society who are often neglected or forgotten altogether.

Father Fid, a senior member, lives in Reed, Ky., a small town in Henderson County, in the western part of the Bluegrass State. As a senior member (a term Glenmary uses for priests and brothers of retirement age) he is free from assigned ministry and has chosen to continue living in mission areas where he can continue serving those Father Bishop called “the forgottens” of society.

Forgottens like the workers on the backside at Ellis Park, a thoroughbred race track in Henderson County. These workers groom, exercise, feed and otherwise help care for the “stars” of the industry—the horses—and help keep Kentucky’s legendary horse racing industry flourishing.

“The workers are Mexican, Peruvian and Colombian and many of them are paid below the minimum wage,” says Father Fid. “I ride my bike to Ellis Park and give out Bibles, prayer books and bottled water,” in order to connect with the workers.

Many of these workers receive no health care benefits and their salaries are so low that they are unable to afford the cost of purchasing health insurance independently. As a result, the chaplain at the race track, a Baptist minister, provides a rudimentary clinic that screens for high blood pressure and diabetes. “The workers try to get care at the hospital, but they’re not welcomed there because they don’t have insurance,” Father Fid says.

As he forms relationships with the workers, Father Fid invites them to attend Mass he celebrates at Ellis Park on Mondays and usually 10 to 15 men accept the invitation. But it’s not always the same men he sees.

Most of the workers are transient and travel from track to track, depending on when they are open. The western Kentucky track, for example, is open from the Fourth of July to Labor Day. “It’s hard to know how much influence you have on any one guy because they’re so mobile,” Father Fid says. But he continues to reach out to meet their spiritual and material needs. In addition to celebrating the sacraments with the workers, he also makes sure they have enough clothing and shoes to get them through the racing season.

While his interaction with the back-



A 2006 WKC File photo of Father Fid Levri playing guitar.

side workers is seasonal, Father Fid’s other ministries are more regular, even daily. For example, each day around noon he reports to work at a soup kitchen in nearby Owensboro, Ky., a facility that also provides shelter for families with children, a medical clinic and a substance abuse rehabilitation program.

Father Fid helps cook the meal then serves the 50 to 85 clients. “I enjoy being there,” he says. “Sometimes they ask me to pray and once I tried to lead some singing with my mandolin.”

He played ‘Amazing Grace’ but found that the singing was less than enthusiastic. At first he thought they just didn’t like the hymn or his playing, but then realized that the joy that was needed to sing was absent. “These folks were so despondent that they couldn’t sing.”

Father Fid also ministers to the local prison population—both English and Spanish speakers—housed in the Henderson and Daviess county jails. “Sometimes I visit those in isolation, but usually I visit people in groups,” Father Fid says. “We talk about the Sunday readings and I say Mass or we have a communion service. I encourage people to talk to one another because that’s something they don’t do a lot.”

Father Fid’s focus as a prison chaplain is on liturgy and scripture but he also assumes the role of teacher as he teaches English to the Spanish-speaking inmates. And, no matter what the topic, he likes to inject some much-needed humor into his visits.



Father Fid, a registered nurse, was part of a group of medical volunteers from Kentucky who traveled to Louisiana to treat Hurricane Katrina evacuees in 2005. In this photo Sr. Lorraine Lauter, OSU, introduced a child to Fr. Fid. Glenmary Home Missioners Photo

“They call me *chistes*, which is Spanish for ‘joke,’ Father Fid laughs.

Father Fid’s background as a registered nurse is valuable in his jail ministry. “People may come from an impoverished background or have medical or psychological problems that need addressing,” he says. Because of his repeated contact with the prisoners, he can recognize these problems and can identify the need for psychological or physical assessment.

Recently, the Daviess County prison medical care was turned over to a private organization. As a result, the on-duty nurse position was eliminated. Father Fid fears that the entire system may become privatized, a system that is opposed by the Catholic Bishops of the South and the Catholic Committee of Appalachia.

“Privatization isn’t a good thing,” Father Fid says. “For-profit prisons are intended to make money, so they try to maximize profit by cutting services. That leads to injustice because the inmate’s needs, like health care, will not be met.”

Father Fid remains an active member of these Western Kentucky counties as he continues to see and serve the prisoner, the hungry and the oppressed. And he wouldn’t have it any other way.

This article originally appeared in the March 2008 Boost-A-Month Club Newsletter; reprinted here with permission.

Diocesan Rural Life Celebration

Sunday August 10, 2008, 5:00 p.m.

Owensboro Sportscenter An ecumenical celebration of rural life. Meal starts at 5 pm with a short program and giving of Lifetime Achievement Award Sponsored by the Diocesan Rural Life Committee



Pondering Farm Life: Students from St. Gabriel’s School in Louisville, Ky., visit the farm May 14-15 while on a retreat at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center. 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.

An Aspiring Carmelite Shares Her Story

By Tami Schneider

The Owensboro Serra Club, whose principal purpose is to support and pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life, meets twice a month at Ryan's Restaurant to share a meal and fellowship and to listen to a short presentation by a guest speaker. On June 27th, they invited Melissa Bivins to share a little bit about her hopes to enter the convent.

Melissa thought about a religious vocation on and off during her younger years, at moments more seriously than others. It took a serious dating relationship for her to really ask herself what she wanted in life.

What solidified the call for her was the experience she had at Youth 2000 in 2007. She recalls a comment made by Fr. Bob, CFR, during that weekend that helped her say yes: "It's time to stop discerning for 15 years. Get off the fence and do what you know you should do." She also attributes her calling to the prayer and adoration of Serra Club members, family and friends, and the positive example of the Carmelites throughout her childhood.

During the past year, Melissa has made numerous trips to St. Louis for retreats and celebrations with the Sisters. God willing, she will enter the Carmelite Sisters of the Divine Heart of Jesus on September 8, 2008, the Feast of the Birth of Mary.



Above, Melissa Bivins speaks about her call to the religious life to Serra Club members on June 27th. She plans to enter the convent with the Carmelite Sisters of the Divine Heart of Jesus in St. Louis in September. Photo by Tami Schneider.

(At Right) During a solemn liturgy at St. Peter of Alcantara Church in Stanley, on June 22nd, Bishop McRaith, many fellow priests and religious and a church full of faithful joined Fr. Bruce Fogle in celebrating his 25th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood. Those in attendance included several Ursuline Sisters, Carmelite Sisters of the Divine Heart of Jesus and Fathers of Mercy seminarians. Fr. Fogle chose St. Peter's because it is his home parish. Fr. Raymond Goetz, current pastor in Stanley, joined him at the altar for this celebration. (above) Diocese of Owensboro seminarians Josh McCarty, Byron Macias and Will Thompson served the mass. Photo by Tami Schneider.

Fr. Bruce Fogle Celebrates 25 Years of Priesthood



THINKING OF PRIESTHOOD DAY OF RECOLLECTION

This day is for single men, ages 18 – 40, who are open to listening to how God is speaking to them. Men will join others interested in learning more about the call to the priesthood.

Saturday, September 6, 2008
Saint Thomas More Parish, Paducah
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM



For registration and information contact the Office of Vocations at 270-683-1545 or email Father Andy Garner at fr.andy.garner@pastoral.org.

Pope Praises Vatican Prayer Project To Encourage Priests, Vocations

By Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Benedict XVI has praised a Vatican initiative to encourage eucharistic adoration for the holiness of priests and recruit "spiritual mothers" to pray for priests and for vocations to the priesthood.

In an undated letter sent to the Vatican's Congregation for Clergy, which is promoting the initiative, the pope said he is "grateful for the thoughtful gesture" and for suggestions the congregation has put forward.

In the letter, posted on the congregation's Web site, the pope said he hoped "the love and devotion to the eucharistic Jesus and devotion to Mary ... may give new fervor" to the life and apostolate of priests.

The clergy congregation released to journalists April 22 a letter addressed to the world's priests from Cardinal Claudio Hummes, congregation prefect, and Archbishop Mauro Piacenza, congregation secretary. The letter details the intentions of the World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests May 30, as well as some prayers priests have been invited to say.

The project, launched Dec. 8, aims to highlight the link between the Eucharist and the priesthood as well as Mary's special role as the mother of every priest.

Cardinal Hummes and Archbishop Piacenza had said that as part of a wider effort to address the challenges priests are facing today, they wanted to promote perpetual eucharistic adoration "for the reparation of faults and sanctification of priests."

That includes the spiritual reparation for the damage caused by the sexual abuse of children by priests and to uphold the dignity of the victims, the cardinal said in a Jan. 4 interview with the Vatican newspaper, L'Osservatore Romano.

One of the prayers released in mid-April invokes God's support so that the priest's commitment to celibacy is "a joyful and happy affirmation and a total dedication of myself to others."

Another prayer calls on Jesus, "the most powerful doctor of souls," for healing, "so that I may not fall back into evil, that I may flee from every sin" and "preserve my chastity unstained."

A daily prayer asks sinning priests to show remorse and "weep bitterly over the evil we have done."

Catholics are asked to pray for priests, that they may speak God's words, be courageous in service and do good for all people.

The Vatican's clergy office emphasized the importance of prayer and eucharistic adoration in being able to live in "full configuration to Christ."

"We cannot live, we cannot look at the truth about ourselves without letting ourselves be looked at and generated by Christ in daily eucharistic adoration," said the letter.

The letter highlighted Mary's special role as the mother of every priest and said priests "cannot do without a spiritual motherhood for our priestly life."

It called on the support of all Catholics and encouraged married, single and consecrated women to become "spiritual mothers" and pray for priests and for vocations to the priesthood.

Three From St Mary Named Governor's Scholars

Paducah St. Mary High School students Blake Averill, Keli Nace and William Smith have been recognized as Kentucky Governor's Scholars and will attend a five-week enrichment program of studies this summer at either Centre, Bellarmine, or Eastern Kentucky University. School assignment is determined by the student's selected area of enrichment studies. The program is reserved to the top students among KY private and public high school juniors. Qualification criteria include ACT & PSAT scores, minimum GPA of 3.5, community service, faculty recommendations, and demonstrated writing skills. Governor's Scholars automatically qualify for a tuition scholarship to any Kentucky state-run university. The summer program is designed to prepare students for campus life and college-level academics.

"These three (3) students stand out in a stand-out class," said guidance counselor Dennis Griffith. "For a small school like ours to have this number selected is a significant honor, and we are both pleased and flattered. It speaks well of the parents, the faculty, and the entire learning environment here at St. Mary."

Averill is the son of Kurt and Staci Averill. Nace's parents are Dianne Carrier and Stephen Nace, and Smith is the son of Michael and Kathy Smith.



L-R: Blake Averill, Keli Nace, and William Smith

World Youth Day Local Event at Gasper River



Youth and adults alike participated in the local World Youth Day event at Gasper River Catholic Camp and Retreat Center on July 18 & 19. Above, a few young people dance around as they participate in a skit. Below, a young lady gazes into the face of Christ during a Eucharistic holy hour led by Fr. Eric Riley. Photos by Tami Schneider.



Fall Events at Camp Ondessonk

Thank you to all of our campers during Summer 2008! We had a great time, and hope to see you next summer. Camp also has several events this fall that are open to everyone: a Family Camp, September 20-21; Mother/Daughter Weekend, October 10-12; and a FREE Fall Festival, October 25th. For more information about any of these events please visit www.ondessonk.com, or call 618-695-2489.



St. Ann Students Honored

Morganfield National Bank in Morganfield KY invited all Duke TIP recipients to a banquet held on Tuesday, May 6th. St. Ann's, in Morganfield had 11 students attending the banquet. Matthew Loxley received the math award. Four students, Sarah Bickett, Bailey Henderson, Matthew Loxley, and Dara Ricketts all received awards for qualifying for state recognition. They will attend a reception dinner at WKU during the summer. Submitted by Beth Hendrickson

A NEWS NOTE from Kay Owen at Saint Ann Parish

St. Ann Parish, Morganfield Ky, would like to invite everyone to our Parish Picnic on Saturday, Aug. 9th. Serving at 5:00 p.m. with 'cool' inside dinning from our buffet line with several bar-b-q choices. Bingo, cake walk and raffle with 20 prizes, including 2 - \$500 prizes. Please join us for fun, food and fellowship.

Editor's Note: I learned from Kay that Snickers and junk food make for having a good meeting! --MDH



On Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11, 2008, St. Thomas More Parish held the May Crowning of Mary. This traditional devotion of the church honors Mary in her title as Queen of Heaven and Earth. Here Jan Meredith prepares to assist Robert Bosh & Anna Todino with the Crowning of Mary as Fr. Pat Reynolds recites the traditional prayer. Submitted by Missy Eckenberg

In the picture below, Fr. Al Bremer and Fr. Pat Reynolds officiated as ten children of the Hispanic Community received First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 17, 2008 at St. Thomas More in Paducah. Group members include Edgard Robles, Alexis Hernandez, Julian Guijarro, Luis E. Hernandez, Isidro Federico Sanchez Carrillo, Miguel Alejandro Gonzales Mota, Stephanie Dominguez, Jennifer Guijarro, Guadalupe Reyes Reina, and Nancy Hernandez. Sr. Imelda Quechol, Director of Hispanic Ministry, and Maria Charlot provided preparation for the holy sacrament. Photo submitted by Missy Eckenberg



PADUCAH, Ky. - On Sunday, April 20, 2008 more than 40 children received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion at St. Thomas More Church. Names alphabetically - Alexa Azar, Alexa Benaquista, Kelly Black, Robert Bosh, Mackenzie Bush, Joseph Caserta, Abigail Crouch, Emma Denton, Hope Eason, Georgia Eck, Jessie Elliott, Olivia Ellison, Timothy Froehlich, John Gee, Cullen Gream, Kevin Hernandez, Emily Hodges, Kaitlin Hrdlicka, Sarah Katz, Lakyn Largent, Hanna Lurtz, Brady Merrill, Megan Morrow, Jackson Olsen, Peyton Patel, Kearsten Peters, John Pham, Ashley Rich, Matthew Riffe, Samantha Riffe, Kyndall Roberts, Ethan Schaaf, Lara Shannon, Nathan Shockley, Hale Sims, Brenna Sisk, Joseph Teitloff, Anna Todino, Caroline Veatch, Alec Wadley, Meghan Walker, Madelyn Waltmon, and Madelyn Ybarzabal. Submitted by Missy Eckenberg



Moments in Diocesan Life

Editor's Note: We see many submissions of photos with brief captions from Western Kentucky Catholics. We try to print many of these pictures. Send your parish photo to Mel Howard, Editor of the WKC, at mel.howard@pastoral.org. The deadline for submission of photos is the 15th of the month prior to publication. --MDH

Through diligent service and hard work on three fund-raising projects over several months, members of the St. Thomas More Youth Group have self-funded their mission trip that will take place July 27 - August 1, 2008 in St. Louis. Parish members generously contributed items to support the final project, a yard sale held April 19, 2008, that helped the group meet their financial goal. Youth Group Member Maggie Langston displays an example of the treasures donated for the yard sale. Submitted by Missy Eckenberg



Superintendent and assistant share in the mission of the Church

By Mary Hilda McFarland

OWENSBORO, Ky. - "I am so appreciative of working at the Catholic Pastoral Center. The 'CPC Family' is a group of compassionate, dedicated people." This observation was made by Karen Jarboe, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent of Catholic Schools, as she was interviewed for an article about Jim Mattingly, the Superintendent, and about Mrs. Jarboe herself.

Mr. Mattingly came to the Diocesan Schools after a lengthy experience with several school systems. That experience began in Somerset, Kentucky where he attended high school and continued to the University of Kentucky where he earned a BA in Education. From there he moved to Owensboro to assume his first teaching position with the Owensboro Public Schools in 107. Over the next eleven years as he served as teacher, Mr. Mattingly earned a Masters in Education and his Rank I in Education from Western Kentucky University. The next sixteen years found him still with the OPS, now as an elementary principal.

Through those twenty-seven years Mr. Mattingly married Catholic High graduate, Laura Howard and the Mattinglys welcomed Paul, Kyle and Neil to the family. Paul was OCHS co-Salutatorian in 2005. Kyle, an OCHS senior, was recently named a 2008 National Merit Finalist and Neil will soon complete his 7th grade year as an "A" student at OCMS.

When Mr. Mattingly retired from the OPS system in 2004 a "desire to help Catholic schools fulfill their potential and accomplish their mission" led him to apply for, and accept, the position of Superintendent of Diocesan Schools. It was at this point that he met Mrs. Jarboe who had been Administrative Assistant to Joe O'Bryan who was retiring as Superintendent.

Karen Jarboe is a product of twelve years in Catholic schools. She is a graduate of Presentation Academy in Louisville. It was in 1993 that she joined the staff at the Pastoral Center, where she says she has been "blessed to work with two wonderful superintendents who lead by example. Their dedication to Catholic education and work ethic continue to challenge me to do the best I can each day."

She and her husband, Gary, have two sons, both of whom graduated from OCHS. Stephen went on to earn a doctorate in organic chemistry and Adam is a law student at the University of Lou-

isville.

Most of Mrs. Jarboe's responsibilities require her presence at the Pastoral Center where she cares for correspondence, reports, records and communication with principals and teachers. She coordinates professional development days and is conference coordinator of the Mid-South Catholic Leadership Conference.

While many of his responsibilities require his attention in his Pastoral Center office, much of Mr. Mattingly's time is spent with the nineteen schools under his supervision. He reports that he tries "to attend a school Mass at each site at least once a school year and to make several other visits" from Leitchfield to Bowling Green to Paducah and Murray and all Catholic sites in between. The experiences with those schools has led Mr. Mattingly to say "I continue to be impressed with both the present quality of our schools as well as the ongoing desire to improve services."

Both Mattingly and Jarboe were

asked what they saw as the greatest challenge to Catholic education. Mr. Mattingly replied, "Funding, especially in tough economic times. The main challenge is to convince families just how valuable a Catholic education really is, both in the present and far into the future." Mrs. Jarboe said that during the 14-plus years she has been in that office, she has seen that "enrollment and finances are a constant struggle, but maintaining our Catholic identity is critical. We are blessed with dedicated administrators, teachers and staff that face these challenges on a daily basis."

Should parents ask Mr. Mattingly's advice about choosing a Catholic school for their children he would tell them that "the value of a Catholic education cannot be computed in dollars and cents. Therefore, it is a priceless gift they can give to their children. Catholic education's benefits extend far into the future, well beyond this generation. Therefore, it is a gift that keeps on giving." To those comments,



Staff of the Diocesan Catholic Schools Office are Jim Mattingly, Superintendent, and Karen Jarboe, Administrative Assistant. Tami Schneider photo

Mrs. Jarboe adds, "I have always valued my Catholic education and know it was the right decision for my own children."

Both the Superintendent and his Administrative Assistant live up to the mission of the Diocesan Schools to "share in the Church's mission, to proclaim the message of Jesus Christ as lived out in the Catholic Church which creates a worshipping community of believers whose service is a witness of their Christian love."

2008 Parish Picnic Schedule

Aug. 2	10:00 a.m.	128th Annual Fancy Farm Picnic, St. Jerome Parish
Aug. 2	11:30 a.m.	Blessed Sacrament, Owensboro
Aug. 5	5:00 p.m.	St. Martin, Rome
Aug. 9	4:00 Mass	St. Ann, Morganfield, at St. Ann parish grounds
Aug. 23	4:00 p.m.	Blessed Mother, Owensboro
Aug. 30	3:00 p.m. (EST)	Holy Guardian Angels, Irvington
Aug. 30	4:00 p.m.	St. Columba, Lewisport
Sept. 6	11:00 a.m.	St. John the Evangelist, Paducah
Sept. 7	11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	38th Mount St. Joseph, Maple Mount
Sept. 13	4:00 p.m. Mass; 4:30 p.m.	Mass; 4:30 p.m. serving begins St. Agnes, Uniontown
Sept. 20	Noon	St. Stephen Cathedral
Sept. 20	4:00 p.m.	Christ the King, Madisonville
Sept. 23	Noon	St. Thomas More, Paducah
Sept. 27	3:00 p.m.	Immaculate, Owensboro
Sept. 26-27		Holy Name Fall Festival, Henderson, Ky.
Sept. 28		St. Leo, Murray
Sept. 28	11:00 a.m.	St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

Knights of Columbus seeks managing editor for new fatherhood Web site

The Knights of Columbus Supreme Council is seeking a managing editor for its new Fathers for Good Web site, which will be launched soon. The managing editor will handle the day-to-day operations of the site, working with the Web site editor and the e-business department on daily content management on the English-language site, and overseeing the flow of translations for the three companion sites in French, Spanish and Polish. Fluency in any of these three languages is a plus but not required.

The managing editor also will be responsible for generating themes and ideas for the site; writing content as necessary; locating contributors; making assignments; and obtaining all reprint permissions. In addition, the managing editor will oversee the production and printing of the related St. Joseph series of booklets on fatherhood themes.

Qualifications include a four-year degree in liberal arts, computer technology or business field, plus at least five years of Web site development or Web media experience. An equivalent combination of training and experience will be considered. Candidate must have strong writing ability and detailed familiarity with Catholic faith and practice. Please submit resume and salary requirements to: Knights of Columbus, Human Resources, One Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510; e-mail: humanresources@kofc.org.

RECLAIMING FATHERHOOD

A multifaceted examination of Men dealing With Abortion
September 8-9, 2008 Chicago Marriot Oak Brook,
1401 West 22nd St., Oak Brook, IL 60523
Sample of Topics:

- Men and Abortion: A Review of the Research
 - Forgiveness Therapy With Post-Abortion Men
 - Understanding Male Spiritual Growth and the Process of Healing
- For Information: www.menandabortion.info; 1-800-5WE-CARE
Sponsored by the National Office of Post Abortion Reconciliation and Healing, PO Box 070477, Milwaukee, WI 53207-0477

Moments In Diocesan Catholics Shools

At Right, Emily Carmon of Trinity High School officially signed to play volleyball with Brescia University. Emily is the first Trinity student in the history of the school to receive a scholarship to play college volleyball. A signing ceremony took place at Trinity on Wednesday, April 16. Present at the signing, in addition to Emily, were Stacy Carmon, Emily's mother, Larry Farmer, THS Athletic Director, Traci Smith, BU's volleyball coach, Mr. Brown, a BU assistant coach, and all members of the 2007 Lady Raiders team. From left are Stacy Carmon, Emily Carmon, Mr. Brown, and Coach Traci Smith. THS Photo



At left, students in Mr. Calhoun's sixth grade Science class at Owensboro Catholic Elementary 4-6 Campus worked with microscopes during a recent lab. The students learned the proper technique to prepare a slide, mount it on the microscope and bring it into focus. The students learned a great deal and enjoyed using the microscopes.

At lower left, Holy Name first grade students presented Father Bradley birthday cards from the entire school and sang for him. In return for their kindness, Father Bradley passed out cookies to all the first grade as a thank you for helping him celebrate his birthday April 24, 2008. HNS Photo



Several Owensboro Catholic Middle School students performed liturgical signing to 'One Cup, One Body.' It is a beautiful meditation after communion. The students met several mornings and after school to learn the signing routine. They were taught by teacher, Julie Renshaw. OCS Photo



At left, an article in the Saint Francis de Sales Parish Bulletin in Paducah congratulated Sarah Elizabeth Elrod who received the Christian Witness Award at the Saint Mary High School Graduation ceremony. This is the most prestigious award given by Saint Mary and is awarded to the graduating senior displaying a consistent attitude of service and generosity throughout their time at the school. Students are recommended by their peers from the senior class and nominated by the teachers. Sarah is truly most deserving to be recognized. She is the daughter of George and Theresa Medlin. Submitted photo

In the picture at right, Saint Mary Pre-School in Whitesville celebrated its closing week of school with a park Fun Day. Left to right, front, are Chelsea Jackson, Tyler Turner, Abby Howard; center, Wade Cecil, Jake Wagner, Calvin Higdon; back row, Gracie Howard, Erin Beatty, Lexi Miles, Hunter Ford, and Jake Coomes. Photo submitted by Kathy Henson.



Welcome to the Catholic Pastoral Center Staff!

By Tami Schneider

The diocese welcomed Sonya Evans to our Pastoral Center team back in April. She was hired as the Administrative Assistant in the Diocese of Owensboro School and Community Nutrition Program. Over 100 applications were received, and six candidates were interviewed by a committee before making the final decision. Sonya formerly worked as the Food Service Manager at Holy Angels School in Sorgho, and for the past four years has worked in the Food Service program at the OCES K-3 Campus.

Sonya helped Theresa Ballard, Director of the Diocesan School and Community Nutrition Program, in many occasions when the former assistant was indisposed because of an illness in the family. In her current position, Sonya helps pay the bills, take care of taxes, retirement and insurance issues and makes sure payroll goes through to the 13 Catholic Schools lunchroom employees. "Sonya has worked in this office in the past and has a keen knowledge of food service. She will be a great asset to the Diocese in this position." Theresa affirms.

Sonya is an Owensboro native and a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. She married with 3 children, who all attend Owensboro Catholic Schools. She also serves as a cheerleading coach at Owensboro Catholic Middle School. Welcome, Sonya!

Ernie Tallifero joined the CPC staff in March. A life-long member of Immaculate Parish, a husband of 38 years, the father of six and grandfather of 3, Ernie decided to join the diocesan ranks after taking early retirement from his former employer. During his 30+ years at Texas Gas, he held positions in Accounting, Marketing, Research & Development, and Compliance. From the get go, Ernie planned to find employment for a few years after his retirement in order to finish putting his children through school.

The Catholic Pastoral Center seemed like a logical step for Ernie. "I know most of the people at the Pastoral Center already through connections with Brescia, Catholic High, the Serra Club, etc... It was everything I hoped it would be." Mr. Tallifero will assist the chancellor, Sr. Joseph Angela Boone, OSU, in handling special situations that "aren't in the book." This includes questions from parishes and pastors on policies, legal issues, insurance, finances, stocks, etc. He hopes to delve into some special studies and financial analysis during his time here as well. Welcome, Ernie!

So Long, Farewell, Auf Wiedersehen, Goodbye!

By Tami Schneider

As we welcome some, we say goodbye to others. Sr. Jacinta Powers, OSU, recently received permission from the Ursuline Community and from the Bishop of Mandeville to serve as a nurse in our sister diocese in Mandeville, Jamaica.

Sr. Jacinta had worked for almost 4 years as a Diocesan employee with Catholic Charities. She developed the "Bridge to Health" Program and aided countless people in finding the best health plan for their individual needs. She served with Americore for 2 years, and became an expert in Medicare Part D.

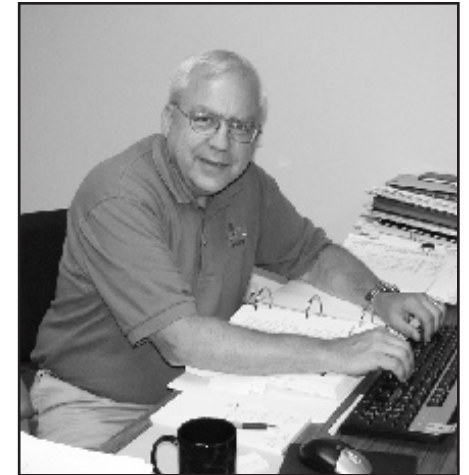
Sr. Jacinta also put her heart and soul into the Parish Nursing Program in our diocese. She became certified to train parish nurses and conducted such trainings. She also affiliated herself with the Catholic Conference of Kentucky spread the Parish Nursing Program outside of the diocese and to other areas of Kentucky.

The staff at the Catholic Pastoral Center will no doubt miss her sense of humor, her quick wit and her abundant willingness to help others in any way possible. We wish her the best of luck and many blessings in her new mission.

**Sr. Jacinta Powers, OSU
Nurse in Mandeville,
Jamaica (at left)**



**Sonya Evans
Administrative Assistant
School and Community
Nutrition Program**



**Ernie Tallifero
Assistant to the Administrative Office**

St. Pius X Vacation Bible School Raises Money for School Children in Jamaica

Submitted by Richard Murphy

This summer the children and teachers for St. Pius X Vacation Bible School collected moneys to donate to students at St. Margaret Mary Basic and Prep School in Lionel Town, Jamaica. The Bible School collected \$584.55. The money will go for all types of school supplies for the children at the Jamaican school.

Kathy Williams and Christel Zolglmann were the instructors who helped the students with the project. They called the project fun and inspiring for all involved.

The students and instructors presented the giant check to Richard Murphy and Sr. Jacinta Powers, OSU in the Catholic Charities office at the Catholic Pastoral Center on July 1st.

In the photograph at the right, are (front row, left to right) Lucas and Mary Grace Zoglmann, Niclole and Isabel Hayden and Richard Murphy. Second row: Jake Hayden, Andrea Williams and Casey Zoglmann. Photo by Sr. Jacinta Powers, OSU.



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Mi Experiencia Como Joven Cristiano

Por German E.

Desde ya hace un par de años que llegué por primera vez a la Iglesia de Santa Susana en Elkton, Ky, sentí esa paz, esa tranquilidad en mi interior que necesitaba, y que muchos jóvenes hoy en día no tienen la dicha de disfrutar, tal vez por nuestro ritmo acelerado de vivir la vida, o por otra razón.

Agradezco a Dios por todo lo bueno que me ha permitido vivir dentro de la Iglesia y fuera de Ella. Como joven he tenido la oportunidad de poder participar y compartir mis ideas y las de otros jóvenes en la creación del libro que utilizamos para la Pascua Juvenil. He aportado mi granito de arena en la creación del libro, "Retomando el Control de Mi Vida," en la cual compartimos nuestros pensamientos, sentimientos y algunas experiencias propias. Es algo muy lindo, que te fortalece como persona y también espiritualmente!

Con algunos jóvenes de diferentes parroquias que conforman la Diócesis de Owensboro, hemos tenido el privilegio de poder ir a varios de los encuentros juveniles que se realizan en el todo suroeste del país. He tenido la oportunidad de estar en Dothan, Alabama, en Tampa, Florida, y el 24 y 25 de mayo de este año en el Centro de Retiros de Gasper River, en Bowling Green, Ky. Estas ocasiones han sido unas de las mejores experiencias de mi vida, el poder compartir con jóvenes de diferentes países y sus tradiciones, es algo muy hermoso que te hace crecer como persona, y darte cuenta que entre todos podemos hacer cosas muy interesantes, para bien de nuestras vidas y las generaciones futuras, acercándolas a una vida plena en Cristo.

Hoy me gustaría invitarte a que formes parte de la Buena Nueva de Dios, ya sea visitando la Iglesia o ayudando al prójimo. Ya no esperes más para encontrar tu camino hacia la eternidad, y recuerda que DIOS TE AMA. No importa como seas o que hagas; ante Sus ojos todos somos iguales.

A la izquierda, el P. Carmelo guió un tiempo de oración cuando todos se lavaron las manos como símbolo de lavarse de los pecados.

A la derecha, Daniel, que trabaja en Ministerio Hispano en la Diócesis de Lexington, Ky, bendice y envía al grupo de la Diócesis de Owensboro que asistió la Pascua Juvenil. Con ese costumbre tan bonito, cada diócesis envía a otro diócesis a compartir a Jesucristo con los demás.

Abajo se ve todo el grupo que vino al Centro de Retiros de Gasper River el 24 y 25 de mayo para el taller de la Pascua Juvenil. Participaron varios diócesis de la region del sureste, alrededor de 55 personas en total.

Fotos por Tami Schneider y el P. José Alberto Moreno

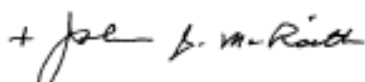


El Obispo John McRaith dio la bienvenida a los participantes de la Pascua Juvenil. A su lado se encuentran el P. José del SEPI (izquierda) y Luis Ajú, Director del Ministerio Hispano (centro).

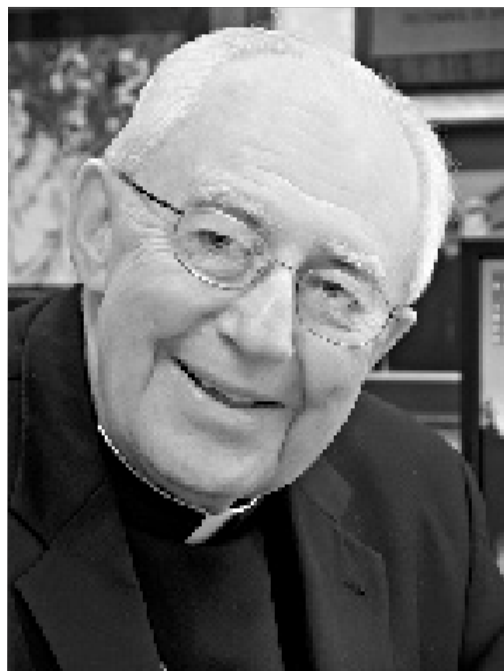


Mis Estimados Amigos,
El declarado siguiente fue preparado por la Conferencia de Obispos de los Estados Unidos. Como las elecciones presidenciales del 2008 ya llegan pronto, les estoy compartiendo esto para ayudar a formar nuestras conciencias mientras ejercitamos nuestro derecho, dado por Dios, a votar. Es tan importante que votemos y que nuestro voto sea guiado por una conciencia bien formada. Es importante que cada uno de nosotros actúe de una conciencia que haya sido formado por la oración y por las enseñanzas de la Iglesia, como nos han sido entregados, con la ayuda y la orientación del Espíritu Santo. Espero que tomen el tiempo de leer cuidadosamente el declarado a continuación.

Sinceramente en Cristo,



El Más Reverendo John J. McRaith



El Más Reverendo Obispo de Owensboro
Obispo John J. McRaith

Oración General

Dios amante y lleno de gracia, permite que Su Espíritu esté conmigo hoy. Oiga mi oración, y aumente en mí la voluntad de seguir a Su Hijo, Jesús. Ayúdeme a depender de los recursos de mi fe mientras use las oportunidades de nuestra democracia a formar una sociedad más respetuosa hacia la vida, la dignidad y los derechos de la persona humana, especialmente los pobres y los vulnerables. Se lo pido por Jesucristo, Su Hijo, quien vive y reine contigo en la unidad del Espíritu Santo, un solo Dios por los siglos de los siglos. Amen.

El Reto De Formar La Conciencia Para Ser Ciudadanos Fieles

Este breve documento es un resumen de la reflexión de los obispos de Estados Unidos titulada Formando la conciencia para ser ciudadanos fieles (www.faithfulcitizenship.org). Complementa la enseñanza de los obispos en sus diócesis y estados.

Nuestra nación afronta unos retos que requieren decisiones morales urgentes. Somos una nación en guerra, con todo el costo humano que conlleva; un país a menudo dividido por las razas y etnias; una nación de inmigrantes que tiene dificultades con la inmigración. Somos una sociedad opulenta donde demasiadas personas viven en la pobreza; somos parte de una comunidad global que está confrontando al terrorismo y se enfrenta a amenazas urgentes contra el medio ambiente; tenemos una cultura cimentada sobre las familias, en la que algunos ahora cuestionan el valor del matrimonio y la vida familiar. Nos sentimos orgullosos de apoyar los derechos humanos, pero fallamos incluso a la hora de proteger el derecho fundamental a la vida, especialmente el de los niños no nacidos.

Nosotros, los obispos, buscamos ayudar a los católicos a formar su conciencia de acuerdo con la verdad, de manera que puedan tomar decisiones morales sólidas cuando respondan a estos retos. No decimos a los católicos cómo deben votar. La responsabilidad de tomar decisiones políticas recae en cada persona y en su conciencia correctamente formada.

¿Por Qué Enseña La Iglesia Sobre Cuestiones Que Afectan A La Política Pública?

La obligación de la Iglesia de participar en la formación del carácter moral de la sociedad es un requisito de nuestra fe, parte de la misión encomendada a nosotros por Jesucristo. La fe nos ayuda a ver más claramente la verdad sobre la vida y dignidad humanas, la cual también comprendemos mediante la razón humana. Como personas tanto de fe como seres racionales que somos, los católicos están llamados a llevar la verdad a la vida política y a practicar el mandamiento de Cristo, quien nos mandó “que se amen los unos a los otros” (Jn 13:34). Según el Papa Benedicto XVI: “La caridad debe animar toda la existencia de los fieles laicos y, por tanto, su actividad política, vivida como ‘caridad social’” (carta encíclica *Deus Caritas Est*, no. 29).

La Constitución de Estados Unidos protege el derecho de los creyentes individuales y de las instituciones religiosas a participar y decir lo que piensen sin interferencias gubernamentales, favoritismos o discriminación. La ley civil debería reconocer y proteger el derecho y la responsabilidad de la Iglesia a participar en la sociedad sin tener que abandonar nuestras convicciones morales centrales. La tradición pluralista de nuestra nación es enriquecida, y no amenazada, cuando los grupos religiosos y las personas de fe llevan sus convicciones a la vida pública. La comunidad católica aporta al diálogo político un marco moral coherente y una amplia experiencia de servicio a los necesitados.

¿Quién En La Iglesia Debería Participar En La Vida Política?

En la Tradición católica, ser ciudadanos responsables es una virtud y la participación en la vida política es una obligación moral. Como católicos deberíamos ser guiados más por nuestras convicciones morales que por nuestro apego a un partido político o grupo con intereses especiales. En el ambiente socio-político de hoy en día, los católicos pueden sentirse desamparados políticamente, percibiendo que ningún partido político y muy pocos candidatos comparten nuestro compromiso exhaustivo con la vida y dignidad humanas. Los laicos católicos necesitan actuar según los principios morales de la Iglesia e involucrarse más: presentándose como candidatos, trabajando dentro de partidos políticos y transmitiendo sus preocupaciones a quienes ocupan funciones públicas. Incluso quienes no pueden votar tienen que alzar sus voces respecto a cuestiones que afectan su vida y el bien común.

¿Cómo Ayuda La Iglesia A Los Católicos A Tratar Las Cuestiones Políticas Y Sociales? Una Ociencia Bien Formada

La Iglesia provee a sus miembros con lo necesario para tratar cuestiones políticas y sociales al ayudarlos a desarrollar una conciencia bien formada. “La conciencia moral es un juicio de la razón por el que la persona humana reconoce la cualidad moral de un acto concreto... [cada persona] está obligad[a] a seguir fielmente lo que sabe que es justo y recto” (*Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica* [CIC], no. 1778). Durante toda nuestra vida, nosotros, los católicos, tenemos la obligación de formar nuestra conciencia de acuerdo con la razón humana, iluminada por la enseñanza de Cristo que llega a nosotros por medio de la Iglesia.

La Virtud De La Prudencia

La Iglesia también anima a los católicos a desarrollar la virtud de la prudencia, la cual nos permite “discernir en toda circunstancia nuestro verdadero bien y a elegir los medios rectos para realizarlo” (CIC, no. 1806). La prudencia forma e informa nuestra capacidad para deliberar sobre las alternativas disponibles, identificar cual es la más adecuada en un contexto específico y actuar. La prudencia debe estar acompañada de valentía, que es la que nos llama a actuar. Ya que los católicos buscamos promover el bien común, debemos discernir cuidadosamente qué políticas públicas son moralmente sólidas. Un buen fin no justifica un medio inmoral. A veces los católicos pueden elegir diferentes maneras de responder a problemas sociales, pero no podemos alejarnos de nuestra obligación de proteger la vida y dignidad humanas, y de ayudar a construir con medios morales un mundo más justo y pacífico.

Hacer El Bien Y Evitar El Mal

Existen algunas acciones que nunca debemos realizar, ni como individuos ni como sociedad, porque estas son siempre incompatibles con el amor a Dios y al prójimo. Estos actos intrínsecamente malos siempre deben ser rechazados y nunca se deben apoyar. Un ejemplo claro es quitar intencionadamente la vida de un ser humano inocente por medio del aborto. Un sistema legal que permite que el derecho a la vida sea violado, fundado en que este derecho es opcional, es un sistema fundamentalmente defectuoso.

Asimismo, las amenazas directas a la dignidad de la vida humana, como lo son la eutanasia, la clonación humana

Gracias, Hermana Ma. Ofelia, por los ocho años de servicio en la Diócesis de Owensboro. La deseamos lo mejor en su nueva misión!

Católico de Kentucky Occidental, Agosto, 2008 **3**



y la investigación científica destructiva de embriones humanos, también son intrínsecamente malas y deben ser objeto de oposición. Otros asaltos a la vida y dignidad humanas, como el genocidio, la tortura, el racismo y el ataque a los no combatientes en actos terroristas o de guerra, jamás pueden ser justificados. La falta de respeto hacia cualquier vida humana devalúa el respeto hacia toda vida humana.

Como católicos no votamos basándonos en una sola cuestión. La posición de un candidato respecto a una sola cuestión no es suficiente para garantizar el apoyo del votante. Sin embargo, la posición de un candidato respecto a una sola cuestión relacionada con un mal intrínseco, como es el apoyo al aborto legal o la promoción del racismo, puede llevar legítimamente al votante a descalificar a un candidato a no recibir su apoyo.¹

Oponerse a actos intrínsecamente malos debería también ayudarnos a reconocer nuestro deber positivo de contribuir al bien común y de actuar solidariamente con los necesitados. Es esencial tanto oponerse al mal como hacer el bien. Como dijo el Papa Juan Pablo II: “El hecho de que solamente los mandamientos negativos obliguen siempre y en toda circunstancia, no significa que, en la vida moral, las prohibiciones sean más importantes que el compromiso de hacer el bien, como indican los mandamientos positivos” (carta encíclica *Veritatis Splendor*, no. 52). El derecho fundamental a la vida implica y está ligado a otros derechos humanos, a los bienes fundamentales que toda persona humana necesita para vivir y desarrollarse plenamente, incluidos el alimento, la vivienda, el cuidado médico, la educación y el trabajo digno. El uso de la pena de muerte, el hambre, la falta de cuidado médico o vivienda, el tráfico humano, el costo humano y moral de la guerra y las políticas de inmigración injustas son algunas de las cuestiones morales serias que retan a nuestra conciencia y requieren que actuemos.

Tomar Decisiones Morales

Las decisiones políticas difíciles requieren del ejercicio de una conciencia bien formada apoyada por la prudencia. Este ejercicio de la conciencia comienza siempre con una oposición inmediata a las políticas que violan la vida humana o debilitan su protección. “Aquellos que

formulan las leyes tienen una obligación de conciencia de trabajar para rectificar leyes defectuosas en lo moral, para que no sean culpables de cooperar en esa maldad y pecar contra el bien común” (Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos [USCCB], *Católicos en la vida política*).

Cuando ya existan leyes moralmente defectuosas, se necesita un juicio prudente para determinar cómo hacer lo posible para restaurar la justicia—incluso si es solo parcial o gradualmente— sin tener nunca que abandonar un compromiso moral de proteger totalmente toda vida humana, desde la concepción hasta su muerte natural (véase Papa Juan Pablo II, carta encíclica *Evangelium Vitae*, no. 73).

También se necesita de un juicio prudente para determinar cuál es la mejor manera de promover el bien común en áreas como la vivienda, el cuidado médico y la inmigración. Cuando los líderes de la Iglesia deciden cómo aplicar la doctrina católica a políticas específicas, aun no teniendo la misma autoridad vinculante que los principios morales universales, esta no puede ser desechada simplemente como otra opción política. Estas aplicaciones morales deberían informar la conciencia y guiar las acciones de los católicos.

¿Qué dice la Iglesia sobre la doctrina social católica en el ámbito público?

Siete temas clave

La ética consistente sobre la vida debería guiar a todos los católicos en su participación en la vida política. Esta ética católica ni trata a todas las cuestiones como equivalentes moralmente ni reduce la doctrina católica a una o dos cuestiones. La ética consistente sobre la vida ancla el compromiso católico de defender la vida humana, desde la concepción hasta la muerte natural, a la obligación moral fundamental de respetar la dignidad de cada persona como hijo o hija de Dios.

Los votantes católicos deberían usar la doctrina católica para examinar las posiciones de los candidatos respecto a las cuestiones y deberían considerar la integridad, la filosofía y el desempeño de actuar de los candidatos. Es importante para todos los ciudadanos que “vayan más allá de la política partidista, que analicen las promesas de las campañas con un ojo crítico y que escojan sus dirigentes políticos según su principio, no su afiliación política o el interés propio” (USCCB, *Vivir el Evangelio de la vida*, no.

34). Los siguientes temas de la doctrina social católica ofrecen un marco moral para tomar decisiones en la vida pública.²
La Vida Y La Dignidad De La Persona

La vida humana es sagrada. Los ataques directos contra los seres humanos inocentes nunca son moralmente aceptables. En nuestra sociedad, la vida humana está bajo el ataque directo del aborto, la eutanasia, la clonación humana y la destrucción de embriones humanos para la investigación científica. Estos males intrínsecos deben ser siempre rechazados. Esta enseñanza también nos obliga como católicos a oponernos al genocidio, a la tortura, a la guerra injusta y al uso de la pena de muerte, así como a buscar la paz y ayudar a erradicar la pobreza, el racismo y otras condiciones que devalúen la vida humana.

El Llamado A La Familia, A La Comunidad Y A La Participación

La familia, basada en el matrimonio entre un hombre y una mujer, es la unidad fundamental de la sociedad. Este santuario para la creación y la crianza de hijos no debe ser redefinido, socavado o ignorado. Apoyar a las familias debería ser una prioridad en las políticas económicas sociales. La manera en la que nuestra sociedad está organizada—en las áreas económicas, políticas y legislativas—afecta el bienestar de los individuos y de la sociedad. Cada persona y asociación tiene el derecho y el deber de participar en la formación de la sociedad promoviendo el bienestar de los individuos y el bien común.

Los Derechos Y Deberes

Cada ser humano tiene el derecho a la vida, el derecho fundamental que hace posible todos los demás derechos. Cada uno de nosotros tiene el derecho a la libertad de la religión, el cual nos permite vivir y actuar de acuerdo a la dignidad que nos ha otorgado Dios, así como un derecho a tener acceso a aquellas cosas que requiere la decencia humana—el alimento y albergue, la educación y el trabajo, el cuidado médico y la vivienda. A estos derechos les corresponden deberes y responsabilidades para con los demás, nuestras familias y la sociedad en general.

La Opción Por los Pobres e Indefensos

Mientras que el bien común abarca a todos, quiénes tienen la mayor necesidad merecen ser objeto de una preocupación preferencial. Una manera de evaluar moralmente a nuestra sociedad es cómo tratamos a los más vulnerables que viven entre nosotros: los no nacidos, las

personas con discapacidad y los enfermos terminales, los pobres y los marginados.

La Dignidad Del Trabajo Y Los Derechos De Los Trabajadores

La economía debe estar al servicio de las personas, y no al contrario. La justicia económica pide un puesto de trabajo decente con un salario justo, oportunidades para los trabajadores inmigrantes de estar en situación legal y la oportunidad de todas las personas de trabajar por el bien común por medio de su trabajo, de la propiedad, la iniciativa, las inversiones, la participación en sindicatos y otras formas de actividad económica.

La Solidaridad

Somos una sola familia humana, independientemente de nuestras diferencias nacionales, raciales, étnicas, económicas e ideológicas. Nuestro compromiso católico a la solidaridad requiere que busquemos la justicia, eliminemos el racismo, pongamos fin al tráfico humano, protejamos los derechos humanos, busquemos la paz y evitemos el uso de la fuerza excepto cuando este sea el último recurso.

El Cuidado Por La Creación De Dios

El cuidado del planeta es un deber de nuestra fe católica. Estamos llamados a ser administradores cuidadosos de la creación de Dios y a asegurar un ambiente seguro y hospitalario para los seres humanos más vulnerables, hoy y en el futuro.

Conclusión

A la luz de la doctrina católica, nosotros, como obispos, repetimos vigorosamente nuestro llamado a una política renovada enfocada en principios morales, en la defensa de la vida, las necesidades de los más débiles y la búsqueda del bien común. Esta clase de participación política refleja la doctrina social de nuestra Iglesia y las mejores tradiciones de nuestra nación.





El P. Al Bremer y el P. Pat Reynolds oficiaron la misa durante la cual diez niños de la comunidad hispana recibieron la Primera Comunión el sábado, 17 de mayo del 2008, en la parroquia de Sto. Tomás Moro en Paducah. Los miembros del grupo incluyeron Edgard, Alexis, Julian, Luis E., Isidro Federico, Miguel Alejandro, Stephanie, Jennifer, Guadalupe, y Nancy. La Hermana Imelda Quechol, Directora de Ministerio Hispano y María ayudaron a prepararles por el Santo Sacramento. Sometido por Missy Eckenberg.

Los Miembros del Comité de Revisión Diocesano Están Listos para Contestar Llamadas

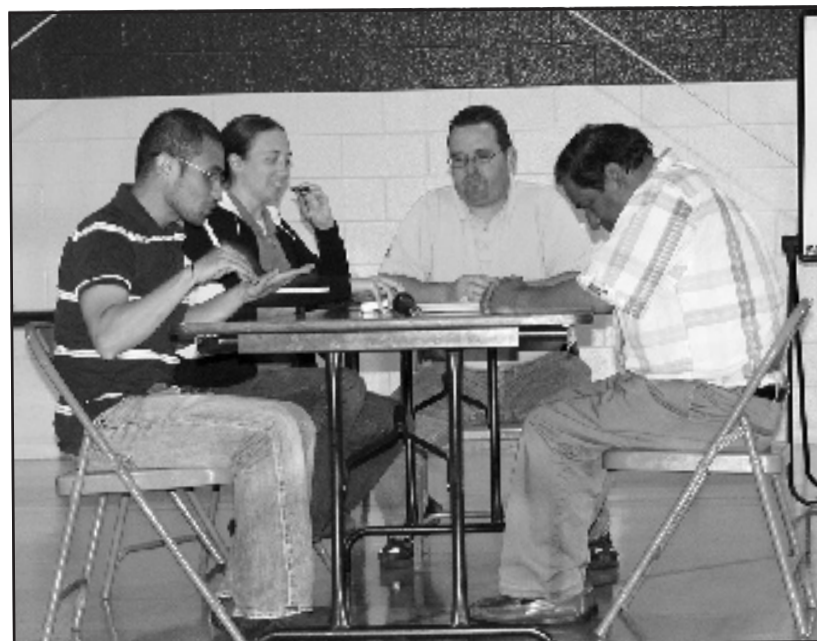
Los miembros del Comité quienes tratan las alegaciones de abuso sexual abuse en la Diócesis de Owensboro son los siguientes: Larry Abel, Chair, Ms. June Bell, Vice-Chair, Dr. Charles Bohle, Sr. Vivian Bowles, OSU, Ms. Susan Clark, Rev. Pat Connell, Mr. William Craig, Jr., Dr. Carroll Howard, Sr. Eula 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.

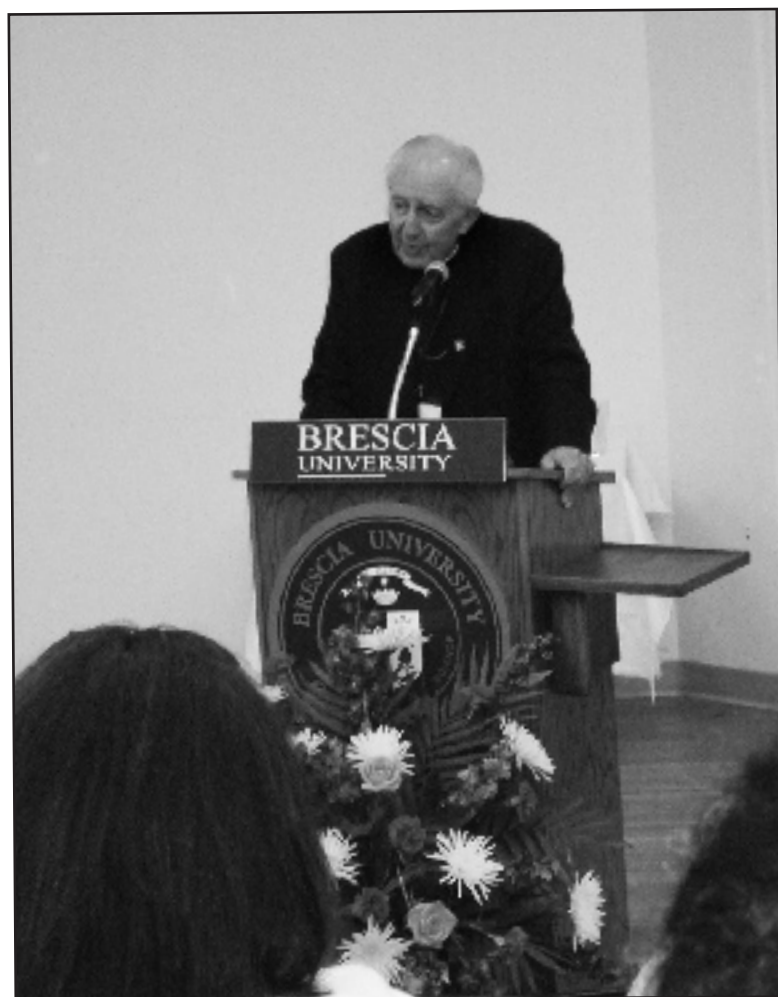
También pueden comunicarse con el Comité por email al: reviewboard@pastoral.org. Asegúrense de incluir su información personal. No les contestaremos directamente por email porque nunca se puede garantizar la confidencialidad al usar email. Nos comunicaremos con ustedes por teléfono.

El Liderazgo Latino Sigue Marchando

A la derecha, Julia, Rosa, Elided y Patti, unos participantes del curso de Liderazgo Latino cantan, aplaudan y bailan en alabanza al Señor durante un canto. El 5to curso de Liderazgo Latino tomó lugar en la parroquia de Stos. Pedro y Pablo en Hopkinsville el 5 de julio. Fotos por Tami Schneider.



En la foto a la izquierda, Paco, Patti, Chris y Luis llevan a cabo una pequeña obra de teatro para demostrar la dinámica de una familia típica en la cual hay un hijo que siempre habla y otro hijo que es muy tímido. Byron Macias (Paco), seminarista para la Diócesis de Owensboro, usó la obra para demostrar un punto en la plática que dio a los participantes del Liderazgo Latino.



Como parte del curso de Liderazgo Latino, miembros de la comunidad hispana tomaron parte en un Día de Corresponsabilidad en Brescia University el 7 de junio. El Obispo John McRaith dio la primera plática *Plantando las Semillas de la Corresponsabilidad*, luego traducida en resumen por Crisóbal Gutiérrez. Durante el día entero dieron pláticas en inglés y en español. Foto sometida.



Saint Joseph Catholic Church
Iglesia Católica San José

TE INVITA A UN

CONCIERTO CATOLICO DE ADORACION Y ALABANZA

Participación de la Cantante y Compositora Internacional
Quien le ha cantado al Papa Benedetto XVI


INES DE VIAUD

Lugar: Parroquia de San Jose

Jueves 28 de Agosto: ASAMBLEA GENERAL, hora: 6:30 a 8:30 pm.

Viernes 29 de Agosto: EL CAMINO A LA CONVERSION
hora: 7:00 a 9:00 pm.

Sábado 30 de Agosto: GRAN CONCIERTO DE ADORACION Y ALABANZA
hora: 10:00 a.m. a 4:00 pm.
Ofrenda sugerida: \$10.00, incluye lunch
A beneficio de las obras de restauración de la Parroquia
Mayor información en la parroquia o a los tel: 799-0124 o 202-0354
www.inesdeviaud.com



Las Comunidades de Sebree y Henderson se Unen Para Despedir a los Víctimas Difuntos y Consolar a Sus Familiares y Conocidos

Por Tami Schneider

El martes, 24 de junio, cuatro familias despidieron a sus queridos, sin tener la menor idea que iban a ser víctimas de un crimen de violencia trágico. En la madrugada del miércoles, 25, Wesley Higdon disparó a su supervisor y a 5 hispanos antes de suicidarse adentro de la planta de Atlantis Plastics en Henderson.

Llevaron los cuerpos de las víctimas del homicidio en Atlantis Plastics adentro de la Iglesia Católica del Santo Nombre de Jesús en Henderson para la misa funeral el 28 de junio. Soledad, Marta, Israel, y Adán eran jóvenes en sus 20's y dejaron atrás a muchos amigos y familiares. Noeli era la única sobreviviente y milagrosamente pudo salir del hospital para asistir al funeral.

El P. Jason McClure, Patricia Gutiérrez y muchos miembros de la comunidad demostraron su gran apoyo hacia las familias al interpretar, traer comida, rezar y ayudar con la misa funeral.

Estados Unidos Envió El Mayor Contingente De Peregrinos Extranjeros A La Jornada Mundial De La Juventud En Sydney

WASHINGTON—Estados Unidos enviará 15.000 jóvenes a la Jornada Mundial de la Juventud, evento internacional convocado por el Papa Benedicto XVI que tendrá lugar en Sydney, Australia, del 15 al 20 de julio. Según los organizadores del lado estadounidense, esta será la mayor delegación que represente a un solo país fuera de Australia. Los jóvenes peregrinos estarán acompañados por 50 obispos de Estados Unidos, incluyendo al Cardenal Francis George de Chicago, presidente de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos.

Los jóvenes, la mayoría de los cuales serán adolescentes mayores y jóvenes adultos, viajarán a Australia en 1.140 grupos que varían en tamaño, el mayor de los cuales integra 520 personas. La mayoría de los grupos están organizados por diócesis, parroquias, asociaciones religiosas y escuelas, aunque algunos grupos están integrados por familias que han decidido realizar el viaje por su cuenta.

La reunión en Sydney marcará la décima celebración internacional de la Jornada Mundial de la Juventud, la cual se ha celebrado cada dos o tres años desde que el Papa Juan Pablo II la estableciera en 1985. En 1993 el evento tuvo lugar en Denver.

Por primera vez en una Jornada Mundial de la Juventud, la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de Estados Unidos ha organizado una misa en Sydney para todos los grupos procedentes de Estados Unidos. El Cardenal George presidirá la celebración y dará la homilía en la mañana del sábado, 19 de julio, en un recinto al aire libre en el centro de Sydney.

Concelebrarán la misa los demás obispos estadounidenses, quienes aprovecharán la

oportunidad para reunirse también con los jóvenes de sus respectivas diócesis. Diversos músicos e intérpretes de Oregon Catholic Press y World Library Publications ofrecerán un concierto antes de la misa.

Varios jóvenes de Estados Unidos jugarán un papel prominente en otros aspectos y eventos de la jornada. Armando Cervantes, de la diócesis de Orange, California, estará entre 12 jóvenes de todas partes del mundo que almorzarán con el Santo Padre el viernes, 18 de julio en Sydney. También, el joven Juan Martínez, de la diócesis de Austin, Texas, recibirá junto a otros jóvenes el sacramento de la Confirmación de manos del Papa Benedicto durante la misa de clausura de la Jornada Mundial de la Juventud el domingo, 20 de julio.

Annalee Moyer, de la Arquidiócesis de Washington, y Leonardo Jaramillo, de la Arquidiócesis de Atlanta, fueron seleccionados para formar parte de un grupo de 200 personas conocido como el Grupo Internacional de Liturgia que realizarán servicios prominentes en los principales eventos de la Jornada Mundial, incluyendo las ceremonias y liturgias con el papa. Su función será representativa de todos los peregrinos a la Jornada Mundial.

“Me siento realmente bendecida por tener la oportunidad de experimentar la Iglesia universal de una forma tan singular, con todos mis compañeros procedentes de todas partes del mundo”, dijo Moyer.

Los organizadores australianos esperan que, aproximadamente, 100,000 jóvenes de su propio país y unos 125,000 visitantes internacionales hagan la peregrinación a Sydney con motivo de la Jornada Mundial de la Juventud.

